

LANCASTER JUDGES' LODGINGS

UPDATE

Newsletter of the Friends of Lancaster Judges' Lodgings

Issue no 49

January 2021



The Judges' Lodgings in January

Lynda, Museum Manager, writes – “The Judges' Lodgings is obviously closed but we are still very busy behind the scenes....

Site Supervisor Jenny has been working on collections care and cleaning with some of the cleaning team. They have been doing a very thorough check of all the furniture and



where there is evidence of pests, they have been treating and wrapping the collections with support from the conservation team at Preston. As you can imagine this is really important work and the closed season allows us the time to check and treat everything thoroughly.

With a successful grant application we have bought some games, baby carriers, bottle warmers and garden activities. I've re-written the museum leaflet and Museum Assistant Jack has done some brilliant new illustrations to freshen it up for when we re-open. I'm also using some images from when the house was restored in the 1970s.”

The JL staff are still working towards a March opening in time for Easter – but it's a case of hope for the best, prepare for the worst and expect the unexpected.

We'll keep you posted, of course.

In the Garden

Spring bulbs are now beginning to show, after what seems like the longest January ever. I had hoped to be able to take some up-to-the minutes images, but it seemed to be very difficult to co-ordinate a day of fine weather with a day/time when there would be a member of staff present to let me in. We do have however a scene from the cold

snap earlier in January when Lancaster actually had some snow – taken from above, a view not often seen of the back of JL. Let's hope we've seen the last of that weather.



Subscriptions and Annual General Meeting

It's that time again – almost one year since our last AGM on 19 February 2020. The 2021 Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Lancaster Judges' Lodgings will take place, via Zoom, on Friday 19 February, 7.00pm. A Zoom link with papers will be sent out nearer the time.

By the same token this is a reminder that subscriptions are due. It has been very heart-warming to receive support from Friends during the year. With your support you help us maintain and develop one of the most fascinating museums of the North West, a museum with high aspirations and the commitment among its people to meet those aspirations. Please continue with your support by way of subscribing again, so that when the health scene changes for the better the Judges' Lodgings will still be there, telling its stories and creating new ones.

Funds raised enables the Friends to move forward on new projects to help. The committee and trustees together with Lancashire County Council have many ideas to enhance the museum and these can become reality with your help.

Please renew or join the Friends. The subscriptions are the same as last year (subject to confirmation at the AGM). Subscriptions can be paid by sending a cheque made payable to Friends of Lancaster Judges Lodgings C/o Sue Widden
12 Castle Park
Lancaster LA1 1YQ

Or by making a bank transfer to TT's of Friends of Lancaster Judges Lodgings bank. The Cumberland. Sort Code:16 52 24; Account:54106246
The amount payable is £10 for over 25-year-olds and £5 for under 25's, the unemployed and those on benefit.

We are also looking for new Committee members to work with us over the next twelve months (and beyond, perhaps). Please email me sue.widden@outlook.com if you would like to become involved and add your ideas for development to ours.

Events

The friends of JL, technology permitting, are putting forward a few tasters by Zoom, each lasting c 40 minutes to assess what the response is. Some of these may be talks,

others could be mini-workshops or craft sessions. Please let us know if you have a special topic which you would like to learn more about (or if you are an expert on it and would like to put together a Zoom talk).

To take us through until Easter, the programme is as follows -

Sunday 7 February, 3.00pm – Creating Festive Cards: Valentine’s Day – suitable for adults and children.

Friday 19 February, 7.00pm – Friends of JL AGM, with a short quiz to follow.

Saturday 20 March, 3.00pm – Creating Festive Cards: Easter and Spring – suitable for adults and children.

Links to these will go out about one week beforehand, with any instructions you may need. We hope very much that as many of you as possible will join us.

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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