

Welford and Weston Local History Society
(www.welfordandweston.org.uk)

Newsletter 71 – February 26th, 2021

“The Great Fire of Warwick - 1694”

This 'virtual' talk will be given by Dr. Gillian White
[on Friday, 26th March](#)



On Wednesday 5th September 1694, much of the centre of Warwick was devastated by a great fire. As the strong winds of late summer blew the flames through the narrow lanes of the old town, all that lay in their path - thatch and timber, homes and livelihoods - was destroyed. This talk will tell the story of the fire, its alleged cause and destructive route, and of the losses suffered by the local people and the relief effort that followed. It will also explore the architecture of the rebuilt Warwick, designed to be the most modern, desirable and fashionable town in the whole of the

Midlands. It is a story of crisis, efficiency and elegance, told largely in the words of the people who were actually there.



Dr. Gillian White specialises in the history and visual arts of late medieval and sixteenth-century England. She began her career at the Warwickshire Museum and then worked for the National Trust as Curator / Collections Manager at Hardwick Hall, about which she then wrote her PhD at Warwick University. She now teaches art history part-time in the Continuing Education Department at Oxford University, as well as freelance lecturing and teaching.

And now an update on the admin.....

You will receive an email inviting you to join this meeting about a week before the meeting itself. This email is being sent to members who have renewed their membership, and new members who have joined recently. At the time of writing this newsletter, we have a current membership of 100.

On the evening of the talk you will be able to join the meeting from 19:00. The talk itself will start at 19:30. If you are fairly new to Zoom I would encourage you to join the meeting early, so that if you experience a problem, you'll have time to call Karen Dickinson (on 07970 179821), and get it sorted out before the talk itself starts at 19:30.

For the past 10 days the weather has been mild for the time of year, and my spirits have lifted, as small flowers are pushing their heads out from the cold ground. There's plenty of time for this to change between now and the date of our next meeting - 26th March – but even if it turns cold again don't despair, you can still join your friends, from the comfort of your own home, by joining this Zoom meeting. Then on 28th March, British Summer time begins.

Brad & all the team look forward to welcoming you to this great talk.

P.S. If this is your first Zoom meeting, and you would like the opportunity of going over the basic functions of Zoom ahead of the meeting, you should contact Karen Dickinson on the number given above or Brad Plimmer on 750716.
