

**Village Recorder report for Levington and Stratton Hall Annual Parishes Meeting**  
**May 18<sup>th</sup> 2022.**

***Levington and Stratton Hall April 2021 – April 2022:***

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

- April: Step 2 of roadmap out of lockdown takes place; Annual Parishes meeting *via* Zoom.
- May: first cuckoo, swallow, and swift seen during the month.
- June: WI picnic on Church Field; ‘Freedom Day’ postponed; Flower Show cancelled.
- July: village hall re-opens; WI 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary party; north side of St. Peter’s cleaned and re-finished.
- August: pirate ship moors in beer garden of ‘The Ship’; Monday coffee morning re-starts; Ann Wignall takes over from Daniel Garner as editor of Parish Council Newsletter.
- September: Harvest Festival service held in St. Peter’s.
- October: village meeting *via* Zoom regarding latest Eastern Structures planning application; BT disconnects some properties from landline, leading to reliance on Internet or mobile network for voice calls.
- November: Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday services held; opium poppy in bloom in garden.
- December: ‘Shipmas Christmas Fayre’ held at ‘The Ship’; traffic chaos in village and surrounds due to multiple incidents in local road network; carol service in Church Field accompanied by Salvation Army band.
- January: death of Diana Hawtin; car demolishes hedge and fence at Birch Cottage.
- February: funeral of Diana Hawtin; Storm ‘Eunice’ leads to 21 hour power cut.
- March: churchyard clear-up takes place; Derek Girling celebrates 90<sup>th</sup> birthday; snow falls on last day of month.
- April: first cuckoo of the year heard; deaths of Reverend Canon Geoffrey Grant, Joyce Heath, and Pat Owen.

### ***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;
- produced a leaflet with regard to the upcoming Platinum Jubilee.

### ***Future plans:***

My main efforts as Village Recorder will continue to be directed towards the cataloguing of the Village Archive. This will drastically reduce the amount of time available to me to carry out any research. It is also unlikely that I will be able to hold any exhibitions in the foreseeable future. However, I do hope to continue to submit occasional articles to the Parish Council Newsletter.

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

Hopefully, now that life is back to 'normal', we will be able to enjoy the various village events that are planned for the rest of this year. The Platinum Jubilee celebrations and the Flower Show are just two upcoming occasions that spring to mind. What with the state of the world, the old adage 'make hay while the sun shines', is perhaps more pertinent than ever.

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