

BILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

June 2004 - No. 36

Editor: Anne Richards.....

This is only a short newsletter but there will be an extra large one in September to compensate. We hope as many people as possible will be able to come to the open day on 10th July and the walk on 4th August, details of both events on the other side of this sheet. None members are welcome so bring as many friends and relatives as you like.

Regarding the open day, if anyone would like to lend a hand with the washing up it would be greatly appreciated. We will be serving light refreshments for much of the day and the dirty crockery will mount up. Ten minutes of your time will help keep it under control. If we attract a lot of people, which we hope to do, help may also be needed distributing leaflets about the Historical Society inviting people to join; this could apply both at the Community Centre and on the walk. If you can help in these ways please contact Anne Richards (address and telephone number above) or advise the person welcoming you at the door on the day.

If you find a subscription reminder with this newsletter it means we cannot trace receiving your subscription this year. We do hope those of you concerned will decide to remain in membership. Although it may sound like a pre-recorded telephone message when we say your membership is valuable to us, we really do mean it. Your subscription keeps the Society going. Although we have been fortunate to attract outside funding for research purposes none of this can be used on the normal, everyday expenditure, like this newsletter. We always make sure members receive at least 24 pages of topical news, historical articles and reminiscences in the course of a year, so, even if you cannot come to the events in Bilton your support is still vital to us.

IF THERE IS NO REMINDER WITH THIS NEWSLETTER IT MEANS YOU HAVE PAID SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

The group involved in the landscape survey is now compiling information collected over the the past 18 months for the forthcoming report "Bilton with Harrogate - Our Historic Industry." This will be in a similar format to the first report "Bilton with Harrogate - Our Historic Countryside." It should be available in autumn and information never published before is guaranteed. Field work has just about come to a halt as vegetation covers the archaeology but map and archive work continue. There have been visits to West Yorkshire Archives, Leeds, archives in Northumberland, the Reference Libraries in Harrogate, Leeds and York and telephone contact with the National Mining and National Railway Museums and the Northern Mining Research Society. We are receiving great encouragement from these bodies most of which have expressed enthusiastic interest in our activities. In the future a systematic search through various archives, in person or perhaps via the internet, will need to be undertaken. Anyone interested in becoming involved should contact Anne Richards. The big Bilton history book is still in our sites.

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Community Landscape Survey

OPEN DAY and GUIDED WALK

SATURDAY, 10th JULY, 2004

at

**BILTON COMMUNITY CENTRE
48 Bilton Lane, Harrogate**

10-00am - 12-00 noon and 1pm - 4pm

Displays, old maps, photographs of Nidd Gorge, Bilton Triangle, King Edward's Drive, Bachelor Gardens, items from the Society archives and some private collections.

ADMISSION FREE

Refreshments and Historical Society books for sale

The Walk departs Bilton Community Centre 1.15pm or Spruisty Bridge, Knox Lane 1.30pm. Meet at either point. Distance approx 2 1 / 2 miles if starting at the Community Centre. Arrival back at Bilton Community Centre is expected to be mid afternoon. Be prepared for muddy conditions as some of the walk will be off road.

Sponsored by Local Heritage Initiative, a partnership between Heritage Lottery, the Nationwide Building Society and the Countryside Agency.

ANNUAL WALK

Wednesday, 4th

August 2004

7.30pm Meet at the Market Cross,
Knaresborough Market Place

This town walk will be led by John Symington, well known Knaresborough historian. John is giving his services free but has suggested that a donation of £1 per person be donated to a charity that will be named on the night.

EVERYONE WELCOME AT BOTH EVENTS
