

# Study Guide

## What's in the collection?

There are over 1400 posters in the Albery Poster Collection shown on this website. The originals of the posters are kept in the archive at Horsham District Council's Horsham Museum and Art Gallery.

The majority of the collection was gathered by one collector – William Albery. A local man and keen historian of Horsham, Albery gave his collection to the Town of Horsham on his death in 1950. Find out more about the collector William Albery [here](#).

A small number of additional posters have been added over the years.

The earliest dated poster in the collection is from 1741. The majority of the posters, however, date from the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. They focus on Sussex and the Horsham area including towns and villages such as; Chichester, Arundel, Cowfold, Crawley, Henfield and many more.

They cover topics such as; charity, entertainment, law and order, politics, religion, sales and shopping, transport, sport and both word wars.

The collection is not an exhaustive record of Horsham's history but offer a unique insight into life in the past in the Horsham area.

There are further tips on what is available for those studying Political Reform and Poster Design in particular on the [Topic Pages](#).

## Finding what you need

The [Top Tips for Searching the Archive](#) are a good place to get started.

A few additional points for the more in depth researcher:

- If searching for a subject use the **Select Poster** search options not **Key words** search as the **Key words** search option will search the *text* of the poster only not it's category information.
- Use **Key words** to search for people's names, locations and specific dates.
- The **Key words** search is set for OR searches and will not process AND searches. e.g. searching for "Broadbridge Heath" will give you results for all posters with the words "Broadbridge" OR "Heath".
- You can use the **Key words** and **Select posters** search functions in combination to help you narrow a search. E.g. put 'Albery' into **Key words**, choose **Select Poster Subject** 'Entertainment' and **secondary subject** 'concert' and you will get any concert posters that feature the name Albery.



Friends of Horsham Museum

[www.horshamposters.com](http://www.horshamposters.com)



## Working with Primary Sources

This online archive lets you see original **primary sources**. In history a primary source is one that gives first-hand information about a point in time. In this case the primary sources are posters printed in the time period you are studying. Other primary sources include photographs, newspaper articles, films and eyewitness accounts.

When working with the posters it is important to think about:

### Identification

- Who produced it? Not just who was the printer but who was it printed for (e.g. a political party, shop or estate agent)?
- When was it produced? (This is not always known)
- Why was it produced?

### What is it about?

- What is the message?
- What are the key points of that message made on the poster?
- What attitudes or values does the content of the poster reflect?
- How does the content of the poster relate to the historical context?
- Who is the intended audience? Is it clear who the poster is aimed at?
- How reliable is the information on the poster? Are there limitations to what it can tell you?
- How does the poster relate to other primary sources from that period? Does it share the same values, attitudes and ideas? Is there a way to explain any differences you find?

## Essay writing tips

The best essays are well planned and structured. Essays that do not keep to the point and have lots of extra detail will lose marks.

### The Question

It seems obvious but it is important to be clear what you are actually being asked to write about.

- Read the question several times.
- Underline/highlight key words in the question
- Look out for the words that will tell you *how* they want you to answer the question e.g. 'compare', 'discuss', 'evaluate' etc. Make sure you know what these mean.
- Brainstorm your ideas – a spider diagram is a useful method.

### The Plan

- Organise your argument
  - A good essay has a logical argument that runs throughout. Look at your ideas and arrange them in order of importance – numbering them is the simplest way to do this.



At this point you can also decide which points should be expanded on and which ones you might want to leave out.

- If the question asks you to present your answer under themes (e.g. economic or political) make sure to arrange you selected points under these themes in your plan.

### Follow a structure

- *Introduction*
  - This should introduce the main points of your argument and refer to how they will answer the question set in the essay title.
- *Develop your argument*
  - Start with the arguments you numbered as most important. The way you order these points should make your argument clear to the person reading it.
  - Start a new paragraph for each important point relating to the question.
  - Put less important linked points together in the same paragraph.
  - Support your points where possible with evidence from primary sources (such as you can find on this website) and quotations from other historians.
  - Try to present factual points in chronological (date) order.
  - This is not a story of what happened. If you refer to an important historical event make a comment or point that makes it clear how this supports your argument – it demonstrates you are trying to analyse events not just describe them.
  - Around 5-7 paragraphs is a good length to aim for, depending on the course and level you are working at.
- *Conclusion*
  - Summarise the main points of your essay and restate your key arguments in reference to the question in the essay title.

### Check your work!

Re-read, correct spelling and grammar and re-draft if necessary.

## Finding out more

Some suggested local resources:

- **Knight, J.** 2006 *Horsham's History, 1790-1880 Volume 2* Horsham District Council
- **Knight, J.** 2006 *Horsham's History, 1880-1914 Volume 3* Horsham District Council
- **Knight, J.** 2011 *Horsham's History, 1914-1918 Volume 4* Horsham District Council
- **Knight, J.** 2014 *Horsham's History, 1918-1939 Volume 5* Horsham District Council
- **Knight, J. and Mitchell, J.** 2014 *Horsham on the Front Line 1914-1918* Horsham Museum Society
- **Mitchell, J.** 2013 *Back to the Wall*, Horsham Museum Society
- **Cooper, G.** 2009 *Horsham's Heroes of the Great War 1914-1919: "That His Name be Not Forgotten"* Horsham Museum Society
- **Burstow, H.** 1907 *Reminiscences of Horsham*, ([Full text online](#))
- **Albery, W.** 1927 *Parliamentary History of Horsham 1295-1885*
- **White, C.** 1995. *Horsham Town and Country: 'When the siren sounded'*. Clifford White Publications.
- [West Sussex County Council Learning Resources](#) a great source of digitised primary resources such as newspapers, leaflets, photographs and more.



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Some useful general websites:

- [The BBC](#) – In particular the mini-sites '[History](#)' and '[Learning](#)'.  
Substantial information on key topics such as Victorians and both World Wars.
- [National Archives education](#) has advice for students on independently researching and has great selection of resources.
- [British Library Learning](#) this site provides numerous mini-sites full of articles and resources.



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