

Your Local History Society An Interesting Pastime

It is one of life's little mysteries. Whenever I get chatting to people in the Wychwoods, often the subject comes round to local history. I try to encourage them to join the

Wychwoods Local History Society.

Usually they make remarks along the lines of, "I am very interested in the history of the Wychwoods and have often thought of coming along to a meeting". However, at the start of the season, in September, they do not put in an appearance. Why is this?

Dusty Tomes and Grey Hair?

Perhaps they are intimidated by the work done by the society over the first thirty years of its existence. They imagine there are dozens of elitist, erudite and grey haired worthies coughing over dusty tomes.

The grey hair is mostly correct but for the rest, our 150+ members are a good cross-section of the Wychwoods' population. I would guess you could put a name to at least half of them on sight. Some of the members do research subjects of special interest to them and draw on the archives of the Society and the experience of other members. Others just come to listen to our invited speakers.



Lucy Dangerfield at Lane House Farm with one of Lord Nuffield's early Bull-Nosed Morris cars, probably around 1930.
From the Society's archives.

We have ten evening speaker meetings between one September and the next, mostly alternating between Milton and Shipton village halls. The full programme is on the Society's website. Here is a snapshot of the programme starting on **18th September** in Milton.

A Programme for All

Medieval Wall Paintings

The History of Salters' Steamers

The Experiences of children in Oxfordshire during the Second World War (this by Liz Woolley worth the price of membership alone).

Putting the Wychwoods on the Map

The Early Life of Lord Nuffield

The History of the Bicycle with special reference to the Raleigh Cycle Company

The Journals of Quaker William Jones of Charlbury

Milestones

The Oxfordshire Yeomanry and Winston Churchill

Something there for most people. Do come and join us in September. You will be very welcome.

Alan Vickers

www.wychwoodshistory.org

Many Thanks

Our thanks to John Vickers for his cartoon illustrating the poem on page 13.