



Church Stretton History Group

Our October meeting will take place on Monday 19th October at 2.00pm at the URC Hall.

Our speaker this month is Allanah Tomkins Professor of Social History at Keele University, whose topic is "The English Workhouse 1696-1834: Shropshire Experiences."

This will be of particular interest following our group's 2024 research and book on the later Church Stretton workhouse and its inhabitants.

The workhouse before 1834 was very different from the institution that evolved after that date. This talk will include some of the basic information about Shropshire's workhouses, available from information collected by Georgian governments, before delving in more detail about the buildings that were used, the rules devised to govern them, and the people who observed or lived in one of these poor-law establishments. Our speaker will argue that we are heavily dependent on the sorts of parish records that survive, and the years they cover, to gain glimpses of workhouse experiences.

Visitors are welcome: pay £4.00 on the door.