

# Newsletter

## Spring 2016



### Introduction from the chairman.

*As I speak the snowdrops and the daffodils are in full bloom, the buds are forming on the trees and soon will come the bright green leaves that we forever associate with springtime, a wonderful time of year.*

*Back to business, the Spring Newsletter is where we look forward to the coming year, while the Autumn Newsletter is where we reflect on the events of the year, however, this year, I would like to mention several events that occurred after last year's Autumn Newsletter had 'Gone to press' so to speak.*

### **Floods 2015.**

*In December last year our city was once again the victim of extensive flooding.*

*Our hearts go out to all who have been seriously affected by the floods and we wish them comfort and calm determination to cope with the difficult process of re-building their homes, businesses and lives.*

*Clearly the trust couldn't take to the boats and rescue the people directly affected, however, we have been active behind the scenes.*

*We are adding our voice to those of other organisations and individuals who are seeking an inquiry into failures of flood prevention schemes, in order to plan better solutions and defences in the future.*

*The trust sent an open letter to the prime minister and other people in senior office. The letter was published in the press and is available to see on the trust's website. Our concern was not only for the poor people who were directly affected by the floods, but for the harm being caused to the fabric of buildings affected.*

*If you know of any significant local buildings that are now in danger as a result of flood damage, please let us know.*

### **Castleway Crossing.**

*You will all be aware of the proposed crossing for Castle Way. The crossing will cross Castle Way joining the bottom of Castle Street and the entrance driveway to the castle.*

*The City Council invited the Civic Trust to attend a presentation of the proposals at a special meeting. Later, the trust formulated a response to the proposals, and replied suggesting several significant improvements.*

*Clearly the City Council values the advice given by the trust. You, as members of the trust, can have your say on any matters of concern by contacting any of the committee members or by attending the evening lectures where time is set aside for you to air your views before the commencement of each*

lecture. You can also use the E-mail facility on the trust's website.

### **Our longest serving committee member retires.**

*Carol Donnelly, the longest serving member of the committee finally decided to call it a day and retire from the committee of the trust earlier this year. It is no exaggeration to say that the trust's very existence is due in no small part to the work and effort that Carol has expended over the years and in particular the last three years or so.*

*At a short ceremony before the evening lecture in January, Carol was presented with a framed picture of Carlisle City Centre as it was in times gone by, when things were more leisurely.*

*The trust will miss Carol very much. However, I am pleased to say Carol has agreed to 'Man the door' and take the entrance money at the evening lectures.*

Our latest committee member.....Derick Irwin

*We are pleased to announce that Derick Irwin has joined us and is our latest committee member. I'm sure you will join with the committee to welcome Derick to his new role.*

### **Carlisle's State management Scheme.**

*February's evening lecture was on the Carlisle State Management Scheme. The lecture is immediately applicable to the city and was expertly delivered by Viv Dodd. It was one of those lectures where you looked at the watch hoping that there would be time for more and more, alas, we had to finish before the milk floats started their work outside. We are hoping to ask Viv to return in the autumn for the sequel!*

*One of the things Viv mentioned was that there were numerous pubs operating at the time of State Management Scheme that weren't 'Listed' and it was due to the efforts of the Civic Trust at the time that they became listed and hence are still with us today. We will be contacting Viv to ask if we can have a copy of a letter he showed the audience regarding the listings. With his*

*permission it will appear on the trust's website soon. Viv's organisation has already supplied scanned copies of the original letters that the trust sent to the Department of the Environment. These are available to be viewed electronically. The original letters are quite difficult to read. Easy to read transcribed copies follow both items.*

### **Civic Voice awards.**

*The 'Civic Voice' is national body for the Civic Trusts and Civic Societies around the country. The Carlisle and District Civic Trust is a member of Civic Voice. This is why you get the free tickets to National Trust properties when you renew your membership.*

*Every year the Civic Voice runs a national award competition.*

*This year our nomination for the award is the Halston Aparthotel. The Halston is the hotel that occupies the building which was the Old Post Office on Warwick Road. The hotel is state of the art, while still retaining the external façade of the old post office. The Halston also retains lots of original fixtures and fittings within. The details of our nomination can be found on our website.*

*That brings us up to date with events that happened last year, our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, and the early part of this year.*

### **Cockermouth Civic Trust visit to Carlisle.**

*Cockermouth Civic Trust will be visiting Carlisle on the 5th July. This is their equivalent of our annual coach trip. The trust has arranged to show them round the City Centre finishing at the Cakes and Ale Café in the Bookends antiquarian book shop on Castle Street at 11:30. I believe it is their intention to purchase an early lunch there before moving on to a tour of Lanercost Abbey that they have organised themselves. If anyone would like to meet the members of the Cockermouth Civic Trust, you will be most welcome.*

### **Evening Talks/Lectures.**

The last evening lecture of the 2015/2016 season will take place on April 26th at 7pm. 'Birds of the Solway' by Michael Carrier  
£3 members and £5 non-members  
Venue: The Waterton Hall, Carlisle.

### **Summer visits.**

This year we will be focusing on visiting a number of local attractions and hosting local events rather than our usual annual coach trip.

May 16<sup>th</sup> 'Guided Tour of Carlisle Cathedral'

We are very fortunate to have Canon David Weston as our guide.

Please meet at the entrance of the cathedral at 2pm.

£6 members and £7.50 non-members.

There are limited places for this tour, so please book early. Returnable 'Booking slips' are at the end of the Newsletter.

June 8<sup>th</sup>. Guided tour of St Mary's Church Wreay'

Please meet outside the church at 11am.

£10 members and £12 non-members (includes a light lunch at the Plough Inn).

There are limited places for this tour, so please book early. Returnable 'Booking slips' are at the end of the Newsletter.

July 5th Cockermouth Civic Trust visit to Carlisle

Please see full details above.

If you would like to meet the Cockermouth Trust members, they will be at the Cakes and Ale Café at around 11:30 they will be having an early lunch before moving on to Lanercost. The Cakes and Ale Café is located at the rear of the 'Bookcase' antiquarian book shop' at 17-19 Castle Street.

26th July State Management Public Houses

This is a one and a half tour of some of the Old State Management Public Houses. It will commence at 11am and will end at the Cakes and Ale Café at the Bookshelf book shop on Castle Street.

The starting point of the tour and the fee is still to be finalised. Please see our websites and Facebook page for the final arrangements.

### **2016 AGM**

This year's AGM will be held at Waterton Hall on the 17<sup>th</sup> October commencing at 7pm following the customary tea/coffee and biscuits. There is no charge for admission to the AGM.

If you have anything you would like to say to the committee, this is a good opportunity.

The current committee members are:  
Terry Jolley Chairman

Mr J L. Kelsall Vice Chairman & Architect

Janis Jeffery Honorary Treasurer

Jenny Smith Honorary Secretary

Dr Lindsey Winterton Committee member

Frank Jeffery Committee member

Derek Irwin Committee member

Alistair Mc Gregor Co-opted & Architect

Roger Higgins Urban Design and Conservation Officer.

Co-opted committee member

### **Carlisle and District Conservation Area Advisory Committee**

The Trust has a representative who sits on this committee and therefore the Trust has a direct say in planning applications in the Conservation Areas.

### **Local List Development.**

The Civic Trust attended a 'Local List' steering group meeting in the Civic Centre, on the 6th August initially to participate in the development of the of the nomination form design. Committee members Jenny Smith and John Kelsall attend representing the trust. The local listings are non-statutory listings of buildings/places important to local

communities within the district. It is intended that a local listing will be a material consideration in any application for planning consent to alter or demolish. The Trust may become involved in vetting the buildings and places nominated - more news to come.

**Campaigning Sub-Committee.**

A group of three committee members have been set up to target particular important buildings under threat and to ensure lessons are learnt by appropriate authorities when important buildings or spaces have been damaged or lost. A selection procedure has been drawn up to assist in focussing where our limited time and resources should be concentrated. Also representations have been made during the year in respect of the City Centre Draft Development Framework, and continue against the demolition of Suttle House (Wigton Road) by a developer and the neglect being shown towards the Central Plaza Hotel. Other areas being perused are:

Proposed Alcohol and Drug Dependency Unit to Stocklund House opposite the Cathedral. The trust has serious misgivings regarding this siting of this facility and the affects this may have on the Historic Quarter and a very visible location opposite the cathedral.



Returnable slip for :  
May 16th 'Guided Tour of Carlisle Cathedral' with Canon David Weston as our guide.  
Please meet at the entrance of the cathedral at 2pm.

I should like ..... tickets for the Guided tour of Carlisle Cathedral on the 16<sup>th</sup> May  
..... members at £6.00 each and..... non-members at £7.50 each  
Total £.....

My name and address is: .....  
.....  
.....  
.....Post Code.....

Email .....

Proposed housing development on the bowling green of the Redfern Public House.

The trust has written regarding the proposed housing development on the bowling green of the Redfern public house.

Litter in and around Carlisle.

The trust is concerned about the amount of litter in and around Carlisle and will push for a 'Clean the City day'.

If any member knows of any buildings or spaces they feel are at any risk of undesirable change or threat, please contact a committee member and this will be considered by the campaigning sub-committee.

On behalf of all the committee, we hope you all enjoyed the planned events of 2015 our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year and we look forward to seeing and hearing from you at the many events planned for 2016.

Please attach your cheque made payable to 'Carlisle and District Civic Trust' to this slip and send or take it to:  
Phoenix Architecture & Planning  
28 Abbey Street  
Carlisle  
CA3 8TX

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Returnable slip for :  
June 8th 'Guided tour of St Mary's Church Wreay' .  
Please meet outside the church at 11am.

I should like ..... tickets for the Guided of St Mary's, Wreay, followed by lunch.

..... members at £10.00 each and..... non-members at £12.00 each  
Total £.....

My name and address is: .....  
.....  
.....  
.....Post Code.....

Email .....

Please attach your cheque made payable to 'Carlisle and District Civic Trust' to this slip and send or take it to:  
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