

WELLS LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

NEWSLETTER No.6 December 1997

YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The AGM on 1 October resulted in a Committee of 8 being appointed. This Executive Committee has organised itself into the following posts:

CHAIRMAN	John Christmas, [he will also find speakers]
VICE-CHAIRMAN	Phil Champion
SECRETARY	Madge Smith
TREASURER	Brian Scott
PUBLICIST	Mike Welland
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	David Perryman

Hew Purchas and Phil Champion will act as Cashiers with the Treasurer at meetings. **Keith Reay** has, because of personal circumstances, decided to remain a back bencher. Keith will, however, offer comment and support to the Executive Committee.

GROUP PROJECTS

It will be recalled that, previously, 5 Projects were envisaged to be an aim of the Group. Reality has come home and the Projects are now 3 in number and leaders have been selected, viz:

1. **The Millennium** - Phil Champion
2. **Oral History** - John & Alison Christmas
3. **Walk-round Guide** - Brian Scott and David Perryman

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

Distribution of future Newsletters will be restricted to paid up members of the Group. It may seem odd that a fledgling local history group thirsting for publicity has this restriction but costs are of paramount importance at the present time. This Newsletter is being sent to those who have joined the Group this year, together with those listed as members last year.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Treasurer has asked me to remind you that subscriptions should be paid at the next meeting if still outstanding [£5 per person or a joint membership for two, at the same address, £8]. The membership list for this year will then be prepared omitting non-payers. If in difficulty 'phone Brian Scott on 710408.

1997/98 PROGRAMME UPDATE

- Dec 3 **HOLKHAM & ITS AGRICULTURE IN THE 19TH CENTURY** - Susanna Wade Martins
- Jan 7 **TRACING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY** - Joy Lodey
- Feb 4 **WELLS AND NORTH NORFOLK ON FILM** - E. Anglian Film Archives
- Mar 4 **THE STORY OF WELLS RAILWAY** - Adrian Vaughan
[please note: not 3rd Mar, as shown in Sept Issue]
- Apr 1 **WARE HALL HOUSE** - Christine Adams
- May 6 **A CURATOR GOES ELEPHANT HUNTING** - Martin Warren

NOTES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- Brian Scott, the Treasurer, has asked me to include the following

We have been notified that part of 'The History Hour, transmitted on TV, BBC2, from Monday 24 November will include a series called "Hart-Davis on History". This will cover a different area of England or Scotland on each of the five weekdays in that and the two subsequent weeks. The programmes will begin at 1.10 p.m. each day and the dates of most interest to us are:

Wed	26 Nov	-	Norwich
Tue	2 Dec	-	North Norfolk Coast
Tue	9 Dec	-	Mid-Norfolk
Fri	12 Dec	-	West Norfolk

- Joy Lodey, who is speaking to us on January 7th about "Tracing Your Family History" will be running a two-day course entitled,

"Trace your Family History"

Sat 21 March, 1998 and Sat 25 April, at Litcham

- The Wells Branch of the WEA is again running a course tutored by Mike Brackenbury: entitled,

"Architecture of Wells".

This will be a 10 week course commencing at **10 a.m. on Tuesday 20th January 1998** at the Community Centre. Each session will be 90 minutes. Details as usual from Erica Goode, the WEA Secretary [tel.711987]

EDITOR'S SOAPBOX

Newsletters will be published as and when there is sufficient content available from members and, or, the Executive Committee has information to pass on.

On being 'appointed' Editor, my first question had to be, "How many pages?" An A4 sheet seems to be what is expected. I hope to prove more is required. It seems to me that all aspects of the Group and its aspirations are still what might be called 'fluid'.

The membership as a whole is the Group and the Group is the membership. If the membership wants the Group to prosper then it must contribute more than just attend meetings. That last phrase is probably too strong but what I have in mind is that members write to the Editor of the Newsletter with comments, complaints, praises or items for publication. [I will edit, or put forward for printing as presented, as you wish.]

The simplest story may well be common knowledge to a local family but unknown to others. How many times have I been given the phrase, "anybody knows that". Here I must say how much I miss the yarns of fellow Town Councillor, Denis Frary, and Local Government colleague, Bill Pointer. Now Billy Tuck, fellow Discussion Group member, has joined them. The Wells Local History Group was too late in being formed to record their memories of Wells. Buildings are important but it is people that make a community. [An analogy is a pub and its changing landlords!]

If the local inhabitants will offer any bits and pieces for publication in the Newsletter then, eventually, all members will have a unique collection of stories and memories.

Contributions to:

David Perryman
'Ingleborough', Grove Road
Wells-next-the-Sea, NR23 1HY

Phil Champion has given me the following note:

THE MILLENNIUM PROJECT

A start has been made to get the project underway and the first meeting has been held.

More people are required to help in this historically important project and first reaction from towns-people approached, e.g. the Churches, Post Office, Library, etc. are all for it and will be glad to take part.

Please contact Phil Champion on 711664 or after the next WLHG meeting on 3 December.

Secretary's note:

David Perryman's telephone number is

01328 711254

Unfortunately, this number is shown incorrectly in our new, soon to be distributed members' Programme Card. [This has nothing to do with our excellent Printer.]

Would you please amend accordingly, when you receive your card. Thank you.