

Schools, Colleges & Students

The Society is pleased to supply schools, youth organisations and individual students with information and material and to help with projects at all levels. Information packs including photographs, directory entries, etc. can be compiled to individual requirement.

School students preparing projects should pick their subject carefully - 'something about the history of Knowle' needs to be crystallised into something more specific before we can help. One or two students have chosen Middlefield and Knowle since the 1939/45 war is a popular subject. The sports clubs and other organisations might be suitable subjects, or perhaps a single road. The directories or the Parish Magazines may yield further ideas. It is worth noting that tracing the history of small buildings such as private houses from primary sources is extremely time consuming.

Services to Genealogists

The Society is happy to help those researching their house & family in Knowle. Readers should consult *The Knowle Records and Where to Find Them* and *Your House & Family in Knowle* to see what is available. However, our scope relates only to the specific help we can give from local sources: it does not extend to the national records, such as census returns. This information can be found on any good book or web site on genealogy. Many researchers have given us a copy of the fruits of their labours for our records. If you would be kind enough to do this we would be grateful. Copies of photographs from family albums would also be welcome, particularly from 1945 onwards.

Names for Buildings

If you are looking for a name for a new development we can usually make a suggestion. Our old field names, or well known local families are frequent sources of inspiration.

Charges

The Society charges for material, but not for exhibitions and talks. We do, however, welcome donations, without which we cannot continue to offer a service to the community, as we are a voluntary group operating on a tiny budget and rely on income from subscriptions, etc.. We are willing to do a small amount of research free of charge, but where we need to spend considerable time there will be a fee. Cheques should be made payable to *Knowle Local History Society*.

Contact Details

The Society can be contacted by post, 'phone or over the Internet as follows:

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Knowle, Solihull. B93 9HP

Tel: 01564 775887

E-mail: knowlehistory@yahoo.co.uk

www.knowlehistory.org.uk

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Knowle Local History Society

Services to the Public

Individuals, Schools, Organisations
& Businesses



The Square, c. 1900

Knowle Local History Society
is an independent organisation formed to
promote the study of the history of the village
and to provide a service to the residents of
Knowle and the wider public.

Making History Live

Knowle Local History Society

Over the last 30 years the founding members of the Society have spent many hours perusing Knowle records. Some were born here and have lived here all their lives, whilst others have lived here for a least 35 years.

We therefore have a vast store of experience and local knowledge which is unsurpassed, as well as many members who were born here and have personal knowledge, which is essential.

As our store of historical information has grown we have increasingly been able to offer a service to the public, both in Knowle and elsewhere. We have answered queries from all over the country and from as far afield as Canada and Australia, often coming by e-mail - we have even enabled one family to organise a family party in Knowle from abroad.

The following guidance shows what the Society has to offer to individuals, students and local societies and businesses. However, as a small group with limited time, larger undertakings must fit into our schedule and we need adequate notice.

The Society publishes three other mini-guides. *Knowle Local History Society* gives general information about the Society and outlines what it does. All enquirers should consult *The Knowle Records and Where to Find Them*. Genealogists and those researching their house should also consult *Your House and Family in Knowle*.

Further information may be found on our web site at www.knowlehistory.org.uk

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Research

Although we are not professional researchers and our time is restricted we are willing to do a limited amount of research, particularly for those enquiring from a distance. Any information is supplied in good faith.

The Society is happy to search for relevant information in both its own material and at Knowle Library, where there are numerous photographs, programmes, newspaper cuttings, etc., which may be relevant. There are also many fascinating anecdotes in the Knowle Oral History records. These sources can be useful for organisations preparing their own projects.

We regret that we cannot undertake to go to the Warwickshire County Record Office or elsewhere; but as we have good working knowledge of what is there and a copy of the Record Office listing for Knowle we are able to point people in the right direction. A summary of the most useful records can be found in *The Knowle Records and Where to Find Them*.

Subject to any copyright restrictions we can provide images or prints from our image library. We may also be able to produce short articles, for instance on the history of a building.

Speakers

We are often asked to provide speakers for talks on village history by other organisations. They are normally of up to one hour's duration and illustrated by pictures from our image library. We have our own equipment, including a digital projector and laptop computer. One or two talks are already prepared; but for new ones we do need plenty of notice. However, short, more informal talks can be prepared more quickly. *1000 Years of Knowle* is a popular choice.

Exhibitions

In principle we are happy to mount small exhibitions for local organisations, particularly for special occasions such as anniversaries, etc., provided they will fit into our programme and are of interest to the general public. This is time-consuming and again we need ample notice. We may also be able to produce short articles, for instance on the history of a building.

Guided Tours

We can provide conducted tours round the village for organisations from both Knowle and elsewhere. Tours round the oldest part of the village take at least one hour. If parties wish to go inside our early 15th century church and Guild House and/or our timber-framed library, this may be possible provided they are not in use. However, extra time needs to be allowed. Please note that the library is closed on Wednesdays. There is also a regular service in church on Wednesday mornings, which finishes about 11 a.m. and is followed by coffee in the Guild House.

Publications

We have one 1/3 A4 format leaflet in production entitled *Knowle ~ A Brief History*, which people may find of use, and other publications are in the pipeline. We may also be able to produce small publications on request, usually in the standard 1/3 A4 format and subject to agreement over rights.