

## SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER



In September 2018 at the AGM I was nominated to be the Chair of the Carlisle & District Trust, taking over from Terry Jolley, who had held the position for some six years. I would like to take this opportunity, in this my first newsletter, to thank Terry Jolley for the time he has given to further the Civic Trust's aims and objectives. I am pleased Terry is staying on the Executive Committee, lending his knowledge and experience to the Civic Trust.

At the AGM, we welcomed two new members to the Executive Committee, approved by the membership, Roger Sealey and Emmi Sealey, they are already playing an active role in the Trust.

We also said our thanks to Jenny Smith who stood down as the Civic Trust's Honorary Secretary, who for some years, did a sterling job with the minutes, letters and correspondence of the Trust, as well as organising events at Waterton Hall.

The Executive Committee meets six times a year, discussing ideas and current issues at a series of meetings in an informal setting at Cakes & Ales, then meets six times a year where there is a formal meeting of the Executive Committee at Holmehead, in which we make decisions on our business and discuss progress on our projects and Civic Trust related matters. The minutes of the formal meeting are lodged on our website.

A concern of the Civic Trust is the growing number of empty buildings in the city, it is accepted it is a country wide problem and Carlisle is not immune to the changing shopping habits and pressures on businesses to reduce costs. The Civic Trust, hope the rising number of empty buildings will not have too adverse effect upon our cherished buildings and heritage in the city. The Civic Trust is monitoring the situation.

The on-going position of the Central Plaza building has been discussed by the Trust, sending a letter to HRH Prince Charles to raise awareness of the likely loss of once a prestigious building in our city, regarded as the jewel in the crown of the old State Management. The Civic Trust will continue to support any moves that could save the building from further deterioration.

## Trust Project

From January 2019, the Executive Committee agreed to begin a project which we have called 'Heritage Commemoration.' This project will search out and record all the Blue Plaques / Brown Plaques / Inscriptions and other commemorative signs that have recognised those who have given service, dedication and contribution to the heritage of our city and district. Many of these commemorative signs, the Carlisle & District Trust will have approved or have been approved by other authorities over the years.

This project is to include, all the war memorials and related statues there are in our Civic Trust area to those of note who came from our communities. Many of these commemorations may be in Parish grounds and church premises across our District.

This is a project that requires exactitude and research to check all the information, it is envisaged it will take over two years or more to complete and will need the combined effort of our membership, the local authority and the wider general public to identify and record all these marks of our heritage. Our Trust aim is to produce a formal record for posterity of all these recognitions of memorable people and events from our Trust area.

If you know of any of these commemorations in our city or district, please e-mail, [michaeljosephlittle@gmail.com](mailto:michaeljosephlittle@gmail.com)

Or text or communicate to our Hon Secretary, John Mather, or inform anyone on the Executive Committee, or leave the details at one of our talks so we can follow it up, research and record it. If you find a sign, commemoration or inscription, etc, please take a photo with your mobile or scribble the inscriptions or whatever on a piece of paper and we will endeavour to chase it up and make a record of it. The Civic Trust would welcome your help with this project.

Our website is becoming more and more important to the Civic Trust's business and the Executive Committee is trying hard to ensure the information is current and regularly updated. We keep adding web-links which are a key feature which links our site to those who have a shared common interest, the hope is it will promote our website and interest in the Civic Trust.

## Talks and Trips

The series of scheduled talks we had in 2018 was a considerable success, members thought the talks very interesting and informative; just to remind you we had:

**Memorials:** - In September 2018 we began our Autumn series of talks, on War Memorials in our Trust area and the audience were surprised at the number there are of all different styles, shapes and from across two millennia.

**Roman tablets:** - The October talk was on Roman Writing Tablets and with the discovery of Roman bath house under the Carlisle Cricket Club ground, it had fired up interest in

the archaeology in our city, so it was quite fitting that we had a talk on Roman writing tablets, which described the tablets found in Carlisle, written 2,000 years ago on wood.

**Carlisle Castle:** - In November we held the last talk of 2018 and it was a well-attended event, given by a young historian Max Loth-Hill. The talk revealed just what a violent past the castle had and the 1000 years of turbulent history it had suffered.

**Stanwix:** - The first talk of 2019 was about Stanwix, the speaker being David Ramshaw, who took the audience on a fascinating journey through the history of Stanwix from Roman times to modern day. The final piece in the talk of 'Then & Now' got the audience thinking and surprised just how much our city and district had changed over the years.

**Cowans Sheldon:-** Speaker Frank Grant gave us a detailed history of the crane makers from 1846 – 1987 and showed the audience how cranes made in Carlisle travelled to all four corners of the world. Also of the innovations and ground breaking designs in heavy lifting gear which Cowans Sheldon were rightly famous.

In 2019 we have a trip to Holker Hall is in the offing and the Trust hopes as many members as possible can join us to make it a successful day.

Finally, if you think you could make a contribution to further the aims and objectives of our Civic Trust then please let us know. Also we are keen to widen our membership and would welcome anyone to join us, who has an interest in local heritage and our history.

### **Membership of the Carlisle & District Trust as of 2019**

Hon President	The Rt Reverend James Newcombe, Bishop of Carlisle
Chair	Mike Little
Vice-Chair	John Kelsall
Vice-Chair	Roger Sealey
Hon Treasurer	Janis Jeffrey
Hon Secretary	John Mather
Members	Emmy Sealey
	Frank Jeffry
	Terry Jolley

Returnable booking slips for our annual coach trip and visits for 2019

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**Annual coach trip ‘Holker Hall Site - Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2019’.**

I should like ..... tickets for the Annual coach trip to Holker Hall Site.

..... members at £35.... ..each and..... non-members at £37.50.....each  
Total £.....

Everyone is asked to meet the bus at XXX at XXX am it is expected to return to Carlisle at XXX .

My name and address is

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.....  
.....

Postcode.....

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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**Trip to Turkish Baths, James Street, Carlisle - Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> June starting at 9am**

Following the visit to the Turkish Baths, it is intended to walk to the Railway Station to look at the new roof and have coffee and cake in the new station bar (a provisional booking has been made)

£3 for members and £5 for non-members.

I should like .... Tickets for the visit to the Turkish Baths

.... Members at £3.... Each and ..... non-members at £5 ..... each. Total £...

My name and address is

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Postcode .....

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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Carlisle  
CA3 8TX



**Trip to Birdoswald & Lanercost - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

The trip is organised for everyone to arrive at Birdoswald at 1000 for a private tour of the site, then to lunch at Lanercost for 1230 with time to visit the Priory after lunch.

A provisional booking has been made at Lanercost tea rooms for soup and a sandwich combo with unlimited tea and coffee.

Entrance to Lanercost is £4.40per person but for anyone one who is a Member of English Heritage the entrance is free.

Since Birdoswald is some 18 miles from Carlisle those wishing to go on the trip should make their own way to the site, as to hire a bus for the trip would make the outing too expensive.

For sat-nav it is Gilsland, Brampton, CA8 7DD

I should like .... Tickets for the visit to the Birdoswald & Lanercost trip to cover private tour, entrance and lunch.

.... Members at £20.... Each and ..... non-members at £25 ..... each. Total £...

My name and address is

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Postcode .....

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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