

BENSON BULLETING REPORT – FEB 2019

*“thus all day Our task we choose, what wonder, if so near, Looks intervene and smiles, or object new
Casual discourse draw on! which intermits Our day’s work, brought to little, though begun Early, and the
hour of supper comes unearned.”*

(John Milton – Paradise Lost, Book VIII)

One of the side-effects of getting on in years is that Time’s fight becomes supersonic. Christmas compounds this effect as I often tend to lose my grip on the days of the week as one day of celebration careers into another.

Still come the New Year, I promise myself it will all be different and together with all my other resolutions – less wine; less food; more exercise - I promise myself I will not waste time. By the middle of January my fights of well-intended fancy crash like Icarus back to earth and I find my old friend procrastination tipping me the comfortable wink over a cup of coffee and a biscuit.

Still at January’s end shining brightly as a star is the consolation of the Society AGM and first meeting of the New Year. Talk of fight neatly takes us to the January Speaker, David Greenway. David has local knowledge as he commanded RAF Benson as well as being involved with the Shackleton in its Airborne Early Warning (AEW) role and the introduction of the Nimrod into its AEB role.

The itself Society continues on a solid financial basis but whilst annual membership continues at £10 in order better to cover costs, the ticket price for the supper after the monthly talks will rise to £5.00 from this year.

Our long-serving Secretary, Paul Booker retires after the AGM and Martyn Daniel has retired from the Bar. The Society owes them both a debt of gratitude. At the time of writing there are nominations for all the principal committee posts, save for Talks Co-ordinator. We continue to seek help to make the monthly meetings successful and welcome those who are willing to provide some support to the catering in the form of making an occasional salad – for which expenses are paid.

The future success of the Society will rest on the willingness of members to be involved. I very much hope those new-comers to the village will join the society and I am sure we will revisit last autumn’s outreach to those recently moved into the Littleworth Road development.

I took my dog Milo on a walk through the new housing development. I was actually a bit surprised at its scale now that several of the blocks of flats are almost built.

A full list of forthcoming talks and also a full list of outings will be found on the Society’s Web Page: www.bensington-society.com and after the January AGM it will include the list of Committee Officers for 2019. There are also links to the History Group which also has its own fascinating Web Page: www.bensingtonhistory.org. There are also several books on aspects of the village’s history which are listed on the site and still available if you are interested in the history of the village.

I continue to have concerns about the traffic on Littleworth Road itself and particularly the almost blind corner at the Village Hall end of the road. The Edge Road cannot be built fast enough as far as I am concerned. For the future there will be opportunities at most meetings of the Bensington Society for members to conduct discussions about such developments in the village.

Please make a note in your diary of the **February 22nd Meeting** when local astronomer Gordon Rogers will speak on **“The Sky at Night – with a bit of a laugh”** and the meeting on March 29th when Prof Glenn Richardson will talk on Cardinal Thomas Wolsey: The Master Servant.”