



# NEWSLETTER

## April 2016

### - Friends News -



## Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Tamworth Castle and Museum

This year's AGM will take place in the Great Hall of the Castle on Friday April 22<sup>nd</sup>, directly before the talk "Treading the Boards" (details of which can be found in the "Talks" section) at 7:30 pm. (Note: February's newsletter incorrectly stated that the AGM would take place AFTER the talk).

This is the most important of the Friends events you could attend this year: it is where decisions are made regarding the running and operation of our organisation, and where you can make your opinions known. So please put this date in your diary and resolve to help us, the committee, make those decisions.

If you feel you would like to contribute as a member of the Friends' committee, don't be shy in coming forward—all that is involved in being a committee member is attending a monthly evening meeting, unless you feel you would like to take on a more active role in some of the organisational activities—it is entirely up to you.

## Heritage Hub Shop

The Friends and five other charities have jointly set up a charity shop in the Middle Entry, in the centre of Tamworth. The shop opened on 1<sup>st</sup> March, and we will use it increase awareness of our organisation, to attract new members and to advertise events we organise. We need volunteers to help in the shop, so if you can spare an hour or two please contact Maureen Sherwood on 01827 66150, or at [secretary@tamworthcastlefriends.org](mailto:secretary@tamworthcastlefriends.org).

## **Changes to Membership Payments**

At the extraordinary general meeting held in September 2015 it was agreed that, in future, all memberships would be renewable 1<sup>st</sup> May each year, to ease the administration of memberships. Currently memberships are renewable on the anniversary of joining, so over the course of 2016 renewal notices to members will specify the amount they need to pay to renew their memberships up to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2017, after which date all members will renew on 1<sup>st</sup> May every year. In effect, members who renew later in the year will pay less in 2016 than those who renew earlier, to reflect the shorter period covered: starting May 2017, everyone will then pay the normal annual amount.

If you have any questions about this arrangement, please contact Sue Evans, the Membership Secretary, on 01827 55916 or at [membership@tamworthcastlefriends.org](mailto:membership@tamworthcastlefriends.org)

## **Lunch Club**

The monthly lunch club (the last Thursday of every month at the Globe Inn, Lower Gungate) has proved very popular, and has resulted in several spin-off activities such as cinema visits (utilising the silver screen facility at the Odeon) and ten-pin bowling. This is a ideal way to meet fellow members in a relaxed atmosphere, enjoying good food. If you would like more information, please contact Maureen Sherwood on 01827 66150, or at [secretary@tamworthcastlefriends.org](mailto:secretary@tamworthcastlefriends.org).

The next lunch club meetings are April 28<sup>th</sup> and May 26<sup>th</sup>—put them in your diary!

## **St. George's Day**

The Friends stall will be making an appearance at the Tamworth St. George's Day event on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2016, in the Castle Grounds (near Ankerside Shopping Centre).

## **- Talks -**

### **Treading the Boards**

**By Derek Wharton in the Great Hall, Tamworth Castle**

**On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2016 at 7:30pm**

In his talk, Derek will tell us of his experiences in the field of amateur dramatics, and of the funny things that can happen.

### **Goose Grease and Brown Paper**

**By Kath Reynolds in the Great Hall, Tamworth Castle**

**On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 7:30pm**

Kath says “I am keenly interested in people; their lives and their communities - my talks reflect a great many years of collecting stories, memories and musings from the people of Staffordshire and the surrounding area. I am always vigilant to research and verify "facts" which are presented to me - although I often share the facts which are clearly fiction...purely because they are entertaining.”

In this talk Kath takes us on a fun trip down memory lane to pre-NHS days and the kitchen cupboard remedies inflicted by our nearest and dearest! Honey, salt, onions, mustard...not to forget the snails, urine, string and cow muck! This is very much an interactive session and audience participation is warmly welcomed but not compulsory!

If this stirs memories with you, or even if you're too young to know about such things, this talk looks like being one you won't want to miss!

### **Dispelling the Myths—An Introduction to Bats**

**By Kevin Reynolds in the Great Hall, Tamworth Castle**

**On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 7:30pm**

At some time I'm sure everyone has heard that “bats are blind” or “bats get tangled in your hair”. In his talk Kevin will tell you the truth about these myths, and help you to discover the fascinating world of these amazing mammals. His presentation will include many of his own photographs, which testify to his great patience waiting for and watching these beautiful, graceful creatures.

Kevin will also talk about the life-cycle of the bat, and about conservation issues.

# - Trips, Social & Other Events -

## Quiz Night

The quiz night planned for Friday 8th April has been cancelled due to lack of support.

### Nottingham Galleries of Justice

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2016

This trip takes us to the Galleries of Justice Museum in Nottingham. Voted the Best Small Visitor Attraction of the year in 2014, it is based in Nottingham's old courthouse and gaol and is the only museum of its type in Europe. It features audio and performance-led tours, exhibitions of 300 years of crime and punishment, and an exhibition covering the legend of Robin Hood: for centuries the building was the base of the villainous Sheriff of Nottingham!

Included in the trip is an interactive tour led by an actor who will dramatize the beastly goings-on that took place in times less liberal and forgiving than the present day.

(Please note that the museum is spread over five floors, many of which are uneven, and has low ceilings in places.)

After the visit to the Galleries of Justice, you will have time to find a place to take lunch (there are a number of restaurants and pubs close by) and to look around the city centre before boarding the coach for home at 4:30 pm.

The price of this trip is £26.50 per person, which includes coach transport. The coach will pick you up in Corporation Street, Tamworth, at 09:30 am.

If you would like to join us on this trip, please complete the booking form that can be found at the back of this newsletter: **these must be with us by 7<sup>th</sup> April.**

## Castle Folk Night

**Friday 27th May 2016, in the Great Hall, Tamworth Castle**

Join the Friends of Tamworth Castle and the Old Castle Band, led by Brian Williamson, in the Great Hall at Tamworth Castle for our tribute to the Queen in her 90<sup>th</sup> year. (If you attended our post-Christmas meal in January, you will remember Brian as the singer/guitarist who entertained us so enjoyably).

There will be a licensed bar, and doors will open at 7:00 pm for a 7:30 kick-off.

Tickets are £7.50 per person — Entrance is by ticket only, and a booking form is included at the back of this newsletter (or see Maureen Sherwood or Sue Evans at this month's lunch club meeting).

## Winterbourne House and Garden

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

Winterbourne is a rare surviving example of an early 20<sup>th</sup>-century suburban villa and garden. The house, situated in Edgbaston, Birmingham, was built in 1903 for John and Margaret Nettlefold, of Guest, Keen & Nettlefold fame. Restored to its



Edwardian Arts & Crafts splendour, the house is a unique heritage attraction, set within seven acres of beautiful botanic garden.

The house is home to beautiful antiques, and the garden boasts over 6,000 plant species from all around the world.

The price of this trip is £18, which includes coach transport from Tamworth and entrance into the house and gardens. The coach will pick you up in Corporation Street, Tamworth, at 10:00 am.

To join this trip, please complete the booking form that can be found at the back of this newsletter (or see Maureen Sherwood at this month's lunch club meeting).



## Friends Events for 2016

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 04/03/16 | Talk "Origins of Place Names"               |
| 16/04/16 | Trip to the Nottingham Galleries of Justice |
| 22/04/16 | Talk "Treading the Boards"                  |
| 22/04/16 | Friends Annual General Meeting              |
| 13/05/16 | Talk "Goose Grease and Brown Paper"         |
| 27/05/16 | Castle Folk Night at the Castle             |
| 18/06/16 | Trip to Winterbourne Gardens                |
| 08/07/16 | Dispelling the Myths of Bats                |
| 03/09/16 | Trip to the Imperial War Museum, Manchester |

Don't forget—the Friends lunch club meets at the Globe Inn, Lower Gungate on the last Thursday of every month at 12:00. Everybody is welcome.

### Contact Details

Where booking slips are included with the newsletter, if return details are not included on the form please complete and send them, with payment, to:

**Sue Evans, 48 Barbara Street, Tamworth, B79 7EJ**

If you do not have a booking slip or would like more details about a trip, you can contact Sue by phone on **01827 55916** or by email at

**[social@tamworthcastlefriends.org](mailto:social@tamworthcastlefriends.org)**

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding newsletters, please contact Roger Ashford by phone on **0790 0088960** or by email at

**[newsletter@tamworthcastlefriends.org](mailto:newsletter@tamworthcastlefriends.org)**

Membership queries should be addressed to

**[membership@tamworthcastlefriends.org](mailto:membership@tamworthcastlefriends.org)**

For any other issues, contact **[admin@tamworthcastlefriends.org](mailto:admin@tamworthcastlefriends.org)**

# Booking Forms

## Trip to the Nottingham Galleries of Justice

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2016 (pick-up 9:30 am)

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for me on this trip at £ 26.50 per person.

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

I enclose a cheque for £ \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to **FRIENDS OF TAMWORTH CASTLE AND MUSEUM** and a stamped, addressed envelope.

Please complete and return this form by **7th April** to:

**Sue Evans, 48 Barbara Street, Tamworth, B79 7EJ**

## Trip to Winterbourne House and Garden

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2016 (pick-up 10:00 am)

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for me on this trip at £ 18 per person.

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

I enclose a cheque for £ \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to **FRIENDS OF TAMWORTH CASTLE AND MUSEUM** and a stamped, addressed envelope.

Please complete and return this form as soon as possible to:

**Sue Evans, 48 Barbara Street, Tamworth, B79 7EJ**

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## Castle Folk Night

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2016 (doors open 7:00 pm)

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for me on this trip at £ 7.50 per person.

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

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

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

I enclose a cheque for £ \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to **FRIENDS OF TAMWORTH CASTLE AND MUSEUM** and a stamped, addressed envelope.

Please complete and return this form by **7th April** to:

**Sue Evans, 48 Barbara Street, Tamworth, B79 7EJ**

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