



Grantham
Civic Society

www.granthamcivicsociety.co.uk



masthead artwork by Georgina Green

Newsletter

Autumn 2021

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 further events.

Thursday 4 November

"Plague and pestilence in 17th century Grantham"

Talk by John Manterfield

Grantham Museum 2.30pm

Tuesday 7 December

Christmas lunch at the Angel and Royal

12 noon for 12.30

Thursday 13 January 2022

Breakfast meeting and release of the 2022 programme of events

9.30 for 10am start

Our new website

Over the past few months, the committee has been working with website designers to build a new website for the society. It incorporates the latest in web design, including a shop where you can purchase books, membership or pay for events by either PayPal or bank card. You will also find our newsletters and programmes.

Please have a look at

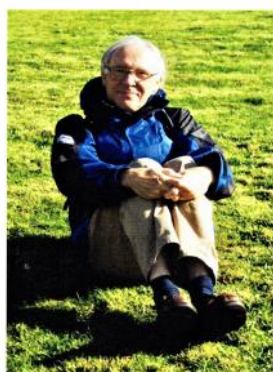
www.granthamcivicsociety.co.uk



Your views on Grantham Civic Society

We are heartened that we seem to be regularly gaining new members to the Society, whilst retaining those of you who have been with us for some time. We do our best to foster this interest through arranging regular events throughout the year (generally once a month, COVID permitting!) and through the use of social media and our website to keep everybody informed.

However, so that we are not tempted to rest on our laurels, we would be very interested to hear any of your views on things we do well, things we could do better or things we don't presently do which you feel we should. Please feel free to contact us through the email address shown on the back page of this newsletter and we promise to consider them in our future planning.



DAVID ROBERT BROWN

It was with enormous sadness that we learned of the sudden and unexpected death of David. He had been a long term and active member of our Society, and many others in town, had served on our Committee for many years, is a past Chairman and was for a long time the editor of our newsletter.

He regularly campaigned for improvements in the town, through GCS and by letters to the Journal, and we had all been delighted to see him looking happy and enjoying events at our recent Heritage Days in town. David will be greatly missed in this town and all of our commiserations go to his family and many friends.

Summer Social ~ 22nd August

We had over fifty attendees for this event and we can't really give a better report than the following testimonial from a member who attended!

Many thanks for a very pleasant cream tea afternoon spent in the gardens of 34 Beacon Lane. The tea was delicious and the gardens were beautiful. Even the sun shone. I had done my sun dance!

*Thanks to all the committee
Audrey Mitchell*



Boothby Pagnell/Corby Glen trip 1st October ~ joint visit with the Friends of St Wulfram's Church

The magnificent total of over forty of us met up at the Village Hall car park in Boothby Pagnell at 10am and were then very kindly shown around the beautiful Norman manor house, normally not accessible to visitors, by Kate Speck the owner, before being given refreshments in the village hall and a tour of the nearby Norman church by Warden Tom Blake. Most of us then moved on to the Woodhouse Arms in Corby where we had a magnificent lunch. After that some of us had a wander around Corby village and visited the church. It was lovely to see so many members out enjoying themselves again after the long



RiverCare

A few updates for you from David and Ian

Firstly we have just received our latest figures for our **Collect & Count** data for 2021, a huge thank you to those of you that have put forward your litter picking data, as you'll see the figures are quite astonishing especially with a late start to the year due to the pandemic.

On the 18th 20 volunteers joined in for the group's **108th litter pick**, we were joined by Sue Healey from Morrisons, Sue is the Community Champion as she has donated refreshment items so you can all enjoy cups of tea, coffee and a biscuit. We must also say a huge thanks to Paula and Julie for make us some lovely cakes again. A few days later we were joined by 4 staff members from Anglian Water, they are part of the Strategic Pipeline Alliance team. You can find out more about the SPA project at:

<https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/about-us/our-strategies-and-plans/new-water-pipelines/>

The members of staff were joined by Cate from RiverCare BeachCare, Rhona and myself, a small team but we collected around 8 bags of rubbish from Bridge End Road- Wyndham Park.

And finally a couple of surveys we would like you to take part in...

Queen Elizabeth Park Survey Summer 2021

Introduction One of three parks in Grantham connected by the River Witham, Queen Elizabeth Park is less formal than its neighbours, Dysart Park and Wyndham Park www.surveymonkey.co.uk

And then the Lincolnshire Rivers Trust Reconnecting the Witham Survey at: <https://withamsurvey.weebly.com/?fbclid=IwAR1NCbjOL5OijTtQu32jhn7HK9BFWFWknQmUnWVIEBqIUVvQH79jYasAP7B0>

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Find us on facebook at: fb.me/rivercaregrantham

<http://www.rivercare.org.uk/>
(An Anglian Water/Keep Britain Tidy Project)



Heritage Open Days 2021



Our busy heritage events came to an end with John Manterfield's Grantham cemetery tours. We had 91 participants across the 4 tours and people commented that they were interesting and informative. Our thanks go to Melvin Dobbs for much of the research into those graves with military connections and our own member Peter Reichelt for sharing his personal recollections of some of the individuals.

During Heritage Weekend more than 1,100 people visited the places manned by your committee members including over 580 at Grantham House on the Sunday. We think the good weather and lockdown ending encouraged them to come out but it is clear there is great interest in our historic places like the Old King's school and the Manthorpe Road burial ground. We always meet people from far away and people who live locally who are visiting places for the very first time which shows that Heritage events and openings are doing as intended.

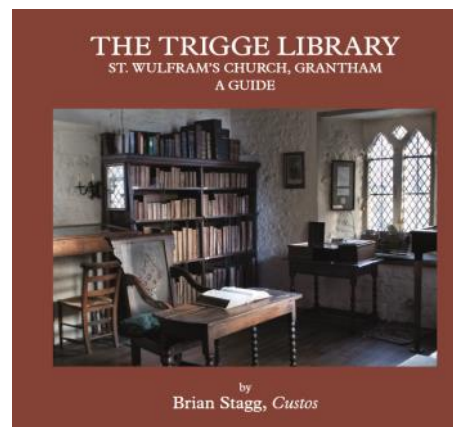
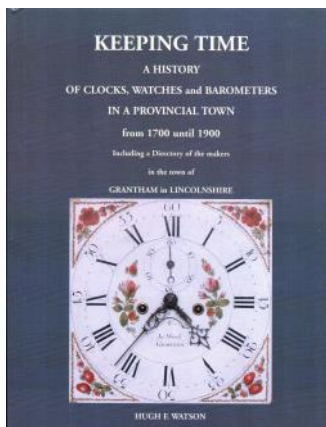
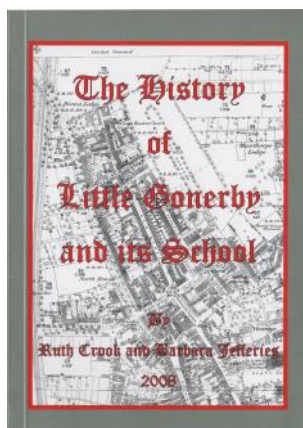
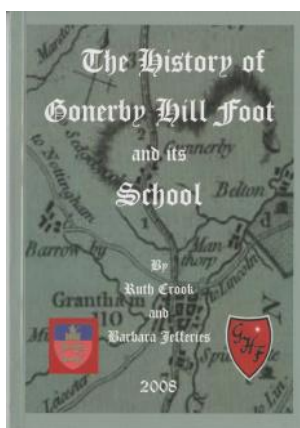
The Masonic Hall in Chambers Street was opened for the first time as a Heritage day event and they were pleased with the attendance.

Courtney Finn Chairman



Book Shop

The History of Gonerby Hill Foot and its school by Ruth Crook and Barbara Jefferies (2008, 100pp) is now back in stock in the Civic Society bookshop at the special price of £4 (plus £2 UK p & p). Please message me if you would like a copy. We also have a few copies of ***The History of Little Gonerby and its school*** (2008, 164 pp) at £5 per copy. For a bigger read, the late Hugh Watson's ***Keeping Time***, (2008, 328pp), which covers the history of clock and watchmaking and retail in Grantham from 1700 to 1900, is available for just £19 (plus £3 UK p & p). We are also stocking, on behalf of the Friends of St Wulfram's Church, Brian Stagg's new book on ***The Trigge Library***. However there are over 25 items available in the shop so please visit www.granthamcivicsociety.co.uk to see the full range. If you order books on line it will come up with the correct additional amount for postage and packing. Also we continue to offer used books on our facebook site. **John Manterfield**



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Grantham Civic Society

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)

In store for the coming months.....

Autumn Talk

Thursday 4 November 2.30pm Grantham Museum
"Plague and pestilence in seventeenth century Grantham"
A talk by John Manterfield **Free entry**

Christmas lunch at the Angel and Royal

Tuesday 7 December 12.00 for 12.30pm
Order form attached. £20 for two courses or £26 for three courses
Orders must be confirmed to Graham Cook by Friday 26th November at the latest

2022 Breakfast meeting at Belton Park Golf Club

Thursday 13th January 2022 9.30 for 10am. ~ £10 per head inclusive of cooked breakfast
Orders must be confirmed to Graham Cook by Friday 31st December at the latest.

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

Queen Eleanor cycle riders' annual visit

More than 30 cyclists recently travelled the route of the twelve original Eleanor Crosses, erected by King Edward I following the death of his Queen, Eleanor of Castile, in 1290 at Harby in Nottinghamshire. Crosses were originally erected at the overnight stopping places when her body was brought back from Harby to be buried in Westminster Abbey.

At the cyclists' Grantham stop this year they visited the memorial plaque erected in 2015 on the front of Grantham Guildhall, which was designed by Grantham Civic Society Vice Chairman Graham Cook and sculpted by stonemason Derren Rose of local firm Skillington Workshop. It is known that there was an Eleanor Cross erected in the area of St Peter's Hill but it has long been lost.

The annual ride is organised by St Martin in the Fields church in London to raise sponsorship money to help the homeless and they raised money this year for The Connection, a charity at the heart of London's response to homelessness.

Before heading off to Stamford, Geddington and Northampton, their next stops, the cyclists had a night in the town, including a trip to the Blue Pig pub, and then spent the night sleeping in St Wulfram's church.



Top Trump Cards

Ideal Christmas presents!

Each of the 62 cards feature a different full colour photograph of a Grantham building or place of interest, with a brief description. A great gift for locals, visitors and ex-Granthamians alike. Rules for playing the game are included.

The cards are £4.99 per pack and can be collected from a committee member, or posted to a UK address for £2 extra (overseas postage on application).

Order now by emailing
granthamcivicsociety@virginmedia.com

