

Winster Local History Group

Newsletter No 17 September 2000

Annual General Meeting and Social Evening Monday September 18 at 8.00 in the Burton Institute

As previously announced, the AGM will be on **Monday 18 September at 8 pm** in the Burton Institute. Please make a special effort to be there, because there are some important matters to discuss (see below).

Please bring a bottle/and or a contribution to the food (preferably something that won't involve any washing-up). We have nobody to organise the food and drink at the moment, so volunteers will be very welcome (phone 650090). Thank you.

Film and Talk on Winster's Neighbours: Youlgreave Monday 16 October at 7.30 in the Burton Institute

This is the first in our planned series of talks and presentations about the history and background of villages near Winster. It will take the form of a showing of the recently completed video 'Made of Clay', directed by Maggie Ford, followed by a short talk. (Maggie is the Director of the planned community play on the Brittlebanks of Winster.)

The film is about the people, the history, and the well dressings of Youlgreave (or is it 'Youlgrave'?), a village which has always had the reputation of being 'a bit different'. Find out why it is known as 'Pommy'. Why it has a pig as its village symbol, and what sort of people are its well dressers.

Illustrated talk by Dr Lynn Willies on the Discover and Raising of the Wills Founder Engine Winster Monday 20 November at 7.30 in the Burton Institute

Lynn Willies is well known to many people in Winster as a prominent figure in the Peak District Mines Historical Society and The Peak District Mining Museum, as an expert historian of Winster, and as the presenter of a very interesting talk on the Brittlebanks to our History Group in February 1999.

This talk gives the background to water pressure engines in general, and goes on to describe the discovery and lifting of the huge engine in the Wills Founder shaft near Water Lane, Winster, which was part of the Portaway Lead Mine. The engine is now exhibited in the Lead Mining Museum in Matlock Bath.

Agenda for AGM on September 18 at 8.00 in the Burton Institute

Apologies

- 1 Minutes of AGM on September 1999
- 2 Officers' reports
 - a. Chair – Summary of the year's activities
 - b. Secretary – Membership report
 - c. Treasurer – Annual accounts September 1999 – September 2000
- 3 Report on *Winsters: A Peak District Village Remembers*
- 4 The need for a committee and/or additional officers
- 5 Election of officers
- 6 Future activities
- 7 Any other business

Notes from the Chair

I've now been chairperson for four years, and I won't be seeking re-election at the AGM. However, I'm keen to continue to be involved, and I would be happy to take on another role. I've not discussed the subject with anyone. So no one is 'lined up' for the Chair. Mostly it involves taking responsibility for the monthly talks during the winter.

I feel that the officers need the help of a committee to spread the load. Also, the role of Secretary has never been clearly defined, so this is something we could perhaps discuss. Apart from the three elected officers we have others who take responsibility:

Burton Institute Representative	Anne Walters
Oral Group	Freda Forster
Buildings Group	David Jones
Exhibitions	Freda Forster
Archive of Photographs	Geoff Lester
Archive of Documents	Geoff Lester
Editing the Newsletter	Geoff Lester
Distribution	Various

I hope I haven't missed anybody. People are always willing to help when asked. We just need to spread the responsibility a little.

Another thing to discuss is the funding of future projects. You will all know that we've had great success with the Millennium book, and this has generated some income for the group. Perhaps some of our funds should now be earmarked for specific activities.

I'm sure there are other things people will want to discuss. If any of these are too substantial to be included under 'any other business', please let me know (650090) before the AGM so that I can put them on a revised agenda. *Geoff Lester*

A New Local History Book

A Derbyshire Parish at War: South Darley and the Great War 1914 – 1919, by Keith Taylor and Trevor Brown. This substantial book has 250 pages and 170 illustrations. It gives a history of the Parish of South Darley, biographies of those from the district who served in the war, and information of everyday life at the time, including links with people and events in Winster. Phone 01629 732622 for sale details.

Winster Local History Group 2000 – 2001

Please renew your membership now

Winster Local History group was founded in 1996. The public side of our activities involves organising talks and presentations throughout the winter months on subjects related to Winster and its history. As well as organising these talks we meet in smaller workshop groups:

Houses and Homes

We are working on the history of individual houses and homes, so we can get a fuller picture of the whole village.

Oral History Project

Our book *Winster: A Peak District Village Remembers*, published this summer, was based in recordings of residents and former residents. The archive of recordings continues to grow, and we are always looking for new helpers and new informants.

Photographs and Documents

People have generously loaned photos and documents so that they can be copied. The photos now number over 500.

Model of the Village

Some time ago we began work on a model of Winster 100 years ago. Last year the plan was changed, and the model will now show the village as it is at present. But the History group members continue to be involved, and new helpers are always welcome. The project has been awarded a Millennium grant and should be completed by the end of the year, when the model will go on display in the Market House.

Field Survey

The plan is to survey the whole of the parish of Winster, mapping and photographing the fields, field boundaries and barns, investigating the

fieldnames, and recordings the flora and fauna. Several people have expressed interest, and we intend to begin the survey this year.

Through activities such as these we try to act as a friendly focus for people to meet together. Our aims are

- to promote awareness of local history in Winster
- to advance understanding of Winster's history by research, publications, exhibitions and other related activities.

Will you become a member?

Your subscription of £5 will help us achieve these aims. You'll then receive our Newsletter and be included in all our other activities. Everyone is welcome at our monthly talks, but non-members are invited to make a contribution to the expenses. Please phone Geraldine Hopkinson (650347) if you are interested in becoming a member, or complete the tear-off slip and post it with your subscription c/o Arthur and Gill Elliott, Market House, East Bank, Winster (first house on left up East Bank, immediately before the Bowling Green). Alternatively, you can pay your subscription at the AGM on September 18.

Thank you.

.....

I would like to become a member of Winster Local History Group and enclose a subscription of £5 for 2000 – 2001.

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Are there any subjects you would like to see included in our activities?