

STOKE by NAYLAND LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

REPORT FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2022

As with other organisations of its kind, the Local History Society has been in a state of suspended animation for the last two years – the most prominent event has been that Mrs.Emily Holden has agreed to become the Society's Patron in succession to the late Mr.Henry Engleheart.

The Committee met in January 2020, then not again until October 2021, and we have had one meeting since. Our 62 members will no doubt be gratified to hear that it was agreed to carry over their subscriptions for 2020/21 to this year.

Work on the database has continued throughout, and the next major inputting exercise will be of the 1921 Census, recently released. At the moment access to it is prohibitively expensive, but there will be no charge from 2023 onwards. Mr.Hanley of the Ipswich Transport Museum, continues to be most supportive of our efforts to build the database, while computer-savvy members of the Committee are looking into the choice of software.

Looking ahead, for the Spring Fair this year we are working to put our New Zealand exhibition on again in the Village Hall, but with the pictures projected on the screen and recordings of accounts of emigration and reminiscences playing: some of these have been recorded by descendants of emigrants living in New Zealand and Australia.

Finally, greatly daring, we have agreed to hold a "Focus On" day in Stoke on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September. This is a well-established bi-annual event organised under the auspices of the Suffolk Local History Council, and it consists of perhaps 40 people from all over the county gathering in a town or village for its community to give an account of its noteworthy attractions and its history. We think Stoke has a rather remarkable history, often close to the centre of events with many notable inhabitants, so the idea is to present one or two notabilities for every century of the last millennium in two sessions, morning and afternoon, with, either side of lunch, a tour of the village and a visit to the church.

Richard Channon  
Chairman