

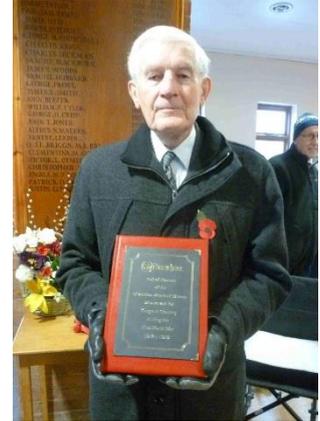


The Wivenhoe History Group

Annual Report – 2017

The Wivenhoe History Group is now four years old. We have achieved a lot since we first met in April 2013, and have done a lot in this last year too.

The highlight was in producing and publishing a Roll of Honour in which to record the names of all the people who served in WW1. This book was blessed and dedicated at the Annual Service of Remembrance in November and is now housed in the British Legion Hall on the Quay. Ian Valentine did most of the research with input from other members and descendants of some families, and Gill Strudwick led the project and organised the production of it. With thanks also to Vince Rayner who donated his time to typeset it, and to Karl Douzier who made the case in which it is now housed. Gill also arranged the printing of paper copies of the Roll of Honour which can be now found in various places around Wivenhoe.



Gill and husband Eric, our Treasurer, have now wrapped up the Grant we received from the Heritage Lottery Fund two years ago which has funded a big proportion of the costs of our WW1 Project including working with Wivenhoe's three primary and junior schools, the Roll of Honour and part of the cost of establishing the community archive and its internet front end. We are grateful also to Frank Baker for donating the proceeds of the sale of his WW1 booklet towards the costs of producing the Roll of Honour, as well the other organisations which contributed to all these costs.

Our other successes:

- We have held 6 meetings during this last year, each with an interesting speaker.
- The Events Team led by Gill Strudwick organised another Public Lecture in St Mary's Church with Peter Jones telling us the history of the Martello Towers and the invasion by Napoleon which never happened.
- The outing to Maldon in July proved much more fascinating than any of us were expecting, thanks to Ian Valentine's planning and organisation.
- The Community Archive launched in April 2015 has grown to over 700 pages.
- A team of people has been meeting nearly every week during the year to add to this community archive comprising Peter Hill, John Foster, John Stewart, Mike Downes, Ian Valentine and Frances Belsham. Other contributors have been working from home including Pat Marsden, Ann Jones, Jan Tyne and Sheila Foster.
- John Stewart once more ran his Memories Exhibition in the Wm Loveless Hall over the bank holiday weekend in August.
- We have had articles published in each of the quarterly editions of Wivenhoe News
- Clive Dykes, Helen Polom and Lesley McCabe have been making progress on oral recordings of Wivenhoe people. These are recordings which were made some time ago as well as some they have started to record more recently
- The Steering Committee has met several times during the year to coordinate, plan and decide a programme of activities for the History Group.

I should like to thank everyone who has played a part in all these activities.

Peter Hill, Chairman, Wivenhoe History Group – *March 2017*