Who can resist a good story or two featuring Avon Dassett and the Burston Dassett hills?

It has been said that Burston Dassett church contains a clue to the whereabouts of the Holy Grail. The fondly remembered Proffitts family lived in Avon Dassett, and the hills have been a playground for many generations of Four Shires' children.

A super new book 'A chronicle of Avon Dassett' has been published by Jill Burgess and Sarah Richardson of the Avon Dassett Local History Group and it sheds light on some intriguing tales from the area.

Not only that, but the historical research that has gone into producing the guide is obviously very learned. The highly readable book looks at the history, traditions, buildings, characters and social structure of the village from pre-history through to modern times.

In 1279, we learn that the manor of Avon Dassett was held by Frenchman Robert de Beaumont. He had accompanied William I to England in 1066 and gained Avon Dassett for his efforts! By 1316 the manor had been inherited by the de Cantilupe family. (We wonder if there ever was a daughter called Melanie!)

Life in the village up to fairly modern times was mainly influenced by hard work in the fields and religious adherence.

The 44 page A5 pamphlet has been printed on very good quality paper and there are wonderful illustrations throughout the book.

Contact Sarah Richardson drsarahrichardson@gmail.com or Jill Burgess jillburgess09@gmail.com for further information.

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