

## Spring is in the air and visitors are around



We are working hard on publicity to make the most of the start of our main season. Our Visit Bampton leaflet is being distributed around town in shops and B&B's and further afield in campsites and caravan parks. Our presence on social media – Facebook and Instagram is getting us noticed too. The trick is to 'like' and 'follow' other similar organisations who do the same for us in return and before you know it, we are reaching a much wider audience.

As always, asking visitors how they hear about us is important so that we can monitor the effectiveness of our publicity streams. Please ask this question when you are in the Centre welcoming visitors and make a note on the shift sheet if you can.

## The headlines from our Trustees meeting on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April are:

- We have an offer of a free, dry, and secure store for our collection which we are pursuing
- Our volunteer recruitment open event on 7<sup>th</sup> April was a success with 2 new volunteers and 1 former volunteer returning to us. Profuse apologies for the wrong date of 7<sup>th</sup> May in the calendar of events in the last newsletter
- Our strategy review is coming up on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April and we will put the updated strategy on our website page
- The Easter bank holiday walking event was a great success. We had 23 walkers in total taking either the shorter route or the longer route. We had tea and cakes available on their return to the Centre. The event was free, but the happy walkers were very generous, and we had £97.00 in donations
- Trustee meetings will now be every 6 weeks rather than monthly with a change of time. We will be meeting on Tuesdays from 9.30am, with our next meeting on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May at Fivebee, Burchier Close. This may be a more convenient time for you and all volunteers are welcome to attend our meetings.



## Welcome to our new trustee

I'm sure you will all join us in welcoming Marian Girling as a Trustee. Marian has already been working hard managing all our events admin, building our profile on social media, and getting fully involved in all things BHVC. Trustees are very pleased that she agreed to become a Trustee and Marian was elected at a special Zoom meeting on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April. Marian's term of three years begins immediately.

## Promoting our family friendly activities

You may have seen our new photographs of children in our dressing up costumes playing our new games and exploring the church with our new quiz sheet. Thanks go to Marian and her daughter Laura Grant whose photography skills have given us some vibrant new promotional material.



If you haven't tried our new church quiz trail sheet, then please do. You may be asked by young visitors where they can find some of the objects!

## Calendar events and baking bonanza

As you already know we have more free events planned during the year. We have two more bank holiday walks (2/05 and 29/08), the Jubilee weekend stall (4/05), our Tom Macmanaman heritage lecture (12/10), Open Heritage Week model railway (15-18/09) and the new GeoWalk event (14/05). As with the Easter bank holiday walks, we offer free refreshments to people attending any of these events. This is a really important income generator for us and goes down really well with the walkers. We couldn't do this without the generous donations of cakes and cookies from volunteers. Please try to help us by baking for an event. We will remind you of upcoming dates and will welcome anything you can provide.

## **Events bookings**

All our events are bookable by email. We realise that not everyone has access to the internet or prefer not to use email. Future publicity will include the option of leaving contact details in the Centre when we are open. There is a purple plastic wallet now in the middle drawers which will hold sheets for individual events. **You will not be taking bookings.** If asked how people can book for an event, you can take name and contact details and let them know Marian will be in touch. Marian will contact them by phone and arrange bookings. We don't think this option will be used by many, however it does allow everyone to be able to book this way.