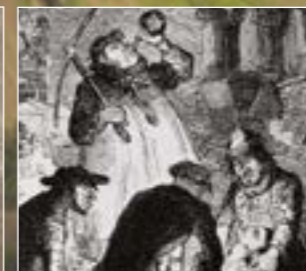


# Amicis

The Magazine of the Friends of Nottinghamshire Archives  
No. 40 Spring 2026

'Do it now!'

Raising money for the Newark and District Spitfire Fund



Inspire Nottinghamshire Archives new opening hours

The Missing Piece

Raising the Dead of St. Mary's. The Gravedigger

# Welcome from the Editor

As you will discover in this issue, this year looks set to be really exciting for Inspire Nottinghamshire Archives and FONA. We're delighted to include another fascinating story from Nottinghamshire Archives' Newark Museum collection contributed by Luke Danes. Our thanks also go to David Barton for his account of how Nottinghamshire Archives helped solve a mystery about Lucy Hutchinson. Plus, we have part two of Raising the Dead of St. Mary's featuring the tragic tale of William Davies, alias 'Old Friday', the gravedigger. On more practical matters, please note there are changes to the opening hours at the Archives; we are sure any inconvenience caused will be worth it once the Nottinghamshire Digital Heritage Platform is up and running. This will give everyone access to digitised collections, oral histories and video stories, opening up a treasure trove of our county's history told in your own words. There will be a launch at Hands on Heritage at Mansfield Central Library on 16 May, see Dates for Your Diary on page 15, where you will also find a change to the date of FONA's next social 'members only' meeting. This has been moved from the 28th to the 21st of November. Thanks as ever to Bob Stoakes for all his hard work designing the layout of AMICIS.

## **Karen Winyard**

Editor

Submissions are always welcome at [amicismagazine@gmail.com](mailto:amicismagazine@gmail.com).

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*Air-to-air image of a Spitfire from the Royal Air Force (RAF) Battle of Britain Memorial Flight (BBMF), taken over RAF Coningsby in Lincolnshire. Photo: SAC Scott Lewis RAF/MOD, OGL v1.0OGL v1.0, via Wikimedia Commons. This image has been selected as picture of the day on Wikimedia Commons for 18 August 2028.*

#### **Inspire Nottinghamshire Archives**

*Photograph courtesy of Nick Clark.*

#### **The Missing Piece**

*Lucy Hutchinson 1620-1681. © National Portrait Gallery, London.*

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*Resurrectionists. By Hablot Knight Browne - <https://archive.org/stream/chroniclesofcri01pelh/page/n317/mode/2up>, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=2408705.1>*

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## **Welcome to new FONA members**

FONA extends a warm welcome to Dr. Megan Doole and we look forward to meeting her at future events.

Photo courtesy of Nick Clark.

# Changes to Opening Hours at Inspire Nottinghamshire Archives

From 1 April opening times at the archives will change to accommodate our expanding digital transformation project. Over the past decade we have seen an increasing demand for digital and online access to the collections at the archives and within our library local studies collections. This change to opening hours will allow for the digital transformation of resources and collections, and also the development of staff skills to embed the new digital approach.

For further information please see our news item on the Inspire website: <https://www.inspireculture.org.uk/be-inspired/news/2026/03/10/change-to-opening-times-at-notts-archives-as-digital-transformation-continues/>

**Ruth Imeson**  
Heritage Services Manager & Inspire Data Protection Officer

## New opening hours from 1st April are:

Mon	Closed (no change)
Tues	9am-5pm (change from 9am-7pm)
Wed	9am-5pm (no change)
Thur	9am-5pm (no change)
Fri	Closed (change from 9am-5pm)
Sat	9am-1pm every third Saturday of the month (change from every Saturday)

# Friends of Nottinghamshire Archives AGM

## Held 21 March 2026

Our AGM was conducted by Judith Mills in the absence of a Chair with her usual efficiency. Reports were read on the year's programme of events, AMICIS magazine and the work of the committee over the last twelve months.

The Treasurer's report confirmed that FONA's membership remains at a steady level and continues to buck the trend of many similar groups whose membership is falling. Members were asked to consider paying subscription fees by standing order or BACS transfer, rather than by cheque and to Gift Aid their payments where possible.

A new committee was elected. David Anderson remains in the post of Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Web Master; while Cherry Knight continues as Minuting Secretary. Siân Trafford was re-elected to represent Nottingham Women's History Group and Ruth Imeson continues ex officio. We welcomed Richard Maxwell KC to the committee.

Richard was in practice as a lawyer and worked part-time as a Recorder and deputy High Court Judge. Now he keeps busy with voluntary work

for Citizens Advice Bureau, Victim Support, Nottingham Society of Artists, Friends of Nottinghamshire Archives and SMART. He also enjoys bowls, flyfishing, Pilates and gym - dodgy back permitting. We all want to know where he gets his energy!

Full details of the AGM and committee can be found on our website, [www.fona.org.uk](http://www.fona.org.uk) and there are vacancies for a Chair and Secretary as well as Ordinary members. If you would like to play a more active role in FONA, please contact a Committee member.

Finally, under Any Other Business Ruth Imeson offered thanks to the Committee and to our members for the support they give to FONA and the Archives. Ruth was able to announce details of Inspire Nottinghamshire Archives' new Digital Heritage Platform and to invite FONA members to the launch at Mansfield Central Library on Saturday 16 May. The new portal currently comprises 1000 digital assets including photographs, maps, charts and audio clips, and there will be a FONA section.

## Cherry Knight

# Amicis Post Bag



**Mystery Medal:** Photograph of Eliza Trueman, Barts Hospital (Courtesy of Barts Archives), AI enhanced by Jane Eden.

In response to Can You Solve This Puzzle in Issue 39 of AMICIS, Jane Eden enhanced the photos and enquired about the cross by AI with the following result: The cross shown is a nursing service medal in the form of a cross pattée (broad-armed cross), worn on a red ribbon.

Based on its shape, placement, and the period uniforms, it is unlikely to be a religious crucifix, but a professional nursing decoration. The design is consistent with late-19th / early-20th century nursing service medals used in Britain and the Commonwealth, most commonly associated with Florence Nightingale-inspired nursing awards and hospital training medals.

Thank you for enhancing the photographs Jane, they do bring Eliza to life. Unfortunately, the information generated by AI does not take us any further in identifying the particular medal. David Stewart had consulted colleagues at the Barts Hospital Archive, the Florence Nightingale Museum and the Royal College of Nursing, all of which have extensive collections but none could identify these particular badges. So, the search goes on, but thank you for your suggestion - Ed.

# 'Do it now!'

## Raising Money for the Newark and District Spitfire Fund

Measuring just 122 mm x 82 mm, DD/NM/3/2/5 is undoubtedly one of the smallest documents to be found within Nottinghamshire Archives' Newark Museum collection. The document is a subscription ticket for the Newark and District Spitfire Fund, a local effort launched on behalf of a national initiative devised in 1940, to help pay for more aircraft - ostensibly Supermarine Spitfire fighters - for the Royal Air Force (RAF). Despite its diminutive size, this document helps to tell the story of a remarkable episode of twentieth-century social history.

The origins of the Spitfire Funds can be traced back to the Caribbean island of

Jamaica. In May 1940, Alec Gordon of St Ann's Bay had written to the editor of the *Jamaica Gleaner* proposing to set up a fund to help pay for more aircraft for the RAF.

The *Gleaner* telephoned the Ministry of Aircraft Production asking how much a Spitfire would cost and was given the figure of £5,000. Although the actual cost was in fact closer to £12,000, it was decided that £5,000 was to be the utmost amount of



This ticket, in theory at least, would have contributed 1s towards the cost of a Spitfire's rudder (Inspire Nottinghamshire Archives, DD/NM/3/2/5).

voluntary contribution. The *Gleaner* opened an account at Barclay's bank in Kingston and donations began to pour in. The Minister for Aircraft Production, Canadian newspaper magnate Lord Beaverbrook, Max Aitken (1879-1964), seized this idea and it immediately caught

the British public's imagination. In Wolverhampton, an alderman had contacted several newspapers proposing that the town should buy a Spitfire for the whole nation, and this set an example that other towns and cities were eager to follow. Thus, the Spitfire Funds came into being, purely out of spontaneity and individual generosity.

Soon, towns and cities across the country were starting their own Spitfire Funds, with groups of villages often contributing to combined Funds. On 10 July 1940, the *Newark Advertiser* published a letter from a Mr Smith William Wooldridge of Balderton, who suggested that Newark and its environs should also play their part. 'SIR, - Would you be so kind as to look after a fund to buy a Fighter Plane?' asked Mr Wooldridge. 'I think Newark and District can afford

one. [...] I have noticed a lot of us have let the war get on our nerves [...] so let's all pull together and so beat the menace that threatens' (*Newark Advertiser*, 10 July 1940). Mr Wooldridge donated £1 and hoped that others would follow suit. The newspaper heartily endorsed his idea, and the Newark and District Spitfire Fund was born.

Money was raised through various means, with one of the most 'novel and useful' (*Newark Herald*, 3 August 1940) schemes being conceived by an anonymous benefactor after they had donated £5 to the Fund. Two weeks after the Newark and District Spitfire Fund was launched, the donor suggested issuing books of subscription tickets that people could buy. The idea was quickly brought to fruition with the kind assistance of two RAF officers, and books containing forty-nine subscription tickets with a total value of £5 (equivalent to around £200 today) were soon distributed across the town's offices, factories, public houses and clubs, where it was hoped that they would 'reap a rich harvest' (*Newark Herald*, 3 August 1940). The tickets were available in four colours which represented different

monetary values for different parts of a Spitfire: red tickets cost 5s (equivalent to around £10 today) and went towards the engine; white tickets cost 2s 6d (equivalent to around £5 today) and went towards the propeller; blue tickets were 1s (equivalent to around £2 today) and went towards the rudder; and green tickets costing 6d (equivalent to around £1 today) went towards the wings. It is one of the blue 'rudder' tickets that can be viewed at Nottinghamshire Archives today, having seemingly been originally purchased by Private S. A. Vanns, a young member of Newark's Home Guard.

The premise of the scheme was simple: anyone could make a contribution, however small, and know, albeit theoretically, exactly where it was going. The books of subscription tickets were distributed by the Fund's honorary secretary Joseph Hickman, and the scheme ran until 31 August by which time all unsold tickets had to be returned to officials. Given the scheme's short duration, the *Newark Herald* instilled a sense of urgency into its readers, imploring them to 'Do it now!' if they wanted 'to be a part proprietor in the plane' (*Newark Herald*, 3 August 1940).

Although the Newark and District Spitfire Fund officially closed on 30 September 1940, donations kept flooding in from a variety of sources. By March 1941, the total

raised was an impressive £4,096 11s 3d (equivalent to around £162,000 today). It is difficult to quantify how much of this had been raised through the sale of subscription tickets, though weekly updates published in the *Newark Advertiser* throughout August show that many complete books, part-books and individual tickets were sold. It must also be remembered that the public were coaxed into parting with their money in a myriad of Spitfire-related ways, and so not buying a ticket did not mean that they had not contributed in some other form. Some people had even bought tickets involuntarily; when a customer at the *Newark Advertiser's* office was unable to be given 6d change following a purchase, they happily accepted a 6d Spitfire ticket in lieu.

So, this small document played a prominent part in a revolutionary marketing strategy which created a unique and unparalleled public relations phenomenon. The Spitfire Funds captivated the British public like never before, many of whom relied on the aircraft's evocative name alone and would not necessarily have known the difference between a Spitfire and any of its less glamorous contemporaries.

### Luke Danes

To find out more about the Newark and District Spitfire Fund, simply search the British Newspaper Archive website ([www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk)) which is free to access at Nottinghamshire Archives and across all Inspire Nottinghamshire libraries.

Further reading: Gordon Beckles, *Birth of a Spitfire* (London, 1941).



The Spitfire's iconic name and sleek lines made it an ideal symbol of the fight against Nazi Germany.

Photo: Bob Stoakes. Built in August 1943 this Mk IX Spitfire is one of the most original still flying. Based at Duxford MH434 has featured prominently in many films and airshows.

# The Missing Piece

In 2023, I was researching the life of Lucy Hutchinson for a talk and, thanks to her autobiographical notes, her biography of her husband Colonel John Hutchinson and a range of historical sources, I was not short of material. But there was one significant gap: I could find no record of her death or burial.

It was of some consolation that I was not alone in this. In his preface to the authoritative Oxford University Press edition of Lucy's *Memoirs of the Life of Colonel Hutchinson*, James Sutherland admits:

My chief regret is my failure to discover the date of Lucy Hutchinson's death and the place of her burial. There is no memorial to her in Owthorpe Church, and Professor Kinsley, who kindly searched through the [incomplete] Bishop's Transcripts of the Owthorpe Parish registers [the Parish Registers for this period have not survived], was unable to find any record of her there.

Sutherland surmised that Lucy, living in London, may have died and been buried there. But surely, she would have wished to lie with her beloved husband John, beneath the monument to him, which she had commissioned and which carried her own epitaph to him!

I too studied the Bishop's Transcripts for Owthorpe parish on microfiche in the Nottinghamshire Archives but found no mention of her. However, the one for 1681 was virtually illegible. I asked the staff whether, because of the state of the copy, I might see the original document. They kindly agreed and, with a magnifying glass, I was just able to make out:

**Lucy Hutchinson relict [widow] of Coln [...] Hutchinson was buried [...] Sept 1681.**

Aware that my eyes may have been deceiving me, I sought and received corroboration from the Archives staff.

The missing piece in the story of her life had been found.

## David Barton

Top: Lucy Hutchinson 1620 -1681. Stipple engraving by Samuel Freeman circa 1825 - 1850. © National Portrait Gallery, London.

Centre: The Hutchinson Memorial in St. Margaret's, Owthorpe, commissioned by Lucy Hutchinson. Photograph David Barton.

Left: Col. John Hutchinson 1615 -1664. Line engraving by James Neagle published 1806. © National Portrait Gallery, London.



# Raising the Dead of St. Mary's

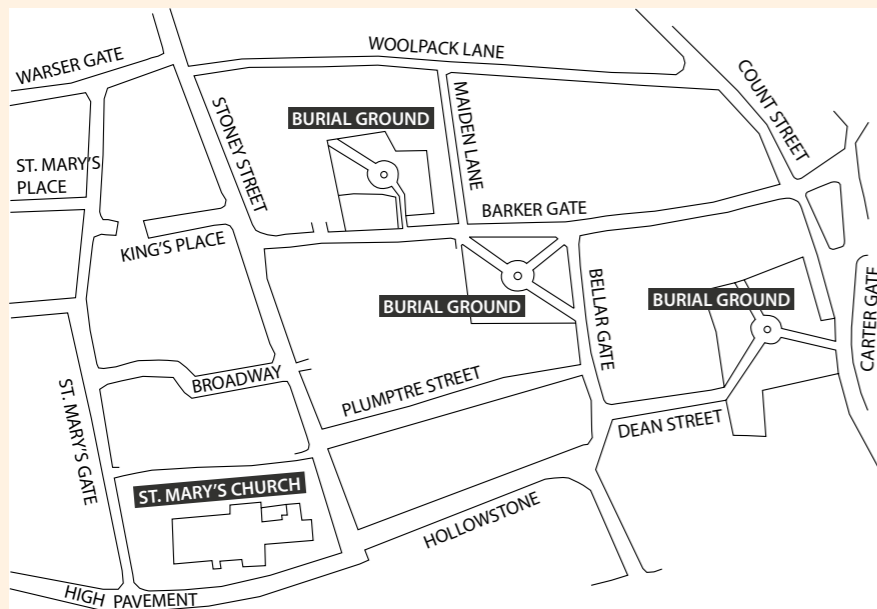
## Part Two: The Gravedigger

The Resurrection Men who targeted St. Mary's burial grounds escaped Nottingham when their activities were discovered, leaving the townsfolk to look for retribution closer to home.

Top left: A late 19th century image of a gravedigger. By Viktor Vasnetsov - Scanned from A. K. Lazuko Victor Vasnetsov, Leningrad: Khudozhnik RSFSR, 1990, ISBN 5-7370-0107-5, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=215935>.

Left: Photograph of St. Mary's, Karen Winyard.





St. Mary's Church and its Burial Grounds.



The garden of rest, Barker Gate. All that is left of the three burial grounds targeted by the Resurrectionists. Photo Karen Winyard.

Resurrectionists needed information about recent interments (the anatomists only wanting fresh corpses), information they often purchased from local accomplices. In Nottingham suspicion fell upon St. Mary's gravedigger, as recorded in the diary of John Rainbow, governor of the house of correction:

William Davies [...] was apprehended on the next day (January 1 1827) and sent to the House of Correction on suspicion of being concerned in removing the dead bodies, and was discharged January 27 1827 for want of evidence to prosecute. (Nottinghamshire Archives DD 808/1).

Davies, known as Old Friday, was a sad figure. He was sent to Arnold from Bristol as a young orphan apprentice in Davison & Hawksley's Mill. By 1813 he had moved to St. Mary's parish, Nottingham where he married Mary Garton. He became an assistant gravedigger in 1814 and was promoted as the parish's head gravedigger in 1825. The family were in receipt of poor relief. An undated account of payments made for the months of November and December in St. Mary's parish includes William Davis [sic] of Cow Court (Nottinghamshire Archives PR 31,228). In 1827 Davies was about thirty-five years old.

Only the flimsiest grounds for suspecting Davies existed, as the *Nottingham Journal*, (27 January 1827) admitted.

The grave-digger, Davies, has undergone a variety of examinations before the magistrates; but nothing has been brought home to him, although there is a strong feeling against him: indeed, the Magistrates, upon due consideration of all the evidence; conceive him not to be implicated in any connexion with the fugitive

offenders for nothing beyond the circumstance of his having been seen drinking one or two nights with them, can be substantiated. [...] the bodies which he was charged with removing, are proved to be those which were taken up at the request of the relatives themselves, that they might be placed in another spot where the rest of the same family were interred: and that the spade found upon Giles's premises, though one with which Davies worked, was one out of six belonging to the parish, some of which are occasionally left in the grounds, and might there be taken by any one.

Had there been the slightest prospect of proving Davies' guilt, the magistrates must have charged him. In fact, there was ample evidence that members of the Resurrection gang took great pains to monitor recent burials themselves by attending funerals and visiting the bereaved. Davies' unpopularity seems to stem from his poverty and reputation as a drunkard, but the parlous state of overcrowded burial grounds meant that both gravediggers and grave-robbers needed to be intoxicated to carry out their work. Inebriation was an occupational hazard.

Despite the lack of evidence, the townfolk believed Davies was guilty and they exacted their revenge. The morning after his release Davies 'had the impudence to show himself in the Bellar-gate burying ground, and to give some directions about the graves!' (*Nottingham Review*, 2 February 1827). He was attacked by a mob who attempted to bury him alive. The situation was only defused when Mr. Alderman Barber and a police constable arrived to intervene.

Early the following morning, with his ten-year-old son John, Davies set off for Arnold, but was again set upon by a crowd,



Grave robbers drinking on the job. Resurrectionists by Hablot Knight Browne - <https://archive.org/stream/chroniclesofcri01pelh/page/n317/mode/2up>, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=24087051>.

[...] some of whom threatened to hang him on the sign post of the Robin Hood and Little John public house. He began to retreat from them, fearing his life was in danger, but the crowd continued to follow him. [...] he turned back towards Nottingham, to seek refuge within the walls of a prison, but the people pursued, and surrounding him when near the turnpike-gate, an intention was avowed of throwing him over the bridge into the brook, but the threat was not put into execution. The crowd, consisting of about 200 persons, of all ages and sexes, compelled him to walk in the middle of the turnpike road, and meeting with an ass near Mr. Hooley's farm, they set him thereon, throwing stones and beating him, while his son

walked by the side, crying out for mercy to his father! A waggon met them, filled with manure, and some of his assailants actually scaled the waggon, to fill their hands with the odoriferous mixture, with which they liberally bespattered Old Friday. [...] on entering Nottingham he had literally to run the gauntlet, and the people, especially the women, greeted him with conspicuous marks of their favour, in the shape of mud, mixed with harder missiles; but at length he reached the house of correction, where he sought and received admission, and its high walls afforded him protection from the enraged multitude, which now consisted of upwards of 1000! (*Nottingham Review*, 2 February 1827).

Davies disappears from the records after 1827, although there is a tantalising suggestion of his death in the *Nottingham Mercury* 23 July 1836:

On Wednesday, at his residence, Glasshouse-street (aged, we believe, about 35), William Davies, better known by the name of "Dog Davis," whose canine attachments and propensities will long be remembered in the town and neighbourhood of Nottingham. He was a perfect Bamfylde Moore Carew in recovering stolen dogs, and many strange tales are afloat relative to his peculiarities in this way. His manner of enticing dogs to follow him was wonderful, producing something like a fascination in the animals; [...] He was one of the "handlers" at the lion fight, between Wombwell's Wallace and the dogs, at Warwick.

This fight occurred in 1825 (*Hampshire Chronicle*, 8 August 1825) and it seems improbable that Nottingham boasted two such eccentric characters named William Davies. The age is slightly out, though, and it is odd that his connection to the Resurrectionists is not mentioned. Particularly as Davies was still remembered by William Howie Wylie in *Old and New Nottingham*, published in 1853:

"THE RESURRECTIONIST" was for many years a familiar, if not a very pleasing, object in the streets of Nottingham. He held the office of gravedigger in St. Mary's parish in the time of the resurrectionists, and was discovered to be in league with the sacrilegious wretches engaged in the revolting traffic. Afterwards he became a hanger-on at the coach offices; was distinguished by his abject and filthy appearance, and a matted head of hair unprotected by any covering; and never lost the name of "The Resurrectionist."

James Granger, writing in 1903/4, also recalled Davies: 'I remember him well as being looked upon with great loathing and suspicion some years afterwards [...] I remember seeing him excavating a grave, seven years after this event - namely, in May, 1834.'

Whether or not he was the victim of injustice, you have to admire Davies' dogged determination to brazen it out and continue with his grisly employment.

### Karen Winyard

Further reading:

William Howie Wylie, *Old and New Nottingham*, (1853)

James Granger, *Old Nottingham: Its Streets, People &c.*, (1904)

Brian Bailey, *The Resurrection Men. A History of the Trade in Corpses*, (1991)

Judith Flanders, *Rites of Passage. Death & Mourning in Victorian Britain*, (2024)

*View of St. Mary's from Kayes Walk, Karen Winyard.*



# Of Snow & Pigs; Turkeys & Kids

Report of FONA's meeting 29 November 2025

Over scrumptious mince pies and chocolates, we wandered down a number of Christmas themed memory lanes together.



Karen Winyard described the Christmas experiences of two diarists, Anne Cooke and Samuel Collinson. Anne enjoyed visiting family and one year dined on a 15lb turkey sent from Yorkshire. Another Christmas her pig graced the table, near nineteen stone, killed a week beforehand. While widower Samuel Collinson, who had seen Dickens perform *A Christmas Carol* in Nottingham, usually spent the festive season with his friend's family. A convivial time somewhat



*Karen Winyard reading Christmas in the Diaries.*

spoilt by the intrusion of his friend's boisterous children; all 'good fellows,' but sometimes Samuel felt he could have 'rather too much of their good fellowship'.

This led to reminiscences of childhood experiences of keeping [and eating] pigs; and a gruesome turkey story from Judith Mills who remembered being teased by her grandfather. After amputating the

*Siân Trafford demonstrating her treasured family Christmas decoration.*



lower legs at the knee, he would pull at the tendons to make the turkey claws move in and out, terrifying poor Judith.

Siân Trafford shared her childhood memories of Christmas in the shape of a music box. A family treasure, this pretty carousel looked as though it was of German origin, but Siân has been unable to confirm this. Its appearance was eagerly anticipated every year amongst the family's Christmas decorations and became more precious when Siân went away to study German at university. It's still in good working order and plays a lovely tune.



Ruth Strong produced some items relating to Burton Joyce Choral Society and reminisced about the fun she had with their Christmas concerts where audience participation was encouraged (to the dismay of some) and Christmas music with a difference abounded. This might be singing carols in several languages, or an old favourite to a different tune, such as *While Shepherds Watched* to the tune of *On Ilkley Moor By T'at*. Sadly, the Society closed in 2024 after fifty-seven years, due to the shortage of tenor and bass voices.

Ruth Strong with memorabilia and embroidered banner from Burton Joyce Choral Society.



Judith Mills took snow for her theme, something closely associated with Christmas. Yet, although it features in Christmas songs, cards, films, literature and advertising campaigns, it turns out a White Christmas is quite a rarity. The Met Office definition is very specific: a single snowflake has to be observed falling on the 24 hours of 25 December, by either an official Met Office observer or by a Met Office automated weather station. We had a White Christmas as recently as 2023, when 11% of weather stations (39 out of 350 across the country), recorded falling snow. Judith asked if we remembered having a White Christmas - and if so, when and where? The consensus was



Judith Mills explaining what makes a White Christmas.

Day. Nevertheless, we felt snow on the ground ought to count, even if it didn't fall on the 25th, despite the Met Office's definition. And there were lots of anecdotes about snowy adventures during winter months.

Our devilish Quiz Master, Ruth Strong, had set another Fiendish FONA Christmas Quiz which was won by Margaret Knowles.



Margaret Knowles.

that while we could remember times when it had snowed before Christmas so the ground was white, no one could remember snow on Christmas

## Geoffrey Bond and Thoroton Society Research Awards

The eligibility criteria for the Geoffrey Bond and Thoroton Society Research Awards have now been extended to include museums, libraries, archives and other heritage organisations, as well as individuals and community groups. Awards can be used to support research into any topic relating to the history or archaeology of Nottinghamshire, including the acquisition of research resources, travel expenses, training, and archaeological investigations. The conditions of the award and details of the application process can be found on the Thoroton Society website where there is also a list of previous successful awards. <http://www.thorotonsociety.org.uk/bond-awards.htm>. Enquiries or completed applications should be sent to me at [markdorrington52@gmail.com](mailto:markdorrington52@gmail.com). The deadline for applications this year is 1 September 2026.

**Mark Dorrington**

Research Awards Administrator

## Dates for your Diary

**Saturday 16 May** - 'Hands on Heritage' at Mansfield Central Library, 10.00am – 2.00pm. Free event. Includes the launch of Inspire's new Nottinghamshire Digital Heritage platform.

**FONA meetings 2026**

**Saturday 16 May** - 'Almshouses Past, Present and Local' by Robert Mee.

**Saturday 18 July** - 'A building history of Retford Town Hall, Nottinghamshire' by Megan Doole.

**Saturday 19 September** - 'The Life and Loves of Samuel Collinson (1812 - 1890). A man about Nottingham' by Karen Winyard.

**Saturday 21 November** - Members only meeting. Theme to be announced.

All meetings are held at Inspire Nottinghamshire Archives and start at 11.00am with doors open at 10.30am, with tea, coffee and biscuits available. Free to FONA members. A donation of £3 is asked from non-members.



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**Interested in becoming a member of FONA?** Membership application forms are available from Nottinghamshire Archives or from our website, [www.fona.org.uk](http://www.fona.org.uk).

