

Summing up... the newsletter of the

Friends of Lancaster Judges' Lodgings Museum

Spring 2024

lancasterjudgeslodgings.org.uk

Issue 85



Chair's Report

Welcome to the first edition of the new look Judges' Lodgings (JL) newsletter following the sad death in December of the previous editor Sue Widden. The Friend's Newsletter will now be produced 4 times a year with news on events, articles, information and photos of what's happening at The Judges' Lodgings Museum.

We had the Friends AGM in February, and we were delighted that there were more Friends than committee at the meeting. Hopefully, you have all received your minutes and reports from the meeting as well as a copy of the revised constitution. The committee were re-elected and there was a tribute to Sue Widden from Roger Jump. We were delighted to announce that the Friends had raised over £2,000 to support the JL, mainly through the Victorian Tearoom, Summer Concert and raffle.

The Friends' Committee have already met twice in 2024 with the "highlights" of the meeting being:

- Paul Mullineaux has become the Minutes Secretary, Liz Feather the Membership Secretary, and Nick Smith the Editor of the Newsletter. In all 3 committee members required to replace Sue.
- The Victorian Tearoom will start again in 2024 on Saturday 6th April when we hope a new banner designed by Jack Knight will be unveiled, advertising it at the front of the building to entice more visitors.
- Nick and Jack will organise another raffle for 2024
- There will be a memorial concert for Sue Widden in the summer.

Look out for more information about the Raffle and Concert soon.

Please remember to rejoin the Friends. The Friends need you to support the JL through your membership and if possible your involvement in our activities by attending and volunteering. We really need you.

Thanks to all the committee and readers of this newsletter for being interested and supporting the work of the Friends of the Judges' Lodgings Museum.

Catherine Fatkin, Chair of the Friends

catherine.fatkin@gmail.com

Pop-up Victorian Tea Room - can YOU help?

Our Pop Victorian Tea Room will be returning again on the first Saturday of each month from April to September 2024, which means we're looking for volunteers to help out on:



Saturday 6th April,

Saturday 4th May,

Saturday 1st June,

Saturday 6th July,

Saturday 3rd August, and

Saturday and Sunday 7th and 8th of September
(Heritage Open Days weekend).

There is a small team who run the tea rooms but we could do with more volunteers! We need help to set up from 10.00 am to 12.00, serve 12 – 3 pm and to clear away from 3 – 4 pm. We also need back room staff to wash up from 12 – 3 pm and of course cake bakers.

Could you give us a couple of hours of your time on a Saturday?

The tea rooms have proved to be an excellent fundraiser for the Friends as well as encouraging extra footfall and being a popular additional attraction for visitors to Judges' Lodgings. It's a great opportunity to help the Friends, have fun, get to know more like minded people as well as eat delicious homemade cakes!

Please contact me if you can offer your services for Saturday 6th April or any of the other dates listed. Call on 07866 079577 or email mandywhitehouse Lancaster@sky.com.

Mandy Whitehouse, Tea Room Co-ordinator



This banner (or something very similar) will be displayed on the railings outside the Judges' Lodgings every time the tearoom takes place. Our thanks go to Jack Knight for his artistic talents, which will be sure to encourage a steady flow of thirsty tourists.

Spring Events at the Judges' Lodgings

Lunchtime Lectures

12pm - 1pm last Friday of the month, £5 (includes refreshments)

Advance booking is required - visit bit.ly/EventsAtJudgesLodgings

The Infamous 'Scotforth Murder' - 26th April

The terrible assault and murder of servant Elizabeth Nelson near Lancaster remains unsolved nearly 160 years later. The murder scene was then a quiet country lane but is now at the heart of Lancaster University. Join Dr Andrew White as he reviews the evidence of the gruesome case that came to national prominence in 1866.

Happy Days? Elementary Schooling in Lancaster - 24th May

Were school days really the happiest days of children's lives? Find out more about the sorts of schools which existed in Lancaster between 1770 – 1918 and what they taught. Dr Mike Winstanley uncovers everything from the city's 'lost schools' to the curriculum and the differences between boys' and girls' education. Not to be missed!

Easter Holidays Craft Workshops - Cracking good family fun!

Every Friday of school holidays - drop in anytime 11am-12.30pm and 1-3.30pm

No booking required and normal admission charges apply

£2 per child

3D Easter Chicks Pop-up Cards - 29th March

Make your own special 3D springtime greetings card.

Mesmerising Mandala Eggs - 5th April

Take a mindful moment to relax and decorate an egg with a hypnotic display of colourful dots.

Eggstrodinary Characters - 12th April

Let your imagination run riot creating weird and wonderful egg characters!

Plus! Try a delicious Easter trail around the Judges' Lodgings finishing with a special chocolate treat! £1 per child.

Visit bit.ly/EventsAtJudgesLodgings to view a full list of forthcoming events

From the Garden...



Although the garden team managed a late February walk around the Judges' Lodgings garden and courtyard (with much note taking and discussion of the season's plans), it wasn't until early March that the weather allowed us to have our first proper gardening session of 2024. Due to recent weather, this session was a good five weeks later than our start last year.

However, a warm and sunny morning allowed us to make good progress on general winter clearance of the two larger beds in the garden, and clearing and preparing the large pots in the

courtyard. A late afternoon gentle cut of the lawn has also made that look a lot tidier.

We know how much the garden is enjoyed by the variety of visitors who visit the Judges' Lodgings, and we very much hope the weather will allow us to steadily progress with our preparation work ready, in due course, to be able to start the planting.

The Garden Team



Join the Friends and help the Judges' Lodgings

The Friends' Committee would be delighted if you would consider becoming a Friend of the Judges' Lodgings, thus enabling increased support to this wonderful Museum. Members receive free entry and other discounts.

Membership forms and further details can be found on the Friends' website at

lancasterjudgeslodgings.org.uk

2024 Opening

The Judges' Lodgings will be open from 11am until 4pm, Thursday to Sunday from 28 March.