

## The Houghtons and Brafield Local History Society - 09 Mar 2011

### Phil Deacon - Out and about with a camera

Over 40 members attended our March meeting in the Little Houghton Village on Wednesday and were treated to a very enjoyable slide show by Phil Deacon. The meeting nearly clashed with the Little Houghton Church Ash Wednesday 7pm service. 5 of our members were in the choir. However, they raced straight over the road to the Village Hall and we started pretty much on time. (Perhaps we can ask the Archbishop of Canterbury if he wouldn't mind shifting Ash Wednesday to a Tuesday to avoid any future clash. No answer as yet!)

Tonight saw our very first member under 30 years of age. A very warm welcome Charlotte. That has to be good news for the long term membership of the Society. We also saw 6 new members who joined at the meeting which is also excellent news. At this rate we will have to hold meeting in the Millenium Dome next year!

Again we welcomed our friends from the Cogenhoe and Whiston Heritage Society. Unfortunately both Societies meet on the same evening quite frequently. The Secretary explained that we were planning to deconflict our Wednesday evening meetings in future in order to allow attendance at our own meetings plus theirs as guests. Several members have joined both Societies and will be able to attend more meetings per month.

And so to this month's speaker – Phil Deacon – who was known to quite a few of the members and was very amusing. He gave an excellent commentary to accompany a slide show which started with the Olney Pancake race went on to a very interesting 10 minutes on aircraft. Members enjoyed the “guess which Castle” section and there were some beautiful nature shots, hilarious pictures of signs, old and new, finishing with some really good shots of Northampton taken in the 60s which certainly must have got our over 30s excited. The shots of the centre of town with almost no cars at all were quite strange.

Members queued up to talk to Phil for a long time after the show which was very pleasing for him to stimulate such interest.

The next meeting is on Wed 13 April at 8 pm in the Little Houghton Village hall when our very own local man, Mike Edge, will entertain us with his personal experiences of crime and punishment in Northamptonshire Police 1960-75 which is 1 of 2 talks Mike performs. He promises that he will only mention your recorded crimes if you are absent on the night – so it would be wise to attend!!