

**West Hagbourne Village History Group**  
**Annual Report**  
**May 2009 – April 2010**

This year the Group has made a concerted effort to recruit new members. Whilst a couple of people expressed an interest no new members have joined us this year. This has meant that we have been unable to further our research into the history of the village. However, we have continued with ongoing projects and maintenance of the archive as well as holding regular meetings and responding to enquiries.

**Projects**

The Millennium House Project continues. This is based on the responses to the millennium questionnaire and the photographs of the village taken in 2001 to provide an accurate record of the village at the turn of the century. A further ongoing project based on the questionnaire is the development of an illustrated history of the historic buildings in the village, including stories and photographs of the people who lived in them.

The Group is currently listing and cataloguing its holdings. These include albums of local events, parish magazines, newsletters, research for the history book, minutes, correspondence, newspaper cuttings, films, photos, CDs, videos, censuses, maps, etc. The Group plans to open the archives to the public at an event during the summer.

The Group continues to receive and answer enquiries via the website. Orders for *Windsor Hakeborne: the Story of West Hagbourne* continue to trickle in.

**New acquisitions**

A 1926 photograph taken in 1926 by the celebrated photographer E. O. Hoppé of one of the thatched cottages which stood opposite the Old Post Office has been purchased by the Group.

The existence of a painting by Helen Allingham of one of these cottages has recently been discovered. Another painting by Helen Allingham of a cottage which stood on the site of Brookmead appears on the front of the history book. A copy of the 1911 census has been obtained for research purposes.

**Future and AGM**

The present members of the Group have been working on the history for 20 years but would now like to step down. Without new members it may not be possible to continue. The future of the History Group will be discussed at the A.G.M. at 8pm on 24th May at Hagbourne Village Hall. The meeting is open to everyone. Please come along with your ideas about the future of the Group.

