

LANCASTER JUDGES' LODGINGS

UPDATE

Newsletter of the Friends of Lancaster Judges' Lodgings

Issue no 48

December 2020



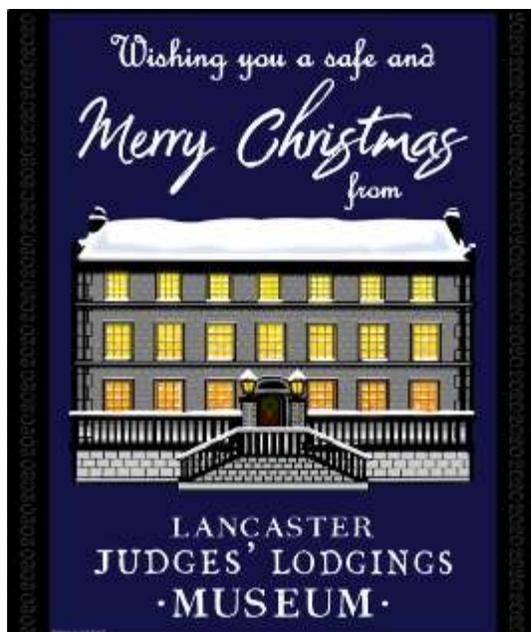
The Judges' Lodgings in December

Lynda has been approached by Lancaster Black History Group (LBHG) who are developing a collaborative research project with venues around the city. The main aim of the group is to make Lancaster a leading example of how Black British histories can be included in all aspects of education, arts and society. The group includes representatives from across the community – local community activists, schoolteachers, arts organisations, voluntary groups, academics and historians.

The group wants to work with local communities to trace the links that prominent local families had with slave-trading and the triangular Transatlantic slave trade. As part of this they are collaborating with various local community groups, institutions, schools and museums to research key families and develop educational resources for use in schools and other organisations. The LBHG has approached the Judges' Lodgings to see if there would be three volunteers from among the Friends to help with this project – so many applied that names had to be drawn out of a hat.

The project will start in the New Year and will be largely worked on at a distance to take account of current pandemic restrictions. It should raise up some fascinating details in little-researched areas.

Jack Knight, a member of the JL staff and Puppeteer Extraordinary (along with many other talents) has designed a JL good wishes card – we hope we will see the JL looking like this next year, with the pandemic fully under control.



Cleaning and maintenance work on the Collection and museum in general will carry on during the closed months – if you would like to volunteer to help that would be very welcome. You can contact me or Lynda direct (lynda.jackson@lancashire.gov.uk) with offers of

help. The original intention for reopening in the spring of 2021 was that the JL, already Covid-compliant, would be ready to reopen on 19 March. The LCC Heritage Learning Team is already taking schools bookings for 2021 which is great. With the pandemic now entering a new phase and even tighter restrictions imposed across most of the country we will have to wait and see what happens in the next three months – and hope for the best.

In the Garden

Work has been continuing in the Garden throughout with the last gardening session just before Christmas, at which the team planted some tulip bulbs, did a weed and put down some mulch. It was great. At that session two of our gardening volunteers, Liz and Howard, were awarded highly commended certificates as members of the JL gardening team. The giver is the Marsh Christian Trust in recognition of an outstanding contribution to engaging museum audiences, volunteers for museum learning The Marsh Trust Award 2019. Congratulations to Liz and Howard for their work and for representing the JL so nobly.



From our Newsletter mailing list someone has responded offering plant cuttings after tidying up her garden. Jenny, Site Manager, responded enthusiastically and positively – so if others have cuttings of off-shoots which they would like to offer the JL, please get in touch. It will all help to keep the garden a community venture.

Events

Still a work in progress for 2021 as far as the Friends are concerned. The technology caused a problem just before Christmas, so little hope of getting a speedy repair – but we hope that once it is sorted out we will be able to offer some talks, short workshops and other activities online. Lynda has a Museum programme in draft so perhaps we will be able to publicise it in the next issue.

Very Best Wishes

The Committee of the Friends of Lancaster Judges' Lodgings wishes all our friends and supporters health (especially), happiness and all good fortune in 2021.

Volunteering at JL

You can volunteer at JL through the LCC Volunteering Programme either to act as a Room Steward or to join the Gardening Team – follow the link <https://lancsvp.org.uk/opportunities>

Join Us

If you have not yet joined the Friends, or you have friends and neighbours who would be interested in supporting our work to ensure that Lancaster Judges' Lodgings remains open and accessible to the public, please contact me, and encourage them to do the same – sue.widden@outlook.com – and I'll send joining details.

Please feel free to forward these newsletters to your friends and relatives and encourage them to join us in our work.

Comments and ideas from everyone are always welcome and we are happy to share them widely. If you have a view or a comment to contribute to UPDATE, please email me at the address below.

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