

The London Lecture Series has a new home!

We are very grateful to the RICS in Parliament Square for the use of their facilities for the last three years, but with the move of the Society back to London, and the establishment of offices close to Monument, it is time for another change.

From 16 January 2020, the AHS London Lecture Series will be held at St Mary-at-Hill, the Wren church opposite the front door of our headquarters building at 4 Lovat Lane. St Mary-at-Hill is an ancient church, dating from the 14th century, though being so close to Pudding Lane it was of course very substantially damaged in 1666. Rebuilt under the instructions of Christopher Wren, it has continued to be adapted, and then suffered another serious fire in 1988, after which its roof and ceiling were replaced. The church is home to regular musical events, and the AHS has been extremely warmly welcomed as (soon-to-be) new neighbours, with the offer to



The interior of St Mary-at-Hill where from 16 January onwards the London meetings will take place. Photo courtesy of St Mary-at-Hill Church.



host our regular lectures. As has been the pattern for a number of years, there will be a reception after the lectures, held in the church.

Many members will be familiar with the magnificent projecting clock that extends over the lane at the back of the church—the lane that takes its name from the church. While nothing of the seventeenth century mechanism remains, there are important survivals of the early nineteenth century mechanism, and the Society has offered its support in furtherance of the church's current plans to stabilise the wooden structure of the clock and to return it to working.

With the permanent establishment of City offices, we expect the January 2020 lecture to be the first element in an enduring relationship between the Society and a church that itself embodies the long-term survivorship of City institutions.



The entrance to St Mary-at-Hill Church in Lovat Lane. On the right the new AHS office, where building works are nearing completion.

The large overhanging clock outside the church is on St Mary-at-Hill, the street to the east of Lovat Lane. Photo Keith Scobie-Youngs.