

THE BOOK OF DULVERTON

DIAMOND JUBILEE EDITION

Compiled by Dulverton & District Civic Society

The Exmoor parish of Dulverton and the surrounding area have at times put a toe into history; the area was touched by the Earls of Wessex and Kings of England from Harold to Mary Tudor in the sixteenth century, marked out by the Black Death and the Monmouth Rebellion, and disturbed by the divisions within the Church from the early-seventeenth century until the turn of the eighteenth. Wars brought great changes and the railway that remained two miles away brought visitors to the parish for nearly a century, as well as the American Army for so short a period in 1944. The parish has changed with the times and is still changing. *The Book of Dulverton* traces the area's fascinating history and draws on an extensive archive of photographs gathered from across the community and spanning 150 years.

First published in 2002 and quickly sold out, this new edition of *The Book of Dulverton*, published to coincide with the Diamond Jubilee, brings the story of the community fully up to date. A new section highlights what has happened since the book was first issued, such as the appointment of the town's first Mayor; the introduction of yellow lines, the British Legion-organised permanent War Memorial, the building of a new Sports Pavilion and major alterations both inside and out at All Saints' church. The 'Dulverton by Starlight' pre Christmas event and the Rock Inn's Bolving competition have become annual fixtures. Films are once again being shown on a regular basis at the Town Hall, and Dulverton has hosted the BBC's *Stargazer* programme. In addition to all of this, new images capture how the Jubilee was celebrated.

This unique publication is a vital record of the history and inhabitants of the ancient parish of Dulverton, with special reference to its adjoining communities in Brushford, Bury and Exebridge, presented in a single volume for all to treasure.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

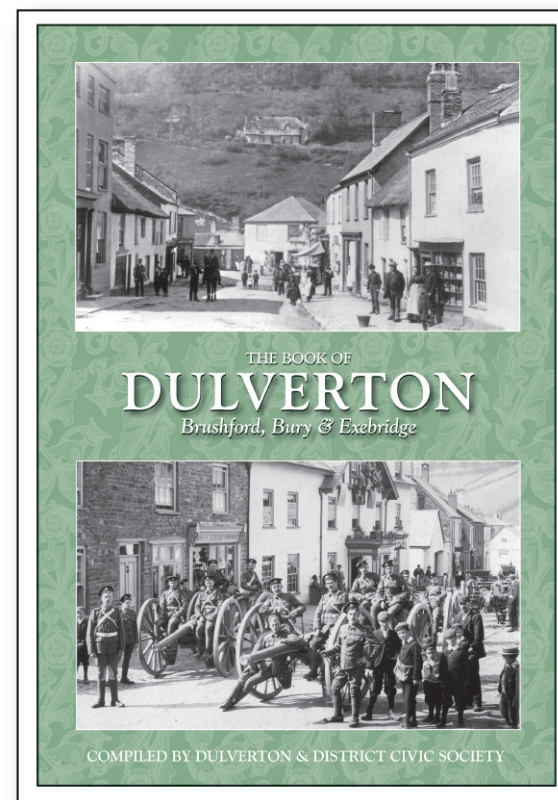
The Dulverton and District Civic Society was formed in 1989 with the aim of preserving its quiet character and the built environment of the area with a special emphasis on preserving historical records, artifacts and archives about it. From this concern arose the first edition of this book. One of its members, Tony Sloley, born and bred in the town, has been the principal compiler of the updates to the original edition.

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Bell-ringers at Brushford Church, 1950.



Clearing the snow, 1947.

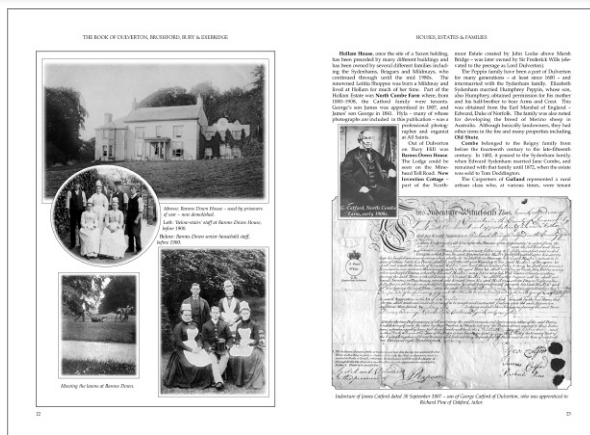


Right: Woodleigh Chimneys, one of the oldest dwellings in Dulverton.

Below: Walter Ridler in late 1940s with his taxi.



Example of a double-page spread.



Fore Street in 1974 – Jack's cows returning to the field after milking.



Dulverton Diamond Jubilee Sportsfield tea, June 2012.