**Annual report Shrawley History Society – May 2023**

This small but active group has been very busy again this year.

We have been involved in many different areas of research relating to gravestones, wills, houses, historical maps, court rolls, old photographs, field names, ancient roads, fish ponds and mills. The ‘middle’ gravestones at the back of the Church have all now been photographed and the inscriptions transcribed. Soon they will be linked together and also put on our website pages.

In addition, the 1921 Census which was released this year has been painstakingly transcribed and put into spreadsheet form and will also be made available on our website – thanks to Jenny for this.

A member of the History Society, Richard Pumphrey, has co-authored a book entitled ‘*Shrawley Wood: History and Natural History’* which was published before Christmas. This is a real magnum opus of over 600 pages and the result of an enormous amount of detailed historical and scientific research and will be of personal interest to many within Shrawley but also will appeal to a wider academic audience.

We are intending on running a series of talks about many aspects of the history of Shrawley and began our first one in February focussing on the management of the woods and also the fauna. Our second talk is scheduled for 6 June and will focus in on the harvesting past and present of the woodland, the birdlife found within and an analysis of the Woods using drone photography – the photos are absolutely stunning. All our talks are free and everyone is invited.

Our continued research and analysis is updated regularly on our pages on the village website [www.shrawley.org.uk](http://www.shrawley.org.uk).

Details of further talks will be made available on posters, in the Parish Magazine and on FB.