



# Nottinghamshire Local History Association



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

Volume 1, Issue 22

May 2015

## NLHA SUMMER DAY SCHOOL AT BEAUVALE PRIORY

Friday 3rd July 2015

**Beauvale Priory**

**'beautiful valley'**

Our first Summer day school will be held on Friday 3rd July 2015, at Beauvale Priory, Moorgreen, Notts NG16 2AA

Starting at 9.30am, the day will include

A guided tour of the Priory by owner Ann Whyte, and a unique opportunity to see

the Beauvale Priory Cartulary, recently transcribed & privately published.



*Source: Jane Abrams Jan 2015*

Two illustrated talks: -

**Remains above ground – an overview of Nottinghamshire's mediaeval religious houses**

**The history of mining in DH Lawrence country**

Choice of two guided walks around the area, led by local historians – one approx. 4.5 miles, one approx. 2 miles (suitable footwear and clothing will be essential).

Complementary tea/coffee, morning and afternoon.

A delicious lunch in the Priory tearoom (not included in the price, to be ordered and paid for on arrival). Places are strictly limited to 30 persons, on a first come, first served basis.

Cost £7 plus lunch - Tickets must be produced for admission. To get a ticket, print off the form included in this Newsletter and send it with payment to the Treasurer at 35, Sycamore Road, East Leake, Loughborough, LE12 6PP

If over-subscribed, the day school will be repeated provided there are sufficient numbers

To become a member, send an application form (in this newsletter) and £10 to the Treasurer.

See [www.beauvalepriory.co.uk](http://www.beauvalepriory.co.uk) for history and further information about the Priory.

# First Summer Day School - Friday 3rd July 2015

Beauvale Priory

‘beautiful valley’

BOOKING FORM – please complete one per ticket



Name.....

Address.....

.....

Postcode.....

Telephone Number.....

Email address.....

Places are strictly limited to 30 persons on a first come first served basis.

Cost £7 plus lunch - Tickets must be produced for admission

To obtain your ticket, please print off this form and send it with payment to the Treasurer at 35, Sycamore Road, East Leake, Loughborough, LE12 6PP

If over-subscribed, the day school will be repeated if there are sufficient numbers – please tick here ☐  
if you wish to be included on a reserve list

Signature of applicant .....

## We warmly welcome all new members who have joined NLHA this month, including: -

### The Clock House Cafe, Upton NG23 5TE

Situated in part of the British Horological Institute building at Upton Hall, this delightful cafe specialises in home made food, real tea with strainer and timer to ensure a perfect cuppa, and also holds various cookery courses. An ideal place to visit, handy for both the Horological Institute and nearby Southwell Workhouse



For more information see [www.clockhousecafe.co.uk](http://www.clockhousecafe.co.uk), [Facebook.com/the-clockhousecafe](https://www.facebook.com/the-clockhousecafe) or phone 01636 919591

### Mine 2 Mines Education

This is a newly-formed Local History Project 'After the Coal Rush' - Nottinghamshire's Coalmining History and Heritage'. A 10 week Adult Education course will include themes such as Development of the Notts Coalfield, Life in Notts Mining Communities, Trade Unionism, Bevin Boys of WW2, Characters and Celebrities, and Our Coalmining Heritage. It will link with social media, and have an interactive website which will be populated by students of all ages.

For more information see [www.miningheritage.co.uk](http://www.miningheritage.co.uk), Twitter / Facebook @thinkamigo, or phone 07515 688 328 (Paul Fillingham)



### SABRHE (Save Brinsley's Heritage and Environment)

A voluntary group set up in 1997 to protect and enhance Brinsley's historic environment, which includes the unique colliery tandem Headstocks, and several locations closely connected with the author DH Lawrence, whose father was a 'butty' at Brinsley Colliery. Vine Cottage, home of Lawrence's aunt and uncle and the location of his novel Odour of Chrysanthemums, stands at the edge of the Headstocks Heritage site



For more information email Meryl Topliss at [n.topliss@ntlworld.com](mailto:n.topliss@ntlworld.com)



### Brinsley with Underwood Churches

These two churches, in one parish since just after WW2, are situated in an area rich in mining heritage. Brinsley dates from 1837 when it was built as a Chapel of Ease to Greasley until

1861, when it started to maintain its own Parish Registers. Underwood dates from 1895, when Earl Cowper is said to have built the church because of his guilt about the loss of common land when the area was subject to Enclosure. For the last 10 years Brinsley has carried out an annual 'Coffin Walk'



Jenny Page and Jane Abrams

**\*NLHA Angel Row History Forum,**

**Tuesday 2 June @ 10am–12pm\***

**NOTTINGHAM CENTRAL LIBRARY, 1st FLOOR**

**10am –10.30am free refreshments and signing in.**

# **A MASTER CLASS IN LOCAL HISTORY**



**Nottingham Local Studies Library** stalwarts Steve Zaleski and Peter Foster, who will present ‘A Masterclass in Local History’. They are two of the city’s premier practitioners and will be telling us how they became interested in local history and chose to adopt their different approaches, and how they came to join forces to publish as one book, ***Nottingham at War 1914 – 1919 (and) Lenton: A Suburb’s Sacrifice.***

*For more information about the Angel Row History Forum contact Robert Howard,  
Tel:0115 9700369, [forum@nlha.org.uk](mailto:forum@nlha.org.uk)*



## Newstead Abbey Garden Tours

Garden historian and NLHA member Philip Jones is leading historic gardens tours at Newstead Abbey this summer. Group visits should be booked through Newstead Abbey, e-mail: [Newstead.abbey@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:Newstead.abbey@nottinghamcity.gov.uk) Dates of tours for individual visitors can be obtained by emailing Philip at [philedjones@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:philedjones@yahoo.co.uk) Tours last about 1½ hours (weather permitting).

Explore the beautiful gardens with a knowledgeable guide and gain a fascinating insight into the gardens' history and development as you take a stroll around the herbaceous borders, kitchen gardens, rockery and Japanese gardens.



## Battle of Hatfield Investigation Society Meeting

The 5th meeting of the Battle of Hatfield Investigation Society will take place on Friday 19th June 2015 @ 7:30pm at Cuckney Village Hall, after the main meeting there will be a brief intermission and then a presentation entitled, 'The Battle of Hatfield – Did A King Die At Cuckney ?' All welcome, see the [website](#) for further details including the agenda.

## The Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Labour History Society

In June they are supporting several events for the Haslam and Harvey statues Centenary. These two gentlemen have been standing on plinths outside the former NUM offices in Saltergate, Chesterfield for the past 100 years, as the Derbyshire miners wanted to mark their contributions as the first miners' union officials and the first two MPs to represent them. Working with the Derbyshire Library Service and the Chesterfield Borough Council, they are using the centenary to celebrate the history of the Derbyshire miners. The event begins on Friday 26 June with a short ceremony outside the building at 7pm to unveil an interpretation board. Refreshments will be available in the Labour Club opposite the statues from 6pm, and after the ceremony until late.

On Saturday 27th June there are talks in the Chesterfield Library at 10 am about Haslam and Harvey, followed by a lunchtime buffet and a Round Table discussion on Derbyshire miners' history. Events on both Friday and Saturday are free. If you want a buffet lunch for £8 on the Saturday 27 June, you will need to buy a ticket in advance at Chesterfield Library, tel.01629 533400.

## Cranbrook Street Plague Burials Update

Multi-disciplinary research, involving an international team of experts, is being undertaken into a burial ground located in Nottingham city centre, which aims to unlock important information in a project entitled 'Life and Death in Medieval Nottingham.'

Excavations by amateur archaeologists in the 1930s and in 1963 form the basis of the project, which is funded by the Council for British Archaeology (including the East Midlands branch of the CBA) and Nottingham City Museums and Galleries. The project is managed by Nottingham archaeologist Scott Lomax.

The excavations, on the east side of Cranbrook Street, outside the area of the medieval town, encountered human remains representing in excess of seventy individuals. Until 2013, when samples from two of the skeletons were radiocarbon dated, it was uncertain how old the skeletons were. The first sample from individual SKV dated (with 95.4% probability) to between 1454 and 1633 calAD. There was a slightly higher likelihood (50.6% probability) that it dated to between 1454 and 1526 calAD than 1556 to 1633 calAD (44.8% probability). The second sample from individual SKVa gave a date (with 95.4% probability) of between 1415 and 1450 calAD. The dates suggested the possibility that the individuals were buried at two different points in time rather than in one mass burial, as was originally believed, but that the burial ground was certainly in use during the early to mid 15th century and possibly beyond that time. Documentary evidence strongly suggests the burial ground had ceased to be used by the 16th century and was quickly forgotten about. The dead at Cranbrook Street were buried at varying alignments, contrary to Christian custom, with at least one individual buried at a right angle to a skeleton immediately beneath. It appeared they had been carelessly buried, as if in haste.

The project now aims to understand the circumstances necessitating burials outside the medieval town at a time when five burial grounds were in use within the medieval town: burial grounds at the churches of St Mary, St Peter and St Nicholas, and the Carmelite and Franciscan friaries. The burial ground at St John's Hospital, located north of the town, had, according to historic documentation, ceased to be used by the time of the Cranbrook Street burials.

One hypothesis, supported to a certain extent by documentary research, is that the dead were victims of an epidemic, or a series of epidemics during a period of urban decline which saw abandonment of the area east of St Mary's Church following the Black Death of 1349, dereliction of property by 1374, increased poverty by 1409 and led to Nottingham being described as an 'impoverished town' by 1433/1434. The earliest burial records for Nottingham date to 1563. However, documentary research undertaken during this project, using methods never applied to studies of Nottingham's past, has suggested the likelihood that Nottingham, and other parts of the county, were visited by some form of epidemic in 1409/10, 1435-1437, 1442, 1445, 1451/52 and 1461/62. Possible epidemics occurred occasionally for the remainder of the 15th century and into the 16th century. In 1518 Henry VIII was advised not to visit Nottingham because there was 'some death' in the town. A paper is being prepared detailing these findings.

An osteoarchaeological examination has identified interesting characteristics of the remains, providing clues relating to the occupation and lifestyle of the two individuals. A facial reconstruction has been produced, to bring people face to face with a man living in Nottingham approximately 600 years ago.

Stable isotopic analysis of the remains has revealed important information about the origins and diet of the individuals represented in the surviving remains. Ongoing research, to be completed by the summer of 2015 includes ancient DNA analysis to test for up to 3000 bacterial, viral and fungal pathogens and further documentary research. The project involves some of the world's leading experts from laboratories in Nottinghamshire, McMaster University (Canada) and the University of South Carolina also being closely involved in the project.

For further information about the project please visit [www.medievalnottingham.sclomax.co.uk](http://www.medievalnottingham.sclomax.co.uk)

Scott would welcome contact from anyone whose research has revealed the incidence of plague or other epidemic in Nottinghamshire during the 15th and 16th centuries. Scott can be contacted at [sclomax2004@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sclomax2004@yahoo.co.uk)



# University of Leicester

## FREE LOCAL HISTORY DAY

**Ogden Lewis Seminar Suite, University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH (Entrance at side of Fielding Johnson Building) Saturday 13th June from 10am to 3.30pm. Lunch is provided.**

Is your local history society currently involved in research, or thinking of starting a new project? The University of Leicester's local history day on Saturday 13th June provides an opportunity to hear about and to be inspired by some of the research currently underway within the University, to pick up new ideas in our two workshop sessions, and to talk informally to others involved in local history research.

What is happening? Four talks on current research within the University of Leicester, featuring cricket tours, country house research, investigating de-industrialised areas and working with Google's Field Trip. Two workshop sessions on finding funding for your project, and using Lloyd George's 'Domesday' survey to widen public interest in your research preparing displays and organising events for people of all ages.

To book a place, please send an email to [pjf7@le.ac.uk](mailto:pjf7@le.ac.uk) with your name, the name of the society you represent, one sentence about a project you are currently doing or would like to do, and any special dietary requirements you may have. There is no charge for this

## The Traquair Murals



The magnificent Traquair Murals, unknown to many are to be found at St Peter's Church in the village of Clayworth, near Retford in north Nottinghamshire. They were painted by the 19th century Scottish artist Phoebe Traquair, who played a key role in the Arts and Crafts movement and depict biblical scenes such as the Last Supper, an Angel Choir and Christ in the Garden of Gethsemene. Commissioned by Lady D'Arcy Godolphin Osborne from Wiseton Hall in Clayworth to thank God for the safe return of her son, Major Joseph Frederick Laycock, from the Boer War they were painted in 1904/5 and are the largest of their kind in the east of England and one of only two in the whole country. They were restored in 1996 by artist Elizabeth Hirst. Parts of the Grade I-listed church date back to at least the 12th century and it is a historical and architectural treasure in its own right, full of medieval stone carvings and stunning stained glass windows. St Peter's Church is open to the public all day, every day and donations are welcome.

### Fiche Reader/Printer Free!

Please contact Newark library if you can make use of this item on 01636 703966.

### History Lines

This website is a brilliant tool for family historians and general researchers, by entering your key persons date of birth, place of living and name, the site automatically reveals what everyday life would have been like for them and what was happening around them at the time. When you sign up you get your first two for free which is well worthwhile. See the [website](#) for more information.



## Community Archives & Heritage Group Conference 2015

Enthusiasts for History - Community Archives, Public Engagement and Volunteering

Booking is now open for the Community Archives & Heritage Group (CAHG) Conference 2015, a [FREE](#) one-day conference for all involved in community archives. The Community Archives & Heritage Group (CAHG) will be holding its national conference for and about community archives on

[Wednesday 15 July 2015.](#)

[The theme of this year's conference is engagement](#)

This conference is dedicated to exploring and celebrating the enthusiasm for history and heritage which is to be found across our many communities. Our keynote speaker, award winners and group presentations will all address the theme of engagement, illustrating how community groups engage the public in their heritage and how volunteers and volunteering is core to everything community archives do.

[Key note speaker:](#)

[Our Key note speaker this year is historian and broadcaster Professor Michael Wood, Public History, University of Manchester.](#)

For more information and to book your free place visit the [website](#)

## Nottinghamshire Museum Wins European Award

A textile museum in the Nottinghamshire village of Ruddington has achieved success at the European Heritage in Motion Awards. The museum won the websites and online content category with their new interactive film, *Breaking the Frame*.

The winners were announced at the annual conference of the European Museum Academy, held in Brescia, Italy, on 8 May 2015.

*Breaking the Frame* is the core of the Museum's groundbreaking new education programme, which is the second part of the museum's Heritage Lottery Funded redevelopment. The film, which was partly funded by Nottinghamshire County Council, offers a unique interactive experience in which the audience influence the direction of the story by making decisions on behalf of the lead character at key points in the story. It uses the 200 year old story of the Luddite riots to illustrate the very real decisions children and teenagers face regarding peer pressure and criminality. It was filmed on-site at the Framework Knitters Museum, and at the Galleries of Justice Museum.

You can see the award-winning film at [www.frameworkknittersmuseum.org.uk/educational-visits/interactive-luddite-drama](http://www.frameworkknittersmuseum.org.uk/educational-visits/interactive-luddite-drama).

Paul Baker, Museum Manager, said "we are absolutely delighted to have won such a prestigious award. We are hugely proud of our new education programme and for our film to be chosen above such esteemed museums is a huge honour." Jennifer Spencer, Chief Executive of Experience Nottinghamshire, said "The team at Framework Knitters' Museum have been working hard to incorporate innovation into their programming to enhance the visitor experience, and it is wonderful to see this work pay off with recognition at a European level."

The film has also been recognised as pioneering at a more local level and is shortlisted for the Award for Innovation at the East Midlands Heritage Awards 2015. The planning and design of the redevelopment has been undertaken as a collaborative partnership with Rushcliffe School, as well as the students starring in the film and contributing to the production process. This partnership has also been recognised at the awards, and is shortlisted for the Award for Engaging Children and Young People. The winners for these awards will be announced on Tuesday 9 June.

Councillor John Knight, Committee Chairman for Culture, at Nottinghamshire County Council, was recently invited to see the film when it first debuted at the Museum, and said: "The film is very professional and educational and what is particularly great to see is that local children had the chance to get involved in this wonderful project."

The film and other educational resources have been created to support history and citizenship within the National Curriculum and is available free to all schools from the museum's website. The interactive film will also be available to the public at the museum on selected days throughout the year. Details will be available on the museum website.

For more information please visit [www.frameworkknittersmuseum.org.uk](http://www.frameworkknittersmuseum.org.uk), or contact the museum on 0115 984 6914 or [office@frameworkknittersmuseum.org.uk](mailto:office@frameworkknittersmuseum.org.uk).



# Nottinghamshire Local History Association



## How to join the Association

Please enter your details below:

I/We wish to become a member of the Nottinghamshire Local History Association and enclose a

cheque/PO (made payable to the Nottinghamshire Local History Association) for the sum of £10

(for individuals) or £15 (for organisations).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you find out about us? \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form, together with your payment, to:

David Anderson, Membership Secretary & Treasurer, NLHA, 35 Sycamore Road, East Leake, Loughborough, LE12 6PP.

Please contact the Membership Secretary if you have any questions or want to know the overseas membership rates. Telephone: 01509 820067, email: [treasurer@nlha.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@nlha.org.uk).

The Committee of Nottinghamshire Local History Association currently stores members' personal details in a computerised membership records database. The purpose of this is not only for the mailing of The Nottinghamshire Historian but to ensure better communication and in general to improve the level of service offered to members. If you do not wish your personal details to be stored electronically then please inform the Membership Secretary in writing and they will be removed and held in paper form. Please note that

Members' personal details will not be disclosed to any third party without their written permission.

## Bromley House Library

### Presents

# Into the Woods: celebrating Sherwood Forest in books and words

Over the summer Bromley House Library will once again be inviting visitors, free of charge, into our wonderful Grade II\* listed Georgian town house. We are showcasing our collection of books on Sherwood Forest and visitors are welcome to join us every Wednesday from 12.30pm – 4.30pm from 1st July – 19th August. We also have 5 talks on Wednesdays from 8th July – 5th August at 1.00pm which are open to visitors, tickets are £3.50 pp. and must be and paid for in advance. On 12th and 19th of August some of our very special books will be available for closer inspection, under supervision; these will be free of charge but again must be booked in advance. Our garden and gallery will also be open with a selection of handmade crafts for sale.

For further information please contact the library on 0115 9473134, [enquiries@bromleyhouse.org](mailto:enquiries@bromleyhouse.org) or just pop in. We are located on Angel Row just past the Bell Public House. Please note that the library is on the first floor accessed by stairs and the building does not have a lift.

Talks 8th July

Andy Gaunt: Archaeology of Sherwood

15th July

Charles Watkins: Ecology of the Forest

22 nd July

Steph Mastoris: 1609 Forest Survey

29th July

Adrian Henstock: Sherwood at the Centre of the Universe!

5th Aug

Carol Barstow: Foraging and Feasting



## **‘Women’s Suffrage in Nottingham’**

walk on

Thursday 16th July 2015, 7pm



Meet at the lodge entrance to the Arboretum on Waverley Street, NG7 4HF

£2 donation

A booklet on our research will be published late summer, 2015

NWHG events are open to all

[nottmwomenshistory@gmail.com](mailto:nottmwomenshistory@gmail.com)

Tel Sian 0115 981 0364

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

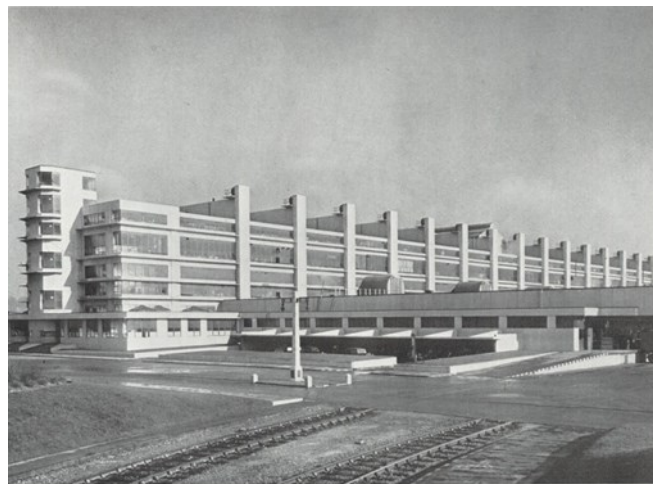
or facebook

## **The 2015 East Midlands Oral History Day**

Is on the subject of 'Oral History & Video' and will take place in the David Wilson Library First Floor Library Seminar Room, University of Leicester, on Friday 3rd July. The day will feature talks from local film-makers, the Media Archive for Central England, and the event will start early with a training session, aimed at beginners, on setting up and filming interviews. For anyone thinking of using video in a local history or heritage setting this is an ideal opportunity to learn the basics and hear about other projects. Please note that the workshop at the start of the day is aimed at complete beginners and will start at 09.30. The main speakers will start at 10.30 so when booking a place please indicate whether you want to attend the training session or come later for the 10.30 start. More information about the event is [here](#). Cost for the day will be £5 (£3 concession). Lunch will not be provided but there is a cafe at the library. There is disabled access to the venue. Contact [Colin Hyde](#) to book a place (places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis).



# Boots D6 'Drys' Factory 80th Anniversary: Oral History Project (Volunteers Sought)



SOUTH-WEST ASPECT OF THE "DRYS" BUILDING

2016 marks the 80th anniversary of the opening of the D6 'Drys' Factory at the Boots Beeston site. The Grade I listed building, D6, was designed by the engineer Sir E. Owen Williams who was also responsible for the construction of its sister building, the D10 'Wets' factory, which produced goods such as creams, pastes and liquids.

D6 was known as the 'Drys' factory because it was responsible for the manufacture, storage and despatch of pills and tablets as well as other products including: pastilles and lozenges, medicated confectionary, capsules and polyfusors.

There were also separate rooms on the first floor which manufactured products for the Farms and Gardens Department (veterinary and specialist garden) and the Toiletry Department (powders, bath salts and bath tablets).

The factory was built with efficiency in mind. Raw materials were unloaded at the north dock and stored on the third floor before naturally descending, aided by gravity, down spiral chutes, to the manufacturing plant on the second and first floors.

Railway tracks also flanked both sides of the building with goods being received along one side, manufactured in the middle and despatched along the whole length of the opposite side.

With its Art Deco design, the building features a distinctive reception area with a multi-storey staircase and 'wrapped' around windows on each landing. The area of the building covers 450,000 square foot and was estimated to cost £340,000.

In 2013, the building was refurbished to provide fully serviced office and laboratory space, and it now houses MediCity, the health, beauty and wellbeing innovation hub for start-up and fast-growing businesses in these sectors.

As part of the anniversary celebrations, the Boots archive team is looking to interview anyone who has worked in D6 over the years and who would be happy to share with us their memories and reminiscences – these can be written or recorded. These memories will then be stored within the Boots Archive Collection to enhance the heritage of the building.

If you are interested in taking part – please contact Charlotte McCarthy on 0115 959 3307; email her at [charlotte.mccarthy@boots.co.uk](mailto:charlotte.mccarthy@boots.co.uk) or write to her at the Freepost address: MID16628, Records Centre & Archives, D122 Building, PO Box 94, Nottingham NG2 1BR.

## Creswell Crags Dog Show – 14th June 2015

Creswell Crags are calling on all canines to enter their always lively Dog Show. Categories will include best dressed, best trick and waggiest tail with a prize available for each winner. It's sure to be fantastic fun for all the family and of course man's best friend!

12-4pm. £5 per dog and £1 per category entered thereafter.

## Water Vole Surveying Workshop – 21st June 2015

Expert Andrew Whitelee from Verdant Wildlife comes to Creswell Crags so that visitors can learn more about some of the most elusive inhabitants of the Crags. The Water Vole Surveying Workshop will not only look into the history and ecology of these animals but also equip visitors to carry out their very own water vole surveys to help ensure the survival of these fascinating creatures.

Sunday 21st June, 10.30-3pm. £10 per person.

## Archaeology Talks/Workshops

FARI Archaeology – Roman Settlements Weds 3rd June 07:30 pm to 09:00 pm

Richard Tyndall

Farndon Memorial Hall, Marsh Lane, Farndon NG24 3SX

Public: £2.00 | FARI: £1.50

FARI ARCHAEOLOGY Talk – Theres nowt in them fields

Wednesday 17th June 07:30 pm to 09:00 pm

John Goree

Farndon Memorial Hall, Marsh Lane, Farndon NG24 3SX

Public: £2.00 | FARI: £1.50

WORKSHOP ONE: Human Remains: The Bare Bones of Human Osteology

Friday 12th June 10:00 am to 03:00 pm

MBArchaeology

Creswell Crags, Crags Road, Welbeck, Worksop, Nottinghamshire S80 3LH

Cost: £30.00

WORKSHOP TWO: Human Remains: Grave Matters in Archaeology

Saturday 13th June 10:00 am to 03:00 pm

MBArchaeology

Creswell Crags, Crags Road, Welbeck, Worksop, Nottinghamshire S80 3LH

Cost: £30.00

See [FARI](#) website for further details or [MB Archaeology](#).



## Nottingham Historical And Archaeological Society

**John Parker** Chairman  
[chairman@nlha.org.uk](mailto:chairman@nlha.org.uk)

**Chris Weir** Vice Chairman  
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The society was formed to record and excavate the Broadmarsh Caves, which due to the development of the area were at risk of being lost. Over the years the society has excavated several different systems and wells under Nottingham, but it isn't just about excavating there are other jobs, like washing and recording finds, reconstruction of pottery finds and research into the property or area that the society is working on.

They are a voluntary organisation and only work on a Wednesday night from 7.30pm until 9pm. If you have a few hours to spare and are over 16 years old and would like to help record and preserve Nottingham's unique heritage please contact Pauline Dewberry at [pauline.dewberry@ntlworld.com](mailto:pauline.dewberry@ntlworld.com) (Tel: 07757970220) or Martin Coleman [martin.jcoleman@ntlworld.com](mailto:martin.jcoleman@ntlworld.com).

### Welbeck Abbey State Room Tours

Welbeck Abbey's State Rooms are open to the public for 28 days during August for guided tours. These walking tours last approximately an hour and a half.

Tickets can be booked in advance through Ticketline, or on the day at The Harley Gallery (subject to availability).

The tour takes in the grand State Rooms, the Abbey's reception rooms which have been host to royalty, aristocracy and statesmen.

The State Rooms are decorated with objects and artworks from The Portland Collection; an internationally significant collection which includes one of the largest privately owned collections of British portraits. Works on show at Welbeck Abbey include pieces by Sir Peter Lely, John Wootton and Sir Joshua Reynolds.

Visitors can also enjoy Welbeck Abbey's architecture which has evolved over the generations. The tour includes the Countess of Oxford's soaring plaster-work ceiling in the Gothic Hall, and the Duchess of Portland's State Rooms remodelled by Sir Ernest George, c. 1905.

Please see the [website](http://www.welbeckabbey.co.uk) for further information and booking.

