

LOCAL HISTORY RECORDER'S REPORT 2020

Quatrefoil's 15th book in the series 'Recording Local History' was published this year and was launched at Quatrefoil's annual history day 'Bringing history Alive' held in Rickinghall Village Hall on the 8th September. The title of the book is 'Portraits of Village Life, Photographs in and around Botesdale, Redgrave and Rickinghall' so the theme for the day was photographs of our villages. There were displays of old photographs, documents and maps. This year the speakers were Tim Holt-Wilson, who gave a talk on 'The History of Redgrave Hall', and Graham Clayton who spoke about the 'Revd Edmund Farrer: A Remarkable Local Antiquary'. Edmund Farrer took many photographs of our villages in the 1920s, recording both buildings and events. These are really interesting records of how the villages looked then. Both these talks were given in the morning and repeated in the afternoon. Quatrefoil's web site is at www.quatrefoil.org.uk should anyone wish to access it.

The photograph book has proved very popular. Many people had lent us photographs illustrating lives, occupations and houses of people from as early as the 1890s for this book. However, we are encouraging anyone with old photographs of the villages to get in touch. We can scan these for our records and perhaps a second photograph book in the future.

A continuing project is to copy and record as many house deeds as possible. These are often left in a house when it is sold but sometimes they get lost, so it is important to record them. Some deeds are better than others, but all add to the history of the house and so add to the history of the village.

A new project, which has been started this year, is to record memories of people who grew up in our villages in the early and mid-20th century. We will also encourage people to write their memories if they would rather. As the 1980s are now considered 'history' and much has changed in the villages since the early and middle part of the 20th century it is important we have these memories recorded in some form for future generations to enjoy.

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