

*** The CURTIUS SALON Fridays at 11.00am ***

27th Jan: 'Western Medicine in the Modern Age' - Anna Greenwood
3rd Feb: 'Fascinating Felines' with Bob Massey
10th Feb: 'Born in Notts' (Entertainers) with Trevor Lee
17th Feb: 'The Far Side of the Moon' with Julian Onions
24th Feb: 'Hebridean Odyssey' with Ted Grey

*** MUSIC EVENTS with ROBERT ***

Thurs 9 Feb, 10.30am: 'Madame Butterfly' by Puccini
Thurs 23 Feb, 10.30am: 'Macbeth' by Verdi



*** MONDAY FILMS - at 1.30pm ***

6th Feb: 'The Soloist' with Jamie Foxx, Robert Downey Jnr (2009)
13th Feb: 'Jersey Girl' with Ben Afflick, Liv Tyler (2004)
20th Feb: 'I Saw the Light' (story of Hank Williams) -
with Tom Hiddlestone, Elisabeth Olson (2016)
27th Feb: 'City of Angels' with Nicolas Cage, Meg Ryan (1998)

60+ Keep Fit: Audrey Malik, Mon: 10.30 to 11.30am
+ Seated Exercise Class 11.45 to 12.30pm

KEEP FIT!



KEEP MOVING!!

Elders Forum DANCE - Fridays at 1.30pm
TABLE TENNIS - Fridays: 1.30 to 3.00pm
SHORT MAT BOWLS - Thursdays at 1.30pm
SCRABBLE & RUMMIKUB: Tuesdays at 1.30pm
KNIT & NATTER: Wednesdays at 1.30pm

Newsletter Enquiries to: 0115 9145838 * viv.apple@outlook.com

**THE
NOTTINGHAM
MECHANICS**
Founded 1837

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Your **NOTTINGHAM MECHANICS**



Newsletter

No 66 February 2023

What's on? What's happened? What's YOUR view?

**A Happy
New Year
from our
Manager,
Adam . . .**



Hello 2023 - and Goodbye to 2022!

My first thoughts are always of the absent friends who we lost in 2022, and they will remain in my thoughts.

I am looking forward to seeing the groups flourish this year after the formation of several new ones in 2022, and if anyone needs any help in setting these up just nip and see me.

We have a few 'away days' planned for 2023 and details of these will be posted once the weather turns a little warmer.

We look forward to seeing you all - *Adam & the Team*

GROUP MEETINGS (please check with group Contacts)

Harlequin Ladies' Group: Contact: Jacqui Curwood on 0115 9586500
Wed. 1 Feb, 2pm: Ripley Morris and the
Mystery of Morris Dancing, by Graham Clarke. Visitors £2.

Friends of Nottingham Museums: Janet Lievesley: 0115 9221734
21 Feb. Annual General Meeting - members only

Nottm Writers' Club: All welcome! Contact Carol: 0115 9817661
Next meeting: Friday 24 February

Dickens Fellowship, Contact: Kathy Powis: 0115 9845375
7 Feb. Nicholas Nickleby Chapters 39 - 42, Kathy Powis
21 Feb: " " Chapters 43 - 46, Jenny Travers

RTCS, 14 Feb, 2pm, Leek & Manifold Light Railway, Paul Blurton
28 Feb: The Trent Valley Railway, Robin Mathams & Dave Barrett

Nottm Shakespeare Society: Sandra Appleton: 0115 9256551
7 Feb, 10.30am: Reading: Cymbeline
21 Feb, 7pm: 'The Two Noble Kinsmen' (details to be confirmed)

Nottm Probus Club, Contact: Robin West: 0115 9164774
15 Feb: Images of Yesteryear by Paul Newsham, Nat. Speaker

The STITCH CLUB meets fortnightly on Mondays, 1.30pm
Meetings: 6 & 20 Jan. Contact: Jenny Parker on 0115 9206423

Oddfellows Friendship Group: Games, Speakers, Dominoes etc.
Contact: Karen Pye-Smith 07921821866 www.oddfellows.co.uk

Nottm Branch, The National Trust: Irene Milburn 0115 9812267
Thurs. 9 Feb, 2.15: Malcolm Sargeant, the early years: Sam Dobson
Wed. 22 Feb, 2.15: Sept 1947, by Robert Mee

National Federation of Occupational Pensioners (NFOP)
Phil Wilson - 0115 8752346

CHANGES . . . Covid and the Mechanics

I retired from my teaching job in March 2020. I'd been putting it off as I loved teaching lipreading to deaf adults but it seemed the obvious moment to go. With lockdown, who knew when we'd be back to normal? The Mechanics, too, made changes during Covid – some small, some large - and all designed to improve it.

In August 2020 we appointed a new manager and Adam arrived. With a rush of enthusiasm and the help of staff and volunteers the restaurant was re-painted, re-arranged, and busts of Dickens and Lawrence were brought out to watch over those who ate and drank there. New menus and drinks were introduced. The Library was transformed, with older books donated to the British Heart Foundation. This created areas where small groups such as embroiderers and readers could gather together in a comfortable space. The attic is now being cleared by our recently appointed Chairman, Geoff Freeman, and will soon be available for groups to hire for storage.

Staff and management changed as well. Sadly, some have left us forever. Others retired or found different jobs, leaving a smaller work force to adapt to new roles, working in the kitchen and in reception etc. We discovered that our workers had a range of hidden talents, including Kyle who designed our new brochures (right), which we are hoping will be distributed by our members to shops and libraries around where they live.

Finally, Management decided to sell Birkbeck House, a property we owned outside the City which was empty and was damaging our finances. With this sale, and the recent changes, there is hope for a brighter future for the Mechanics. Covid gave us the time to do much of this.



Kathie Price