

NEWTON ST CYRES HISTORY GROUP



The History Group had an excellent meeting on November 18th when Bill Horner the Deputy County Archaeologist, gave us an illustrated talk on the aerial archaeology of Devon.

He started in prehistory and ended with the Second World War, a huge span of time which he covered in just over an hour and a half! He showed us three prehistoric fort/settlement sites in Newton St Cyres, revealed by crop marks, and it is clear that the ridge was populated from very early times. Questions were asked and answered as he went along and it was a fascinating evening. Even though a great deal was included, it was evident that there was plenty more which he could have told us about the marks in the landscape left by Man's activities in Devon over the centuries.

(didn't count but I should think 22 – 25 people – check with Roger on takings)

Our Christmas meeting was on December 14th, and opened with a report of strange local events, from Tim Sedgewick. The evening then took the form of a 'show and tell' session. There was a wide range of contributions, too many to list. Some brought a story, and others brought fascinating objects, including a jetton, or token, dug up in a garden, and a 1668 sgraffito charger fragment from an attic. Other objects had been found in the ground, such as pottery and clay pipe fragments. There were two mystery objects, at whose purpose we could only guess, postcards and maps and photographs, a camera for the technically minded, a vast amount of information on the families of the village, and a sale inventory from the middle of the last century, as well as information on places of interest to visit. Everyone enjoyed the discussions and reminiscences, and we ran out of time for our quiz!

Our first meeting of 2011 will be held on
Thursday Jan 20th when our local Red Coat Guide Jackie
Coombes will talk on
EXETER'S CITY WALL

Thursday 17th February 2011 Ian Maxted, former head of the
West Country Studies Library, on
PAPER MAKING IN NEWTON ST CYRES, DISCOVERING
A LOST INDUSTRY

Both meetings will be held in the Village Hall club room and
will start at 7.30pm. £1.50 to include tea and biscuit