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# COLWALL VILLAGE SOCIETY

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Newsletter

November 1998

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## ***History Projects get started***

We had a well attended meeting on 22nd October with 27 in the Village Hall despite the inclement weather. Everybody took an active part in the discussion on many topics as a result of which I can now report that the number of projects is nearly 80. Of these, 29 have been allocated to individuals or teams to start work on. Thank you all for the tremendous amount of interest shown and for all the offers of help.

Michael Burke has agreed to assist me in the co-ordination of all our efforts on the history projects and we will have our own regular meetings to ensure that between us we help wherever possible. At the meeting on 22nd October I was made to think by the question 'What is our vision for the conclusion of all our efforts?'. As one of our early jobs Michael and I will be recommending a 'Vision statement' for approval and subsequent publication. This will hopefully concentrate all our minds on a unified target for the future.

Over the next few weeks I will try to contact all those who have gone 'live' on a project to see what we can do to help, and also those who have expressed an interest but have not yet become involved in a project. Please do not feel ignored if I do not speak to you but, in your turn, make contact with me or Michael Burke. There is a large amount of work to be done and I cannot promise to speak to everyone as quickly as I would like.

The projects which are now spoken for are: Field names, Hedgerows, the Brights, the Ballards, Schweppes, James the Builder, Public Houses, Ballards Nurseries, the Police, Scouts, Probus, the Racecourse, Tennis, the Free Church, the Methodist Church, the Church of England, the Elms, the Village School, the Downs School, Wychcrest School, Park House School, the Church Room, the Village Hall, the Green of Colwall Green, properties and people in The Purlieu, Evendine, Colwall Green and the whole village in general, research into the Woolhope Club records, postcard collections, recorded discussions with long standing Colwall folk, photographing all the properties and residents (possibly as a year 2000 project) and generally setting up a proper archive of all the historic records of the village.

Please do not hesitate to contact me (Derek Turner, [REDACTED]) or Michael Burke ([REDACTED]) if you want to help in any way.

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### ***Visit to Hereford Record Office***

Miss Susan Hubbard, the Chief Archivist at Hereford, has kindly agreed to host an evening meeting at the Hereford Record Office on **Thursday 3rd December** at 7.00 pm. I suggest we meet in the **Colwall Village Hall car park at 6.00 for 6.15 pm** so that we can reduce traffic by using as few cars as possible. It would help if you could let me know before the end of November if you are coming and if you would like a lift or would like to be collected from home.

Derek Turner [REDACTED]

### ***Hedgerow Survey Group***

Our next meeting will be at Beacon View, Mill Lane on **Wednesday 18 November at 8.00 pm**. We shall be looking at what people have done so far, and I shall be handing out tracing paper for those who are ready to try matching current hedgerows to the 1842 tithe map.

We have already been able to use information from the survey. A hedgerow removal notice was being sought and we were able to advise the Parish Council that a length of the hedge was protected as it is along an 1842 boundary.

If you would like to know anything more about the hedgerow survey please ring me, Liz T aylour, [REDACTED].

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### ***Village Design Statement Questionnaire***

As part of the consultation process, the Village Design Statement Team have put together a questionnaire. It was included in the 'Colwall Clock' for November 1998 as the centre pages, and other copies have been distributed around the village. A copy is also enclosed with this newsletter. We would be grateful if you would fill it in, or if you have already filled one in please pass this one onto someone who has not. (We apologise for not including Butchers on our list of services used within the village. This oversight will be corrected in the future.)

The Village Design Team are starting to put pen to paper, in an effort to produce a first draft. On Thursday 26 November in the afternoon, Mrs Jo Rose is coming back to see how we are progressing. Jo led the workshop held last June. We await her comments with interest.

Thank you for your help with the questionnaire.

*Nicky Carless*

### ***... and what do you think about a Millennium Project for the Society?***

For some time now the Committee have been considering whether the Society should mark the Millennium in some way. Some interesting ideas have been put forward to us during the year, and some of them seem to fit in well with the various projects which the Society is undertaking: the Village Design Statement, Hedgerow survey and History. At our last General Meeting, Susan Bond mentioned that we would be consulting our members and now we would like your reactions to ideas for projects which the Committee thinks are within the capabilities and resources of the Colwall Village Society to carry out. We are also keen not to overlap with any initiatives being planned by other village organisations, including any joint effort by the Village for a larger project (see box below).

In roughly alphabetical order, the projects are a Souvenir Booklet, a new Parish Map, a Photograph Album of Colwall in 2000 AD, Historic Plaques marking spots and buildings with historic, literary or other associations, and a Trail of points of interest through the village, with accompanying leaflet. They are described in more detail on a slip accompanying this newsletter, with space for you to mark the ideas in order of priority. Please complete and return the slip - we need your views. The Committee look forward to hearing from you.

#### ***A major project for Colwall?***

A first meeting of representatives of all the village groups, clubs and societies was recently called by Carl Attwood to see if there were any ideas for a major project for the Millennium which the village might like to undertake as a whole community, as distinct from any others carried out by particular groups. Three possibilities were aired at this meeting. These were extensions to the Library, the provision of a playing/sports area, and a building for the younger people in the village.

A questionnaire is planned for the January Clock (just when you thought surveys were finished for the time being!). It will describe the suggestions that have been made and seek views on which major project people would prefer to see carried through and how many (if any) of the smaller suggestions appeal. There will be a further meeting of the 'Colwall Millennium Project Group' in mid-January.

#### ***A question of an urn***

At our meeting in early October a question was asked about the collapsed round barrows on Pinnacle Hill above the village. Mrs Hurle replied saying that she remembered coming across a newspaper cutting describing how, after a dig there, an urn had been found and taken to the British Museum.

The British Museum has been approached and a reply received from the Department of Prehistoric and Romano-British Antiquities. Unfortunately they can find 'no record of the material mentioned'. A further effort is being made to track it down through the County Archeological Service.

*Do you have a specific question about Colwall's history - or are you searching for a photo or document? If so tell Susan Bond [redacted] and it can be put into the newsletter. Someone may be able to help.*