

Buckfastleigh and District Society Newsletter

Issue 21

April 2010

Welcome to our Newsletter

We welcome you to a New Year of our Newsletters. We welcome any new members and also thank those of you who have, once again renewed, your subscriptions as members.

Previous meetings

In January Paul Dibbins came again to give us another fascinating insight into 'yesteryear' with a Ciné show of some of his old films.

A Public Meeting for the Orchard Millennium Green Trust was held in February and this was followed by an interesting and informative talk from Naomi Scuffil on 'Wildlife on the Orchard Millennium Green', which she illustrated with photographs taken there.

In March, once again, the 'Brain of Buckfastleigh' Quiz took place. In spite of the inclement weather and the fact that there were other events taking place in the town, there was a good attendance. There was a certain amount of hard thinking, some exclamations of "OH! Of course that was it!" and quite a lot of laughter. Judging by the comments people enjoyed themselves, and it was good to see some new faces there. The 'Brain of Buckfastleigh' Shield was won by 'The Ancestors' whose local charity was Shelterbox; which was also the charity benefitting from the 2nd place team 'Sainted Aunts and Uncles'. In 3rd place were 'The Undecideds' whose designated charity was Buckfastleigh and Ashburton Hospital

Dates for your Diary

As we mentioned in our last Newsletter the talk on 'Skeletons in the Cloisters', about the archaeology at Holy Trinity Church, by Dr Sam Turner will take place in St Luke's Church on 8th April 2010, and will be a joint event with 'The Valiant Soldier'. The tickets, available from Bradley's cost £3, of which £2 will go to the Valiant Soldier to help with their running costs.

The Mystery Outing on Sunday 23rd May will leave from Woodholme Car Park at 1.30 p.m. and return at approx. 6.00 p.m. The cost will be £18 per person to include coach, tea, entry and tips BUT if you are a National Trust member than the cost will be £12 per person. Contact Peggy Henley on 643496 to book.

FUN DAY this year will be on Sunday 27th June on the Orchard Millennium Green. We hope that it will be even more successful this year. Totnes Town Band will be here again and there will also be stalls, children's and adults' races, a Raffle, barbecue and not forgetting **THE DUCK RACE** – the ducks will be on sale in shops and other outlets for a few weeks before the event, so buy early, do not miss out! If you would like to have a pitch for a stall then contact Ann Armstrong (see end of Newsletter)

Orchard Millennium Green

On the second Saturday in March we had our first working party on the Green for this year and have 'declared war' on invasive weeds and ivy.

Digging over of the flower beds has commenced, and altogether things are beginning to shape up again.

Buckfastleigh Remembered

Phyllis Voisey has sent us some reminiscences. She says they are "scribblings from an old woman's diary" The following is as she wrote it down (if there is not sufficient room for all of it this time then it will be continued in our next Newsletter)

Phyllis wrote "There is no one down town is the answer I get no one about, yet I can look back over the years and remember the town bustling with people men, women and children. The shops open from 7.30 a.m. to serve the men with their tobacco and the women with milk and bread before the Mill bell clanged 7.40 and 7.55 am when the streets would be heaving with men and women, boys and girls from 14 years old almost hurrying to get in the Mill before the 8 o'clock deadline Mill, Tanyard, Foundry, Quarries and Paper Mill. They would come from Silver Street, Market Street, Jordan Street and from the lower parts of the town. 8.45 the children would be hurrying to get to school."

(To be continued next time)

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