



Buckfastleigh and District Society Newsletter

Issue 18

April 2009

Welcome to our Newsletter

Here we are, now well in to 2009 and looking forward to lighter evenings, warmer days and all that gardening that we have been putting off because it has been too cold, snowing, raining or just 'another day perhaps'!

Previous meetings

We have had some extremely interesting talks and events in the the past three months.

In January we held our meeting during the afternoon when Paul Dibbins came to give us an excellent Magic Lantern Show. A trip down memory lane and a lot of nostalgia for those who attended. We hope to be able to repeat the experience, with a new set of films, next year. The AGM of the Orchard Millennium Green Trust was held in February, and this was followed by a fascinating talk on Greenway, Agatha Christie's holiday home, by Robyn Brown, National Trust Property Manager. We learned a great deal about the history of the house and were shown slides of the intensive restoration work that has taken place there.

The annual 'Brain of Buckfastleigh' Quiz took place in March and was a successful and happy evening. We would have liked to have seen maybe a few more teams taking part; so start thinking about it for next year (you will have plenty of time to practice before then!). As you know all the prize money goes to local charities as designated by the winners. In first place were The Buckfastleigh Buccaneers whose prize went to Action for Children. In second place were The Old Guard who donated their winnings to Devon Air Ambulance. The destination of the money won by third place, Ginger's Pets, was for Teignbridge and Totnes Cats Protection.

Our next events

As you will have seen from your programme cards, our 16th April meeting was to have been a talk about the

excavations at Holy Trinity Church **BUT** unfortunately this cannot take place this year, although we do hope that we can reschedule this for next year instead. **HOWEVER** do not despair as we are fortunate to be able to book two very knowledgeable speakers who will talk about Devon Pottery and who will also be bringing examples to show us.

Peggy Henley has arranged our annual Mystery trip again this year. The date for this will be Sunday 10th May, leaving from Woodholme car park at 1.30 pm. Please contact Peggy on 01364 643496 to book your seat. As you know this event is very popular so it is best to book as early as possible. The cost will be £14 and this includes coach, entry, cream tea and tip for the driver. The only thing we cannot tell you is the destination!

FUN DAY will be on Sunday 28th June on the Orchard Millennium Green starting at 2.00 pm. There will be the Totnes Band, a Grand Draw, stalls, barbecue, ice cream van, teas and coffees as well as the children's and adults races; and don't forget **THE DUCK RACE**. Buy your duck in plenty of time, so as not to be disappointed on the day; you will see this advertised locally well before the day. If the weather is bad (please keep your fingers crossed for us) then the event will be held in the Town Hall except, of course, for the Duck Race, which will be in its usual place!!! If any of our members are able to help us by assisting on the Society stalls during the afternoon, or even by helping to set up in the morning, you will be most welcome. Do contact Ann Armstrong if you are able to take part. If not, then please do come along and enjoy yourselves, we look forward to seeing you there.

The Saturday Summer Walk will take place on 11th July (however, if it is wet then it will be on 18th July). Please see posters nearer the event for details of time and location of walk. Details will also be in the

monthly Community News Sheet. Do come and join us, the walks held last year were much enjoyed.

Orchard Millennium Green

After our first-attempt success in the 'South-West in Bloom Neighbourhood Award' scheme, when we received a Certificate of Merit, we are making great efforts again this year to improve on that success. On the 2nd Saturday of each month from 10.00 am to 12 noon a group of volunteers will be meeting on the Green to work on this improvement. If you are able to join us, we would very much appreciate any help you can give. Already, in the first working party of the year, we have created a natural habitat for wild-life as well as bays for composting grass cuttings and leaves. There is still much more to be done but gradually we are seeing the effect our efforts are having.

Local History Archive

Chris Routley is still working on the photo archive and people are finding more photographs and handing them to him to be recorded. Our thanks to all of you who have taken part in this way. The DVD of Photo Archives is still selling and it is hoped that we shall have a new (different) DVD for sale within a few months, so watch out for that.

Buckfastleigh Remembered

PLEASE may we ask any of you who have any snippets of information about Buckfastleigh as it was, or any anecdotes, that you would be willing to share through this Newsletter to contact Ann Armstrong and let her know so that we can arrange to obtain them from you.

For information on the Society's activities, please contact Ann Armstrong on (01364) 642839