



VCH Shropshire – freelance researcher/writer required

Following the appointment of our historian, Dr Judith Everard, to a research post at UEA, Victoria County History Shropshire is looking to appoint a new researcher/writer, preferably one who can handle the whole range of materials from the medieval to the modern.

The focus of the research would be on Shrewsbury, a largely unexplored town with rich archives. Part one of the Shrewsbury VCH history appeared in 2014 and is a narrative history of the town. Part two is arranged on thematic lines and is now well advanced. Whilst we have a number of areas which need accounts writing, the immediate priority is to prepare an account of the Shrewsbury guilds, one of which remains active in the twenty-first century.

Ideally the new historian will be resident in or near Shrewsbury or will have easy access to the Shropshire Archives where much of the source material is held. If two or more suitable persons apply, we would consider splitting the post according to chronological or thematic specialisms.

Our practice is to give the researcher a contract for services on a project-by-project basis and pay a fee without the deduction of NI or income tax. For researchers not based in or near Shrewsbury, we may be able to offer assistance with travel and other expenses.

The range of our work can be seen on the VCH Shropshire website, vchshropshire.org, where draft text can be found along with annual reports and other materials.

Informal enquiries can be directed to Professor Richard Hoyle, richard@rwhoyle.org.uk. Expressions of interest should also be directed to Professor Hoyle and should include a cv and a covering letter outlining your qualifications, expertise and previous work in the areas of English urban or local history or cognate historical disciplines.

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