

**FOREWORD**  
**by Dr James Burton**  
**Chairman of Hope Historical Society**

In the winter of 1987-88 Mrs Marjorie Ward ran a course on local history at Hope Valley College.

As a result of the interest generated by this course Councillor Charlie Lewis proposed starting a history society in Hope. The inaugural meeting of the Hope with Aston Historical Society was held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 1988, with Councillor Lewis in the chair and thirteen people present.

In its early years with Edwin Chapman as chairman, Neville Rawson as secretary and Barbara Hall as treasurer the society held a series of occasional lecture meetings with outside speakers and arranged outings of historical interest. From its inception the Society has provided part of the display in St Peter's church during Wakes Week.

In 1995 Doreen Sedgewick became secretary. She established our regular monthly meetings, and undertook the task of producing the Society's guide "Discover Hope", writing the text and seeing the project through to publication. Later, with the support of new chairman, Hugh Wentworth Ping, she enlarged the scope of the society's activities, including the organisation of independent exhibitions during Wakes Week and a social evening at Fullwood Stile Farm.

Since then the society has gone on to produce other publications, to set up a research group and to be involved in historical projects such as the Victoria County History of Derbyshire. We even have a walking group as an offshoot of the 20th Anniversary Boundary walk and since 2005 the twice yearly supper at The Traveller's Rest has proved a popular social event. From those early days the membership has grown to over seventy.

The Society is greatly indebted to Edwin Chapman, one of the original members of the Society, who has undertaken this extensive review of the records of the first 20 years of Hope Historical Society. We wish to place on record our grateful thanks.

We hope this booklet will provide interesting information for current and future members of the Society and for the community of Hope.

Hope, August 2008