

Trimley St Martin Village Recorder Report 2022- May 2023
for the
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Following the death of Rosemary Gitsham in 2021 work commenced on clearing her two properties. A number of diaries written by Rosemary covering the period 1964 to approximately 2020 were retained. On the advice of the current Recorder, these were offered to the Bishopsgate Institute and are about to be deposited there where they will become part of the National Diary Project. At the end of 2022, the collection held more than 17,000 unpublished diaries. Rosemary's diaries along with the others will be preserved for historical research purposes. I hope she would be pleased to think her life will be celebrated and remembered in this National collection.

During the course of the year ten Blogs were produced and published, one of which covered the reaction of Trimley Villagers to the death of the Queen in September. There were two historical blogs; one looked at mid twentieth century Transport. My thanks go to Bryan Frost for his intimate knowledge of all things transport and his major written contribution. The other related to the conditions of the poor in 1838. This was the result of research conducted at The Hold and elsewhere. Another Blog explained the origin of the new road names on the Poppyfield and Lilac developments.

I worked to produce a Photographic Exhibition celebrating the Queens Platinum Jubilee in June, which covered the years 1952 - 2022 in the Trimley Villages. This result in considerable interest and as a result new resources were added to the Recorder's collection. Following on from the main exhibition, a part of it was subsequently displayed in Felixstowe Public Library for three weeks in July.

During the Autumn I prepared for and visited Trimley St Martin Primary School in order to deliver a session to support Year 5's Geography Curriculum with photographs and maps demonstrating the changes in Trimley in the last hundred years plus.

On November 22nd, 2022, Maurice Norman, resident of Trimley St Martin and former right back and centre half for Tottenham Hotspurs, died. He had lived in the village for many years with his wife, cared for by his daughter Jo.

There were several excursions to The Hold for research purposes which subsequently fed into a range of narrative blogs which currently await publication. I have also attempted to photographically record the housing developments in the Village as well as other features. I estimate I added approximately 600 - 800 photographs to the Recorder's collection. The majority of these are in digital format.

2022 saw a return to the pre-pandemic life in both villages. As Trimley St Mary's Village Recorder resigned at the end of 2021, I have been covering the high points in St Mary's year by photographing any significant events. These will be added to my official Annual Report which is currently due for submission to the SLH Recorder's Secretary.

On a personal level, I continue to miss the enthusiasm of my fellow Recorders, Len Lanningan, Jane Banning and of course, Rosemary Gitsham. However, I am in contact with the new Recorder for Kirton, Ann Colvill.

I continue to be grateful for the support of Trimley St Martin Parish Council who enable the work of the Recorder to be as meaningful as possible to the residents of the village. Thank you.

Elizabeth Rastrick,
Trimley St Martin Village Recorder.