**St Albans Borough records go online**

Article extracted from SAHAAS NEWSLETTER 205

By Gary Moyle

Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS) is delighted to announce that a major new catalogue has been made available online. The St Albans Borough records (ref SBR) span from 1353 to at least 1974, and the catalogue amounts to over 9000 entries.

Previously, researchers only had a typescript calendar from 1949 from which to choose documents to consult. The online catalogue has corrections, more detail and newly added material. It describes charters, minutes and court records, as well as political propaganda, housing improvements and fire brigade scrapbooks. There are many title deeds, and a great deal on sewerage schemes and wine licensing. Some workhouse and hospital items from SBR now form part of other St Albans collections, and their catalogues are also online.

To browse or search the St Albans Borough catalogue, go to the Society’s home page and then follow the links and instructions. Please note that you can navigate the whole structure of the catalogue if you choose any SBR record and click on ‘View Tree’. Those familiar with the collection will be pleased to know that the old reference numbers are still relevant, for example the reference of the 1553 charter has only changed from Off Acc 1162 item 633 to the new version SBR/633. That is the HALS reference number to use when ordering from the collection.

The archives are stored securely at HALS, County Hall, Hertford, where this original material can be viewed at no charge. When ordering we recommend 48 hrs notice as the collection is stored off-site. Full details of our location, contact details and revised opening hours can be found on the HALS website.