

Parwich and District Local History Society
Report for Parwich Parish Annual Meeting - May 2024

The Parwich & District Local History Society had a good year in 2023 with a number of successful activities.

The highlight of the year was the Parwich Hoard evening held at the Memorial Hall in October. For the evening we were able to get a number of expert speakers to describe the discovery of the hoard in 2018, the site and the investigation, and the archaeological background to the hoard (what was found, where it was found and why it was there). We were also lucky enough to be able to examine samples from the hoard. Our thanks go to all of the speakers, especially Natalie Ward, Senior Conservation Archaeologist from the Peak District National Park Authority who provided much of the energy behind the success of the evening, and also everyone else who helped out on the night.

Over the past twelve months, we've had some successful walks to local sites of archaeological interest.

- In May last year, we walked along the High Peak Trail to Minninglow to view the Neolithic chambered tomb and Bronze Age barrows, returning via Royston Grange where Luke and Ruth Webber hosted a very welcome refreshment break.
- In September, we visited the historic sites of Bradbourne, including Bradbourne Mill and Wigber Low. We also had a wonderful tour of both Bradbourne church and grounds of Bradbourne Hall with Eddie, Bradbourne's church warden, as our excellent guide.
- In April this year, we had a very good tour of Cromford, including Arkwright's Mill, excellently led by Mark Jones.
- The next planned walk is to Alsop on the 2nd of June.

Last July, the society visited Bradbourne Mill where we were shown round the mill by Sandy and David Potter, the mill owners. The visit included a demonstration of both mill wheels working, a walk along the mill race, various rooms in the mill to see the internal workings, and informative talks from the owners.

In addition to these events, the society has been busy behind the scenes updating the web pages, the membership and circulation list, and our bank account. We've also updated the Parwich walk booklet and will shortly be republishing it.

John Salloway