

**AGM 2022: 10th JUNE - ALL MEMBERS INVITED TO ATTEND!!!**

**SUMMER SPEAKERS** Fridays at 11.00am

- 13 May: Dave Moylan with More Magic!!!  
20 May: John Whitfield: 'MacMillan and Kennedy...'  
27 May: Dr John Dornan: 'Travels with a Rifle and a Stethoscope'

**\* OPERA with ROBERT \***

- Thursday 5 May 10.30am: "Atilla" by Verdi  
Thurs 19 May: "La Fille du Regiment" by Donizetti

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

- 2 May: - Closed - (Bank Holiday)  
9 May: 'Erin Brockovich' with Julia Roberts  
16 May: 'Thoroughly Modern Millie' Julie Andrews  
23 May: 'The Constant Gardener' Ralph Feinnes, Rachel Weiss  
30 May: 'The History Boys' Richard Griffiths

**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**  
**BINGO - Thursdays: 2.00pm**

THE  
NOTTINGHAM  
MECHANICS  
Founded 1837

The Nottingham Mechanics  
3 North Sherwood Street NG1 4EZ  
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# Your NOTTINGHAM MECHANICS



## Newsletter

No 57 MAY 2022

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

### Mission Impossible ???

"Not a problem!" they said. I was worried, but having taken advice from another coach driver, Mark (our driver) was reassured.

Our Satnav was panicking as we approached Dartmoor, but we sailed on. Suddenly our confidence evaporated as we arrived at a bridge a fraction wider than our coach with a tight left hand turn to access it.

We didn't know if the bridge could carry us because we couldn't make the turn. Never mind - we could turn around and re-route. **No we couldn't!** The road was too narrow. The only way was to back up. Mark began to reverse and Ivor and I ran up the lane stopping traffic at points where we could get the coach past.

Two miles (and an hour!) later, the entrance to a Country Park provided the vital turning point.

On the bright side, Mark had some good practice reversing, and Ivor and I had some much needed exercise!

*Robert Cockayne*



**“TURKEY & TINSEL” 2022 - in PAIGNTON !!!**

**5th to 9th December £369 pp. See NOTICEBOARD!!**

**Please TELL RECEPTION if you are interested!**

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**GROUP MEETINGS (please check with group contacts)**

**Harlequin Ladies’ Group: May meeting - Wed 4 May, 2pm:  
Chris Vasper, ‘Marathon des Sables’ Visitors £2  
New Members Welcome! Call Jacqui Curwood 0115 9586500**

**Dickens Fellowship, meeting at 2.00pm Tues. 3rd May.  
This is their last meeting until Sept. Contact Kathy: 0115 9845375**

**Friends of Nottingham Museums: Janet Lievesley: 0115 9221734  
17 May: ‘Secrets, Mysteries & Curiosities of Nottinghamshire’**

**Nottm Writers’ Club: All welcome! Contact Carol: 0115 9817661  
Next meeting: Friday, 27 May 2.30pm**

**Nottm Shakespeare Society Contact, Sandra Appleton: 0115 9256551  
3 May 10.30: ‘King John’. 17 May 7pm: ‘Shakespeare’s Missing Mothers’**

**City of Nottingham Probus Club Contact: Robin West: 0115 9164774  
May: ‘Titanic - Ship of Dreams’**

**Do you love CROCHET, PATCHWORK, QUILTING, KANTHA etc?  
A NEW STITCH CLUB meets fortnightly on Mondays, 1.30pm  
9th & 23th May. Contact: Jenny Parker on 0115 9206423**

**Nottm RSPB Group, Contact: Barry Nelson 0115 9146583**

**Oddfellows Friendship Group: Games, Speakers, Dominoes etc.  
Contact: Karen Pye-Smith 07921821866 [www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk)**

**National Federation of Occupational Pensioners (NFOP)  
Nottm Branch meets: Wed. 4, 11, 18, 25 May at 10.30am  
Contact: Phil Wilson - 0115 875 2346**

**NDLHS - Details at: [ndlhs@wordpress.com](mailto:ndlhs@wordpress.com)**

**Newsletter Enquiries to: 0115 9145838 \* [viv.apple@outlook.com](mailto:viv.apple@outlook.com)**

**CHRISTINE ALTON - THEN and NOW!**

I have lived all my life in Nottingham and the only thing I knew about the Mechanics was that my father played billiards there when I was a child. I would never have guessed where that would lead.



Life has been pretty normal, and very happy. For most of my working life I was a machinist in factories, the last one being A.C.Gill in the Lace Market where I rose to the dizzy heights of designer and sample machinist which took me to lots of different places looking for ideas. I met and married Charles in 1966 and we went on to have a daughter and a son, who have given us five wonderful grandchildren. I was, and still am, a member of the Harlequin Ladies group at the Mechanics, being Chairperson for over 30 years. When we needed a new venue for our meetings, this is when the Mechanics came in and we have held our meetings there for over 20 years, first at Birkbeck House then North Sherwood Street.

Years passed, and I was now working as a receptionist, and Charles was a Gardener and Groundsman. I retired a few months before him and he was then sent on a retirement course run by the council, which was held at The Mechanics. He came home and asked why I hadn't told him how good it was, and thought we should join when he retired. I said I wasn't sure it was my kind of thing, but we could join for a year and give it a try. Much to my surprise it **was** my kind of thing and 13 years later we are still coming here. I'm on the Mechanics Council and the Fund-raising group, and Charles looks after the car park. We have had many happy years belonging to the Mechanics and met many new friends, and so I would encourage all of you to recommend it to your friends to come along and help to swell our numbers.

Chris Alton

**PS:** Chris is organising a **PLANT SALE** for Friday **10th June** so please sow some seeds now in preparation for this colourful fund-raising event! Thank you!

**See Page 2 for ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT a CHRISTMAS TRIP!!!**