

NEWSLETTER April 2023



Delapré Abbey

Photograph courtesy of Delapré Abbey and Chalk Original

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to a bumper edition of the Newsletter. As you can see from the contents and the events diary, the 2023 season is well under way. Heritage venues in the Forum are reaching out to visitors, making their attractions exciting and accessible, both on site and digitally.

I am delighted to report that over the past year a further 20 organisations have joined the Forum, increasing our ability to protect, promote and celebrate the wonderful history and heritage of the county. Through our 115 organisational members we are contributing to the visitor economy, and together we are building partnerships, county wide, regionally and nationally, enhancing capacity and skills.

We are hopeful that large numbers will attend the new Discover Northamptonshire Hub at Rushden Lakes which will help navigate you to the county's treasures, and wherever you live, I hope you will be able to enjoy the experience of Northamptonshire's heritage and hospitality during 2023.

I commend all our history societies, Friends organisations and individual members for the vast amount of research they undertake illuminating people and places in Northamptonshire. Many use the Northamptonshire Record Office as a key base for their research and I am pleased to note that additional staff have been recruited recently who can help.

I hope all Forum members will enjoy the excellent edition of our Journal *Hindsight*, which has recently been published and is currently being distributed.

Members who have not yet decided to enter the 2023 Northamptonshire Heritage Forum Awards, please consider doing so. It is important to celebrate the wonderful work of your team and the projects you have undertaken. Contact details are in the Newsletter.

I would like to thank Boughton House for their hospitality in hosting the Forum AGM on 19 April, and the members who were able to attend. My Chairman's Report is on the following pages.

I hope all our readers enjoy the Coronation celebrations on Saturday 6th May and we wish HM King Charles III and HM Queen Camilla good health and happiness.

Martin Lawrence MBE, Chairman



FORUM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 19 APRIL 2023—CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Northamptonshire Heritage Forum continues to raise its profile in the county. The celebrations for the 20th anniversary of the Forum's creation brought opportunities for new members and key stakeholders to see the work of the Heritage Forum at close hand, many for the first time.

The Forum is helping to support a stronger, more resilient and sustainable heritage community. We are working positively with key stakeholders, who collectively are strengthening the visitor economy. Heritage venues want to play a major role in attracting visitors and maximising expenditure in the county.



Members have demonstrated that they are willing to share best practice with each other and give practical assistance to others, helping them with; partnership building; fundraising; digital presence and social media; volunteer recruitment; learning activities and audience engagement.

The members' booklets issued at the AGM in 2022 have been immensely popular and have brought new member organisations and individual members to the Forum. 25,000 copies have been distributed across the county. They have 'flown off the shelves' at a rapid rate. With the assistance of the Heritage Hub at Jeyes of Earls Barton and the Discover Northamptonshire Hub at Rushden Lakes visitors are better informed about the offer of the heritage venues in the county.

The AGM in 2022 also saw the publication of the Heritage Forum's Journal, *Hindsight*. This was another excellent edition. Many thanks to the editorial team' led by Enid Jarvis. Popular demand has seen an increased number of the Journal being printed and I am enormously grateful to the donors that have made this possible through the Hindsight Fund.

Your Chair has been active in visiting members' venues and meeting with trustees, committee members and volunteers. I have been inspired by the enthusiasm and dedication shown. Thank you to all members concerned for their warm welcome and kind hospitality.

Despite challenging economic times and the cost of living crisis, it has been pleasing to see additional funding for a number of our members. The Forum is playing its part by building relationships with national funders in order to maximise opportunities.

Our Patron, Lord Spencer, in our recent Newsletter, reminded Forum members that, *"all of us who care passionately about Northamptonshire's endlessly fascinating heritage should perhaps think about how we can contribute towards the well-being of an increasingly stretched and stressed population – caring for places that can act as a balm to the soul and the mind."* He suspects that our various venues have rarely been more needed.

The Forum is active in promoting members' venues and activities through our website, Newsletter and Facebook page. The website is building increasing content and its visitor numbers are rising.

I have been delighted that so many members have written about their activities and research in the Newsletter and posted their events on the Facebook page. Please continue to tell us what you are doing. The Newsletter is distributed widely through the Midlands and the East of England, bringing considerable interest from beyond the county.

The Heritage Forum recognises the importance of equality, diversity and inclusion and we have been active in working with faith communities in Northampton and Wellingborough encouraging them to share their heritage. Our members the SCCYC Sikh Museum, the Northamptonshire Black History Association and the Wellingborough and District Hindu Association have been particularly taking a lead in this activity.

During the course of the past year the Heritage Forum has engaged with Northamptonshire, Britain's Best Surprise and the two Unitary Authorities, contributing to the emerging visitor economy strategy. The Heritage Forum is pleased to have made a significant contribution to the creation of the Discover Northamptonshire Hub at Rushden Lakes, which opened last month in March

The Heritage Forum 20th Anniversary celebrations commenced with the Forum Social in January 2022 at Chester House and the opening of the Heritage Hub at Jeyes of Earls Barton in March. Both venues have brought Heritage Forum members together to get to know each other better.

In May Desborough Heritage Centre hosted a talk on the Symington family followed by an excellent tea. Many thanks go to Belinda Humfrey and her committee.

2022, nationally, was also a year of celebration marking the Late Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee (and also of sadness with her passing in September). Many Heritage Forum members contributed to the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, which contributed to developing their community through the use of their heritage venues.

The celebrations continued in June 2022 with a garden party held at Prebendal Manor, Nassington. This was a wonderful occasion and provided the opportunity to thank Jane Baile, our host, for her previous work as Forum Chair.

Before sitting down to a wonderful buffet, supplied by those attending, members were given a tour of the gardens by Michael Brown and the Manor House by Jane Baile. We were delighted that Mr Stuart Richmond-Watson DL attended on behalf of the Lord Lieutenant to wish the Forum well. He cut a 20th anniversary birthday cake. A huge thanks to Jane Baile and the committee for the organisation of this event.

The Heritage Forum was delighted to be invited to have a stand at the official opening of Chester House Estate on 20th July attended by HRH The Princess Royal. Her Royal Highness came to the Forum stand, praised the work of the Forum and wished us the best for the future.

Northamptonshire Heritage Forum was represented at the service of thanksgiving at All Saints' Northampton in September in memorial of Her Late Majesty. Your Chair signed the book of condolence on behalf of the Forum. The Forum wishes His Majesty King Charles III health and happiness and we look forward to their Majesties Coronation in May.

The September Forum Meeting took place at Stanwick Lakes hosted by the Rockingham Forest Trust. The Trust provided an organised open house allowing members to view basket weaving, woodland sculptures, and wool spinning and weaving. A heritage garden was explored and the focus of their current project, a bronze-age barrow, was explained. Following a splendid buffet and the Forum Meeting the Vice-Lord Lieutenant, Morcea Walker MBE cut a birthday cake. Many thanks to Kate Chadwick and her team at Stanwick Lakes for a wonderful event.

On 6th October the Northamptonshire Heritage Forum had its annual Awards Ceremony. It celebrated the very best of Northamptonshire's rich heritage. Held in the impressive facilities of Northampton Museum and Art Gallery, guests were welcomed on arrival by the youth string quartet Sensatori, courtesy of Northampton Music and Performing Arts Trust. Compèred by BBC Radio Northampton's John Griff DL, the ceremony was held with a zoom link which allowed members to attend from their own homes.

Honoured guests and presenters included the Hon. Mrs Amanda Lowther DL, representing the Lord Lieutenant, who spoke warmly of the enormous asset that the history societies, museums, historic houses, churches, and heritage sites represent to Northamptonshire. She remarked that the volunteers and staff teams who run these organisations do so with passion and enthusiasm, generating strong communities and a real family spirit. This theme developed throughout the night both in acceptance speeches, and by John Griff

Awards were presented by local leaders, including Jonathan Nunn, Leader of West Northants Council and Cllr Helen Howell, Deputy Leader of North Northants Council. Elizabeth Moran of Museum Development East Midlands, and Mr and Mrs Dennis Meredith, the Mayor and Mayoress of Northampton, also presented. Rachel Mallows DL of 'Northamptonshire, Britain's Best Surprise' presented an award, along with Richard Barnwell, President of the Kettering Civic Society and trustee of Northamptonshire Victoria County History Trust.

In addition to his role as compere, John Griff DL also presented the 'People's Choice Award' reflecting the most popular heritage organisation as featured on his BBC Radio Northampton show. I welcomed members and guests and thanked all who had taken part and congratulated all the winners. I noted that the evening was uplifting and inspiring for us all.

The Heritage Forum is grateful to Museums Development East Midlands for their financial support for the Awards. A huge thanks goes to Laura Malpas for organising the Awards and to the judges and all the committee for helping to make the event such a success.

The Annual History Day was held at Irthlingborough on 15th October. It was hosted by the Irthlingborough Historical Society. The history of the area was well presented in the morning followed by visits to the Church in the afternoon. Many thanks are due to Jon-Paul Carr and to the Society for organising such an interesting day.

The Annual Local History Quiz was held in November to raise funds for the Forum. It was a very enjoyable evening. Thanks are due to Jon-Paul Carr for his organisation and Phil Curtis for being the Quizmaster

On a cold and icy morning, on 25th January 50 Heritage Forum members met at Stoke Buerne Village Hall. Following the Forum meeting Kathryn Doddington gave a talk about the local area, the Blisworth Tunnel and the Canal Museum. After an excellent lunch at the Boat Inn members had a tour of the Museum.

A National Lottery Heritage Fund Workshop was held at Chester House on 31st January, providing an opportunity for Forum members to hear about the application process for grants and speak directly with the Regional team.

Your committee has met six times during the past year and we have all worked hard to drive the Heritage Forum forward. The committee are ambitious in their activities to develop further the services provided to the membership.

I would like to thank all members of the committee personally, Laura Malpas (Vice-Chair), Angela Scheidegger (Hon Secretary), Jon-Paul Carr (Hon Treasurer and Membership Secretary), Jane Baile, Katie Boyce, Kate Chadwick, Richard Clinton, Debra Cox, Lynne Dickens (website), Sylvia Hughes, Belinda Humfrey, Janet Lawrence (Newsletter), Charles Lister (Facebook co-ordinator) Andrea Pettingale, and Jack Pishhorn.

The Heritage Forum is extremely fortunate to have such a skilled and experienced committee. It has been a privilege to work with them.

Finally I would like to thank all those members who have attended Forum events or written in the Newsletter or *Hindsight* sharing their activities and good practice. It has been a hugely enjoyable year and I thank you for all your encouragement and support.

Martin Lawrence MBE

DIARY OF FORUM EVENTS—MEMBERS ONLY

June

Evening Dinner and Lecture

Delapré Abbey

Wednesday 14 June

More details on page 7

July

Heritage Awards Ceremony

Chester House

Wednesday 12 July

6.30pm for 7pm start

More information on page 9

September

Full Forum Meeting

Delapré Abbey

Thursday 22 September

Further details to follow

October

History Day at Oundle

Saturday 28 October

Further details to follow

November

Big Fat History Quiz

Date to be confirmed

Details to be arranged

The deadline for the next edition of the Newsletter is

Sunday 2 July 2023

Northamptonshire Heritage Forum

Evening Dinner & Lecture

This event is open to Forum Members in the first instance

Wednesday 14 June 2023, 6.30pm for Dinner at 7pm

£25 per person

Delapré Abbey, London Road, Northampton, NN4 8AW

Email: northamptonshireheritageforum@gmail.com

The Battlefields of Northamptonshire

Lecture: Why do so many people want to fight in Northamptonshire? For an apparently peaceful county an awful lot of armies have marched through the county, and many of them have ended up fighting here. From the (supposed) 200,000 in Boudicca's army to the 1,000 or so followers of Captain Pouch all the major wars in England left their mark on the county. With battlefields under threat like never before, now is a good time to reflect upon what they have meant to us and remember their stories.

Speaker: Graham Evans is the Chair of the Northamptonshire Battlefields Society. He studied Modern and Medieval History at the University of Sheffield and followed a successful career in Financial Services before retiring to spend more time with his books. He is author of "The Battle of Edgcote – 1469", which won the Northamptonshire Heritage Forum Awards 2019 – Hindsight Award for the Best Published Work.

Northamptonshire Heritage Forum

Annual History Day

Saturday 28 October 2023, 10am to 4pm



Oundle Historical Society, Oundle Museum, Oundle School Archives

The day will include a series of talks on Oundle, tours of the town and visits to Oundle Museum

Details will be sent to Forum Members in early summer

OUNDLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2022-2023 was an encouraging year for Oundle Historical Society. Despite worries that people might not return after the Covid-imposed shutdown membership numbers stayed steady, increasing slightly in the second half.



The hall was comfortably filled for all the lectures and extra chairs had to be found for a couple of the most popular ones. Just to spoil our record (and our evening with the Peterborough Morris Dancers) the weather took a hand and we decided to cancel the AGM because of the icy conditions.

Emboldened by good attendances, we have speakers for the 2023-24 season who come from a wider range of disciplines and from further afield, although their subjects are always Oundle (and district)-related. Dr. Becca Gregory is a young assistant professor in the English Department at Nottingham University who will talk about “Field and Place Names in and around Oundle”. She is much involved with the English Place Name Society, running volunteer groups researching local names in the West Midlands as well as editing and writing books and articles. The Field trip in the summer will be to Upton and Sutton Churches but we are also visiting Glapthorn.



Glapthorn Church

In the autumn Dr. Peter Hill will introduce us to “Secret Northamptonshire” and, just as gardening for many of us will be easing off, Michael Brown will be talking about “Lost Gardens” in the county. 2023 ends with a talk about “Railways around Oundle”, but David Parker starts 2024 with “Finding Oundle’s History via Local Newspapers”. David is a hugely knowledgeable local historian, researcher and writer with a number of invaluable books to his name.

Two members of the OHS have had articles published in national specialist journals recently and Carew Treffgarne has worked tirelessly to secure funding for the conservation of two important monuments in Titchmarsh Church painted by Elizabeth Creed in the early 18th century.

Oundle is the venue for the Northamptonshire Heritage Forum Local History Day on 28th October 2023. The town’s History Society and Museum will be joined by Oundle School in a unique cooperative effort to provide a memorable local history day. Planning for this is well under way and details will be released nearer the date. In such a handsome and historic market town, with so much local talent available and the School offering a venue second to none, this should be a good day for local historians. **Put it in your Diary!**

Margaret King

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HERITAGE FORUM AWARDS 2023

We are always looking to find ways to make the Awards as relevant, rewarding and easy for our members to enter as possible. We are keen that the categories should reflect the profile of our membership to ensure that there is something for everyone to enter.

Earlier this year we polled our members to confirm how we should adjust the categories, and this exercise is now complete, ready for your entries for Awards 2023.

The first change is the introduction of a brand-new category, 'Best Project delivered by a Society, Organisation, Association or Group.' This award recognises how well an organisation develops and completes a project using their members or volunteers. This must be an 'in house' project and could include an event, an exhibition, a digital or other output.

Judges will be particularly interested in entries that have included original research, or extended access to collections and innovative use of methods and materials. Only societies, organisations, associations or groups **without** a dedicated premises or site are eligible to apply for this award.

For many years, the category with the most entries has been the 'Hindsight Award for best published work'. This year we have decided to split it into two, the first being for the best published work of a historical aspect of Northamptonshire's heritage that has been made publicly accessible and published as a physical book, and the second being any original work of a historical aspect of Northamptonshire's heritage that has been made publicly accessible and published as a pamphlet, leaflet, guidebook, poster, map, CD, DVD, digitally or through social media.

The third change we have made is small but significant. We all appreciate how much our heritage adds to our sense of identity, and interaction with our historic environment is well recognised as a positive factor in supporting individual and community wellbeing. This benefit is acknowledged and valued by our funders. So the Community Award has now evolved into the Community Wellbeing Award. This will recognise an organisation or individual that has worked effectively to improve community wellbeing, including the less advantaged, the socially isolated, children, families, schools and all ages.

This will also be the last year that we run the 'Best Special Project over 5 years'. So if you are working on a large project that you would like to share with us, then do please consider entering this award even if it's not totally completed yet.

You have until the end of May to send your entries for the Awards, with the exception of the Hindsight Awards, which have a final submission date of 22nd May 2023 and of course, the big night is **12th July at Chester House**. Please watch your emails in June for how to apply for a seat on the night to enjoy the spectacle. **If you have any queries, or would like a resend of the entry forms, please contact Laura on nhfawards@gmail.com**

We can't wait to see what you have been doing over the last twelve months. Good Luck with your entries!

Laura Malpas



Forum awards 2022

LAUNCH OF DISCOVER NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HUB

The new tourism hub at Rushden Lakes was officially opened on Monday 20th February, coinciding with English Tourism Week. Run by North Northamptonshire Council and supported by The Crown Estate, the Discover Northamptonshire Hub is open 7 days a week, located next to the entrance of the cinema and will promote attractions throughout Northamptonshire, highlighting the abundance of unique offerings in and around our local area.

The hub has been designed as a fully interactive space, promoting all things Northamptonshire, including days out, attractions, walks, town and village offerings, places to eat, sustainable transport, heritage, accommodation and local and major events. There will also be a retail space, providing local businesses with a chance to showcase their products taking advantage of the 6 million visitors to Rushden Lakes annually.

Cllr Helen Howell, North Northamptonshire Council's Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Sport, Leisure, Culture and Tourism, said: "It was great that we were able formally open and celebrate the new Discover Northamptonshire hub, to coincide with English Tourism Week.

"We are now open, and the team are really excited to be welcoming visitors through the doors to this fantastic asset. We will be promoting all the wonderful attractions we have throughout the whole of Northamptonshire to visitors of Rushden Lakes - some of whom will be unfamiliar with the area and unsure of what else is on offer in our wonderful County and further afield. I would also encourage residents of North and West Northamptonshire to visit the hub and speak to our friendly team - you never know what you might discover right on your doorstep!

"The opening is very much the start of the Discover Northamptonshire hub's journey and the offering will continue to grow and develop and we are delighted to be working with our colleagues from the West to promote Northamptonshire as a tourist destination. We are also jointly in the final stages of developing a tourism strategy that will support and offer direction for the tourism sector moving forward. It is a very positive move for the industry."

The Discover Northamptonshire hub has received £245,000 from the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. NNC are working closely with partners including West Northamptonshire Council (WNC), The Crown Estate and local businesses, as well as local schools, colleges and universities to provide learning and volunteering opportunities for those interested in working in the local tourism industry.

Cllr Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council, added: "The new Discover Northamptonshire hub will have enormous benefits to the local area, encouraging visitors to Rushden Lakes to travel to the other fantastic attractions we have nearby and in turn bringing more money and footfall into the local economy."

The Discover Northamptonshire hub is open Monday - Saturday from 11am - 6pm and Sunday 11am - 4:30pm. You can find Discover Northamptonshire on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram, with a website launching soon. The Discover Northamptonshire team want to ensure that all tourism businesses in Northamptonshire are being promoted to such a large audience. Any business or attraction who wants to be promoted on the Discover Northamptonshire website and at the new hub should email info@discover-northamptonshire.co.uk

Jack Pishhorn



*Cllr Helen Howell and Martin Lawrence MBE,
Chair of Northamptonshire Heritage Forum,*

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

Heritage Open Days, a thought to the future...

Heritage Open Days has become an important fixture in the calendar of many communities across the country. In Northamptonshire, we have a rich and diverse heritage that deserves to be celebrated and promoted, and we believe that the development of a county-wide partnership approach to Heritage Open Days could help to achieve amplifying its current success.

We hold an aspiration to establish a coordinated programme of events and activities that showcases the best of Northamptonshire's heritage in future years. This will require the support of town and parish councils, business improvement districts, and local authorities, as well as organisations such as Northamptonshire Surprise and Discover Northamptonshire, and academic institutions. This approach may see us base the co-ordination in a central supporting organisation to achieve the growth and expansion of the existing efforts.

By bringing together the different stakeholders in the county, we can develop a comprehensive programme that appeals to a wide range of audiences, from local residents to visitors from further afield. To make Northamptonshire Heritage Open Days a key driver of tourism in the sector, we will need to secure funding from a range of sources within the heritage sector. This could include grants and support from organisations such as the National Lottery Heritage Fund, and potential programmes from Heritage Trust Network as well as corporate sponsorship and donations from individuals and businesses that are passionate about supporting the heritage of our county.

To attract funding, we will need to develop a compelling case for investment in Northamptonshire Heritage Open Days. This will require a clear understanding of the economic benefits that the event can bring, such as increased visitor numbers, higher levels of engagement with the heritage sector, and improved local economies. By demonstrating the potential of Heritage Open Days to drive tourism and economic growth, we can make a strong case for investment and secure the funding needed to make this initiative a success.

In conclusion, the development of a county-wide approach to Heritage Open Days in Northamptonshire has the potential to showcase the rich and diverse heritage of our county, while also driving tourism and economic growth in the sector. By working together we can create a comprehensive programme that appeals to a wide range of audiences.

Richard Clinton

Heritage Forum Committee Member

Delapre Abbey – Chief Executive

[Homepage](#) | [Heritage Open Days](#)



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HERITAGE FAIR

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday 10 September

Abington Park Museum

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Chester House



NENE VALLEY FESTIVAL 9—17 SEPTEMBER 2023

As mentioned at the Forum AGM the popular Nene Valley Festival is happening once again to highlight how beautiful Northamptonshire is and what is on offer for residents and visitors.

The Festival will feature events with an environmental, cultural, heritage or health and wellbeing focus - we are more than happy to include events being organised for the Heritage Open Days to bring them to new audiences.



As with previous years, organisations are invited to add their activities and events to the festival calendar on the Destination Nene Valley site via this form: <https://nenevalley.net/events-calendar/community/add> A brochure of festival events will be printed - please can heritage organisations upload their events by July 31st if they would like to be included in the printed brochure.

In addition to the co-ordination of the festival, Nene River Trust are introducing a 'Nene Valley Explorer' badge. Badges will be given out at the finale event (or made available for collection) to anyone who participates in an activity throughout the NVF.

Exact details on how this will work will be sent to all who are hosting an event or activity.

If organisers have any questions please contact rickileigh@nenerivertrust.org

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH BRIXWORTH

On Saturday 25th March the Friends of All Saints' held a Curry & Quiz evening, their first fundraising event of the year. After a delicious meal of a choice of three types of curry, poppadoms and mango chutney, fifteen teams of six people competed to come up with the answers to diverse questions posed by Keith Farey, the Quizmaster. Nessa, Keith's wife, had the important job of keeping a running total of the scores. It was a very enjoyable evening, the winners taking home the glory and the team who came last being awarded the wooden spoon.



The Friends of All Saints Church, Brixworth are holding their Annual Friends Day in the church on Saturday June 3rd, 2023. The event includes a short Service of Thanksgiving, followed by a talk given by Mike Curtis BA(Hons). MA. 'Chair of Northamptonshire Archaeological Society'. The title: **"A transitioning landscape: Northamptonshire in the northern territory of the Catevellauni tribe"**. In the aftermath of the Roman conquest, the Catuvellauni, a tribe originally established in Hertfordshire and Essex, became more prominent and expanded its territory to encompass most of Northamptonshire. This talk explores the impact and changes that took place in this part of the region (see poster below). There will be a coffee provision and light lunch (served in the church).

All Saints' Church Heritage Centre, located in Church Street, Brixworth, next to the Market Cross, welcomes visitors on a Saturday and Sunday throughout the summer. Opening on 13th May through to 24th September from 2.30pm to 5pm. Light refreshments are also available. This is in partnership with Brixworth History Society whose display this year will be, **"Brixworth during the 70 years of the reign of HM Queen Elizabeth II"**.

Also on display in the Centre are Roman artefacts from the Roman villa that was excavated north of the Brixworth Church in the 1970s.



For further information on The Friends and the Heritage Centre, please visit the website:

www.friendsofbrixworthchurch.org.uk.

For more information on All Saints' Church, plus opening times, please visit: brixworthchurch.com

Kate Knight, Chair

Friends of All Saints' Brixworth—Charity Number 1168452

Presents a talk given by

Michael J Curtis BA (Hons), MA.

'Chair of Northamptonshire Archaeological Society'

**“A Transitioning Landscape:
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE IN THE NORTHERN
TERRITORY OF THE CATUVELLAUNI TRIBE”**

Saturday 3rd June

at 11.30am

Brixworth Church NN6 9BZ

In the aftermath of the Roman conquest of Britain, the Catuvellauni, a tribe that had originally established its heartland in Hertfordshire and Essex, became more prominent and expanded its territory to encompass most of Northamptonshire. The expansion was linked to the establishment of an administrative region, with its centre at Verulamium. This talk explores the impact of this in this northern part of the region and the changes that took place in the tribal landscape of the late Iron Age as the impact of Roman governance began to take hold.

By Ticket only: £10.00 - buffet lunch included

Contact: 01604 880941

Email: brixworthchurchfriends@gmail.com

LOCAL AND COMMUNITY HISTORY FAYRE

The Northampton Central Library Discover Centre and Delapré Abbey are hosting a Local and Community History Fayre from 10 to 4 at the Gathering Place, First Floor in Grosvenor Centre on Abington Street.

We will be bringing together local history and culture groups to celebrate the history of Northampton and to highlight upcoming events, talks and volunteer opportunities.

As part of the Fayre, we will also be featuring a number of key speakers including a talk with the Ladies of the Delapré Abbey Cluniac Volunteer group, who will be talking about their journey that started during Covid and how history brought them community and support during trying times.

A full programme is to follow so please keep an eye out and also check out Library Plus for more details. See you there!

DELAPRÉ ABBEY

Delapré Wellbeing partnership programme shortlisted for national award

The partnership programme designed to support people across Northampton make positive choices to take control over their health and wellbeing has been shortlisted for 'Partnership of the Year' in the Museums + Heritage Awards 2023.



Delapré Wellbeing partnership was created during the pandemic by local organisations across the town. Delapré Abbey Preservation Trust in partnership with Action for Happiness Northamptonshire, The General Practice Alliance Federation, Northampton Leisure Trust, Northamptonshire Sport, and the University of Northampton have worked together over the past year to put communities at the heart of public health.

The project has enabled participants to improve their health and wellbeing through cultural experiences, events, classes and more. Crucially, all activities have been suggested and designed by members of the community.

Richard Clinton, Chief Executive, Delapré Abbey Preservation Trust said: *"We are delighted to have made the shortlist. This is a wonderful recognition of the project, the local community who have helped shape the programme, and the work of all the partners."*

"As a legacy to the project we are developing the plans to create a curated wellbeing hub in the dilapidated 19th Century Stables. Delapré Wellbeing has also enabled future projects to be developed which has attracted additional funding and investment to the town."

Dr David Smart, Clinical Director, General Practice Alliance, said: *"The partnership with Northamptonshire Sport and the University of Northampton to help people move more and increase exercise activities is making a difference to population health. To see the evidence and personal benefits confirms to me that taking positive action to meet with other people, share in our life journeys, moving together more in Delapré (and other Northamptonshire) green spaces is the "Real Health Service".*

The Museums + Heritage Awards celebrate the very best in the world of museums, galleries, and cultural and heritage visitor attractions. The partnership of the year category also includes projects by Hampshire Cultural Trust with Ubisoft, Sugar Creative and Sarner International, Colchester + Ipswich Museums, National Justice Museum, and Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums. The winner will be announced at a ceremony on Wednesday 10th May.

Delapré Wellbeing was one of 37 projects from across the country to receive funding from the Thriving Communities Fund. The fund was set up to support communities to address the issues that they face as a result of Covid-19.

Find out more about the project and see what's on at <https://delaprewellbeing.co.uk>. Find out more about the Museums + Heritage Awards at <https://awards.museumsandheritage.com>.

For more information contact **Aimee Holmes, Head of Audiences and Communication**, on aimee.holmes@delapreabbey.org.

For general information about Delapré Abbey please visit our website www.delapreabbey.org



In the April-July period, there are a number of exciting tours and events taking place at Delapré Abbey including but not limited to:

Tour: Medieval History—Sun 30th April, Wed 24th May, Sun 25th June

Sun tours: 11:30am, Wed tours: 2pm

£8, incl. general admission, under 18s free

It is the year 1538 and you've stepped into the world of Delapré Abbey at the end of its life as a Cluniac Nunnery. Come along with Sister Brigitte as she guides you through the lives of those who lived at the Abbey.

Family Fun Day—Sun 7th May, 12:30-4pm

£8 incl. general admission, under 18s free

This month, enjoy an array of activities with illustration students from the University of Northampton.

Women of Delapré Tour—Sun 14th May, 2pm

£8, incl. general admission, under 18s free

Thanks to a team of dedicated volunteers and their extensive research during the Covid-19 lockdowns of 2020/21, we can now share the forgotten stories of some of the notable women that have been central to the history of the Abbey and estate. Join one of these exclusive guided tours of the Abbey to uncover the tales of these women.

Scandalous Georgians Tour—Wed 17th May, 7pm

£11 including wine or a soft drink.

Ages 18+ only.

Forget Jane Austin, Mr Darcy and Pride and Prejudice, think more Bridgerton meets Harlots! Dismiss everything you think you knew about romantic love in the Regency period. Come along to our amazing Georgian prevention which will include the true story of the mistress of Delapré and her lover.

Garden History Tours—Wed 31st May, Sun 18th June, 2pm

Free, no booking required.

Meet outside Visitor Welcome

Discover the history of the Walled Garden and grounds on this free tour led by our knowledgeable volunteers.

Family Fun Day—Sun 4th June, 12:30-4pm

£8 incl. general admission, under 18s free

Have fun in the Drawing Room and Library with garden and flower themed activities including arts and crafts, flower bingo and more.

The Not so Civil War—Sat 1st & Sun 2nd July, 10am-5pm

£8 per person, under 3s free

Community Annual Pass/Annual Pass holders and their under 18s: £5

Family ticket (max 4. two adults, two under 18s): £25

Step back in time to 1640s Northampton and experience the anarchy of the Civil War. This exciting family-friendly weekend of displays, demonstrations and hands-on history will have something to entertain all ages as the historic Abbey and grounds come alive with Northampton's turbulent past.

UB40 feat. Ali Campbell in Northampton—Fri 7th July , 4pm-11pm

Get ready for a spectacular open-air performance from UB40 featuring Ali Campbell!

Summertime Live—Sat 8th July, 2pm-10:30pm

Get ready for some of the biggest dance anthems of the last 30 years brought to life by a 32-piece orchestra with live vocalists and DJs.

Find out more and book tickets at delapreabbey.org/events

SPRATTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Detective work needed!

Spratton LHS have recently been given an object that looks like a very large pencil. Stamped on to the side in gold lettering are seven names, all with the date 6th August 1875. The names are Emily, Augusta and Frank Langham (from Cottesbrooke Hall), Frederick Henley, George and Caroline Marton (not Martin).



Can anyone throw any light on this 'pencil' or the significance of the date?

Enid Jarvis, Chair

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

Local cemetery faces grave outlook but community support now likely

Northamptonshire Gardens Trust, which cherishes our parks, gardens and designed landscapes and “helps preserve the past for the future”, is delighted to be awarded The Gardens Trust Community Grant. The funded project will help to form and develop an active, enthusiastic Friends Group to support the historic landscape of Billing Road Cemetery, Northampton, one of the most significant heritage assets within the Billing Road Conservation Area.

Elaine Johnson, Chair of Northamptonshire Gardens Trust, comments ‘*we were delighted to have won the grant and are excited at the prospect of forming a Friends of Billing Road Cemetery Group that brings people together across communities. We are hopeful that a Friends Group will be a key catalyst for change, raising awareness and ultimately, helping to preserve the heritage and sustainability of the cemetery. It is a beautiful, tranquil space which lends itself to being a community hub, subsequently benefiting both local residents and people from further afield.*

Formerly known as Northampton General Cemetery it opened in 1847 and was laid out to a design by Scottish born Robert Marnock (1800–1889) one of the most sought-after landscape gardeners of the nineteenth century, designing and managing the Royal Botanic Gardens in Regent’s Park, London. The cemetery contains a single Grade II Listed monument, a remarkable sculpture of a horse on a plinth, dedicated to the famous circus owner Robert Fossett (1859–1915) and his family. Another notable monument is that to Caroline Chisholm (1808-1877) and her husband Archibald. Caroline famously worked to improve education and living conditions for women, first in India, and then for many thousands of emigrants in Australia. (Her work is recognised as culturally significant, sufficiently so that she has been portrayed on Australian bank notes and postage stamps).

Now owned and maintained by West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) and closed for burials, the fabric of the cemetery is sadly in decline. It is intended that the new Friends of Billing Road Cemetery Group will work closely in partnership with WNC and Northampton Town Council.

The Wildlife Trust (for Beds, Cambs & Northants), comments that it is excited to be working with Northamptonshire Gardens Trust and Billing Road Cemetery as part of the Wildlife Trust’s Churchyard Conservation Award Scheme. Lisa Rowley, Projects and Conservation Officer says “We very much look forward to seeing how we can work with the Friends Group to help improve the habitat and encourage wildlife in this lovely green oasis within Northampton.” The cemetery is currently an important public green space much used by dog walkers.

An opportunity to hear about the project, and to visit the cemetery, is scheduled for **11.00 am on Saturday 13 May**, Billing Road Cemetery.

To find out more, or to offer your help, Elaine can be contacted via

email at northamptonshiregardenstrust2@gmail.com www.northamptonshiregardenstrust.org
www.wildlifebcn.org/about-us/advice-landowners/wild-churchyards

Elaine Johnson, Chair



THE ROYAL ORDNANCE DEPOT WEEDON BEC VISITOR CENTRE

2023 is off to a promising start with visitor numbers in February (our first full month open this year) double the same month last year. Coming out of Covid and better signage is behind some of that plus pre-Christmas coverage of The Depot attractions in the *Chronicle & Echo*, *Daventry Express* and the *NN Pulse* magazine pulled in the crowds which we benefitted from. We saw 316 visitors in February compared to 145 last year and donations were also up. It made all those hours with volunteers blowing on fingers, stamping feet and thanking heaven for thermal undies (it can be COLDER inside the Visitor Centre than out!) worthwhile.

In March we were on the Anabelle Amos Breakfast Show on BBC Radio Northampton. Reporter Martin Heath picked up on the uncovering of a video clip from BBC TV's Nationwide news programme from 1974 suggesting that The Depot, where muskets, cannon and gunpowder were stored, would have been the centre of Government had Napoleon invaded, with King George in residence. The idea that the Royal Family would stay in one or all of three outwardly grand 'Pavilions' here seems more than a local legend and many of our visitors have heard of it. Hard evidence is currently scant and it is known that the Pavilions, demolished in the 1970s, were to accommodate senior civilian officers and were sited outside the Depot walls. Were these walls built, not to withstand foreign military attack but keep the valuable equipment safe from domestic civil disorder, riot or rebellion? A story for *Hindsight*?

Our treasurer Doreen Addicott a Weedon lass, gave listeners a comprehensive account of the possible Royal connection, the alternative view and a fascinating recollection of visiting the Pavilions as a child.

Looking ahead, on **Sunday April 30** we hold a **Spring Event** with, on top of the usual Visitor Centre attractions, a display of weapons connected to the Depot, medals and uniforms, Depot ghost tour, reenactors, bagpipers and a Sprite and MG Midget car gathering 11am – 3pm. We would be delighted to welcome NHF members. Entry is free.

For more information or to arrange a visit please contact:

Steve Larner, Volunteer

07790 244542 y.larner@btinternet.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

It was announced at the AGM that I will be standing down as Editor of this Newsletter. The Forum is therefore seeking a new Editor.

The Newsletter would now benefit from a refresh, particularly with regard to being more accessible on mobile devices.

All copy is provided by our members, and as you can see, there is no shortage of material. I am happy to discuss the production of the Newsletter with anyone who is interested in taking it on.

Please get in touch: nhforumnewsletter@gmail.com

Janet Lawrence

The Centre for Historical Studies in partnership with English Heritage invites you to our two-day conference on 'Wellbeing: Past and Present' to be held at the University of Northampton, 12-13 July 2023

The University of Northampton's Centre for Historical Studies, in partnership with English Heritage, is hosting a free two-day conference on 12 – 13 July 2023. We have a wide range of talks, focussing on the following themes:

- Wellbeing shaped by social, economic and / or political forces
- Health and wellbeing
- Race and wellbeing
- Gender and wellbeing
- Heritage perspectives on wellbeing
- Medical perspectives on wellbeing
- Wellbeing and the history of emotions
- Voices from diverse community groups on wellbeing
- Approaches to the wellbeing of researchers who study history

If you would like to attend the conference, either for part or all of the program, or if you have any other queries, please email the organising committee via **Siobhan Hyland** at:

Siobhan.hyland@northampton.ac.uk. I



MADE WITH MANY—WELLINGBOROUGH STORIES



Wellingborough
Stories



Volunteers needed for Wellingborough Stories in May

Wellingborough Stories is a month long festival this May that will showcase a wide variety of local stories from across the town's diverse communities. Three artists have been commissioned to tell some of the stories that have been gathered in engaging ways and local groups will be popping up with their own events to celebrate memories of the town.

Organisers Made With Many, are now looking for local people to be the face of the festival and support audiences in getting the most out of the stories and artworks on show.

You might want to help as an Invigilator, supporting visitors to the exhibition to interact with the artworks and information, which could also include helping visitors to use QR Codes.

Stewards will also be required to direct visitors to the different artworks and events around the town, handing out printed programmes and engaging passers-by in town.

Or you could volunteer as a Stories Ambassador, spreading the word about the festival through your own local networks. That could include informing groups you attend locally about the festival, helping to get flyers into places that local people will see or by spreading the word via social media.

The Festival starts on the 12th May and ends on 28th May, with some artworks popping up even earlier. The most stewards and invigilators will be needed on the open weekends, Friday 12th to Sunday 14th, Friday 19th to Sunday 21st and Friday 26th to Sunday 28th May in town centre venues.

Tom Briggs, Producer at Made With Many commented: *"We're looking for friendly and helpful people to volunteer during May. You don't need to have any previous experience of volunteering or working on similar events and we can provide seated roles if required."*

Wellingborough Stories is a community heritage project made possible with funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, which aims to capture untold stories from the town's many communities.

Under 18s can volunteer for any of the roles but will need to be accompanied by an adult whilst volunteering. If you are interested in getting involved, or if you have any questions, contact Myrle Roach, Wellingborough Community Engagement Co-ordinator on myrle@madewithmany.org or **07936 958997**.

For further information, images and interviews please contact

Marian Anderson

Made With Many marian@madewithmany.org or **07535 940055**.

Website: www.madewithmany.org

Facebook: [MadeWithMany.org](https://www.facebook.com/MadeWithMany.org)

Twitter: [@MadeWithMany](https://twitter.com/MadeWithMany)

BRIXWORTH HISTORY SOCIETY

The Society began the year with our AGM, followed by an excellent talk about *Wallis Simpson and the Abdication Crisis* from Roy Smart. His talks are lively and all-action which is much appreciated by his audience. February saw us look at *The Life and Times of the Wife of a Canal Boatman*; they were hard and basic. In March we were pleased to hear from Neil Lyon about a famous 'burglar' in the county; this was Joan Wake who established our County Record Society in the 1920s and saved Delapré Abbey from being demolished. The talk was also interesting for Brixworth because the county's records were stored at Brixworth Hall during the war.

Forthcoming meetings and events:

On May 18th Rob Kendall will be telling us about Tom Osborne Robinson;

Our summer visits begin on Saturday June 17th when we are planning a day trip to Suffolk in order to visit Woodbridge and Sutton Hoo;

On Tuesday July 11th we have booked an afternoon visit to the Prebendal Manor at Nassington and in August we are planning to visit Boughton House.

Presently we are researching life in the village during the seventy years' reign of Queen Elizabeth. The results of this research will be the summer display at the Heritage Centre.

All in-house meetings are held in the Village Hall in Holcot Road at 7.30pm on Thursday, Visitors £3.

Pauline Kirton, Chair

pakirton6@gmail.com

Rosemary Hardie, Secretary

jandrhardie1@gmail.com

Website: brixworthhistory.org



A photograph of Brixworth Hall after the war.

(It was demolished in 1954.)



14th December 2022 7.30pm St Mary's Church Hall: An Evening of Discovery

Members came together to celebrate Christmas and enjoyed a glass of mulled wine and mince pies. The committee took the opportunity to present a preview of the work being undertaken on the Society's new website and the information contained therein to discover local family ancestry. Ron Johnson also showed how he has been building his family tree and Angela Malin from Northamptonshire Family History Society was in attendance to help members with guidance on how to start their journey of discovery.

21st January 2023 12pm Roade Bowls Club: January Get Together

Members and supporters celebrated the launch of the Society's new searchable website www.roaderemembered.org.uk. It includes over 2000 photos of Roade history and the people who have shaped the village and is a rich resource for family history enthusiasts. It was a lovely afternoon with a savoury lunch and a couple of skits from Ron Johnson, Alistair Inglis and Chris Hillyard and a reading of a Pam Ayres poem "The Dinner Party" in memory of Sheila Fitchett who sadly passed away in late 2022.



22nd February 2023 7.30pm St Mary's Church Hall: Roade to Ukraine

Local man Phil Hayes gave us a very poignant talk on his mercy missions to Ukraine. It all started when he and a friend decided to help a charity in Milton Keynes who were gathering items donated. Phil said it was like Compo & Cleggy from *Last of the Summer Wine* entering a war zone. Phil takes no money from the charity itself and drives across Europe to get to the border and meets up with Ukrainian aid workers who take the items north to where it is most needed. His travel costs for fuel are met by himself and money donated from his talks.



29th March 2023 7.30pm St Mary's Church Hall: The story of Blair Swannell

BBC Radio Northampton sports presenter Graham McKechnie gave us a super story of Blair Swannell who was an international rugby union forward who played club rugby for Northampton, and was the first

Northampton to play internationally for the British Lions and later Australia. Blair was an adventurous and colourful character and a leader of men. He took part in the Landing at Anzac Cove, during the first day of the Gallipoli Campaign where sadly he fell under fire. Graham is also the official historian for Northampton Saints rugby club and will be with us again in November with a talk on Walter Tull.



Next Event: 26th April 2023 7.30pm St Mary's Church Hall: Silverstone RAF to Formula One

We will be welcoming Gerald Lovell who will be talking about the story of a village dominated over centuries by the wood trade with 22 wooyards; yet having a parallel history of Middle Age priests, a royal hunting lodge, a WW2 Wellington Bomber Training Station and post-war becoming "The Birthplace of Formula One" and "Home of British Motor Racing".

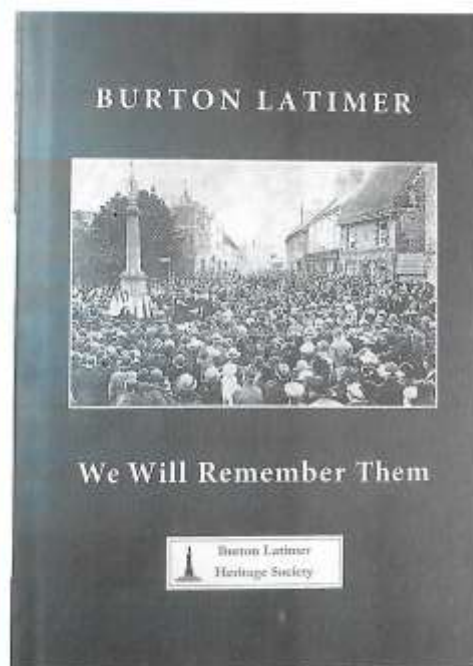
"Cutting Remarks The Story of Roade's Railways and Cutting through the Ages", written by our Chairman Chris Hillyard, is available at The Heritage Hub at Jeyes of Earls Barton, RLHS events and via our website

www.roaderremembered.org.uk



Margaret Smith, Events Secretary

BURTON LATIMER HERITAGE SOCIETY—NEW BOOK FOR SALE



**BURTON LATIMER
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM
ON SALE NOW £10**

Written by our war researcher Tony Dacre, it recounts the lives of the 128 named on our War Memorial, giving details of the events that led up to their deaths.

Dedicated to those from Burton Latimer who lost their lives in both World Wars and to all who have served with H. M. Forces, it has been written to try to keep alive the memory of those who died and give an insight into their families



WICKSTEED PARK

At Wicksteed Park we are reaching the end of our Heritage Lottery Funded @play project. We had a hugely successful end to our centenary celebrations with our 1920's themed ball, a fantastic evening filled with dancing,



entertainment, good food, and most importantly, a celebration of Wicksteed Park.



We continue to deliver our regular Community and Heritage activities including our exhibition programme, craft sessions, and educational programmes in our Learning Space. We are currently getting ready for the opening of our new exhibition looking at animals and pets through the park's history from Jerry the Dog to Pony Rides! Our archivist recently digitised negatives of Pet's Corner that will be on display throughout April. As well as this, 100 large maps and plans from our archive have been digitised in a project designed to preserve documents that contain vital information about changes in the park over the last century.

After the success of our first Young Curators and their "Wicksteed's Wonderful" exhibition, we have welcomed a new cohort to get involved with our heritage. Similarly, we have new Heritage Now placements taking place focusing on different ways of engaging with our archive from recording oral histories to using archive images to aid restoration of ride areas in the park. If you are interested in a placement, getting involved in our oral history project, volunteering, or want to know more about heritage at Wicksteed, let us know at community@wicksteedpark.org

Jade Watson – ArchiveTeam@wicksteedpark.org

Wicksteed Park, Barton Road, Kettering, Northants NN15 6NJ T **01536 512475** E hello@wicksteedpark.org

78 DERNGATE



We are looking for a part-time Duty Manager

For more information, please contact

78office@78derngate.org.uk

Liz Jansson

T: **01604 603407**



Digital Engagement at Daventry Museum

Museum snapshot

Daventry Museum is not just a social history museum, it is a community-driven, family-friendly hub for its local and wider community. Alongside our regular events and exhibitions, the museum caters for school and group visits. As with many heritage sites, the museum is supported by an invaluable team of dedicated volunteers, who are the lifeblood of the museum.

New ways of working

Prior to the national lockdown, the museum had an established online presence through its active engagement on social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram), alongside a website which had a limited amount of digital engagement opportunities however, it became clear that if the only way we could reach out to our audiences during lockdown was online, then it was vital to develop our digital engagement offer, in order to keep our visitors and volunteers engaged throughout lockdown and encourage them to return.

Staff and volunteers took the lockdown as an opportunity to try new, digital technologies to stay in touch with each other, to research the collection, display the museum's exhibitions, and provide in-house educational resources online to support parents and teachers during home schooling.

One innovation that was developed for the museum's new digital offer is virtual exhibition tours, which can be found on our website: <https://daventrymuseum.org.uk/learn/virtual-exhibition-tours/> Once an exhibition is finalised, 360-degree cameras are used to produce detailed images of the displays for users to navigate virtually. This provides the visitor an opportunity to click on objects to view close-up images and discover more information via added interpretation.

To further virtual experiences of the museum collection for our new, digital audience, in-house demonstration videos have been made and uploaded to YouTube. One of our most popular videos shows a demonstration of a 1920s Crystal Radio set which has had an impressive 40,446 views, generating comments from far and wide, including New Zealand, the United States of America and Canada.

In 2021 we launched a brand-new website, made possible with a grant from Museum Development East Midlands (MDEM). We used this as an opportunity to raise the profile of the museum's digital presence, showcasing the new digital offer and opening access to the collection.

One of the new learning resources that the team developed for the website is a searchable online collection, giving greater access to the museum's artefacts for our virtual visitors. Alongside this feature, learners have an opportunity to explore the collection via a digital map resource in a collaborative project the team undertook with The Earth Museum.

Continuing the digital journey

It is important to mention that the team has achieved these digital developments with the support of MDEM grants, and by making the most of training opportunities to develop and upskill staff and volunteers on digital engagement strategies and technologies. By embracing digital and adapting to new ways of working as a result of lockdown, the museum's online service has reached a wider and more diverse audience, resulting in physical visits and deepened engagement. The ongoing challenge is to ensure that we continue to develop our digital offer

alongside our in-person engagement activities, with the realisation that our virtual visitors are as important as our physical visitors. Digital is here to stay at Daventry Museum.

Current Exhibition:

Borough Hill and its History

14th January to 16th June 2023

Inspired by the centenary of the publication of William Edgar's book 'Borough Hill Daventry and its History', this exciting exhibition brings the historic ages of Borough Hill alive and reflects on the findings and excavations in Edgar's book through fascinating displays.

Exhibits include fossils, neolithic flints and stone tools, Bronze Age axes and pottery from the Roman Villa and Bannaventa, a Roman settlement located off the A5 on Watling Street.



Upcoming Exhibition:

Made in Daventry

1st July to 2nd December 2023

Exhibition inspired by people and places in Daventry, exploring creativity, historic crafts and manufacturing businesses in the town.

Dates for diary:

Saturday 29th April – Coronation Crafts (10.00am to 4.00pm)

Join us in marking King Charles III Coronation with crown making, soldiers and a crown jewels scavenger hunt around the museum. It's FREE and there's no need to book, just come along.

Saturday 29th April - Borough Hill History Walk (10am - 11am)

Join Museum Volunteer Mike Arnold for a guided walk of Borough Hill, covering the Iron Age and Romans, featured in the museum's exhibition. Booking essential via the museum's What's On page.

Wednesday 21st June - Summer Solstice Walk (6pm—7.30pm)

Join local expert and Museum Volunteer Mike Arnold for a Summer Solstice Guided Walk of Borough Hill. Booking essential via Museum's What's on website page (opens in Summer 2023).



Sophie Good, Museum Officer

Tel: 01327 301246 Email: museum@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [You Tube](#)

www.daventrymuseum.org.uk

Address: 3 New Street, Daventry, Northants, NN11 4BT

Museum Opening Times:

Tuesday to Friday from 9.30am to 1.30pm

Every first Saturday of the month from 10am to 4pm

STANWICK LAKES

“Hidden Heritage – Under Your Feet” at Stanwick Lakes



We've had an exciting start to 2023, with all our heritage projects coming to life, projects that together will explore the hidden heritage of Stanwick Lakes and help us to tell the amazing story of this nationally important site.

Our previous heritage projects started us on our journey and really helped set the foundation of our current project, which will really help to expose the wonderful heritage treasures here at Stanwick Lakes.

Restoration of the Bronze Age Bowl Barrow

The barrow is a hugely significant monument, not just for Stanwick Lakes but as part of both our past and present landscapes. It is a big responsibility to be the current custodians of such an important monument, and work to restore and protect it is important not just for this heritage project but for the legacy for generations to come.

We have had some very supportive site visits from Historic England, and we were given the go ahead to start removal of the bund (soil mound) from around the barrow, under the watchful eye of Derek Roberts from Pre-Develop Archaeology who is our lead archaeologist supporting us with this project:

'Urgent Actions to prevent further erosion and sustain and improve visibility of the scheduled monument known as the Irthlingborough Bowl Barrow (SM 13667, HA 1020235), Stanwick Lakes, Northamptonshire, have opened the barrow to the public while re-setting it within its new landscape. Further GPS, geophysical and photographic surveys including drone aerial video and aerial photographic surveys will document the works from inception to completion to further enhance the reverence and beauty of this physical statement of land ownership some 4500 years old.'

We were able to support the Nature team on an innovative environmental project, by repurposing soil from the bund to create new habitats for butterflies and other invertebrates, a project supported by Natural England and Beds & Northants Butterfly Conservation. These habitats will be monitored weekly from 1st April to 30th September and will help us to discover if they have a positive impact on the butterfly population and the diversity of species at Stanwick Lakes.

Bronze Age Boat Build

We hosted our first volunteer weekend for our Boat Build Project, with Dr James Dilley from Ancient Craft UK showing us a variety of log boat examples unearthed around Europe from varying eras, and which techniques could be used as our project develops!

James is an experimental archaeologist and flintknapper, specialising in the British Stone Age and Bronze Age. He founded Ancient Craft to dedicate focus towards educating and reconnecting people to their prehistoric heritage, and fully shares our heritage ethos of making archaeology accessible for all.

It was a brilliant day to get the boat build volunteers together and learn



Examples of bronze age tools the boat building volunteers will be reproducing and using to help create our own Bronze Age boat

about what processes and tools were used, as well as getting to watch a live Bronze Casting demo in preparation for creating replica tools for the boat build.

Thanks to the Northamptonshire Heritage Forum, we have developed a brilliant heritage link with Boughton Estate, with James and the Heritage team visiting to meet David Cullum and look at lime trees that could be used in this project, which is very exciting.

Our next steps will be taking part on bronze casting workshops run by James so that the volunteers can learn the processes used in creating bronze tools and preparing them for the build itself.

Prehistoric Settlement

Our volunteers started on the second roundhouse build with enthusiasm at the beginning of March, with the posts and supports going in over just a handful of days.

Our volunteer group is a real mix of new and experienced volunteers, many of whom were involved in previous roundhouse builds at Stanwick Lakes, but it was nice to see so many new faces joining us on our building journey!



Our Roundhouse volunteers working on our new Iron Age Roundhouse

Snow and sleet put paid to a few days' work, but the main structure is now complete, with work starting on the roof posts. It is really starting to take shape, and it is really starting to look like a prehistoric settlement.

The whole area will be surrounded with a small bund and enclosure and will be used as one of our heritage hubs for educational outreach, schools, living history, and hands on heritage crafting.

Next on the list is to build the walls and get stuck in with the daub – guaranteed to get everyone a bit muddy!

Weaving and Textiles and Heritage Gardens

An exciting development of the project is our partnership with the Northants Guild of Spinners, Weavers and Dyers, who now meet in our heritage barn every week. They are researching and exploring Iron Age textiles and natural dyeing and have been busy researching and prepping to recreate the Iron Age clothes of "Huldremose Woman"; textiles so well preserved that studies were able to accurately identify detail such as the dyes and colours used and particular weaves and patterns on the fabric. This fascinating project will use these studies to detail the skill and time involved in creating Iron Age clothing using traditional techniques from preparation, spinning, dyeing and weaving each garment.

Our volunteer heritage gardeners have created a garden space for the Guild to grow plants for natural dyeing, which will give us a real insight into how colourful the Iron Age really was and develop our knowledge of ancient textiles. The garden team have also been working hard developing our Iron Age Nursery Garden, which will be where plants are sown to eventually be planted up at our settlement area to help bring that area to life.

We are hugely excited to see these projects develop throughout this year and beyond and are enjoying creating our moment in history at Stanwick Lakes.

Nadia Norman

Heritage Coordinator, Stanwick Lakes

www.rockingham-forest-trust.org.uk

www.stanwicklakes.org.uk

www.facebook.com/stanwicklakes

Tea and Talks is a series of talks developed to cover a variety of different subjects from local, well-known speakers, all on their specialist subjects.



There are various ticket options:-

£7.00 – ‘A Tea & Talk’ includes the talk, a voucher for a hot drink at our café and 2 hours parking

£9.50 – ‘A cream tea & talk’ includes the talk, a cream tea and 2 hours parking

£14.50 – ‘An afternoon tea & talk’ includes the talk, afternoon tea and 2 hours parking

Full menu details are below. Please advise us of any dietary requirements when you book.

All talks are due to start at 2.00pm and will be approx. 45mins – 1 hour.

Please book your space at the reception desk in the visitor centre or email info@rfrtrust.org.uk to book in. Group discounts are available for groups over 10. Limited spaces available

The talk
The date & time
The Speaker

History - Suffragettes and suffragists In Northamptonshire
Tuesday 25th April, 2.00pm
John Buckell

The talk
The date & time
The Speaker

Fashion - Jane Austen and Fashion
Tuesday 16th May, 2.00pm
Sharn Matthews

Cream tea includes – Homemade fruit scone, clotted cream, jam, butter and pot of tea

Afternoon tea includes – Finger sandwiches, fruit scone with clotted cream, jam and butter and a selection of cakes and pastries.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARCHIVES SERVICE

We were delighted to welcome some new faces onto the team in the Archives Service early in the New Year. There is now a Service Manager, Phil Oakman, who will gradually take on the operational running of the service and bring much-needed capacity to get the service accredited by the National Archives. After a hiatus of over five years, another step forward is to have a Conservation Officer on the staff. Liz Yamada has already undertaken a sample survey of the collections and the team will be working together to identify priorities for conservation and preservation. Sadly, one of the frontline staff moved away for personal reasons and, because another was successfully appointed as the service's Administrative Assistant, this has left the front-line team at half strength and put the team under a lot of pressure.

Many thanks to all of you who filled out the user survey during February. We were feeling the pressure of the lack of frontline staff and, of course, our new team was very new at that point. However, it was very pleasing to see how many people were satisfied overall with the service that they received. 100% of users were very satisfied or satisfied with the service, with how they were treated, and the friendliness and helpfulness of staff. Looking at that in more detail, 93% were very satisfied with the overall service, 96% were very satisfied that they had been treated fairly and sensitively.

All users were asked to specify what changes they would like to see; this was from a list of options based on the feedback offered last year, but with space for people to add additional comments. It was nice to note that 35% of users did not see any need for any change. That the overwhelming desire is for improvement to the online catalogue was not a surprise, as this is something that has been ongoing for some time and, despite the service's best efforts, has not been resolved.

In the period since the last survey, work has been done with the software supplier to try to address the issues. However, it has become clear that the only way to make sure the catalogue works faster is for an upgrade to the whole software system. Final costs and options are under discussion at time of writing.

Four people expressed their concern about the cold in the public rooms in the strongest terms. Luckily this immediate situation seems to have been addressed, though the longer-term situation with the gas boiler has not yet been. There were a few other requests, such as for a coffee machine or tea maker, neither of which are economically viable given the numbers visiting, but with which the service sympathises.

Many researchers chose to leave comments, 19% of these were to make written comments about the staff. These included, 'Excellent facility and friendly helpful staff', 'Thanks to all the staff for answering enquiries and great help! Everyone was very friendly', and 'Very helpful and willing to go above and beyond'.

We are very grateful for this support and motivation as it makes the hard work worthwhile. We look forward to seeing you during the spring and summer months.

Sarah Bridges, Archives and Heritage Strategic Manager

archivist@westnorthants.gov.uk

West Northamptonshire Council | Northamptonshire Archives & Heritage Service | Wootton Hall Park | Northampton | NN4 8BQ

Tel: 01604 362525 | www.westnorthants.gov.uk

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter @NorthantsPast

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE NOTES & QUERIES ONLINE

Northamptonshire Notes & Queries was launched as a quarterly journal in 1884. Each issue contains an assortment of articles, ranging from transcripts of original historical documents to pleas for information about particular topics. In that respect, it is a genteel Victorian forerunner of the current history and nostalgia orientated groups on social media. Illustrations accompany some of the articles.

The journal proclaimed its mission as '*devoted to The Antiquities, Family History, Traditions, Parochial Records, Folk-lore, Quaint Customs, etc. of the County*'. This may suggest an antiquarian bias, but as well as some fairly trivial items there is a stock of weightier historical resources and also contributions that rest on the first-hand knowledge of individuals who are no longer with us. How else would we know that '*several sepulchral slabs with Sanderson (or Saunderson) epitaphs lie buried with their faces down, under the new encaustic tiling of the sanctuary of Little Addington chancel*'?

Printed copies of the periodical are not widely available, so it is helpful that six bound volumes containing a total of 902 articles spread over more than 1500 pages have been digitised. These can be read and downloaded in PDF and other formats free of charge from the Internet Archive site using the links listed below. Unfortunately, not all of the images are fully in focus but for volumes 3, 5 and 6 scanning defects may be overcome by consulting the alternative scan of the same book.

Despite the occasional shortcomings of the digitised versions, their ready availability at any time of day or night across the world is a major bonus for the vast majority of us who lack easy access to a suitable specialist library.

Vol. 1 = <https://archive.org/details/northamptonshir04unkngoog/page/n7/mode/2up>

Vol. 2 = <https://archive.org/details/northamptonshir00markgoog/page/n7/mode/2up>

Vol. 3 = <https://archive.org/details/northamptonshir01unkngoog/page/n11/mode/2up>

Vol. 3 = <https://archive.org/details/northamptonshir05unkngoog/page/n5/mode/2up>

Vol. 4 = <https://archive.org/details/northamptonshir03unkngoog/page/n10/mode/2up>

Vol. 5 = <https://archive.org/details/northamptonshir02markgoog/page/n7/mode/2up>

Vol. 5 = <https://archive.org/details/northamptonshir02unkngoog/page/n11/mode/2up>

Vol. 6 = <https://archive.org/details/northamptonshir00unkngoog/page/n9/mode/2up>

Vol. 6 = <https://archive.org/details/northamptonshir01markgoog/page/n5/mode/2up>

Francis Howcutt, Individual Member

JEYES OF EARLS BARTON

Charles Hanson Valuation Days - days of good news and bad news!

A first for us at Jeyes, and maybe even for Earls Barton, we welcomed Derbyshire auctioneer, Charles Hanson for two free valuation days. With family living nearby we were delighted that he chose us for a new venture to find treasure and heirlooms that may be lurking in the cupboard, the loft or on a dusty shelf in the garage.

Charles talked about his background and work, giving everyone time and the benefit of his vast knowledge, sometimes seeking the help of his experts, sometimes suggesting the cherished item remain safely at home to be enjoyed by the family.

A memorable find was from local John Dunkley having inherited his late father-in-law's autograph collection of 127 signatures of holders of the Victoria Cross. The story unfolded..... Mr. Masters had been toastmaster at the V.C.

Centenary Dinner in June 1956, held at the Hyde Park Hotel in the presence of HM Queen Elizabeth II and HRH Prince Philip. Seeking permission, he placed his autograph book alongside that of Her Majesty – thus acquiring this unique collection. Charles's militaria consultant, Matt Crowson, declared it "one of the most extraordinary militaria finds we have ever made". Auctioned at Hansons on John's behalf it reached £4,500. Local Radio Northampton reported and joined in with enthusiasm and reported this find even before the national press.

There were disappointments and surprises – the days were best summed up as "You win some and lose some!"

Charles is returning on 24th May but as we are almost fully booked we are looking for another day sooner. A garden party valuation day with Charles is on 5th July too.

For us all, the highlight was Polly, proudly showing her porcelain plate with delicious-looking fried eggs, sunnyside up, smiling at us. "This needs research" declared Charles with a grin! All in all they were cracking good days!

Georgina Jeyes



RAUNDS & DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY

Speaker Lucy Swales is giving a talk on Madame Tussauds, her life and legacy.

Raunds & District History Society meet at Raunds Library, May 4th 2023, 7.15pm - 9pm. £3 each, includes refreshments. There is also a raffle to fund the group.

Susan Copperwheat

raundshistory22@gmail.com

FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S CHURCH, MAREFAIR

It's a great joy to report that work has started at the Old Black Lion pub next door to St Peter's Church in Marefair Northampton.



To mark the occasion the Churches Conservation Trust hosted an informal gathering in the stable yard to present the project and meet the builders. Councillors came from WNC and the Town Council, with representatives from the Friends of St Peter's, the Guild of Bellringers and the neighbouring community. Refreshments provided by Phipps Brewery were a sign of good things to come.

In the churchyard garden which will link the church and inn, the Friends marked the Queen's Gren Canopy by planting young holly and crab-apple trees in honour of Queen Elizabeth II. It was our chance to be part of that nationwide Jubilee project. It's also part of the plans we have with the CCT to create a garden space for the wider community. This is a long-term program. We are always pleased to welcome new people to join the volunteers who work in the garden regularly.



Tree Planting

Some of our new Friends members helped in a garden working session to clean grime and lichen on William Smith's gravestone. This too is a long-term task. There was a delight as the true colour of the stone was revealed. We knew it was new red sandstone but had never previously seen the pink hue which begins to appear.



Cleaning up the Smith memorial is timely as our next public Zoom talk (19th April) will bring more biography of the "Father of English Geology". The story of how he came to be buried at St Peter's is recorded on our webpage. See www.fostp.org.uk - "[William Smith and his Northampton Friends](#)"

Most of our previous Zoom Talks are recorded on our web page.

Dr Rachel Moss entertained us with her history of Valentine's Day in a light-hearted style with some fascinating serious history.

We also had great pleasure and inspiration with Michael Brown's Talk introducing us to the Medieval Garden.

And so the scene is set for a green and active season in the churchyard and pub.

There will be opportunities later to visit the regeneration project.

As Spring sets in an increasing stream of visitors come to us, travelling from a distance. We enjoy recommending other places of historic interest to make their time in Northampton happy and truly memorable.

Meanwhile, visits to the splendid 12th Century church can be made in the usual way.

Book individual or group visits on stpetermarefair@gmail.com

Jean Hawkins, Chairman

DESBOROUGH HERITAGE CENTRE

Given our large space, we are now housing for two months an exhibition of work from the East Midlands Monochrome Photographic Society. Local residents, old and new, are enjoying studying our display of much enlarged aerial photographs of Desborough in 1952 before the destruction of our old town's 17th and 18th century main streets in 1970 to 71, and before the building of new housing estates on our fields during the last twenty years.

A new accession, a racing penny farthing bicycle, is getting much attention, as are some astonishing 19th century roller skates.

Meantime, we go on holding monthly local history lectures, monthly films for railways enthusiasts, frequent Saturday afternoon films and talks (with tea and cakes) about old Desborough from our Family History Group, and monthly coffee mornings for all. Flags are already appearing, and for the Coronation we'll hold a big lunch in the Heritage Centre. On 10th June Sealed Knot soldiers will set out from the Heritage Centre to march through the town to their tents on the Millennium Green (and a fete at which DHC will have a stall like other local organisations and performers).

Currently we are refurbishing a fifth display room in our building (previously used for stores); this will be used more for volunteers' relaxation and as a quiet place for visitors' research purposes rather than for exhibitions.

Belinda Humfrey, Chair

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Are you interested in Family History? Why not join the Society to take advantage of what we can offer!

We hold three meetings per month: one each at Kettering, Northampton and online. Everyone is welcome to our branch meetings at Kettering and Northampton. Our online meetings are for members only and we have an exciting mix of talks coming up this year. Our meetings are friendly and welcoming and there are always people to answer any research questions you may have.



Members receive our quarterly journal which is packed full of interesting articles, sources for research, news from the Archives, meeting reports, a parish profile and research advice. You can also subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter to keep you updated. Our membership year runs from 1 July to 30 June. **If you join the Society after 15 April, your membership will be carried over to the following year so this is the right time to join!**

We have a members' only area on our website as an extra benefit of your membership, including back copies of all our journals, searchable databases and other resources.

We have an extensive knowledge of the county, resources and the Archives and can offer suggestions and help with your research if you need it.

We hold a help-desk at Northamptonshire Archives on the first Saturday morning of each month.

Membership is £12 per annum for UK members and you can choose whether to receive a printed or electronic copy of our quarterly journal.

More details can be found on our website – www.northants-fhs.org

May is Local History and Community Month and we will be at the coffee morning at Weston Favell Library on 4th May. Come along and chat to us.

We will also be at the Local and Community History Fayre on Wednesday 17 May, from 10 to 4 at the Gathering Place, First Floor in Grosvenor Centre on Abington Street. This is another opportunity for you to come along and meet us and have an informal chat. It would be lovely to meet you.

Angela Malin, Chair

chairman@northants-fhs.org

info@northants-fhs.org

[Northants-FHS | Facebook](#)

CANONS ASHBY—NATIONAL TRUST

Here is some of the latest conservation work the house team have been working on.

The Dining Room carpet

During the closed period, the house team have been busy preparing the Dining Room for our 'new' antique carpet (mid 20th century Iranian Tabriz handwoven carpet).

After lifting the previous carpet, it was discovered that there was a very dusty floor underneath which could only be removed by a slightly damp wet clean. First it was mopped using water and mild detergent and then followed with a damp mop of just water. This process was repeated twice. It was important to ensure the mop was only slightly damp to protect the wood.

Once the floor was clean it was time to wax the entire floor which Ellie Fisher (House and Collections Manager), Kay, and Rachel (House Conservation Assistants) each took turns at on their hands and knees! The wax was left to settle and then the floor was buffed; as you can see from the photograph the floor really appreciated that wax! As much as the floor looked beautiful in its waxed glory, the next stage was to protect the floor with the recently purchased carpet.

To ensure maximum protection the underlay has also been replaced which was compiled in four strips sealed together with tape and sewn at the edge where the underlay was exposed. To protect the edges of the carpet, a 2 inch exposure of underlay is visible and once the carpet has settled after one open period it can reduce this down to a 1 inch exposure.



The house team are very happy with the result! The carpet was purchased from an antique carpet dealer recommended to us by our curator Rebecca Harvey. Many photographs of the room colours and descriptions were sent and we were fortunate enough to have the carpet matched as closely as possible. The carpet was quarantined for many months before we could install it in the Dining Room to ensure protection against any possible pest cross contamination! Our closed period gave us the perfect time to deep clean the room and prepare the room for the carpet. We hope this carpet will last us many years to come!



Our upcoming events throughout spring and summer:

Please always check the website before travelling and the latest for updates as the below info. is subject to last minute change.

Baroque Classics in the Garden performed by Eboracum Baroque

Sat 20th May, 6pm – 7.45 pm. Advance booking essential – please head to our website for more info. & tickets.

Eboracum Baroque are delighted to return to Canons Ashby to perform baroque classics by Handel, Vivaldi and Purcell in the beautiful formal garden. Relax in the picturesque surroundings of the formal garden, with plenty of space in the open air. Bring a picnic, or buy yourself something from the tea-kiosk, and bring your own picnic chairs or rugs.

Canons Ashby Book Fair

From 27th May - 4th June from 10am until 4pm. No advance booking needed. Normal admission applies. (We recommend bringing cash to make it easier to buy books).

Come to the medieval Priory Church and browse a wide selection of books which have been donated by our supporters, all different genres from crime to cakes, new and old. Stock up for your summer holidays whilst raising funds for our special place.

Jane Austen's Emma, performed by The Pantaloons

Saturday 8th July, 6pm – 8pm. Advance booking essential – please head to our website for more info. & tickets.

Join the critically-acclaimed Pantaloons Theatre Company for a riotous Regency rom-com! Meet misguided matchmaker Emma as she tries to play Cupid in this hilarious yet faithful new adaptation of Jane Austen's satirical story. This fast-paced, physical and funny show is filled with romance, music and The Pantaloons' own charming brand of theatrical chaos.

The Pantaloons are the "inimitable" (Guardian) and "wholly charming" (Times) touring theatre company bringing a vital sense of "play" back to classical performance. In our theatre, your imagination is just as important as ours.

This is outdoor theatre at its best in the Parkland of Canons Ashby – bring a picnic, rugs or picnic chairs and dress for whatever the weather brings! This event will go ahead whatever the weather, unless it's unsafe to do so.

Robin Hood, performed by Illyria

Saturday 19th August, 5.30pm – 7.20pm. Advance booking essential – please head to our website for more info. & tickets.

With good King Richard away at war, the rich and powerful will lie, cheat, and break every rule to seize power. And they're ready to play dirty! Luckily, so is the swashbuckling Robin Hood and his team of misfit rebels. Together, they plot to bring down the corrupt Sheriff of Nottingham, the scheming Prince John, and every single greedy villain they meet along the way. It's a fast-paced heist for all ages - and Robin Hood never misses a target. This action-packed production delivers huge laughs, daring adventures, and well-deserved revenge!

This is outdoor theatre at its best in the Paddock of Canons Ashby – bring a picnic, rugs or picnic chairs and wrap up warm!

This event will go ahead whatever the weather, unless it's unsafe to do so. Please dress for the weather, whatever it brings.

If anyone wants further info. or to book tickets our website is <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/leicestershire-northamptonshire/canons-ashby/events> or a shortened version <https://tinyurl.com/2p85a9vv>

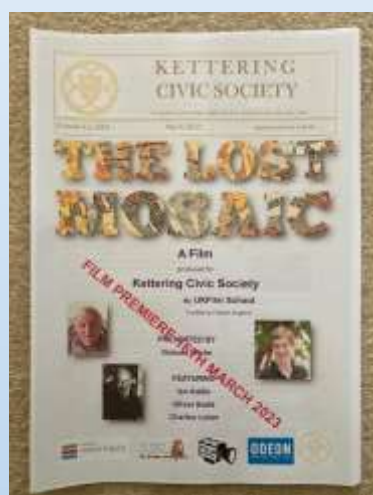
For general enquiries: canonsashby@nationaltrust.org.uk (main office number - 01327 861900).

Helen Cable, Marketing & Communications Officer

KETTERING CIVIC SOCIETY

The Society was able to hold its first AGM in person since 2019 and Wicksteed Park proved to be a wonderful venue and setting. The meeting was followed by a fascinating illustrated talk by Edward Lamb about his ancestors who founded solicitors Lamb & Holmes in 1813; one of the oldest law firms in Northamptonshire. His presentation was further enhanced by a display of ancient legal documents including his 3-x great grandfather's wig! A thoroughly enjoyable afternoon which included tea and cake.

The week beginning 11th March started off with great excitement when we were interviewed on BBC Radio Northampton about the film that we produced with the UKFilm School and which was funded by Historic England.



An audience of 200 attended the film premiere at Kettering's Odeon cinema on 16th March. The documentary caused quite a buzz and we received very many compliments and requests for another showing plus DVDs were in demand. Further details can be found on: www.ketteringcivicsociety.net.

The topic of the documentary is the Kettering Mosaic; a smaller version has been made by Oliver Budd and was installed in the Alfred East Art Gallery on 5th January in the anticipation of the new extension, gallery and library opening.

Enquiries from schools about the history of Kettering has inspired us to produce a series of magazines which are beautifully illustrated with cartoon characters. The facts however are intended for all ages and offer parents, grandparents and teachers a starting point for further exploration of the county. The main research is taken from Ron Greenall's '*History of Kettering*'. So far, the magazines cover; The Non-Conformist movement (a town walk can be offered), The Kettering Mosaic, and Kettering's Industry.

Dates for your diary

Saturday 13th May: A special lunch is being planned at Boughton House, no speeches, another long-awaited social gathering. We hope that you will join us in the Tapestry Suite when we will be treated to the usual culinary delights offered by Gloria (Classic Catering) with good company. Please email to book your table:

kettcivic@gmail.com

Tuesday 30th May: Quiz night at the Star Inn, Geddington. Please book a table directly with the Star for your team.

Saturday 16th September: Kettering festival of literature. sponsored by Historic England through the Kettering Cultural Consortium – Details to follow.

Monica Ozdemir

FRIENDS OF KETTERING ART GALLERY & MUSEUM

The Friends have been busy through the winter months planning for 2023, and our Wednesday evening speaker meetings continue to be well attended.

Our volunteer training scheme hit the buffers during lockdown and is only just beginning to reawaken. We are confident that it will progress now through the year.

Our main focus for the year will be on expanding our programme of town and cemetery tours. Our work on the QR plaque scheme is progressing well and the town walks will give us an excellent opportunity to showcase the potential of this type of project. The details of the programme of walks and tours can be found on the NHF website.

In September we will be part of the history open day celebrations, in conjunction with Historic England/English Heritage, and will post details of our plans soon.

Town Heritage walks.

We offer a choice of:

T1 walk - the Heritage Quarter

T2 walk- Market Street and Beyond.

The walks will introduce our new QR plaque scheme, with explanatory leaflets. All walks begin at 11am or 2pm

April 29 T1 pm May 27 T2 am

June 24 T2 pm July 22 T1 am

The **cemetery walks** will continue, with the addition of 2 new modules.

C1, C6 tour- town notables and other interesting graves.

C2, C5 and C7 tours- special emphasis on monumental masonry and symbolism.

C3, and C4 tours- special emphasis on the unusual and exotic plants and trees.

April 30 C2 pm May 28 C3 am

June 25 C4 pm July 23 C5 am

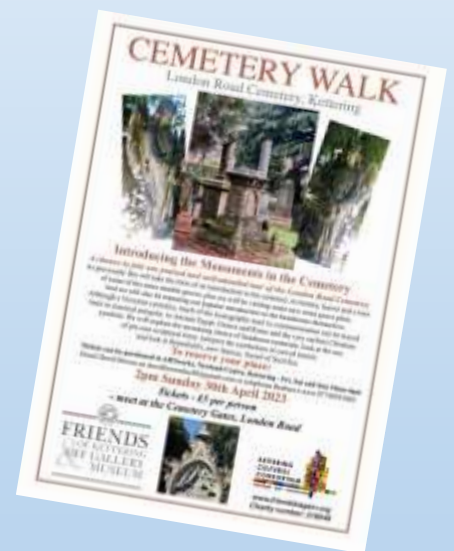
For more information and booking (essential) contact:

David Brown

davidbrowndoc40@gmail.com

07808262644

or call into ARTworks in the Newlands Centre in Kettering.



BOUGHTON HOUSE AND GARDENS

Boughton House & Gardens are open on the below dates with three tours to enjoy: *The Great Hall Tour, State Rooms Tour* and *Books, Beds and Beyond*. Entry to the Gardens is included.

- ◆ Saturday 29th April to Monday 1st May, 1pm-5pm
- ◆ Saturday 27th to Monday 29th May, 1pm-5pm
- ◆ Monday 31st July and Tuesday 1st August, 1pm – 5pm
- ◆ Friday to Tuesday in August, 1pm – 5pm
 - ◇ 4th-8th
 - ◇ 11th– 15th
 - ◇ 18th – 22nd
 - ◇ 25th – 29th



We also welcome **Group Tours or Private visits** all year round by appointment – please get in touch if you would like to find out more.

Boughton House, Kettering, Northamptonshire NN14 1BJ

www.boughtonhouse.co.uk

HOLDENBY HOUSE

The Kings Joust

Sunday 30th April & Monday 1st May 11am-5pm

<https://www.holdenby.com/events/events-diary>

Homes and Garden Fair

Sunday 28th May & Monday 29th May 11am-4pm

<https://www.holdenby.com/events/events-diary>

Kerry Bate, Attractions & Business Manager

T: 01604 770074

E: Office@holdenby.com

W: www.holdenby.com



EVENTS DIARY—by Organisation Name

Also refer to articles within Newsletter for other organisations

Organisation	Event	Speaker	Date	Point of Contact	Email/ telephone
Aynho History Society	Oxford examined	Richard Smith	26-Apr	Helen Mackenzie	07866 044985
Aynho History Society	Canons Ashby Gardens Restoration	Laura Malpas	31-May	Helen Mackenzie	07866 044985
Aynho History Society	Oxfordshire and the Civil War	Stephen Barker	28-Jun	Helen Mackenzie	07866 044985
Aynho History Society	Iron Age Findings - Steane	Wendy Morrison	September	Helen Mackenzie	07866 044985
Aynho History Society	The Three Norman churches of Brackley	Rosemary Leper	October	Helen Mackenzie	07866 044985
Aynho History Society	Blenheim/Churchill	Pippa Gwilliam	November	Helen Mackenzie	07866 044985
Brigstock Historical Society	Bassett-Lowke of Northampton	Douglas Goddard	26-Apr	Robin Phillips	01536 370144
Brigstock Historical Society	Northamptonshire Film Archive	Pete Austin	24-May	Robin Phillips	01536 370144
Brigstock Historical Society	Brigstock characters	Bill Simon / Sally Wilks	28-Jun	Robin Phillips	01536 370144
Deene Park	House tour and afternoon tea		18-May	Kelly Teat-Holland	01780 450278 / admin@deenepark.com
Deene Park	House tour and afternoon tea		08-Jun	Kelly Teat-Holland	01781 450278 / admin@deenepark.com
Deene Park	Garden tour and afternoon tea		16-May	Kelly Teat-Holland	01781 450278 / admin@deenepark.com
Deene Park	Garden tour and afternoon tea		20-Jun	Kelly Teat-Holland	01781 450278 / admin@deenepark.com
Northamptonshire Family History Society by ZOOM	Safe home - researching a WW1 soldier	Dianne Sutton	24-Apr	Angela Malin	chairman@northants-fhs-org
Northamptonshire Family History Society by ZOOM	Researching brewer & publican ancestors	Simon Fowler	22-May	Angela Malin	chairman@northants-fhs-org
Northamptonshire Family History Society by ZOOM	Railway ancestors	Ian Waller	26-Jun	Angela Malin	chairman@northants-fhs-org
Northamptonshire Family History Society by ZOOM	Members evening and help desk	NFHS	24-Jul	Angela Malin	chairman@northants-fhs-org
Northamptonshire Family History Society KETTERING branch	Suffragettes and Suffragists in Northamptonshire	John Buckell	08-May	Angela Malin	chairman@northants-fhs-org
Northamptonshire Family History Society KETTERING branch	Some Highs and Lows when researching my family history	Joe Fletcher	12-Jun	Angela Malin	chairman@northants-fhs-org
Northamptonshire Family History Society KETTERING branch	My average ancestor - 100 resources in 60 minutes	Ian Waller	10-Jul	Angela Malin	chairman@northants-fhs-org
Northamptonshire Family History Society NORTHAMPTON branch	Industrial accidents	Ian Waller	15-May	Angela Malin	chairman@northants-fhs-org
Northamptonshire Family History Society NORTHAMPTON branch	Dr Williams Library	Dave Annal	19-Jun	Angela Malin	chairman@northants-fhs-org
Northamptonshire Family History Society NORTHAMPTON branch	Keeping faith at the Front	Helen Frost	17-Jul	Angela Malin	chairman@northants-fhs-org
Prebendal Manor, Church Street, Nassington			17-Jun	Jane Baile	01780 782575
Pytchley Church Heritage Trust	Belcanto Choir Concert	Tickets £10	20-May	Mike Walsh or Kate Everard	01536 790984 or 07999 570435
Roade Local History Society	Silverstone WW1 to F1	Gerald Lovell	26-Apr	Maggie Smith	events@roadehistorysociety.org.uk
Roade Local History Society	That's unusual	Derek Blunt	24-May	Maggie Smith	events@roadehistorysociety.org.uk
Roade Local History Society	PSL 100 year anniversary exhibition		25-Jun	Maggie Smith	events@roadehistorysociety.org.uk
Rushden & District History Society	AGM and talk	Jon-Paul Carr	19-May		01933 353366
Rushden & District History Society	Slavery and anti-slavery in Northamptonshire	John Buckell	16-Jun		01933 353366
Rushden & District History Society	Grandad's war 1915-1918	Ted Barnes	21-Jul		01933 353366

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