

Ladies and Gentlemen

After another busy and successful year, it gives me great pleasure to present my Report for 2010 / 11.

Meetings are well attended and this year we have been joined by 89 visitors which I think reflects the quality of the talks we have enjoyed. As mentioned last year, the hall can get quite full but we have been monitoring the situation and I am pleased to confirm that at the moment this does not present us with too many problems.

A varied programme has included Memories of Marple Bridge and Ludworth, Stockport Workhouse, Manchester Airport, Mr A. V. Roe and AVRO at Woodford, and Mary Queen of Scots!

We have also enjoyed some interesting outings and Judith will present her report on these. The archive team has been working hard on Thursday mornings cataloguing the archives and as you will note from the Report and Accounts we are buying specialist materials including acid free wallets to protect photographs and papers. Mark Whittaker from the Marple website continues to put previously unseen images from the archives onto the Virtual Tour and he is now nearly at the end of drawer 2 of 4 drawers of photographs! As you know, we welcome contributions from members and Jean and Michael Heap have completed a project to photograph all the shops in Marple. Of course, businesses come and go so this, I think, will be ongoing.

Meetings do not just happen without a lot of preparation and work behind the scenes and I would like to thank my fellow Committee Members for all their help. In particular, special thanks to Margaret Bradbury and Pat Fisher who are standing down from the Committee this year.

I would like to thank the volunteers who make the tea and coffee and also all of you for helping to put the chairs away at the end of each meeting. Also, thanks to Gerry Moore who audits the Society's accounts.

As mentioned earlier in the year, the Society is holding an exhibition in June '60 Years of Local History' and I will be asking later on in the notices for volunteers who will be needed to man it – please help if you can.

Finally, may I wish you an enjoyable summer and I look forward to seeing you at the first meeting of the new session in September.