

Peterborough Gentleman's Society Archive

Collection Summary

Collection:	Peterborough Gentleman's Society Archive
Reference code:	PAS/PGS
Dates:	1730-1890
Size of collection:	1 box (5 volumes)
Creator's history:	<p>The Reverend Timothy Neve founded the Peterborough Gentleman's Society on 26 August 1730. He was an original member of the Spalding Gentleman's Society founded in 1712. At Peterborough, where Neve became the first Secretary, the Society's aims were expressed as the 'improvement of literature and promotion of friendship and good neighbourhood'. In addition all new members were required to present a suitable book to the Society, resulting in the eventual creation of a library.</p> <p>For the first 20-30 years the Society kept meticulous minute books but by 1760 these become very irregular. The meetings themselves got progressively fewer until they were only quarterly and the minutes just list the titles of the library books purchased. This increasing interest in books resulted in the Society becoming a lending library and in January 1820 they were first referred to as the Peterborough Book Society. By the end of the 19th century membership was low and in 1899 the Society was dissolved with the remainder of the books being transferred to the public library service. Regrettably some of this library was sent for salvage in the Second World War when paper was desperately required.</p>
Scope and content of collection:	This collection consists of 5 volumes of minutes and accounts as described below.
Notes on access:	<p>Viewing by appointment only.</p> <p>To make an appointment please contact the Archives Service Team (Anna Sexton or Elisabeth Kingston) at Peterborough Archives Service, Central Library, Broadway, Peterborough, PE1 1RX Tel: +44 (0)1733 742700 Email: archives.services@peterborough.gov.uk</p>
Notes on use:	Use of any part of this archive for anything other than private research is not permitted without prior permission from the copyright holder.

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Detailed list

Series: Minute Books
Reference codes: PAS/PGS/1
Dates: 1730-1890
Size of series: 4 volumes

Contains the following:

Item: *Minute Book 1*
Reference codes: PAS/PGS/1/1
Dates: 1730-1742

Item: *Minute Book 2*
Reference codes: PAS/PGS/1/2
Dates: 1743-1809

Item: *Minute Book 3*
Reference codes: PAS/PGS/1/3
Dates: 1810-1830

Item: *Minute Book 4*
Scope and content: *Contains loose receipts and other documents at front of volume and correspondence attached at back. Also contains treasure's accounts.*
Reference codes: PAS/PGS/1/4
Dates: 1830-1890

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Detailed list

Series: Treasurers Accounts

Reference codes: PAS/PGS/2

Dates: 1810-1827

Size of series: 1 volume

Contains the following:

<i>Item:</i>	<i>Treasurer's Accounts</i>
<i>Reference codes:</i>	<i>PAS/PGS/2/1</i>
<i>Dates:</i>	<i>1810-1827</i>
<i>General note:</i>	<i>Accounts also contained within minute book 4</i>