



# *Buckfastleigh and District Society* Newsletter

Issue 17

December 2008

## **Welcome to our Newsletter**

We have decided that, in future, we will be writing an issue of this Newsletter for December and not in November as has previously happened.

**Reminder:** For those of you who have not already paid your subscriptions in advance for 2009, these are due at the beginning of the year and we will be coming to collect them from you.

## **Our Committee**

At our AGM held in October the following members of the Committee tendered their resignations: - they are Bill Drake (Vice-Chairman), Janet Harris (Minutes Secretary) and Robert Smerdon. Our grateful thanks to them for their hard work and dedication. Jan Young has been elected to the Committee – welcome to her.

## **Previous meetings**

In September we had an excellent illustrated talk from Mike Perriam on 'The Abbots Way'. Everyone enjoyed this and it was a well-attended meeting.

After the AGM in October we had a cheese and wine get-together which should have been followed by a talk from a Dartmoor National Park Ranger – unfortunately he did not turn up but those present remained and had a very pleasant extended get-together.

Our November talk was from Andy Hingston, Water Treatment Manager of South-West Water. Although there were not very many members present, those who were there very much enjoyed the talk and were able to ask as many questions as they wished.

## **Our next events**

On December 4<sup>th</sup> we will be holding our 2<sup>nd</sup> Local History Christmas Social evening at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall, which includes a photograph quiz. Last year's event was extremely enjoyable, so do please come along and join us this year.

On Thursday January 15<sup>th</sup> 2009 we depart from our usual evening meeting by having a Magic Lantern Show at 2.30 pm. It is something different so why not come along?

February 12<sup>th</sup> is the date of the Orchard Millennium Green Trust AGM. This will be followed by a talk on Greenway (Agatha Christie's home) by Robyn Brown, National Trust Property Manager.

The annual 'Brain of Buckfastleigh' Quiz will be on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Why not have a go!

The excavations at Holy Trinity Church will be the subject of our talk on April 16<sup>th</sup>. A fascinating piece of local history.

## **Orchard Millennium Green**

We are delighted to announce that we were awarded a South West in Bloom Neighbourhood Award Certificate of Merit for the Orchard.

Since we received this award, Mr Banwell, Headteacher of Buckfastleigh Primary School, had offered to undertake work on the Green as part of 'Make a Difference Day' in primary schools. Teachers and/or parents of the children were involved, planting bulbs and shrubs. See photographs on our new website – web address shown under Local History Archive.

We have also had a working party down on the Green, doing a general tidy up before winter really sets in and also painting one of the sheds – it was difficult to get the painting done as the shed needed to dry out before the paint was applied. Other work that needs to be done will be fitted in wherever possible.

## **Local History Archive (formerly Group)**

Chris Routley continues to make photograph DVDs of Buckfastleigh and a great deal of interest is still being expressed in this. If you would like to buy a copy please contact Ann Armstrong (Tel. No. at the end of this

Newsletter). The cost is £5.00 (with £1.00 p & p if you require it to be sent). It would make a good Christmas present!

A website for the Local History Archive has now been set up; web address is [www.society.buckfastleigh.org](http://www.society.buckfastleigh.org) There is also an e-mail address, which is [mail@society.buckfastleigh.org](mailto:mail@society.buckfastleigh.org)

The Aims of the Society, Newsletters, Events, Photographs of Fun Day and each of the two walks are also on our website.

## **Town Matters**

It is good to see that, at last, a disabled access has been created outside the Co-op Store, For sure, not only the less able but also mums with young children in buggies must find it a boon.

We will, again this year, be holding our Christmas Window Dressing Competition for the local shops – they always make such an effort, it must be very hard for the judge; and we all get to benefit from the pleasure they give us.

**Finally** we must mention the proposed Planning Application for Whitecleaves Quarry. Hopefully you will all be aware of what is proposed and have attended at least one of the public meetings that have been held in the Town Hall. If you are not aware of this proposed planning application then there is always information to be found in the window of the 'Brainwave' Charity shop; alternatively there is a Buckfastleigh Quarry Action Group who would be pleased to tell you about it. Plans are available for perusal at the Town Hall for anyone who is interested. Do not forget this affects us all. A letter has gone to Devon County Planning Department from the Society.

**We wish all our members a Happy Christmas and All Best Wishes for 2009**