



# NEWSLETTER

## July 2014 (4)

### - Friends News -



The Friends' stall made an appearance at the Heritage Fayre, organised by the Peel Society and held at Middleton Hall on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June. The Fayre was opened by Lord Lexden (a political historian): the photo below shows our stall, with committee members Maureen Sherwood and Chris Harris in attendance.



The Friends' stall also appeared at the Amington Fête on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June: the photo below shows our new pop-up gazebo, making set-up and break-down so much easier and quicker. You may have noticed the friends' stall at a number of events around Tamworth; it makes a great contribution to our Castle funds, from the sale of raffle tickets and other items, and it helps to promote our organization to the wider public. The committee would like to express its appreciation of the hard work put in by those who organize and man the stall, most notably Maureen Sherwood and Pauline Walsh.



## Heritage Open Day, Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2014

The Friends are hosting a display at Tamworth Town Hall for this year's Heritage Open Day. The display will illustrate the effect of World War I on Tamworth and the surrounding district, with various WWI-related items on show.

If you can spare an hour to help us man the stall, please contact the newsletter editor (details on the back page); or just come along and meet us—you will surely find something of interest on display.

## **- Talks -**

### **A Handful of Straw**

**By Peter Shelley in the Great Hall, Tamworth Castle**

**On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at 7:30pm**

This talk will be a journey through the amazing world of straw. Beginning with the simple corn dolly, Peter will then take us through the wonder of straw marquetry and Swiss straw work. Pictures and models of corn dollies and tied straw work will illustrate his talk, at the end of which listeners will surely have gained a new appreciation of this seemingly simple material.

### **A History of Selly Manor, Minworth Greaves and Bournville**

**By Gillian Ellis in the Great Hall, Tamworth Castle**

**On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2014 at 7:30pm**

Gillian is Heritage Manager at Bournville Village Trust. She will be talking about two ancient timber-framed buildings, Selly Manor and Minworth Greaves, which were saved from demolition by chocolate manufacturer George Cadbury. The Tudor manor and medieval hall were rebuilt in the garden village of Bournville, and house a superb collection of furniture and domestic objects dating from the 16<sup>th</sup>—18<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Gillian's illustrated talk will discuss the history of the two buildings and how they came to be moved almost a hundred years ago. She will also give a brief history of Bournville and the building of the model village by the Cadbury family.

### **King Henry VIII**

**By John White in the Great Hall, Tamworth Castle**

**On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7:30pm**

Performance historian John White becomes King Henry VIII, undoubtedly our country's most colourful monarch, for the night. The "King" recounts his life, telling of his wives, children, and the events of his long reign, in captivating fashion. Regaled in his splendid, bejewelled costume, John, or should I say Henry, deigns to grant an audience to those who attend this event, during which we will get a chance to question (or petition) him.

You will **not** want to miss this one!



## Autumn Quiz Night

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at the Globe Inn, Tamworth

Another of our ever-popular quiz nights: start getting your teams together now, and dust off your general knowledge!

A ticket application form is included with this newsletter: the quoted price includes a meal, which you can choose from the following:

- Battered Cod fillet and chips
- Braised Steak in a rich herb gravy
- Wild Mushroom Bruschetta (vegetarian option)



## Festive Meal

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2015

The Castle Hotel, Ladybank, Tamworth

For this year's post-Christmas meal we are returning to the Castle Hotel; once again the price has been held at £20 per person, which includes a 3-course meal and entertainment (details of which will be given in the next newsletter). A booking form is enclosed with this newsletter.

### Menu

Winter vegetable soup

Prawns Marie-Rose

Pearls of Melon on a Fruit Coulis

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Roast Turkey with a Stuffing Roulade

Roast Beef and Yorkshire Pudding

Grilled Cod Fillet with Lemon Butter

Vegetable Lasagne

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Flambéed Christmas pudding

Profiteroles with Chocolate Sauce

Baked Vanilla Cheesecake

Ice cream

»

Followed by coffee and mince pies

## 5-Day Holiday in Croyde Bay, Devon 22<sup>nd</sup>—26<sup>th</sup> September 2014

This is a 5-day stay in a hotel in Croyde Bay, North Devon. The price of £255 per person includes:

- Return executive coach travel
- Four-star half-board hotel accommodation
- Excursions
- Nightly entertainment

If you are interested in this holiday, please contact Ken Marston (contact details are shown on the back page of this newsletter).

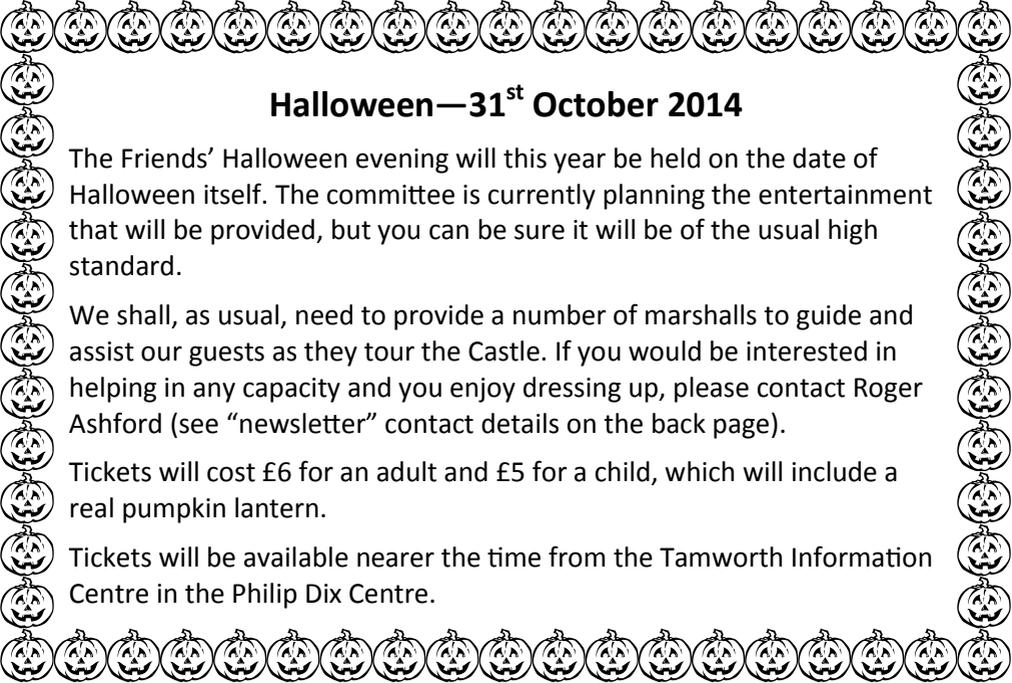
### - Reviews -

#### Barnsdale Gardens 21<sup>st</sup> June 2014

This was a very enjoyable trip to what was for many years the home of BBC's *Gardener's World*. As well as being able to appreciate the gardens themselves, those on the trip also enjoyed a trip on the *Rutland Belle* on nearby Rutland Water, which can be seen in the background in the photo below.



## - Other Events -



### Halloween—31<sup>st</sup> October 2014

The Friends' Halloween evening will this year be held on the date of Halloween itself. The committee is currently planning the entertainment that will be provided, but you can be sure it will be of the usual high standard.

We shall, as usual, need to provide a number of marshalls to guide and assist our guests as they tour the Castle. If you would be interested in helping in any capacity and you enjoy dressing up, please contact Roger Ashford (see "newsletter" contact details on the back page).

Tickets will cost £6 for an adult and £5 for a child, which will include a real pumpkin lantern.

Tickets will be available nearer the time from the Tamworth Information Centre in the Philip Dix Centre.

### Summer Raffle

Drayton Manor have generously contributed a prize consisting of **4 tickets to the park and a free car park pass**. The tickets cover admission, rides, Thomas Land and the Zoo. This is in addition to the prizes previously listed, i.e.:

**1st prize: £100**

**2nd prize: £25 gift voucher for Pets at Home**

**3rd prize: Costa Coffee products**

Plus other prizes donated by W H Smith, Poundstretcher, Homebase, Toys-R-Us, ASDA, and tickets for the Staffordshire Regimental Museum and Tamworth Castle.

Tickets are £1 each and will be available at Friends' tables and stalls at Middleton Hall (8th June), "We Love Tamworth" event (23rd August) and Heritage Open Day (14th September). The draw will take place at the Heritage Open day event.

If you would like to purchase tickets direct, or are able to sell tickets for us, please contact Pauline Walsh on **01827 715466** or at [treasurer@tamworthcastlefriends.org](mailto:treasurer@tamworthcastlefriends.org).



## What's On at the Castle?

### Staffordshire Hoard Exhibition: Weapons & Warfare

If you have yet to visit this exhibition, it is still running and will do so until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2014. The exhibition features 18 pieces from the Staffordshire Hoard that help visitors explore the power struggles of the Anglo-Saxon era—the battles, the blows and the bloodshed.

**For more information, visit the Tamworth Tourist Information Centre in the Philip Dix Centre in Corporation Street (01827 709618), or the Castle's website [www.tamworthcastle.co.uk](http://www.tamworthcastle.co.uk)**

## Newsletter Delivery

As mentioned in the last newsletter, members who have provided an email address are receiving newsletters by email. If you are experiencing any trouble with this service (for example in reading the newsletter or printing out any booking forms that may be attached), please contact Roger Ashford—contact details are shown at the bottom of this page.

### Contact Details

Where booking slips are included with the newsletter, please complete these and send, with payment, to:

**Ken Marston, 3 Crecy Close, Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham, B76 1DQ**

If you do not have a booking slip or would like more details about a trip, you can contact Ken by phone on **0121 378 2120** 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)**