

The Ranmoor Society

Chair's Report for 2020

Our programme of talks started in January with a fascinating insight into the world of a Sheffield Grinder, followed in February with a meeting where we learnt of the history of local waterways. And then the world changed somewhat. The committee was in regular contact and learnt something of the virtual world and the existence of Zoom and other aids. We were mindful of government guidelines and cancelled the remainder of the talks until summer.

In July there was a prospect that some might be able to meet as normal, perhaps using the church rather than the Parish Centre. However, in the event this proved a false dawn and the decision was taken to organise virtual talks for the remainder of the year. This has resulted in three excellent talks with a virtual audience getting larger each time. Grateful thanks are due to the speakers who were willing to learn the new technology as we were and to David Barber and Wendy Woodhouse who made the evenings work so well.

Of course, there are some members who are unable or disinclined to use the internet for this purpose and we have kept in contact with them by post.

Ranmoor Notes is seen as another important way of keeping in contact with all members and I believe we have had four excellent editions during the year. Many thanks to all contributors and to Gerald Eveleigh for editing and Peter Marrison for organising the printing and distribution.

A particularly noteworthy event took place in May when the neglected Grade II listed electric transformer at the top of Storth Lane received a much-needed refurbishment. The result can be seen on the front of the Membership card for 2021.

My personal thanks to all committee members for their support and endeavours during the past year and to you, the members, for your encouraging and positive feedback.

Whilst we have been able to arrange a virtual raffle prize draw for the last meeting, we are still grappling with the idea of a virtual election for committee members. I am pleased that all current members are happy to continue for a further 12 months. It is therefore proposed to continue with the current committee, though we are very open to new volunteers to offer their services on the committee.

We start 2021 with 130 members (made up of either individuals and family groups) and look forward to your engagement with the Society over the next 12 months.

Mike Killingley

Chair, The Ranmoor Society

January 2021