



# Nottinghamshire Local History Association



**Working together ~ what we do best.**

Volume 1, Issue 6

January 2014

## Happy New Year

As we follow the Gregorian calendar our New Year starts on 1st January, but it is a relatively recent move to this date. New year for England, Wales and other parts of the British domain began on 25th March which is also known as Lady Day up to 1751. Scotland had changed to 1st January earlier in 1600. During the Middle Ages New Year had been on several other dates 1st March, Easter, 1st September and 25th December. If you were a Pagan you would have celebrated the new year at Samhain (31st October), or at Beltane (1st May).



*Nottingham Castle gatehouse at New Year. Source: [experiencenottinghamshire.com](http://experiencenottinghamshire.com)*

## NLHA's Spring - Day School 'A River Runs Through It. The Trent and its Communities since c.1750'.

Venue: Village Hall, Raven-shead, Notts NG15 9BN. Saturday 22nd March 2014. Fee: NLHA members £7 non-members £8. Booking is not required but you can secure a place by contacting David Anderson. In 2013, historians from the University of Nottingham were awarded an AHRC 'Connected Communities' grant to work with the Newark Heritage Barge Charitable Incorporated Organisation on the history of the River Trent since the industrial revolution. This day-school provides an opportunity to hear about the results of this research, to learn more about the Heritage Barge (which is working towards the creation of a floating museum) and to discover more about the lives of those who worked on and alongside the river during a formative period in its history. Speakers: -

Philip Riden: Trade and traffic on the Trent since 1850: an overview.

Hywel Maslen: New sources for the recent history of the Trent at the Waterways Archives.

Wendy Freer: Life on board boats on the Trent in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Hes Kapur and Les Reid: The Newark Heritage Barge: achievements and plans.

**NLHA supports young writers in the Trent to the Trenches competition.** John Parker Chairman of the NLHA awarded a prize at the Trent to the Trenches competition on December 17th 2013 held at Nottingham Castle. The NLHA donated £200 in prize money for budding writers picked out of over 400 entries from school children across Nottinghamshire who were told to imagine they were a soldier and to write a poem diary or letter to loved ones at home describing their experience. NLHA Vice-chairman Chris Weir was part of the panel that judged the competition. The project was set up to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of the Great war where 10,000 Nottinghamshire men were killed and 30,000 were injured.

**The University of Nottingham Museum presents a series of FREE talks and handling sessions that focuses on current archaeological work.**

These talks allow professional archaeologists, related specialists and community groups to share their exciting work with us as it is happening and include local, regional, national and international projects. All talks are at 1pm in the Djanogly Theatre at Lakeside Art Centre (talks are Free but seats need to be booked – Box Office number is 0115 846 7777)

## **The Archaeology of the Tram**

**Wednesday 26 February Dr David Strange-Walker and Dr Gareth Davies from Trent and Peak Archaeology**

The construction by NET2 of two new tram lines from the centre of Nottingham to Toton and Clifton has created the opportunity for some of the largest archaeological interventions in Nottingham for many years. Work undertaken by Trent & Peak Archaeology includes large open area excavations of a prehistoric landscape at Clifton and the important medieval priory at Lenton. This talk will discuss some of the findings of the archaeological work so far and what this work means in the context of the city's history. After the talk there will also be an opportunity to see some of the finds from the excavations and chat further with the project team in the Museum.

## **Anglo-Saxon and Viking-Age Societies in the Trent Valley, c. AD 400-1066.**

**Wednesday 9 April Dr Chris Loveluck, Department of Archaeology at the University of Nottingham**

This lecture will examine the archaeological evidence for the nature of Anglo-Saxon and Viking-Age societies in the valley of the River Trent and its adjacent region, between the fifth and mid eleventh centuries. Key themes discussed will be the formation of the different societies that we call 'Anglo-Saxon' in the region; settlements, landscapes and lifestyles within the Kingdom of Mercia; the role of the Trent as a communication corridor for contacts and trade; the impact of the Viking Age; and the development of the towns and shires of the Trent valley in the tenth and eleventh centuries AD. After the talk there will be the opportunity to handle and find out about Saxon artefacts from the Museum collections.

## **War and diplomacy on Rome's northern frontier**

**Wednesday 14 May Dr Fraser Hunter, Principle Curator of Iron Age and Roman Collections at the National Museum of Scotland**

There was a long and tangled relationship between Romans and locals on Britain's northern frontier - and both sides were changed radically by the experience. For a long time, Roman historical sources and Roman military archaeology were the main pieces of evidence used. In recent years, however, archaeology has given voice to the local side of the story. This talk will use the latest perspectives from archaeology to rewrite history, telling tales from the edge of the empire which are complex, intricate and fascinating. Following the talk there will also be an opportunity to look at Roman artefacts from the collections of the University of Nottingham Museum.

## Past and Inherited Differences: Scotland, England and the Union of the Crowns

Senate Chamber, Trent Building, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RD Wednesday, February 26, 2014 from 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM On 18 September 2014, people resident in Scotland will have the opportunity to vote on whether Scotland should leave the Union. This event considers the differences between Scotland and England prior to the Union of the Crowns in 1603, in history, in the built environment and in law, and the significance of those differences in defining Scotland and England as separate entities in the medieval world, and, possibly, also in the modern one. The speakers are: Dr David Caldwell, former Keeper of Scotland and Europe for the National Museums Scotland; Professor Hector MacQueen, professor of private law, University of Edinburgh, and Scottish Law Commissioner; Dr Jenny Wormald, Honorary Fellow, Scottish History, University of Edinburgh.



Source: [supremacyandsurvival.blogspot.com](http://supremacyandsurvival.blogspot.com)

The event is free and open to all. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and to participate in the discussion.

## "A Night At The Museum" at the Galleries of Justice Museum

15 May 2014 5:30-8pm

The galleries of Justice will be taking part in 'Museums At Night' 2014 with a unique celebration of 'A Night At The Museum'. This is an exclusive event held especially for 'Museums At Night'. Tours will run at 5:30pm and 6:30pm

You will be welcomed by costumed actors who will deliver an outstanding performance in the original Victorian courtroom on the site of Nottinghamshire's old County Gaol, where objects and statues will come to life! Step back in time and discover Nottingham's horrible history in this family friendly event, suitable for all ages.



Galleries of Justice.  
Source: [empedia.info](http://empedia.info)

There will be a fully licensed bar on the evening serving a range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

Suitable for any age. Family friendly Admission £5 per person.

## Ballots, Blacklegs and Bedlam: The Nottinghamshire Miners and the 1984-85 Miners' Strike – a reassessment.



YOU WILL LOOK  
BACK AT THIS  
STRUGGLE –  
YOU WILL LOOK  
BACK WITH  
PRIDE IN YOUR  
EYES AT WHAT  
YOU HAVE  
DONE.  
ARTHUR  
SCARGILL

Tuesday 25th March 10.00am.

Illustrated talk and book launch to the Nottinghamshire Local History Association – Angel Row Forum – March 2014.

In the 30 years since the start of the year long 1984-85 Miners' Strike the stance of the Nottinghamshire miners has always courted controversy. For some it was (and still is!) in the Nottinghamshire coalfield that the “heart and soul” of strike-breaking could be found, their image being stained for eternity because of the links with 1926 and the breakaway “Spencer Union”.

However, when the evidence is assessed the image of a coalfield of “natural blacklegs” can be challenged and a picture painted of a moderate mining trade union acting within its own understood custom and practices against what was viewed as a national union acting in a dictatorial fashion.

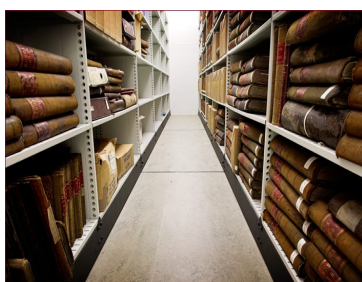
Dr David Amos (University of Nottingham) will discuss some of the findings from his Research Degree (2007 – 2012) in an illustrated presentation, and try and dispel some of the myths and folklore which surround the Nottinghamshire miners and the 1984-85 strike. Copies of Dr Amos's book “The Nottinghamshire Miners, the UDM and the 1984-85 Miners Strike: Scabs or Scapegoats?”

### Nottinghamshire Archives talks

**Introducing Archives.** The Bramley Centre, King Street, Southwell, Notts NG25 0EH. 10th February 2014 3pm. Admission FREE

A talk providing a general and more specific introduction to archives and how you can find out more about your family and local history. Contact Email: [southwell.library@nottsc.gov.uk](mailto:southwell.library@nottsc.gov.uk) Tel: 01636 812148

**Ask An Archivist! Library Surgery** Church Street, Stapleford NG9 8GA Tel: 0115 939 9178 20th February 2-4pm. Admission FREE  
Surgeries take place in libraries around the county. An archivist will be available at each surgery to talk about your family and local history and provide advice on sources at the archives and the library. Until autumn 2013 Stapleford Library is located at the Carnegie Civic and Community Centre, Warren Avenue, Stapleford, NG9 8EY. 07557 216347



### Inspired Days out are now only a click away...

Robert Howard has started a history by bus blog publicising some 100 heritage related locations you can reach direct by bus from Nottingham City Centre, which he plans to turn into a website. Please see: <http://historybybus.blogspot.co.uk> for more information. Nearly eighty of the entries cover the county, whilst other entries go as far as Oakham in Rutland.



### Ruth Imeson Appointed Manager for Archives and Local Studies in Nottinghamshire

As many of you are aware Mark Dorrington has been appointed as Keeper of manuscripts and records at Nottingham University and left the County Council in mid November 2013.

Following a national recruitment process Ruth Imeson has been appointed to the post of - Team Manager Archives and Local Studies at Nottinghamshire County Council and has now taken up the post. Ruth was formerly Principal Archivist (Records Management) at Nottinghamshire Archives and previously worked in Oxfordshire and is originally from Worksop.

Ruth takes on the leadership of the Archives, Records Management and Local Studies services at a time of great challenge as they develop the archives office to provide better access, extended storage capacity and meet new the archives standard whilst responding to a very difficult financial situation for the County Council. We wish Ruth luck in her new role.

“YOU'D BE  
AMAZED HOW  
MUCH RESEARCH  
YOU CAN GET  
DONE WHEN  
YOU HAVE NO  
LIFE  
WHATSOEVER.”  
ERNEST CLINE

### World War I Nottinghamshire Memorials Project

In the 1980s Patricia and Maurice Wakefield visited the battlefields and cemeteries of Northern France, and this inspired Patricia Wakefield to start researching into local soldiers who fell in World War I. Over the following years she and her husband made repeated trips to France and Belgium and her research grew into an amazing resource about local soldiers who fought and died in 'Flanders Fields'.

A few years ago Nottinghamshire Archives was fortunate to be offered the documents as a deposit, and with the generous help of the Heritage Lottery Fund they are now able to catalogue and preserve this unique collection of documents and photographs. Their project involves a team of young volunteers who will not only work with the records but will also learn more about the war and its affects.



*Duisans Cemetery in Etrun.  
Source: Nottingham Post.*



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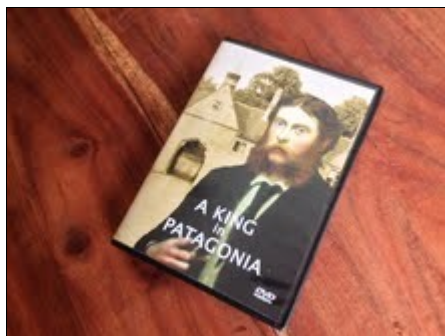
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## A King in Patagonia

The DVD of the short film "A King in Patagonia" produced in 2013 as part of the Heritage Lottery Funded (HLF) Annesley Old Church Project is now available for purchase at £5 each. Currently several local outlets are selling the DVD's including Kirkby

Heritage Centre, Ian Whites Shop at Annesley Woodhouse and the DH Lawrence Heritage Centre in Eastwood. They are also available from the Ashfield District Council Offices (Annesley Old Church Project) and can be sent by post from there at a cost of £5 plus p & p. The DVD will also be available at other local outlets in Nottinghamshire over the next few weeks.

Contact David Amos Project Officer Annesley Old Church Project Mon - Wed (08.10 - 16.00). Tel: (01623) 457092 Mobile: (07964) 736491

[www.nlha.org.uk](http://www.nlha.org.uk)

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[chairman@nlha.org.uk](mailto:chairman@nlha.org.uk)

## Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire Labour History Society host

**'Infidels, Atheists and Secularists'** - a talk to be given by Christopher Richardson\* on Saturday 22nd February, commencing at 2.00 pm (doors open at 1.30 pm), at the Nottingham Mechanics. \*Christopher will have copies of his book 'A City of Light: Socialism, Chartism and Co-operation – Nottingham 1844' for sale at the event and there will be the opportunity to browse a wide range of other books on labour movement history on the Northern Herald book stall.

## NOTTINGHAM Pacifism and feminism in WW1 22nd February

**2014: 2pm** International Community Centre, 61b Mansfield Rd, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, NG1 3FN. A talk by Floe Shakespeare looking at women's involvement in the pacifist movement in WW1. Event open to all Cost £3 Donation. Nottingham Women's History Group. Contact [www.nottinghamwomenshistory.org.uk](http://www.nottinghamwomenshistory.org.uk), Facebook, [nottmwomenshistory@gmail.com](mailto:nottmwomenshistory@gmail.com) or Val on 07500 534563.