

## **NEWTON ST CYRES HISTORY GROUP**

Our last meeting was on Thursday March 18<sup>th</sup>, with Brian Carpenter from Devon Record Office. In spite of the very wet evening weather, we had a good audience to hear him tell us about the work of and the resources in the Devon Record Office. No longer in the centre of town, the DRO is now at Great Moor House at Sowton. It is the 9<sup>th</sup> largest such establishment in England and holds an enormous range of records in new, climate controlled rolling stacks, and with a large study room, open to the public. It has many maps, also legal and civic and clerical documents, as well as council and educational records. We were shown extracts from the Newton St Cyres School Logbooks, for instance, and decoratively written Churchwardens Accounts from the village. It is wonderful to know that anyone can go to the DRO and actually handle these books and see the original entries. They bring back the people and events of the past in a very personal way and I recommend a visit to anyone who is interested in the past of the village. Our thanks go to Brian Carpenter for his interesting talk.

A reminder that our April activity takes the form of visits to the West Country Studies library – be at the entrance (next to the main library in Exeter) at 5.30 on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April or Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April.

Our May meeting will be back in the club room and will be a showing of a video about the Quicke family, and a discussion afterwards about the importance of the family in village history – 7.30 Thursday May 13<sup>th</sup>.

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June there will be a conducted tour of Downes House near Crediton – all are welcome.

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