

THE LEDBURY LETTER

Number 108 Autumn 2019



The Butcher Row House Museum.

Ledbury & District Civic Society

“Looking After Ledbury...”



Butcher Row House
Folk Museum

LEDBURY & DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY
Burgage Hall
Church Lane
Ledbury
HEREFORDSHIRE HR8 1DW

Objectives of the Society...

To stimulate public interest; promote high standards of planning and architecture; and secure the preservation, protection and improvement of features of historic, natural and public interest in Ledbury and the surrounding district.

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The Ledbury and District Society Trust Ltd
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Notice is hereby given that membership records of the Ledbury & District Trust are held on a database system. Those requiring access to the data held concerning themselves should contact the Membership Secretary. These are for administration purposes only, and an individual's details can be removed on receipt of a written request.

Copy deadline for the next Ledbury Letter: Friday, 7th February 2020.

Chairman's Report...

Andy Tector

As this is my first report as Chairman, I thought I should start with a quick introduction for those who don't know me or my background.

I think I can claim to be a "local": I was born in Malvern and brought up in Colwall and Bosbury. I was a pupil at Ledbury Grammar School. I trained as an Environmental Health Officer in Malvern and then spent a number of years in Blackpool and Leeds. I returned to Herefordshire in the 1980s with my wife, who is also a "local", having been brought up in Bosbury. In 1998 I took on a senior role with Herefordshire Council before retiring in 2014. Before I retired I was the Technical Lead for the development of an "Energy from Waste" plant to be built in Hartlebury for Herefordshire and Worcestershire County Councils. Alongside this role I was the Project Director for the Master's House.

It was in my role as Project Director for the Master's House that I first came into contact with the Civic Society, on a consultation panel that was established to get input from local organisations, to help design the refurbishment of the Master's House. These meetings gave me a real insight into what the Civic Society does for the community of Ledbury and its surrounding area. When I was approached to join the board I jumped at the opportunity.

It is somewhat daunting taking on the role of Chairman, particularly having to follow Chris Johnson, who has been a real driving force for the Society. I would like to thank him for the energy and enthusiasm he brought to the Society in his role as Chairman.

I realise that Ledbury faces some quite serious challenges over the next few years, in particular the pressure exerted by developers to build huge quantities of new housing in and around the Town. The Society, through its Planning Committee, will continue to do all it can to ensure that any development is sustainable and is in the best interests of the Town and District, and not just in the best interests of developers. We will continue to keep you up to date with plans for development in and around the town and advise you of how to engage with the planning process.

Butcher Row House Museum...

Ken Chapman & Prue Yorke

The half-season time of reporting has crept up on us again, without proper warning!

There were some anxious moments at the start of the year, when it looked as though we would not have enough volunteers to open at all on Sundays. We offer a huge “thank you” to our newcomers, who have stepped in to enable the museum to be open for four hours – much, much better than none. Prue would be very grateful to hear of any changes you may wish to make for next year’s rota as early as possible in 2020, please.

The new opening hours seem to be working well with fewer quiet afternoons, but any further comments are always very welcome.

We offer an enormous “thank-you” to all the volunteers, who make such a valuable contribution to the well-being of the whole town and its vital tourist industry. Very many thanks also to Lottie Averill for the weekly cleaning and dusting, which is very much appreciated.

Planning Committee Report...

Anthony Peake

Historically, towns and villages used to grow (or shrink) owing to a local balance between available dwellings, work opportunities and resources – food, water, power and transport. This ‘organic growth’ of settlements broke down over the years because of huge increases in population, jobs, wealth and population mobility brought about by improvement to canal, road and rail transportation and advances in food production following the Industrial Revolution.

Now we have a chronic shortage of housing and a general UK political ambition to build 300,000 new houses per year – nothing like this number has ever been achieved. The cost of houses has risen astronomically, forcing working people and the young to remain as home-renters, because developers only bother with houses and locations that make them big profits. We do need a lot more homes – of the right type.

The biggest profits for landowners and developers come from ‘executive homes’ sited adjacent to historic and popular market towns, such as

Ledbury. Typical of aggressive developers is the Gladman Group from Cheshire, who openly (and legally) target fields next to attractive towns - again like Ledbury - in counties with weak defences, owing to shortages of money and staff, to force through planning applications that nobody locally wants. They have skilled and expert teams of professionals, who scythe through Refusals of Planning Permissions by going to planning appeal.

Planning Appeals or Inquiries are decided by a single appointed "Planning Inspector" who is tasked with granting planning approval unless there is a very powerful reason to Refuse by the government's desire to reduce the shortage of housing. All this sounds perfectly reasonable and democratic, but it is NOT!

The amount of money to be made by obtaining Planning Consent to use land for development instead of farming is the root of the problem. ALL the profit stays with the landowner and developer, and when you think that good agricultural land may be worth £12-15,000 per acre, contrasted with the same land becoming worth £650,000 an acre - or a lot more in some cases - if permission is granted for building on it, you can see why Gladman and Co are prepared to spend tens of thousands of pounds in order to make big money. This huge resource is simply not available to county councils like Herefordshire.

The different firepower of Council v. Developer is manifest at Planning Inquiries. The Inquiry over Gladman's Leadon Way scheme, which broke the natural settlement boundary of our town and is now being built - incredibly slowly - by Barratt Builders, was painful in the extreme to behold. A well - oiled Gladman team of nine so-called experts, armed with great piles of reports into ecology, landscape, traffic, housing need, water concerns and so on, was put up to defeat Herefordshire Council officers and their ineffective barrister from Birmingham. It was not a democratic discussion of the merits of putting a roundabout on the ring road and building 320 houses on excellent fields bordering the town, it was a disgraceful example of a cash - rich bully steamrolling his way into millions of pounds of profit for his company, as well as the landowner who lives miles away from Ledbury

The problem is that Ledbury goes on having planning applications by such people, who care nothing for the well-being of the town and its true needs: they just want to spread houses in boring cul-de-sacs as densely and quickly as possible so that they can take their profit and leave.

Ledbury is instructed, under the County Core Strategy Plan, to cope with an additional 800 house by 2031. As of now, August 2019, there are 1250 new houses approved or allocated for this town, which when all are built, will add approximately 4,000 more people. This will be an increase of Ledbury's population from 10,000 to 14,000. Developers want to increase this even further.

The only action open to existing residents is to write to Herefordshire Council Planning Services to register their Approval or Objection to a planning application

The address is:

Herefordshire County Council Planning Services

P O Box 4

Plough Lane Hereford HR1 2ZB

Or

Google Hereford Council's Planning Application Search

Put in the Planning Reference Number and follow through to see the plans etc. and you can comment on-line for a limited time. Please note that you can still write or e-mail the planning officer even after the time for on-line comments has ended.

Remember that developers give almost nothing back to the town if they win planning consent. You may think that really substantial contributions to schools, medical centres, social centres for young and old, playing fields, local shops and pubs, and really useful parkland and open spaces should be a compulsory requirement in return for Planning Permission – but the reality is that there is virtually no gain. They make a small contribution per child for school places for the extra children arriving, build a roundabout (which interrupts the flow of traffic on the by-pass) and offer token small bits of leftover ground as play-space. The houses have no architectural interest: just boxes facing this way and that. No jobs are created either.

Current Large Developments in Ledbury:

1. Bovis has options on quite a large site on Leadon Way leading up to the Gloucester Road. They have recently submitted Outline Application P192482/0 for 140 Houses on this site, which is outside the by-pass, has no information at all about the size and mix of buildings intended, includes yet another huge roundabout on the ring road to give themselves access to the field they seek to build on, and has nothing at all apart from houses, i.e. nothing at all of benefit to the young or anyone else. We are writing to object and to ask Hereford Council to Refuse Consent.

2. Gladman has an Outline Planning Application (P184032/0) on land bordering the Dymock road, for 420 Houses. Over 250 letters of objection were sent. It has an absurdly tortuous single access proposed through the Barratt site. For such an enormous number of houses, it is a long way from the town and would be bound to clog everything up with many more cars. Since Gladman did not provide answers to HCC's requests for additional information, it did not get a determination of Application within the statutory time. This aggressive developer is now seeking judgement against HCC for non-determination, as part of its strategy to move to a Planning Appeal, which assuredly it will then fight with massive fire power – as usual.

3. The land north of Viaduct Site, Application Number P171532/0, for 625 new homes remains mired in access-by-road problems. We fervently believe that a road access under the railway viaduct, from the existing Hereford Road roundabout, is essential, so that there is proper connection between the town and the development, and that access only from the Bromyard Road is entirely inadequate. Bloor Homes, the developer, does not want the hassle of dealing with the railway companies about a road under the viaduct, but with enormous public interest in this we hope that common sense will prevail.

4. Gladman has an application, Reference P184447/0, for 210 houses on the currently quiet Little Marcle Road. The application had so little detail and amounted to such a tiny “kite” flying high over a most unlikely site that the HCC Planning Officer instructed Gladman last December to provide a lot more detail. It appears that Gladman has not responded.

5. The site for 320 houses, pushed through on Appeal by Gladman, and now being built by Barratt, has been in a hiatus for months, owing to the long-established cheese factory's prior right to operate. This right would have given rise to noise levels higher than acceptable to residents of the new homes opposite. This has recently been resolved, so we can expect building activity to resume, including building big banks and high fences along the Dymock road to deflect some sound.

We do urge everyone to take note of the huge amount of change and potential increase in numbers for Ledbury, currently being mooted, and to make their opinions heard by writing to Hereford Council: it needs our support.

As we go to press, we have just received the result of the Parish Poll asking Ledbury residents if they think it is 'satisfactory' to have a single access from the viaduct site onto the Bromyard Road, channelling all traffic under the railway bridge by the station.

The result was an overwhelming vote saying it was NOT satisfactory, by 1022 votes to 49. Over 95% of those who voted are opposed to the single access proposal and we hope Herefordshire Council and the developer, Bloor Homes, will take serious account of this strength of feeling. The turnout was almost 15% of the electorate which, given the lack of polling cards, the very short notice of the vote, plus the problems at the polling station, which led to large queues forming at first, is a very high turnout for this type of poll.. This again shows the strength of feeling. You can still write and express your views on the access arrangements, so if you haven't done so already, please do it as soon as possible.

Burgage Hall...

Chris Johnson

We are very happy to welcome the Methodists to the Burgage Hall, for their regular Sunday services while they consider their future home, following the sale of their church in the Homend. They would welcome anyone interested in joining them, including visitors to the town. It was sad to say goodbye to the Quakers, who are now meeting in their own houses, owing to a decline in numbers.

Surprising as it may seem, it sometimes gives me great pleasure when organisations hiring the hall say they are moving. For example, a few years ago, Slimming World started a class in the hall. It was so successful and expanded to two classes and then outgrew the hall and moved into the Community Hall. Nurturing 'start up' groups and seeing them become successful and need to move is a great pleasure. It shows how many vibrant and varied activities there are in Ledbury and every group that successfully moves on, opens an opportunity for another group to start.

The Ledbury Maritime Cadets had their first home in the hall, starting almost exactly four years ago as I write this and they have gone from strength to strength. They are now moving on to a new home which is easier to get all their equipment into and we wish them well and even more success. Continuing the exercise theme I mentioned in the Spring newsletter, we now have three Tai Chi classes in the hall. We are going to be a very fit and healthy bunch in Ledbury!

We are usually very busy in the Hall on weekday evenings, but all these changes mean that, unusually, we can accommodate new classes in the second half of the evening (after 7.00pm) on both Monday and Wednesday. So if you know anyone thinking of starting a class do ask them to get in touch: bookings@ledburycivicsociety.org There are daytime slots available as well, although the hall is becoming increasingly busy at all times, which is great news.

As I have said before, we are justly proud of the wonderful facility the Hall provides, at very low cost, for so many voluntary groups, small enterprises and community groups in Ledbury. Running the Burgage Hall takes a lot of work behind the scenes by a great team and without them we would not be able to provide this service to Ledbury. Very many thanks to everyone who has helped me in so many ways.

1. Introduction and background

You may have noticed that the clock face on the High Street end of St Katherine's chapel has gone – and wondered what is happening. Graham (being a horologist) found that I was dealing with this for the lessees and asked me to write an article on the subject. I must first acknowledge the involvement and help received from experts in this field, being Jonathan Ansell, the Hereford Diocese Turret Clocks Adviser and Keith Cotton, of the Cumbria Clock Company.

The matter started when I was a member of the St Michael's church committee, responsible for the hall, a couple of years ago. I learnt about the Mallen family involvement with the clock and of their substantial bequest (now vested in the Rector and Churchwardens as the hall lessees) "for the future upkeep of the hall and the clock with external face on the east wall." The bequest was made in memory of their only daughter, Lisa, as evidenced by the plaque on the wall below the clock face. Since the receipt of the bequest, it had been used for building maintenance and improvements, but the clock appears to have had no significant maintenance since it was modified in around 1984, and it stopped working prior to 2005.

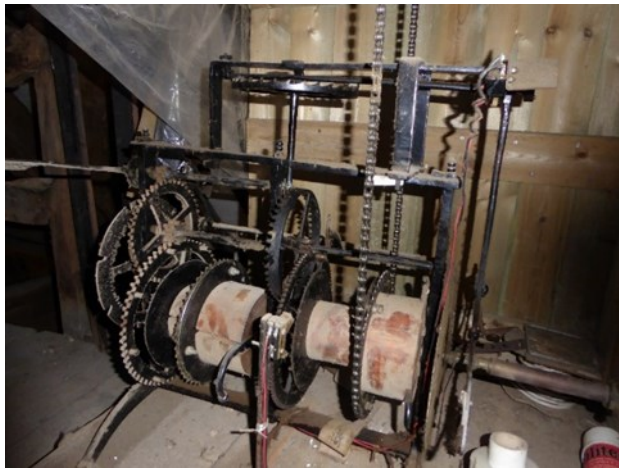
The committee thus resolved that we should get the clock working again in recognition of the strong obligation arising from the bequest received and (as the person who made the suggestion), I was given the job of carrying this out. These notes are those of an amateur and a note of any errors or omissions will be gratefully received.

2. The Mallen family

The Mallen family consisted of John Henry (Jack) Mallen, his wife Joy and their daughter Lisa. Jack was Manager of Spicers (the stationery firm whose factory was where Tesco now stands) and Joy, a local girl, was Secretary to H. J. Chapman, the owner of the stationery company that operated from Ledbury Park (after being bombed out of its premises in Coventry). Lisa, Jack and Joy's only child was a lovely girl and very talented – including lead roles in

LADS theatre productions. Sadly, she died in 1981 aged 16 - a blow from which her parents never recovered. The plaque on St. Katherine's commemorates the work on the clock that was funded by Jack and Joy in loving memory of their daughter.

3. History of the clock & bell and the 1984-6 Mallen renovation



The clock mechanism may be described as a small end to end train (open frame) turret clock movement measuring approx. 18 in high by 24 in long and 15 in wide. This type of frame is sometimes called a field gate, since there are no corner posts, just a flat frame. This clock can be dated by its type from

the early 1600s, confirmed in 1984 by finding the date 1637 on the clock frame, using ultra-violet light. The early clock modifications mentioned below suggest it came from another location, although an old Tilley's guide states it was installed in 1642. Prior to 1984 a label found on it suggests it was last cleaned in 1913.



The 18-inch bell in the turret was probably installed in 1698, with the inscription on it 'In memory of the Master of this Hospital 1696' and the date 1698 on a nearby beam. Originally there was a rope attached to the arm projecting from the bell mounting.

This rope previously ran above the chapel ceiling to a pulley beside the clock face, so that it could be tolled from the High Street. While it is believed the clock had not been working since before 1939, Mr Ron Jukes remembered the bell being used in around 1957 to summon the fire brigade.

By 1984, while the wrought iron hands were re-used, the clock face was disintegrating. The condition of the clock mechanism was intact bar deterioration of the wooden winding drums, while the winding wires were a mess or missing and the weights also missing.

The 1984-6 renovation initiated by the Mallens was carried out by Brian Hawcutt and Messrs Wilkin and Moon of RSRE Malvern, under the supervision of Mr Rosier, Architect to the Dean & Chapter.

The clock face was completely renewed to replicate the original with gold leaf figures with a new drive rod to the mechanism in the hall roof space. The original mechanism was de-rusted and modified to operate via the addition of an electric winder and auto correcting mechanism, to avoid the need for someone to climb up the rather precarious steps into the apex of the hall roof, to wind it and correct the dial each week. Regrettably, the lack of subsequent maintenance, combined with a possibility of design problems and electrical motor failure, led to operation of the clock being stopped at some time prior to 2005, leaving

the 1984 modifications disconnected with a mess of tangled drive cables and dangerous electrical connections.



Current position: Upon taking on this task I was fortunately introduced to the experts already mentioned and others in this field and we hoped to be able to renovate the original mechanism to re-use it as in 1984-6. However, upon investigating the options, it was concluded by our advisers that the unusual short pendulum and type of escapement

on the clock movement (which would never keep accurate time), would not permit the preferred option of reliable operation by a modern automatic mechanism and pendulum regulator. Maybe the well-meaning changes in 1984-6 never worked reliably and led to them being later disconnected. Add to this, the health & safety issues of repeated access and lack of local volunteers to climb into the roof apex, meant plan B was adopted.

Our plan B is therefore to completely renew the dial again in hardwood, with gold leaf lettering. While Brian's dial had lasted well without any maintenance for 35 years, water had got into the joints - it could be renovated, but the lettering would then probably outlast the woodwork. The new dial should have a life of another 35 years or more, especially if the funds bequeathed are used for clock maintenance. However, no attempt will be made to re-use the original working mechanism, which is being thoroughly examined to remove the 1984-6 modifications, and cleaned up. It will then be carefully stored with a view to making it a working exhibit in the hall, as and when funding can be found to re-order the hall to meet modern expectations. Instead, the clock dial will be driven using a modern electronic (fully automatic) mechanism with provision for power failures & BST/GMT alterations, with ground level controls.

4. Clock operation:

The winding mechanism for both the clock and the striking mechanism was powered by heavy weights suspended by ropes or wires over pulleys, wound up onto the parallel drive wheels of the clock. This may have originally been done by the 'clock man' climbing up to the roof on a daily basis. However, the current mechanism allows for a system called pull winding. A wire or rope was counter-wound on the barrel: pulling on this line wound up the main weight. In this manner the clock could be wound from the ground floor, using a small iron windlass. This was modified in 1984-6 to what seems to have been an unsuccessful form of automatic operation.

5. Conclusion:

I hope this gives some idea of the almost unique and historic clock we have at the hall and how it has evolved over the centuries. Instead of

this remarkable asset being hidden from view and keeping time with dubious accuracy, it is hoped that it will be possible to display it properly as a working mechanism before too long, complete with weights and cables to drive it.

Editors Note: This is an abridged version of the original report by Ian James. If you would like to find out more technical information please contact Graham Every (watch@grahamevery.co.uk)

George Skipp and John Buzaglo - two related ironmongers... Celia Kellett

George Skipp, son of John and Dinah Skipp, was baptised in Donnington church on 30 December 1748. He had three brothers: the eldest John was born and baptised in Newent in 1743. After moving to Donnington, two further sons, Thomas Perks Skipp, born in 1747 and Robert Skipp, born in 1750, were also baptised at Donnington. John, their father, died in 1751. George Skipp married Ann Dixon in Harborne, Birmingham. The banns had been read on 7th, 14th and 21st and they were married the very next day, 22nd February 1773. The marriage certificate showed that George was a brass-founder and he and Ann had a number of children: Ann, George, George Alexander and Dinah, who were all baptised in Birmingham's St. Philip's Cathedral and, apart from the first-born, Ann, each later died; the boys within months and Dinah when three-years-old, all being buried at the cathedral.

George and his wife Ann returned to Ledbury in the late 1790's, living and trading from the Butcher Row. Sadly, George's wife died and was buried on 3 November 1816. She was 67 years old and the burial register gave her address as Middle Row (another name for the Butcher Row), which then stood in the middle of the High Street. George moved out when the house he rented was demolished. He appeared in the town's trade directories from 1811 to 1835, having bought, in 1825, a property on the east side of the High Street. This was No.10, which is now the Spar shop.

His only surviving daughter Ann, named after his wife and baptised at Birmingham Cathedral, grew up to marry John Buzaglo at St Mary's (the Priory) in Great Malvern on 16 November 1797, no doubt attended by her parents. Certainly, there are a couple of entries in 1798, in the Overseer's Accounts for Ledbury, for nails and other ironmongery, indicating he was back trading in the town. All George and Ann's children had been baptised in Birmingham Cathedral and John Buzaglo and his wife Ann, (née Skipp), followed suit: Ann 1802, John 1803 and Jane 1805, were baptised in Birmingham Cathedral and the later ones: Henrietta, 1807, twins Louisa and Frederick, born in 1813, were not baptised until 1816, in Manchester Cathedral, where the family had lived for a time.

John Buzaglo senior died early in 1816 in Manchester, with probate records dated 20th February that year held in the Archdeaconry of Chester, which may explain why the twins were baptised shortly afterwards, not long before Ann and the children returned to Ledbury. Sadly, Ann Buzaglo died and was buried on 15 April 1817, aged only 42. This left her children, the youngest just over a year old, in the care of her eldest sister, who cared for them with the help of their now widowed grandfather.

The Buzaglo children were living in the High Street in 1831, being listed in Hints of Ledbury. Ann, the eldest, first appeared in Pigot's Directory of 1835, listed as a bookseller, stationer and with a circulating library in the High Street, having bought Sarah Thackway's business next door. Ann was assisted by her sister Louisa, now a schoolmistress. The 1835 trade directory showed George still running the ironmongers, but the 1838 Robson's Directory showed that his grandson, John Buzaglo Junior, now married, and his wife Sarah, had taken over its running from his grandfather George. The 1841 census showed that John, having trained as a brazier and tin-man, was now an ironmonger and his wife Sarah, together with Frederick, were living in the central area on the east side of the High Street.

John's younger sister, Henrietta, married Benjamin Bosley, a farmer's son, who was a tanner, on 4 June 1840, with siblings John and Louisa as witnesses. Younger brother Frederick William Buzaglo, who was a coal-man, married Mary Felicia Osborne in Stroud, Gloucestershire in 1844. They had three children: twins born in 1849; Alice Felicia and George Skipp Buzaglo, (no doubt named after his grandfather) and later, Mary Louisa Buzaglo, born in 1851. The following year the young family emigrated to Australia aboard the Prince Albert on 11 December 1852. They settled in Pentridge, near Melbourne, Victoria and had another three children, the last dying un-named in infancy. Frederick worked hard, retiring due to ill-health in 1887 and died in his sleep in 1889.

George Skipp died on the 23rd and was buried on 24th March 1845, aged 96. John's wife, Sarah, died in 1848, aged only 35, leaving John and his apprentice running the shop, with a servant to run the household. John trained a number of apprentices over the years and relied on help from his sisters in running the household. He eventually remarried, nearly twenty years later, Ann Thomas, the daughter of an auctioneer from Tewkesbury, in the Abbey there on 19th December 1867. He was 63 and she a spinster of 54. She died in May 1874, aged 63 and John died in November 1882, aged 79, having served the town as an ironmonger for more than 40 years, as his grandfather had done before him. Probate was granted to his youngest sister, Louisa, to the value of £652 19s. 8d.

Sources: mainly using Ancestry: www.ancestry.co.uk; and also the Forest of Dean Family History Trust Forum.

Parish Registers of: Ledbury Church of St Peter, (now St Michael and All Angels); Church of St Peter, Harborne, Birmingham; Great Malvern Priory Church of St Mary and St Michael; Birmingham Cathedral Church of St Philip; Manchester Cathedral Church of St Mary, St Denys and St George; Tewkesbury Abbey Church of St Mary the Virgin; Ledbury Land Tax Records 1786-1832; Hints of Ledbury (Ledbury: Ward, T., Thackway, S., Gibbs, J., 1831); Pigot's Directory 1835; Robson's Directory 1838, and later trade directories; Census 1841-1881.

Education Link...

Mary Winfield

All eight primary schools and the John Masefield High School were most grateful for the annual grant the Society awards under its Education Link programme. Whilst most are using the fund to provide much-needed resources, St. Mary's CE Primary School in Bromesberrow is using theirs in helping to create a bee-friendly garden. For some years, the late Hilary Starkey and I ran a Nature Club there and we were impressed then by the efforts made to support and enhance the natural environment of the school. Such initiatives are most commendable and fulfil the aims of the grant to perfection.

Anniversary Lunch – Thursday, 12th December 2019 – 1.00 pm

We realize that you don't really want to think about lunches in December when you read this in September. However, the anniversary buffet lunch, which we started six years ago to celebrate forty years since the Civic Society was formed, will be repeated again this year on **Thursday, 12th December 2019 at 1.00 pm.**

We will keep the cost the same as last year at a modest £5 per person just to cover the food and soft drinks. If you want to drink wine or beer please feel free to bring your own. The charge only just covers the cost of food and drink, so if anyone does not turn up for any reason, we risk losing money. In view of this we are asking everyone to pay in advance again this year.

We expect this to be a popular event and, as seating numbers for a meal in the Burgage Hall have to be limited, this will be an event for members of the Society only and will be on a "first reply, first on the list basis".

If you would like to come to this lunch please write a note saying you want to come with your name(s), address and contact telephone number to Mary Every, Ledbury & District Civic Society, Burgage Hall, Church Lane, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 1DW and enclose a cheque made out to Ledbury & District Civic Society for £5 per person.

N.B. Cheques will not be banked until after the event.

Museum Cataloguing...

Mary Every

The cataloguing and photographing of all the artefacts in the possession of Butcher Row Museum is finally finished. It isn't only the items on display in the Museum that the Society has, but a large number of items in storage. Approximately 7 days have been spent on the work in the museum, plus the many hours spent by Jane Barton in putting the data into a database. So now each item is identified by its accession number, a photograph and a note as to whether it has been donated, is on loan or the Society has bought it.

Our huge thanks must go to (in alphabetical order) Jane Barton, Ken Chapman, Graham and Mary Every and Prue Yorke for all the work that they have carried out. It has been heavy, dirty and very tiring work, but now they can all give themselves a pat on the back.

FRIENDS OF LEDBURY STATION...

Chris Noel

The idea is being floated of forming a support group for Ledbury Railway Station, in order to adopt it within the Community Rail arrangements. Please will anyone interested contact me for more details on cnlaptop@btinternet.com

Programme 2019-20 ...

Mary Winfield

A copy of the programme of speakers for next season's series of monthly talks is enclosed with your newsletter. I hope there will be something of interest for all our members and shall look forward to meeting you in the Burgage Hall in September. If anyone has a particular subject that would be of interest to members, or has contact details for a speaker to recommend, please let me know. Meanwhile, I shall look forward to seeing you in September.

On very rare occasions, through no fault of our own, it is necessary to substitute speakers. We e-mail those we have e-mail addresses for, and advertise the change on the noticeboards by St. Katherine's Hall and in Ledbury News. If you have an e-mail address that you have not shared with us then please send it to the Membership Secretary so that you can be advised by e-mail.

SPEAKERS' PROGRAMME 2019/20

Meetings at The Burgage Hall, Church Lane on Fridays at 7.30pm

27 th September	Of Sons and Skies” – History of flying in World War 2 Mike Jackson
25 th October	The original magic lantern show and its history Patrick Furley
29 th November	Some special churches Tim Bridges
31 st January	A visit to Argentina Chris Johnson
28 th February	Life in Ledbury 1914-2019 Jenny Harrison
27 th March	“One envelope, many lives” Alan K Welch
24 th April	7pm A.G.M. followed at 7.45 Brockhampton: six hundred years a family home Malcolm Penny
29 th May	The mystical imagery of Thomas Traherne Andrea McLean
26 th June	Lady Emily Foley Pamela Hurle

If you have enjoyed reading this newsletter please pass one on to friends and family and encourage them to join.

Additional copies of this newsletter can be obtained from Graham Every.