

Meeting of Ketton History Group – 13th November 2017

The meeting started with a discussion around two Dalby Directories, 1937 & 1957. Comparisons were made between the two years on housing, population and trades. It was found that in the 20 years the population had remained fairly static at around 1100, but the housing list had risen by 50%. It is possible that WW2 had impacted the population growth and the housing increase was a result of the political will to provide homes for those in need. The village was pretty much self sufficient with all the basic traders represented, unlike today.

There then followed an investigation into the 1841 & 1861 census as applied to Geeston and Aldgate, it was interesting to note that some family names can still be found in the village. As both places were predominantly housed with cottages offering limited accommodation, the size of the families living in them meant that in many cases large numbers of children would be occupying one room. A situation that prevailed well into the next century.

St. Mary's Home 1892 – 1944, the laundry aspect as well as the girls was discussed, there was much speculation upon why the girls were there as they had come from all over the country.

The next meeting will be in March 2018.