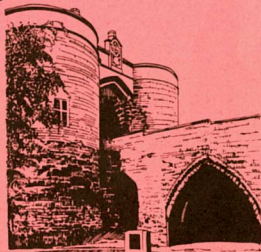


Built by command of Henry III between  
1252-55, Nottingham's Oldest Shop:

## NOTTINGHAM CIVIC SOCIETY



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### Nottingham Civic Society

President: Professor M. W. Barley  
Chairman: Robert Cullen  
Secretary: R. Banks Tel: 254679  
Editor of Newsletter: Ken Brand Tel: 263997

This Society exists to develop a worthwhile environment in Nottingham. To achieve this it encourages good architecture in all its forms, planning, and the preservation of the desirable aspects of the heritage of the city. The Society likewise will discourage, criticise and even fight bad planning, destruction of amenities and vulgarity in design.

We need your support. We invite you to join.  
Annual Subscription: Individual £3 Family £5

 Girobank No. 40 436 1803

Further details: C. Deane, Membership Secretary,  
78 Harlaxton Drive, Nottingham NG7 1JB Tel: 473359

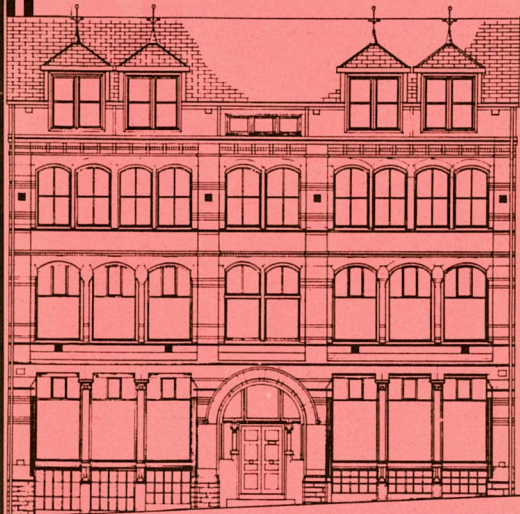
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# LETTER

## Nottingham Civic Society

# 82

### April 1990



33 Pilcher Gate  
Fothergill Watson 1889  
James McArtney Architects 1989  
Mark of the Month, March 1990

# 60p

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Rather unexpectedly and unintentionally, Nottingham recently added temporarily to its growing collection of traffic free streets. The collapse of the tower on Lambert's Factory sealed off Talbot Street whilst the structural insecurity of the listed portion of Pearson's store brought plywood and pedestrianisation to Long Row West.

The news that the city centre building which had collapsed was Lambert's Factory, brought on a sickening feeling of inevitability. A few days earlier I had noticed a clock face had been removed from the skew tower leaving a dark opening. Perhaps this helped to create a vortex when winds of up to 50mph were recorded earlier in the evening of February 2. No doubt the severe winds of the previous week had buffeted the building.

Pearson's likely demise is more puzzling and irritating. Who was watching who? Whatever public statements are made, most will be accepted with some scepticism by many observers. The initial reaction to the desirability of yet another linear shopping centre (Arcade is too flattering a term) was at the least questioning. Once the scheme was 'put on ice' and the city was left with a large hole, three 18th century houses in a perilous state, and an abundance of scaffolding, there was considerable public anger. As the charm of the so called Pearson's Houses was largely their survival, is their demolition and rebuilding the best outcome?

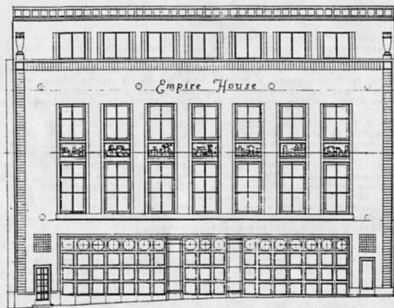
The third architectural casualty was the film blaze at the Home Brewery's Basford Maltings on Alpine Street early on Sunday, February 11. At one time ten engines with up to 50 firemen were involved in containing the fire. After five hours the fire was under control, but the residue of 150 tons of malted grain laid out on open floors in the traditional manner still smouldered for a day or two afterwards. Again, there was the presence of high winds, this time they forced the removal of insecure parts of the roof.

In a press statement issued immediately after the fire, Scottish and Newcastle Brewery, the parent company, pointed out that the future prospects of opening the Basford Maltings as a working museum must be in doubt even though some considerable amount of money had already been invested in preserving the buildings. Nevertheless, whilst the future prospects are still uncertain the sight of workmen nailing plywood and black plastic sheeting to the roof frame is surely an encouraging sign.

Having one Mark of the Month about to be demolished is disheartening (The Howitt Partnership: New Frontage for Pearson's of Nottingham December 1986). However, in its own way the partial destruction and vandalising of the Alfreton Road Frontage Scheme, Mark of the Month July 1986, is really dispiriting. In the beginning the first dislodged brick or two could have been replaced quickly by a bricklayer with a trowel and a bucket of mortar - to show THEM we care. Now two lengths of railings have been pushed over, gates removed and gate pillars knocked down. Repair and replacement, when or if it comes, will be expensive.

All is not doom and gloom, it is rewarding to find several Mark of the Month winners featuring in the finals of this year's Lord Mayor's Award Scheme and others were commended.

*Ken Brand*



T. Cecil Howitt working jointly with Starr and Hall, prepared alterations and additions for A.B. Gibson Ltd., Provision Merchants of Upper Parliament Street in August 1933. This front elevation was lost when the Parliament Street frontage of Pearson's was demolished recently. What ever happened to those decorative panels?

SUPPORT ENVIRONMENT WEEK 1990

28th April - 7th May

(Details Enclosed)

#### LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Following John Severn with his tremendous enthusiasm, dedication and capacity for work will be very difficult; the members owe him a tremendous debt of gratitude for his sustained efforts. I am sure you will all want to wish him well at what is a most difficult time for him and his family.

I am also sure that you all would like to know that your President, Professor Maurice Barley, is making a splendid recovery and is already active again on our behalf looking, for example, at the problem of the surveying the Pearsons frontage which may now have to be partially demolished, ensuring that there are proper records of this as well as many other buildings which we are still losing.

There is no doubt that as we continue to lose old buildings, the ones that are left become more and more precious and the Society will continue its efforts to maintain as many of these buildings as possible, resisting pressure for redevelopment except in very exceptional circumstances. Whenever an old building is demolished, it should be replaced with a modern building which is of a higher quality than the one which we are going to lose. This generally speaking has not been the case, although here and there there are buildings of real quality which we the members and the general public appreciate and enjoy using.

The Lord Mayor's Design Award has identified a few of these and the 'Mark of the Month', so ably run by Ken Brand, manages to find similar projects demonstrating real care and skill in both restoration and new building. However, by and large standards are far too low and we should be trying very hard to persuade the local authority, developers and individuals to invest in good buildings which will have a future.

I think it is now clear to everyone, particularly after the 'Vision for Britain' programme, that building for short term profit or for short life, is bad economics and leads to a great deal of social distress. Nottingham has done well to demolish so many of the 60s failures but unfortunately it will have to demolish a lot of what it has built during the 80s which, although different, is nearly as bad.

Another campaign which the Society is just launching is to promote new parks and greenways in both city and county. This is where the Society has to take an interest beyond its boundaries because the country parks serve the city. As Richard Rogers stated on Desert Island Discs, the main failure of planners and our society in the twentieth century, is that not a single new urban park has been created in London and what makes London so special, is its network of parks, the river and its fine buildings.

Nottingham has also failed to create a new park in the second half of the twentieth century and has lost to ad hoc speculative development a substantial amount of open space, which could have been linked to existing parks to form cycle ways and footpaths linking to each country park. There are

still a few openings left and this must not be lost to more ad hoc short sighted, political expediency.

The Society is now responsible for a very wide range of activities and I have to admit that I am not entirely familiar with everything that goes on within the Society, but no doubt I will be within the next few months.

We still owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to the shop workers and Thoresby Bradley, and I appeal to anyone who has spare time or has retired and would like to join the clan, to ring Mollie Hayes on Nottingham 609523. This is still our main source of income and enables us to be much more active and promote the aims and objectives of the Society on your behalf.

Forging and maintaining links with other amenity organisations is another task, particularly with Sneinton Environmental Society over the future of the railway lands, but also with Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, Pedals, Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace, the Civic Trust, Wollaton and Beeston Civic Societies, Nottinghamshire Building Preservation Trust etc. Robert Cullen

---

This cry from a young heart was received recently. I wrote a reply on behalf of the Society and passed a photocopy onto the Planning Department. I trust they also wrote to Peter.

Ken Brand

154 Edwards Lane  
Sherwood  
Nottingham  
NG5 3HZ

12.2.90

Dear Civic Society

Every Saturday morning I go to Sneinton market and pass the old ragged school. Each time I see it, the more I like it, and also the condition gets worse. Please could you tell me, whether anybody is doing anything about its condition. If anybody is, I would like to help in any way I can, and if nothing is being done, could something be done, before this piece of architecture falls down, or is pulled down.

Thank you.  
Yours sincerely

Peter Turner (11 years)

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A one day seminar on Traffic Calming in Theory and Practice will be held at the University of Nottingham on Thursday, May 24, 1990. Details from (0602) 484848, Ext 3066.

#### THE SOCIETY 1989-90

Here is reprinted the text of the Secretary's Annual Report presented by Ray Banks at the Annual General Meeting held at the Cathedral Hall, Tuesday, February 13, 1990.

Once again, we can report a very successful year. Our many activities continue to flourish. Our main concern, in general terms, is the need to attract younger members who will carry the Society into the next generation. We are not alone in this problem; it is one that we share with many other Societies.

Our membership continues to show a small overall growth. Cliff Deane reported in the latest issue of the Newsletter, so it is not necessary to give details here. He then gave our membership as 952, a net gain of 30 over the previous year. That magic figure of 1,000 still eludes us! We remain in the top league, far and away better than many areas of comparable population.

Likewise, David Newham has reported in the Newsletter on the Heritage Walks, a record of hard work and successful achievement. We are extremely grateful to all those concerned in this important aspect of the Society's activities.

The 1989 Christmas Card has been generally applauded as the most attractive and successful for many years.

Thoresby Bradley is able once again to report a very successful year's trading for the Castle Gatehouse Shop, with a record profit of £12,500. All this, despite many problems including two break-ins. A continuing concern is the shortage of shop helpers and we are all the more appreciative of the splendid work of those who have worked so hard to keep the shop open. Surely there must be members 'out there' who would be able to give a hand. Margaret Harrison has retired from organising the shop helpers after many years in this important and difficult job. In recording our thanks to her, we also thank Mollie Hayes who has agreed to take over.

At long last we are approaching the completion of the story of the Castle excavations, which instigated the founding of the shop in the first place. An equitable agreement has been reached with the Thoroton Society whereby the Report will be published as the 1990 volume of the 'Transactions' enhanced by a special cover and additional coloured illustrations. Copies of this Report will be available for the Society and it is the present intention of the executive committee that every paid-up member should receive a copy free of charge and that it shall also be on sale in local bookshops.

The Fourth Keith Train Memorial Lecture, sponsored by us, and arranged in conjunction with the Thoroton Society, was acclaimed as a great success, with a most entertaining and stimulating presentation by Rod Hackney, the well known and controversial architect, immediate past president of the R.I.B.A.

The Christmas Party was held at the 'Tales of Robin Hood' and included a visit to the very imaginatively created realm of Robin Hood in the wilds of Sherwood Forest. We are again very much indebted to Ann Booth and Peggie Charlesworth and their helpers, who laid on an excellent buffet for us. Both Ann and Peggie have decided to 'call it a day' after many years of effort. We record our very special thanks to them and fully understand and sympathise with their decision. Volunteers are now urgently sought to fill their place. Otherwise there will be no 1990 Christmas Party and no coffee after meetings!

A very varied and interesting programme of tours and visits was enjoyed by all those who took part. An unfortunate confusion over a change of date led to the cancellation of the Chester visit and this has been re-scheduled for Saturday, May 12. We are looking forward to another good year in 1990.

Our bi-monthly Members' Meetings continue to attract very good attendances. The menu has been varied, with national and local speakers on many environmentally related subjects. The 1990 programme promises to continue the high standard we have set.

We decided to forego participation in the Civic Trust Environment Week in April/May and instead to arrange a programme of three meetings on Nottingham's transport problems in September. This was a very creditable undertaking involving a great deal of effort. We were very pleased at the active participation of a number of local transport-related bodies. Attendances might have been better, but this is something that is impossible to predict.

In 1990 we are planning a full programme for Environment Week, April 28 - May 7. Details later.

We were represented at the Heritage Co-ordination Group Conference in London in May, at the Midlands Amenity Societies Association Conference in Louth in June, and at the Civic Trust Congress at Christchurch, Oxford, in September.

Michelle Greenwald left the area during the year and the control of the Recording and Photographic Group was taken over by Julian Owen. The Group - small but enthusiastic - has done some very good work, producing excellent photographic records of a number of Nottingham's churches and currently engaged in recording the Shire Hall.

Ann Mitchell's Special Events Group has very successfully staged our participation in a number of local shows and events and is looking forward to expanding its activities even further in the coming season. They will be playing a very important role in our Environment Week Programme. Not only are they providing very welcome publicity for the Society, but also give an additional and profitable outlet for our publications, etc.

Ken Brand has single-handedly kept the 'Mark of the Month' going, locating suitable candidates for awards and undertaking the very considerable investigation and organisation involved. It is our continued regret that the awards often go unnoticed

publicly, apart from some of those honoured who organise their own publicity, showing that the awards are valued.

We are indebted too, to Ken Brand, who since he took over the editorship of our Newsletter in 1982, has made it something very special in this field. Its reputation stands very high for the carefully researched special articles contributed by him and we hope he may long continue to find the time and the stimulus to carry on.

We have made detailed representations on a large number of planning matters. We have been particularly concerned at the threatened erosion of green areas within the city. We were gratified that our efforts to prevent the development of the Police Training Ground for residential purposes were successful. We referred to this matter in last year's Report and took a prominent part in the Public Inquiry. Similar proposals have arisen, very largely due to the proposals of the county council to sell off parts of playing fields and similar areas attached to schools. In some of these our actions have played a part in securing a change of heart. Proposed development by the county council on land owned by them adjacent to the library on Maid Marian Way - what became known as the 'Pink Elephant' - was strongly opposed by us and we represented to the DoE that the proposals should be called in for decision. The plans were subsequently withdrawn.

We have objected to a number of fast-food takeaways in the city centre, because of the litter and disturbance they engender. We gave our energetic support to efforts to save Basford Hall from demolition. Our attempt to secure the listing of the building was unsuccessful, but the final outcome is encouraging, with the declaration of a Conservation Area by the city and the subsequent imposition of planning restrictions on the proposed development, which should secure the future of the Hall.

Our interest in the Smeinton Railway Lands has continued and we have made detailed proposals to the DoE for the listing of the site and the more important buildings thereon. The outcome is still uncertain. This matter has been with us for so long that we have no clear policy emerging that a certain degree of pessimism and frustration is natural. Our views on the future of this important site have been made very clear and we shall continue to support to the utmost the efforts of the Smeinton Environmental Society and other bodies in this matter.

We gave our full support to the city council in their action against the developers of the Rutland Square Hotel for their apparently blatant flouting of planning law. We are not very happy with the progress of this matter to date, but since it is still sub judice, with an Inquiry still to be held, we must postpone any final comment.

In the coming year we shall give particular attention to the plans for the development of the Lace Market, the proposals of the City Centre Review in general, the progress of the Light Rapid Transport proposals, the recent Consultants' Report on

the Castle and the serious problems facing the city in the control and management of road traffic in the city centre.

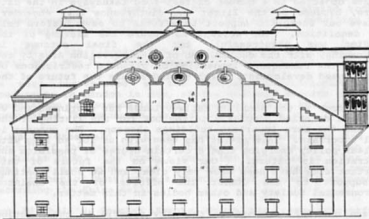
We record with great regret the death in May of George Cutts, one of our vice presidents and a founder member of the Society. He made a valuable and lasting contribution to the work of the Society through its formative early years and beyond. An obituary notice appeared in the September issue of the Newsletter. The Society dedicated a seat to his memory and installed it on the museum patio at Green's Mill.

We shall have a new chairman in 1990. John Severn feels unable to continue in this office because of other urgent business and personal commitments. I am sure everyone will join with me in recognising and paying tribute to the really outstanding contribution he has made to the Society's work in so many ways during his period of office. I personally have very much enjoyed working with him and I am grateful for his ever-ready support and guidance. May I also thank all the other officers and committee members for their support in a very busy and action-filled year.

February, 1990

Ray Banks  
Secretary

Basford Maltings Alpine Street and Whitemoor Road Basford.



Elevation to Alpine Street Basford

The architect of the fire ravaged Basford Maltings was Richard Hardy of Bentinck Buildings, Nottingham. The designs, dated May 27, 1899, were of Maltrooms for W.H. Hutchinson and Sons Ltd., Brewers and Maltsters of Alpine Street and Whitemoor Road, Basford. On the site plan Whitemoor Road is still marked by its earlier name of Crooked Lane. The submission on June 9, 1899, named the builder as Edward Wood and Sons, Park Street, Derby. There was a slight amendment to the original proposal which involved bracings and thickening of the walls to the end gable. These were approved on August 11, 1899. Hutchinson's brewery was bought by the Home Brewery Co Ltd in 1916. The recent hint that the building could become a working museum is most intriguing.

THE NOTTINGHAM SYMPHONY

Many cities have been celebrated in music. Haydn and Vaughan Williams both wrote London symphonies, while Elgar, John Ireland and Hucksall-born Eric Coates all celebrated the capital in lighter works; Haydn, Mozart and Delius honoured Paris, while George Gershwin's 'An American In Paris' inspired Darius Milhaud to respond with 'A Frenchman In New York'. Shostokovich commemorated Leningrad, and even Birmingham gets a look-in with George Thalben-Ball's 'Toccata Beorma' written in connection with his long reign as City organist there.

I was certainly surprised to learn of the existence of a Nottingham symphony, and certainly never expected to hear it. But it does indeed exist, and we can hear it live this summer.

It was commissioned by the Nottingham Co-operative Society as part of the celebrations for the quinquentenary of the granting of Nottingham's royal charter and first heard in the Albert Hall on 27 June, 1949.

Its composer was Alan Bush, a founding father of the Workers' Music Association. He had studied with John Ireland, Benno Moiseiwitsch and Artur Schnabel and at the time of the commission chairman of the Union of Composers of Great Britain.

He had (and at the age of ninety still no doubt has) a great sympathy for what might be called the workers' revolution. He wrote an opera about Wat Tyler and dedicated a work to Paul Robeson, the great American singer who was for so long a victim of McCarthyism.

His view of Nottingham is familiar enough: the four movements of the symphony are entitled Sherwood Forest, Clifton Grove and Goose Fair, and they aroused considerable interest at that first performance when the London Philharmonic Orchestra was conducted by local musician David Ellenberg, the music director of the People's Theatre.

"New work has immense vitality" proclaimed the local headlines next day. The Lord Mayor, Alderman William Crane, solemnly received the score for exhibition in the Grand Jury Room at the Guildhall; he was celebrating his sixtieth birthday that very day, although laryngitis prevented him from addressing the assembled gathering.

The composer was present, and he may have wondered if he would ever hear that symphony again. England has little interest in her contemporary composers and it is not surprising, given the subject matter of much of his work, that Bush found a niche in Eastern Europe.

He conducted the work on 3 October, 1963, in Moscow, with the USSR State Symphony Orchestra. The performance was recorded and the audience can be heard "thrumming their catarrhs" as Richard Strauss put it. Thanks to the record library in Angel Row I have now discovered it.

In style it is what one might expect of late-forties British music: vigorously modern in a rather cautious way, and in other places pleasantly lyrical - in fact a bit like early post-war architecture!

Bush's evocation of Sherwood Forest begins - as you would expect - with a horn call. His sympathies are naturally with Robin Hood and the outlaws, who are all portrayed vigorously: no Merrie England jollity here.

The peaceful Clifton Grove appears next, rather different from what locals expect when they say they are going "done Grove" today. The tranquil opening music gives place to an impassioned "love duet" for cello and clarinet.

It is best to quote A. Tishchenko, the writer of the liner notes, for an account of the scherzo, Castle Rock:

"The Nottingham Castle, that stands on a rock towers above the city, was the residence of the Duke of Nottingham, one of the most violent opposers of progressive reforms. In 1832 the inhabitants of Nottingham burned the castle. This action expressed the wrath of the people. First this wrath and then the unrestrained joy of the people who witness the tyrant's castle devoured by fire are the subjects of the culmination that closes the third movement of the symphony."

The finale is a kaleidoscopic portrait of Goose Fair, which depicts the wide range of moods to be found at that event.

The local music critic found much to praise, though noting a certain 'harmonic freakishness'. Someone in the audience was heard to say:

"Ah well, perhaps it will sound all right in a hundred years' time. It's above me, though, I must say."

Forty-one years on, almost to the day, we can test our reactions. For in the same - though transformed - Albert Hall the piece is to be performed by Malcolm Nabarro and the East of England Orchestra, along with two celebrations of other cities: Mozart's Paris symphony and Eric Coates's London Suite. Alan Bush hopes to be there.

It is - dare I say it - part of Nottingham's heritage and should be experienced.

The concert is on Monday, 4 June at 7.30 in the Albert Hall. Be there!

Ina Wells

Although we don't see Bill Spick as much as we did several years ago he has not been idle. Congratulations are due for his forthcoming publication 'The Book of Arnold', should be available soon. The book, price £12.95 (£14.45, including postage and packing) will be available from Barracuda Book Ltd., Meadows House, Well Street, Buckingham MK18 1EW. In the first instance write for details, do not send payment.

#### MARK OF THE MONTH

The Society's Mark of the Month has been awarded as follows:

- November 1989** Pennine House, 8 Stanford Street  
Conversion from factory to offices  
Architects: Sutherland Craig for SOL Construction
- December 1989** Haus, 7 Angel Row  
Architect: Paul Scrivener for Roy Wallace
- January 1990** Babbington's (Dry Cleaners) Mansfield Road and Peel Street  
Architects: Julian Marsh and Jerzy Grochowski for Bright's Properties
- February 1990** Phased refurbishment of 17 Castle Gate  
Alan Trease with Craftwork by Hatfield News

#### Pennine House, 8 Stanford Street

A city grant of £305,000 awarded by the government in 1988, the first to be given in the country, enabled this £1.5m conversion scheme to commence, and in November 1989 the completed building was leased to a local firm of solicitors.

Developers SOL Construction carried out the Design and Build project. Architects for the scheme were Sutherland Craig and the Engineers were Kenchington Little.

The scheme involved the removal of an unsightly two storey extension, chimney and fire escape stairs on the rear elevation and the restoration of the front elevation by the reinstatement of altered window openings. A new staircase and lift were added, together with a striking two storey atrium feature which forms an attractive reception/waiting area.

Considerable restoration work also utilised new materials in the g.r.c. string courses carried around the previously blank and unattractive gable end wall to match the stone detailing on the front. This material was also used for the new arched first floor window, introduced above the main entrance to give greater emphasis. New windows were also inserted in the gable to give it more visual balance.

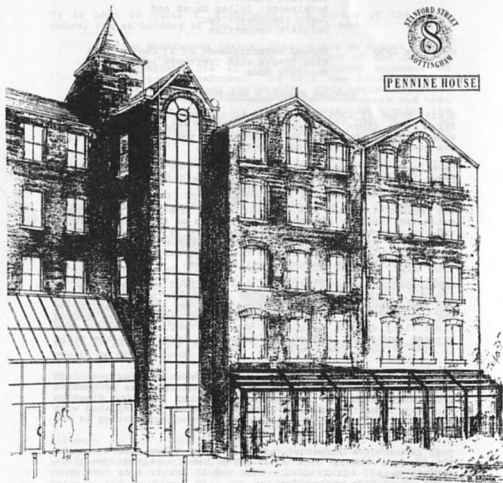
The former large tarmac area to the rear has now been laid out in the form of a block paved and landscaped car park which also accommodates a shop mobility parking area for disabled shoppers. The former steel barrier has also been replaced with attractive wrought iron gates to give a complete feeling to the development.

This is one of a number of refurbishment schemes carried out by SOL in the Castle Gate area which have received the Civic Society Award. 21-23 Castle Gate and 15 Castle Gate have both received similar recognition.

Sutherland Craig

The building was designed for J.M. Perry and Company by Richard Charles Sutton in November 1874. The scheme entailed a five storey warehouse, engine house with chimney, and a drying shed in the rear. There were additions to the original warehouse approved in November 1876. An extra warehouse was added in 1885-6. New boiler houses were built in 1889 and 1898. In more recent times it was occupied by Drewry and Edwards Ltd.

The Junior Minister of the Department of the Environment, Colin Moynihan, inspected the completed project on Thursday, February 22 and during this tour the Mark of the Month Award was presented by the Society's Chairman, Bob Cullen.



Rear Elevation 8 Stanford Street

HAUS 7 Angel Row Mark of the Month December 1989.

The old drab Austin Reed shop at 7 Angel Row has been transformed by the London architect-designer, Paul Scrivener who has had some experience with the Tie-Rack organisation.

The building, prior to its acquisition by Austin Reed, had long been associated with the butchers Albert Armitage. Kelly's Directory for 1881 has Albert Armitage, Butcher, 7 Angel Row, although Wright's Directory of the same year has Charles W. Simkins, Butcher, at No.8 with A. Armitage, Butcher and Maltster of the Shambles, Cheapside. Kelly's, as the Post Office Directory, in this case is probably correct.

Both Kelly's and Wright's 1881 Directories have Armitage's private address as Locksley House, Robin Hood Chase. Certainly, when a blocked off basement at 7 Angel Row was opened up a number of butcher's implements were unearthed besides a large number of bones.

Earlier entries in local directories for Angel Row are unreliable due both to building work and re-numbering.

Haus is certainly well worth a visit, beautiful designs in furniture, fabrics and fittings well displayed in a setting reworking many of the original features. I only hope the Nottingham public support such an ambitious venture. The front elevation certainly justifies its place in the final stages of the Lord Mayor's Award.

From 'Nottingham Illustrated' 1892-3

Mr. Albert Armitage, Butcher, 7, Angel Row, Market Place.

Mr. A. Armitage's establishment is one that Nottingham may well be proud of, for the size of the premises, the appropriateness of its fittings, and the immense amount of business transacted. It has, besides, a further claim upon the patronage of the townfolk from the great length of time it has existed in their midst, and the able manner in which it is, and always has been, conducted.

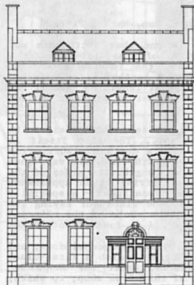
The concern was founded nearly 70 years ago, and is said to be the largest butcher's shop in England... The shop itself is very large; it is broad and high, with a depth of 110ft. from the street, without any diminution of width the whole way, thus showing an uninterrupted sweep of that length. The sides of the shop are lined throughout with tiles, giving it an appearance of the utmost coolness, freshness and cleanliness - a specially good feature during the warm months. The slabs for laying the meat on are also of tiles or marble, the whole of the tile and marble work having been executed by Mr. A.C. Foss of Nottingham

The shop is lighted from the front by large open windows, and by a skylight at the further end. There is also a first-class ice house, with all modern appliances, under the shop. Our engraving is a good representation of this fine shop, to which, however, it is difficult to do full justice owing to its extent.

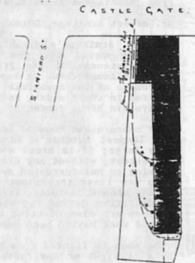




Albert Armitage Butcher, 7. Angel Row  
(From 'Nottingham Illustrated' 1892-3)



No. 17 Castle Gate  
Mark of the Month  
February 1990



17. Castle Gate, New Consulting  
Rooms for Dr. H.O. Taylor 1880.

-BLOCK PLAN-

17 Castle Gate Mark of the Month February 1990.

Rather surprisingly 17 Castle Gate has tended to be an anonymous house. No. 19 Stanford House its illustrious neighbour is for many the most rewarding house in the street. It was built in 1775 by William Stanford and its architectural detailing and its history are well recorded. No. 17 on the other hand, if noticed at all, has been passed as vaguely, stylistically, Georgian.

In fact the house has the features of a Georgian town house erected in the period 1740-50 with the front part of the house largely intact and unaltered. The lintel of a recent doorway inserted at the western end of the facade jars, but this is the only distraction in a fine facade. To the rear buildings have been added at various times, there are certainly additions of 1880. The interior, although mutilated in places, is overall in good shape and with careful restoration, already started, will prove to be a great asset to the city.

The early history of the building has not yet been revealed. As far as can be determined, from the 1840's and working with mid 19th. directories, whose information can at times be misleading, the building was occupied as follows.

- 1848 George Simons a paper and pasteboard manufacturer living and having warehousing in Castle Gate.  
(Houses not yet numbered).
- 1854 Mrs. Elizabeth Treffry, Ladies' Boarding School (Stanford House = No. 19 ).  
Next door = No.17 George Simons, paper manufacturer, warehouse and residence
- 1862 Mrs. A Treffry Boarding and Day School. (=No. 19).  
Henry Taylor Surgeon. (=No. 17).  
(George Simons Paper and Pasteboard Manufacturer now resides in Castle Grove Park Estate but retains warehouses in Castle Gate).
- 1866 No. 17 Henry Taylor Surgeon.

On 20th. October 1880 plans were submitted for 'New Consulting Rooms, Stables etc for Dr. H.O. Taylor of Castle Gate.' The architect was Edwin Clarke of 21 Wilford Grove. The plans were approved. About this time Taylor Brothers, Surgeons, are first listed for 17 Castle Gate. By the 1890's Taylor and Herrick have a practice there, with Robert W. Herrick living in.

Sometime between 1901-03 the practice was either terminated or just moved out. No. 17 became 'King Edward's Buildings' and like many other city centre properties soon had multiple occupancy. In 1905 the tenants were:  
W.S. Lewis Commission Agents; W. Bullimore Manufacturers Agent; Wm. Green & Co. Curtain Manufacturers; E.E. Needham & Co. Printers and Publishers; Benton and Beaumont Joiners and Builders; City Warehouse Co. Wholesale Milliners; Lambert Riley Manufacturers Agent; The Castleville Photo Paper Co. Makers of Photo papers.

Several of these firms or their successors over the years perpetrated minor acts of vandalism on the interior fabric of the building including a Georgian fire surround covered in emulsion paint, internal shutters nailed back, attic stairs

removed, one of a pair of reception room doors destroyed. However as no single tenant had overall control, in a perverse way the bulk of the building escaped modernisation. Sizable portions of stencil work, Victorian wallpaper and original plaster decoration survives.

In 1897 the wine and spirit business of Mr. Weaver at 1 Castle Gate was acquired by the Trease family, from which address it still trades today, selling over half a million bottles of wine annually. For a number of years the firm used the fine set of caves under No. 17, as in their Georgian heyday, as wine vaults. About eighteen months ago Alan Trease, the present managing director, was able to purchase the house, seeing great possibilities once it was refurbished.

Taking on the responsibility of such an enormous task is both challenging and time consuming. In addition the financial commitment is considerable. So far much of the front part of the ground floor has been restored. The interior decoration was carried out by Maxwell Dominic with assistance from English Heritage. The actual restoration work was undertaken by David Rose and Dickie Bird, trading as Hatfield Mews. The cleaning of the exterior, helped by an 'Operation Clean Up' grant, was by Bousers. Some additional financial help was given by the City Council and by English Heritage.

The fine restored drawing room is now used for wine tasting and receptions and is available for hire as a small conference or functions room. At the moment with one room about twenty people can be accommodated but when further rooms become available the numbers will increase accordingly. Catering is available.

The Nottingham born author Geoffrey Trease, Alan's uncle, opened the revived 17 Castle Gate in August 1989. A collection of his 100 published books could well be a feature of the house in the future. Located as it is on the intended Tourist Trail from the Castle to the Lace Market No. 17 Castle Gate, carefully developed, will have an interesting and prosperous future. Full credit must be given to Alan Trease for seeing and seizing the great potential in a neglected Georgian heirloom.

#### Mark of the Month March 1990. Milbie House 33 Pilcher Gate.

Conversion of a Pothergill Watson warehouse of 1889 at a cost of £700 000 into offices for and by James McArtney Architects. Formally opened by the Local Government Minister David Hunt on Wednesday March 28th. 1990. Further details later.

Have you looked at The Daily Telegraph / Friends of the Earth 1990 Recycling Directory for Nottinghamshire ? (Obtainable from W.H. Smith's bookshops price £1).

#### A New Lease of Life - Victorian Rehabilitation on Mansfield Road.

One of the most difficult problems facing this and other cities in the 1990's and beyond is one of getting the best use out of buildings erected in the C.19th. or earlier for purposes having long since lost their relevance to present day needs except perhaps in terms of historical curiosity. By 'best use' I mean that which retains the aesthetic value of a building's character and at the same time allows it to be sympathetically adapted to be commercially viable in terms of present day needs.

This City has recent experience of what occurs when buildings designed for one purpose, are gutted because of practical needs relating to change of use or fire and health regulations, but have portions of their outer structure or facade retained. In the case of both Lambert's factory on Talbot Street and the former Pearsons store on Long Row West this has had disastrous effects and makes one wonder that if the integrity of the building has been so altered both stylistically and structurally, what is the point in retaining a facade that is so unrelated to the whole ? (In the case of Pearsons - hole !). Yet there are instances where this sort of scheme has been carried out with a degree of success and the former Express Building on Parliament Street is a good example.

On buildings of a smaller scale the problems are no less formidable. The long row of terraces on the western side of Mansfield Road extending from Peachey Street to Forest Road were constructed over a number of years, from the early 1820's onwards. This was an attempt to relieve the serious overcrowding in the old town and provide vital living and business accommodation. These buildings were therefore by necessity constructed quickly. They are generally of three storeys in height with cellars and attics, and sub cellars, and attics originally used as lace dressing rooms. Over the following years, the several courtyards - whose nameplates are still extant - that lay between North Sherwood Street and Mansfield Road contained a variety of industries and trades, which by the beginning of the C. 20th. had largely begun to disappear. At the same time the dwelling houses at the front of Mansfield Road began to be replaced with retail stores until by 1990 only one house frontage in its original condition remained.

The period after the second world war saw mixed fortunes for Mansfield Road. The five terraces of the 1840-50's on the eastern side were purchased by the City Council before the war for a few hundred pounds and let as offices, whilst the one on the western side prosperity slowly declined as did the whole area, with many long established businesses going under in the 1960's and 1970's whilst traders of various sorts moved in and out with some regularity.

More recently however, new interest has been shown in Mansfield Road, largely due to the recent increase in property prices and the realisation of the value of Mansfield Road in terms of its attractiveness as a shopping promenade. New traders have begun to move into the area and have been faced

with the formidable task of bringing into practical use buildings often neglected for decades.

Some of these attempts, usually by inexperienced builders, have resulted in disaster. Many have mistakenly assumed that in general all older buildings are soundly constructed and able to withstand comprehensive renovation such as removal of floors and chimney breasts, the replacement of slates with heavier clay tiles and other such improvements. The consequences have often been horrendous; on one house the installation of a concrete floor was nearly completed when it began to collapse into the hidden and badly corroded barrel-vaulted water retainer beneath it. Works to the shop were brought to a sudden halt after the party walls started to move. This was hardly surprising after removal of chimney breasts that were the mainstay of a wall some 4½ inches thick, rising over three floors to some 50 feet and held together with powdery lime!

In a more recent example an entire pair of terraces began to collapse following years of neglect, the first floor being length supported by a single iron girder and the upper floors housing dozens of pigeons. The buildings were eventually demolished and completely rebuilt in a similar style.

In many cases it is the upper floors that deteriorate first, the effects of water and pigeon penetration do not reach the ground floor for many years, by which time the damage to the original fabric is beyond salvation.

Recently however there have been several examples of successful, innovative and sympathetic rehabilitation. Bright's Properties is one such company that has undertaken a number of schemes on Mansfield Road. This company was formed by Brian Williams and Peter Shepherd on the basis of a pension fund established when they retired from a successful cable-laying company. They have committed themselves to long term commercial and residential investment in the area and this Society was sufficiently impressed with the improvements and renovation carried out at 107 Mansfield Road that they were awarded the Mark of the Month for January 1990.

The building concerned was a good example of lengthy neglect, with a succession of non-too successful ventures on the ground floor over a number of years and the almost total neglect of the upper storeys over the same period. The company set about retaining the ground floor trading premises, opening as a dry cleaners, with a simple but impressive timber frontage on top of a restored and part replaced sandstone plinth. The building had been subject to movement and the upper floors needed a complex of steel ties inserted between the outer walls at different angles to arrest further movement and strengthen the walls. Much of this work was unforeseen and extremely expensive and it is to the credit of the owners and the City Council's advisor Mike Pearson that all the restoration was carried out to such a high standard, assisted by a N.C.C. grant of £9 500. An attractive archway is currently being forced on the Peel Street elevation. All the original windows have been restored or replaced with matching working sashes where this has not been possible. Internally the lath and plaster floors to the upper storeys presented problems, but these were overcome and separate living accommodation installed to a high standard

making the whole building commercially functional whilst at the same time preserving its integrity and period features.

The company has carried out similar works to 250 and 205 Mansfield Road using the formula of planned sympathetic restorative work to the fabric, roof, frontage and fenestration and the provision of separate retail and living accommodation to the interior.

This sort of scheme deserves such encouragement, particularly given the examples of less aesthetic, more hurried and in the short term more financially rewarding schemes which unfortunately continue to disfigure the city.

Oliver Standing

**Babbington's (Dry Cleaners), 107 Mansfield Road**  
**Mark of the Month January 1990**

(The shop is situated on the corner of Mansfield Road and Peel Street - formerly Babbington Street).

This project was in two parts (a) to redesign and detail a new shop front, and (b) to design an extension to the rear of the property.

The new shop front was designed to try to complement the building in terms of proportion and character, reasserting a double height column/pilaster order on a substantial base and using this to visually support the existing curved corner fascia. Within that order the proportion was further broken down to the scale of individual doors and windows with smaller geometrical motifs added for interest.

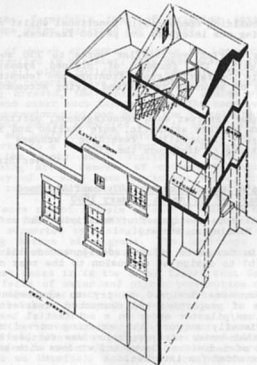
The extension to the rear of the property followed a brief of ground floor garage with studio flat over and attempts to extend the feel and proportional system of the corner building, stepping down as it reaches the rear of the site to allow light into the next door courtyard. Materials are to follow those of the building it extends.

Another scheme for the same clients has been prepared for 205 Mansfield Road.

This project is the conversion of a flat roofed two storey garage structure to the rear of 205 Mansfield Road into a studio/office. Because of the need to keep parking spaces adjacent to North Sherwood Street, and to enliven the passage, the entrance is located down the side of the building off the passage and is highly decorated in coloured tiles to advertise its existence. Because of the enormosity of the passage and the problems of fire spread regulations, glazing to the passage is kept to a minimum or done in glass bricks. The majority of the light for the building comes from a fully glazed screen to North Sherwood Street and from roof lights which allow light down into the centre of the building through an open well in the centre. Split levels are introduced in the building with the floor level excavated to the front to achieve two floor levels in a building that is not quite high enough.

Julian Marsh and Jerzy Grochowski

(NB. For the moment this scheme is being delayed)



107 Mansfield Road Work on Side Elevation  
(Peel Street Elevation)

CAR FREE DAY on THURSDAY 3rd. MAY.

As part of Environment Week, car drivers and passengers in Nottinghamshire are being urged to give up using their cars on Thursday 3rd. May. Instead it is suggested that they should find other ways of moving around - walking, cycling or using public transport. At a time when road congestion is a growing problem in our towns and cities, this is a very practical way in which motorists can play their part in reducing congestion and its associated side-effects like air pollution and the greenhouse effect. If every motorist was prepared to have one car-free day every week of the year, the effect on our urban environment would be quite dramatic and our towns and cities would be much better places in which to live, work and walk about. The organisers of the Car-free Day are the Nottinghamshire Transport 2000, Nottingham Friends of the Earth, and Pedals and it forms part of their ongoing joint campaign on vehicle emissions and of N.T.2000's theme for the year of Combating Congestion. It is hoped that, besides motorists using other modes of transport, they will also question whether or not their journey is really necessary. Our lives have been shaped around the car and this has led to the decline of many local services, particularly in our villages. So leave the car behind on Thursday 3rd. May and shop locally - this is your opportunity to do something positive for your local area and its environment.

John Abbiss N.T.2000

SAMUEL HALL AND HIS CONNECTION WITH SHERWOOD, by Terry Fry

I was interested to read in the last Newsletter that Samuel Hall was the eldest son of Richard Hall of Basford Hall. He was not only highly successful in the textile industry but invested a large sum (over £8,000) in buying land in the up-and-coming area of Sherwood in 1825. If I may quote from my book 'The History of Sherwood: A Nottingham Suburb':

" Samuel Hall had the foresight to lay out the original street plan of Sherwood to the east of Mansfield Road, which is still basically the same today. The main difference is that the streets are wider and the only part still eight yards wide, as Samuel Hall desired, is the few yards of Marshall Street where it joins Mansfield Road. Sanderson's 20 miles around Mansfield Map of 1835, shows the distinct street grid but very few houses. Hall gave Mansfield Street, Marshall Street and Hood Street their names, and Hall Street is named after him".

\* Terry Fry's book: 'The History of Sherwood: A Nottingham Suburb' is priced at £4.75. It is obtainable in certain local bookshops or from Terry ('phone 607977) where postage at cost will be added. Terry is a familiar figure in the Archive Office and it is good to learn that his venture into the realms of publishing has been so successful, the first printing quickly sold out and a second printing is now available.

Stephen Best's article on The General Cemetery, prompted Terry to refer to other members of the 'Lively Club':

THE JACOBY FAMILY AND THE GENERAL CEMETERY

A few years ago I did some research on plaques of Nottingham. On the wall of the Children's Hearing Assessment Centre on Cumberland Place there is a slate plaque with the following inscription:

"This building; part of the Children's Hospital, was erected by Mrs Jacoby in 1878, in memory of her daughter Annie Gertrude, who died April 23rd, 1870 aged 14 years."

She died of scarlet fever after a short illness. Eight months later her father Moritz Jacoby also died, and they are buried together in the family grave in the General Cemetery. Moritz Jacoby founded the firm of M. Jacoby & Co Ltd., one of the leading lace manufacturers in Nottingham in the 19th century. He had three sons, John Henry, James Alfred and Charles Theodore, all of whom engaged in the family business, although James Alfred received a knighthood for being Liberal MP for mid-Derbyshire for 24 years. All are buried together with their parents, Moritz and Violet, and Sisters Sophia and Annie Gertrude, in the neglected family plot in the General Cemetery.

There are, as Stephen pointed out, many many stories that could be recalled as a result of a thoughtful and observant walk through the General Cemetery. [Editor]

## PRACTICAL CONSERVATION: ROBINS WOOD, ASPLEY

The Society's attempt at practical conservation, the improvement of Iremonger's Pond and its surrounds at Wilford, has had to be put off for the present. It is, or will be, designated an area of local scientific interest as far as wildlife is concerned. So the prospect of many well intentioned but untutored Society members improving the area was felt to be contrary to the spirit of Environment Week. Fortunately, the Society has been offered, and accepted, the chance to help the improvement of Robins Wood, Aspley.

Robins Wood in Aspley is the only remaining part of the ancient Sherwood Forest left within the city boundaries. That it survives is probably due to the area being formerly part of Lord and Lady Willoughbys' Estate. Today it is owned by the County Education Authority and it is located between a number of schools who have recognised it for its historic, wildlife and educational value. Nevertheless, the woodland has suffered much through neglect and is blighted by an acute litter problem.

The site was managed by the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (B.T.C.V.) in conjunction with the various interested schools represented by a Schools Committee. Spadework, part of Nottinghamshire County Council's Leisure Services Countryside Management Initiative, has been invited to fill the gap left vacant by the B.T.C.V. and will be represented by 'The Leen Valley' and Erewash Valley projects.

Spadework has prepared a proposed action plan indicating its future role. Besides the experts and offers of practical and limited financial help, other key factors include in no particular order:

- a) The production of a workable and realistic schedule of works given the location of the site with its inherent problems and available likely resources.
- b) Seeking further expert advice regarding the management of the woodland through direct liaison with the council's forestry officer within the County's Planning and Transportation Department.
- c) Endeavouring to mobilise direct labour within the voluntary sector.
- d) Raising public awareness towards the project through the media and by running events.

In addition, an itemized Aims and Objects of Management List has been drawn up. In brief the intention will be to manage the whole woodland, trees, understorey, and wetlands to benefit wildlife, landscape for the enjoyment of pupils, teachers and other users. In so doing creating an on-going education resource and through offering practical involvement bring about a greater understanding of the immediate environment.

There are problem areas and potential difficulties. The implementation of a successful management plan is very much dependent on commitment as well as monies available. The Schools Committee needs a committed approach from as many individuals as possibly practical. Otherwise, if this is not

achieved the loss of a key member of staff could lead to the breakdown of the project. Robins Wood does have an acute litter problem. Re-educating pupils to this problem is of paramount importance. Getting the message across and keeping it there is a task of some magnitude.

The main source of labour will be through voluntary and educational sources. Most likely the groups will come from: Trinity School, Woodlands School, Shepherds School, Aspley Wood School, Manning School, Erewash Countryside Volunteers, Leen Valley Conservation Volunteers, and Trent Valley Volunteers.

The Civic Society has agreed to provide prizes for a schools' poster competition on the vexed problem of litter. At the moment the schools taking part are Trinity, Shepherd, and Manning.

Bob Cullen, as Chairman, will present the prizes at the Trinity School on Wednesday, May 2.

Some of the groups mentioned above may be unknown to Society members so here is a brief introduction.

### Spadework

Spadework is the name given to Nottinghamshire County Council's Leisure Services Countryside Management Service. Similar projects operate all over Britain attempting, in various ways, to make the countryside - particularly those areas close to where people live - more enjoyable for all.

Nottinghamshire's countryside offers vast potential for recreation. However, this must be balanced against the needs of those people who live and work in the countryside.

Spadework provides a dirt, grass roots approach to striking a balance between these different areas of interest. Our ultimate success largely depends on involving the local community. 'Self help' and 'local involvement' are key figures in describing countryside management. We find it more beneficial, for example, to plant trees where local people want them and with their practical assistance, than to impose our own ideas.

Spadework carries out practical work and runs countryside events throughout Nottinghamshire on both private and publicly owned land. Its aims are:

- a) To provide and manage informal recreational facilities, such as picnic sites and countryside trails;
- b) To create opportunities to involve people who want to work on countryside projects;
- c) To increase public understanding of, and respect for, the countryside through a programme of events including farm open days, cycle rides and guided walks.
- d) To negotiate and improve access, particularly on the urban fringe.

Each Spadework project is overseen by a full time member of staff from Nottinghamshire County Council's Leisure Services Department. Graphic design, marketing and specialist forestry and ecological advice are all available within the county council and ensure that Spadework can offer a professional countryside management service.

#### The Leen Valley Conservation Volunteers

The Leen Valley Conservation Volunteers were founded in 1984 and consist of a group of people from all walks of life who share a common concern for the environment. They meet informally on the first Sunday of each month and on most other weekends (usually Sunday mornings) undertake conservation work such as tree planting, hedgelaying, pond digging, fencing and woodland management.

They also organise regular social outings to nature reserves and other places of interest and undertake fund raising activities to enable them to purchase tools and power equipment.

They aim to promote interest in and care for the local environment; protect and conserve natural habitats in the Leen Valley Area; provide an outlet for the talents and interest of their members; offer training and worthwhile experiences through involvement in the countryside.

The Leen Valley Conservation Volunteers are active over a large area along the Valley of the River Leen from the north of the city to Hucknall and Newstead and towards Calverton and Arnold in the east.

#### The Erewash Countryside Volunteers

The group was founded in the Summer of 1986 and consists of both men and women who give up their spare time to improve their local environment through small scale conservation tasks.

It functions with the help of Nottinghamshire County Council's Erewash Valley Spadework, Countryside Management Project. This was set up to meet the need for countryside management and to encourage local people to play an important and active part in its success.

The Erewash Spadework Project is headed by Phil Kimbrey the Projects Officer for the area and out of it have grown the Erewash Countryside Volunteers. They form a very important part of Spadework and have steadily grown and they now exist as a semi autonomous group in their own right with their own group chairman.

The group carries out a wide variety of conservation tasks such as hedgelaying, tree planting, footpath work, litter clearance etc. This takes place mostly in the Erewash Valley which is an enormous tract of land stretching from the River Trent in the south to the Derbyshire borders in the north, and includes the beautiful D.H. Lawrence countryside around Moorgreen.

Volunteers of various ages and capabilities are welcome. Anyone over 18 years can join and it is free including transport to and from the site. There are always lighter tasks available for those who feel unable to undertake heavier work. All that is needed is a bit of enthusiasm and a desire to help a little in safeguarding our countryside heritage. Phil Kimbrey/Ken Brand

#### SPECIAL EVENTS GROUP - AN ACTIVE SUB-COMMITTEE

The Special Events Group was formed in September 1988 following an appeal to members of the Civic Society for help with various aspects of the work of the Society.

Our main aim is to promote the Civic Society at public events in the city and county during the year. We have a small exhibition showing the work of the Society and last year we took this exhibition, and a selection of goods from the Castle Shop to a number of events, including the City Show at Wollaton Park; the John Player Transport Gala; the Historic Churches Trust Open Day at Halam and the Midland Railway Open Day at Nottingham Midland Station.

By attending such events, we are not only publicising the work of the Society but we hope to recruit new members and also to raise funds from the sale of goods.

Along with many organisations the number of active participants in the work of the Civic Society is a small percentage of the total membership. Our group started with a mailing list of twenty-four but during the year we have gradually dwindled down to SIX members - a small, but dedicated group.

If we are to have a successful year during 1990, then we desperately need new volunteers who are prepared to attend one or two events, usually at weekends.

Our provisional programme for this coming year includes Environment Week - April 28 to May 7; Kelham Country Fair - June 24; Ashfield Show - August 19; City Show - September 2.

If anyone is able to offer their help to the Special Events Group, or knows of forthcoming events where our attendance would be beneficial, then please don't hesitate to contact Ann Mitchell, the convenor of the group.

Contact address and 'phone number:

33 Hilton Road, Mapperley  
Nottingham NG3 6AN  
Telephone: (home) 602806, (work) 606117

My thanks to those who have given their time to the group during the last year. We look forward to some new faces joining us shortly.

Ann Mitchell

## PEOPLE, PLACES, AND THINGS



As it is impossible to attract the attention of those who do not wish to be contacted, it was suggested that Lord Kitchener's famous poster would help!

1. On People. The membership figures are disappointing. Since October 1989 there have been 32 resignations, but only 25 new members. It is only at the beginning of the year that the true position can be seen when subscriptions are due. Two weeks ago

there were 95 renewals outstanding, but after making 100 'phone calls as reminders, over half realised it had been overlooked. I am looking forward to an upswing during the rest of the year.

2. Places. My plea for help for the 1990 Christmas card has been ignored by all but two new members. A slide of Attenborough Church which, unfortunately, was not bright enough to reproduce and some nice prints of Trent Building across the University lake and Wollaton Hall. The prints were well composed, but were very similar to two previous Christmas cards and our aim is to find a different location each year. I am very grateful to these two gentlemen, but surely more than 0.2% of our members could help in the search.

Still with places - it was very pleasing to see that the Terrace Royal in Clarendon Street had been forwarded under two categories for the Lord Mayor's Award. This was awarded our Mark of the Month for October 1989 and was the cover story in the last Newsletter (No.81). Please help us to find other buildings suitable for our MARK of the MONTH. Any information over and above the simple address would be appreciated.

3. And Things. We are still receiving requests for back numbers of the Newsletter and are running out of copies (two have already gone). If you have finished with any of yours, please do not throw them away. Let me know and I'll arrange for collection, somehow, or you could bring them to a meeting, outing or to the shop. The same arrangement applies to any snaps, postcards, or even booklets of Bygone Nottingham. Our recording group surveying old property would be interested to illustrate the changes that have occurred over the years.

Cliff Deane  
Membership Secretary

Another instance of local residents rallying round to form an action group was reported recently. The Sherwood Trees Action Group (S.T.A.G.) won its fight to stop Nottinghamshire County Council from building four houses on land next to Woodthorpe House, Mansfield Road, Sherwood. This piece of woodland is unique in Sherwood, being part of the grounds of the oldest house in the area, Woodthorpe House. S.T.A.G. will continue to meet occasionally to monitor other schemes which local residents may feel undesirable.

## HERITAGE WALKS PROGRAMME 1990

The Heritage Walk season is with us once again and, to our surprise, we are able to tour the Shire Hall for a further year. I cannot envisage it continuing next year, but we are indebted to Mr George Akins for allowing us the continued use of the Shire Hall in 1990.

The season for this year's Shire Hall tour has been extended to 21 weeks and the Heritage Walks season now starts in May - an 18 week season - with both tours starting a little earlier in the evening.

I am sorry to report that after many years of Sunday afternoons guiding at the Castle, Margaret Harrison, Peter and Mary Martin have decided to step down. Cliff Deane and myself have always appreciated the time and effort put in by them and we regret their leaving. However, we will continue the Sunday afternoons at Mortimer's Hole, but with less frequency.

The dates of the walks are as follows:

### Shire Hall:

Every Thursday from April 12 to August 30  
Commencing at 7.15pm from the Shire Hall steps

### Mortimer's Hole:

May 20, June 17, July 22, August 19  
Commencing at 2pm until 4 pm from entrance to  
Mortimer's Hole

### Heritage Walks:

Lace Market	- May 2, 23, June 13, July 4, 25, August 15
Medieval Nottingham	- May 9, 30, June 20, July 11, August 1, 22
The Park	- May 16, June 6, 27, July 18, August 8, 29

Commencing at 7pm from the Castle Gatehouse Shop

If any member would like to become a guide for Wednesday/Thursday evenings or Sunday afternoons, then give me a ring on Nottingham 607819 after 6.30pm or just come along on one of the tours to see what it entails. Don't worry, training is given and we are a very helpful bunch!

David Newham  
Walks Department

### MEDIAEVAL DOVECOTE - WOLLATON VILLAGE

The 1990 season will commence on Wednesday, May 2 when the Dovecote will be open from 7pm until 9pm.

The permanent exhibition of photographs of old Wollaton has been added to during the closed season.

This year it is intended to set up a new display about **Wollaton at War**. If you have any photographs or mementoes which could be used either on a temporary or permanent basis to enhance the growing museum display, please contact either Christine Bunker on 0602 263487 or Maureen Jones on 0602 282567.

As an example of what is being looked for, we have already obtained a Stirrup pump and a large National Dried Milk tin. Remember, this sort of item of personal history proves very interesting to all age groups as has been proven by the increasing number of people visiting the Dovecote Museum during the year of 1989.

#### TOURS AND VISITS

- Saturday, May 12 Chester (Postponed visit - fully booked.)
- Saturday, June 9 'On the Trail of the Pilgrim Fathers' - coach tour of North Nottinghamshire (arranged by John Severn).
- Tuesday, June 26 (evening) Severn-Trent PLC Water Treatment Plant, Church Wilne, Long Eaton.
- Saturday, July 7 (afternoon) Ashby-de-la-Zouch
- Saturday, July 21 (morning) Nottingham Evening Post
- Saturday, August 4 Ely and Peterborough
- Saturday, September 8 Bradford

Full booking details enclosed with this Newsletter.

#### LECTURES

Except where otherwise stated, all meetings will be held in the Cathedral Hall, College Street, Nottingham, commencing at 7.30pm.

- Tuesday, September 11 Martin Bradshaw  
(Director, the Civic Trust)  
'Looking to the Future: the Role of the Civic Trust'
- Tuesday, October 9 Malcolm Reece  
(Chief Executive, Nottingham Development Enterprise Ltd)  
'The Work of Nottingham Development Enterprise Ltd: Building a Better City'
- Friday, October 12 7.30pm in the Arkwright Lecture Theatre, Shakespeare Street  
The Fifth Keith Train Memorial Lecture (in association with the Thoroton Society)  
Prof Eric Fernie (Dean of the Faculty of Arts in the University of Edinburgh)  
'An Architectural History of Southwell Minster'

**ENVIRONMENT**  
**28 APRIL WEEK 7 MAY**  
SATURDAY MONDAY