

Heritage Readers

Join us for an exciting mini-series of in-person sessions, guided by our reading programme, designed to help you delve into Worcestershire's heritage.

These sessions are held 2nd Wednesday of the month in October, November and December 2026 from 10am-11am, Level 2, The Hive, Worcester.

What to expect each session:

1. Welcome and updates **(10 mins)**
2. Feedback from previous session (Nov and Dec sessions) **(5-10 mins)**
3. Heritage Readers 'round up' – the opportunity to discuss a source you have read from our suggested programme (outlined below) **(30-40 mins)**.
 - Introduce the book/chapter, article, pamphlet, or other source
 - Its usability, the type of information it contains, interesting facts you've discovered
 - Historical, cultural, or social context
 - Whether you'd recommend it and why – score it out of 10!
 - Next month's theme, including member's recommendations (10 mins)

During the session:

- Keep discussion respectful and inclusive
- Let everyone contribute
- Be prepared to talk about what you've read in advance

These sessions are hosted by **Explore the Past, (Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service), part of Worcestershire County Council**. Our suggestions for books/other sources in the programme below focus on a mere handful of resources available where we are based on level 2 at The Hive in Worcester.

As well as books from our collections, this list indicates where books are available in the main library collection at The Hive. Availability of books changes according to use. Check for alternative books at the suggested shelf marks. Search the Worcestershire [libraries catalogue](#) for a full list e.g. by topic or author. Volumes can be very slim and therefore difficult to find amongst thicker volumes so ask staff if you need help. Shelving is labelled with the shelf mark range at each end of the bookshelves.

We welcome you to use an array of sources including any books you own, websites, events/historical sites you have been to and chatting to people. Local heritage can be connected to places across the world, so links can range further afield than you might think!

Suggested Programme – feel free to consider alternative topics!

October: ‘General County histories’						
Try shelf mark 942.44						
Book/other source inc. cat. link	Author/ editor	Shelf mark	Hive Level 2 reference	Hive Level 2 lending	Hive Level 3	Other W’shire libraries
Worcestershire's hidden past	Gwilliam	942.448	✓	✓	✓	✓
The Victoria history of the county of W’shire (4 vols & index). Partly online.	Bund; Page	942.44	✓			
Worcestershire in the 19th Century. 1852	Turberville	942.44 & 942.4407	✓	✓		✓

Book/other source inc. cat. link	Author/ editor	Shelf mark	Hive Level 2 reference	Hive Level 2 lending	Hive Level 3	Other W'shire libraries
Collections for a History of Worcestershire (outsized section L2)	Nash	942.44	✓	✓		✓
Worcestershire Photographic Memories	Bainbridge	942.44	✓	✓		✓
Guide to Discovering Local History at The Hive	Explore The Past	Ask staff to point it out!	✓			
Household and Country Crafts	Jobson	338.0942	✓			
Dictionary of old Trades, Titles and Occupations	Titford	338.0942	✓			

November: Trades and occupations

Try shelf mark 338.47 for local industries but look at others relating to specific vocations

Book/other source inc. cat. link	Author	Shelf mark	Hive Level 2 reference	Hive Level 2 lending	Hive Level 3	Other W'shire libraries
Hops and Hop-pickers	Faulkner	633.82	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ciderlore: Cider in the Three Counties	Mac	338.76632	✓			✓
Worcestershire Salt	White	338.476614	✓			✓

Book/other source inc. cat. link	Author	Shelf mark	Hive Level 2 reference	Hive Level 2 lending	Hive Level 3	Other W'shire libraries
<u>History of the Worcester Glove Trade</u>	Amphlett	338.476854	✓			
<u>Glory Gone The story of nailing in Bromsgrove</u>	Kings and Cooper	338.47621884	✓	✓	✓	✓
<u>Williamsons / Metal Box of Worcester</u>	Walker	338.76718	✓		✓	✓
<u>The Secret Sauce A History of Lea and Perrins</u>	Keogh	338.7664458	✓	✓		✓
<u>Pewtering in Bewdley</u>	Holding and Moulson	338.4773	✓	✓		✓
<u>Household and Country Crafts</u>	Jobson	338.0942	✓			
<u>Dictionary of old Trades, Titles and Occupations</u>	Titford	338.0942	✓			
Local trade directories late 18 th -20 th centuries	e.g. Littlebury's, Kelly's Pigot's	900	✓ shelves by level 2 printers			
<u>Porcelain in Worcester</u>	Jones	738.27	✓	✓		✓
<u>Benjamin Sanders Bromsgrove Buttonmaker</u>	Sanders and Richards	338.4768788	✓		✓	✓

Book/other source inc. cat. link	Author	Shelf mark	Hive Level 2 reference	Hive Level 2 lending	Hive Level 3	Other W'shire libraries
Grown in the Vale (Market Gardening online exhibition)	Explore The Past	N/A				

December: Part of Worcestershire - a village or town or Worcester city. Try shelf mark 942.44 for books grouped by district and then alphabetically by place within district

Book/other source	Author	Shelf mark	Hive Level 2 reference	Hive Level 2 lending	Hive Level 3	Other W'shire libraries
The Vale of Evesham: a Pictorial History	Jeramiah	942.449	✓			✓
Martley at the Millenium	Cropp	942.447	✓	✓		✓
Perdiswell Past and Present	Hinks	942.448	✓			✓
An Illustrated History of Worcester Woods Country Park	Feasey	942.448	✓			
A Millenium of History in Ombersley and Doverdale	Roelofz	942.449	✓	✓		✓
Old Worcester: People and Places	Gwilliam	942.448	✓	✓	✓	✓
Shrawley Wood History and Natural History	Green; Llewellyn; Pumphrey; Milner	942.447	✓			

Malvern Water Cure blogs	Explore The Past	N/A				
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