

Newsletter *May 2025*



Many thanks to all members who attended our AGM last month. Every year, our committee renews and this year, our committee remains the same with the welcome addition of two members. There's a list of the new committee at the end of this newsletter. It's time to renew your membership, if you've not already done so. Remember, our annual subscription has gone down to £10, so it's very good value. This month Ashley Jones comes to talk to us about the British Honours System. He's promising to give us the low-down on some of the stranger awards, who's won honours and even how to nominate somebody for an honour.

Liz Ouldrige (Chair)

Important dates

May 20th Coffee morning for all at 'The Hayloft' Mole Avon Country Store from 10:30am.

May 21st Open Meeting at the Boniface Centre: Ashley Jones MBE 'The British Honours System, and some lesser-known awards.' Refreshments from 9:30am. The talk will start at 10:20.

June 17th Coffee morning for all at 'The Hayloft' Mole Avon Country Store from 10:30am.

June 18th Open Meeting at the Boniface Centre: Prof. Peter Edwards – 'The Life of Leonardo De Vinci and Selected Art'.

April's Talk – Tourism in Devon and its Problems Sally Everton

Sally is the general manager of 'Visit Devon', an organization set up to encourage people to visit Devon. We, who live here, might moan about visitors who block up our roads, use our resources and occupy our homes. But in fact, tourism is a major industry for Devon, worth many millions of pounds a year and provides considerable employment. We need to encourage more people to visit! Currently most visitors to Devon come from the 'M4 corridor' from London down to Bristol, probably because it's relatively easy for them to get here. Sadly, these visitors are not big spenders! 'Visit Devon' would like to attract more foreign tourists who not only spend more but also visit outside the traditional holiday times. Sally told us about some of the ways her organisation hopes to attract more of these tourists. In the end, we need more investment in Devon to provide the resources.

This Year's Committee

Chair	Liz Ouldrige	Membership Secretary	Lyn Padley
Vice Chair	Ian Fenn	Publicity Officer	Keith Barker
Treasurer	Jerry Lee	Technical Support Officer	Ian Fenn
Vice Treasurer		Welcomer	Carole Thomas
Business Secretary	Ros Reeves	Other committee members	David Greenwood Mike Bond Wendy Hards
Groups' Coordinator	Jo Penning		
Speakers' Secretary	Fenella Rundell	Refreshments	Fiona Benwell