SLHG Chair's Report for Stowupland Parish AGM, 2024



The past year has been a successful year, with our events organiser arranging a very varied programme of speakers. We had talks about different ways that technologies could be used to interpret footprints left in the land, research by local amateur historians has helped us understand more about the lives of local people, church architecture and education in days gone by. A high light was the talk by a newcomer to the village about the American Air Force's presence in Suffolk.

A group of members visited Woolpit where we had an enjoyable evening hosted by local people who shared their knowledge of their village, their church and their museum.

Our archive material has been put to good use as we were able to put on presentations of life in Stowupland during the lifetime of King Charles III as our tribute to him for his coronation day, we were able to support Telstar's 60th anniversary with some memories of the 60 years of their publication and also provided background for the Biodiversity's 'What can I do Day', looking back at what Stowuplanders have done in the past to improve the local environment.

We continue to transfer the paper copies and research in our archives to our website. This in turn is generating requests from users for more information but also the sharing of information. Using locally sourced deeds as well as documents held at Suffolk Archives our researchers have added to our knowledge of the history of a couple of older houses in the village,

We kept our annual subscriptions at £15.00 but at end of 2023 we decided a revision of fees was necessary as our speakers were asking for more, members £2.00 and visitors £5.00. We are very grateful to MSDC for a grant made via one of our Councillors that will allow us to complete a couple of ongoing community focused projects. We continue to support the wider local history organisations such as FOSA, SLHC and BALH.

We are extremely grateful to all our members and our committee of volunteers without whom there would be no Local History Group

Sandra Walker (SLHG Chair)