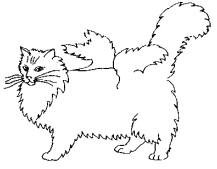


Wiveliscombe Messenger

50th ISSUE



Serving the Wivey Area December/January 2006 No 50

Wiveliscombe - A History of a Somerset Market Town

AFTER four years of hard work by a group of local enthusiasts the long awaited Wiveliscombe - A History of a Somerset Market Town, funded by the Local Heritage Initiative, will be launched on Saturday 17th December 2005 at 3.30pm in the Sports and Arts Hall of Wiveliscombe Primary School.

Everyone is welcome to join in the celebration and buy their copy of this all-encompassing account of Wiveliscombe's fascinating story.

Full of facts and photos, illustrations and anecdotes, the book will appeal to both the inquisitive reader and the most discerning local historian.

'Wiveliscombe plays an important part in my life ...'

Many people, past and

present, from Wiveliscombe and beyond have willingly shared their memories including the celebrity chef Keith Floyd who reminisced on his childhood in the town.

The family lived next door to grandfather, Harold Thomas Margetts, a boot and shoe repairer in Silver Street. Keith has vivid recollections of the Primary School and an enchanted childhood spent rabbiting, fishing, mushrooming and playing sport on The Rec, often in the company of his uncle Ken Margetts.

He earned pennies 'bottling up' at the Bear, picking herbs and plucking pheasants at the Lion Hotel and sweeping the pavement outside Vickery's for Mrs Parsons.

Keith says: 'The funny thing is that Wiveliscombe plays a very important part in my life even though I haven't been there for over



Wiveliscombe Square - one of the many little-known illustrations from the Wiveliscombe History Book

thirty years. I am very privileged to have had such a fantastic time.'

Sadly his busy schedule precludes him from joining us for the launch, however we look forward to welcoming him back to the town in

the near future.

Copies of this must-have Christmas present will be available in the town from Tucker's News, the Post Office and at Wiveliscombe House or from members of the Book Group: David

Bond, Veronica Cole, Brian Collingridge, Bob Croft, Frankie Dransfield, Sue Farrington, Dixon Luxton, Graham Mark, Brian McKinley, Hilary Miller, Bernadette Rowe and Barbara Weston.

Deadline for next issue

THE deadline for copy for the February/March issue is Thursday January 19th. All material can be sent or delivered to Wiveliscombe House or sent by email to: messenger@wiveliscombe.com

Our aim is to ensure that copies of the Messenger are delivered and available to the community within three days of publication. If you can help us with delivery please contact Hilary Miller 01984 623875.

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EDITORIAL

WELCOME to the magnificent 50th edition of the Wiveliscombe Messenger.

The continuing success and longevity of the Messenger is due to the dedication of the well-informed and persuasive (try refusing their request for information or an article!) editorial team, the professional work of our colleagues at the West Somerset Free Press - David Tucker, Gareth Purcell and John Lockyer - our regular columnists, our many contributors, the scouts and our volunteer deliverers and, of course, our advertisers

many of whom took a gamble on issue one and have supported us faithfully ever since. Thank you all.

The Messenger Editorial team wishes everyone, whatever your belief, a merry Christmastime and a happy, healthy 2006.

However you choose to celebrate this time of year, remember that Wiveliscombe's businesses and shops can provide brilliant presents, fabulous food, reliable services and that special personal, friendly touch that we are so lucky to have.

HM

Delivery dates

THE Messenger will be delivered in the Wiveliscombe area on the following dates in 2006: 9th February, 6th April, 8th June, 3rd August, 5th October and 30th November.

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The Staff of Cotleigh Brewery wish the community of Wiveliscombe a Very Merry Christmas