

## THE CURTIUS SALON - Fridays at 11.00am

5th Jan Dr Julian Onions Crazy Interstellar Rockets The Future of Space Travel?

12th Jan Tim Coltman The Story of Two VCs

19th Jan Dr Ifran Malik The First World War Contribution of Dulmial Village

26th Jan Sian Trafford Florence Boot

### **\* MUSIC EVENTS with ROBERT \***

**Jan 4th The Merry Widow 10.15-1.00pm in the Birkbeck**

### **\* MONDAY FILMS - at 1.30pm \***

8th Hotel Rwanda 2004 Run Time 121 mins

15th Liar Liar 2003 Run Time 83 mins

22nd Thoroughly Modern Millie 1967 136 mins

**60+ Keep Fit: Audrey Malik, Mon: 10.30 to 11.30am**

**Seated Exercise Class 11.45 to 12.30pm**

**TABLE TENNIS - Fridays: 1.30 to 3.00pm**

**SHORT MAT BOWLS - Thursdays at 1.30pm**

**GAMES AFTERNOON: Tuesdays at 1.30pm**

**KNIT & NATTER: Wednesdays at 1.30pm (fortnightly)**

**STITCH CLUB Mondays 1.30pm Fortnightly**

**GARDENING CLUB: Please see Noticeboard for details**



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# Nottingham Mechanics Institute 1837



# Newsletter

No 76 January 2024

*What's on? What's happened?*

**Happy New Year to you All**

This is our first newsletter of 2024 and also the first newsletter from the new editorial team

now Viv has retired from her role.

We look forward to bringing you monthly updates of what's happening and what's happened

and all the gossip as well.

We look forward to trying to emulate the amazing job Viv did in the role.

And we are all looking forward to 2024 and all that this will bring to the

**Nottingham Mechanics Institute**

**Our Christmas Fair Raised £328**

**Thank You to everyone who attended helped out and donated**

## OTHER GROUP MEETINGS

Friends of Nottingham Museums: Janet Lievesley: 0115 9221734

**January 16th 1.30pm**

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

**January Meeting**

Dickens Fellowship, Contact: Kathy Powis: 0115 9845375

**Dates for January 2nd and the 16th 2.00pm**

\* Nottm Shakespeare Society: Sandra Appleton: 0115 9256551

**January 9th 7.00pm and 23rd 10.30am**

Nottingham Probus Club Robin West: 0115 9164774.

**January 17th 10.00am**

Elders' Forum Dance

**Fridays at 1.30pm restarts**

Oddfellows Friendship Group

**No January Meeting**

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

Nottm Branch, The National Trust: Irene Milburn 0115 9812267

**January 11th and 24th**

National Federation of Occupational Pensioners (NFOP)

**Wednesdays 10.30am**

# Nottingham Mechanics Institute

Did you know this is our 187th Year in existence?

The year Queen Victoria came to the throne.

We were founded in 1837 by Mr John Smith Wright of Wrights Bank Their bank was situated on Carlton St where Lloyds Weatherspoon's is today.

The banker who lived at Remsptone Hall was also involved in the building of Trinity Church which was along side our first building on Milton St, where T.K.Maxx now stands.

Years before Dr George Birkbeck (who our Ballroom is named after) Set up a series of free education lectures for Artisans and Mechanics in Edinburgh these were so popular with them that it was decided that classes would be held the first in Chemistry.

And so the Mechanics Institutes were born these were wide spread within this country and also abroad.

We at the Nottingham Mechanics Institute held many classes from Maths and Arithmetic to Inorganic Chemistry and other Sciences.

As we grew so did our building and we purchased the Baptist church next door to the old building which is shown in our logo.

There are photos of the old building in the restaurant and also an amazing watercolour that was saved when the building burned down. Our national history museum started in 1864 and moved to its present site at Wollaton Hall in 1926 when it became to large for our building.

In 1874 it was decided that the classes were to numerous for the Nottingham Mechanics Institute to do on their own and so

Mr Richard Enfield approached the Corporation to see if it was possible to build halls for University lecturers who now attended Classes in Nottingham, and in 1881 the Nottingham university Collage On Horsefair St (now Shakespeare st) was opened by H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany,

The Mechanics was Changing this was the signal for the severance of the bond which had united the Science and Art Classes to the Institute. Hope you enjoyed a little of our history

*Adam*