

LINCOLN'S HERITAGE - A SOURCE OF PRIDE.

An Important message from the Committee

The Committee of the Friends appreciate the way that Lincolnshire County Council, under severe financial pressure, has supported the Heritage Service in seeking solutions which will retain control of the County's Heritage resources for the benefit of future generations. We are disappointed, however, that our suggested improvements appear unlikely to be fulfilled if this proposal goes ahead. We note the following:

- The Usher Art Gallery is the County's Cultural Heritage focal point and the County's centre for the visual and decorative arts. The Gallery's collections of Miniatures, Horology, Sculpture and Peter De Wints are of National Importance. It occupies an exceptional position underscoring the dominant view of The Cathedral and is recognised as a Heritage asset in itself.



- The Collection Museum is an established archaeological museum, its Archaeology collection and Coin collection is of National Importance. Permanent collections need to be changed frequently to encourage return visitors; both The Usher and The Collection have failed to maintain fresh and attractive presentations.

In short, we cannot accept that abandoning the Usher and undertaking a substantial and lengthy revamp of The Collection will bring the desired increased in visitor numbers, let alone enhance the County's cultural reputation and standing.

The County's wealth and prosperity were built upon the advances in Agriculture which drove the Engineering innovations in the Industrial Revolution which resulted in business on all continents.



- The Lincolnshire Museum of Lincolnshire Life's collections of Industrial History and the Lincolnshire Regiment are of National Importance. The Agricultural and Industrial collections should be described through the stories of the workers and where they worked, to make them more relevant to Lincolnshire's population today.

- The Museum of Lincolnshire Life has had no champion in the Heritage Service and only part-time curatorial support. Again, to encourage return visitors, permanent collections need to be changed frequently to refresh the presentations and enliven the stories.

The enterprise and ingenuity of the people who built Lincolnshire's prosperity will be in demand again with climate change; their attitude and confidence can be imbued in coming generations by engaging with the Museum of Lincolnshire Life.

We hope that all Friends will respond to the LCC Consultation and SUPPORT our HERITAGE.

CHESHIRE POST CARDS

POSTCARD

This space for writing

The Forest Hills Hotel is at the top of Beacon Hill, which with stands above the village of Frodsham; the windows of its restaurant provide a panoramic view of the Mersey from Liverpool to Runcorn. Nearby is an obelisk War Memorial to both world wars. An Edwardian photograph in the Hotel shows, from Beacon Hill, the same view without the obelisk, the sprawling factories, wind farms and pylons. Surely this is a view that ancient Britons, and Romans, would have recognised.

More photos in the Hotel show Frodsham arrested in time: the delivery carts, the open carriage with top-hatted chauffeur, a bicycle, a Renault (maybe the doctor's), and people walking, shopping, talking. And, , photographs of a pleasure ground where The Forest Hills Hotel now stands, offering Mersey views, children's swings, a helter-skelter and a band with dancing on the grass.

The panorama at breakfast, the meandering journey through pleasant villages and attractive countryside clear the palette for our introduction to Chester. **HC**

The hotel was very comfortable, with good food and very helpful staff; it was set in a commanding position in the quietly pretty Cheshire countryside. We saw a wide variety of both industrial heritage and art- a great deal in a short time.




The Anderton Boat Lift

POSTCARD

This space for writing

Friends on the Move

I'm glad I got into the groove,
With the Friends on the Move.
I couldn't stay at home,
Sitting all alone,
Giving out a groan-
So I came to see what I could see
Of Cheshire's diversity.

We came to Liverpool
I thought the Walker
Art gallery was really
cool!
The friends really helped me out,
With a laugh, a wink and a shout!
I'm happy that I got into the groove
With Friends on the Move. **GK**




Terra Cotta Soldier

POSTCARD

This space for writing

The highlight for me was the terracotta warriors in particular the soldier on his horse as she walked into the exhibition along with the two chariots and horses.

Good food and company and once again very well organised.

Thanks again for all you did. **TH**



POSTCARD

This space for writing

A very busy but enjoyable break, with many varied and interesting visits. We particularly enjoyed the Anderton boat lift. A truly spectacular feat of engineering. A bonus was the mainly fine weather throughout. **CM & NP**

experience than just in books. I also loved the Chester Silver Collection. **RW**

Another brilliantly planned four days of having one's horizons widened - good company and every aspect of our needs covered. **BB**

A good and varied programme. It was great to see a number of paintings in the Walker Art Gallery and the Lady Lever Gallery "in the flesh". A much better



POSTCARD

This space for writing

I thoroughly enjoyed the Terracotta Warriors Exhibition at the museum in Liverpool. It was beyond my expectations - so easy to read - the descriptions were so precise and to the point, which is very important when time is of the essence. The content was amazing and the presentation of the objects was without match of any other exhibitions I have ever seen. Thank you so much for the opportunity to see such precious objects, and for everything else. **CB**

From Silk to Salt
From Art to Anderton
Memories both sweet and sad
Recalled from a life long forgotten.
Memories from Cheshire to China
And from Derbyshire to days long ago
Thank you for bringing my past back to life.

I've always wanted to go to the Macclesfield Silk Museum, and Liverpool is one of my favourite cities. And so - with new places, good food and company - WIN WIN! **LM**




Under the Eastgate Clock in Chester

POSTCARD

This space for writing

A diverse selection of events and in good company. What a treat to see the Terracotta Warriors Exhibition.

After the Boat trip a towpath walk, with a heron, a drowning Jack Russell and near-hysterical owner, and narrow boats galore - 'Psalm', Nulle Secundus', Patty Granny'. Some fevered imaginations here! **MG**

My favourite event was the visit to Port Sunlight. The whole area was lovely, and it was good to see paintings like "Bubbles" and "The Scapegoat" in real life. **JM**



STILL TO COME..... more events for you to enjoy

**Wednesday 10th April The AGM
1.30pm. The Collection.**

Followed by lantern slides of Hugh Cooke's time working in Iran in the early 1970s

**Wednesday 13th April From Abstract to Landscape
2pm. The Collection.**

Sarah Watson is a landscape artist, based in Grantham, who works in oils, oilsticks and charcoal. In this talk, she will be demonstrating in charcoal and lecturing about her pure abstraction work and will describe how she eventually arrived at the semi-abstract works she does now.

Cost : £8 to members, £10 to non-members.

Wednesday 12th June A visit to Horrible Halifax Cost £32

Have you heard the saying "From Hull, Hell and Halifax Lord deliver us"? We are going to visit Halifax, to find out why it was so notorious. We shall go to the 12th century Grade 1 listed Minster, and the story of old Tristram. And the 18th century Piece Hall, where woollen merchants traded with buyers from across the country and made Halifax rich. In the afternoon you may choose to go to **either** Sibden Hall **OR** Bankside Museum

Wednesday 17th July A visit to Wisbech Cost £32

Wisbech, the 'Capital of the Fens' is a market town that has grown around a castle built at the time of William the Conqueror. A Georgian villa now occupies the site. We plan a morning visit to the house of Octavia Hill, social reformer and one of the founders of the National Trust. In the afternoon we visit the Wisbech and Fenland Museum, a "Victorian Treasure House", where we will learn about the history of the town and see the manuscript for 'Great Expectations', with the original ending! There will be free time for you to explore the Georgian crescent and churches.

**Wednesday 14th August Trip to Tolethorpe
To see Noel Coward's 'Blithe Spirit' Cost £35**

Tolethorpe offers an outdoor performance with a difference. We arrive early and enjoy our picnic in the delightful grounds before the show. Then we stroll through the grounds to the theatre, where the audience sit in proper seats beneath an all-weather canopy, and enjoy the play. The stage is a woodland glade, and as the sun goes down it becomes increasingly magical.

There is a limited number of seats, which must be booked by 1st May.

20th-23rd September A long Weekend in Suffolk

3 nights half-board at the 4-star Mill Hotel in Sudbury, with visits to Audley End, Sutton Hoo, Framlingham, Bury St Edmonds, Ickworth House and a stop at Ely with a tour of the Cathedral on the homeward journey

There is more information about these events on the flyers which accompanied the newsletter.

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A WARM WELCOME TO THESE NEW MEMBERS

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Penny Forsdyke

Vaughan and Sarah Roberts

Jackie Dean

Mr and Mrs Furrows

Prue Chadderton

Mr and Mrs Selby (Peter J and CE)

Ken and Lesley Hollamby

This newsletter was compiled by Margaret Walch and Hugh Cooke.

Shuttleworth and Moggerhanger – an unlikely pairing.

Richard Ormonde Shuttleworth was the grandson of Joseph Shuttleworth, the co-founder of the Lincoln firm Clayton Shuttleworth, who had bought the Old Warden estate in 1872. The Shuttleworth Collection is based upon the aircraft and vehicles acquired by Richard before his early death in 1940.

The Collection exhibits are well looked after and many are in running condition, to be demonstrated when The Shuttleworth has open days.



However, there was little mention of Clayton Shuttleworth and the factory which created the wealth to support Richard's passion. The Swiss Garden was well worth a visit. We were unable to have an arranged visit to the House but managed to sneak a view from the coach.

The Collection is a celebration and memorial to Richard Shuttleworth and is well worth a visit, particularly on an open day in the clear weather we enjoyed. This is not the place to learn more about the history of Clayton Shuttleworth business and products. See * below.

A short drive from Old Warden took us through pleasant villages to Moggerhanger. Sir John Soane's design has a rather severe appearance but it is filled with light and interest. Greek proportions with idiosyncratic touches might describe the outside. The house is brick built and rendered to look like stone. Deceptive dummy windows preserve exterior symmetry where interior fireplaces preclude real ones.

Original interior colour schemes have been adhered to throughout, pastel coloured walls with contrasting colours at intersections. We were told that some fragments of wallpaper were uncovered during restoration and may be replicated in future. Soane's window positioning, alignment of internal doorways and symmetrically placed arches help channel the light throughout. The clear weather showed the house to best advantage and allowed us to enjoy the garden which Humphry Repton designed.

*A photo of Shuttleworth's house in 1900 can be seen in The Lincoln Hotel, (where the house had once stood), inscribed stones on the west front of St. Swithin's Church and Vestry and Clayton Shuttleworth's premises at Stamp End keep the name alive in Lincoln.

