



Liberal Democrat History Group Annual General Meeting

6.30 p.m. Monday 30th January 2023

In-person: Violet Bonham Carter Room, National Liberal Club,
1 Whitehall Place, London SW1A 2HE

Online, via Zoom: to register, go to the History Group website
at www.liberalhistory.org.uk, and click on the event page for
the 'Forgotten Liberal Heroes' meeting at 7.00pm.

Agenda and calling notice

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the AGM held on 31st January 2022
3. Report from the Chair on activities during 2022
4. Report from the Treasurer and annual accounts
5. Report from the Membership Secretary
6. Resolution on Journal subscription rates (see below)
7. Election of Officers for 2022–23:
 - Chair
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Membership Secretary
 - Five ordinary members of the Executive CommitteeNominations, including self-nominations, may be made to the Secretary, in writing or by email (address below), at any time up until the start of the AGM.
8. Any other business

The minutes of the 2022 AGM, the annual accounts for 2021–22 and the Chair's report on activities during 2022 are [available here](#).

Resolution on Journal subscription rates (Proposed by Paul Fox, Treasurer)

This AGM:

- a) Welcomes the fact that the Journal subscription prices have not been increased since 2015.
- b) Notes the current very high rate of inflation which is in addition to cumulative inflation since 2015.
- c) Notes that this very high rate of inflation is impacting on the costs of producing and distributing the Journal (e.g. paper/printing/postage) which is the largest single cost for LDHG.

- d) Notes the parallel significant increases in the costs of organising speaker meetings (e.g. room bookings and travel / overnight stays for speakers).

This AGM further welcomes the fact that the Group are now able to offer a digital subscription to the Journal, as this:

- i. Minimises the harmful impact on the environment arising from hard copy printing and distribution.
- ii. Has a lower unit cost, thereby enabling subscription prices to be lower than otherwise, which is more inclusive and a contribution to the cost-of-living crisis.

This AGM agrees that eligibility for the 'unwaged' subscription should be clarified such that it is clear that this category applies to those under state pension age who are either full-time students or in receipt of state benefits e.g. Universal Credit (or equivalent ex UK).

In light of the above, this AGM agrees that the Committee be authorised to increase the Journal subscriptions as follows, with effect from 1 September 2023:

1. The UK standard print subscription rate to be increased from £25 to £30.
2. The UK unwaged print subscription rate to be increased from £15 to £20.
3. The overseas print subscription rate to be increased from £35 (£25 unwaged) to £45.
4. The corporate subscription rate remain at £60.

Following the AGM, at 7.00pm:

Forgotten Liberal Heroes: Sir Edward Grey and Richard Haldane

The Liberal governments of Henry Campbell-Bannerman and H.H. Asquith included many 'big beasts'. Sir Edward Grey served as Foreign Secretary and remains the longest-serving holder of the office. He maintained good relations with France and Russia at a time of great instability in Europe. When his efforts to avert conflict failed, in 1914, Grey persuaded a divided cabinet to support Britain's entry to the First World War.

Richard Haldane was Secretary for War and created the Territorial Army and the British Expeditionary Force. As Lord Chancellor after 1912 he pursued a series of judicial reforms. He was also a co-founder of the UK university system.

Both have a credible case for being regarded as Liberal heroes. But Grey's record has been strongly criticised in recent years and Haldane is largely forgotten.

Join **Thomas Otte** (University of East Anglia and author of *Statesman of Europe: A Life of Sir Edward Grey*) and **John Campbell OBE** (author of *Haldane: The Forgotten Statesman Who Shaped Modern Britain*) to assess these Liberal politicians and their legacies.

The meeting will take place at 7.00pm on Monday 30 January 2023, following the Liberal Democrat History Group's AGM at 6.30pm. It will be a hybrid meeting, with attendance possible in person at the National Liberal Club and online, via Zoom. To register to participate by Zoom go to www.liberalhistory.org.uk, and click on the event page. For in-person attendance, there is no need to register.