

## **Report of Shottisham Local History Recorder for the AGM of Shottisham Parish Council.**

2020/2021 has been a year when most of us have been unable to participate in village life, except at a distance. I have kept in touch via friends in the village, the monthly newsletter, email, WhatsApp, and village blogs. All have been recorded for the future and will be included in my report to the Suffolk Local History Council at the end of 2021.

I have however, been working hard on my project to research the history of Shottisham. Much of my research was in the Suffolk Record Office, which of course closed in March 2020 and hopefully will be reopening in June this year. All the chapters have been written and some are now with my editor. In case you are interested the chapter titles are:

The Domesday Survey and Lords of the Manor.

The Church and Clergy.

Farmers and agriculture.

Trades and occupations.

Birth and Death.

Law and Order.

Poor Law and the House of Industry.

Shottisham's Old Houses.

The Fashion of Christian Names.

Tales of Shottisham Families.

Who Lived in Shottisham?

I am now concentrating on working on the title deeds of the old houses of Shottisham. I am grateful to those who have felt happy to loan me their deeds, which give so much insight into life in the village over the centuries.

The deeds of houses now transcribed are: BelleVue, Brew House, Brook Cottage, Church Lane Cottage, The Cottage, Houston House, The Mill, Mill Cottage, The Old Post Office, Rose Cottage Church Lane, Myrtle Cottage Church Lane, St. Margaret's House, The Sorrel Horse, Street Farm, Wheelwrights and Forge House, The White House. I shall be writing to others during the summer. Photographs will also be needed. I know that several owners have collected pictures and I would be grateful for their loan.

I hope to finish the book by the end of this year. Then begins the problem of how to publish it. It is unlikely that any formal publisher will take a book of (a) such size and (b) so specifically on one small village. It will have to be self-published. Another idea is to create a web-site and put the book on it for all to see. However, I have a feeling that residents would like their own hard copy, so I may have to have hard copies of about 150 printed and then

put the whole text on the website for the future. I would be grateful for any feedback on these ideas.

I am happy to answer questions.

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