



AGM

MONDAY JULY 24th is the date for our AGM at the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. The meeting is open to members and non-members. Once the official business of the AGM is over, we will proceed straight on to our summer talk which this year will be given by Phil Badcott.

We are delighted to welcome Phil to one of our Group talks. He has recently had a book published entitled 'The March of William of Orange through Devon'. Using diaries and accounts of the time and his knowledge of Devon, Phil has put the spotlight firmly on the county of Devon and tells the story of William's decision to come to England, his preparations in the Netherlands, his voyage from Holland, his landing at Brixham and his march through Devon.



Phil Badcott

Here is Phil in his own words setting the scene for his talk.

'On November 5th, 1688, South Devon witnessed an astonishing event when William Prince of Orange first set foot on English soil in the fishing port of Brixham. Amazingly he was accompanied by nearly 15,000 soldiers and 3,000 horses, all brought to England from the Netherlands by a fleet of nearly 500 ships.

Crowds lined the cliffs of Torbay to watch his arrival, and what an amazing sight that must have been on that cold and misty November day to witness so many ships entering the bay.

Shortly after William of Orange stepped on to dry land at the old pier at Brixham Harbour, he commenced his march to London to claim the throne of Great Britain and Ireland.

Many South Devon people will already be aware that William of Orange marched from Brixham to Newton Abbot. However, most of us know little about the detail of his journey through Devon before he crossed the county border and continued to London to become William 111'.

