News Update May 2013





Patron: The Right Honorable The Lord Coleridge, 5th Baron of Ottery St Mary

Hon Sec: Chris Wakefield, "Melbury", Longdogs Lane, Ottery St Mary, EX11 1HX U.K. Tel: 01404 815262 email: stcinottery@gmail.com

Summary

- Poetry Stones follow ups
- Membership / AGM
- Banners / Notebooks / Website

Poetry Stones follow up

The follow up research, now complete, was an awkward exercise with little time for the impact of the stones to become a measurable quantity. But because value is thesedays almost always measured by numbers, it was an exercise we were obliged to undertake and it was admirably executed by Peter Beasley of Tourism Research Solutions, who navigated towards some very useful conclusions and suggested several new ways forward for the Project.

Membership/AGM

As we approach our 3rd AGM, there is the clear and present danger that what began as an idea to achieve a given objective, is turning into a longer term commitment. This last year since the opening of the Stones, members might justifiably claim that the management committee is in much the same condition as John Cleese's parrott - which we are still minded to deny, but we cannot avoid confessing to resting somewhat.

The promises made in the last update were taken forward but we floundered around a while working out the scope for a new HLF application to fund some basics we thought we could make use of. To be honest it was indeed the "more time with the family" option that stole into the resolve of your Chairman, Treasurer and Hon Sec (Hon Sec especially in fact). But there is still some work left to do, and it does need a modicum of interest and support from a few interested folks to make it all seem worthwhile. We have never thought it wise to press for huge membership numbers, but we do need you there in case we accidentally shoot an albatross. You are therefore urged to join (or rejoin), for no better reason than to comfort us.

If you're not sure if you're a member or you want to renew, contact Membership Secretary Jo Moorhouse - jo.moorhouse1@btinternet.com.

Coleridge Banners

In the first year the banners have been much in demand, so we will continue to keep them fairly close to us until local enthusiasm wanes.

Devon Inner Wheel Club borrowed them for a backdrop to their Area Lunch on the 22 February where they were widely praised by their members. We currently have an arrangement with the library at the King's School to display two banners at a time there and to change them for others after a reasonable interval. This arrangement is working well and giving the CMP some local publicity.

It will be worth sending the banners further afield in due course if they are deemed useful. If you might like to arrange a loan please get in touch (stcinottery@gmail.com) - the loan is free but the shipping of the goods will be down to the borrower.

Coleridge Notebooks

The Notebooks are ordered - it appears that they are digitally mastered, so a reprint of a single copy has been arranged with the publishers. It has taken a while to get this sorted out but we are promised delivery within a few weeks and we hope to lodge them in Ottery Library with appropriate razzmatazz when they arrive.

Website

We do have plans, as you saw in the last update, resting on the chance of funds to afford them, to make the website more, as they say, interactive. We will tinker as best we can with the existing version but a revamp and full update will need some serious funding to get it moving. In the meantime, it's still worth a visit.

http://www.coleridgememorial.org.uk

Comments or ideas are always welcome of course. Email stcinottery@gmail.com