**Des Turner HALH Award 2023**

**Short Citation: in no more than twenty words, please say why you think this nominee should receive an award.**
Des has been recording Aston’s local history for 56 years, since 1966 and is campaigning to establish a museum there.

**Extended Citation: please provide a longer piece of no more than two hundred words about the nominee; this will be used during the selection process: both citations may be published to promote good practice in local history.**
Des has been actively researching and recording Aston ever since he went there to live in 1966. In 2006 he published a book with his research into Aston House, Station 12 an SOE secret centre during World War 2. A further book on Station 14 recently followed. A dedicated local historian of Aston, Des is committed to sharing his findings online and has developed his own website <https://astonvillage.tripod.com/astonvillage/>
President of the Punch and Judy fellowship for many years he and his wife have organised many talks and shows, travelling far and wide entertaining school children with Punch and Judy shows, capturing another generation’s interest in the past.
Meeting and working with several village organisations (the Centre Field Committee, the Village Hall committee, the Cricket Club and the Parish Council), Des is actively campaigning to conserve the history of Aston for the benefit both of current residents and future inhabitants of the 600 new houses planned to be built there.
Des has been dedicated to the history of where he lives for 56 years and is ceaseless in his fight to conserve Aston’s heritage. He is both a careful recorder of local people’s past experiences and an inveterate and inspiring campaigner.