



Grantham  
Civic Society

[www.granthamcivicsociety.co.uk](http://www.granthamcivicsociety.co.uk)

masthead artwork by Georgina

Green

## Grantham Civic Society aims to:

Preserve the town's remaining fine or historically interesting buildings

Monitor the upkeep of green spaces

Keep a watching brief on new developments

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## Diary dates (booking details on page 4)

Please put the following dates in your diaries for future events.

**Sunday 20 August 2.00– 4.30 pm**

**Summer Social at Fairfields 34 Beacon Lane**

Grantham NG31 9DL **£5 per head.** Cream tea packs and drinks provided. Please bring your own mug or cup and saucer and folding chair if possible

## Heritage Open Days

**Saturday 09 September** St Wulfram's church 9.30am - 4.00pm

**Sunday 10 September** Old Burial Ground 1.00—3.00pm

and Grantham House 2.00—4.30pm

**Friday 15 / Saturday 16 September**

Harrowby Road Cemetery guided walks

**Please contact John Manterfield to pre-book Cemetery tours**

**Saturday 16 September** St John's church open 10am—3pm

**All Heritage Day events free entry**

**Wednesday 27 September £14 per head.**

**Visit to Grimsthorpe Castle. Members to make their own way there by car.** Arrive at the visitors' car park at 10.00am. There will be coffee on arrival followed by a one-hour guided tour of the castle in the morning. Lunch can be purchased in the café or a picnic lunch taken to eat in the gardens, which will be accessible.

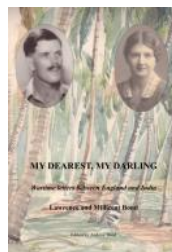
**Grimsthorpe visitor information is attached to this newsletter.**

## From the Chairman

Despite the weather we had a great outing to the city of York on Friday 14 July where we were welcomed at the Mansion House by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress (see report on page 3). In the afternoon, we had an excellent guided walk around the city. Our thanks to committee member Chrissie Thomas for organising our day in York.

Our next event is the garden party at the home of Graham and Fiona Cook on Sunday 20th August from 2.00 to 4.30pm. Your £5 ticket gets you a cream tea, the opportunity to meet fellow members and friends and a quiz. For the purpose of minimising waste, we are asking you to bring your own mug (or china cup & saucer if you prefer) and also to bring a folding chair if you are able but this is not essential.

We then head swiftly into September for our Heritage Open Days. These are always FUN and are FREE, so ideal if you have visiting children or grandchildren. If you can spare us a few hours, please let me know as your help will be appreciated in welcoming visitors or helping out on our bookstall. Copies of the free HODS brochure are available from me and copies will also be available at the Garden Party. Please book NOW by contacting Graham (see Future events on page 4).



Finally, you may wish to note that copies of the limited edition book 'My dearest, My Darling' - letters between local Architect, and one time co-founder of Grantham Civic Trust as it then was, Tommy Bond (then serving with the Royal Engineers) and his wife Millicent in Grantham during the period 1943-45 - are on sale at Grantham Museum for £16.50. The letters give a fascinating insight into life in wartime India as well as here in Grantham.

**John Manterfield**

## National Civic Day

Thank you all for who helped and supported on **National Civic Day, Saturday 17 June**. Our stall in the Morrison's Centre attracted much attention and a few members and others engaged. Our new Mayor, Mark Whittington and his wife (pictured) also came and chatted and Mark expressed an interest in joining us for the visit to York.

### The Grantham Civic Society photographic competition



The Grantham Civic Society is holding a photographic competition for children from 11-18 age group. We would like a photograph of an historic, or interesting building in Grantham (exterior) must not include people. There will be 3 Prizes

1st Prize £100

2nd Prize £50

3rd Prize £25

Deadline for entries 1/9/23

Entries must be in a digital JPEG file no larger than 8.5MB in B&W or full colour and sent to the Grantham Civic Society photographic competition

email: [granthamcivicsociety@virginmedia.com](mailto:granthamcivicsociety@virginmedia.com)

The Grantham Civic Society reserves the right to use the winning entries in future publicity. The judges decision is final

We sold £84 worth of books and Trump cards. Several folk took information about the photographic competition and we should all continue to promote that (see the poster attached). The poster was kindly produced by Dave Thomas, husband of Committee member Chrissie, and has been circulated around local secondary schools by Committee member Rob Gait, so that pupils have time to have a go at entering over the summer holidays.

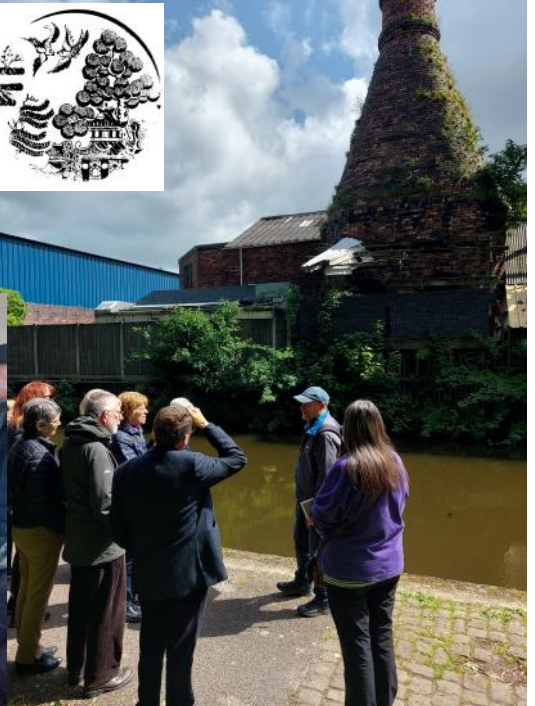
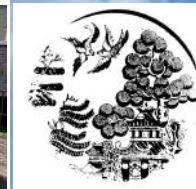
There were half a dozen folk on my town guided tour in the morning and they asked quite a few questions so it didn't finish until after 12. As it happened, no one turned up in the afternoon, so I was happy to head home for a welcome cuppa.

Any feedback on the day and how we might promote National Civic Day in future years would be welcome.



**John Manterfield**

## Visit to Spode factory, Stoke upon Trent



The coach trip to Stoke on Trent, or to be more precise Stoke **upon** Trent, on **Wednesday 17 April**, went well and the hosts at the Spode Museum and

from the Potteries Heritage Society had gone to a lot of trouble for us, although it was disappointing that only 15 people had booked to come.

However, those of us who did attend were treated to an expert guided walk around the area surrounding the Spode Factory, showing us what a major part in the town's life and trade the factory played, providing employment and leading to the construction of the canal connection into the national system, to enable raw materials to be brought in and finished products shipped out. We were also given a detailed explanation of the intricacies of the design and manufacture of the famous blue and white willow pattern china, for which the factory was famous. We even had a practical demonstration of the enormously skilled process of applying the pattern to porcelain blanks ready for firing, and were able to make one for ourselves. I think we all felt it was a memorable visit.



**Graham Cook**

Workshop in 1931



## Visit to York ~ Friday 14 July

Our party of thirty set off promptly, and a bit earlier than usual, from The Meres at 8.15am for the trip with A&P Coaches to York. We had feared encountering traffic problems on the journey but in fact arrived at the Coach Station in good time for a stroll across the City and a cup of coffee in various cafes in the area around The Mansion House, home to the Lord Mayor of York and the venue for many of the City's civic ceremonies.

We were then given a warm welcome by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of York, Revd. Cllr. Chris Cullwick and Mrs Joy Cullwick. Amongst our visiting party was our own new Town Mayor, Mark Whittington. Mark and Chris were able to share experiences of their own different roles and compare regalia, although Mark was at pains to point out that his own "Sunday best" regalia had to stay in Grantham for insurance reasons! We were then given an extremely informative and humorous tour, by a guide called Olivia, of the principal rooms of the Mansion House, construction of which was completed in 1732 and has remained in continuous use since then. We were even shown around the kitchen in the basement, set up as it would originally have been with the original table, fittings and fireplace, including the unusual "smoke jack" by which the heat of the fire turned the spit upon which meat was roasted over the fire. It was explained that, over the many years this kitchen was in regular use, it was remarkable that the building had never caught fire!

We thanked our hosts and split up to get lunch in one of the lovely cafes around the city centre and then reconvened to be divided into two groups and given guided walking tours around the city centre by local guides Maureen and Chris Poulton. Our very knowledgeable guides gave us some great insights into the history of the city and the walks were much appreciated by our party. We were also impressed with what a vibrant and busy city centre York has, with barely an empty shop to be seen anywhere. Our party expressed our warm thanks to our hosts for the day, offered to host a visit to our own town for any who wished to visit and boarded our coach which delivered us back at The Meres by 6pm, thanks to some skilful route planning by our driver.

General feedback indicated that the whole day had been much enjoyed by our party.



The Lord Mayor receiving a set of Grantham Trump cards



The Mansion House



Graham Cook

The magnificent City regalia



The assembled party ~ two Mayors at the centre



## CONTACT US

### CHAIRMAN

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David Martin  
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&  
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### ENQUIRIES

[granthamcivicsociety@virginmedia.com](mailto:granthamcivicsociety@virginmedia.com)



## Grantham Civic Society

[www.granthamcivicsociety.co.uk](http://www.granthamcivicsociety.co.uk)

### Membership

Membership forms can be obtained from Ruth Crook or downloaded from the website. Membership currently costs **£12 per annum** (£22 for two people at the same address)

## Events for the coming months.....

**Sunday 20 August 2.00– 4.30 pm**

**Summer Social Cream Tea** at Fairfields 34 Beacon Lane Grantham NG31 9DL **£5 per head.** Cream tea packs and drinks provided. Please bring your own mug or cup and saucer and folding chair if possible

**Names to Graham Cook and payment to Ruth Crook by Friday 11 August please**

### Heritage Open Days

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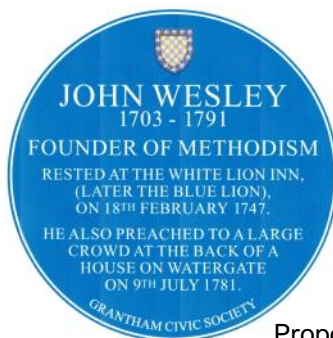
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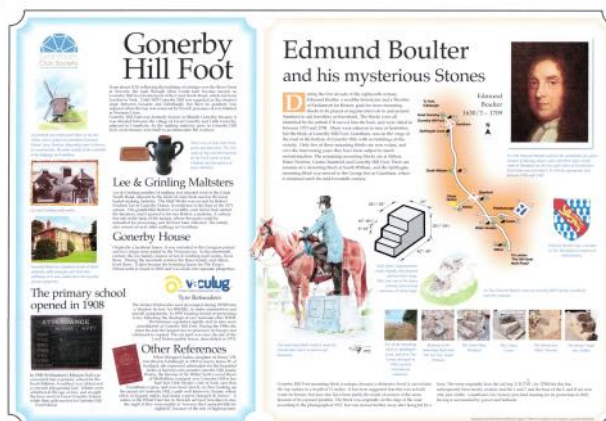
**Names to John Manterfield and payment to Ruth Crook by Friday 15 September please**

**PLEASE MAKE ALL PAYMENTS FOR THE EVENTS ABOVE IN ADVANCE OF THE EVENT AND ON THE WEBSITE IF POSSIBLE RATHER THAN BY CHEQUE.**

## Proposed new information board and blue plaque



Proposed new John Wesley blue plaque to go on Lindpet House, Market Place ~ awaiting Listed Building Consent



Proposed information board for Gonerby Hill Foot ~ designed by Richard Coppin

