

WINSTER LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

NEWSLETTER No. 5 February 1997

Notes of meeting on 20 January 1997

1. The proposed programme of meetings till June 1997 was accepted.
2. Our Treasurer, Geraldine Hopkinson, has opened a bank account. Subs are now being taken.
3. Alison Gray has been working on the 1891 census. The copy she is working from is poor and the script very faint, so she is in the process of transferring it on to a database.
4. Joe Kewin suggested producing a model of the village.
5. Copies (from Tony Wood) were made available of a map showing commercial premises in Winster prior to 1761.
6. The main purpose of the meeting was to consider how to put into effect our oral history project (recording people's recollections of the village). A list of possible interviewees was made. There was discussion as to the type of interview – whether full and wide-ranging or focused on a narrower topic. It was decided to concentrate on village utilities (water, gas, electricity, drainage etc). Several people volunteered to begin recording and report back to a meeting in March [see below].
7. A draft constitution drawn up by Rod Shiers was adopted unanimously.

Oral History Project

Several people have now begun recording. Those interested in being involved are invited to a meeting at Orchard Mine Cottage, East Bank, on Monday 1 March at 7.30. Please bring recordings with you, if you have any. If you are interested but unable to come, please let Marg Lester know.

Future Meetings (all Monday 7.30 in the Market House)

- March 24 Workshop on setting up a database for our local history projects (Tony Wood will bring his computer and show what he has already done). Also the 1891 census database and report on work in progress on buildings etc.
- April 21 **Dr David Kiernan: The Lead Industry in Winster: Medieval to Modern.** Talk on the beginnings and the heyday of lead mining and its impact on transport and local society.
- May 19 Workshop.
- June 30 **Village Historical Walk.** This may be adjusted to fit in with the Wakes programme. Since an historical work is independently scheduled about this time, perhaps we could arrange instead an historical treasure hunt for Wakes. Any volunteers?

Derbyshire Local History Societies Network

The latest list details over 100 meetings of local societies during 1997, most of them talks or events open to all. *Network News* has information on new publications and research projects. Information is kept by Gill Elliott, Market House, East Bank. The next meeting in Matlock is:

20 March, 12 noon or 2 p.m. 'Understanding Maps and Plans.'
Derbyshire Record Office. Tel. 580000 ext 35201/2.

Eric Shimwell

It is very sad to have to report the deaths this month of both Eric Shimwell and his wife, Peggy. Eric was a great 'character', an enthusiastic historian of Winster and a member of our group from its beginning. He will be very much missed by us and by the whole village.