

## **The Ranmoor Society – Chair's Report for 2025**

I would like to begin by thanking all our members for their continued support. Through your financial contributions, attendance at meetings, and willingness to help in many practical ways, the Society has been able to meet a number of challenges and deliver another successful year of talks, events and publications.

Membership currently stands at 126 individual or family members, and it is particularly encouraging that ten new members joined during the year. Our programme of speakers continues to be well supported, with an average attendance of around 45 people per talk. This level of engagement reflects the strong interest in the subjects presented. Personal highlights for me included the talks on the origins of Broomhill and on the life of John Newton Mappin. With meetings of this size, the assistance of members in setting up and clearing the room is greatly appreciated.

Good progress has been made in cataloguing material within the Society's resources library, thanks to the commitment of several members under the leadership of Sharon Forde. This work supported two events held at St John's Church in September, including Heritage Open Day, both of which attracted very positive feedback.

The regular publication of *The Ranmoor Society Notes* continues to generate significant interest. The wide range of engaging articles, written and edited by Gerald Eveleigh and supplemented by contributions from members, is frequently praised. We are also grateful to those members who assist with hand distribution of *Notes*, resulting in a welcome saving in costs.

The financial statement for 2025 shows that the Society remains in sound financial health, despite the introduction of new and increasing costs. These include public liability insurance and the storage of resources library materials. Subscriptions for 2026 will remain unchanged, although this position will be kept under review for 2027 and beyond.

The Society is affiliated with Joined Up Heritage Sheffield, the coordinating body representing organisations involved in promoting and protecting local heritage across the city. Their website is a useful resource to find out event updates.

I would like to pay tribute to the effectiveness of the committee in sustaining such a vibrant and active local history society. We are delighted that John Cole has agreed to join us and he will take a particular interest in planning applications within the area. With this addition, the seven members offer themselves for election to the committee.

The future strength of the Society depends upon the committee, and we would very much welcome new volunteers willing to contribute to its running. If you feel you could help in any capacity, please do get in touch.

Mike Killingley, Chair

January 2026