

**Village Recorder report for Levington and Stratton Hall Annual Parishes Meeting**  
**May 24<sup>th</sup> 2023.**

*Levington and Stratton Hall May 2022 – April 2023:*

A brief review of some of what has taken place in our Parishes is as follows:

- May: funerals of Pat Owen and Joyce Heath; Suffolk Show horse-drawn carriages drive through village.
- June: various Platinum Jubilee celebrations; Doreen Ralph celebrates 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- July: parts of Bridge Road melt due to high temperatures; 65<sup>th</sup> Levington Flower Show held.
- August: state of drought declared in East Anglia; sunflower display throughout village in support of Ukraine.
- September: book of condolence in St. Peter's church for late Queen Elizabeth II; cost of living crisis questionnaire distributed throughout village.
- October: harvest supper and festival; Eastern Structures planning refusal.
- November: Armistice and Remembrance services; warm room opens.
- December: annual film show; festive feast in village hall; carol service with Felixstowe Salvation Army band.
- January: Anglian Water roadworks in Bridge Road; warm room now includes knitting and crochet lessons.
- February: more Anglian Water roadworks in Bridge Road; 'no cycling' signs put up by Parish Council and immediately removed by persons unknown.
- March: hunger lunch to raise funds for Turkey-Syria earthquake appeal; death of Phil Owen; theft of candlesticks and plate from St. Peter's.
- April: AGM of Friends of St. Peter's; retirement of Reverend Canon Ian Wilson.

### ***What has the Village Recorder been doing?***

During the last year I have carried out the following:

- maintained the village diary;
- made daily weather observations (temperature, precipitation, wind speed and direction, snow depth, general observations);
- taken photographic images around the village;
- received and stored items for the village archives;
- kept an eye on various online auction sites for items relating to Levington and Stratton Hall;
- continued cataloguing the village archive;
- written a yearly report for the Village Recorder scheme;
- submitted articles for the Parish Council Newsletter;
- displayed images and other information for the 65<sup>th</sup> Flower Show.

### ***Cataloguing update:***

The process of cataloguing the village archive continues. To date, all parish magazines, parish council newsletters, and funeral orders of service have been completed. Lists of what is in the archive are being kept digitally using Excel.

Currently, I am carrying out a rough sift through the remainder of the archive, placing material under broad headings such as 'church', 'events', etc. When this has been completed, it will then be possible to determine the best way forward with regards to subdivision and storage for each category.

### ***Concluding comments:***

The last twelve months have seen the welcome return of village events, which had been curtailed during the Covid lockdowns. The Platinum Jubilee celebrations, and the 65<sup>th</sup> Flower Show, were particularly well attended. Let us hope the enthusiasm for all aspects of village life continues, and indeed grows, thus strengthening our community against the many challenges of the modern age.

*Louise Mann 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023.  
levington.recorder@protonmail.com*