

LANCASTER JUDGES' LODGINGS

UPDATE

Newsletter of the Friends of Lancaster Judges' Lodgings

Issue no 77

January 2023



The Judges' Lodgings in January

Behind the closed doors of the JL, once Christmas was really and truly over, much has been happening, both with the Facing the Past portraits project, and with the refurb of the Gillows Gallery.

Six portraits for the Facing the Past project have now been finished and it is expected that some at least of



them will be on display when the JL reopens in the Spring – mark the date, 30 March. All the school workshops relating to the project have been completed and the pieces created during those workshops will be exhibited in the JL. Here is a snippet to sharpen the appetite.



The Gillows Gallery has now been cleared and work is progressing on the walls and floor of what used to be the Junior Judge's bedroom. Good to see that the worker is giving it the thumbs up.

A Young Producers project is looking at redeveloping the Picnic Room with a paid opening for #Lancashire artists aged 16 to 30.

This is an exciting opportunity to contribute to making the JL more user friendly for young people and create a more interesting space in the Picnic Room especially with young people in mind, as well as the families and school children who use it.

? Are you an artist aged 18 to 30?

? Can you help?

Apply by Monday 6 February



The Picnic room at present

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Charity number 1171209

Find out more



Paid opportunity for local young artists!

The Hope Streets Young Producers want to make the Picnic Room at the Judges' Lodgings Museum in Lancaster a more inviting and interesting space where young people can spend time.

We need you to produce an artwork for us:

- A2- A1 scale.
- A landscape artwork
- Depicting Judges Lodgings from 1700/1800s to now. Please feel free to interpret this however you wish!

We will pay the chosen artist £180 for their final piece and cover the costs for the canvas/ paper used.

If this could be you scan the code for more information and how to apply

or visit our website www.lancashire.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/museums/hope-streets



<http://lancashire.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/museums/hope-streets>
#HopeStreets

School visits have continued once the new school term began, and in fact students from local primary schools contributed to the Victorian Christmas weekend. Altogether 574 children and teachers visited over that weekend. During the season April to December 2022 there were over 10,500 visitors to the JL – congratulations to Lynda and her team.

News from The Chair of The Friends

The committee met on Friday 13th January for the first meeting of 2023. We were delighted to welcome Margaret Stebbing as the new NW Regional Coordinator for the British Association of Friends of Museums (BAfM) and also as a prospective member of the committee.

Here are the headlines from the meeting:

- The Christmas Appeal for “Fake Food” for the Dining Room will become our focus of raising money for 2023
- We hope to have an official Notice Board in the Education Room to advertise the Friends and our fund-raising activities

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- The AGM is to take place on 15th February at 1900 at The Judges Lodgings with refreshments available
- After the success of the “On Line” raffle for the Dinosaur egg, we hope to have another “On Line” raffle for a “Halloween Experience” later in the year
- Other proposed events for 2023 were discussed and will be advertised in due course
- Mandy and her team especially Barbara, Jane, Katya were thanked for all their hard work and commitment in making The Victoria Café such a success raising over £1000 for The Friends in order to support the work of Lynda and her team
- Margaret hopes to use her role with the BAfM to support and help develop the Friends
- It was agreed that Sue would give a vote of thanks to Garth Lindrup at the AGM for all his hard work as Chair of the Trustees and Friend of The Judges Lodgings’ I hope you have found this interesting and if you would like to help in any way with the work of the Friends or have ideas for future events that the Friends can organise, please contact Sue or myself.

Thanks

Catherine Fatkin, Chair

catherine.fatkin@gmail.com

The Garden in January

The JL Garden did not completely avoid damage during the couple of cold snaps in January, most notably some of the plants in the courtyard. We hope that with careful nurturing and some TLC they will revive as the weather gets warmer. In the meantime, if you’re longing for snowdrops, Hornby Castle, where a group of Friends visited and explored the grounds very enjoyably a couple of years back, is holding its annual Snowdrop Walk, 11.00am Saturday 4 February and Sunday 5 February. Contact trybooking.co.uk for tickets



The Wild Escape – Pause, think, create - explore nature in art at Judges' Lodgings in 2023

Helen (Assistant Manager at JL) writes: "The Wild Escape is a UK wide participatory project championing museums, galleries and historic houses to engage families with the wildlife in our collections and we've been successful in applying for a £2000 grant to deliver this at the Judges' Lodgings.

Through art and creative writing families will explore how biodiversity underpins our life on earth and discover the many beautiful paintings and objects depicting nature at Judges' Lodgings Museum in Lancaster. It will encourage them to pause, take a closer look, be inspired to create a painting, poem, or story. The funding will enable us to engage an artist and a writer who will work creatively with families and their children aged between 7 and 11 in three



workshops, culminating with an activity being delivered on Earth Day – 22nd April 2023. Staff and volunteers will also be involved

Events

There is a full programme of events hosted both by the Museum and by the Friends with the popular lecture series starting late April, on Friday 28 April with Colin Penny talking about William Calcraft, England's longest serving hangman. More details of the programmes in future Newsletters.

Archives – Lancashire History Magazine

This is a new publication brought out by Lancashire County Council, with the first edition on offer at local libraries at £3.00. They are very keen to attract contributors for the second issue, the copy deadline for which is 17 March 2023, looking for articles (500-1500 words) relating to the history of Lancashire, its people and places. Articles need not just concern the Judges' Lodgings but can be about any aspect of Lancashire's history. To find out more contact archives@lancashire.gov.uk Articles should be sent by email to archives@lancashire.gov.uk or posted to Lancashire Archives, Bow lane, Preston. They would like any suitable images you may have and can send via email.

Let's hope some of the JL Friends and supporters can dig down into their memories and draw up some stories about their family research, working lives, childhood or local communities. It would be great to have some stories or history about Individuals or communities who have been marginalised or not much documented.

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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