

**NORTHUMBRIAN CAMBRIDGE ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Friday, September 17, 2021
6.00 pm
Royal Grammar School, Eskdale Terrace,
Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4DX**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is very exciting to be back meeting for our first in-person AGM and Annual Lecture since we last met at the Royal Grammar School on September 27, 2019 (with the 2020 AGM being conducted by email on account of the coronavirus pandemic). We look forward to welcoming Dr David Gosling, Clare Hall, Cambridge, to give us a lecture entitled 'Violence and hope on Pakistan's border: an educational encounter'.

Since I took over from Bill Telford as President of NCA at the end of September 2020, our activities have necessarily been curtailed by the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. However, the Committee (Heather Cordell (President), Gilbert Cockton (Hon. Secretary/Website Manager), Susan Austin (Hon. Treasurer/Membership Secretary), Peter Cleland, Colin Dunnighan, Arnold Fairless, Robert Tindall and Andrew Young) has continued to meet regularly via Zoom. We also managed to hold three virtual NCA events via Zoom. On Wednesday December 9th 2020 we held an online quiz; on February 25th 2021 Margaret Bozic MBE gave us a talk on 'Ruth Dodds and Tyneside in the 1920s'; on March 31st 2021 we had a talk by Chris Loughran on 'The Work of the HALO Trust'. Members of several other Cambridge Alumni societies, including the Cambridge Society of N&W Yorkshire and the Cambridge Society of York, joined us for these events.

On Friday 18th June 2021 we held the first in-person NCA events for more than a year: two coordinated NCA walks down the Ouseburn, Newcastle, led by Peter Cleland and Gilbert Cockton, respectively. With coronavirus restrictions now largely eased, we hope to be able to gradually resume our usual programme of in-person events, which for the time being will be announced via email or through the NCA website: <http://www.northumbrian-cambridge.co.uk/>

The current Committee members are all willing to continue for another year and, in addition, Ian Lawley has agreed to stand for election to join us (the constitution states that there should be not more than seven nor less than five non-ex officio members). The Committee hopes that all members attending the AGM will approve the new Committee, and give them your support.

Professor Heather Cordell

04.09.21