

West Hagbourne Village History Group

Annual Report May 2006 – April 2007

During this year three new members have joined the West Hagbourne Village History Group. A new chairman, **Josie Hill**, and two secretaries, **Val Walton** and **Diane Garland**, were appointed.

Village Website

The History Group has contributed to the development of the website with its own dedicated pages. As well as information about the Group and its various projects, there is a potted history of the village; a summary of the contents of its publication **Windsor Hakeborne: the Story of West Hagbourne**, together with a review and an order form; a section debunking some local myths; an explanation of the village name and details of West Hagbourne's entry in the Domesday Book.

Medieval Chapel

The site of the medieval chapel on land behind Chapel Hayes was mapped by the Berkshire Archaeological Research Group (BARG) in September 2004. The follow-up survey by BARG confirmed that there was a chapel but the print-out of the findings are rather difficult to decipher.

Archives and photo albums

The History Group continues to maintain an historical archive and is presently creating photo albums of village events including the Silver Jubilee and the millennium celebrations. Research on the family trees of Woodleys and Nappers and information on Francis Beasley, born 1753, are among the current projects. A scheme for recording trees that have been planted in memory of people from the village has been proposed.

Visit from Kath Woodley

Mary Wiley recently had a visit from Kath Woodley from New Zealand. She is keen to research her family history.

New Book

A new book on the 16th century quarrel between the Dunch and Windsor families,

West Hagbourne at the Court of Star Chamber by Pete Annells, edited by Jillian Hedges has been published.

Expansion of Didcot

The Group is concerned about the expansion of Didcot and is keen to protect our village.