

A letter from Chris Weir...New Year 2020



My Newsletter report often highlights the Nottingham Inclosure Walk that takes place each year, organised by Friends of The Forest's June Perry. I lead this event every year and am a founder member of the Friends and am its current co-Chair. For the 2019 Walk I engaged Georgianna Scurfield to make a 12 minute film of the event, and this is now on YouTube (just key in the search phrase 'Nottingham Inclosure Walk'). Fortunately the day was bright and sunny. June Perry has been working hard to adapt the walk into a waymarked Town Trail and the 2020 Inclosure Walk on the 28th June will mark the opening of the Trail.

On the walking theme, my brother and I are on a long-term project to walk the Cotswolds Way and we are now not far off its completion - well, perhaps a couple of years away! It has taken us

through lovely countryside and delightful villages...and on the last section we coincided with a Blues Music Festival at Wootton-Under-Edge!

I am still doing some work for the David Livingstone Legacy, African Perspectives Project, based at Hyson Green. This has included work with a local school that will be displayed at one or two local venues. Of course their work included writing with quill pens! Part of the Project included a visit to the Livingstone birthplace near Glasgow which is being restored with reinterpreted exhibition themes for re-opening this year; and we did some research at the Edinburgh National Library. This also involved work on some early 1900s diaries which will be the basis of a play being written and performed sometime in May at the Neville Studio, Nottingham Playhouse, by young people from the Television Workshops.

In 2019 I did some sessions for the WEA. I did a talk and guided walk on Nottingham's Sporting Heritage and a talk, workshop and walk on 'Discovering Nottingham Architects'. That particular Walk might be memorable as it appeared to coincide with quite a few young people running around town wearing not very much and shouting, with buskers performing armed with amplifiers at road junctions that I had identified as 'talk stops' on my Health & Safety evaluation report! Ah, the joys of Local History!

This year I am doing a session on Saturday 21st March for the WEA at Bromley House Library on 'Discovering Nottingham Architects' titled 'Looking Up!' and in May I am doing a couple of talks and a guided Walk, again for the WEA, on 'Down The Marshes', an area that is becoming increasingly topical as the Broad Marsh developments progress.

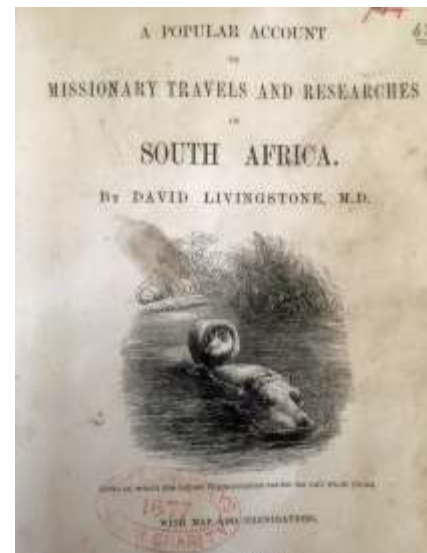
One of the more unusual talks I did in 2019 was at HM Nottingham Prison. The Prison Library service asked if I could come up with something for the prisoners. After some discussion I put together a session on 'Bloody Tales, a Hanging & The Tattooed Sailor'. I wasn't permitted to take any electronic equipment into the prison so it was quite a challenge! The tattoo theme seemed to create a lot of interest and I was able to show the prisoners a book I found on the Life of George Vason who went on a Missionary ship to what became the Tonga Islands. He decided to get tattooed from head to foot, like the islanders, and made a life on the islands. In the end he returned to England and settled in Nottingham where he became Governor of the House of Correction.

I look forward to catching-up with you all soon - I am doing a guided walk for our own Society on

'Bygone Shopping in Nottingham' on Sunday 17th May. Meet 2pm at the Left Lion!

And as always a huge thanks to our hard working and wonderful committee and everyone who helps with supporting our events, providing refreshments, ideas for speakers and everything else that makes our Society very special.

Chris Weir, President



TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2019

We enjoyed a good year despite making a loss of £64.07. This was mainly due to a fall in membership numbers from 39 – 35 and a rise in the speaker fees of £90.

Our other expenditure remained virtually the same. Our outings were very well attended with a good number of visitors which helped us make a small profit.

Our balance is healthy so we look forward to another good year in 2020

Joyce Harrison - Treasurer



Lambley Historical Society

www.lambleyheritage.co.uk

JANUARY 2020 - No 18

Welcome to our 2020 Newsletter



The Society's main activities in 2019

have continued to be very successful with members and non-members. Our wide ranging talks and visits have again been well attended. The talks included Newstead Abbey, English Medieval Castles and Great Houses, Jesse Boot and the History of Highfields, Food and Drink in Tudor and Stuart Nottinghamshire, Accountancy and Navigation in medieval times and Victorian Pantomime. Our outings included a visit to the Lace Costume and Textile Collection at Newstead Abbey, Newark Air museum and a guided tour of University Park. Reports on our past talks and visits can be found on our website.

The Society has been active within the local community working with The Gedling Heritage Project. The project is sponsored by Gedling Borough Council and its aim is to promote the heritage of the Borough to local people and visitors. A heritage book has been published, with the launch event at the New 1899 Cafe at Gedling County Park in March. The event was well attended with project members and local dignitaries, including the Gedling Mayor and former Gedling MP Vernon Coaker. Also two mosaics were unveiled depicting Gedling life. Future plans include the Gedling Borough Heritage Way - a recreational route that highlights the many locations and iconic places across the borough. For more information see: <https://www.gedling.gov.uk/heritage/>

During the summer the Society again had a stall at the Lambley 'Family Fun' Day. The event was well attended, with many people visiting our display of photographs, of 'Yesterday and Today' views of Lambley. They were very interested in

our pictures, asking questions and also discussing with us their memories of Lambley. We also distributed copies of our Heritage books. A rewarding and enjoyable day!

Our programme for 2020 is an exciting eclectic mix of talks and visits. Details are to be found in this newsletter.

As ever, on behalf of the members, I would like to thank my friends on the committee for all their hard work in 2019. The Society continues to move forward and attracts new members and visitors to our meetings, because of their dedication, commitment and hard work. They have organised the following:

- The talks and visits.
- Published details of our events and activities in the local media.
- Maintained and developed our website, which gives us a platform to promote the Society and history of Lambley worldwide.
- The finances of the Society, so that we remain solvent.
- Compiled and published the annual newsletter.

A special thank you to our President, Chris Weir, for his regular article for our newsletter. I know that you will enjoy his latest offering.

Finally thank you, to you the members, for your excellent attendance at our meetings and visits in 2019. I look forward to seeing you all in 2020.

John Smith, Chairman



Our 2020 Programme - meetings and outings

24th Feb Ted White - Was Francis Viscount Lovel buried in Gedling Church?

Francis Lovel was an important person and a close ally of Richard III but disappeared at the age of about 30 and was never heard of again. An alabaster slab discovered in Gedling church may have marked Lovel's grave. The talk describes Lovel's career and offers a conjecture as to how he may have travelled from the battlefield to Gedling and died there.



23rd March Brian Howes – The Inns & Beer Houses of Old Nottingham.

A talk about some of the famous and not so famous old Inns and beer houses of Nottingham, once famed for the quality of its fine ales. Hear

about some of the interesting old pubs that have been lost in time and the fascinating histories of some of those still open. How the beer house act of 1830 created some fascinating bohemian drinking establishments.

27th April Brian Lund – Edwardian Nottingham in colour.

An illustrated talk featuring a postcard series published between 1904 and 1912. Brian and Rob from Reflections of a Bygone Age will share their adventures in recreating the 125 scenes on which their book Edwardian Nottingham in colour is based. Photography secrets will be shared!



Summer outings

17th May - Bygone Shops of Nottingham walk with Chris Weir

A stroll around Nottingham remembering the old Burtons shop, Griffin & Spalding, Boots, the Co-op...and smaller stores and cafes that people may remember eg. SelectaDisc.



13th June Tour of Woodthorpe Grange Park and Gardens with Paul Swift

A walk round the park and gardens looking at its history including the railway, the old farm, the Grange and the existing nurseries.

21st July Visit to the Newark Heritage Barge "The Leicester Trader" with Les Reid

Les will show us round the barge moored at Newark Riverside park and give a talk on its history and his exciting life afloat.



28th Sept Ruth Imeson – The Story of Lt Ted Ward

A Sherwood Forester and one of the creators of the satirical 'Vipers Times' trench newspaper, he was loved by the soldiers but caused much consternation amongst the British High Command.



26th Oct William Ruff – The Gunpowder Plot.

This talk tells the story of a small brass box (which William owns and will bring along with him) made in 1606 commemorating the 'miracle' of Garnet's Straw. It incorporates 16th century Catholic persecution, the Gunpowder conspiracy, the life, trial and death of Father Henry Garnet - and the use of priest-holes in such National Trust houses as Baddesley Clinton and Coughton Court.



23rd Nov Michael Harrison - Secrets Below

-Underground with Britain's WW2 War Effort.
Explore the underworld created in Britain to sustain the fight against nazi Germany. Hear the story of the men and women who toiled relentlessly to ensure that the flow of vital war material reached the fighting services; thereby making a massive contribution to ultimate victory.

