



VOLUNTARY ACTION HISTORY SEMINARS

VAHS seminar series at the Institute of Historical Research

SEMINAR ABSTRACT

17th February 2014

Michael Brophy

Witness: A personal account of the changes in the charity sector, 1980 – 2010, with reflections on what next

In 1980 very few of the present umbrella organisations existed, no I of Fr., no ACF, no Community Foundations, no ACEVO and no European or International bodies. Nor were there any statistics, journals, lectures or conferences to spread the word. Tax-efficient giving was limited to 7-year Covenants of £3000 gross. In the intervening years the infrastructure and opportunities to give or invest have changed beyond all recognition. The Charities Aid Foundation played a significant role in these changes. The talk will major on the history, but will conclude that far from arriving at a mature sector, the rate of change will be greater over the next 30 years, with consequences unimaginable to present day practitioners.