

WHC Newsletter June2020

Hallo everyone!

I hope that you are still coping with being at home, doing all the things we are supposed to be doing; gardening, cooking cakes, reading, watching TV, going for walks talking on the telephone and on-line, but, most importantly looking after yourselves! It is certainly encouraging that we are now allowed to meet our nearest and dearest in small groups out of doors. I've found that has made a great difference, even although the Thompson household has consisted of four of us most of the time, including our nine-year-old granddaughter and we have a big garden and space in the house. I do feel for those who are on their own, especially if confined to small accommodation with maybe no garden and just think what it must be like if children are involved as well. What a blessing that we live where we do.

The Heritage Centre has of course been closed, but, thanks to the grant, we have been busy obtaining quotes for work on the windows, tidying the playground and keeping on top of the garden. We aim to appoint helpers who are based as locally as possible, with an interest in the building and what we stand for. We've been anxious to get this started so that we can complete it all before the autumn. At least then we can feel that we have achieved something worthwhile during this difficult period and that the building is being well looked after.

I am glad that the solar panels, installed when the building was a school, are doing well, especially as most of the power generated at present is being fed back to the grid because we are hardly using any ourselves. We are paid for this and it almost covers the cost of the electricity we use in the course of the year, so Hurrah!

We have lots of plans for when we get going again, not least our talks of course, but also a garage sale and an exhibition. In addition, the "radio boys" have had donated from the estate of the late Stewart Orr an enormous mixing desk which belonged to Radio Norfolk at the time Stewart worked with them. When it became obsolete for them, he set it up at his home among his enormous collection of radio memorabilia! It is now ensconced in what was the staff room when the school was functioning and, when re-assembled, will fill most of the room I suspect! They tell me that it still functions and they will be able to broadcast from it, so fame at last!!!

The hot news is that we have just appointed two new directors. We have been running on only three since last year and that is the minimum we can function with, so new blood has been essential. One is Jill Edwards, who, as you know, has been our highly efficient administrator, caretaker and heaven knows what else. The other is Anthony Scott-Robinson, affectionately known as "Big Tony", one of the radio boys. He has a keen interest in all things "radio", but also will help us in our aim of moving to acquire museum status for their and our collections, a task for which he has considerable experience and good contacts. We welcome them both and look forward to working with them.

Our very best wishes to all of you. Keep well and we hope to see you soon.

Mary Thompson, and your other directors,
Margaret Griffith
Robin Twigge
Anthony Scott-Robinson
Jill Edwards