

Presidents Report 2020/2021

We have had a very different year, with some achievements and some changes to our committee.

Covid 19 kept us in check for some time, we worked around this as best we could.

Ann, our long standing secretary stood down from the position she filled so well, Enid our curator also resigned for personal reasons. These wonderful people served the museum and RHS for many many years and are to be commended for their work and dedication.

Andy Chapman has taken on the position of curator and Tony Keen a new member is now our secretary.

This year was also our 50 years as a museum and historical society; this we celebrated with a gathering and morning tea in the museum work area with a brief account of some of the beginnings and history of the museum along with the names of most of those involved at its inception. At this event Enid Tink was made a life member. The weather was very miserable, the unveiling of the plaques and walk to view them was hampered by weather conditions.

After several years of trying, the gutters were finally replaced on Dance Cottage along with new down pipes and drainage plumbing. The bottom area was also covered in to prevent rubbish from accumulating under the building and to reduce the fire risk.

The old wool press repaired by Colin Hughes and an old mining stretcher rebuilt by Ian Goldfinch are in the Cattlin Shed display/work area.

At last, the Hawks Nest park bay and turn around area are complete and usable. There are some problems to be sorted out before the walk trail can be built.

The planned expansion of the museum is on hold due to members' concerns on the design and siting or whether to actually build or extend the existing building. A short meeting with an architect, Mr Patrick Beale has been held to consider our options.

Many thanks to all members for their help and assistance this last year.

Ian Dickinson. President RHS, May 2021.