**Historical Association: Ealing Branch**

**Secretary’s Report to the AGM on 13 December 2022**

The year was marked by the sad death in October of Elizabeth Sunley, a long standing committee member who organised trips for the Branch, including this year a visit to the Postal Museum, although she passed before the visit.

Especial thanks for tireless work for the branch are owed to our Chairman, Peter Hounsell, and thanks also to the committee and its members for their contribution to the work of the branch.

Membership is currently 31 local members and 93 national members. Attendance at talks in the church at talks fluctuates between 19 and 33 per talk, though substantially more people registered to listen live on Zoom or later through Eventbrite and post-talk recordings.

Talks this year:

January Joan of Arc – Prof. Ann Curry (22 attending- 48 registered on Zoom– blended)

February Walpole and his critics – Dr Perry Gauci (19 attending + 48 -Zoom recording-blended)

March Voices from the cohorts: why 1946, 1958 and 1970 are key dates in British History – Prof. Peter Mandler (24 attended- 48 Eventbrite recording- blended)

April Civil Writes – medieval cities – Dr Ian Stone (20 attending)

May Dr Philip Woods, ‘War Correspondents’ (24 attending) -standing in for Toby Green

September Professor Toby Green, ‘West African and World History: A New Perspective’ (25 attending-48 Eventbrite recording- 42 views- blended)

OctoberDr Alexander Morrison, ‘War and Diplomacy in the Russian Empire ca. 1850-1914’, Twyford School meeting) **postponed**

November Writing a ‘People’s History’ of the BBC – Prof. David Hendy (33 attending; 40 Eventbrite- 18 views- blended)

Unfortunately the October talk had to be cancelled at fairly short notice due to unexpected commitments by the speakers personal issue experienced by the speaker. He has said he will try and come and visit the branch at a later date, and we will contact him in the new year.

There are five further talks lined up for the rest of the 2022-23 season: Professor David Reynolds on Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin; Professor Ted Benton on Alfred Russel Wallace; Dr Clare Jackson on Charles II; Dr Robert Lyman on the Indian contribution to the Second World War in the East; and Dr James Ross on Henry VI.