

NOTTINGHAM MECHANICS INSTITUTE 1837

OCTOBER 2026 NUMBER 110



NEWSLETTER

WHAT'S ON? WHAT'S HAPPENED?

Welcome to the October Newsletter

Market Square House Update

We now have a plan for the room layout and are working on the finer details to make sure the new space works as well as possible for all our needs.

There is still some work to do, but things are progressing well and we will continue to keep members updated as plans develop.

PLEASE NOTE

We kindly ask members or outside groups that use us, not to visit Market Square House at present. We have not yet completed the signing of the lease and the building remains an active building site, where health and safety is the priority.

Once we have moved in and everything is ready, we will invite members to come and have a look around our new home.

Thank you for your understanding.

A QUICK CLARIFICATION

WE ARE AWARE OF A FEW RUMOURS REGARDING OUR MOVE, SO WE WOULD LIKE TO REASSURE MEMBERS THAT WE FULLY INTEND TO CONTINUE OFFERING FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS AT OUR NEW HOME, JUST AS WE DO NOW.

Leisure Learning – Autumn Programme

Our new Leisure Learning Autumn brochure is now available, and the Leisure Learning website has also been fully updated with details of our forthcoming programme.

What's Coming Up?

Please remember to take a look at our noticeboards when you are next in the Institute for full details of all our upcoming events, talks, courses and activities.

There is always something happening at the Mechanics!

OCTOBER MONDAY FILMS AT 1.30PM

THE TUDORS

5th October 🎬 The Other Boleyn Girl – 115 min

Starring Natalie Portman, Scarlett Johansson and Eric Bana, *The Other Boleyn Girl* follows sisters Anne and Mary Boleyn as they become caught up in the intrigue and ambition of the court of King Henry VIII. Family loyalty is tested as both women are drawn into the King's world, with consequences that will change English history. Rich in romance, rivalry and political drama, it is a compelling journey into the dangerous world of the Tudor court.

12th 🎬 A Man for All Seasons – 120 min

Set during the reign of Henry VIII, *A Man for All Seasons* tells the story of Sir Thomas More, who finds himself in conflict with the King when he refuses to compromise his principles over Henry's determination to end his marriage to Catherine of Aragon. Starring Paul Scofield and Robert Shaw, this acclaimed historical drama brings the politics, religious upheaval and personal loyalties of Tudor England vividly to life. Powerful and beautifully acted, it is a compelling story of conscience, courage and conviction.

19th 🎬 Elizabeth – 124 min

Starring Cate Blanchett as the young Queen Elizabeth I, *Elizabeth* follows her turbulent early years on the English throne. Surrounded by political intrigue, religious conflict and threats to her rule, the young queen must learn whom she can trust while establishing her authority in a dangerous Tudor court. Rich in drama, romance and conspiracy, the film charts Elizabeth's transformation from an uncertain young monarch into one of England's most formidable rulers.

26th October 🎬 Elizabeth: The Golden Age – 114 min

Starring Cate Blanchett as Queen Elizabeth I, *Elizabeth: The Golden Age* follows the monarch during one of the most turbulent periods of her reign. Facing threats from abroad, intrigue at court and the approach of the Spanish Armada, Elizabeth must balance her duty to the country with her own personal desires. Lavishly produced and visually stunning, the film combines history, romance and political drama in a powerful portrait of England's famous Tudor queen.

Robert's Music Mornings

8th & 29th October at 10.30am – see noticeboard for details

THE CURTIUS SALON – FRIDAYS AT 11.00AM

2ND OCTOBER – TONY SHERWOOD – NOT SO SECRET AGENT: PART 3

TONY SHERWOOD RETURNS WITH THE THIRD INSTALMENT OF HIS POPULAR NOT SO SECRET AGENT SERIES. CONTINUING HIS FASCINATING COLLECTION OF STORIES AND EXPERIENCES, TONY OFFERS FURTHER INSIGHTS INTO A WORLD OF INTRIGUE, UNUSUAL ENCOUNTERS AND MEMORABLE CHARACTERS. AN ENTERTAINING AND ENGAGING CONTINUATION, WITH PLENTY OF STORIES TO KEEP THE AUDIENCE INTRIGUED FROM BEGINNING TO END.

9TH OCTOBER – IAN MORGAN – THE FOSSDYKE: A WATERY TALE OF MYSTERY AND INTRIGUE

IAN MORGAN TELLS THE FASCINATING STORY OF BRITAIN'S OLDEST CANAL AND THE TALES OF MURDER, MYSTERY AND INTRIGUE THAT HAVE UNFOLDED ALONG ITS BANKS OVER THE CENTURIES. FROM TOM OTTER AND THE SLAYING OF MARY KIRKHAM TO THE BEAUTY AND HISTORY OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN, THIS TALK BRINGS TOGETHER CRIME, LEGEND AND LOCAL HISTORY. AN ATMOSPHERIC JOURNEY ALONG ONE OF BRITAIN'S MOST HISTORIC WATERWAYS, DESIGNED TO LET YOUR IMAGINATION RUN WILD.

16TH OCTOBER – KEITH SMALL – BRITAIN'S ROYAL NAVY TOLD THROUGH THE HISTORY OF TWO FAMOUS ADMIRALS: 1805 AND 1916 – PART 1

KEITH SMALL BEGINS A TWO-PART EXPLORATION OF BRITAIN'S ROYAL NAVY THROUGH THE STORIES OF TWO FAMOUS ADMIRALS AND TWO DEFINING MOMENTS IN NAVAL HISTORY. BEGINNING WITH THE EVENTS OF 1805, KEITH LOOKS AT THE PERSONALITIES, SHIPS AND BATTLES THAT HELPED ESTABLISH BRITAIN'S DOMINANCE AT SEA. A FASCINATING JOURNEY INTO NAVAL HISTORY, LEADERSHIP AND THE MEN WHO SHAPED THE ROYAL NAVY.

23RD OCTOBER – KEITH SMALL – BRITAIN'S ROYAL NAVY TOLD THROUGH THE HISTORY OF TWO FAMOUS ADMIRALS: 1805 AND 1916 – PART 2

IN THE CONCLUDING PART, KEITH SMALL MOVES THE STORY FORWARD TO 1916 AND THE ROYAL NAVY DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR. THROUGH THE CAREER OF ANOTHER FAMOUS ADMIRAL, HE EXPLORES HOW NAVAL WARFARE HAD CHANGED DRAMATICALLY SINCE THE AGE OF SAIL AND EXAMINES THE CHALLENGES FACED BY BRITAIN AT SEA. AN ENGAGING CONCLUSION TO A STORY SPANNING MORE THAN A CENTURY OF BRITISH NAVAL HISTORY.

30TH OCTOBER – ANN FEATHERSTONE – MORE GHOSTLY TALES

PERFECTLY TIMED FOR HALLOWEEN, ANN FEATHERSTONE RETURNS WITH ANOTHER COLLECTION OF GHOSTLY TALES AND MYSTERIOUS HAPPENINGS. DRAWING ON STRANGE STORIES, EERIE ENCOUNTERS AND UNEXPLAINED EVENTS, ANN TAKES US INTO A WORLD WHERE FACT, FOLKLORE AND THE SUPERNATURAL MEET. ATMOSPHERIC, INTRIGUING AND WITH JUST THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF SPOOKINESS, IT PROMISES TO BE A WONDERFULLY ENTERTAINING HALLOWEEN TALK. 🧛‍♀️

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OTHER GROUP MEETINGS

OCTOBER

Nottingham Writers' Club: All welcome : Carol: 0115 9817661

FRIDAY 23RD @1PM

Dickens Fellowship : Kathy Powis: 0115 9845375

6TH AND 20TH 2.00-4.00PM

Nottingham Shakespeare Society

Tuesday 13th 7.00pm Tuesday 27th 10.30am

Nottingham Probus Club : cherryknight2000@gmail.com

Wednesday 21st @10.00am

Elders' Forum Dance

Fridays @ 1.30pm

Nottm Branch, The National Trust

Thursday 8th 1.30-3.30pm

Oddfellows Friendship Group

Friday 2nd @11.00am

National Federation of Occupational Pensioners (NFOP)

Wednesdays @11.00am

R.C.T.S

Tuesday 13th and the 27th 2.00-4.00pm

Thoroton Society

Saturday 10th @1.30pm

Nottingham Civic Society

Tuesday 13th 7.30-9.30pm

**60+ Keep Fit: Audrey Malik,
Mondays from 10.30am**

TABLE TENNIS – FRIDAYS: 1.30 TO 3.00PM

SHORT MAT BOWLS – THURSDAYS AT 1.30PM

GAMES AFTERNOON: TUESDAYS AT 1.30PM

STITCH CLUB: MONDAYS 1.30PM FORTNIGHTLY

GARDENING CLUB: PLEASE SEE NOTICEBOARD FOR DETAILS