

Whilton Local History Society :Report for Whilton Parish Council 13thMay 2026

Since I last reported on behalf of Whilton Local History Society it was decided at our Winter AGM in January this year that the society should be “tapered off”. This followed a serious discussion with many thoughtful and helpful ideas put forward. However, membership has declined, younger residents do not have time or interest to get involved, bank charges have been imposed since March 2025 and so it was agreed to close the Society.

The residue of our funds of £85 have been transferred to The Village Hall account, to be used for any future history projects or meetings. Our bank account with Lloyds is officially closed.

In September '25 local resident and historian Graham Mc Kechnie gave a well received talk entitled “A Cobbler and a Saint” which told the story of two professional players, one a footballer and one a rugby union player. Both joined the British Army during WW1 and became famous though neither recovered from their injuries.

In February, Helen Frost gave her talk about armoured tanks developed during WW1 and the efforts to raise funds from the general public in order to build them for the war effort.

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The artefacts and historical records collected by my predecessor, Anthea Hiscock which give a very comprehensive account of Whilton's early development and stories of local residents are now stored in Whilton Village Hall and I am very willing to share the contents of these several boxes with any residents or relatives of those earlier inhabitants.

Brian Melling : Ex Chair: Whilton Local History Society

May 2026