



Grantham  
Civic Society

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



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masthead artwork by Georgina Green

# Newsletter

# Summer 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

## Inside this issue:

Diary Dates	1
Top Trumps cards	1
July lecture report	2
Wyndham Park/Rivercare report	2
New stained glass project	3
Book Shop	3
Events booking details	4



## Diary dates

How wonderful that we are able to start tentatively opening up and meeting face-to-face at some events again and it was lovely to see a number of you at the lecture on 22 July.

Please put the following dates in your diaries if you can

**Sunday 22 August from 2.30pm until 4.30pm**

**Summer Social cream tea at Fairfield's,**  
34 Beacon Lane, Grantham NG31 9DL

**11 to 18 September**

Heritage open days ~ various

**Friday 1 October**

**Visit to Boothby Pagnell and Corby Glen from 10.00am**

**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 for 12.30**

## Top Trump Cards

**Grantham TRUMP CARDS**

**1 Angel & Royal Hotel, High Street**

A gophouse inn one of the earliest inns in England in continuous use. Several English monarchs have stayed here, including King Richard II, who received the Great Seal in the hospice of the Angel to seal the death warrant of the Duke of Buckingham. Named Angel and Royal in 1866.

Year/Decade Built	c1450
Visual Impact	95
Listed Status (Grade II)	70
Distance to Market Cross	72m
Game Points	210

**2 The George shopping centre, High Street**

Formerly the George Inn, King Edward IV gave to George to the merchant in 1441. (It was later rebuilt in red brick in 1750. It was later given to Charles Dickens, who described the George Inn as 'amongst the best in London or anywhere else, and famous revolutionary marker Thomas Paine'.

Year/Decade Built	1750
Visual Impact	90
Listed Status (Grade II*)	74
Distance to Market Cross	114m
Game Points	180

**4 St Wulfram's Church, Church Street**

Part of the church dates from the Saxon period. The tower and spire which stand at 66 metres high were built by 1300. The 'Tiger' library dating from 1581 is housed above the south porch. The church is decorated with over 700 carved heads.

Year/Decade Built	1180
Visual Impact	100
Listed Status (Grade I)	100
Distance to Market Cross	252m
Game Points	230

**15 The Guildhall, St Peter's Hill**

The Guildhall was commissioned in 1866 and designed by William Watkins. The three buildings housed a bathroom, courtroom, governor's residence, and gale for 18 people. It hosts a blue plaque for John Smith, the pioneering policeman who was the first woman to have power of arrest and a stone plaque to Queen Eleanor of Castile.

Year/Decade Built	1867
Visual Impact	82
Listed Status (Grade II)	45
Distance to Market Cross	343m
Game Points	145

**31 Grantham House, Castlegate**

Significantly remodelled in both the 17th and 18th centuries. The house is the property of the National Trust in the 1940s by the Bedford family.

Year/Decade Built	c1350
Visual Impact	94
Listed Status (Grade II)	80
Distance to Market Cross	330m
Game Points	224

Grantham Civic Society has developed a Grantham Trump card game, in partnership with Historic England, Heritage Lincolnshire, SKDC and InvestSK.

Each of the 62 cards feature a different full colour photograph of a Grantham building or place of interest, with a brief description. The game can be enjoyed by all ages and is ideal as a gift for both locals, visitors and ex-Granthamians alike.

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

Order now by emailing

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

## The biggest scaffold you ever did see!

### Repairs to St Wulfram's spire 2011 ~ 2015

This was the title of a talk I gave at St Wulfram's church, and to a few others over *zoom*, on the evening of Thursday 22 July. I was Project Architect for the rebuilding of the very top 40 feet of the spire at St Wulframs church in 2014/15 ~ one of the tallest spires in the country. I told the full story of the project, from initial discovery of the problem to satisfactory completion of what turned out to be one of the most challenging projects of my long career in historic building conservation, tackling problems including inclement weather, unexpected construction materials, difficult fundraising and the sourcing of suitable replacement stone, all whilst accommodating the requirements of the peregrine falcons who normally nest on the Tower and are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act.

The problem, first discovered at a routine steeplejack's inspection in 2011, was that rusting iron cramps were starting to disturb and lift some of the stone courses at the top of the spire and it was threatening to become unstable. There then followed a busy three years of initial temporary stabilisation works, seeking grants and fundraising for the bigger rebuilding work, getting tenders and approvals and in due course carrying out the work which, due to the discovery of unforeseen problems after starting on site, had to be extended over a winter season. This resulted in extra cost and slowed progress. Included in the slide show were the pictures attached showing the magnificent scaffold drawings produced before tendering took place by our specialist scaffold designer and also some drone video footage of the spire taken after the repairs were completed but while the access ladder and high level platform were retained for twelve months so that a final inspection could be made to check that everything remained sound and could be signed off for release of the final payments to contractors. **Graham Cook**



## Wyndham Park consultation

South Kesteven District Council have now gone live with the yearly Wyndham Park, Grantham user survey which is **#LoveParksWeek** so why not fill in the online survey form and tell them what you love about Wyndham Park, or what you don't love or anything you would wish to change. Complete it at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/wyndham2021>

The survey closes 15 August 2021. Paper based versions of the survey are also available from the visitor centre (open Thursday to Sunday 11am to 3pm)

David Martin & Ian Simmons  
Co-Leaders- Grantham RiverCare  
David 0773 986 4490 / [sustransranger@hotmail.com](mailto:sustransranger@hotmail.com)  
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Find us on facebook at: [fb.me/rivercaregrantham](https://fb.me/rivercaregrantham)

<http://www.rivercare.org.uk/>

(An Anglian Water/Keep Britain Tidy Project)



CELEBRATING 15 YEARS  
**RIVERCARE  
BEACHCARE**  
GRANTHAM 2004 - 2019

## RiverCare

The pictures show the latest (106th) clean up held on Saturday 24 July.

David and Ian were delighted to have an excellent turn-out including old faces and a few new ones too.

The 107th will take place on Saturday 21 August 10 to 12noon but with the usual arrival time of around 9.15am for signing on / briefing. Please let David or Ian know if you wish to attend by **Monday 9 August**.





## New stained glass project

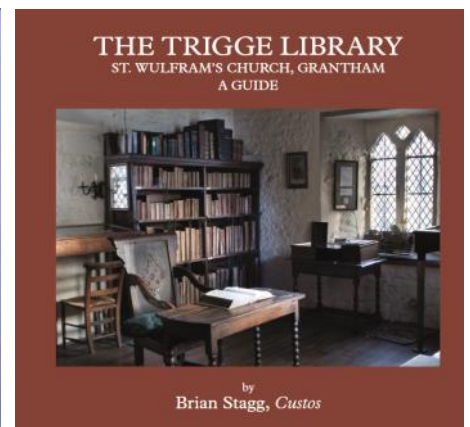
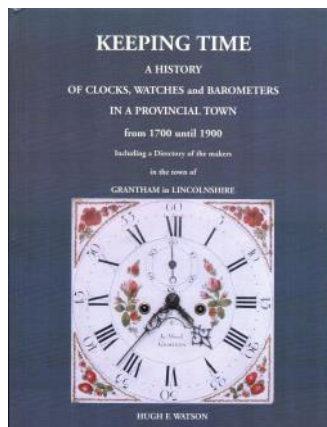
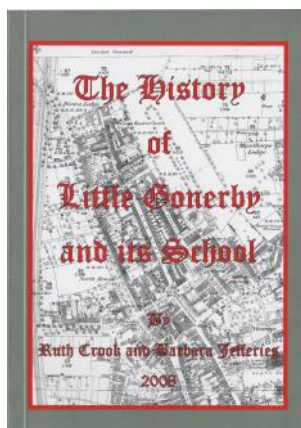
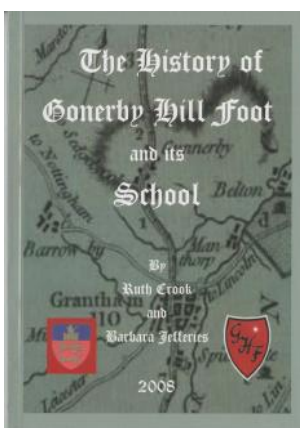
This new stained glass window, made by Prof Mike Brown, is situated in the waiting room of platform 4 at the railway station. The window is currently the fourth stained glass window made by Mike in the waiting room. He eventually hopes to complete all 8 of the windows to finish his 'cathedral of glass'. Pictured on the latest window is the canal, the railway line, St Wulfram's church and the Grantham Oak amongst other things.

Grantham Civic Society was proud to sponsor the making of the window.

## 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***. So get in touch for your summer reads!

John Manterfield



## CONTACT US

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**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)

## In store for the coming months.....

### Summer Social

**Sunday 22 August from 2.30pm until 4.30pm**

We meet again in person for our cream tea afternoon in Graham and Fiona Cook's lovely garden at 34 Beacon Lane, Grantham NG31 9DL. They have been working hard in the garden since we last visited so we hope you will come and enjoy the fruits of their labour. We shall need to know if you are coming as we have to get the number of cream teas right, although we will be providing you with the cream tea **free of charge**, as we have not been able to hold "live" events for so long now. Those of you who are unable to come can still claim your free cream tea packs and watch a video tour of Graham and Fiona's garden on DVD at home. If you confirm the booking you will be able to collect the cream tea packs and video on DVD on the day—more details will follow when you have booked. If the weather is wet on the day we will have to cancel the event, as they cannot accommodate everybody indoors, but you will all still be able to collect the cream tea packs and DVDs and enjoy them at home!

Last day for orders is **Monday 10 August**, please, so that we can get the cream teas ordered from our supplier (Garden Yard on Union Street).

Orders to Graham Cook at [grahamcook.architect@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:grahamcook.architect@hotmail.co.uk) (preferred) or 07940 715687

### Heritage Open Days

**Saturday 11 September 9.30 ~ 13.00**

King's School will be open to visitors as usual

**Saturday 11 September 10.00 ~ 16.00**

**St Wulfram's Church**

The Glory of Grantham and the Trigge Library plus refreshments

**Sunday 12 September 13.00 ~ 15.00**

**The Old Burial Ground, Manthorpe Road**

Grantham's burial ground between 1812 and 1857 and a haven for wildlife and specimen trees.

**Sunday 12 September 14.00 ~ 16.30**

**Grantham House gardens**

Relax in the delightful 5 acre gardens and enjoy tea and cakes, a display by *Grantham Danserye* and stalls by National Trust, Woodland Trust and our own bookstall.

All the above Heritage Open events are free entry

**Wednesday 15 to Friday 17 September** evenings 16.30-18.00

and **Saturday 18 September** 10.00—12.00 noon

Guided walking tours of Grantham Cemetery, Harrowby Road

Requests for bookings (Cemetery tours only) by email to [granthamcivicsociety@virginmedia.com](mailto:granthamcivicsociety@virginmedia.com). Confirmation of times booked will then be sent to applicants by return email.

Last date to apply for a tour **Friday 10 September**

### Boothby Pagnell ~ Corby Glen Visit

**Friday 1 October**

Visit to Boothby Pagnell Manor House and church and to Corby Glen Castle and church. Joint visit with the Friends of St Wulfram's Church  
Own transport.

**Arrive at Boothby Pagnell Village Hall, Ponton Road NG33 4DH at 10.00am**

**£10 per head including coffee.**

Bookings to Graham Cook

On [grahamcook.architect@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:grahamcook.architect@hotmail.co.uk) (preferred) or 07940 715687

**Names and Payment by Saturday 23 September please**

### 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**