

# Redditch Local History Society

April 2020

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## Newsletter...

### *Current Situation*

I hope that everyone is managing at this difficult time and that you are all in good health. The situation is obviously very difficult and we rearranged our programme in March following the situation at that time. However, it is clear that our revised programme (page 2) is probably optimistic and we may not reconvene until the Autumn at best. Similarly with our events it is also unlikely that they will happen as planned (page 2).

There is good news however. Derek has worked very hard to produce our new annual Redditch Heritage Matters Journal and this is detailed below. I will continue to produce a monthly newsletter to keep you informed of our current plans.

Take care and stay safe.

Society Secretary Anthony Green

### *The New Redditch Heritage Matters Journal*

Almost since the formation of the Redditch Local History Society 10 years ago, we have published a Monthly Newsletter. Initially it was a simple email that reported that month's meeting. We then began formatting the email and including more news. By August 2011 we had graduated into an eight-page Newsletter published as an A5 sized booklet and over the years whilst its format has remained very similar, the content has become more varied with news, enquiries to the society and articles from members, and non-members, filling the pages.

The next development was to publish it on-line as both a pdf file and as a read-on-line Flip Book. Notification of publication each month was sent out to all members and a "Followers" list of nearly 150 recipients. As a result, we now receive enquiries from both home and abroad into the Society and we are naturally proud of what we have achieved over the last ten years.

We have now decided it is time to make the next advancement to improve the offering we provide to fulfil one of our core aims, to publish data on the history of Redditch and the surrounding area. So, to keep members up to date on what has happened, and what is about to happen on the history & heritage front in Redditch, we have adopted a three-pronged approach. Firstly, we have returned to a two-page newsletter that will report that month's meeting and current news.

Now, to complement that, we have reformatted the Redditch Heritage Matters publication into a Journal format which will be published once per year. The journal will feature more in-depth stories, articles, research reports and topics we feel our members will appreciate.

The third element is our now well-established web sites and presence on the social media platform Facebook.

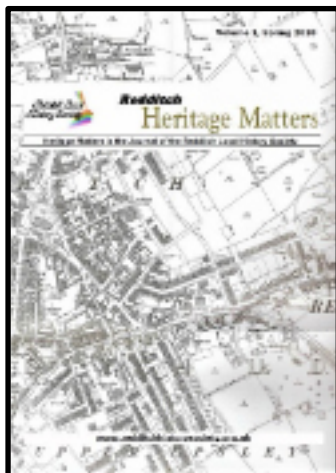
Today we are launching the first edition of the new annual Redditch Heritage Matters Journal. This document is published on-line in the easy-to-read Flip-book format and is freely available for all to access and read. We hope you like its content and format. If you do, please tell us. If you don't, more reason to tell us and suggest what we need to do to make it more acceptable.

You can access the document through the society's web site at:

[http://www.redditchhistorysociety.org.uk/rhm\\_annual\\_journal.htm](http://www.redditchhistorysociety.org.uk/rhm_annual_journal.htm)

As with any publication, its success is dependent upon having the right content for its readership. Therefore, we hope that you will contribute material to fill its pages and make it interesting for all. Please send your contributions to the:

Society Archivist Derek Coombes.



## Current Revised Meeting Programme 2020

February 10th	<b>Stories from the Archives</b> <i>Examples of sources for our local region and Redditch.</i> Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service
March 9th	<b>Off to the workhouse-The poor are always with us</b> Dr Richard Churchley
April 20th	<b>Meeting Cancelled - due to Coronavirus Situation</b>
May 11th	<b>Meeting Cancelled - due to Coronavirus Situation</b>
<b>IMPORTANT NOTE</b>	<b>Due to the current situation, we do not know when meetings will be resumed. Provisionally we have put June as the next meeting but this is obviously subject to change.</b> <b>When we do resume our first meeting will be our AGM.</b>
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>AGM followed by ...Short Films - West Midland History</b>
July 13th	<b>The Where Next Association.</b> Nick Houghton
August 10th	<b>Tracing my Family History and some unexpected results</b> Pete Harris
September 14th	<b>A Short History of the Windsors of Hewell Grange.</b> Don Vincent
October 12th	<b>Redditch - its farming heritage.</b> <i>Our farming landscape, its destruction and protection.</i> Anthony Green
November 9th	<b>Redditch between the Wars.</b> Sue Tatlow
December 14th	<b>Seasonal Event and Refreshments</b>

## Activities for 2020

During the year we attend a number of events where we have a Redditch Local History Society presence. This includes Beoley Church Summer Fete, Apple Day at Headless Cross and the Heritage Open Day at Forge Mill.

We have no idea if any of these will take place and so they are in abeyance.

We had planned our exhibition at Forge Mill Needle Museum to be Redditch in WW2 but, to date, we have not carried out any serious work in preparing this. There are obviously a number of disappointed exhibitors who have prepared their exhibitions only to find that Forge Mill has had to close. We have therefore offered our 'spot' to these exhibitors.

## Contact

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