

23-1 Lizzy Gradidge – interview notes

Interviewed by Daphne Youngs 03/08/2023

-Holme Farm purchased in 1984 from Stansted to enable the launch of the Stansted

House Trust.

-Demise of dairy farming between here and Chichester in 1984 to zero by 2007.

-Lizzy's work in dairy farming: her father in law's transition from cattle to arable farming. Change in farming viability over time.

-History of Holme Farm buildings. Loss of many original features. Tudor remains found. Repurposing of Holme Farm.

-Destruction of original records & deeds in the fire which destroyed Stansted House.

Increase in value of land over past 3 decades.

Gradidge family involvement with "shoots" at Stansted with the gamekeeper.

-Account of Rowlands Castle village life included Lizzy becoming a Christian largely through St John's church and Canon Ockwell.

Lizzy organised BBC "Children in need" talent show.

2006, Passover tents on the village green; tomb & cross.

-Michael, Lizzy's husband talks about finding unexploded bomb on the farm.

Diversification from arable to hay and equestrian work including letting for light industry. Views on the dairy industry and reasons for its decline.