



Jenny Sissons

Our friend and colleague Jenny Sissons died on 8th March 2021

Jenny was born in Papplewick in November 1946 and attended the County High School in Arnold. In 1967 she married Michael Page and moved to Grimsby where Michael was a serving Police Officer. After the break-up of her marriage in 1997 she returned to Nottingham and settled in Brinsley where she met the love of her life, Susan, at an action group meeting in 1997. Jenny worked for The Inland Revenue for 23 years and travelled extensively for her work before retiring early due to ill health.

Jenny was very active in her local community. As Chair of Brinsley village action group she led campaigns against building on greenbelt land and worked to protect heritage, wildlife, flora and fauna. She was also a parish councillor for Brinsley and in 2019 she stood as an Independent candidate in the Broxtowe borough local elections. In later years as a member of a writing group she became a published author for her memoirs and poetry, and she was very active in the LGBT movement. She came out in 2014.

Jenny was a former student of the University of Nottingham where she gained an MA in Local and Regional History. She taught family history to community groups and gave local history talks. She was an expert on Grimsby fishermen and the village of Papplewick, and she also undertook research into Nottinghamshire's mediaeval monastic sites for which she received a grant from The Thoroton Society's Geoffrey Bond scheme.

Jenny had a deep-rooted love of local history and

was a founder member and committee member of The Friends of Nottinghamshire Archives, as well as being a long-standing member, active supporter and trustee of Nottinghamshire Local History Association [NLHA].

She was concerned that we should all try to create opportunities for young people to get involved in local history through clubs, societies and education. Jenny liaised with The Samworth Academy in Mansfield to organise various events, one of which was an NLHA Local History Day School where she gave a talk on family history and other colleagues presented sessions on apprenticeships, oral history and archaeology. Her organisation and enthusiasm were key to a day that was a great success. Jenny was also a wonderful supporter of the NLHA Youth Heritage Conferences.

Colleagues recall meeting Jenny in 2005 at a landscape archaeology training week at Laxton Castle where she took pity on poor frozen students and allowed them to warm up in her campervan where she provided endless hot drinks. She was so enthusiastic about being on the course and helped to keep up everyone's spirits despite the long days and foul weather. She had a superb sense of humour and was always such a kind soul.

Jenny was a larger-than-life character who was passionate about promoting local history. She was very supportive of local groups and people where she encouraged them to achieve better things. She was a great problem solver, very forthright and open, and very caring to her friends and family. She was a walking encyclopaedia and knowledgeable about everything in life. Jenny had a great sense of humour, was passionate, determined, analytical, generous and demonstrative. She will be greatly missed.

Time for Action!

The following is an appeal from Collingham and District Local History Society [CDLHS] in support of the preservation of the Roman villa site and remains which lie just across the A46, opposite the Station/Potter Hill Road junction at Villa Farm, Folly Lane, Norton Disney. Lincoln Proteins has resubmitted an application to build a large industrial-scale animal waste by-products facility in the midst of this historical environment. We ask you to submit an objection to the resubmission to Lincolnshire County Council by **23rd April 2021**.

What are we talking about?

You may already know something of the Roman villa site on Folly Lane and the recent discoveries which reveal that this was an active industrial area in the Iron Age. Along with the Norton Disney History and Archaeology Group [NDHAG] and their lead Richard Parker (who has done most of the work on this) CDLHS will be objecting to the loss of the unique heritage aspects of this site and we encourage you to do the same. The more objections received the greater the likelihood of stopping this unfortunate development.

For more information on the application go to <http://lincolnshire.planning-register.co.uk/> and enter PL/0012/21 in the 'Application Number' box. On the page that opens click on the blue PL/0012/21 which will open the page from which you can view the current documents. If you go through the same process but enter PL/0036/18 you will see the previous application and objections. However, Lincoln Proteins would not have re-applied with so few changes unless they were confident of success. So, your pen and your words matter!

The villa site and its surrounds.

The villa site was discovered and excavated in the 1930s, the cost of which was borne largely by local subscription and support from Nottinghamshire's Thoroton Society, The Duke of Portland and Newark Corporation. A number of the finds are in the care of the National Civil War Centre and the Newark Museum.

The villa stood in a prominent position above the Fosse Way looking towards the Roman towns of Brough and Newark with views across the Trent and Witham valleys. This prominent positioning is viewed as a sign of status. It is thought that the villa was the centre of an agricultural estate. The name Potter Hill comes from the large amount of pottery waste found thereabouts. This is probably the result of local production of low-grade pottery that was used for storage and to carry manure to be spread on the land. Placing a ruler on a map along North Scaffold Lane shows an almost perfect alignment between the villa, the lane, and the river crossing at Cromwell Lock. Therefore, the villa was placed in a dominant position in relation to this crossing point as well as the Fosse, both of which probably had pre-Roman origins.

Iron Age finds and the orientation of the villa led to suggestions that it belonged to a Romanised Celtic Briton and was built on an established site. Recent work by Richard Parker and NDHAG has revealed that a large area around this site was used for pre-Roman iron smelting which supports this theory. Furthermore, despite limited access, surveys suggest that there are further remains to be found in the area.

One result of Richard Parker's work has been that designation by Historic England has been extended from just the excavated area to the whole of the field in which the villa was found. However, a comprehensive survey of the wider landscape has not yet been possible. The villa is situated between Hill Holt Wood and the proposed industrial site.

How to object

Write to or email Marc Willis. Planning Services. Lincolnshire County Council. Lancaster House. 36 Orchard Street. Lincoln. LN1 1XX. Email marc.willis@lincolnshire.gov.uk Website <http://lincolnshire.planning-register.co.uk/> Quote reference PL/0012/21 & Villa Farm, Folly Lane. Norton Disney.

For Further Information

CDLHS Facebook Channel <https://www.facebook.com/CottinghamLocalHistorySociety> or see the NLHA webpage

NLHA news page

<https://nlha.org.uk/news/time-for-action/>

Church Monuments Society

Fine and Private Places: or, why study funerary monuments



On Saturday, 10 April 2021 between 17:00 – 18:00 Dr, Jean Wilson will give a general introduction to what may be gained

from the study of funerary monuments, concentrating not on the technical aspects (types, materials, development) but on the aesthetic and historical aspects, particularly emotional history.

Register via Eventbrite at

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fine-and-private-places-or-why-study-funerary-monuments-registration-143205997995>

Join us to hear about many monuments including, among others, examples from Apethorpe (Northamptonshire), Ashburnham (East Sussex), Blo' Norton (Norfolk), Buckland St Mary (Somerset), Churchill (Somerset), Elveden (Norfolk), Eyeworth (Bedfordshire), Flitton (Bedfordshire), Great Gaddesden (Hertfordshire), Hillingdon (London), Little Saxham (Suffolk), Lichfield (Staffordshire), Ringsfield (Suffolk), Sibton (Suffolk), Southwick (West Sussex), Spetchley (Worcestershire), Stanford-on-Avon (Northamptonshire), and Sutton-at-Hone (Kent).

‘Reading’ Damage and Design in British and Irish Cadaver Sculptures

On Saturday, 17 April 2021 between 17:00 – 18:00 there will be a talk discussing the history of these unusual Church monuments, by Dr Christina Welch, University of Winchester.

Register at Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/reading-damage-and-design-in-british-and-irish-cadaver-sculptures-registration-144058935153>

This talk will explore two specific aspects of late medieval and early modern British and Irish cadaver sculptures, namely damage and design. Although the design elements of carved cadavers, such as anatomy, and presence or absence of creepy-crawlies, are clearly deliberate, so too was some of the damage evident today. However, much of the damage to these unusual items post-dates their manufacture; given that they have survived the iconoclasm of the Reformation and Civil War, as well as in some cases around half a century of general wear and tear, perhaps this is unsurprising. Yet the post-manufacture damage can, in many cases, tell us a good deal about the long history of these sculptures. Commissioned to show the social elite (wealthy land-owners, prosperous merchants, and high ranking clerics) in a humbled state as naked, emaciated and dead or dying, the sculptures perhaps raise as many questions as any scholarly exploration of them can seek to answer.

Dr Christina Welch is a Reader in Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Winchester, where as well as teaching religion at undergraduate level, she leads a Masters degree by distance learning, on Death, Religion and Culture.

The Cross-Legged Effigy in Context: Myth and Legend

On Saturday, 24 April 2021 between 17:00 – 18:00 there will be a talk about cross-legged effigies of medieval knights, by Mr Mark Downing, President of the Church Monuments Society.

Register via Eventbrite at

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-cross-legged-effigy-in-context-myth-and-legend-registration-144062327299>

This event is one of the April-May 2021 mini-series of lectures providing an introduction to the Church Monuments Society. Many churches across England and Wales contain knights' effigies which have their legs crossed. This talk explores the iconography of the so-called "Crusader Knight" from their first appearance in Medieval church art until when fashions reformed a new image for the knight.



Friends of The Centre
for English Local
History

Like a well-oiled machine? How technology transformed the country house.



Ian West, Wednesday 14th April 2021 at 7:00pm
on ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85076036641>

Passcode: 971640 (if required)

The first in the new FCELH Lecture Programme will be held on Wednesday 14th April 2021. It will be held on ZOOM (link above) and the meeting will open at 6.45pm with the lecture starting at 7.00pm. It will last for approximately 30-40 minutes and will be followed by questions. The meeting will close about 8.00pm. It will be a free event.

From the end of the 18th century, many different innovations combined to make life in country houses more comfortable for their owners and guests, and less arduous for their servants. Dr Ian West of the University of Leicester has been researching the development of domestic technology for many years, along with his colleague Professor Marilyn Palmer, and the results of this work were published in a book by Historic England in 2016. His talk will show how the domestic comforts we now take for granted were pioneered in the homes of the wealthy, and how this influenced both the development of the country house and the lives of the people who lived and worked in them.

Collingham LHS

Lincolnshire's Greatest Tudor Woman



On Wednesday 14 April 2021, at 7:30pm, online, Adrian Gray will tell the amazing life story of Katherine Willoughby, Duchess of Suffolk.

Contact Collingham LHS for details.

<http://collingham-history.org.uk/>

Bramcote History Group

Secrets, Mysteries, and Curiosities of Nottinghamshire



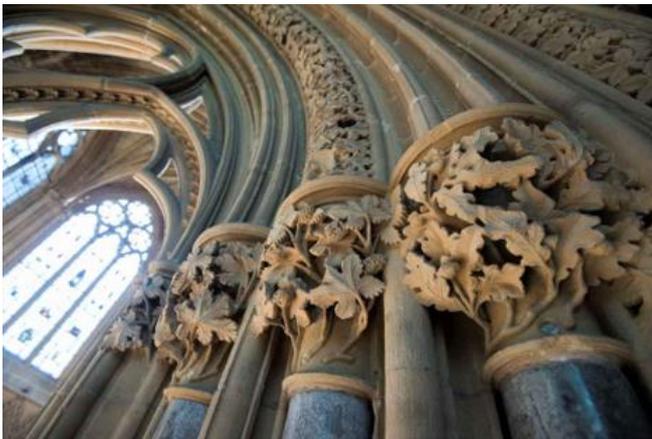
On Monday April 19th at 7.30pm, Chris Weir, formerly Nottingham's senior archivist and popular speaker, will present, via zoom, "Secrets, Mysteries, and Curiosities of Nottinghamshire".

If you are not a member of BHG please register your interest from Monday April 5th by emailing bramcotehistory@outlook.com and the necessary link will then be sent to you a few days in advance of the talk.



NLHA On-Line Lecture Series

The Chapter House at Southwell Minster: Conserving the Leaves of Southwell, Helen Bates, NLHA On-Line Lecture Series



On Wednesday, April 28, 2021, 7:30pm – 9:00pm, Dr Helen Bates will present the next in the series of NLHA on-line lectures. She will describe the highlights of the conservation programme over the last eighteen months, as well as some of the challenges that the project has faced. In addition, Helen will discuss some of the unexpected community heritage initiatives that have been inspired by the Leaves of Southwell and were developed during the Pandemic. She hopes to give a taste of the Chapter House's new visitor offer and to tempt us to arrange individual or group visits when the site fully reopens in the autumn.

Register via Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-chapter-house-at-southwell-minster-conserving-the-leaves-of-southwell-tickets-145982548733>

Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire Labour History Society

Authority on Trial



On Wednesday 21 April 2021 at 7.00 pm Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire Labour History Society invite you to a ZOOM Meeting, 'Authority on Trial' by Robert Poole.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86033848801?pwd=>

Robert is Professor of History at the University of Central Lancashire, author of the acclaimed book 'Peterloo: the English Uprising', and co-author of the graphic novel 'Peterloo: Witnesses to a Massacre'.

Wollaton H&CS

Recent Excavations at Nottingham Castle



On Wednesday 28th April 2021 at 7.30pm via ZOOM Laura Parker will give a presentation on the

recent archaeological works at Nottingham Castle during the closure and refurbishment 2016-2020.

There is no charge for visitors attending Wollaton H&CS ZOOM meetings; everyone is welcome. More information from Angela Gilbert, Secretary WHACS, angela.gilbert@live.co.uk



Speakers

Last Reviewed in February 2021

A comprehensive listing of presentations along with speaker profiles and contact details is available on our website at <https://nlha.org.uk/speakers-and-presentations/>

Please contact the speakers directly for more information

HELEN BATES



Contact details for Helen Bates are

- email: helenlouisebates@aol.co.uk
- mobile: 0785 4466183

Helen offers talks on local textile history, the 1745 Jacobite uprising, and local legacies of slavery

BRIAN BINNS



Contact details for Brian Binns are

- email: bnbinns@gmail.com

Talks on local personalities

MO COOPER



Contact details for Mo Cooper are

- email: mocooper@yahoo.co.uk
- mobile: 07950472022.
- website: <https://mocooper@yahoo.co.uk>

Talks on the history of the local deaf community, Edwardian landlords, women's history, and the history of Sherwood Deaf Community

All talks are available on **ZOOM**

GARETH DAVIES



Contact details for Gareth Davies are

- email: garethdavies@yorkat.co.uk
- telephone: 0115 8967402
- mobile: 07506920395
- website: tparchaeology.co.uk

Talks on local archaeology and excavation

MARK DAWSON



Contact details for Mark Dawson are

- email: mdfoodhistory@gmail.com
- website: www.mdfoodhistory.weebly.com

Talks on food and drink in Tudor and Stuart Derbyshire –

All talks are available on **ZOOM**

ROWENA EDLIN-WHITE



Contact details for Rowena Edlin-White are

- email: ro@edlin-white.net
- telephone: 0115 9873135

Talks on women's suffrage in Nottinghamshire

Rowena does not offer talks on ZOOM

STEPHEN FLINDERS

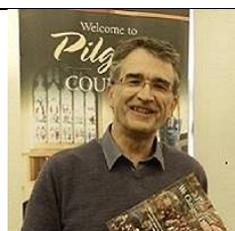


Contact details for Stephen Flinders are

- email: stephenflinders@sky.com
- telephone: 0115 8548373
- mobile: 07547555322

Talks on local, family, social and industrial history

ADRIAN GRAY



Contact details for Adrian Gray are

- email: adriangray@pilgrimsandprophets.co.uk
- telephone: 07470-366689.

Talks on local Nottinghamshire (and also Lincolnshire) general history including Nottinghamshire's Christian Heritage, historic localities and personalities.

Adrian offers all of his talks online using **ZOOM**, Teams or even Google Meet

EDWARD HAMMOND



Contact details for Edward Hammond are

- email: edwardhammond@live.co.uk
- mobile: 07852957022.

Talks on the Napoleonic and Ancient Roman wars

All talks are available on **ZOOM**

PETER HAMMOND



Contact details for Peter Hammond are-

- email: historyworkshops@aol.com
- telephone: 0115 9145520
- website: www.handsonourhistory.co.uk

Peter offers a wide range of talks on archaeology, local communities and local characters

Most talks are available on **ZOOM**

MIKE HIGGINBOTTOM



Contact details for Mike Higginbottom are

- email: mike@mikehigginbottominterestingtimes.co.uk
- telephone: 0114 242-0951
- mobile: 07946650672
- website: http://www.mikehigginbottominterestingtimes.co.uk/?page_id=50

Talks on English country houses, Victorian cemeteries, theatre, cinema

Mike does not offer talks on ZOOM

RUTH IMESON DA SILVA



Contact details for Ruth Imeson da Silva are

- email: ruth@letstalkhistory.co.uk
- website: www.letstalkhistory.co.uk

Talks on Albert Ball and other local personalities

MIKE KIRKBY



Contact details for Michael Kirkby are

- email mpkirkby@hotmail.co.uk
- mobile: 07454 015966

Talks on the stories of Nottingham regiments

BOB MASSEY



Contact details for Bob Massey are

- email: bob.m.massey@gmail.com
- telephone: 0115 9263626.
- website: www.bobmassey.info/415325374

Bob offers a comprehensive list of talks on a range of subjects New talks have been added this year. Please see Bob's website for full details.

All talks are available on **ZOOM**

ROBERT MEE



Contact details for Robert Mee are

- email: RobertMMee@btinternet.com
- telephone: 0115 9327495

Robert offers talks on castles, historic locations in Derbyshire, railways

SAM MILLARD



Contact details for Sam Millard are

- email: sammillard123@btinternet.com
- telephone: 01777870518

Talks on Rufford Park, a history mystery, and Sam also offers a walking tour of Newark

All talks are available on **ZOOM**

DAVE MOONEY



Contact details for Dave Mooney are

- email: dave.j.mooney@gmail.com
- mobile: 07961077630.

Talks on folklore and custom in the East Midlands

COLIN MOSS



Contact details for Colin Moss are

- email: cmossle@tiscali.co.uk
- email: info@nottinghamindustrialmuseum.co.uk

Talks on the history of the East Midlands Knitting Industry.

MARTIN STOTT



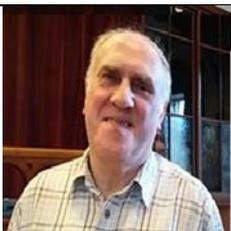
Contact details for Martin Stott are

- email: Martin.stott@bulletin.co.uk
- website: www.storyteller garden.co.uk

Talks on garden history

All talks are available on **ZOOM**

DAVID TEMPLEMAN



Contact details for David Templeman are

- email: templeman3@tiscali.co.uk
- telephone: 01246 415497

Talks on Elizabethan history with local connotations

All talks are available on **ZOOM**

STEPHEN WALKER



Contact details for Stephen Walker are

- email: stephenj_walker@btinternet.com
- telephone: 0115 963 0808

Talks on 18th century cotton mills, Gedling and Bulwell

All talks are available on **ZOOM**

CHRIS WEIR



Contact details for Chris Weir are

- email: heritagetalks@outlook.com
- mobile: 07922496682
- website: www.heritagetalks.homestead.com

Talks on Victorian Nottingham, local personalities

All talks can be presented on **ZOOM**

DANNY WELLS



Contact details for Danny Wells are

- email: danny.wells@history-talks.co.uk
- telephone: 01335 350536
- website: www.history-talks.co.uk

Talks on art, local communities and historical characters

Danny does not offer talks on **ZOOM**

JAMES WRIGHT



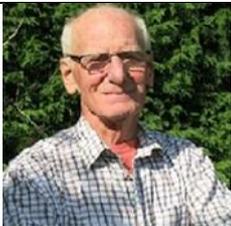
Contact details for James Wright are

- email: jpwarchaeology@hotmail.co.uk
- mobile: 07925840920

Talks on medieval stone masons, castles, historic graffiti, the manipulation of history

All talks are available on **ZOOM**

STEVE WRIGHT



Contact details for Steve Wright are

- email: steve1001@virginmedia.com
- telephone: 0115 9313592

Talks on churches, mining, locomotives, and local communities



Finally

News and Events

We are happy to publish any news or events, from individuals or groups, regardless of whether or not they are NLHA members, as long as the topic relates to Nottinghamshire local history. Please send material by email to: newsletter@nlha.org.uk

You can still access the news and events on our webpage at: nlha.org.uk

We are happy to post news and events to the webpage at any time but if you want them to appear in the newsletter then please send them by the last weekend of the previous month to newsletter@nlha.org.uk

Trustees

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (1169757) registered with the Charity Commission and managed by an Executive Committee of elected trustees:

Bob Massey – Secretary
David Anderson - Treasurer
Judith Mills
James Wright
Jeremy Lodge
Sarah Seaton
Chris Weir
Adrian Gray

**British History Online
makes all research content
free to individual users
until 30 April 2021**

<https://blog.history.ac.uk/2020/03/>



Email us at:

chairman@nlha.org.uk



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www.facebook.com/nottslocalhistory/



See us at:

<https://nlha.org.uk>