



## Working together: what we do best

Volume 2, Issue 1, September 2015

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## EXACTLY 100 YEARS AGO - THE BATTLE OF LOOS

The Battle of Loos, which took place between September 25th and October 14th 1915, was the largest British offensive mounted in 1915 on the Western Front during World War I. The first British use of poison gas occurred and the battle was the first mass engagement of New Army units.

British casualties amounted to 50,000 with at least 20,000 deaths.

German casualties were approximately 25,000.

The bloodiest day was on September 28th when around 8,000 British troops were killed in the space of four hours during an attack on well-defended German positions.



The 7th (Robin Hood) battalion of The Sherwood Foresters on the march.

## GEOFFREY VICKERS VC.

Sir (Charles) Geoffrey Vickers, VC (13 October 1894 – 16 March 1982) was an English lawyer, administrator, writer and pioneering systems scientist. He had varied interests with roles at different times with the London Passenger Transport Board, Law Society, Medical Research Council and Mental Health Research Fund. In the later years he wrote and lectured on social systems analysis and the complex patterns of social organisation. The Sir Geoffrey Vickers Memorial Award has been presented by the International Society for the Systems Sciences since

1987 in his memory.

He was born and grew up in Nottingham, where his father Charles Henry Vickers ran a successful lace business, Vickers & Hine Ltd. He attended Bramcote, a preparatory school near Scarborough and then Oundle School before entering Merton College, Oxford where he briefly studied Classics from 1913 until the start of war. His education was interrupted by World War I when he and his brother William Burnell Vickers volunteered for service in the army. Geoffrey joined the Sherwood Foresters (7th Robin Hood Battalion) and was in France before the end of 1914 first as a second lieutenant, promoted to temporary Captain in 1915 and then to Major and as Second in Command, 1 Bn, The Lincolnshire Regiment in 1918. He won the Victoria Cross for his actions on 14 October 1915 at Loos when he held a barrier across a trench in the Hohenzollern Redoubt against heavy German counter-attacks ordering a second barrier to be built behind him in order to secure the safety of the trench regardless of the fact that his own retreat would be cut off holding back the enemy for long enough for the second barrier to be completed.

## HELLO

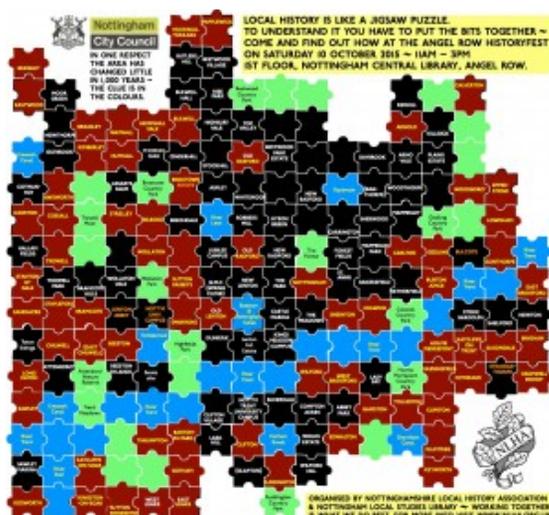
Welcome to the new edition of our monthly newsletter. The format has changed slightly but the content is pretty much as before and contains information on forthcoming NLHA and local society events and items of relevant news. Sarah Seaton is spending her time focussing on development of *The Nottinghamshire Historian* so editorial of the newsletter is temporarily down to me. If anyone would like to get involved in producing the newsletter, reporting on events or delivering local history news please get in touch with me. As always society programs and news for inclusion in the newsletter and the webpage should be emailed to Sarah or to me.

Thank you for your support.

John Parker

Chairman

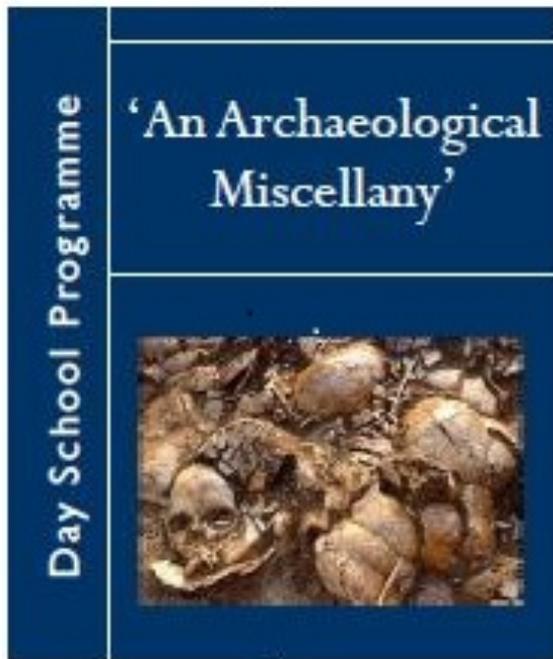
## NLHA EVENTS



### Nottingham Angel Row Historyfest

On Saturday 10th October in the Local Studies Library, Nottingham Central Library, Angel Row, Nottingham between 11am and 3pm take the opportunity to come and see first hand the work of twenty-four local history related groups and organisations in the Greater Nottingham area, plus a number of short presentations on a range of local history related topics. Admission is free. ...

[Read more.](#)



## NLHA Autumn Dayschool 2015 - An Archaeological Miscellany

24th October 2015 at The Village Hall, Ravenshead, Nottinghamshire NG15 9BN commencing at 9:30, finishing at about 4:15. Emily Gillott and Lorraine Horsley on The Roman Settlement at Segelocum, Matt Beresford on Excavations at Southwell, Rob Smith on The Southwell Settlers, LilyAnn Dawes on Forensic Archaeology and David Budge on Small Finds. Admission £7.50 for NLHA members and £8.50 for non-

members. ...

[Read more.](#)



## 4th Nottinghamshire Youth Heritage Conference

A FREE event for young people (and heritage professionals working with young people) at St Barnabas

Cathedral Hall, North Circus Street, Nottingham NG1 5AE on Saturday 7th November 2015 from 10:00am to 3:00pm. Sessions on heritage, project stands, Digging up Rubbish, a mystery walk. Booking is essential at [www.nyhc.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.nyhc.eventbrite.co.uk). There will be some refreshments but bring your own packed lunch. ...

[Read more.](#)

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## A DAY IN THE LIFE

With apologies to John Lennon and Paul McCartney.

Rowena Merrill from Tollerton has donated the newspapers that her mother has been collecting for a good many years, dating back to 1920s. They cover mostly 'Royal' and 'The War' topics but I thought it would be interesting to have a look at what was happening on a monthly basis. So for October.....

On Friday 12th October 1984 The Evening Argus reported on the bombing of the Grand Hotel in Brighton where two people died and 27 were injured when a massive blast rocked the hotel in the early hours of the morning. Mrs Thatcher and her top Cabinet Ministers, all staying at the Grand for the Tory conference, were taken to Brighton police station before being whisked to secret locations. Industry Secretary Norman Tebbit was trapped in the rubble for several hours.

Also on 12th October 1984 The Argus reported that Chief Constable of Sussex, Mr Roger Birch, had defended his force's involvement in policing pit trouble spots despite the pressure it had created.

On October 29th 1985 The Nottingham Evening Post published a special edition to mark the retirement of Britain's No. 1 jockey, Lester Piggott, following his appearance at the meeting at Colwick Park.

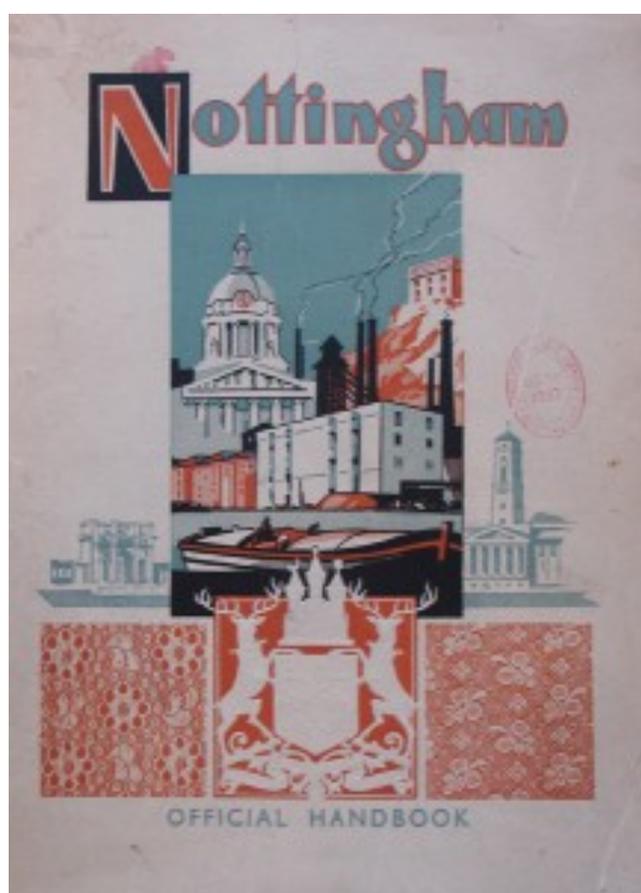
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## COMMUNITY, FAMILY AND KIN: CURRENT THEMES AND APPROACHES

Conference to be held at the University of Leicester 7th November 2015.

This conference is organised by the British Association for Local History, the Local Population Studies Society, and the Friends of the Centre for English Local History at the University of Leicester. Family, household and community reconstitution has played a major part in local, social and population history since the 1960s. Now fresh possibilities and techniques have opened up with the growing availability of sources, developments in digitisation, and new debates and analysis. This day conference will bring together varying perspectives and examples of current local studies examining the value of this approach, particularly for the long nineteenth century.

Venue address: Fraser Noble Building, 2 University Rd, Leicester LE1 7RB (on the central campus, Leicester) For further information and to book visit [www.balh.org.uk/events](http://www.balh.org.uk/events)



### Researchers seeking memories of life at Nottingham's biggest river port

Sustainable property developer Blueprint is on the search for people who have memories of the former Trent Lane Depot inland port in Colwick. Anyone with stories and pictures about the Trent Lane Depot site, or who worked there when it was a working port and after its closure, should contact Mark Patterson by email at [mpatt67@btinternet.com](mailto:mpatt67@btinternet.com) or phone 07708 336171. ...

[Read more.](#)

# MANORIAL DOCUMENTS REGISTER (MDR)

The National Archives are pleased to advise that they have recently launched a test version of the Manorial Documents Register (MDR) advanced search within Discovery:

<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/manor-search>.

They would like to offer you the opportunity to become familiar with the new look tool whilst it is available as a beta service and provide feedback. This marks the beginning of a period of time where the MDR and updated Discovery service will run in parallel. Discovery has been developed with requirements and feedback from staff, users, archives services and interest groups and National Archives has been working on this Finding Archives

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/archives-sector/finding-archives.htm> element of Discovery since 2011.

Please note that the four counties added to the MDR in 2015 (Derbyshire, Somerset, Staffordshire and Sussex) do not appear in the 'historic county' menu at present. These will be added in due course. In the meantime, the data for all of these counties is available on Discovery and can be searched by Manor name and Parish name. National Archives have developed and updated existing help and guidance in order to support the use of the MDR. This can be found at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help/accessing-records-of-mdr.htm>

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## LOCAL SOCIETY EVENTS FOR OCTOBER 2015

### Footpads: Kings and Highwaymen, Lambley HS

Presented by Ian Morgan at Lowdham Women's Institute on 28th September 2015 commencing at 7:30pm..

[Read more.](#)



### AGM, Friends of Moor Pond Woods

AGM at Papplewick and Linby Village Hall on 30th September 2015 commencing at 7:30pm. Details from the Secretary.

[Read more.](#)



### The Fanes of Fulbeck Hall, Keyworth & District LHS

Presented by Michael Siverns on 2nd October 2015 at Keyworth Centenary Lounge commencing at 07:30 pm.

[Read more.](#)

## SAS Operation Gallia, West Bridgford & District LHS

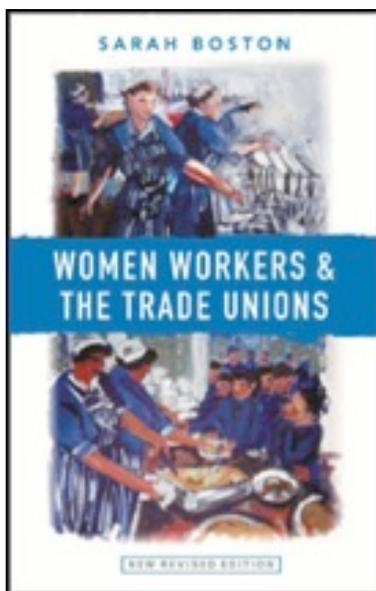
2nd October 2015 at West Bridgford Lutterell Hall commencing at 07:30pm. Presented by Rob Hann.

[Read more.](#)

## Home Front Legacy Project, Council for British Archaeology

CBA, in partnership with Historic England, is running a Home Front Legacy project to help groups across the country to record the nation's physical heritage relating to WWI. A series of training days are being held nationally, one of which will be in Bingham on Saturday 3rd October. The day school is FREE, but booking is required through EVENTBRITE

[Read more.](#)



## Women Workers and the Trade Unions, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire LHS

A talk by Sarah Boston on Saturday 3rd October 2015 commencing at 2:00pm (following the Society AGM at 1:15pm) at The Nottingham Mechanics Institute 3 North Sherwood Street, Nottingham NG1 4EZ. Sarah Boston is an award winning documentary film maker and author and has been a trade union member (ACTT/BECTU) since 1967 and researcher into other unions and their history.

[Read more.](#)

## Writing Local Historical Novels, East Bridgford LHG

Presented by Alan Dance on 6th October 2015 at East Bridgford Methodist Church commencing at 7:30pm.

[Read more.](#)

Local History Seminar,  
University of Nottingham

Commencing at 10:00am on 10th October 2015 at Lenton Grove on the University of Nottingham's University Park campus two sessions will be chaired by Dr. Richard Gaunt. The first session presented by Cal Warren of Nottingham City Council will focus on re-development at Nottingham

Castle. The second session presented by Dr. Judith Mills will consider recent research into Robin Hood.

[Read more.](#)



## A palace for our kings, The Thoroton Society

On 10th October at the Nottingham Mechanics, 3 North Sherwood Street, NOTTINGHAM NG1 4EZ at 2.30 pm. James Wright, Senior Archaeologist, Museum of London Archaeology & Andy Gaunt, Director, Mercian Archaeological Services present an archaeology lecture on the decade of research into a royal residence in the heart of Sherwood Forest at Kings Clipstone.

[Read more.](#)



## Members' Night, Numismatic Society

Members Night at Beeston Library commencing at 6:00 pm on 13th October 2015.

[Read more.](#)

## Slums: Hardship and Hosiery, Burton Joyce & Bulcote LHS

Presented by Mick Whysall on 13th October 2015 at Burton Joyce Carnarvon Room commencing at 7:30pm.

[Read more.](#)



## Best of British: New Architecture of the last 100

## years, The Thoroton Society

The Keith Train Lecture in association with Nottingham Civic Society presented by Elaine Harwood of English Heritage at Cathedral Hall, Wellington Circus, at 7.30pm on Tuesday 13 October.

[Read more.](#)

## Talespin, Farnsfield LHS

Short stories ranging from dark to humorous presented by The Woolly Tellers on 14th October 2015 at Farnsfield Village Centre commencing at 7:30pm.

[Read more.](#)

## The Victorian Fair: Freaks and fisticuffs, Stapleford & District LHS

Presented by Ann Featherstone at Stapleford Maycliffe Hall on 14th October 2015 commencing at 7:30pm.

[Read more.](#)



## Mary Queen of Scots: The Captive Queen, Retford and District H & A S

Mary Queen of Scots Presented by David Templeman at Retford Chapelgate Hall on 14th October 2015 commencing at 07:30pm.

[Read more.](#)

## Village subjects, Coddington HG

Short talks on village subjects by Coddington History Group members at Coddington Village Hall on 15th October 2015 commencing at 7:30pm.

[Read more.](#)

## It Shouldn't Happen to a Bus Driver, Woodborough LHG

Presented by Michael Harrison at The Institute, Woodborough on 15th October 2015 commencing at 7:30pm.

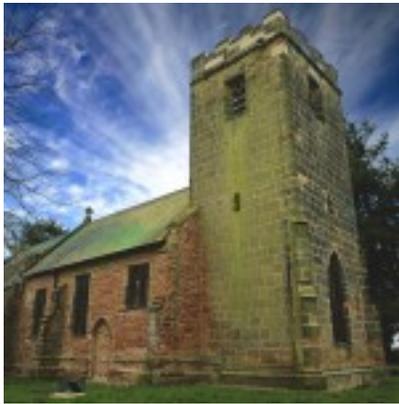
[Read more.](#)

## Edward Carver, Friends of Nottingham Museums.

A Victorian hatter and furrier, presented by Peter Hammond at Nottingham Castle Studio 1 on 17th October 2015 commencing at 2:00pm prompt. Non-members are welcome at an extra charge of £2 (normal entry to The Castle applies). There is a regular programme of talks, visits to galleries

and historic sites and all members receive a quarterly newsletter.

[Read more.](#)



## The Evelyn Gibbs Murals, Nottingham Women's History Group

On Saturday 17th October the Nottingham Women's History Group has arranged a private tour of the award winning refurbished St. Martin's Church in Bilborough. Meet at the church on St. Martin's Road, Off Strelley Road, Bilborough, Nottingham NG8 3BH at 2.30pm. The tour is FREE, but we'll take a collection for a donation to the project. Book by emailing NWHG. ...

[Read more.](#)

## The Chesterfield Canal, North Muskham LHG

Presented by John Lower at North Muskham Village Hall on 19th October 2015 commencing at 7:30pm .

[Read more.](#)

## When the Bands Played On, Arnold LHG

Presented by Chris Weir at Arnold Labour Club on 20th October 2015 commencing at 7:00pm.

[Read more.](#)

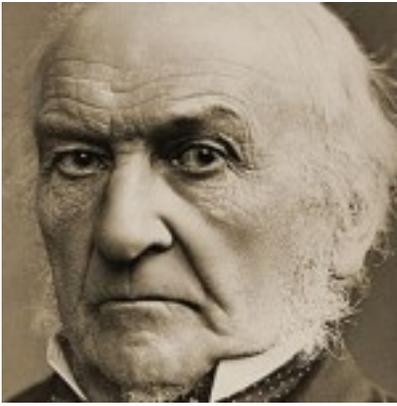


## Old films of Nottingham, Beeston & District LHS

Presented by Maureen Rushton at Chilwell Memorial Institute on 21st October 2015 commencing at 7:30pm.

[Read more.](#)

## Gladstone: The Grand old man of Nottinghamshire, Nottinghamshire FHS



W. E. Gladstone Presented by Richard Gaunt at Nottingham Mechanics Institute on 21st October 2015 commencing at 7:30pm.

[Read more.](#)

## Leicestershire Regiments from Outbreak to Christmas Truce, East Leake & District LHS

Presented by Dr. J Sutton at East Leake St Mary's Church Hall on 21st October 2015 commencing at 7:30pm.

[Read more.](#)

## Segelocum: Roman Town, Bingham & District LHS

Presented by Emily Gillott and Lorraine Horley at The Old Courthouse, Bingham on 22nd October 2015 commencing at 7:15pm.

[Read more.](#)

## 100 years of Doncaster Corporation Transport 1902-2002, Worksop A&LHS

Presented by Robert Ashton at Worksop Station Hotel on 22nd October 2015 commencing at 7:30pm.

[Read more.](#)

## Nottingham by the sea, Lambley HS

Presented by Bob Massey at Lowdham Women's Institute Hall on 26th October 2015 commencing at 7:30pm.

[Read more.](#)

## Nottinghamshire and the Robin Hood Legend, Pentagon LHS

Presented by David Crook at Elston Village Hall on 28th October 2015 commencing at 7:30pm. Members £1.50, non-members £2.00.

[Read more.](#)

# The 1984-85 Miners Strike in Nottingham: A Re-appraisal, Wollaton H&CS

Presented by David Amos at Wollaton St Leonard's Community Centre on 28th October 2015 commencing at 7:30pm.

[Read more.](#)



## Southwell's Darkest Hour, Southwell and District LHS

Presented by Mike Kirton on 28th October 2015 at The Old Court House, The Burgage, Southwell commencing at 7:30pm.

[Read more.](#)



## Martinmas Fair, Dunkirk & Lenton Partnership Forum

Martinmas Fair will take place on the 31st October 2015 from 10.00 onwards at Priory Park and Priory Church, Lenton. There will be archaeological tours, graveyard tours, local history displays, re-enactment, Medieval music, hawking, children's activities as well as a market in this second recreation of Lenton Priory's Medieval Fair at Martinmas.

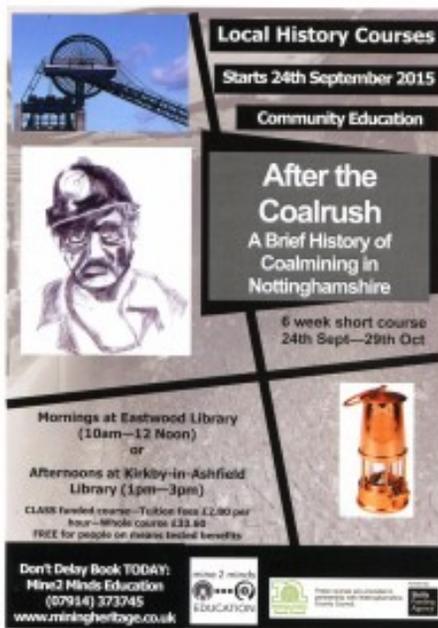
[Read more.](#)



## Student uses Museum Collection to Create Unique Knitted Artwork

A student from Nottingham Trent University, has created what is thought to be the first piece of knitted artwork using a Nottinghamshire museum's historic knitting frame. Jacaranda Brain, 20, only started to learn how to use the knitting frames at the Framework Knitters Museum in July, and has since used one to create what is believed to be the first ...

[Read more.](#)



## After the Coalrush - Local Coalmining History Short Course

A 6 session pilot adult education course on local coalmining history. Eastwood Library (10am–12 Noon) and at Kirkby Library (1pm –3pm) starting on 24th September 2015 until 29th October 2015. Tuition fees apply £2.80 per hour or whole course £33.60. Free for people on means tested benefits. More information available from Dave Amos 01773760030 at home, mobile 07914373745 or david.amos99@ntlworld.com.

...  
[Read more.](#)



## Suffragettes Film

A drama that tracks the story of the foot soldiers of the early feminist movement, women who were forced underground to pursue a dangerous game of cat and mouse with an increasingly brutal State. These women were not primarily from the genteel educated classes, they were working women who had seen peaceful protest achieve nothing. Radicalized and turning to violence ...

[Read more.](#)

## First ever FREE Nottinghamshire Medieval Monasteries Bus Tour on 14 October 2015

Nottinghamshire County Council Heritage Tourism Team, in partnership with Hucknall Tourism and Regeneration group, are proud to present their first ever free bus tour of three Nottinghamshire Medieval Monasteries - Beauvale Priory, Rufford Abbey and Newstead Abbey The bus will depart from Hucknall Market place at 9:30am and will return at approximately 3.30pm There will be guided tours of each ...

[Read more.](#)

# GO AND SEE

**A History of the University of Nottingham** at The Weston Gallery, University of Nottingham.  
Friday 18th September 2015 to Sunday 3rd January 2016. FREE admission. For more information  
go to [www.lakesidearts.co.uk](http://www.lakesidearts.co.uk)

Edwinstowe Historical Society's exhibition commemorating the closure of Thoresby Colliery which  
is being held in Edwinstowe library until 31st October 2015 and is FREE to visit.

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## AND FINALLY

Information about membership and how to join NLHA, details of local societies, events calendar,  
news items, previous copies of the newsletter, Angel Row History Forum events ..... are all  
available on the website at [www.nlha.org.uk](http://www.nlha.org.uk)

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John Parker, Chairman & Newsletter Editor: [chairman@nlha.org.uk](mailto:chairman@nlha.org.uk)

Chris Weir, Vice-chairman & Youth Co-ordinator: [vicechairman@nlha.org.uk](mailto:vicechairman@nlha.org.uk)

David Anderson, Treasurer & Membership Secretary: [treasurer@nlha.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@nlha.org.uk)

Sarah Seaton, Editor, *Nottinghamshire Historian*: [editor@nlha.org.uk](mailto:editor@nlha.org.uk)

Jenny Page, Membership Promotion: [youth@nlha.org.uk](mailto:youth@nlha.org.uk)

Susan Griffiths, origination, *Nottinghamshire Historian*: [web@nlha.org.uk](mailto:web@nlha.org.uk)