

## **Buckland Brewer Gardeners' Club**

**We welcomed a second visit of Sue & Ivan Godfrey who delivered an hour of interesting information portraying one of their well documented treks along the Southern Coastal Footpath from Poole Harbour in the East to around Exmouth in the West.**

**Dorset and South Devon is fortunate to have a stunning coastline which has been duly recognised as a International World Heritage site.**

**Armed with a wealth of slides they had taken en-route - from the spectacular structural coastal geological formations of the Cretaceous and Jurassic to landslips and erosive events that had occurred in more recent times, we followed their exploits with interest.**

**Ivan spoke about the the Lulworth Ranges that were compulsory purchased as a temporary measure for Army gun practice just before WW2.**

**The government were compelled to evacuate the residents of the village of Tyneham until such times hostilities finished - but none wanted to return - leaving it with the current day label of 'The Ghost Village'.- which is still popular with visitors when the ranges are closed. They happened to be walking the cliffs on the week the cargo ship 'Napoli' ran aground on Branscombe Beach and captured some photographs of the scavengers at work, with the police powerless to stop the looting.**

**Just further west towards Sidmouth we saw evidence of serious recent cliff erosion with many cliff -top houses losing their gardens at the present rate of approx. 2 metres per year including loss of what was once the South West Coastal Path. The collapsed undercliffs have helped to create some of the great wilderness areas which several glades have been created as an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and now shelter a variety of plants and butterflies. Steve duly thanked them both on our behalf after a short question/answer session and hoped they would visit us again and talk of many other world -wide treks they have made.**

**An inexcusable omission from last months report failed to mention Beth's accolade of being 2017 'Flower of the Month' overall winner - belated apologies & congratulations.**

**But Alan is well on his way to capturing this years' title - winning this month with his exquisite Camillia.**

**We have invited the locally renowned historian Peter Christie back again to give us a talk on Thursday 19th April entitled 'The History of Bideford' - always an intriguing and interesting evening guaranteed.**

**We look forward to seeing maximum support from all members Old & New.**

**A.S.**