



# Nottinghamshire Local History Association



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

Volume 1, Issue 18

January 2015

## Happy New Year!

### NLHA's SPRING DAY - SCHOOL A MEDIAEVAL MISCELLANY



**Venue: Village Hall, Ravenshead, Notts NG15 9BN.**

**Saturday 21st March 2015.** Advance booking by the slip in The Nottinghamshire Historian magazine preferred but, as always, you may just turn up on the day. For further information ring 01509 820067. The fee is **£7** for members of the NLHA/Thoroton Soc. **£8** for non-members (Cheques payable to NLHA).

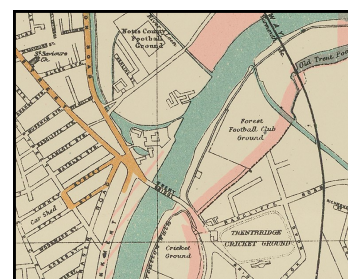
Our day school is set to be a very interesting day. Starting with **Dr Claire Taylor** 10.00am - 11.00am 'King John and Magna Carta' followed by **Dr David Crook** 11.10am - 12.10pm 'Nottinghamshire and the Robin Hood Legend'. Breaking for lunch we will hold our AGM & our regular bookstalls will be on site all day. After the break we resume with **Professor Michael Jones** 2.00pm - 3.00pm 'The White Book of Southwell – a source for Nottinghamshire history' and completing the day is **Dr David Marcombe** 3.10pm-4.10pm : 'The Green Man of Southwell: in history, legend and art.' We hope that you can join us.

### ANGEL ROW HISTORY FORUM A HISTORY MISCELLANY

**Nottingham Central Library, 1st Floor, Angel Row, Nottingham.**

**Tuesday 10th February 10am - 12.30pm. 10am - 10.30am free refreshments and registration.** Come and find out more about Nottingham's local history scene in the City's Local Studies Library at Angel Row.

News of local history projects and the chance to handle copies of a large-scale 1914 map of the city. Anyone can come along to the Forum and share news about their own research or project. A great opportunity to meet like-minded folk. For more information about the Angel Row History Forum contact Robert Howard, Tel:0115 9700369, forum@nlha.org.uk. Future forums are 19th May Publishing Local History & 9th December The Branding of St Mary Magdalene's Church Hucknall. July's forum is a museum tour & talk at Bestwood Winding House date/transport tbc.



# MEET OUR MEMBERSHIP PROMOTIONS TEAM

The NLHA is pleased to include many organisations within our membership. This year we have introduced our membership promotions team, which consists of Jenny Page and Jane Abrams. Their aim is to visit and educate organisations/museums/heritage/history places regarding the benefits of becoming an NLHA member. Each month our newsletter will feature one of these organisations giving a brief history with visiting times/features/promotions etc. If you would like to see your organisation featured by Jenny & Jane, please contact [sarahnews@nlha.org.uk](mailto:sarahnews@nlha.org.uk). Below is a short bio of each.

**Jane Abrams:** Having completed a degree in Architectural Ceramics I obtained a PGCE in Art & Pottery Secondary Education, and worked as a Technician / Part-time Lecturer in Ceramics and Photography at South Nottingham College (Central College) for most of my working life. Photography and History have always been important in my life and I look forward to getting involved in this project.



*Jane Abrams*

**Jenny Page:** I was a latecomer to Local History when I attended the Certificate Course at the University of Nottingham. I went on to gain a Local & Regional History degree in 2007, taking a more active interest in NLHA, and acting as Youth Co-ordinator for some time.



*Jenny Page*

I am really looking forward to working with Jane, and combining our efforts to produce interesting, illustrated articles for the Newsletter. We hope that at the same time, we will widen interest in NLHA, and help to increase membership

## Hodsock Snowdrop Garden

Hodsock Priory Blyth, Worksop, Nottinghamshire, S81 0TY Tel: 01909 591204 [www.hodsockpriory.com](http://www.hodsockpriory.com) or [www.snowdrops.co.uk](http://www.snowdrops.co.uk)

Open daily 10am to 4pm throughout February each year. Adults £5.00 Children £1 (children aged 5 and under are free) George and Katherine Buchanan welcome you to Hodsock Priory. The 19th century country house is home to George, Kat and their four children. They live in the old servant's quarters, and the rest of the house has been transformed into a classic event and romantic wedding venue. 2015 sees the Buchanan family celebrating 250 years at Hodsock so it's an extra special year to visit the spectacular Hodsock Snowdrops. As well as wandering amongst four million snowdrops you'll see impressive displays of hellebores, cyclamen, aconites, and irises. Colourful acers and cornus, plus the heady fragrance of sarco-cocca and winter flowering honeysuckle create a garden for the senses.

- Heated marquee tearoom serving homemade cakes and cream teas, plus hot drinks, sandwiches, soups and good old pie 'n' peas.
- Woodland walk
- Cafe by the campfire
- Victorian beehives
- Daily history talks
- New loos and new shop
- Plant sales & helpful gardening advice
- Flickr: enter our digital photo competition

## Welcome to the DH Lawrence Birthplace Museum, Eastwood one of our latest members.

### Jenny Page

When the Museum opens again on 27<sup>th</sup> January, visitors will be able to enjoy the results of the extensive cleaning and conservation work that has been going on during its three-week winter closure period. Staff and volunteers have been busy vacuuming, waxing and polishing, carrying out work essential to the maintenance and preservation of the museum collection. From 27<sup>th</sup> January the Victorian House will once again be furnished and set out with the day-to-day items which allow us get an idea of what life would have been like for the Lawrence family when they lived there.



*'Black-leading the range' Source: Jane Abrams*

Visitors to the museum on January 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> were treated to a guided tour with a difference. 'Behind the Scenes' allowed visitors to see work in progress, and how it is done. Vacuuming is not like we do at home – special methods are used to remove dust without damaging delicate fabric. A variety of natural fibre brushes are used to remove dust from china, wooden and metal artefacts, and then specialist detergents and polishes finish the job – not to make things look nice (although of course they do) - but to preserve them so that they can be enjoyed by visitors in years to come.

A major job is 'black-leading' the Victorian range – powerhouse of the kitchen, which would have been used for cooking, heating water, and for warming the room.

Warnings about not leaning or sitting on furniture made perfect sense when seeing how delicate such items are, and how they must be preserved. And the reason for not picking up delicate china and other objects by the handle (the weakest part) was also explained by the sight of items which sustained that sort of damage. Having seen around the house, visitors were treated to an opportunity to 'have a go', which really brought home the message about careful preservation work, and gave a real insight into what happens 'Behind the Scenes', to ensure the DH Lawrence Birthplace Museum remains a very worthwhile place to visit and experience.



*'Various metal objects for conservation'*

*Source: Jane Abrams*



# NLHA

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## Would you like to take an active role within the NLHA?

HISTORY  
NEVER  
LOOKS LIKE  
HISTORY  
WHEN YOU  
ARE LIVING  
THROUGH IT.  
~JOHN W.  
GARDNER

After 12 years in the post our Secretary Colin Whitham will be stepping down at our AGM in March 2015 and consequently we are looking for a replacement.



In general terms the role involves ensuring that committee meetings and other meetings (such as the AGM) are properly administered.

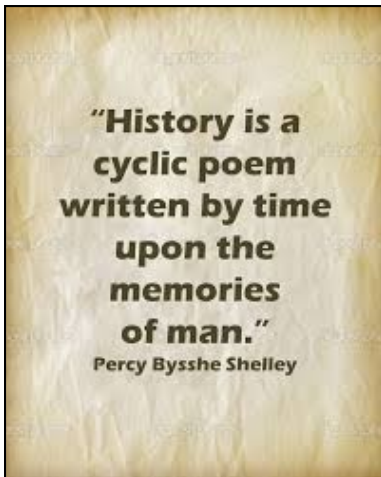
The Secretary also needs to ensure that the requirements of The Charities Commission are met and that annual returns are made as appropriate and in the correct format. The Association's registration details need to be current and accurate and the relevant insurances need to be properly maintained.

We are looking for someone who is organised and methodical, able to take good minutes, able to keep accurate records, has the relevant skills to organise a meeting well, has some knowledge of the law relating to the Secretary's role and is able to give clear advice on procedural matters.

Above all the key requirement is that you need to be patient and tolerant with a good sense of humour, unless meetings are over-running in which case you have the right to be grumpy!

We are also looking for new members to strengthen our existing Committee and replace other members standing down at the AGM. This is an opportunity to represent your local society or group, to promote your particular interest, to contribute to the development of the Association and to get involved in making local history and heritage better and more accessible here in Nottinghamshire.

Enquiries please to John Parker [chairman@nlha.org.uk](mailto:chairman@nlha.org.uk)



## New Year New Editor

After 14 years as editor of the Nottinghamshire Historian Grace Fyles is retiring. Sarah Seaton, news editor (Historian) who also produces the NLHA's monthly newsletter will combine both roles to become overall editor of the Nottinghamshire Historian. Offering congratulations on Sarah's appointment Grace said that "Sarah will do an excellent job and the role will be easier to manage with an overall editor". Everyone at the NLHA would like to thank Grace for her hard work and dedication over the years and we wish her well for the future.



*Sarah Seaton*  
*NLHA Editor*

## Magazine Articles – Contributors wanted.

If you have any articles that you would like to see published in The Nottinghamshire Historians bi-annual magazine could you please send all entries to Sarah Seaton via email attachment at [sarahnews@nlha.org.uk](mailto:sarahnews@nlha.org.uk) or via USB/CD to Sarah Seaton, Brookview House, 19 Totnes Close, Hucknall, Nottinghamshire NG15 6NU. Each entry must be no more than 2000 words and all images must have permissions to be published under a not for profit basis and be attachments rather than embedded within the text. Please note that hard copies cannot be accepted and any CD/USB will not be returned unless an S.A.E. is included. If you would like us to consider a suitable article, please contact Sarah via email.

HISTORY WITH  
ITS FLICKERING  
LAMP  
STUMBLES  
ALONG THE  
TRAIL OF THE  
PAST, TRYING  
TO  
RECONSTRUCT  
ITS SCENES, TO  
REVIVE ITS  
ECHOES, AND  
KINDLE WITH  
PALE GLEAMS  
THE PASSION OF  
FORMER DAYS.  
~WINSTON  
CHURCHILL

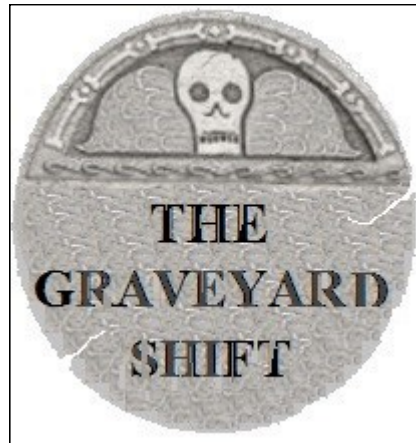
## 'Not just flat caps and pipes'

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2-4pm Meet St Anns Allotment Visitor Centre 121 Ransom Road, Nottingham NG3 3LH Tel 0115 958 9255**

**£3 incl refreshments**

Join the Nottingham Women's History Group for their tour around St Anns Allotments. Nottingham's Unique Heritage Gardens tour will be led by Mo Cooper. The site is hilly, and everyone will need to stay together for the full tour.





## GRAVEYARD PROJECT NOT DEAD AND BURIED

Although we were confident that we had put together a comprehensive and very detailed bid for Heritage Lottery funding we were always aware that there was no guaranteed outcome and that we would be in competition with other equally well presented and worthwhile bids. In our case the Heritage Lottery Fund decided not to proceed with our application for funding mostly because the database cost in the development phase was high and represented a substantial risk if the application for funding the second phase, which would involve actually doing the work to record the inscriptions, was not made or was not successful.

The database was always going to be a key part of the project as we were determined that our objective would be not only to record, and therefore preserve, the information held on gravestones but also make that information widely and easily available for future research.

I am reluctant to give up on the project altogether as I still believe that it is worth doing and that there is a considerable amount of interest in it and , not least, because I have already put a lot of time and effort into this. I am sure that we can, and ought, to proceed with this in some form as it is too important a project to ignore and the longer it is left the more problematical recording the information is going to become.

My intention is to consult with the project partners and with other interested parties within our local history community and see what is viable; to look at alternative sources of funding; and to find an alternative way of making this happen.

Thank you all for your support. I will update on progress as soon as there is any.

John Parker – Chairman NLHA

## FREE ONLINE COURSES VIA COURSERA

For those of you with a New year resolution to take up a hobby or course, you need look no further than Coursera. This website is a collaboration between universities throughout the world and covers a range of courses for everyone completely free. Using a keyword of history I was able to browse a choice of courses ranging from The Emergence of the Modern Middle East from Tel Aviv University to The Magna Carta and its

Legacy from the University of London. If you wish the course to be certificated, there is a fee of £30, however, this is entirely your choice. For more information visit the website at [www.coursera.org](http://www.coursera.org)



## CALLING ALL NLHA ORGANISATIONS/MUSEUMS/HERITAGE VENUES

If you have any news, events or information that you wish to pass on to us you can do so in a variety of ways: -

- ⌘ Annually or six monthly to go in our diary of events on our website and in The Nottinghamshire Historian Magazine (contact [John Parker chairman@nlha.org.uk](mailto:John.Parker@nlha.org.uk))
- ⌘ For the monthly newsletter (contact [sarahnews@nlha.org.uk](mailto:sarahnews@nlha.org.uk))
- ⌘ As an article for The Nottinghamshire Historian Magazine (contact Sarah)
- ⌘ For information/articles for the website contact John Parker
- ⌘ You can have your own login for the NLHA website and submit your own events should you prefer to manage items yourself contact John for more information.

## Women's Suffrage in Nottingham & AGM

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 7-9pm At the ICC, 61b Mansfield Road, Nottingham NG1 3FN**

**£3 including refreshments**

A talk based on recent research by Rowena Edlin-White who specialises in women's history – especially local women.

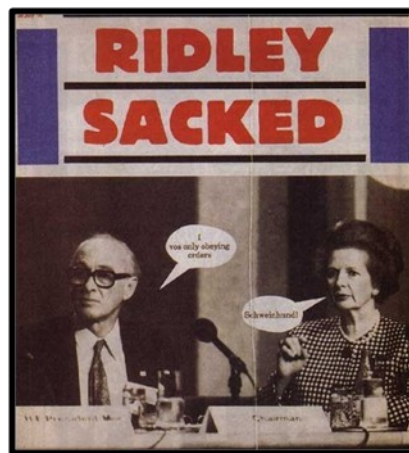


Rowena Edlin - White  
Source: Writing East Midlands

Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire Labour History Society

## THE RIDLEY REPORT AND HOW THE TORIES PREPARED TO DEFEAT THE MINERS

**A talk given by Professor Huw Beynon\***  
(Commemorating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the miners' return to work)



**Saturday 14th February, 2015**  
**2.00 pm** (doors open at 1.30 pm)  
**at The Nottingham Mechanics Institute**  
**3 North Sherwood Street, Nottingham NG1 4EZ**

\*Professor Huw Beynon edited 'Digging Deeper. Issues in the Miners' Strike', and has held Professorships at Manchester and Cardiff Universities.

Of 'Digging Deeper', E P Thompson wrote: "Digging Deeper is the first analysis of the miners' strike which is adequate to the issues .... It is refreshingly free from easy sloganizing .... and gives the problem back to all of us – not the 'miners' crisis' but our own".

Sheila Rowbotham said that 'Digging Deeper', "Documents the government's ruthless annexation of the energy establishment, the law, social security and sections of the media."

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## Fashion on the Ration: 1940s Street Style

5 March - 31 August 2015

IWM London



Picture Source:  
IWM

Tickets are now on sale for Imperial War Museum's London's major spring/summer exhibition *Fashion on the Ration: 1940s Street Style*. From 'onesies' to wear in the air raid shelter to jewellery created from aeroplane parts, *Fashion on the Ration* will look at how fashion survived and even flourished under the strict rules of rationing in 1940s Britain, often in new and unexpected ways.

The exhibition will explore how men and women found new ways to dress as the rationing of clothes took hold and displays of original clothes from the era, from military uniforms to functional fashion, will reveal what life was really like on the home front in wartime Britain. This is a story not about the end of fashion but about creativity, innovation and coping in adversity, the impact of which can still be seen in British style today.

### Museum Offers New Interactive Film Experience This Half Term

This February half term the Framework Knitters Museum, Ruddington, is giving you the chance to take part in a unique special event. In addition to the usual fun activities at the museum, visitors will get the opportunity to be the first to try out a new interactive film that allows them to take control of the story. The special winter opening for the museum will be from Wednesday 18 February to Friday 20 February, with the interactive film shown at 12 pm and 2.30 pm each day. Taking part in the special activity will be included in the normal admission price. Due to the nature of the film the activity is suitable for children aged eight and over. For more information about the film, including opening times and admission prices, visit [www.frameworkknittersmuseum.org.uk](http://www.frameworkknittersmuseum.org.uk)

HISTORY IS  
HERSTORY,  
TOO.  
~AUTHOR  
UNKNOWN



# NLHA

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## Events at Southwell Workhouse

Paupers, Petticoats & Pin-  
fores Exhibition

Sat 14 Feb – Sun 1 Nov  
(every open day), 12noon  
- 5pm

What did the Southwell Workhouse pauper inmates wear in the 1840s? Focusing on the female pauper costume, the display highlights the painstaking work which has gone into the creation of the outfits from archival research, through to design and construction.

Included in house admission

Walking For Health, Southwell: Workhouse Walkers

Every last Friday of the month except December.

Meet at the main visitor car park at 10:30am.

Join our friendly walking group for a health walk of approximately 1 hour in Southwell and the surrounding countryside. Shorter walks can be arranged if required.

A Taste of Volunteering

Wed 4 Feb, 10am – 1pm

Meet members of our volunteering community and learn more about the variety of roles on offer.

Free event but booking essential



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

Would you like to receive every edition of this newsletter direct to your email? If so please send your details to us.

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

## Would you like free entry to our day schools? NLHA Volunteers needed.

We are looking to recruit volunteers to help serve refreshments at our two day schools, this involves the procurement, making and serving tea, coffee and biscuits during the registration period and at lunchtime. Free entry into the day school is provided for all volunteers. Please contact us if interested.

## Are Your Details up to Date?

If you are a local history group could you please ensure that all contact details are up to date on our website and send copies of all your newsletters to Sarah Seaton via [sarahnews@nlha.org.uk](mailto:sarahnews@nlha.org.uk) or contact us by post so that we can distribute relevant events via our newsletter. Diary events should still be submitted in the usual way. Please ensure that all news items have 'news' in the heading/title.