



REDBOURN

Registered Charity 1156462

July General Meeting

Wednesday 15th July at Redbourn Village Hall

Our talk was titled –

‘Rev Henry Small, Rector of St Albans and the Missing £20,000’ - Jon Mein’

Appointed Rector of the Abbey Parish in St. Albans in 1817, the Rev Small embezzled some £20,000 from local people. When he was found out he fled to France, and the ensuing scandal made national headlines and questions were raised in Parliament. In his clear and well-constructed presentation, Jon enlightened us on Small’s difficult family background and the state of the Church of England in the late Georgian period.

Will you volunteer as a Committee Member?

Our next meeting, 19th August, will incorporate our 13th AGM and we need willing members to put themselves forward for election to the committee.

Every organisation needs frequent rotation of Committee Members, bringing new ideas and momentum. Three of our members are overdue for replacement; Secretary, Groups Coordinator & Chair. Any member is eligible to apply, so, if you can put yourself forward for any of these roles, please have a word with me or any Committee Member. Candidates are more than welcome to join us at our monthly committee meeting on 6th August to see how it all works. We are a friendly bunch and easy to work with, so come and see for yourself!

More Volunteers needed to join our RUGS Group

Thank you to the two members who have responded to our appeal, but more are needed. It’s for just one hour before the meeting and clearing up at the end. You will help only when you are able, to spread the load, so it is not too demanding and the more hands the merrier. Please contact Vic Wells via email wellsvic13@gmail.com to offer your support.

Interest Groups – Currently, we have over 50 groups, with more coming on stream each year, so there is lots of choice. Most groups are able to welcome new members, but if you wish to join a group that is listed as being currently full, please contact the Group Leader direct, or our Groups Coordination, Val Brown, via vabrown50@gmail.com or 01582 793174

Theatre and Social events

See Diary dates below where there are many events arranged for you to enjoy. The first of which is an action-packed visit to Duxford IWM on 12th September, incorporating a **'Battle of Britain' air display**.

With most of the operational Spitfires lined up to appear as well as Hurricanes and a Lancaster Bomber, this promises to be a memorable day out at £64.00pp. To include ticket, luxury coach travel & driver gratuity.

Please contact Annette via annette.cotter@icloud.com for your ticket.

Diary Dates for 2026

12th September – Coach outing to Duxford 'Battle of Britain Weekend'. (see above)

24th October – The BIG Quiz

5th November – 'Sinatra the Musical' (35 tickets published mid-August)

26th November – Coach outing to Canterbury Christmas Market. Guided tours of the Cathedral a possibility. (50 tickets published early September)

7th December – Annual Christmas Lunch at the Golf Club

Diary Dates for 2027 4th January – Matthew Bourne's 'Cinderella', Sadlers Wells matinee – (30 tickets published early October)

Wed 19th August (AGM) – our next talk will be

'Al Capone' - Roger Mason

Roger's talk tells the story of America's most infamous gangster, who terrorised Chicago in the 1920s. He is believed to have ordered 300 murders and committed 50, personally. Among the points covered are the St. Valentine's Day Massacre, corruption in Chicago, the consequences of prohibition and his eventual imprisonment for tax evasion.

Finally – if you have any issues or are unsure who to contact, please reach out to me.

Barry Welch,

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