

Celebrations & Contributions (Editorial)

The Society enters its sixth year on a high note, with more members than ever before taking an active part in a wide range of activities. The Centenary of the founding of the Dartmoor Exploration Committee by Robert ' , Burnard and SBG has been duly and appropriately celebrated, with Jane Marchand, who is employed by the Park authorities as a field archaeologist, at the centre of these events.

More items of correspondence are coming to light, and we are grateful to Cedric Baring-Gould for the interesting sequence 'Letters to Susan'. Our former Hon.Sec. Patrick Hutton came upon a cache of over 30 boxes of SBG papers at Killerton House; our President has arranged for their safe keeping in a more accessible place, and for authorised research into their contents. We will keep you informed about this exciting discovery.

Our own major event of the year - the Horbury Meet - has been ' written up for us by Image Briggs and Harold Kirk-Smith. The latter is working on the possibility of publishing something on SBG's literary endeavours, as is our Horbury host Keith Lister on the Yorkshire background in particular. Our new Hon.Treasurer has kindly supplied items from recent copies of the Okehampton Times (with permission), and the long interview from the Western Morning News of over 70 years ago.

The Newsletter covers have been updated internally. Externally, the front cover comes from a copy of Church Bells - many thanks to Jim Sunnucks for supplying this rather striking and unusual depiction; the back cover has been taken from a colour photograph of SBG's dogcart which is being lovingly restored by Mr. Tankard of Yelverton, who turned up at Patrick Hutton's shop. I hope we may be able to see the item 'for real' one day at a future gathering.

We are sad to record the deaths of two of our members. Lt.Col.Warwick Calmady-Hamlyn, son of SBG's daughter Grace, died early in the year. It was through him that the Society had the family's approval for its launch, and he made a generous financial 'starter'. Frank Sweeting, of Bramley, was a book collector of renown, whose library included a nearly complete collection of SBG's works. He died in July.

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