

COGENHOE AND WHISTON HERITAGE SOCIETY

Chairman's Report. 2020.

This has been a year to remember with the Covid 19 Pandemic and subsequent restrictions to our personal lives throughout the year.

The Society has not been immune to these restrictions which meant we have been unable to meet together and listen to live speakers in the Village Hall since our last meeting in March 2020.

However, out of adversity comes innovation and very quickly, starting with the March edition, we saw the resurrection of an old society newsletter, "Our Heritage Matters" which has subsequently been published on a monthly basis. This is a well researched and diverse publication full of interesting articles about our local history and also history from wider afield that has kept us in touch with you during these difficult times. We have also taken the opportunity to put it on our website for non-members to read so that we can attract new members.

I would like to thank Robert Vaughan for all the work he has done and continues to do in producing the newsletter which I am sure takes up a lot of his time. Also thank you to Terry Coles and Jon Bailey for their assistance in the preparation of the newsletter.

After it became clear that government restrictions were not going to ease significantly during 2020, the committee decided to resume our monthly meetings using zoom, which started in December with Ted Barnes giving a presentation on the Map Project. They are proving to be very successful.

During the summer the Society received some welcome publicity when I did a pre-recorded interview for the John Griffe show that was broadcast on Radio Northampton on the 26th July 2020.

Despite everything, our projects have continued with the Map Project led by Ted Barnes, reaching a conclusion after a lot of research by Ted, Diane Ovet and Richard Deacon. Until restrictions are eased, preparing for eventual publication is being delayed. However, we look forward to Ted giving us further talks later this year about the project.

A list of possible further sites that could qualify for a green plaque, in addition to the ones already in place, has been drawn up and will be circulated to members. We will be asking for your views on the most suitable sites with an eventual placement of a probable five or six for those considered most worthy.