

The History of the Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils and its predecessors between 1947 and 2012 (Updated 2022)



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Compiled by Eric Franklin

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Anne Kirkland (Training Manager) and **Linda Bain** (Administration Manager), Northants CALC, for both sourcing archive material at the office and producing regular refreshments. They are also to be thanked for copying and collating the completed booklet.

Mark Hunter (Chelveston) for the donation of archive materials covering the period from 1966 to 1977 which saved me many hours of ploughing my way through boxes of paperwork.

Jeffrey Greenwell for putting me in touch with **Alan Hames** who willingly shared a wealth of anecdotes and pictures concerning his father, Bill Hames M.B.E. (pages 24, 25).

Thrapston District Historical Society for permission to use the picture of Dr. Eric St. Clair Gainer on page 5.

The Editor of Jigsaw, a Thrapston monthly magazine, for willingly including a request for a picture of Reg Loakes and the lady who responded (who wishes to remain anonymous) who agreed to allow use of the picture on page 7.

The Members and **Officers** of the Northamptonshire Association of Parish Councils during 1967 and 1968 who produced the Twentieth Annual report and Statement of Accounts. Included in this report are very full details of the first 21 years of the Association which was a valuable source and saved many hours of looking through old minutes.

Those visionaries whose names appear in the lists of members and officers who were the prime movers in establishing the original association and those who have brought it into the present day.

I have endeavoured to give credit for pictures used. Please advise the office of errors and corrections.

Details included are believed to be correct – hopefully, all my basic errors have been discovered by proof-readers – any remaining are purely the responsibility of the author.

Eric Franklin
July 2013

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Introduction

The Northamptonshire Association of Local Councils (Northants CALC) is a membership organisation representing the parish and town councils of Northamptonshire, England.

Northants CALC is a progressive organisation which is very aware that the way in which it functions today is the result of a 65-year process. How many times have you heard someone say, *"but we've always done it that way"*? The members and Officers of Northants CALC are aware that they are just the current bearers of the baton in a relay race and are very aware of the need for evolution to continue. This history is to place today in context with where we have come from and to confirm the sound foundation on which we stand as we look to the future.

The organisation started in 1947 when local government reforms began after World War 2. For over seventy-five years Northants CALC and its predecessors have provided legal and technical advisory services to member councils with the backing of the National Association of Local Councils.

This booklet is an attempt to give a broad picture of the organisation's history, to highlight significant events in its evolution and to name those who have served as members and officers. I also include details and anecdotes about some significant people. Information has been extracted from archive materials from a variety of sources covering the entire period. It is not considered to be a definitive document and it is likely that there will be other people who have served who are not mentioned. Please advise Northants CALC, at the address on the title page, of any omissions or corrections.

Abbreviations used:

Northants CALC	Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils
NAPC	Northamptonshire Association of Parish Councils
NALC	Northamptonshire Association of Local Councils (usually)
NALC	National Association of Local Councils (the context should help to differentiate between these two)
CALC	County Association of Local Councils
ACRE	Action with Communities in Rural Communities
CiLCA	Certificate in Local Council Administration
EDF	Eric D Franklin – the author & supplier of illustrations

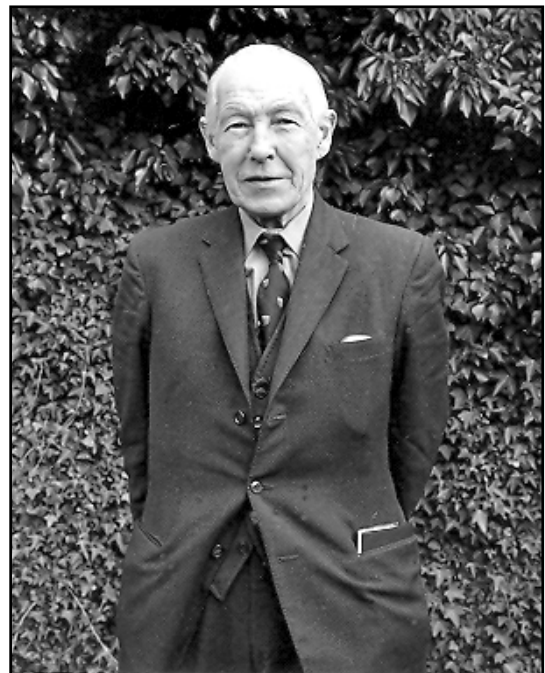
1947 – 1968 - The First Twenty-one Years

Many of the words in this section were written on the occasion of the coming-of-age of Northamptonshire Association of Parish Councils in 1968 and appeared in the Annual Report, 1967 – 1968. I am very grateful that the early days were collated so completely.

The idea of a county association of parish councils had been considered at a number of small informal meetings held in the offices of Northampton Rural District Council under the chairmanship of Mr. E. J. Nichol, of the National Council of Social Service.

On Saturday, 20th September 1947, an idea became a reality. On that day, the inaugural meeting was held in the County Hall, Northampton. Well over 100 parish councillors, representing 86 parish councils, were present. Mr. George Dallas, Chairman of the Rural Community Council, presided and Mr. Eric Major, Secretary of the National Association of Parish Councils, spoke on the work of both the National Association and a county association.

Following discussion Dr. Eric St. Clair Gainer (*pictured right – Thrapston District Historical Society Archive*), representing Thrapston Parish Council, proposed that a County Parish Councils Association be inaugurated in Northamptonshire. This was seconded by Mr. M. V. Fletcher, of Gretton. When put to the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.



It was agreed to set up a provisional Executive Committee of 12 members, and the first members were elected:-

Mr. Hone was unanimously elected Chairman and the Rural Community Council agreed to supply the secretariat for the new organisation, Mr. Kenneth G. S. MacWhirter thereby becoming Secretary of both the Rural Community Council and the newly formed Association, a system which still applied in 1968. Of the original 12 members, Mrs. Tynan and Mr. Hames

were still serving in 1968. Unfortunately, the Association was quickly deprived of the services of Mr. Hone who met his death in a riding accident in February 1948. Mr. E. J. Hayward, who had accepted the Committee's invitation to become the Honorary Treasurer, was appointed acting Chairman until the Annual General Meeting.

The Provisional Executive Committee	
Name	Council
Mrs. E. Tynan	Isham
Mr. G. Hone	Welford
Mr. W. R. Loakes	Thrapston
Mr. W. F. Hames	Duston, Milton, Wootton, Spratton
Mr. W. V. Fletcher	Gretton
Mr. E. Eales	Pattishall
Mr. O. Woodman	Blisworth
Mr. L. S. Prosser	Charlton
Mr. L. Lucas	Long Buckby
Mr. A. Needham	Cransley
Mr. J. C. Britten	Chelveston
Mr. H. V. Phelps	Castle Ashby

The twelve members forming the provisional Executive Committee can be regarded rightly as the pioneers who, with headquarters at 53 Abington Street, Northampton, were engaged for the next six months in the formidable task of drafting a constitution (finally approved by the National Association in October 1948), recruiting a membership (95 parish councils were affiliated by 3rd April 1948 – in 1968 there were 159 members), and dealing with the hundred and one details that demand attention if any new organisation is to be firmly established.



The current site of 53 Abington Street (photograph taken 21st May 2013 - EDF).

One matter which received long and careful consideration by the acting Executive was the title to be adopted by the new body. Following a conference of parish councils in the Soke of Peterborough and the Oundle and Thrapston areas, held in Peterborough on 20th March 1948, it was decided to

recommend that the name should be "The Northamptonshire and Soke of Peterborough Association of Local Councils". This proposal, however, was referred back to the Executive, who subsequently decided that the name should be "Northamptonshire Association of Parish Councils", which remained the case until 1975 when "Northamptonshire Association of Local Councils" replaced it.

On 10th April 1948, the first annual meeting was held. Notably, Mr. J. Alan Turner, Clerk of Northamptonshire County Council, was elected as the Association's first President, an office he held until the 21st annual meeting on 26th October 1968 when he retired from the County Council and departed the district.

The first annual meeting also confirmed the appointment of Mr. E. J. Hayward as Honorary Treasurer and Mr. W. H. Shaw, from Palmer & Co., chartered accountants, as Honorary Auditor.

The following 12 members were elected to the Executive Committee:-

The Inaugural Executive Committee	
Name	Council
Mrs. E. Tynan	Isham
Mr. W. H. Marlow	Towcester
Mr. W. R. Loakes	Thrapston
Mr. W. F. Hames	Duston, Milton, Wootton, Spratton
Mr. W. V. Fletcher	Gretton
Mr. F. W. Lang	Pitsford
Mr. J. T. Bassett	Clipston
Mr. L. S. Prosser	Charlton
Mr. L. Lucas	Long Buckby
Mr. A. Needham	Cransley
Mr. J. C. Britten	Chelveston
Mr. H. V. Phelps	Castle Ashby



The financial statement revealed an income of £57 5s 6d and an expenditure of £50 12s 0d, leaving a credit balance of £6 13s 6d.

At the first meeting of the newly appointed Executive Committee, Mr. Reg Loakes (*pictured left, extracted from a wedding photograph, taken in December 1948, with thanks to an anonymous donor from Woodford, near Thrapston, Northants*), who then held the position of Chairman of Thrapston Parish Council, was appointed to succeed the late Mr. Hone as Chairman of the Association.

The Quarterly Bulletin, a three-monthly newssheet began during 1949, providing information, updates, and news from both National and local sources. The successor to the Bulletin, "Update" continues this process. Also during the year, close links with Northamptonshire Rural Community Council

were forged and it was a member of that organisation, Mrs. Mildred Bartlet (Little Houghton) became the first co-opted member of NAPC. By the time of the annual meeting on 18th June 1949, 50% of the parish councils were in membership.

During 1950, two important changes in the personnel of the administrative staff occurred. Mrs. E. G. Windebanks, who had attended most of the meetings since inception, left to join Rutland Rural Community Council. This was followed by the resignation of Kenneth MacWhirter due to ill health on 25th February. Mr. R. M. C. Thursfield was appointed as Secretary of both the Association and the Rural Community Council. Much of the credit for the establishment of NAPC was due to Mr. MacWhirter. In a tribute to him on his resignation, it was said: "He had to start from scratch to organise the rural life of the county in relation to civic affairs within the parish, arts and crafts, and social affairs." The 1950 annual meeting made two important decisions:

1. To hold future annual meetings in October.
2. To organise a series of area conferences at Towcester, Daventry, Brackley, Brixworth, Oundle and Kettering. These became annual events and were based on "Constitution, Powers and Finances of a Parish Council," giving evidence of the growing prestige of the Association.

By the time of the annual meeting on 14th October 1951, 67% of parish councils and 12% of parish meetings (14 in total) had affiliated. In 1951, Mr. Loakes resigned as Chairman and representative on the Executive Committee of the National Association. His replacement on the latter was Mrs. Ethelwyn Tynan, more about whom later in this booklet. Mr. Loakes became the first Vice-President to be appointed by the Association. The new Chairman was Mr. H. V. Phelps (Castle Ashby), who held the position for one year, when he handed over to Rev. Canon E. J. Arnold Dunn (Crick). The Association assisted with the formation of the County Joint Advisory Committee for Old People's Welfare.

During 1953 and 1954, progress continued. On 27th March 1953, a Parish Clerks' Conference was attended by 28 clerks; a joint conference on 28th May 1953 was held with Oxfordshire at Banbury, attended by representatives from 28 parishes in the two counties, the first of a series with adjoining counties; and the initial weekend residential conference at Knuston Hall took place on 12th and 13th June

1954. Also in 1954, Mr. W. H. Shaw did not seek re-appointment as Honorary Auditor, Mr. R. A. Palmer taking his place.

In 1955, the Association co-operated in the inauguration of the county's first Tidiest Village Competition in 1956 which was an immediate success. The Executive Committee found opportunity to place on record "its high appreciation of Mrs. Tynan's services," further recognition being afforded in 1957 when she was elected a Vice-President. At the 1958 annual meeting on 25th October, Mr. Thursfield announced his impending retirement. Expressions of sincere regret at his decision and of good wishes for his future well-being were followed by a resolution "To place on record our great appreciation of the ability and energy with which he has fostered and developed the growth of the Association as Secretary almost since its formation and his wholehearted devotion to its interests at all times." Lt. Col. C. C. S. Genese succeeded to the office, which he held for nine years, attending his first Executive Committee meeting on 11th April 1958, by which time 153 parish councils out of 177 were members, as well as several parish meeting.

In 1960, Mr. Hayward resigned as Honorary Treasurer, becoming a Vice-President, and was succeeded by Mr. H. G. Lloyd.

In 1962, the Association moved to new headquarters. Due to the expiry of the lease on 53 Abington Street, new premises were quickly secured at 9 Cheyne Walk, Northampton, the first meeting of the Executive Committee there being on 14th April 1962.



9 Cheyne Walk - taken on 21st May 2013 – EDF

On November 19th 1966, Canon Dunn was compelled by pressure of other duties not to seek re-election as Chairman after 14 years service. Mr. G. H. Robinson (Geddington) was elected as his replacement. Col. Genese left as Secretary in 1967

and was replaced by Mr. Derrick W. Dunn who had been Assistant Secretary for three years.

The early days were summed up with these closing comments in the 1968 report:

"This, briefly, is the story of the Northamptonshire Association of Parish Councils in the first 21 years of its existence. The problems with which it has had to deal are very much the problems of today – planning, urban encroachment and development, bus services, water supplies, traffic warning and road safety signs, postal services, street lighting and a host of other matters, some minor, some major, but all of importance to the life of a rural community.

It cannot be denied that the Association has met successfully the challenge of the past; there are sound and solid grounds for believing it will meet just as successfully the greater challenge which increased responsibility is certain to bring in the future".

1968 to 1978

The next ten years brought a number of changes and growing involvement in issues of national importance. By the end of these ten years, the Association would be on the verge of moving to Hunsbury Hill, where it would remain for a further 30 years.



A campaign was started in 1968 to raise both awareness of, and interest in, the annual parish meeting. A variety of posters were produced, one of which is shown left (*attached to the Quarterly Bulletin No 75, February 1968*). These were priced at 7s 6d (37½p) for 50. The requirements for parish meetings at the time (February 1968) were:

“All Parish Meetings must assemble annually between 1st March and 1st April and at other such times as the parish council may determine. In a parish having no separate parish council the parish meeting must meet at least twice a year.

Parish Councils must meet annually on 20th May or within 14 days

thereafter (and in addition on three other occasions in the year even if there is no business to transact). Proceedings at a parish meeting must not begin before 6 p.m., Parish Councils may meet at any time.”

The Association was heavily involved in the early stages of discussions about the major expansion of Northampton and also championed the right for parish councils to have a voice in all planning applications in their parish.

A new President was elected at the Annual Meeting in November, Mr. J. Alan Turner retiring after 20 years' service. The second President was Mr. O. Meurig

Jones, M.C. 21 people stood for a keenly contested election for the 12 places on the Executive Committee, the successful candidates being:

The Inaugural Executive Committee	
Name	Council
Mr. W. Amos*	Church with Chapel Brampton
Mr. H. H. Atterbury	West Haddon
Canon E. J. A. Dunn	Crick
Mr. P. Gray	Titchmarsh
Mr. W. F. Hames	Milton Malsor, Wootton
Mrs. M. Jelley	Cosgrove
Mrs. D. G. Lambley	Church with Chapel Brampton
Mr. W. Oakey	Eydon
Mr. A. W. Parrish	Nassington
Lt. Col. M. C. Pulford	East Haddon
Mr. G. H. Robinson	Geddington
Mrs. E. Tynan	Isham

* Denotes Parish Council Clerk

1969 brought much relief when Silverstone was omitted from the shortlist for the third London Airport following a vociferous campaign from NAPC. That year also saw publication of the Maud Report, advocating sweeping changes in Local Government. This would eventually result in the creation of District Councils in 1974. Much negotiation was required to ensure that parishes which today sit in Northamptonshire remained within the county – briefly, there was a possibility that much of East Northamptonshire would become part of Peterborough and the North Fens, whilst other parishes were linked with Oxfordshire, Leicestershire, and Warwickshire.

The Quarterly Bulletin, as well as providing updates on legislation and the like, also reported on local activities and personalities. The January 1970 issue commended

Mr. Frederick Matts of Creton Parish Council who had served on the council for 56 years, the last 39 as Chairman, combining this with 46 years with the Parochial Church Council. He retired aged 79 and was presented with an inscribed gold pen and pencil set.

An appreciation of Mrs. Ethelwyn Tynan (Isham) appeared in the March 1970 Bulletin. A founder member of the Executive Committee, she was described as having "A prerogative to be first." She was the first woman member of her parish council, one of the 12 founder members of NAPC, first woman to represent the Association on the National Executive Committee (1957) and the Association's first female Vice-President. She was also involved with the Rural Community Council, her Parochial Church Council and the Women's Institute. Her active contribution to the Association continued until 1980. And yet, despite all this activity, she said that her main achievement was "the fact that I have a son and daughter and three grandchildren." In 1971, she received an M.B.E.

Despite the campaign to increase interest in Annual Parish meetings, the average attendance throughout the county in 1970 was 22 with the number of councillors greatly exceeding electors.

NAPC started 1971 with a plea that the forthcoming reorganisation of Local Government should leave parish councils with powers rather than duties and that decisions about any locality should be taken and seen to be taken as locally as possible. Mrs. Janet Doran, Assistant Secretary of the Association since 1968 resigned at the end of January 1971 and was replaced by Miss Cheryl Spittles. Within a year, Mrs. Doran was back in post after Miss Spittles went to work at Northampton General Hospital.

Opposition to the fragmentation of the County continued. Brackley and district were to be transferred to Oxfordshire, whilst Barby, Crick, Kilsby, Lilbourne and Yelvertoft were looking at being incorporated into Warwickshire. The County Association were in the vanguard of opposition and offered both support and representation. Eventually, all were retained within Northamptonshire.

Proposals for seven new District Authorities for Northamptonshire were announced at the end of 1971, these being: Northampton; East Northants; Corby; Kettering; Wellingborough; South Northants; and West Northants (including Daventry Borough and Daventry and Brixworth Rural Districts).

In 1971, Mrs. Elizabeth. J. McCullagh was appointed Assistant Secretary, holding the post until her retirement in 1977.

1972 marked the 25th anniversary of the association. A Silver Jubilee Dinner was held at Overstone Solarium on 13th September with a very good attendance. Membership of NAPC amongst the parishes had reached a record high; 170 including 15 Parish Meetings – just 12 Parish Councils had not joined. In July, the Local Government Bill was accepted and parish councils were given the right to notification of planning applications.

Towards the end of 1972, the National Association changed its name to the National Association of Local Councils and within a year, the Northamptonshire Association had become NALC.

Confirmation of the seven new district councils was announced at the beginning of 1973, the only alteration to those listed above being the re-naming of West Northants to Daventry District Council.

In 1973, Mrs. Tynan decided to stand down from her position with the National Association.

A number of ancient boroughs had been granted “Town” status in 1973, these being Brackley, Burton Latimer, Desborough, Higham Ferrers, Irthlingborough, Oundle, Raunds and Rothwell. The majority soon became members of the Association.

There are very few pictures of the members and officers of the Association from these days – the one reproduced below appeared on the front cover of the 25th Annual Report & Statement of Accounts 1972 – 1973.



Members and officers of the Northamptonshire Association of Parish Councils 1973.
 Left to right: Mrs. E. J. McCullagh (Assistant Secretary); Mr. A. W. Parrish (Nassington);
 Mrs. E. Tynan (Isham); Mr. D. W. Dunn (Secretary); Mr. W. Oakey (Eydon); Canon E. J. A.
 Dunn (Vice President); Mr. G. H. Robinson (Geddington), Chairman; Mrs. D. G. Lambley
 (Church with Chapel Brampton); Mr. G. P. T. Briggs (Co-opted member, Clerk to
 Northampton Rural District Council); Mrs. J. R. Herbert (Towcester); Mr. H. H. Atterbury
 (West Haddon).

(If you have pictures of any of the early “movers and shakers” of the Association, Northants CALC would be grateful to receive a copy).

During 1974, the principal task of the Association was the organisation of conferences in the majority of the new Districts, the prime objective being to bring together the administrative officers and members of Parish Councils of their District. They were very well attended and the emphasis was on building good relationships and a co-operative attitude.

1975 saw the first administration courses for councillors and clerks being held at eight venues throughout the county – Kings Cliffe, Wadenhoe, Higham Ferrers, Great Doddington, Brixworth, Roade, Towcester and Brackley. The association was also concerned that communities should retain their telephone boxes and, possibly, seek an increase in number. Once again, the Tidiest Village Competition,

which had been running since 1956, brought a large entry, 128 villages and 78 churchyards being entered.

1976 heralded the association endeavouring, with mixed success, to enthuse parishes about the County Structure Plan which would shape policy over the next two decades. Of more interest, the sale of commemorative mugs for the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 was taking up much staff time in the office. Elections took place during the year, the first since re-organisation. Possibly as a result of this, there were eleven resolutions put to the Annual General Meeting in October, covering such diverse issues as the lack of sufficient information on planning applications being sent to Parish Councils by District Councils, rural policing and vandalism, lorry routes, bus services, stubble burning and schools re-introducing the practise of giving bibles to all children aged 9.

During 1977, campaigns to promote attendance at Annual Parish Meetings and to making a village appraisal of life within parish boundaries met with the usual levels of interest. More concern was felt with the threatened closure of local Post Offices. The association assisted communities in their fight and at least one, at Weekley, was retained. After six years' service as Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth McCullagh, pictured in the group on page 12, retired at the end of 1977. Finally, towards the end of the year, Northamptonshire Rural Community Council, with whom NALC shared accommodation, announced they were leaving Cheney Walk, probably by the end of 1978. A move to Hunsbury Hill Farm was planned and the Association was advised that there would be suitable accommodation available for their purposes, if wanted; this offer was gratefully accepted.

1979 – 2007 – the Hunsbury Years



The Northamptonshire Association of Local Councils moved to Hunsbury Hill Farm at the beginning of 1979 with Northamptonshire Rural Community Council (later ACRE), beginning a thirty-year association. *(Picture shown left – taken 13th June 2013 – EDF).* In 1979, a long association with

Jeffrey Greenwell started, with his election as President.

1980 brought the sad news that Mrs. Ethelwyn Tynan, one of the prime movers at the beginning of the association had died. Held in high esteem, her memory was commemorated with the construction of an oak elbow chair with affixed plaque, completed in 1982; this now resides in the Boardroom at Litchborough *(pictured right – taken 23rd May 2013 – EDF).*

The plaque reads:

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION
OF LOCAL COUNCILS
THE CHAIR**
*In gratitude and with happy regard for
the work of
ETHELWYN TYNAN, M.B.E.
Parish Councillor Extraordinary.
1885 – 1980*



Also in 1980, this intriguing minute was recorded:

"It was agreed to write saying that the Association did not know where Mr. Dowdy was."
No other mention of this person has been discovered and it can only be conjectured both who he was and who the enquirer was.

Agreement was reached in 1981 to buy an electronic stencil cutter to improve the appearance of the Bulletin. The annual accounts showed a small surplus of £199.

1982 saw the resignation of Mr. D. W. Dunn as secretary after 15 years' service. His replacement was Mr. Timothy G. Cawkwell, who was also secretary to the Northamptonshire Rural Community Council. In the same year, the Association heard that the Nene Valley Parishes Association had been formed and the Secretary had contacted clerks in the area to find out more. They agreed to hold a watching brief but "not to bestow unwarranted status to the Association by attending their meetings." There was a concern that they would form a rival organisation.

A suggested name-change was proposed in 1983. Alteration to "Northamptonshire Association of Town and Parish Councils" was overwhelmingly rejected in a vote.

Membership amongst parish councils remained at a high level – in 1984/ 1985, 169 had subscribed whilst a year later (1986/1987), just 7 parish councils and parish meetings were non-members. The Association was fulfilling its prime purpose and these levels of membership give a strong indication of satisfaction levels. During the year, agreement was given to making a contribution to the Rural Community Council for the purchase of an electronic typewriter with word-processing capability. Subsequently, two electric typewriters were bought, with the possibility of obtaining a visual display unit at some point in the future. Another long-standing member, Alf Parrish, died during 1984.

In 1986, Mrs. Gwen Radcliffe (Oundle) was elected to serve on the County Committee and has maintained continuous service up to the date of writing (June 2013). Mr. Cawkwell left his post as secretary during the year, his successor being Miss Deborah Smith. Letters were written stating objections to the closure of Magistrates Courts at Brackley and Oundle.



At the beginning of 1987 Mrs. Christine Moore was appointed minute's secretary to the committee, whilst later in the year, the NALC logo of initials on a black outline map of the County made its first appearance (*shown left*). During the year, Councillor training days commenced; they were very well

received, attendances were good and waiting lists long.

Preparations for the Centenary of local councils in 1994 began in 1989. The Spring Conference that year was one of the most poorly attended ever with less than 60 delegates attending on Cup Final day. (*The match between Liverpool and Everton took place just five weeks after the Hillsborough disaster and resulted in a 3 – 2 win for Liverpool – EDF*).

Deborah Smith left in 1990 and was replaced with Mrs. Christine Moore who held the post for the next 17 years. The Association agreed to proceed with VAT registration, Graham Camp being co-opted to assist with the process.

A lack of funding in 1991 meant that training costs for clerks needed to be paid from the precept. Prospective councillor information evenings were sparsely attended and, despite best efforts, the overall effect was minimal. There were very few contested parish council elections. The Centenary celebrations were agreed, with these events planned:

- A Garden Party at Grendon Hall.
- A Concert with the County Youth Orchestra at Derngate.
- A church service at All Saints Church Northampton.

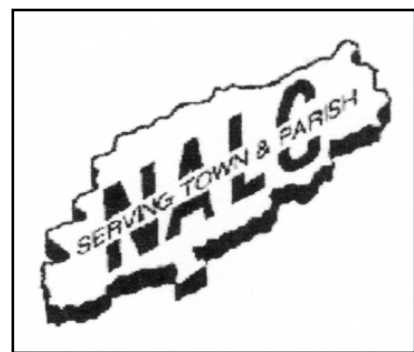
The Association gave backing for electrification of the Midland Main Railway Line.

A concerted effort was made in 1992 to approach the 12 non-member councils. Committee members took the lead and made personal contact. As a result, Collingtree and Wadenhoe/Pilton/Stoke Doyle joined. Amongst the issues raised at meetings were: the cost of electricity supply for street lights; expenses for hospital car pool volunteers; and considering direct debits as a means of paying annual subscriptions.

Northamptonshire County Council awarded grants to enable clerks to undergo training in 1993. One of the big issues that year was discussing the increase in car-boot sales and seeking clarification on their legality.

Despite many years of planning, centenary events in 1994 were disappointing. About 100 people attended the Garden Party, the Derngate Concert was a success and the church service was not proceeded with. Basic training courses were offered for the first time, covering chairmanship skills, managing meetings, financial management, standing orders and procedures. These were very well attended.

In 1996, NALC entered the computer age with the purchase of a Pentium P100 with 8Mb RAM, 1Gb HDD and Modem, all for the (then) relatively good price of £2,100. At about this time, the logo changed to include "Serving Town & Parish" *(shown right)*.



The same year saw the passing of another of the original members, Bill Hames M.B.E. who had been involved for 49 years. He was commemorated with a planned series of conferences covering such subjects as sustainable community development which began in 1997. I include on pages 24 and 25 details of his activities and some anecdotes told me by his son Alan.

1997 marked the Association's half-century, the 50th AGM being held at Hunsbury Hill Centre.

By 1998, the number of requests for information and advice received at the office exceeded 1000. These included powers, procedures, accounting regulations, planning matters, VAT, rights of way, burial grounds, contracts of employment, casual vacancies and standing orders, amongst many others. The service agreement with Northamptonshire ACRE was considered the most cost effective option of providing the above and a new three year agreement was under negotiation. This had a major impact on costs and resulted in a large increase in subscriptions. Very few parishes had responded to a consultation about this, the few who did being supportive. One quite new innovation was the introduction of

NALC's first Web pages, whilst e-mail was beginning to be seen as an excellent means of communication with those members who had internet access.

1999 saw a large number of training courses and events organised by the Association; two courses for clerks; three for new councillors; four planning courses; and an audit seminar. Over 300 people attended training events (three times as many as the previous year) at venues across the county. At the end of the millennium, the Chairman (John Brownlee) commented on the long-service of some members of the County Committee – Alan Tebbutt (20 years), Tilly Thorpe and Cyril Wheatcroft (both 22 years), whilst two Vice Presidents also had a long association – Jane Barrett (23 years) and Joyce Herbert (29 years).

The first two years of the 2000's brought a number of innovations and challenges. A new Code of Conduct was introduced and, despite initial concerns amongst councillors, was generally seen as a positive move, whilst the Audit Commission introduced a "Lighter Touch" audit regime. The Association speedily created a solution to the potential disarray by forming the Internal Audit Service. There was a change of President in 2001, John Picking being succeeded by Peter Gould, Chief Executive of Northamptonshire County Council. In 2002, funding was secured to enable the Association to establish quality training for clerks, councillors, and even potential councillors.

In February 2002, Mrs. "Tilly" Thorpe died. Below are extracts from a written tribute by Christine Moore:

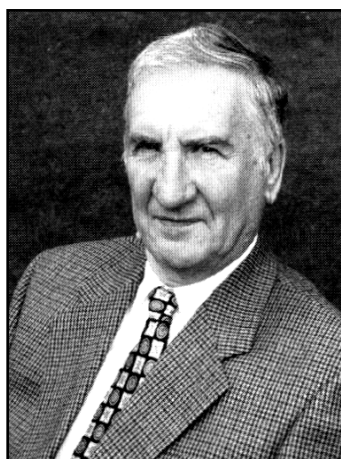
"Some of you may remember the raffle at the NALC AGM...You were very brave or crafty if you managed to get into the High Barn at Hunsbury past Tilly without having to part with your money for a raffle ticket or two... She had a wicked sense of humour and was always full of jokes and anecdotes... She was a very active member of the NALC County Committee since being nominated many years ago by Brackley Town Council who she served for over 30 years...She will be missed by many and I am sure will never be forgotten."

After a sixteen-year association, John Brownlee left the area in 2003, shortly after completing his three-year period as Chairman. His term saw many big changes in legislation and the role of the parish council. Later in the year, Mrs. Jane Barrett also resigned. She had been a member of the County Committee since before 1975 and a Vice President for 16 years.

As well as the regular courses for clerks and councillors, a joint session with ACRE was arranged on playground safety during 2003. The County Training Partnership was set up; NALC taking the lead role. The partners were – ACRE; the Society of Local Council Clerks; Northamptonshire County Council; East Northants Council; and Northampton and Moulton Colleges.

At this time, the Quality Council scheme was being discussed. Initially, it was planned to only allow applications where 100% of councillors had been either elected or stood for election. After many representations, this was lowered to 80%. By the end of 2003, 203 councils nationally had been accredited.

A change to the Constitution was required in 2004. For the AGM to be quorate, delegates from 15% of the membership need to be present. As this was not attained at the AGM, the meeting had to be adjourned and, following a Special Meeting, the quorum figure was agreed at 10%. The meeting could then proceed. Another Vice President resigned in 2004 – Mrs. Joyce Herbert (Towcester) after 34 years with the Association. As well as being on the County Committee, she was also NALC's representative at the National Association. Plans were in place, through the County Training Partnership, to commence a series of training courses aimed at clerks wishing to complete the CiLCA (Certificate in Local Council Administration) examination, which was essential for any council to apply for Quality status.



In March 2005, a very well attended conference was held on the Quality Council Scheme, with enthusiastic input from the Essex CALC. Mrs. Jacqueline Hart finished her three-year term of office as Chairman at the AGM and was succeeded by Gordon Shorley (*pictured left – taken from the Annual Report, 2005 – 2006*). The Association set up an Accreditation Panel in 2006 and, at the end of that year, Daventry Town Council became the first Quality Council in Northamptonshire.

2007 – 2012 - The Moody Years and Litchborough

Christine Moore announced that she would be retiring as County Secretary at the end of March 2007 after 17 years with NALC and a total of 35 years with Northamptonshire ACRE and predecessors. Her successor, Danny Moody, was appointed as Principal Officer on 10th April 2007. Anne Millar, who had supported Christine for a number of years, became Administration Support.

Writing three days after his appointment, Danny said: *"I am often asked "Are you replacing Christine Moore?" and I respond that I don't think that would ever be possible! Please think of me as her successor. I join NALC from a varied background... as a councillor on Helmdon Parish Council... I served as acting clerk... was involved with the recruitment of a new clerk. I have started working towards my CiLCA qualification. Challenges lie ahead...my wish is to make Northamptonshire a beacon county for local government."*

Just before her retirement, Christine saw three more parishes attain Quality Council status – Hardingstone Parish Council, Thrapston Town Council and Bugbrooke Parish Council, bringing the total to four.



Christine was invited to the Thrapston Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday 17th April to present the Quality Council Certificate, her final formal act for the Association.

(Pictured above with Mrs. Jeanne Pike (left), Town Clerk and Cllr. Eric Franklin, Chairman & Town Mayor). Danny Moody made his first public appearance for NALC at this meeting.

During 2007, the Association's name was changed to Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils – Northants CALC – to avoid confusion with the National Association (NALC). Peter Gould left as President after serving for six years, his role being taken by Jeffrey Greenwell once again for the coming year.

The Association had been closely associated with ACRE and predecessors since formation in 1947. For many years ACRE had employed the staff of the Association and operated a service level agreement for providing services. This was due to come to an end in March 2008. The decision was taken by County Committee to seek alternative premises, employ their own staff and, for the first time, to “go it alone”. Offices at Litchborough were secured, the lease being signed by Gordon Shorley (Chairman) and Danny Moody on 14th March *(pictured right- Northants CALC)*; the move to Litchborough took place on 1st April 2008.



The premises *(pictured below on 23rd May 2013 – EDF)* required much work, especially downstairs, being just one large workshop to start with. Anne Millar was appointed Finance & Resources Officer, joining Danny as a member of the Association's staff. Some members of the County Committee took on roles as “Champions” for aspects of the Association's work; these included Internal Audit; the new Larger Councils Forum; and the Quality Council Scheme.

At the AGM in October, Katherine Kerswell, Chief Executive of Northamptonshire County Council was elected President.



Grant funding was obtained from the sub-Regional Improvement & Efficiency Programme to employ a Training and Development Officer, Kate Houlihan being appointed to overhaul the entire training program. During 2009, this developed into a two-stranded approach covering both knowledge-based training (legislation etc.) and skill based (planning framework, engaging with communities etc.). Also, during the year, much work went into developing the Northamptonshire Council's Charter, to which, in 2010, the County, a number of District Council's and the Association (on behalf of parish councils) signed up, defining a new relationship between the three tiers of local government. The first agreed workstreams covered highways, planning and community safety.

In January 2010, Anne Millar left after almost seven years with the Association, Christine Dryden taking her place.



The County Committee gave much consideration to the association's governance and recommended to members that it become a company limited by guarantee. After agreement, the paperwork was signed on 15th May 2010 by Gordon Shorley (previous chairman) (left), Dryden Phillipson (Chairman) (seated), David Linnell (Vice Chairman) (centre) and Gwen Radcliffe (National Representative) (left).

As a result of incorporation, the County Committee became the Board of Directors. By 31st March 2010, there were thirteen Quality parishes in the County: Daventry, Brackley and Thrapston Town Councils; and Grange Park, Weedon Bec, Bugbrooke, Hardingstone, Barby and Onley, Kilsby, Warmington, Sulgrave, Chelveston-cum-Caldecott and Scaldwell Parish Councils.

Christine Dryden left early in 2011 and in March 2011, Anne Kirkland was appointed Training Manager, to replace Kate Houlihan who left a month later. The amount of administrative work had increased so much that it was decided to split the job into two parts, Helen Sitch becoming Administration Manager.

2012 brought many innovations. The Member Enquiry Service (MES) was launched to give a quick response to routine and generic enquiries. A new governance structure was debated and approved at the AGM whereby the Board of Directors would be cut from 18 members to 8. Two area forums and a Councillor Panel were established. The Quality Council Scheme was suspended to await a refreshed new version; by this time there were 17 parishes with this status. Additions to the previous list were Brixworth, Croughton, Hannington, Helmdon, Higham Ferrers, Oundle, Spratton and Wootton and East Hunsbury, whilst Daventry, Bugbrooke, Sulgrave and Grange Park had not reaccredited at the end of their four years.

The Association, through *Update*, provided details about the big changes to affect parish councils in 2012. The Localism Act and new Code of Conduct were both explained and training courses arranged, whilst information on employment issues continued to be a regular feature. The Association supported areas of Northampton where there was a wish to create a new parish, whilst countywide, there was support and encouragement for parishes to begin the process of producing a Neighbourhood Plan.

Towards the end of 2012, Helen Sitch left and a month later, Linda Bain took over the role of Administration Manager.

At the end of 2012 I should like to repeat the words Danny Moody spoke at the beginning of his tenure as Chief Executive quoted previously – *“my wish is to make Northamptonshire a beacon county for local government”*. I trust that the membership will agree that we do have a County Association which many others look to for leadership and inspiration.

2012 – 2022 – Ten years of change

Over the last ten years, a phrase I remember from the 1960's seems as relevant today as it was sixty years ago – “constant change is here to stay”. This is especially true of the period 2012 to 2022 as the “Moody Years” continued apace.

At the Annual General Meeting held in October 2012, a new governance model was adopted with the Board of Directors being reduced from eighteen to eight and Directors being appointed by the AGM rather than being elected. This figure was achieved during the year through natural retirements and resignations.

As at July 2013, the staff group based at the Litchborough office comprised Danny Moody, Anne Kirkland, and Linda Bain.

In 2014 the directors proposed that a significant increase in membership fees was required to make the Association more financially resilient and self-dependent, which was overwhelmingly approved with just one dissention. This resulted in a doubling of income enabling the Association to maintain a staffing level to provide a proper service to member councils and become independent of grants. This put Northants CALC in the top five of CALC's nationally in terms of membership fees and ensured that it remained fit for purpose and could provide excellent value for money. Northants CALC has endeavoured to take a leading role in the national network of CALC's in such areas as the Internal Audit Service, and county committee members have had major involvement with the National Association of Local Councils; Gwen Ratcliffe chairing the National Association's Finance Committee and Mike Scott being on the NALC Management Board, whilst Danny Moody is chair of the national County Officers' Forum.

Training has always been seen as a fundamental aspect of good councillorship and of staff professional development. Between 2011 and 2019 Anne Kirkland was the Administration and Training Manager, during which time the number of courses and training places increased significantly. When she left in 2019 a specialist Training Manager, Marie Reilly, was appointed, who has developed the Councillor Development Framework which has been adopted as a national model.

On 5th June 2017 Lesley Sambrook Smith was appointed as Deputy Chief Executive Officer, a pivotal point in the structural development of the Association.



The Directors, Vice Presidents and CEO in 2017
Front row, left to right: Gwen Radcliffe, Sara Homer, Gill Wells, Lynne Taylor, Lynn Lavender, and Catherine Lomax.
Back row left to right: Richard Lewis, Peter Alan, Mike Scott, Danny Moody, and Gordon Shorley

In 2018 the Secretary of State for Communities ordered a Best Value inspection into Northamptonshire County Council's financial management and governance, which precipitated the demise of the county council and, in 2019, the announcement that the county, borough and district councils in Northamptonshire would be replaced with two unitary councils, North Northamptonshire and West Northamptonshire. The CEO and Deputy were heavily involved at the centre of this process, ensuring that parish and town councils were very much part of the unitary council's initial blueprint.

No sooner was this happening when the Country entered lockdown as a response to the Coronavirus pandemic. In March 2020 staff moved out of the Litchborough office and were set up to work remotely from home. In April 2020, the government introduced emergency legislation that permitted parish and town councils to meet by remote means and the Association was the first CALC in the country to demonstrate to member councils how that could work, including publishing an instructional video on YouTube of an online meeting of the fictional Great Pipping Parish Council meeting, which gathered more than six thousand views.

In September 2020, the lease on the premises at Litchborough was due for renewal and the board made the decision to move out. The staff had demonstrated they could work from home very efficiently and effectively, and not having a premises would save £12,000 per year. In all, the Litchborough office was our base for twelve years and put the Association on the map as an independent organisation in its own right with both local and national credibility.

The New Councils Project, in which Northants CALC was involved, resulted in the creation of Northampton Town Council, Kingsthorpe Parish Council, Far Cotton & Delapre Community Council and Wellingborough Town Council on 1st April 2020 and of Kettering and Corby Town Councils on 1st April 2021, the first elections for all of them being in May 2021.

The Vice President of the Association role was abolished as of the AGM in October 2021, when the three remaining post holders, Gordon Shorley, Gwen Radcliffe, and Catherine Lomax were retired. A big presentation ceremony had been planned for the AGM but sadly only Catherine was able to attend to collect her bouquet and clock. Gwen and Gordon were both unable to attend due to ill health, so arrangements were made with the President later for a formal thank you for their many years of service.

In 2021 the Association created a Hall of Fame on the website to honour those who had given extended service to and/or made a significant contribution the Association. As of August 2022, the names appearing are: Peter Byng, Eric Franklin, David Hill, David Hughes, David Linnell, Bernard Lock, John Marshall, and Dryden Phillipson. No doubt others will, follow.

From the very beginning, the Association has always enjoyed very high membership rates. Currently, of the 220 parish and town councils in Northamptonshire 97% are in membership. Of the 51 parish meetings, twelve are members. The remaining ones do not precept and thus have no money to join; they are classed as affiliates.

In total over the last 75 years, 175 different people have served Northants CALC as either elected county committee members or directors, representing 86 different parishes. One parish, Duston, has provided seven separate members, five have come from each of Higham Ferrers, Rushden, Spratton, Towcester and Wootton, and four from Brackley, Kilsby, Oundle and Roade. Both Town and

Parish Councils remain at the very heart of life in our County and Association and long may that last. Much credit must be given to all the people who have given of their time, intellect and even money to create one of the leading County Associations nationally. I trust that my attempts to show how our Association has evolved over the last 75 years will both inform and inspire those who follow, for there will be challenges for each of you as you run your leg of the relay race that is being a local councillor.

The following two pages of anecdotes were gleaned from Alan Hames about his father Bill Hames M.B.E. his life of public service, the parish councils he worked for and other aspects of Bill's life.

Following this are lists of County Committee Members and Directors, the latter being highlighted ***as is this phrase***, Chairmen, Presidents, and Secretaries/Chief Executives which, for this edition, I have updated to the end of August 2022.

I also include my updated mini biography at the end to complete this booklet.

Should further updates be required in years to come, I trust that whoever is entrusted with the task has as much enjoyment as have I in compiling this history. I regret that, by the time you celebrate your centenary in 2047 at age 98, I shall probably not be in a position to make any contribution.

Eric Franklin
Thrapston
August 2022

William (Bill) Hames M.B.E.

A life of public service (with some anecdotes).

With thanks to Mr. Alan Hames for information and both pictures.

Bill was born in 1912 in Craven Street, Northampton. He began working in Northampton Borough Council's Public Health Office in 1929, was a solicitor's clerk from 1931 to 1942, when he was appointed Office Manager with George Barker & Co., leather manufacturers, a position he held until retirement in 1977.

He formed his own dance band in 1929; a 1937 publicity flyer is shown below. The band continued for more than 20 years.

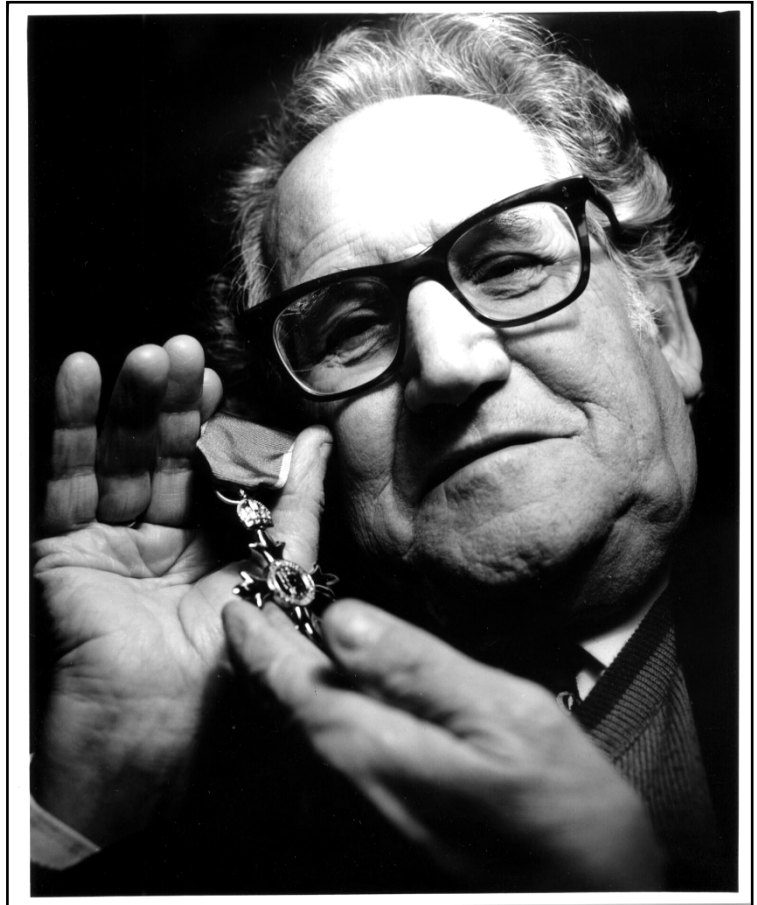


He was appointed clerk to Duston Parish Council in 1935, remaining in post until 1966 when Duston was incorporated into the Borough of Northampton. One story related concerned Duston Cemetery, where Bill was responsible for ensuring that burials took place in a proper way. On one occasion, the gravedigger found the appointed plot was already wrongly occupied; Bill had to oversee re-interment in the correct grave so that the funeral could proceed.

He became clerk to Wootton Parish Council in 1939, holding the post for over 50 years. Street lighting was originally by gas. When the Gas Board decided to remove all their equipment from the cast iron columns, the columns were left behind. When the Electricity Board came to install new lighting, Bill sold them the

old columns, thus making money for the Parish! Parish meetings were held in the schoolrooms, but there was always a short break whilst the night soil cart went by, collecting village waste.

Bill took on the Clerkship of Milton Malsor in 1940, serving for 46 years. He appears to have enjoyed his after-meeting session in the local public house with councillors, quaffing his usual glass of sherry. On one occasion, there was an important Council matter that required some urgent attention. The Chairman's letter was delivered early morning; immediately Bill sent his reply via the local post box, which was clearly promptly collected and delivered to the Chairman. The Chairman's response was then posted back and received by Bill later that afternoon. In today's situation I am sure that this would have taken at least a week, but even at that time he was surprised at the efficiency of the local postal service!!!



To make up his "foursome" of clerking jobs, he accepted the vacant office of Clerk to Spratton Parish

Council to help out for one year; he resigned 17 years later. It was at Spratton where he was given the unique title of Prosecuting Officer should dogs foul the pavement. He never used these powers but did gain national attention when the story came out, being dubbed "Sherlock" Hames.

Bill was on the Steering Committee which brought the National Association of Parish Councils into existence in 1946. He was also one of the "movers and shakers" which created the County Association. He remained with the Association until his death in 1996 – 49 years' service is unlikely to ever be beaten.

Bill was invited to join the Steering Committee which formed the Society of Local Council Clerks in 1972 and was a member of the first Executive Committee. In 1988, he was elected National President of the Society.

For all his service to local government, Bill was awarded the M.B.E. in the 1990 New Year's Honours List – he is pictured above with his award.

Bill died on 7th April 1996 aged 84 years having clocked up a total of 145 years' service on Parish Councils in Northamptonshire. These, along with many other years with the County and National Associations, as well as the Society of Clerks, must surely make Bill one of the longest-serving public servants in the country.

(Northants CALC would like to hear any anecdotes you may have about people listed on the next pages. Please contact the office).

County Committee Members and Directors 1947 – 2022

This is as full a list as I have been able to find, with names extracted from Annual Reports, minutes, and various miscellaneous papers. There will be errors and omissions, for which I apologise. Where spaces have been left, the information was not available to me. Dates have been estimated in many cases from papers as detailed above. Please advise the office of corrections and additions.

Names in bold italic served as Directors of the Association

Surname	Forename	Parish	Joined	Left
Abbott	W J	Stoke Bruerne	1954	1955
Abbott	Mrs Irene	Duston	1991	1992
Acrid	Clifford	Middleton Cheney	1954	1955
<i>Allen</i>	<i>Peter</i>	<i>Towcester</i>	<i>2009</i>	
Allen	Mrs K	Roade	1970	-
Amos	W	Church/Chapel Brampton	1966	1972
Anakin	G A	Hackleton	1976	1977
Archbold	Mr K	Chapel Brampton	1995	1996
Atterbury	Mr R	Crick	1981	
Atterbury	Harry	West Haddon	1952	1981
<i>Austin</i>	<i>Jane</i>	<i>Moulton</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2013</i>
Avery	F R	Kilsby	1976	
Baldwin	Mrs P	West Haddon	1984	1992
<i>Baker</i>	<i>Fiona</i>	<i>Brackley</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2019</i>
Barker	Eric	Treasurer	1980	1980
Barker	Eric	Mears Ashby	1987	1990
Barrett	Mrs Jane B	Higham Ferrers	1976	2003
Bartlet	Mrs Mildred	Little Houghton	1950	1953
Bartlet	Mrs Mildred	Little Houghton	1964	1966
Bartley	Stewart	Wootton & E. Hunsbury	2009	2011
Bassett	J T	Clipston	1948	1950
Biddle	Mr D	Braunston		1988
Billson	A E	Harpole & Flore	1980	1981
Blackwell	R W		1949	1953
<i>Bonner-Dunham</i>	<i>Kath</i>	<i>Brackley</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2014</i>

Surname	Forename	Parish	Joined	Left
Bottomley	Mrs J P	Roade	1984	1989
Bowers	J P	Great Doddington	1976	1977
Brannon	Mrs Penny	Bozeat	2004	2005
Briggs	G	Hartwell & Wollaston	1954	
Britten	Joseph Charles	Chelveston	1947	1950
Brown	Marie	Kilsby	2011	2013
Brown	I W	Towcester	1963	1968
Brownlee	John	Wootton	1986	2002
Byng	Peter	Silverstone	2009	2017
Camp	Graham	Co-opted VAT Advisor	1989	1990
Campling	Mrs A	Moulton	1983	1986
Carter	Linda	Brackley	2016	2022
Chadwick	Ian	Brixworth	2000	2004
Chang	Ally	Finedon	2021	
Chong	Philip	King's Sutton	2009	2013
Christy	Ken	Sulgrave	2003	2004
Churchill	Mr G	Middleton Cheney	1979	1985
Cooper	Mr R W H	Burton Latimer	1976	1980
Dale	Mr Lawrence	Wilbarston	1988	1990
Davenport	R N	Boughton	1960	1963
Donaldson	Mrs A	Badby	1995	
Doran	Mrs J	Spratton	1979	1980
Drage	David	Higham Ferrers	2006	2009
Drucquer	Sir Leonard	Crick	1972	1975
Dunn	Derrick W	Castle Ashby	1977	1986
Dunn	Canon Ej Arnold	Crick	1951	1980
Eales	E	Pattishall	1947	1948
Eddon	Mrs D	Daventry	2004	2005
Edwards	Margaret	Duston	2003	2010
Farnham	Ken	Stanion	1991	1993
Ferguson	Harry	Newnham	2007	2008
Fletcher	W V	Gretton	1947	1949
Ford	Mrs P	Duston	1995	
Franklin	Eric	Thrapston	2007	2012

Surname	Forename	Parish	Joined	Left
Fraser	Peter	Rushden	2007	2010
Fuller	David	Oundle	2021	
Gell	Richard	Higham Ferrers	1986	2000
Gonzales de Savage	Andre	Wootton & E. Hunsbury	2009	2010
Gray	Philip	Titchmarsh	1955	1969
Gray	Philip	Titchmarsh	1970	1972
Greenwell	A J	President	1979	
Griggs	S	Newborough	1951	1954
Gross	Mr P	Co-opted (Hardingstone)	1992	
Hames	Mr W F (Bill)	Duston, Milton Malsor, Spratton, Wootton	1947	1996
Harper	Mr H	Billing	1995	
Harris	Jonathan	Scaldwell	2007	2008
Hart	Jacqueline	Towcester	1992	2007
Hawes	Mrs Mary		1981	1981
Hawkes	Mr P	Naseby	1987	
Hawkins	Mr John	Bugbrooke	1986	
Heaton	Michael	Spratton	2014	2015
Herbert	Mrs Joyce	Towcester	1970	2003
Hill	David	Higham Ferrers	1988	
Hodgkinson	Mrs V		1981	1982
Homer	Sara	Wootton	2016	2019
Hone	G	Welford	1947	1948
Horsman	Christopher	Little Stanion	2019	2021
Hughes	David	Billing	1986	2013
Hughes	Mr C G	Oundle	2001	
Humphry	Ms Barbara	Pitsford	1984	1988
Ingram	Mrs S	Duston	1999	2001
Issacs	D E G	Pitsford	1976	1977
Jelley	Mrs Mabel	Cosgrove	1951	1970
Joyce	Peter	Brackley	2001	2010
Judge	W	Harpole	1952	1962
Kettle	W G	Newborough	1956	1963
Kilpin	Edward	Hackleton	2004	2006
Lambley	Mrs D G	Church/Chapel Brampton	1967	

Surname	Forename	Parish	Joined	Left
Lang	F W	Pitsford	1948	1951
Langton	Barbara	Deanshanger	2008	2013
Langton	Roy	Deanshanger	2008	2009
Lavender	Lynn	Ashton,	2014	
Lewis	Richard	Rushden	2010	
Linnell	David	Higham Ferrers	2007	2014
Linney	David	Towcester	2007	2009
Little	Mrs P	Wilbarston	1980	1987
Lloyd	H G		1979	1979
Loakes	W R	Thrapston	1947	1951
Lock	Bernard	Yarwell	1992	2007
Lomas	J	Spratton	1976	1977
Lord	Mr D	Earls Barton	1992	
Lucas	L	Long Buckby	1947	1948
Lucas	W G	Long Buckby	1948	1951
Luck	F E	Wollaston	1953	1954
Marlow	W H	Towcester	1948	1961
Marshall	John	Roade	2009	2016
Martin	Philip	Kilsby	2011	2012
McDonald	Mrs M	Gretton	1996	
McKechnie	Jim	Daventry	2007	2008
Mobley	C		1956	1957
Moore	Mr M	Spratton	1981	1987
Moreton	Mrs Kate	Bozeat	1987	1988
Muffett	Mrs M	Roade	1979	1981
Mumby	C E G	Broughton	1952	1953
Needham	A	Cransley	1947	1949
Nightingale	Dennis	Co-opted	1981	
Oakey	William J	Eydon	1968	
Oliver	Mrs Georgie	Overthorpe	2003	
Pargeter	S	Benefield & Glapthorn	1958	1964
Parrish	Mr Alf W	Nassington	1966	1984
Paul	Geoffrey	Moulton	2020	
Payne	Kate	Mears Ashby	2009	2011
Phelps	H V	Castle Ashby	1947	1952
Phillipson	Dryden	Middleton	2006	2013

Surname	Forename	Parish	Joined	Left
Philp	F M	Billing	1976	
Prosser	L S	Charlton	1947	1950
Pulford	Lt Col M C	East Haddon	1966	1970
Radcliffe	Gwen	Oundle	1986	2014
Radley	J	Brington	1955	1956
Redman	T H	Benefield	1954	1955
Redman	T H	Benefield	1958	1959
Regan	Terry	Newnham	2007	2008
Richardson	Mrs M E	Brixworth	1973	1984
Ridley	Mrs P	Duston	1992	
Riggall	Kathleen	Bugbrooke	1991	2000
Robinson	G H	Geddington	1961	
Robinson	H A	Billing	1957	1958
Roffe	Melvyn	Oundle	1990	1991
Rogerson	Mr J	Stanion	1985	
Rowbury	Rev Richard J	Helmdon	1965	1966
Rudkin	Mr L	Bugbrooke	2001	
Sampson	Tracy	Grange Park	2010	2013
Scot	Mike	Great Addington	2015	
Shorley	Gorden	Ashley	1999	2010
Stamper	A J P	Broughton	1981	1992
Streeton	Mr M	Earls Barton	1997	
Taylor	Lynne	Daventry	2008	
Taylor	Peter	Cottingham	2000	2007
Tebbutt	Alan	Guilsborough	1979	2006
Thomas	JJ	Kilsby	1979	1986
Thorpe	Mrs Dora May (Tilly)	Brackley	1977	
Tomlinson	K	Overstone	1976	1986
Tuffnail	Julia	Finedon	2019	2020
Turner	Canon G F	Cranford	1965	1966
Tynan	Mrs Ethelwyn	Isham	1947	1980
Underwood	Mr R	Rushden	2001	2004
Walker	Mrs Nancy	Grendon	1982	
Ward	Viscountess	Aynho	1970	1971
Watson	Fred	Wootton	2003	2004

Surname	Forename	Parish	Joined	Left
Watts	Adrian		1981	1981
Webster	Judy	Hartwell	2002	2006
Wells	Gillian	West Haddon	2017	2021
Wenham	Derek	Greens Norton	2002	2004
Westaway	EH	Naseby	1977	
Wheatcroft	Cyril	Kings Sutton	1977	2008
Whittaker	Richard	Old Stratford	2005	2011
Wilson	F	Nassington	1964	1965
Wood	W J	Spratton	1972	
Wood	Clive	Rushden	2003	2004
Woodman	O	Blisworth	1947	1948
Wootton	S C	Sulgrave	1976	1983
Wright	Colin	Rushden	2007	2009
York	Mrs M	Burton Latimer	1995	

Chairmen of the Association 1947 – 2022

Surname	Forename	Parish	Start	End
Hone	G	Welford	1947	1948
Loakes	W R	Thrapston	1948	1951
Phelps	H V	Castle Ashby	1951	1952
Dunn	Canon E J Arnold	Crick	1952	1966
Robinson	G H	Geddington	1966	1977
			1977	1979
Barrett	Mrs Jane	Higham Ferrers	1979	1980
Parrish	Mr A W	Nassington	1980	1981
Barrett	Mrs Jane	Higham Ferrers	1981	1982
Parrish	Mr A W	Nassington	1982	1984
Herbert	Mrs J R	Towcester	1984	1987
Tebbutt	Alan	Guilsborough	1987	1990
Wheatcroft	Cyril	Kings Sutton	1990	1993
Radcliffe	Mrs Gwen	Oundle	1993	1996
Hill	David	Higham Ferrers	1996	1999
Brownlee	John	Wootton	1999	2002
Hart	Jacqueline	Towcester	2002	2005
Shorley	Gordon	Ashley	2005	2008
Phillipson	Dryden	Middleton	2008	2011
Linnell	David	Higham Ferrers	2011	2013
Lewis	Richard	Rushden	2013	2016
Byng	Peter	Silverstone	2016	2017
Taylor	Lynne	Daventry	2017	2020
Scott	Mike	Great Addington	2020	

Presidents 1947 – 2022

Name	Elected	Left
Mr J Alan Turner	1947	1968
Mr O Meurig Jones	1968	1979
Mr Jeffrey Greenwell	1979	1996
Mr John Picking	1996	2001
Mr Peter Gould	2001	2007
Mr Jeffrey Greenwell	2007	2008
Mrs Katherine Kerswell	2008	2010
Dr Paul Blanter	2010	2017
Mr Jeffrey Greenwell	2020	

Secretary / Chief Executive 1947 – 2022

Name	Elected	Left
Mr K G S MacWhirter	1947	1950
Mr R M C Thursfield	1950	1959
Lt Col C C S Genese	1959	1967
Mr D W Dunn	1967	1982
Mr Timothy G Cawkwell	1982	1986
Miss Deborah Smith	1986	1990
Mrs Christine Moore (and minutes secretary 1987 – 1990)	1990	2007
Mr Danny Moody	2007	

County Committee Members as at January 1st 2013

Surname	Forename	Role	Parish	Joined
Allen	Peter	Cllr	Towcester	2009
Austin	Jane	Clerk	Moulton	2010
Bonner-Dunham	Kath	Cllr	Brackley	2010
Brown	Marie	Cllr	Kilsby	2011
Byng	Peter	Cllr	Silverstone	2009
Chong	Philip	Cllr	King's Sutton	2009
Hughes	David	Cllr	Billing	1986
Langton	Barbara	Cllr	Deanshanger	2008
Lewis	Richard	Cllr	Rushden	2010
Linnell	David	Clerk	Higham Ferrers	2007
Marshall	John	Clerk	Roade	2009
Radcliffe	Gwen	Cllr	Oundle	1986
Sampson	Tracy	Clerk	Grange Park	2010
Taylor	Lynne	Cllr	Daventry	2008

Director as at June 30th 2022

Surname	Forename	Role	Parish	Joined
Allen	Peter	Cllr	Towcester	2009
Chang	Ally	Clerk	Finedon	2021
Fuller	David	Cllr	Oundle	2021
Lavender	Lynn	Clerk	Ashton	2014
Lewis	Richard	Cllr	Rushden	2011
Paul	Geoff	Cllr	Moulton	2020
Scott	Mike	Cllr	Great Addington	2015
Taylor	Lynne	Cllr	Daventry	2008

Elected Officers 2012

Name	Position
Dr Paul Blanter	President
Jeffery Greenwell	Vice President
Catherine Lomax	Vice President
David Hill	Vice President
Gordon Shorley	Vice President
Bernard Lock	Hon. Treasurer
Jervis & Partners	Auditors

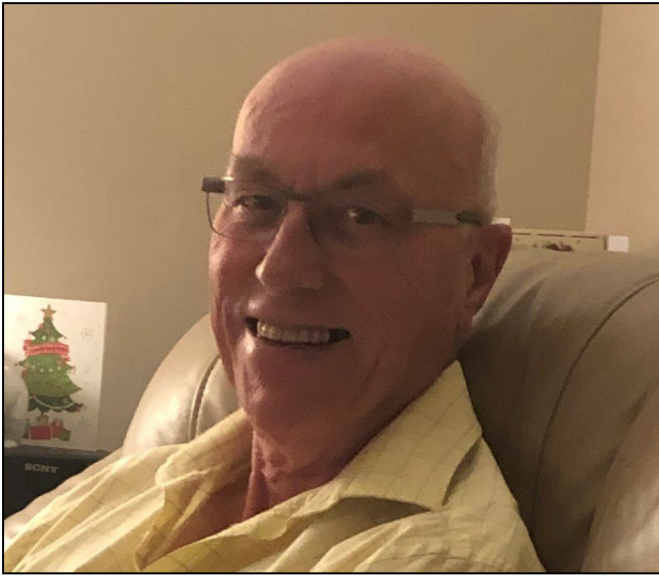
Elected Officers 2022

Name	Position
Jeffery Greenwell	President

Association Staff 2007 - 2022

First name	Surname	Job Title	Started	Left
Danny	Moody	Chief Executive	2007	
Anne	Millar	Administrator	2008	2010
Kate	Houlihan	Training Officer	2009	2011
Christine	Dryden	Administrator	2010	2010
Eleanor	Marshall	Intern	2010	2010
Karen	Johnson	Administration Manager	2010	2011
Anne	Kirkland	Training Administrator	2011	2019
Helen	Sitch	Administration Manager	2011	2012
Linda	Bain	Administration Manager	2012	2018
Liz	Hart	Local Councils Advisor	2016	2016
Lesley	Sambrook Smith	Deputy Chief Executive	2017	
Melody	Pugsley	Administration Manager	2018	2019
Marie	Reilly	Training Manager	2019	
Sophie	Harding	Business Support Manager	2021	

The Author – Eric Franklin



I was born in Mitcham, Surrey (now part of the London Borough of Merton) in 1949 and received my secondary education at Mitcham Grammar School. After one year working at Angel, London in pharmaceutical research, I moved to Birkenhead for two years, then Alresford, Hampshire. I married Mary in 1973 and we moved to Northampton shortly after. We

went to Earls Barton in 1975 for seven years and have now lived in Thrapston for over 40 years.

After 25 years with Social Services in Northamptonshire and Cambridgeshire, I was offered and accepted early (some would say premature) retirement in 1996. Since then, I have run a local welfare rights group, managed the old Thrapston Swimming Pool, worked a short locum period at Kettering General Hospital Social Work Department, and then worked part time maintaining the machinery at the newly opened Nene Leisure Centre in Thrapston for nine months.

I was elected to Thrapston Town Council in 2003, served as Chairman (and Town Mayor) from 2006 – 2007, when we became one of the first Quality Councils in the county, and was also elected to the County Committee in 2007. There, I undertook to Champion the Quality Council Scheme. My resignation as a town councillor in 2012 led to my leaving Northants CALC as I was not comfortable acting as a Director of the Company when I was constitutionally ineligible to serve. I have happily accepted Danny's subsequent regular invitations to attend the AGM, managing to be there on a number of occasions.

I am an active member of Thrapston District Historical Society and co-founder of Thrapston Heritage. As well as this booklet, I have written two local history books, both concerning the WW1 era – *"In the Springtime of their Lives"* is the Thrapston Roll of Honour 1914 – 2007; whilst *"Forget me not"*, published in October 2013, is a

compendium of news stories from Thrapston covering the eight years 1914 to 1921. I have produced two booklets for Thrapston Heritage – One man's Memories of the early years of the 20th Century; and The Early Years of Thrapston Harriers, 1907 to 1914, when two of their members won Olympic medals. I spent much of the summer of 2013 photographing and transcribing all the memorials (well over 500) in Thrapston Cemetery and edited the local history Society's annual magazine, *Strapetona*, for five issues.

I have been writing a monthly local history article for "*Thrapston Life*" magazine, which is delivered to every home in town, Islip and Denford, for over six years and provide archive material for displays of local history.

I have been an active supporter of Thrapston Town Ladies Football Club, who play at the sixth tier of Ladies football nationally, for nearly the whole time of their existence and am now the club's President.

I was very pleased to be entrusted with updating this booklet for the 75th Anniversary of Northants CALC and trust that looking into your Association's history continues to inspire you moving into the future.

Eric Franklin
August 2022