

## **Happy New Year to all of you and we hope 2023 brings you all that you hope for.**

### **The headlines from our Trustee meeting on Tuesday 10th January 2023 are:**

- We have agreed our budget for the coming year. Some figures are to be increased to align with inflation, but we are keeping a very tight budget this year. We will seek fund-raising opportunities and donations to boost our income, but we are anticipating a tough year with visitor numbers and spending to be less than we would hope for.
- We are planning a major recruitment campaign for the New Year. This has now started with Facebook and Instagram posts and posters going to large employers. Please spread the word for us and ask anyone you find who may be interested in finding out more to email [bamptonheritage@btinternet.com](mailto:bamptonheritage@btinternet.com) You may be interested yourself – email and we can have a more detailed chat.
- We are improving our governance and creating a Register of Conflicts and Interests for Trustees to declare any interests and activities that are relevant to their role with BHVC. This register will be confidential.
- We are also creating a Risk Register and an Inclusion Policy. All policies, when adopted, are on the volunteer's page of our website page for you to view.
- Chris Price has joined us as our secretary. Chris's role is as a non-executive, meaning he is not a Trustee. Chris brings years of experience and many skills with him. If you haven't already met Chris through his other roles in Bampton you soon will at our forthcoming events. This appointment has freed up Rachel's time from secretarial duties. She continues to be our Treasurer.



# Have we mentioned that 2023 is our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary year?



## My Bampton

The first of our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary events was held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> in the Riverside Hall. It was a great success with long standing local residents and former residents coming from Taunton, Tiverton, Chulmleigh, Bickleigh and as far as Launceston to tell us their memories. We have new photos to add to our collection and the loan of a range of items to scan and record before returning to their owners.



At one point during the afternoon, there was a lovely mini school reunion with people who had no idea they would meet up there!

## Connect with our Collection

Our second 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary activity will be a roadshow taking the Centre out to the town. Ken and Judi will be in various venues in town with items from our collection. You will be able to see and touch the objects, look at photos and read documents which you probably haven't seen before. We will be able to tell you about their history and spark discussion about them. Venues and times below – pop in and see us and bring your friends and neighbours. We may be able to recruit some more volunteers!

We will be in the following venues in February half term week:

**Bawdens** –on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> from 9.30-11.30

**The Toucan** – on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> from 9.30-11.30

**Spelt** –on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> from 9.30-11.30

**The Bridgehouse** –on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> from 9.30-11.30

**Six on Castle** – on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> from 9.30-11.30.



## Farm History Project



We are all set to begin our farm history project with Bampton Scouts. We plan to invite up to 4 local farming families to work with, to record their farm history and family story. The scouts will create the invitation which will then be sent to 6 farms around Bampton. When an invitation is accepted a group of scouts with a scout leader and one of our volunteers will arrange to visit the farm for one or two sessions to record their story in whatever way suits the family best. This may be by a voice recording, a video, with photos of then and now or any other innovative way that we can manage.

We have some volunteers, but we need at least one volunteer to work with each group of scouts and their leader. We will give a full briefing with some training in recording

reminiscences. There will then be an informal meet and greet event for groups to meet their farming family where the purpose of the project will be explained.

This is an exciting new project and a first for us in working with our local scouts on a specific project. You don't need any special skill just an interest in finding out more about our local farms. We want to start this in March/April. We don't know how long the project will take as it will depend on the availability of the farming family and the scouts schedule, so some flexibility is needed. Please let Judi know as soon as possible if you are interested. Contact her at [bamptonheritage@btinternet.com](mailto:bamptonheritage@btinternet.com) or by mobile 07595 497476.



## Centre opening for the new season

We will be ready to open and welcome visitors on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. We will open from 11-1 on Thursday and Friday mornings and from 11-1 and 1-3 on Saturdays. Our Coffee and Chat session is a must to attend to get up to date with any minor changes, remind ourselves of the routine and to renew our energy and enthusiasm for the new season. Please come along to the church on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 10.30am**. We will have coffee and cake as usual and there will be time to meet each other again, find someone to pair up with for a rota slot and just catch up. We look forward to seeing you. Alison will be putting up the new rota sign up calendar in February to give you plenty of time to sign up.

## Annual General Meeting

Our AGM this year will be held in the church on **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April** in the church from 7.00-9.00pm. This will be a celebration of 2022 and a chance to share ideas and news. Please put the date in your diary now. As you know, if you have attended one of these meetings, we keep the business brief and leave plenty of time to chat and enjoy wine, soft drinks and nibbles. We look forward to seeing you there.



## Walkers are Welcome

Bampton achieved the Walkers are Welcome town status in 2022. BHVC has the responsibility to maintain the status and meet the scheme criteria and to develop as a WaW town. We have just sent in our first annual return, and we have plenty to be pleased about in the first year. The return will be available on the WaW webpage of the town website when it has been approved and our status for 2023 is confirmed.

## Your ideas

Please give us ideas you have on any aspect of BHVC. As we come into our 2023 season thoughts and ideas will pop into your head. Share them! We want to hear from you. No idea is daft and is always worth sharing – even if we can't achieve every idea we have or are given, we can consider all ideas thoroughly and they may be achievable in different ways.

## **Judi's personal message**

Our 2023 season is our 10<sup>th</sup> season. As one of the original 4 people who created the plan and applied for Heritage Lottery funding to create BHVC, I am so proud of all that we have achieved to this point. We have learnt so much along the way and we never stand still and think we have achieved everything we can. We all have new ideas and hopes for every new season and into the future. We make this happen together and your contribution as a volunteer in whatever role is invaluable. **Thank you, thank you, thank you.** Let's make our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary season very special for all of us and for every one of our visitors.