

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2026**

### **WALBERSWICK LOCAL HISTORY GROUP**

WE HAVE HAD ANOTHER VERY SUCCESSFUL YEAR, A VERY HEALTHY MEMBERSHIP OF 131; WE HELD 3 TALKS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, WHICH WERE VERY WELL ATTENDED BY MEMBERS AND GUESTS; AND HELD A WONDERFUL AND WELL ATTENDED EXHIBITION SHOWING PHOTOS AND MEMORABILIA FROM THE MILLENIUM CELEBRATIONS IN 2000 CALLED "A MOMENT IN TIME" IN THE HERITAGE HUT IN APRIL.

IN MARCH AFTER THE AGM LIBBY PURVIS GAVE A WONDERFUL TALK ABOUT GROWING UP IN WALBERSWICK. THEN IN JUNE VIVIA BAMFORD GAVE A FASCINATING TALK ON SUFFOLK LOST CHEESES AFTER WHICH WE ALL HAD THE CHANCE TO DO SOME VERY TASTY TASTINGS OF CURRENT SUFFOLK FAVOURITES. AND OUR CHRISTMAS TALK WAS GIVEN BY DANNI CHURCH, AN AMAZING HISTORY OF THE BELOVED FERRY.

JOHN ENGLISH CONTINUED TO PRODUCE OUR NEWSLETTERS, FOR WHICH WE THANK HIM FOR CONTINUING TO DO SUCH A GREAT JOB: 5 WERE SENT OUT TO MEMBERS BETWEEN FEB 25 AND THIS LAST MONTH, INCLUDING A SPECIAL EDITION OF PREVIOUSLY UNPUBLISHED ARTICLES ABOUT HIS LIFE IN THE VILLAGE BY PHILLIP KETT WHO WE VERY SADLY LOST THIS YEAR PLEASE CONTINUE TO SEND JOHN THINGS THAT YOU MIGHT THINK WILL BE OF INTEREST FOR THE NEWSLETTER, OLD VERSIONS OF WHICH CAN BE FOUND ON THE VILLAGE WEBSITE UNDER THE HISTORY GROUP.

UNFORTUNATELY MITCH POCOCK HAS HAD TO WITHDRAW HIS OFFER TO HELP PAT WITH THE ARCHIVES SO WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO MIGHT HAVE TIME AND BE INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED – WHAT PAT HAS COLLECTED AND CONTINUES TO MAINTAIN IS A MARVELLOUS ASSET FOR THE VILLAGE AND WE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE IT TO CONTINUE.

WE ARE CONTINUING TO FOLLOW THE WORK OF THE HALESWORTH TO SOUTHWOLD NARROW GAUGE RAILWAY GROUP AT THE SITE OF WALBERSWICK STATION, AND WHEN THEY NEED FUNDS HAVE OFFERED A DONATION. OUR FINANCES FROM MEMBERSHIP AND GUEST FEES STAND AT JUST OVER £4000.

HARRY EDWARDS  
CHAIRMAN  
WALBERSWICK LOCAL HISTORY GROUP