**HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION – EALING BRANCH**

**Secretary’s Report 2015-16**

This report covers the activities of the branch during the season from September 2015 to June 2016

There were 30 local members and 77 national members affiliated to this branch

There was a full programme of speakers as follows;

**2015**

**8    Sept**.  Peter Warwick – “ The Art of Waterloo”

**13  Oct**.    David Hardiman - “ Non-Violence Movements”

**10 Nov**     Little Ealing History Group. **“** An American President in Ealing

**8 Dec.**     Jonathan Oates  -  “ The English Jacobites of 1715”

**2016**

**12 Jan** Annual General Meeting with “Show and Tell” Session

**9  Feb.**    Paula Kitching - The First World War and the Middle East”

**8March** Christopher Read – “The Cold War from the Soviet Perspetive”

**12th April** Peter Hounsell – **“**History of Public Health in London”

**10th May** Xavier Guegan – “India and Algeria – colonial cultures and identities.”

Audiences were between 19 and 46 members and guests

We are particularly grateful to our Information Officer Philip Woods for his efforts in publicizing our activities with a newsletter and detailed and illustrated programme, to our Chair, Peter Hounsell for his conduct of our meetings and mastery of the new projector, and to the HA for its contribution to its purchase.

Two outings were arranged, one to the Alexander Fleming Museum another to the Old Bailey Courthouse. In June there was another successful excursion into Europe to Three French Chateau, Chantilly, Compiègne and Pierrefonds.

Colin Emmins has continued to organise our second hand book stalls at the HA Conferences and the local Brentfest

Our Chair has been active in establishing links with one local school but generally our other efforts thereat have been less successful . Following certain changes in our contacts, our traditional meeting at a local sixth form college was less satisfactory than in the past and we continue our efforts to find an alternative school and to engage local schools generally.

Our former long-serving Secretary Colin Emmins was awarded the Fellowship of the Historical Association during the year. The diploma was presented to him at our Annual General Meeting amidst enthusiastic acclaim.

After some initial hiccups, a full programme has been compiled for the 2016/17 season and the usual outings are under consideration, as is another excursion into Europe.

Pierre Thomas

Secretary