



BEVERLEY & DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2014



In September we are going to have a magnificent Beverley Georgian Festival, from Saturday 13th to Sunday 21st September, with events every day. This is to commemorate 1714, as the 300th anniversary of the accession of George I and the completion of our famous Market Cross. The Georgian period was a golden time for Beverley, and many of our greatest buildings were built during the 'long 18th century' (1714-1837, the period of rule by the Hanoverians before Victoria's reign).

It is fitting that the Festival begins with Open Heritage Days. On Saturday 13th September twenty buildings and gardens which are normally closed to the public will open their doors free to all from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm. The list is headed by Lairgate Hall, which has stunning interiors including 18th century Chinese wallpaper. The Old Minster Vicarage will be on view, two large private houses outside the Bar, and other properties throughout town. The Minster and St Mary's, which are of course always open, will have special children's trails based around the 18th century. Each building will have stewards and a detailed description of the property, and there will be a consolidated guide with a map of all those open. This is being organized by our Secretary, Pamela Hopkins, who would be glad to hear of members who might act as house stewards for two hours – her telephone number is 01482 861836 and her email is prhopkins@prhopkins.karoo.co.uk

The same weekend may include an archaeological survey of Swine Moor spa by the East Riding Archaeological Society who will demonstrate how much can be learned without digging trenches (TBC).

Throughout the week there will be talks, concerts, ceremonies and, on Friday 19th September, a splendid banquet in the Minster, when guests will be encouraged to come in masks and/or 18th century dress, and the entertainment will be a professional dance company, who will dance between the courses of 18th century food by Tina Cerutti. Not a free event, but a glorious night to remember, unlikely to be repeated in our time.

The chefs and bakers of Beverley are combining to create a 'Beverley Cross Bun' that will be available in the shops and cafes throughout September – a special treat.

The full (but still provisional for some events) programme is printed below.

Beverley's Georgian Celebration 13th – 21st September 2014

Early September	Launch of exhibitions in the Treasure House + Art Gallery Launch of Saturday Market Book
All September	Treasure House and Art Gallery Georgian Time-Line Exhibition, and 18 th -19 th cent. Beverley pictures Beverley Cross buns available in bakeries
Sat 13 th Sept	Heritage Open Days 20th anniversary Georgian Buildings open, Lairgate Hall, private houses commercial properties, and the Guildhall, and some gardens Tours of Georgian Minster by historic engineering society (TBC) Archaeological survey of Swine Moor Spa – East Riding Archaeological Society. Sedan chair races, Westwood, York Road– organized by Beverley Lions (Saturday or Sunday) Children's games in Guildhall, Liz Dees + Scrap Store, Fiona Jenkinson Children's quizzes in churches – Colin Bradshaw, available all Festival Evening concert 18 th -century music at the Minster Darker Side of Georgian Beverley walk – Colin Bradshaw
Sunday 14 th Sept	Heritage Open Day, Guildhall Children's quizzes Darker Side of Georgian Beverley walk – Colin Bradshaw
Mon 15 th Sept	Georgian Social Life – a talk by Peter Brown, York Civic Trust, Curator of Fairfax House, York
Tues 16 th Sept	Georgians and their buildings – a talk by Austin Redman, Georgian Society of East Yorkshire
Wed 17 th Sept	<i>The Madness of King George</i> or Austen film, Film Society, Masonic Hall , Beverley Film Society
Thurs 18 th Sept	Lecture on the Beverley-educated feminist writer Mary Wollstonecraft by Professor Fiona Stafford, University of Oxford Beverley Arms. 6 pm. Free
Friday 19 th Sept	Tour of Georgian Minster, John Wilton-Ely 10.30 am

Georgian Play, East Riding Theatre (TBC)
Georgian Banquet, Minster, Georgian food and wine with music
and 3 half hour demonstrations of 18th cent. dances
by The Arbeau Dancers

Saturday 20th Sept

Guildhall Day

Mayor's Parlour. Coffee and Beverley Cross buns
Georgian Tour of the Minster by John Wilton-Ely. 10.30 am
Court Room. 18th cent. costumes, Portrait of a Lady 2.00 p.m.
Lucy Adlington of Historywardrobe
Court Room. Dr Alan Cuckston. Harpsichord concert,
candlelight, wine. 7 pm
Georgian Play 3pm and 5 pm - East Riding Theatre (TBC)

Sunday 21st Sept

North Bar Within Georgian Quarter antique market (TBC)
Children's Carousel, carriage rides (TBC)
Re-enactment camp and drill by 18th cent. Soldiers
(John Lambton's 68th Foot), N Bar
Re-enactment of the Proclamation of George I at the Market
Cross
Primary age children dancing at Cross
Food available at Cross
18th cent. soldiers' drill at Cross
Tea and Austen readings, Norwood House
Other Lives Productions

Other possible events

Workshops in schools re dances, making masks – Carol Hancock
Demonstration of Georgian cookery, and the new Beverley Cross
bun at the Market Cross by local chefs, probably 5th Sept
Commemorative mugs; eco carrier bags marked Georgian
Beverley
Fixed hot air balloon on Westwood – now looking for sponsorship

Every one, we hope, will find something in the list to attract them. The Guildhall Day will be spectacular, with two great performers in a perfect setting. The 18th century soldiers will add colour and a new dimension to formal events. We get most questions at the moment about 'Sedan Chair races' and the tethered hot air balloon, as they are extra-ordinary.

The Beverley Civic Society is taking the lead in this programme, which is only possible because so many voluntary groups have enthusiastically offered to help. The Beverley Renaissance Partnership brings town groups together, and Renaissance co-ordinator Austin Lillico is essential for the smooth running of the Festival. Beverley Town Council have awarded a grant towards costs, and applications have been made to the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Two Ridings charity and other funding bodies. It is a huge programme to run, and we hope our members will want to get involved – spread the word, ask all your friends and relations to come to the events that appeal to you. Tickets available after Easter.

Barbara English

Forthcoming Public Meetings & Events...

All meetings are held in St Mary's Parish Hall, North Bar Within, Beverley.

Tuesday 11th March 7.30 pm

Pamela Hopkins

St. John of Beverley: his influence in Beverley and beyond

Tuesday 8th April 7.30 pm

Open Forum

Tuesday 29th April 2.30 pm

Chris Blackburn

Mercy Ships

Tuesday 13th May 7.30 pm

Mr. Kenneth Deacon

Airships over the Humber

Tuesday 24th June 2.30 pm

Pat Deans

Beverley Minster

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Please send material by email if possible: this saves re-typing. However, if you do not use email, no matter – all contributions and letters, no matter how brief, are welcome. **The deadline for copy to be included in the Summer 2014 Newsletter is Saturday 31st May 2014.**

A third of our membership now receive this newsletter in electronic form via email, thus saving valuable Civic Society resources for other use, not to mention the distributors' shoe-leather and time. It is appreciated that many do not use email or prefer to receive their newsletter in hard copy form, but if you are able and willing to join the e-circulation list, please could you let me know via the above email address. Many thanks.