
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SLEAFORD AND DISTRICT CIVIC TRUST

We are still here during the lockdown continuing with the work of the Trust. Obviously we have, for the time being, had to cancel all face to face meeting planned for 2020. As restrictions are progressively released we will review the ongoing situation and aspire to re-establish a programme of events. Our third book - *Hidden in Plain Sight*, from the 2017 photographic competition has now been published.



DUNCAN & TOPLIS

Since our last Newsletter we are delighted to inform you that we have two more Corporate Members. We welcome Hodgson Estates Ltd and Duncan and Toplis to the Corporate Membership Group. Other Corporate Members are: Ringrose Law; Turnbull Building and Plumbing Supplies; Carre Heritage, D Hatcher & Sons.

SLEAFORD CASTLE

Readers of our past Newsletters will be aware that in conjunction with Sleaford Town Council a long term project is being completed in order to learn more about the Castle and to promote it as a significant feature of Sleaford. Thus making it a better known tourist attraction.

An initial small scale survey was completed in 2019 and this encouraged the Group who has oversight of the project to commission a full scale survey. This was completed between 14th January forward to 21st February. The Report makes interesting reading and challenges a number of frequently repeated statements about the design and layout of the Castle. This from the Report:

"A subsequent resistivity survey was undertaken as a community event. This further clarified the existence of structures in the outer bailey, though more often through rubble spreads derived from their dismantling or demolition. However, the presence of the apsidal building was confirmed by this method. The inner bailey produced less spectacular results, with high resistance readings corresponding to the central keep with no walls highlighted in this apart from those associated with a possible gatehouse located in the northwest corner. Together, the surveys have changed previous interpretations of the castle layout as determined by earlier earthwork surveys."



AGM

You will know our 2020 AGM was scheduled to be held on the 30th March of this year. We had everything in place for the formal part with an interesting presentation from Alan Gray on the future Development of Sleaford. However we were caught by the Covid 19 Lockdown. The AGM is the time when the past year is reviewed the next year plans shown and members have their say, and the committee is formally changed. With much to say on the success of the last year and changes to the committee, we have taken advice and decided to hold a on line/postal AGM to ensure members are kept up to date. In this way we have complied with the Charity Commission Guidelines. Accompanying this Newsletter you will find a separate letter which outlines how the 2020 AGM will be held and we ask for your vote in the changes to your Executive Committee.

IN MEMORIAM



Those we have lost over the last few months

Christopher Micklethwaite early April. Christopher was interested in Art Appreciation – including local artist Shannon and Church Architecture. He had a country wide following on his knowledge of art giving talks to local groups. He was much involved in the historical research of Sleaford and could talk at length on the ginnels and courts of Sleaford. He was behind the rejuvenating of the Sleaford Museum Committee which in turn created the Museum we have today.

Peter Robinson who passed away last year. Peter a Sleaford lad, become Planning Officer for SKDC. He later moved to Denver Colorado, America where he made his home. Peter had been a leading light in the Sleaford & District Civic Trust in the early days, and still to the end produced articles for the Trust's Newsletter. **Janet Williams** who passed away late March. Janet who was married to Ron Williams. Ron was a past Chairman of the Sleaford Museum and created the Sleaford Virtual Museum back in 2007 which was the first in the country. **Nigel Burn** passed away mid March. Nigel was Chairman of the SLHA. Nigel succumbed to Covid 19 and his passing will be a great loss to the county.

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENTS

A major aspect of moving ahead during this lockdown is in reviewing our current website and how it can be made more useful and informative. This will inevitably mean a re-design and moving across from the current server arrangements to a new provider. While all of this is at an early stage of discussion and investigation we now have a new email address. This can be found at the bottom of the page.



Sleaford and District Civic Trust
The Town Hall, Quayside House, Navigation Yard
Sleaford, Lincs, NG34 7TW

sleafordct@gmail.com

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