



# WORCESTER CIVIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Spring 2022

VOLUME 16 ISSUE 1



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# CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

As you will see from my update on the activities, there is a lot going on involving the Civic Society at the moment.

We have a very enthusiastic group of volunteers who are working with the Worcester News archive each week under the direction of Chris Wilkinson. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find an update from Chris on the progress of this important project.

However, there are still a number of activities that we need help with. I spend a great deal of time reviewing the many planning applications that appear each week that involve Listed buildings and/or Conservation Areas. Much thanks needs to go to Carl Jukes, who, in many of these cases, has provided the bullets for me to fire.

Over the last few months, we have been quite successful in stopping a number of these, such as planned tree felling in St George's Square and the development planned for the old public house in Hylton Road. There are still a number of applications being monitored, such as the development of Lowesmoor which, if it goes ahead, we will send to the Secretary of State for him to review.

We still need more people to help with a number of projects, such as an update of the Blue Plaque Guide. We also need to find a replacement for our Membership Secretary, Michael McCurdy, who has indicated that he will be standing down in November. Mike has done a superb job over the past few years and I am sure he will help in handing over the role. Also stepping down is our esteemed Publicity Officer, Jan Scrine, who has done a fantastic job of improving our public profile. So if you feel you can help with any of these, please let me know.

If you think any of your friends might like to help, please ask them to contact me.

**Phil Douce**  
Chairman



## Worcester Civic Society Officers 2022

**President:** David Birtwhistle

**Vice-President:** Stephen Inman

**Chairman:** Phil Douce

**Vice-Chairman:** Jan Scrine

**Hon Treasurer:** Stephen Inman

**Hon Secretary:** John Wickson

**Membership Secretary:** Michael McCurdy

**Publicity Officer:** Jan Scrine

**Chair of Planning Panel:** Dr. Heather Barrett

**Events Secretary:** Jan Scrine

**Newsletter Editor:** Cathy Broad

[www.worcestercivicsociety.org.uk](http://www.worcestercivicsociety.org.uk)

### Membership:

Individual Membership	£20
Family Membership	£30
Corporate Membership	£50
Student Membership	£5

Cheques should be made payable to Worcester Civic Society

To Mr Michael McCurdy  
56 Camp Hill Road, Worcester WR5 2HG

You can contact Michael on:- 01905 353438  
or at:- [wrcivicsocietymem@yahoo.com](mailto:wrcivicsocietymem@yahoo.com)

# PEOPLE WANTED !

Worcester Civic Society depends on volunteers to help it achieve its aims. At the moment, we are in need of people to run our publicity activities and to keep track of our members.

## Publicity Officer(s)

For the Civic Society to be able to influence the changes in our City, we need to tell the world what we are striving to achieve - especially publicising the work of our energetic Planning Panel.

We also need the support of an active membership in these endeavours; we aim to provide opportunities for discussion and for raising interest through our events programme.

Could you help us disseminate our activities to a wider audience, ideally including some younger folk?

Could you engage with the Worcester News, the Observer, Radio Hereford & Worcester, for example?

Could you provide feeds for social media, for Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, our website?

Working systematically with any or all of these channels would make an enormously valuable contribution to the Society and to the City.

If you are interested or would like to find out more, please get in touch with our Chair in the first instance:

**[phildouce68@gmail.com](mailto:phildouce68@gmail.com)**

## Could you be our next Membership Secretary?

Last November I declared my intention to step down as Membership Secretary at the next Annual General Meeting this coming November.

The post is not particularly onerous in that it simply entails keeping membership records, ensuring the Executive Committee are regularly updated on membership numbers and keeping everyone informed of events and other news.

If you feel you could help your society with this work, please contact me on **01905 353438** for a chat.

**Michael McCurdy**



# Chairman's Report

The main activities since the last newsletter are mainly concerned with the archives and the wonderful response we have had, not only from Civic Society members, but from volunteers from the Battenhall area of the City who responded to an advert in the local newsletter.

Chris Wilkinson, who organises the archive activities, has explained how things are progressing in another article in this newsletter.

There has been a lot of activity around the Pod and people wishing to use it for their events. Other societies in Worcester and around the region are keen to use the facilities, as they are free and the area comes with its own kitchen and toilets. I contributed an article about the Pod to a Malvern Hills newsletter.

I am working with the Worcestershire Local History Forum, who are keen to use the Pod for this year's day school in a few months' time. There is another group who are keen to use the Pod on alternate Friday evenings for their events and I am showing them around in the next few days.

There is a Schools Project Rail Education Scheme which covers the counties of Worcestershire, Herefordshire, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire. They are keen to bring parties of school children into towns on the train and then take them around the city showing them the local history. The first of these is planned for May this year.

There is a further project involving making the Foregate Street station more attractive and informative for visitors. The former ticket office at the station has not been used to sell the city and, more importantly, when visitors leave the station there are few, if any, signs showing people where to go.



Volunteers at work on the Worcester News archives.

**THE HISTORY POD**

A History and Heritage Pod has opened in Worcester. Based in Crowngate, the space will host regular exhibitions. It's also home to an important historic archive, parts of which were recently saved from being thrown away. Phil Douce, Chairman of Worcester Civic Society, tells us more.

**Tell us about The Pod**

Since I became Chair of the Civic Society ten or twelve years ago, I've thought that we need a place people can walk into and learn about the history of Worcester.

A year ago I had a phone call from Mike Lloyd, Manager of Crowngate, who offered us the use of the space that is next to the steps to the bus station. The History and Heritage Pod opened in November with an exhibition of local history that includes a 18-metre timeline of Worcester's history, donated to us following the city's Charter 400 celebrations. The space is open every day and you are free to wander round and look around.

Crowngate has also generously given us storage space for a large archive of material from the Worcester News.

**Tell us about the archive**

Five or six years ago, local history writer Miss Grady took me to Hardwouly to see the newspaper's archive of material dating back to the early 1800s. The newspaper planned to get rid of it, so within days we returned with a van and collected it. When the newspaper was closing its offices on Hylton Road, a team of us moved it to save as much as we could.

I returned to a five-acre and filled my car with a collection of half a million photographic images that included some very old glass slides. There is a lot of material to do. I have 150 boxes that are slowly getting through, and already it's throwing up some amazing images including one of some of the Queen's visits.

**Where is the archive now?**

We are grateful to (among others) Worcester Sixth Form College and two supporters who gave us space to store all the archive until we could find it a new home. I'm pleased to say that Crowngate has now given us secure subterranean storage, involving racking, where the material is currently housed.

Our plan is to systematically work through the material to return and catalogue items of interest. A team of volunteers led by Derek Lee, a professional archivist, will be undertaking this work. We have involved the Everstam and Mowbray Guild Societies and they have material waiting to their areas.

**What's next for The Pod?**

We will be holding new exhibitions this year and I hope to host visits from schools and other groups. The Pod is available to use, for free, by any local groups with a focus on local history and heritage. The space has a kitchen area and toilets that include one with disabled access. If anybody is interested in using it, please email [pod@crowngate.com](mailto:pod@crowngate.com).

**worcestercivicsociety.org.uk**

There is a Heritage Day at the Hive on 16th July and we are having a stand on the day. Chris Wilkinson will be giving a talk on the archives we have in the basement of Crowngate and the progress made so far and what is planned for the future.

This year is the thirtieth anniversary of Crowngate and I am working with Mike Lloyd, the manager of the shopping centre, to put on a display showing the excavations of the original Blackfriars site, leading to the development of the Blackfriars shopping centre, the demolition of Blackfriars and the construction of Crowngate. I am hoping we may be able to show some of the finds from the excavations of Blackfriars.

We have two new plaques about to be erected in Worcester. The first commemorates the Jewish Community in Worcester, and will be erected in Copenhagen Street near to the entrance to the car park, later this year. The second plaque is to show the original location of the Royal Worcester Porcelain factory, which was in Warmstry House down by the river. This plaque is privately sponsored by Colin Millett, who has recently published his second book on the artists who worked at the factory.

There is a third plaque, for the sculptor Sir Thomas Brock, which will be placed on the railings surrounding the Crown Court, in front of his statue of Queen Victoria. This will commemorate the hundredth anniversary of his death and is being organised by our Vice Chairman Stephen Inman.

As you can see there is a lot of work going on, so if you know of any friends who might be interested in getting involved in our work, please ask them to contact our Membership Secretary, Michael McCurdy, whose details are at the front of this newsletter.

**Phil Douce**  
Chairman

# OUR EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

**We've had a very varied programme over the past six months!**

The Mayor's Lecture, delivered with real passion by Lord Richard Faulkner on the topic of "The Railways of Worcester – Past, Present and Future" on 28 October, attracted an audience of 70, despite a clash of dates with the Battle of Worcester Society. We raised a record £275 for the Mayor's charities, ASPIE and The Stroke Association.

Dr Heather Barrett's presentation after our AGM on 18 November at our new venue The History and Heritage POD was well attended too; she spoke about "Our Historic City's Conservation Work Through Time", from which many of us learned a great deal.

Forty-four people explored the Road between Worcester and Crowle from the comfort of their sofas in January, by Zoom, a journey in time from the Iron Age to the twentieth century, ending at Springridge Garden Centre for a relaxing cuppa.

February weather and Light Night caused us to postpone the opportunity to meet our President, the renowned artist David Birtwhistle, and his guest speaker, Emily Knight, the General Manager of the National Trust properties in South Warwickshire and Northamptonshire. This will now take place at the POD on Wednesday 18 May; her topic will be "The Extraordinary World of NT Management".

Local historian Annette Leech gave us a fascinating talk on Battenhall Mount (St Mary's School) on 16 March, in advance of our outing to the retirement village site in April.

And on 30 March, former Worcester Laureate and the Poet-in-Residence at the Commandery, Leena Batchelor, shared the research behind her April exhibition there. Combining poetry and photography, the theme of the exhibition is "Space and Shadows", inviting visitors to reflect upon the legacies left behind by footsteps of the past, and the ones our own will leave.

We have plenty more activities planned, including afternoon visits to Tudor House Museum and to Warndon St Nicholas Church, Grade 1 listed. We will be participating in the Heritage Day on 16 July to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the opening of The Hive and also in Heritage Open Days in September – do join us! And the speaker for our Mayor's Lecture on 19 October at the Guildhall will be none other than Marcus Binney, CBE, Executive President of SAVE Britain's Heritage.

The Worcester News Archives team under Chris Wilkinson continues to meet at the POD on Monday mornings and the WCS Planning Panel chaired by Dr Barrett continues to review the developments (appropriate or otherwise) that are proposed for our City and its environment, such as in Lowesmoor. The County Council is one of the 40+ town and city authorities pitching to host the HQ of the new public body overseeing the integration of the UK's railways – surely that would be a fitting use for the area around Shrub Hill Station?!

For more details of our programme, just look on our website, [www.worcestercivicsociety.org.uk](http://www.worcestercivicsociety.org.uk) – we have a Facebook page with reminders and updates, too. Our placement student Mo also posts our activities on Twitter, to engage a wider audience in caring about the place where we live.

We know that there are already plenty of opportunities for talks and outings in and around our vibrant city, but if there is something you would like us to cover, please get in touch. And if you are willing to help run the Society, just a few hours a month, even better...

**Jan Scrine**  
Events Secretary



Fourteenth Century Grade II listed Wayside Cross, removed from the Offerton Road/Pershore Lane junction when the Worcester-Birmingham Canal was dug, and placed in the churchyard of St Nicholas, Warndon.

# Happy days in the Worcester Evening News Library

I worked at the Worcester Evening News for nearly thirty years! I started in the 1970s when my children were both at school. I had not worked for some years except in a voluntary capacity, so I was delighted to get a part-time job as librarian/copy taker for the princely wage of £8 a week (less than 50p an hour).

The hours were 8.30am to 1pm and alternate Saturday mornings. I was expected to file cuttings, and take copy (dictation) over the phone from reporters out on jobs. These varied from criminal courts, council reports, sport and whatever news came up. I also took reports from Birmingham Stock Exchange (stocks and shares prices), cattle market prices to cricket and football scores.

At that time the paper was published in the afternoon, and all copy had to be on the sub-editor's desk by 12 noon. Our office was downstairs and when we (there were two of us) took a report we had to type it as fast as possible on a manual typewriter - the typing paper was in rolls which fed into our machines. It was carbonated and one copy was white and one pink. We then tore it off the machine and put it into a vacuum tube which ejected it upstairs into the news room.

We worked on Saturday mornings as the paper was produced on Saturday with a special Green'Un – the sports edition printed on green paper. Reports from cricket at New Road and football at St Georges Lane were by radio telephone. The reporter would shout a few lines and then say “over” and wait while it was typed. So it was a relief when a proper line was installed.

When reporters started a new story, they would come into the library for files which would give them background, so we kept as much information as possible. We also had a library of books and directories of people and places, which we had to keep up to date – and like everything else, needed immaculate filing to find things quickly and accurately.

There was also a photo library of contributed photos, which were not taken by our photographers, but contributed and were copyright and subject of a fee. As the paper was set manually, we kept small files of blocks, which were mainly of sports personalities like footballers, which we used frequently. These were head shot photos engraved on to metal and used when sport reports were set; in line with the reporters' work which had been sent into the 'works' to the type setters.

It was extremely busy until about 11am as we took copy by phone most of the time and answered queries. But some of our reporters were more inventively adventurous than others. One keen young man was on a job with tramps who were living in an old sanatorium at Alfrick, looking into how they came to live there and how they survived. He had written a report on his findings, when all the newsroom staff decided to go on strike. We were not included, neither were the editors. We worked on the ground floor and heard frantic knocking on our window. When we opened it a hand thrust copy at us, and begged for it to be smuggled upstairs to the editors, as it was 'hot'. We did that for him and his explicit story of the tramps was used. That young man went on to be a lead reporter on the BBC's Panorama and produced some amazing work. If you see Dan Pallet on BBC sport - he started as a junior at the News some years ago now!

Sometime after this the management decided to reconfigure the layout of the building and the library was moved upstairs into the newsroom. Our new filing room also had a kitchen, where tea was constantly being brewed. Previous to this a tea trolley came round the building twice a day, issuing free tea and biscuits. I think the management thought it a waste of money giving us this perk. But when the kitchen was introduced, it was somewhere nice and quiet to spend time making a cuppa and catching up on the local gossip. Some sub-editors just rinsed their cups before refills, and they became orange inside! One day the cleaner 'helpfully' bleached all the cups and you would have thought the third world war had broken out, they were so upset as they said it spoiled the taste of the tea! All the very old bound copies of the paper were stored in an attic extension, above the kitchen, on racks and you needed a lot of physical strength to lift them down for reference. Luckily we still have a few of the old books.

One morning, I answered a routine call from a very upset reporter. He had been called out on an urgent job, with a photographer, only to find it was the McCreavy murders where several children had been killed. Another time the same reporter rang with another tragic story. He had been covering the Conservative conference at Brighton, and had been called to the site of the Brighton bombing of Margaret Thatcher. Taking reports of this kind were very difficult when you just wanted to do anything but type a report at top speed on a very old typewriter, but you had to do it. Later you cut and filed the resulting piece, and any back up information available, because these stories came up time and again.

In the early days we had reports from the criminal courts, where everyone was named for the smallest offence. (Reports from the cattle market gave the price of every cow, sheep, ewe and hogget! But we did not store these in our library). We followed human interest stories like school sports days, the W.I. meetings, local clubs and societies; reporters went out to events that are not even considered important now. Reports were shorter and many more things were covered.

When Princess Diana died we were all summoned and were all hard at work in the newsroom before 7am and our cuttings and photo library had produced all the information we had saved of her life. Everyone was devastated - it was unbelievable, but we had to work on the story and produce information of any local visits she had made. One of these I think was when she opened St Richard's Hospice building in Rose Hill. We also covered the funeral and the legendary carpet of flowers in London. Newspapers always keep background information on famous people in case they die unexpectedly and this is constantly updated. The Royal family have ready written pieces for all eventualities on file.

But on a more cheerful note, we were all on duty on another Royal occasion, so decided we would all go to work dressed in red, white and blue. We took red, white and blue layered cakes, sandwiches, and drank fizz in our tea cups. Those days we were occasionally allowed to do this, but all alcohol was eventually banned, especially at Christmas.

On another occasion one reporter was explaining some sort of sports manoeuvre when his trousers ripped up the seam – and he was due on court. So we went to the toilets where he got behind a door and took them off, passed them to me, I sewed up the seam and passed them back much to the ribald comments of his mates who had come along to see the fun.

I was called into the Editor's office one morning, and told that our theatre reporter had been sent to jail!!!! As I had always been involved in amateur theatre as a singer and there were a lot of up and coming shows, he asked me if I would cover the theatre work in addition to my normal job for a few weeks. This meant writing a page each week covering all the local events and writing previews and after-show reviews, not just for Worcester, but also Malvern, Birmingham and any other local group who invited the paper to come and comment on their show.

My page was called Showbuzz and I did it for many years, not just weeks, visiting venues all around Worcestershire to see productions – and at the same time I appeared in shows with Worcester Operatic, Opera Severn, Malvern Light Opera and the Midland Musical theatre group....and looked after my family, who were now growing up. Soon basic computers were installed and there was less copy taking as we had new technology, so there was more time to cut and paste the paper, as I had become a full time employee. I did the theatre work in the evenings. But I gave this part of the job up when new management decided they only wanted to cover professional shows and use the theatre handouts, so there was not enough for me to do.

Our photographic department consisted of a team of photographers who were despatched to incidents day and night. Annie Dendy, my friend and colleague, who is helping catalogue hundreds of photos and negatives also rescued, started in 1985 and was the P.A. to the chief photographer. She also developed and printed photographs and kept books of records, which we still have and much more. Her staff were a lively lot and no doubt she has many a story she could tell.

The Worcester Evening News was part of the Berrow's Group and we produced many other papers, besides the weekly Berrow's Journal – the oldest newspaper – Droitwich Journal, Evesham Journal, Ledbury Reporter, Malvern Gazette, Abergavenny Chronicle, Bromsgrove Messenger, and many more across the Midlands. It was sold to the group which was run by Rupert Murdoch, who once visited our newsroom to have a look at his 'minions'. The last most recent owners were Ganet of USA, owners of the top American newspapers, who introduced all the latest technology into our industry. The library was no longer required as everything from then on was available online, so our years of work was destined for the tip until it was rescued by Worcester Civic Society.

**Angela Harris**



Annie Dendy and Angela Harris

# Worcester Civic Society Planning Panel Report:

The work of the Civic Society's Planning Panel falls into two broad areas. Firstly, the Panel considers and makes comment on strategic policy documents affecting the city's future development, and also reviews national changes in planning to consider how they will impact upon development in the city. Secondly, it considers individual major developments and smaller developments affecting listed buildings and conservation areas in the city, principally through its work on Worcester City Council's Conservation Advisory Panel (CAP).

The Planning Panel holds six meetings throughout the year to consider key matters, and also works on specific issues and projects throughout the year. We engage in public consultations on planning matters, and also look to hold regular meetings with key planning and policy officers in the city and county to discuss current planning issues. The Panel is chaired by Dr Heather Barrett and there are currently nine Panel members. We are always interested in hearing from members who have an enthusiasm for planning matters who would like to join the Panel, and those with knowledge and experience of the planning and development process are especially encouraged to join! If you would like more information about joining the Panel, then please do contact the Chair ([h.barrett@worc.ac.uk](mailto:h.barrett@worc.ac.uk)).

## Planning policy matters

At the national level the Panel have been considering how the government's **National Model Design Code** might be implemented in Worcester. There are pilot projects underway across the country (although not in Worcester) to trial how the code might be applied at the local level. This is an important area where civic societies like ours should be involved to help protect and enhance the local character of our city and help foster good design in new development, something that has been sadly lacking in recent big city development schemes!

Also nationally, there is much discussion about what the impact of changes to permitted development rights relating to change of use will have on our high streets. Current changes will now permit changes from high street uses to residential without the need for permission. Whilst new housing in city centres is to be welcomed this should not be at the expense of the diversity and vitality of our high streets, and there is concern that without controls poor quality housing might result. Civic Voice are initiating a **national monitoring campaign** about this, and we will be looking to be involved.

Recently Worcester has been the recipient of funding from national government regeneration funds. The Town Deal is one such fund and there are several schemes earmarked for funding across the city. We have pressed hard for the plans at Shrub Hill to include refurbishment and reuse of the Victorian Engine House along Shrub Hill Road. We are also pressing for some joined up thinking on planning and design as there are several other developments planned around this area and an uncoordinated approach risks the creation of a poor, disconnected urban environment. The city has also received further funding from

the High Streets Task Force, and we are monitoring plans for the north of the city centre around Angel Street, including development of the Scala into a new theatre space.

In the city, transport policy is under discussion again and the city have appointed consultants to work on the long-awaited Worcester City Transport Strategy promised five years ago in the County's Local Transport Plan. The council has launched a public consultation about transport in the city to inform thinking and we have publicised this to members and urged them to complete the survey. The city has also appointed a sustainable transport officer who will start shortly, which is a positive development. This will help work to support some of the ambitions in the city's Environmental Sustainability Strategy which was adopted last year. The Panel have been continuing to engage with the city on some of the actions within the strategy, and we are particularly keen to support tree planting in the city and suggest areas where this might take place. Society members are invited to pass on suggestions of places which we can put forward to the city to assess suitability. We look forward to participating in a planned environmental forum in 2022 which will review progress on the strategy.

## Major developments and the work of CAP

One major development proposal the Panel have been keeping a close eye on over the past year is the scheme for Lowesmoor Wharf **(20/00649/FUL)**. This is a significant proposal for the basin comprising many dwellings (a far higher number than that proposed in the South Worcestershire Development Plan) in a range of 6,7 and 9 storey blocks. Buildings along Lowesmoor Terrace/Bridge Street are to be demolished including Vesta Tilley House and the Bridge Inn. We sent in comments on slightly revised plans just before Christmas, again strongly objecting to the proposal. Many others have sent in objections, including many national heritage organisations. This is yet to be decided by the Planning Committee, and the Panel will keep monitoring this and strive to make sure this development, which would do great harm to our city, is not approved.

Several members of the Planning Panel sit on CAP where we provide comment on a wide range of applications, from major schemes to applications for new signage and shopfronts. In the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, the volume of major development proposals considered by CAP has remained small, with most applications being for rear extensions and upper floor conversions to flats in the City Centre and St John's conservation areas and applications from householders who are altering the listed buildings they live in. Whilst these are smaller developments, it is important to monitor and comment on these to make sure that the valued historic fabric of the city is not eroded. Currently, there is a review of the working and membership of CAP being undertaken and there will be opportunities for new people to join CAP. If there is anyone interested in representing the Civic Society on CAP, then we would love to hear from you.

**Heather Barrett**  
Planning Panel Chair

# Worcester News Archive

How fortunate we are to house our Worcester News archive of newspaper cuttings, photographs, numerous Berrows journals and countless thousands of negatives at one location within the Crowngate complex. In the first instance, we owe Mike Grundy, Mike Pryce and our own Phil Douce, a debt of gratitude in organising the rescue of all of these treasures that we now hold in safe keeping. In the second instance, a vote of thanks must be made to the mass of volunteers that made this momentous move possible.

After having to scatter each of the elements to the four winds, our thanks go to the generous people with space to spare at Grimley, Hallow, Huddington and the Sixth Form College, we now have a permanent base thanks to the remarkable generosity of Crowngate centre manager, Michael Lloyd and his team, for which we are eternally grateful. We have been made very welcome in our new home with Michael supplying essential shelving to house the 120 boxes of cuttings and over 200,000 negatives within the archive. A golden plus is that we have the use of the History and Heritage POD area complete with a working kitchen.

I hope you will be pleased to hear that, with the enthusiastic volunteers (many thanks) meeting every Monday morning, checking and double checking what we have in amongst the boxes is being achieved. It is time consuming but an all-important task made even more enjoyable by having a tea and coffee break at half-time, complete with the essential biscuits!

Small gems within the boxes are photographs taken by the Worcester News photographers of the 1971 Worcester Carnival participants with their numerous floats, NALGO, Royal Infirmary, Kays, Round Table, the Pinky and Perky pigs strolling in amongst the crowds of people and who could forget the five 'Mexicans' riding around on their mules! A story has surfaced from 1972, of a family of nine, living in two railway carriages at Broadheath near Worcester for over 40 years. Coronation scrapbooks have been found and other Royal gems.

All this hard graft will eventually lead us to having an incredible body of work which we hope will be available for everyone to see. 'Know your place' here in Worcester could be an important outlet to show off what we have. It is an exciting project to be a part of and will, I am sure, be of great credit to The Civic Society in the years to come. Members can be proud that they have taken part in saving historical items, which otherwise would have just been tipped into a skip somewhere and lost forevermore.

**Chris Wilkinson**



Moving the boxes in August 2021



Archive boxes at the Crowngate storage facility



Boxes of negatives



Volunteers at work

# Big or small we ship it all



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