



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

# Newsletter

Volume 03 Issue 42 May 2021

## Local History Saturday Seminar

### The John Beckett Lecture

Saturday 26 June 2021 at 2.30pm

Please register via EVENTBRITE

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-creation-of-a-civic-university-the-cust-foundation-lecture-2021-tickets-152655335217>

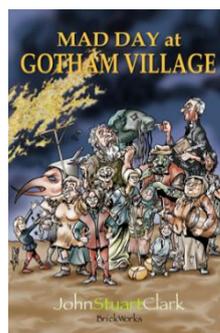


You will recall that Professor Beckett's valedictory lecture, before he retired from the University, was going to be given last June, and had to be cancelled because of Covid. It has now been re-arranged as a Zoom event and will be given on Saturday 26 June 2021 at 2.30pm.

In this lecture, John Beckett will reflect on some of the issues which have interested him over the course of his career, particularly in relation to the creation of the university in the context of the East Midlands, as he comes to the end of a long career at the University of Nottingham.

Professor John Beckett joined the staff of the University of Nottingham in 1979 and became a member of the Thoroton Society in 1980. He served as Chair of Council of the Thoroton Society from 1992-2020. He is currently Emeritus Professor of Regional History at the University of Nottingham and a Vice-President of the Thoroton Society.

## Mad Day at Gotham Village



The new book from John Clark, aka Brick, is a prose novel and not a comic, although it is comic.

Over a decade of crippling austerity has pushed the residents of Gotham to the very brink. Alerted that yet another unwarranted tax swoop is imminent, they resolve to make a stand and resist the Crown's agents. But how can reed cutters, woodworkers, seamstresses, and ordinary village folk confront the swords of the Sheriff's men without inviting a bloodbath?

Their elected strategy is hairbrained, as it would be coming from Tom de Moonstruck, the self-proclaimed neighbourhood noodler. But it is also cunningly baffling, artfully ludicrous, totally non-violent, yet threatening in the extreme, and might just work. Their master plan is to bombard the Nottingham Castle Guard with fusillades of 'steaming madness'.

Based on The Merrie Tales of the Mad Men of Gotham, this is the untold story (possibly) of that legendary rebellion, of the men, women and children who, by daring to challenge the iniquities of the State, put Gotham village on the world map. It is England's Seven Samurai, except the brigands serve the King and the peasants do it for themselves, without the gore and subtitles, in English (sort of) and with a lot more jokes.

Mad Day at Gotham Village – £6.99 – is available from <http://www.brickbats.co.uk/bookshop/> from local Nottingham bookshops and tourist sites, and from Gotham Village Post Office.

# North South Frontier



by Ian Clarke

As Nottinghamshire has few archaeological remains it has been labelled a historical vacuum. Its history derives from the research of early

historical adventurers using the limited resources at their disposal to deduce past events. The story of the legendary exploits of Robin Hood and his Merry Men has gone some way to filling this vacuum and elevated the county above others in our national awareness. However Nottinghamshire's actual role as England's North South frontier has remained untold, shrouded in the mists of time.

The county has played a pivotal role in the periodic power struggles between the people of our nation and those seeking to conquer, and in constant conflicts between the crown, nobility and church. This book seeks to chronicle that tale, from the dawn of our civilisation to the start of the industrial revolution and birth of representative democracy.

History is typically told through stories of people, places and periods dissociated in space and time. Narratives concentrate on momentous events and famous individuals, with little attention paid to the continuous and evolving nature of history through time. This narrative takes one of our most important geographical locations and tells how it was used through time by our monarchs, nobility, and church hierarchy, in their endeavours to assert their will and achieve power over the nation.

This approach allows many perplexing questions relating to how our culture evolved, and how prejudices and conflicts arose, to be answered. It becomes clear that many were not the result of the actions of a single monarch or historical actor but the product of the actions of successive dynasties, administrations and people over time.

Today, more than ever before, extensive information resources are becoming available online, including many databases of historical records. These are being analysed, interpreted and

represented by individuals across the globe with a common interest in establishing historical facts. Mining and linking information made available in this way provides an incredibly powerful tool for determining new historical probabilities.

History is acted out in the physical world and today Nottinghamshire's landscape is very different from that of the relatively recent past. The impenetrable depths of Sherwood Forest have been reduced to fragments of ancient woodland in a largely agricultural landscape. The myriad springs that once flowed with abandon from the sandstone aquifers lying beneath the forest have been massively impacted by water abstraction for domestic, industrial and agricultural use.

The fusion of information from online resources and a clear understanding of the environment of the past has allowed powerful and persuasive new deductions of past events to be made.

The results of thousands of hours of research by the author have been set down in this extensive text, covering the period from the first occupation of the county by Neanderthal hunter gatherers, to the coronation of George I in 1714. By this point the power of the monarchy, nobility and church had been greatly reduced, although not fully replaced, by the rule of representative government.

The author has lived in the county of Nottinghamshire since graduating as an engineer from the University of Nottingham in 1980. He pursued a successful career in organisational design and development within a multinational corporation, through the application of 'Systems Thinking', a technique documented at the Sloan School of Management at Massachusetts Institute of technology in 1956.

Following many revisions as new evidence has emerged the text of this publication has been reviewed and revised and is now in its pre-publication stage awaiting final release. It will allow its readers to understand many of the key events that have occurred during the county's rich past, not only in isolation, but in conjunction with others that shaped the history and culture of our land



**INSPIRE**  
Culture | Learning | Libraries

## The Humorous Side of Genealogy by Chris Broom

**Wednesday 9 June 2021 at 7pm**  
**Tickets £3, booking required**

Book at

<https://www.inspireculture.org.uk/whats-on/events/humorous-side-genealogy/>

Chris Broom is a professional Genealogist who describes family history as a labour of love that has turned into an obsession. He will take us on a light-hearted virtual walk through a variety of genealogical records, using examples to show the value of viewing original documents.

## Nottinghamshire's Black History

**Online Course-Community Learning**  
**Date 29 June - 20 July 2021**  
**Tuesdays: 10am - 11:30am**  
**No. sessions 4**

This introductory course will explore the history of black people in Nottinghamshire. Beginning with the first documented black settlers and following an historical timeline it will investigate the black history, heritage and culture of Nottinghamshire

More information and booking at:

<https://www.inspireculture.org.uk/skills-learning/community-learning/nottinghamshires-black-history-online-course-community-learning-1000-1130/>

## Historic Mapping for Beginners

**Online Course - Community Learning**  
**Date 30 June - 21 July 2021**  
**Wednesdays: 7pm - 8:30pm**  
**No. sessions 4**

This course will introduce participants to what we can learn from historic maps and other forms of archaeological mapping. From the big picture of landscape archaeology, to the details of individual historic buildings, this course will introduce learners to historic sources, where to find them, and how to interpret them. Learners will discover what they can reveal about the landscape of the past and our historic buildings. You will need to know how to access internet search engines for this course and a basic knowledge of the history of the UK would be of benefit, but not essential.

More information and booking at:

<https://www.inspireculture.org.uk/skills-learning/community-learning/historic-mapping-beginners-online-course-community-learning-1900-2030-1/>



**Nottingham Castle**

The widely anticipated reopening of Nottingham Castle is to take place on June 21, 2021. For more information see

<https://www.nottinghamcastle.org.uk/>

The landmark building closed its doors in 2018, with funding for the £30m development provided by the Arts Council England, D2N2, National Heritage Lottery Fund and Nottingham City Council. Attractions telling the story of Robin Hood will be among the new features. Sara Blair-Manning, chief executive of Nottingham Castle Trust, said: "This is a highly-anticipated moment for fans of the Robin Hood legend."

Nottingham City Council's Portfolio Holder for Leisure & Culture, Cllr Dave Trimble, said "I'm delighted that we can now look forward to re-opening the Castle Gates this summer. It's been a challenging few years since we began to transform the site and, despite the Covid pandemic, we've managed to complete the work on budget and on time. While it's been frustrating to have had to previously delay the reopening due to the Covid restrictions, we now have a firm date to plan ahead for."



## Mo Cooper

Mo Cooper is running a small history walks programme. Numbers will be limited to 12 so we can keep social distance.

### **Poverty, Prosperity and Politics Thursday 3 June, 11am**

Meet Castle Gatehouse, NG1 6DJ, finish at Market Square. The original Women's History Walk of Nottingham. Learn about the 'She Devil of France', the worn steps of the old Women's Hospital, Alice who died through the 'instigation of the devil', Lady Ludd, and what the suffragettes planned for the king's visit.

### **Ladies, Lace and Lawbreakers, Thursday 17 June, 7pm**

Meet outside Broadway Cinema, NG1 3AL, finish Weekday Cross. Exploring streets around the Lace Market, learn about 19th century lace workers, the change from "Garden City" to industrial heartland, grand ladies and women that were transported for their 'crimes'.

### **Beer, Bleaching & Burials in Basford, Sunday 20 June, 2pm**

Start at the lodge, Basford Cemetery, finish Vernon Park This is a new walk for 2021 exploring the industrial and social history of Old Basford

### **Nuns, Nurses and Notables, Thursday 24th June, 7pm**

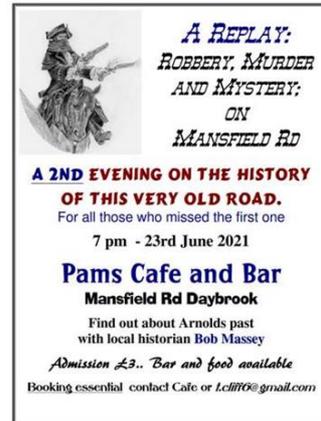
Circular walk from Nottingham Playhouse, NG1 5AF. This walk takes in the grand houses and health and philanthropic institutions in the Rope Walk area of the city. Who was Mary Potter? Who were the census evaders of 1911? What is that round building on Standard Row?

If you are interested, please book via the website <https://mocooper.weebly.com/upcoming-events.html> using the Eventbrite buttons to book. - £5 a ticket.



## Bob Massey

Bob will be at the Daybrook Scouts fair on Thackeray's Lane Park from 10am on the 6th June with his books; pop along to pick up some copies.



The first of the pub talks at Pam's Cafe and Bar on Mansfield Road Daybrook at 7pm on the 9th June **is now fully booked** so there will be a repeat session on the 23rd June. Book now by contacting the Cafe email [t.cliff6@gmail.com](mailto:t.cliff6@gmail.com)

The bar will be open and food will be available.

The talk will be about the history of Mansfield Road and the events over the centuries that have taken place. It called *Robbery, Murder and Mystery on Mansfield Road*. The road has a very long history and has witnessed all sorts of events, everything from exotic animals to highwaymen, death and battles. If you would like to come, book up early



## Rebel Countess: Eleanor de Montfort and the Second Barons' War, 1264-5

**Online, Tuesday, 29 Jun 2021, 17:00**

Eleanor de Montfort (d. 1275) was one of the most important women in England. As the sister of King Henry III, the aunt of the Lord Edward (the future King Edward I), and wife of the baronial leader Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, Eleanor's familial relations straddled the conflict between Henry III and his barons which was known as the Second Barons' War.

This was a conflict that brought great personal loss to Eleanor, when her husband and eldest son were killed at the battle of Evesham on 4 August 1265.

Left holding Dover Castle with a Montfortian garrison, Eleanor eventually negotiated its surrender and went into exile in France in October that year.

Drawing on the contents of Eleanor's household roll for 1265 (British Library, Additional MS 8877), Professor Wilkinson assesses Eleanor's role in these remarkable events, the pressures which were placed upon her domestic establishment during this pivotal period in English history, and the fates of those who supported her as the events of 1265 played out.

Book via EVENTBRITE at:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/rebel-countess-eleanor-de-montfort-and-the-second-barons-war-1264-5-tickets-152680993963?aff=wowp>

## The Wildman Family of Newstead Abbey by Helen Bates

On Wednesday 16 June 2021 at 7:00pm via ZOOM Helen Bates will tell the story of the Wildman family of Newstead Abbey

**This event is for members only.**

For information about membership or Society activities please visit <https://nottsffhs.org/>

## Another University Department Under Threat

The University of Sheffield is currently considering the future status of its Department of Archaeology. Two out of the three possible options would result in the department closing down.

We do not need to tell you the importance of archaeology for the vibrant research culture in Ancient and Medieval Studies at Sheffield.

You can find more information about the situation and about the ways in which you can express support for the Department should you wish to do so, here:

<https://sites.google.com/view/save-sheffield-archaeology/home>



# Speakers

Last Reviewed in February 2021

A comprehensive listing of presentations along with speaker profiles and contact details is available on our website <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](mailto: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](mailto:bnbinns@gmail.com)

Talks on local personalities

## MO COOPER



Contact details for Mo Cooper are

- email: [mocooper@yahoo.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:garethdavies@yorkat.co.uk)
- telephone: 0115 8967402
- mobile: 07506920395
- website: [tparchaeology.co.uk](http://tparchaeology.co.uk)

Talks on local archaeology and excavation

## MARK DAWSON



Contact details for Mark Dawson are

- email: [mdfoodhistory@gmail.com](mailto:mdfoodhistory@gmail.com)
- website: [www.mdfoodhistory.weebly.com](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:historyworkshops@aol.com)
- telephone: 0115 9145520

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](mailto:mike@mikehigginbottominterestingtimes.co.uk)
- telephone: 0114 242-0951
- mobile: 07946650672
- website: [http://www.mikehigginbottominterestingtimes.co.uk/?page\\_id=50](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

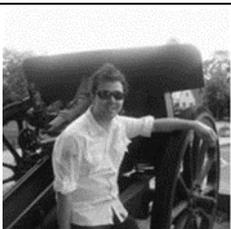


Contact details for Ruth Imeson da Silva are

- email: [ruth@letstalkhistory.co.uk](mailto:ruth@letstalkhistory.co.uk)
- website: [www.letstalkhistory.co.uk](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:bob.m.massey@gmail.com)
- telephone: 0115 9263626.
- website: [www.bobmassey.info/415325374](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:cmossle@tiscali.co.uk)
- email: [info@nottinghamindustrialmuseum.co.uk](mailto:info@nottinghamindustrialmuseum.co.uk)

Talks on the history of the East Midlands Knitting Industry.

## MARTIN STOTT



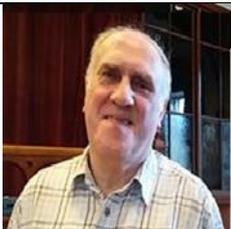
Contact details for Martin Stott are

- email: [Martin.stott@bulletin.co.uk](mailto:Martin.stott@bulletin.co.uk)
- website: [www.storyteller garden.co.uk](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:heritagetalks@outlook.com)
- mobile: 07922496682
- website: [www.heritagetalks.homestead.com](http://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](mailto:danny.wells@history-talks.co.uk)
- telephone: 01335 350536
- website: [www.history-talks.co.uk](http://www.history-talks.co.uk)

Talks on art, local communities and historical characters

Danny does not offer talks on **ZOOM**

## JAMES WRIGHT



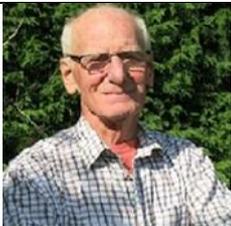
Contact details for James Wright are

- email: [jpwarchaeology@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:newsletter@nlha.org.uk)

You can still access the news and events on our webpage at: <https://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](mailto: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:

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David Barton – Acting Secretary  
Jeremy Lodge  
Sarah Seaton  
Chris Weir  
Judith Mills  
James Wright  
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