

Wickham Market Area Archive Centre



Review of 2024

On 6th May 2024 we had a very good turnout, about 150 people over the course of the day, who came to see the official opening of our new premises in the Library garden, by Cath Caudwell and Bryan Hall, and to look at our displays.

Since we officially opened, we have seen a regular stream of visitors, who have been keen to use the information that we have, or just to look round. Amongst the visitors, we have been able to help groups from Brandeston and Kettleburgh with their exhibitions.

Thanks to WM Partnership we now have our name on the front of the building.

We have a strong Management Committee with a new Secretary and a Membership Secretary being appointed. Membership of our Facebook group has now reached 2,200, and information is shared on a daily basis.

A tremendous amount of work has been put in during the year to sort out the archives. We were getting so many volunteers along on Tuesday mornings, that we decided to also open up on Thursday mornings from May 2024. With the increase in visitors since then, we are finding that is sometimes hard to get work done on the archives.

We are extremely grateful to the Committee for the support and hard work that has been put in over the last year, and all our members for continuing to support us, both financially and by giving us information. We are pleased to be able to continue to provide the archive with a safe and accessible future.

To complete the record of what we have done during the year, we should mention that we decided to purchase a pew, which used to belong in All Saints Church, and we have donated it to The George, so that it can be used again in the village.

During the year, we have been having batches of records converted to digital format. We now have 3 cine films, 20 cassette tapes and hundreds of slides, that can be viewed on our laptop.

We have continued to maintain contact with the school, and provided them with information to help year 6 with researching censuses and we continue to provide articles for the Parish News.

Looking ahead in 2025

We are planning to reinstate our Guided Walks round the village, and to set up a new Guided Tour of All Saints Church. Watch out for details.

We will also be holding bi-monthly talks again, starting on 14th May, then 16th July, 10th September and 12th November.

Philip Tallent
Chairman
11th April 2025