

Spring 2012



NEWSLETTER

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Registered Charity 237885

This Newsletter has been edited for the Colchester Civic Society by Peter Evans.
Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of The Civic Society.

Contributions are always welcome and should be sent to
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The Society's website is **<http://www.colchestercivicsociety.org.uk>**
(this website will shortly be redesigned)

The objects of the Civic Society are to:

- a) Encourage high standards of architecture and town planning in the Borough of Colchester.
- b) Stimulate public interest in and care for the beauty, history and character of the area of the town of Colchester and its surroundings.
- c) Encourage the preservation, development and improvement of features of general public amenity and of public interest.
- d) Pursue these ends by means of meetings, exhibitions, lectures, publications, other forms of instruction and publicity and the promotion of schemes of a charitable nature.
- e) Co-operate with other local, regional and national organisations in the pursuit of the same objects on broader geographical basis

CURRENT OFFICERS

Hon. Life President:

President:

Vice Presidents:

Chairman:

Vice Chairman and Programme Organiser:

Jo Edwards, 43 Priory Street, Colchester CO1 2QB. 01206 868254

Treasurer:

Secretary:

Membership:

Newsletter Editor:

Footpaths:

Other elected members:

INTRODUCTION

Last year, I notice that I started my report with a comment about being frazzled. Nothing has changed! If anything, I'm even more frazzled this year, so, as usual, please let me know if I've forgotten something.

The Executive Committee meets every six weeks but we maintain regular contact by e-mail too. Having said that, I'm afraid we abandoned our December meeting because of the snow. The weather was awful! Our new home at the Methodist Church in Straight Road is great and we thank Paul and Julie Weston for arranging this venue for us - and for continuing the tradition of much needed refreshments during our meetings! At last year's AGM, I pleaded for more members to volunteer for the Committee and my plea was heard! Our Committee expanded and, thanks to sterling work by Peter Evans, who approached the Colchester Volunteer Centre and asked for volunteers interested in specific projects, it looks as though we might have someone prepared to take on Footpaths and someone else with planning knowledge who will help the Planning Committee. This is wonderful news. We have had so much we want to do but not enough volunteers to do the work. Again, we still have vacancies on the Executive Committee and are desperate for people to help with projects, so if you feel you can help - in any way - please come and talk to us.

The Planning Group meet regularly to discuss newly submitted plans. The recession has meant fewer applications, which is, perhaps, a good thing at present because access to applications is still hard. Looking at them on the website is not satisfactory, but the reduction in available space at the Council offices has made looking at the actual plans more difficult. Hopefully, some of this will be resolved if plans for a new Conservation Advisory Committee come to fruition. We have been in discussions with the North East Essex Building Preservation Trust about this, (we hope to work far more closely with them in future) and the Council seems to have accepted that this committee should be reinstated. It gives the opportunity for interested groups to meet regularly with the Borough Planners to examine applications within Conservation Areas and to give comments. Still, our Planning Group has kept a close eye on the applications that have been submitted throughout the year, including those for Angel Court. They met with officers to discuss these and Dave Stenning and Ken Cooke went along too. Several points were made. Other plans have been commented upon - the flats on the corner of Drury Road and Maldon Road, for example. Some members have asked why the Society has not been involved with the Buntings' proposed development at Horkesley Park. It is outside our area, which is the old Borough boundary and we have not interfered.

The Society has supported the Friends of the Roman Wall with their attempt to get advertising hoardings off the Roman Wall. We were invited to the launch of this new group, started by former Mayor, Councillor Henry Spyvee during his time in office. The Friends of the Roman Wall intend to install interpretation boards at regular intervals around the wall, something that we feel is much needed. They are looking for sponsorship for the boards and the Civic Society has offered to be responsible for raising the funds for one. We will be holding raffles at meetings and on some outings, and will be arranging a fund raising event or two. Whilst on the subject of information boards, I will mention blue plaques. The Society was approached by a relative of a little girl painted by Frank Daniel early last century. He was sure that she was the model for the painting of the Bluecoat Girl in the Museum. The issue has now been thoroughly examined and, I hope, satisfactorily resolved, but, in the course of correspondence, it was mentioned that a plaque for the artist, who lived on East Hill, should be considered. This led to further thoughts of plaques for others. Peter Evans has been investigating. Meanwhile, Ann Turner has been working with English Heritage, updating them on the plaques we already have. Watch this space! And we have had some movement in the saga of the John Ball plaque, an incredibly heavy oval stone, removed from its site in the Dutch Quarter some years ago and subsequently mislaid. It eventually turned up and I was asked to house it until a decision had been made as to where it should now go. Discussions with the Dutch Quarter Association, Colchester Borough Homes, etc took place. Henry Spyvee pushed, I pushed, and eventually a decision was made. The plaque could go back into its old position. The Society agreed to fund restoration - it was badly scratched - and it finally left my front room window seat bound for the stone masons. We await its return, hopefully only temporarily, to my front room!

I have got rid of the plaque and gained a film - the Civic Society film made by the Colchester

Cine Club in the very early 1970's. Having searched for this for years, I finally came across it in a collection of films held by an acquaintance of mine who had sadly died. The collection had been passed on to Mr Polley, of the Colchester Film Makers who was about to send them to the East Anglian Film Archive. I have the film, but have not, yet, been able to get it digitised. It is a highly specialised job and the people I have contacted cannot yet do the work as they are waiting for new equipment from the USA. It will be done, eventually!

We have been watching the Roman Circus Visitor Centre situation with interest. We were approached about our donation to the Appeal after plans to buy the Sergeants' Mess broke down and agreed that the donation could be passed over to the new plan for using the old Education Centre instead. We also expressed our concerns about the closure and possible letting of Tymperleys and are monitoring developments there. Ray Chandler has been involved with the matter of Museum reorganisation and has kept us informed. We made our comments, too. Some of our work is simply to keep an eye on things and act, with alacrity, when we feel something is going wrong. Currently, we are concerned about the ancient drain in St Peter's Street, amongst other things. It is good when things go right, though and we wrote to say how impressed we were at the repair of the Abbey Walls - at last!

We maintain an interest in licensing applications. Last year, the law changed a little and the Civic Society is now able, again, to object to licensing applications, both new and amended. We have done so. We were surprised to find that Colchester intends to apply for a Purple Flag. What is a Purple Flag? Well, it's the equivalent of a Blue Flag for beaches or a Green Flag for parks and open spaces but it is for a welcoming, all inclusive night time economy. Titter not!! I must admit that I went to the initial presentation with tongue firmly in cheek! How on earth could Colchester justify such an application? However, I came away prepared to support the idea. Why? Because, part of the application procedure is to do an in depth study of the town at night. If this is done, maybe the powers that be will recognise that we have much to do before we can hope to be awarded a flag!

We have kept an eye on trees. Local Government reorganisation of responsibilities left some queries over tree preservation orders and we investigated the implications. We think all is well, but are keeping a watching brief.

We have continued to pursue the matter of A boards and tables and chairs on pavements throughout the town centre and beyond. Essex County Council having finally agreed that the matter is theirs to resolve, have begun work on a county wide strategy. I have seen the paperwork so it really is happening - but don't hold your breath! Meanwhile, we have approached some offenders, with some degree of success!

Localism has been on our agenda. We are waiting to find out exactly what is involved with what seems a very woolly agenda. No-one really seems to have got to grips with what it all means. We intend to hold an information type meeting once we find someone with some solid facts to impart! Civic Voice, the new organisation that has taken over from the now defunct Civic Trust, has been keeping us up to date as far as possible. They are proving very helpful to us. Paul Weston has been scouring their frequent missives for interesting information and advice on all manner of subjects. They have launched Civic Day, a day in June when Civic Societies are asked to promote their Society and the movement in general. We would like to be more deeply involved in this, but, this year, it's all too much, and so we have decided to limit our activity to a display board in the Colchester Library - if I have time to sort it out! I'll do my best!

The Society has again taken part in the highly successful Heritage Open Days. Ann Turner does a wonderful job with the organisation of this event. We thank her and the volunteer stewards from the Society who give up their time to help. We do need more people to volunteer, though, Ann just managed last year, but it was a close run thing! It is great fun. Those who visit the properties open to the public over that weekend in September are both local and from far afield. Many come from the other end of the country, centring themselves on a different area each year, ready to explore places not normally open to the public. There are a lot of overseas visitors, too. The job is not difficult. Ann provides crib notes etc. Do, please, offer your services!

Our Programme has been a little curtailed by my need to care for my husband, who, as most of you know, is very ill. But he did manage the holiday last year to North Devon. Unfortunately, we were prevented from going to Lundy by appalling weather, but we still managed to fill our time! We

had, on that holiday, four old school friends who were all over 90 years old! Our Birthday Dinner was again held at Hall Farm at Stratford St Mary - a nice evening. We visited Kirstead Hall, West Stow Hall and Beeleigh Abbey, had a Charles Dickens day in and around Rochester, revisited the Olympic site to see how far the development had progressed, and had a Christmas outing to London, looking at the history of medicine in the city and, at the same time, seeing the lights. More locally, we, at last, visited Waitrose, had a fascinating evening at St John's Church in Military Road, formerly the Garrison Church, and took a guided tour around the new firstsite building. Much as we would love to reinstate the Christmas Party, I felt that we couldn't manage it this year. I would love to have a new committee prepared to take this off my hands. Any volunteers? Instead, we decided to have some coffee mornings and Ruth Brown, Austin and Elisabeth Baines and Janet and Kerr Tong have all, very kindly, hosted these events. Unfortunately, they have not been well attended, which is a great shame, because they have been much enjoyed by those who have come. Eileen Sheldon has offered to host one in July - the details are available tonight, so please ask! We have had our Burning Issues and Spring Up meetings too. These are very important as they enable us to gauge your opinions on a very wide range of issues facing the town and allow us to formulate Society policy.

We maintain our relations with a number of other groups in the area. The Tourist Guides, the Friends of the Museums, the local Chapter of the RIBA, the Friends of the Roman Circus, the Friends of the Minories, the Friends of Castle Park and so on. Some of these associations are official, some less so, maintained because our Executive members are on the committees of other groups and links are very useful! It's not what but who you know!! We also maintain our link with Colchester 2020. We are, of course, still actively involved with EECAS, the regional body that links local amenity societies.

I must thank the Committee, who work so hard. Austin, who, besides co-ordinating our planning group, has also been our Editor during the year. As I've said before, he is a wonder at research and scours the Borough website for information. He, Brian and Beau have worked hard on planning issues. Brian took on the task of getting our website up and running again, with help from Ann Turner and her nephew, who is our new webmaster. Elisabeth is a great secretary, as determined as ever not to be fobbed off by anyone! Ann does an amazing job. She maintains our membership records, distributes Newsletters and does so much towards Heritage Open Days. Paul, our Treasurer is, as ever, wonderfully supportive, and, newly retired, is able to take on more for us, which is great! Peter Evans, also newly retired, is so energetic! He has offered to take on the Editorship of the Newsletter from Austin, Ray, of course has offered to take on the Chair. We are so grateful to him! Jenni and Ken must be thanked as well! Our thanks to them all! And may I offer my personal thanks to you all, for being so supportive to me over the years of my Chairmanship, or, as someone said to me once, in my case, more of a Three Piece Suitmanship! Jim, Tom and I have really appreciated your kindness to us recently. It's been a difficult time, but your friendship has been so helpful. I shall end by wishing our new Chair good luck. I hope he enjoys his stint as much as I have mine!

Jo Edwards, Chairman 2010-2011

ROOM WITH A VIEW

How many of you saw *Party Paramedics* on the television recently? I must admit that I have been slightly amused by some of the reactions to the programme. It is apparent that seeing Colchester Town Centre as it is at night has come as a real shock to some people who really ought to know what goes on! I absolutely agree that Colchester is no worse than other places, but many wrongs don't make a right, do they? There is no question in my mind that the SOS Bus is brilliant. It is working just as well as I thought it would when we, the Society, first suggested it - yes, it was our idea! It doesn't just deal with those who have had too much to drink. The volunteers are there to help anyone with a problem - from lost purses to missed last buses, from arguments between boyfriend and girlfriend to simply a need to talk to someone. The Bus takes so much pressure from the emergency services and the hospital. It's just such a shame that the pubs, clubs and other late night venues are so reluctant to contribute to the work the Bus does.

But I digress. It is not the Bus that I wanted to write about. It is, again, litter. At the end of the *Party Paramedics* programme, there was a shot of the street and the litter left behind by revellers.

Hopefully, those people who complain about the lack of street cleaning will have seen this and begun to recognise what a dreadful job our street cleaners are faced with each morning. I think they do an amazing job in a remarkably short space of time. They don't start cleaning until most of the revellers have gone home (and they are still passing my house at 5am). Why? Well, for a start, they are simply not safe and, secondly, much of the rubbish is from fast food obtained from takeaways after the bars have closed. Who wants to clean the streets more than once a night?! As dawn breaks, the seagulls descend and take over from scavenging foxes and rats – yes, we have all three on a regular basis in Priory Street. They clear much of the discarded food and more chunky vomit and then the Council's cleaners appear. Some on foot, with black sacks and litter pickers, some in the mechanical sweepers, they work quickly and thoroughly. How do I know? Because they sometimes wake the dog who comes to tell me that someone is lurking in his street! Sometimes I'm tempted to open my bedroom window and call out my thanks for a very unpleasant job well done. But I don't. However, I hope a Councillor reads this and passes on my appreciation.

We should not complain to the Council about our oil and chewing gum stained pavements, about urine and vomit soaked doorways and corners. English Heritage insisted on porous stone for our pavements – stone that absorbs grease, meaning even the most stringent regime of steam cleaning has little effect. The street cleaners are not able to stray onto private land. It is the duty of property owners to ensure their recessed frontages are kept clean. But, most of all, it is those who make the mess, the revellers and, indirectly, those who provide the alcohol and the fast food, who are at fault. Should the polluter pay? Should they take responsibility for the mess they cause? Yes! Do they? No! Sad, isn't it?

Jo Edwards

Editor's note; as we go to press we have just seen a consultation document from the government which discusses a levy on clubs etc to cover the cost of night time policing and clearing up.

THE CIVIC VOICE

We have referred to the Civic Voice before but here is some information about what it is and what it does.

It has replaced The Civic Trust which had been the umbrella organisation for Civic and similar societies for some years. Whilst it did a good job in many ways, it did have critics. After some problems, it went into liquidation a few years ago and the Civic Voice has now taken the role of co-ordination of the aims and needs to the Civic movement. It is probably less formal and smaller than the Civic Trust but is also a registered charity. Before the Trust folded, Griff Rhys Jones (actor, TV presenter etc) became president and he has taken the same role for the Civic Voice. He lives in Suffolk and has already given support to the Colchester Roman Circus.

To quote and slightly paraphrase Civic Voice itself “We work with a network of hundreds of community-based and volunteer-led civic societies and other groups to make the places where everyone lives more attractive, enjoyable, and distinctive and to promote civic pride... You will find us lobbying in Whitehall and Westminster, campaigning, speaking out in the media, undertaking research, building partnerships.”

Their vision “for everyone to live somewhere that they can be proud of.” They intend to have “a reputation and authority to make us the first port of call for anyone seeking to develop, conserve or interpret the quality, beauty and character of our towns, cities and villages or to engage people in shaping their future.” More information can be found on their website www.civicvoice.org.uk or ask your committee.

We are impressed by the information that Civic Voice is distributing and have made some responses to points that they have raised. We have received information about the Localism bill, which will affect planning regulations (more information to come in another newsletter) and the report by Mary Portas on town centres has been sent to us. So far, they seem a very useful organisation and worth subscribing to.

MARY QUEEN OF SHOPS

A quick word about this. David Cameron, the Prime Minister, has taken an interest in the decline in town centres and asked Mary Portas, known on television as Mary Queen of Shops (due

to her involvement in TV programmes about shopping) to look into the issue. This she has done, making several good points about the reasons for decline (out of town shopping centres, on line shopping etc) and making some proposals for help reverse the situation. Comments have been requested and we are awaiting a final outcome.

THE MANY WALLS OF COLCHESTER

I did not realise how many walls there are in Colchester and how important they have been.

The Roman Walls are benefiting from the work of the Friends of the Roman Wall. Some unsightly hoardings have been removed already and there are plans for interpretation boards to be installed around the wall, at strategic sites. The Colchester Blue Badge guides are raising money to pay for one board and other groups have their own plans. The Civic Society is looking to fund one and money has been put aside from raffles a coffee morning. Should you want to add to the amount already raised, you can send some money with your subscription.

The design of the boards is being developed along with the design for the new Castle Museum displays, so that all Colchester heritage signage follows the same style. Each board is expected to cost about £1200.

I first started to think about walls when, about 5 years ago, I walked down Artillery Street and noticed that the wall facing me at the end of the road had disappeared. This was a wall running along the west side of the Paxmans factory site. It had been there for many years and had certainly been a fixture for my grandfather, father and uncle's lives, as they had worked there between them from the early 1900's up until the 1960's. Suddenly all gone. Cousins returned to take a look, as it was the end of an era and difficult to believe.

They need to go back now. Neat new houses have taken the place of the wall and indeed of most of the site. Other walls surrounding the former factory disappeared from St Leonard's Road and other places as well.

Now it is the turn of the Military walls. The Hyderabad and Meeanee Barracks are due to be replaced by housing and half the walls facing on to Mersea Road and Military Road, together with 2 gates, have been demolished, doubtless to provide site access. The remaining gate and railings on Mersea Road have been repainted, as the sales office is based there. House walls are rising but I was glad to see the railings that had been removed are still on site.

The Paxmans and military walls were probably mid-Victorian to 1950's and were not architectural gems, but they were part of the townscape and our history. They were areas that you could not access with any ease and very young looking soldiers were always on duty in Mersea Road with large guns to stop access. The most northern of the barracks gates had a final poignant moment of fame shortly before the barracks closed, when it was festooned with flowers, when paratroopers based in Colchester were killed in Afghanistan.

However, there is news of a new wall. Tescos are hoping to build a new middle size supermarket on the vacant Butt Road site near the roundabout. They are keen to protect the residents of the other side of the road from lights and signage and will continue the building line by new buildings or walls.

Peter Evans

MEMBERSHIP

Since our last edition we have to report the death of Dr R Woodd-Walker.

A subscription reminder is enclosed.

Social Programme

CUP CAKE AND COFFEE MORNING JULY 2011

Mine is not the most ordered household in the world and I have only myself to please so I thought that I could manage to give a small, fund raising coffee morning for the Civic Society. I decided that, instead of biscuits, cup cakes could be offered. Date decided upon I made a few flyers to advertise it and, to my surprise, several people decided that they would come - so many that I lost count and panic set in.

Requesting help in making the cup cakes of my grand-daughter, she informed me that her sister

was very keen on making them and had a recipe book containing hundreds of different kinds. Duly asked, Gemma agreed to make 40, then the order was altered to 80 of which I would make 12 gluten free cakes in a kitchen devoid of other gluten containing ingredients.

How can we entertain up to 80 people (for whom I did not have enough chairs - they can sit on the stairs) for 2 hours while serving coffee and cakes we asked ourselves. What about a quiz suitable for older people but with one or two difficult questions, in order to throw up a clear winner we asked ourselves. Laura volunteered to do that.

Small prizes for a large raffle were found and donated and Pam sold the tickets and supervised the draw.

I was panic stricken on the day in case 80 people turned up and couldn't get in the house or we ran out of cup cakes.

Well, it was fabulous. The house filled with gaily chattering people eager to see their friends and to make more. The girls took over the kitchen and Laura ran the quiz while Pam presided over the raffle. People were enjoying themselves and

together with the income from the activities and we raised a good sum for the cause.

At noon the house emptied as if by magic and several of us descended on the *Wooden Fender* for lunch, tired but happy.

Life has changed and the girls are unlikely to be around at the same time as each other to help me, so can anyone tell me how to run a small, genteel fund raising coffee morning? Answers on a postcard please to the Secretary, Colchester Civic Society.

Eileen Sheldon



EVENING CRUISE ALONG THE THAMES 27th NOVEMBER 2011

It was chilly and a bit windy on the Sunday Jo had organised an evening boat trip on the Thames but the clarity of that late November evening was just wonderful. Despite delays at Colchester due to an accident which closed the eastbound A12, we arrived by coach in good time at O2 Arena landing stage and we even had time to look around the O2. We boarded the spacious *Thames Rose* passenger boat taking us to the London Eye where we finally disembarked.

Although we set off at good speed in daylight with the sun setting ahead of us, by the time we reached Greenwich it was getting quite dark and the lights of London shone across the water. As we reached the Isle of Dogs, the well lit office blocks of Canary Wharf were particularly impressive. Seeing the buildings at night from the river was a magical experience, made more so by the crescent of a new moon.

The low, lifting voice of the captain was a pleasure to listen to - interesting facts mixed with a dry wit. We learned that Hungerford Bridge is the only bridge with a railway above and below (the underground) and that Waterloo bridge was rebuilt entirely by women in World War II. The captain was a member of the Campion family, who owned the boat and he had a wealth of history about the Thames, his father having been a docker. Now, however, the loss of many historical sites to luxury flats was a cause of regret.

We sailed under the dramatically lit Tower Bridge which marks the boundary of the square mile of the City of London. Further along the glittering embankment we came to a stone archway which



indicated that we were leaving the square and entering the City of Westminster. We passed the magical display of the Festival Hall where a German Christmas Market was taking place and on to the shining Palace of Westminster where we turned to dock under the awe-inspiring blue lit London Eye. Our coach was waiting for us, with our guide Gail, to take us on a tour of the West End to see the Christmas lights.

We criss-crossed Oxford Street, (coaches no longer being allowed to enter), travelled down spectacular Regent Street and Knightsbridge and finally Park Lane, viewing the Winter Wonderland Fair in Hyde Park. As we were frequently held up in traffic (allowing us closer views of the sights) Gail gave us many facts about the origins of Christmas traditions which kept our interest until we finally arrived at Somerset House to watch the ice skaters, find refreshments and a comfort stop before the drive home.

What a trip! London at night, at Christmas, is spectacular.

Jean Budd

STOP PRESS

QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE TREE PLANTING CEREMONY

As you will know, the Queen's accession to the throne was 60 years ago on 6th February 1952. Colchester has commemorated this by planting a pin oak *quercus palustris* on the Castle Park, close to the bandstand and near the Roman pavement. It was a colourful sight as Her Worship the Mayor Councillor Helen Chuah, the High Sheriff, Sir Bob Russell, councillors and representatives from the police and the army were led by the Town Sergeant and Town Crier. The costumes looked splendid against the snow and the sun shone on the golden mace. Parks and Recreation staff had checked that the ground was not frozen and that the tree, could be safely planted.

However, this would not have happened if Civic Society member Janet Tong had not suggested it in the first place. This was acknowledged at the ceremony and Janet took a turn with the spade in

adding earth on to the roots. Other celebrations are planned including lighting a beacon on 4th June.

So, the society can be proud of making a further improvement to the Castle Park and there is more evidence that people's ideas can make a difference.

Congratulations Janet.

Peter Evans

PROGRAMME ARRANGEMENTS

Saturday 3rd March 2012

Coach leaves Colchester Bus Station at 8am for a visit to Dickens' London.

Over the last few years, we have explored several Dickens connections in Kent. 2012 marks the 200th anniversary of his birth, so it seems an appropriate time to look at his childhood experiences in London - a world away from Rochester and Broadstairs. After coffee near St Paul's, we travel by coach through Dickens' London, finding out how his experiences working in a blacking factory, whilst his father was in a debtor's prison, influenced his writing. Victorian England was a time of great wealth, but also great poverty, of philanthropy and of child mortality and prostitution, all of which appear in Dickens' novels. Our guide will tell us more. We are free in Bloomsbury for lunch, with time for a quick explore - the guide will make some suggestions - and then we are off to the Museum of London where there is a major Dickens exhibition. Sound and projections recreate the atmosphere of Victorian London. There are paintings, photographs and costumes and rarely seen manuscripts of *David Copperfield* and *Bleak House* in Dickens' own writing. It is a fascinating exhibition. Tea is available at the museum.

Cost £32.

COFFEE MORNINGS

Our thanks to those members who arranged coffee mornings for the Society last year - Ruth Brown, Elisabeth and Austin Baines, Janet and Kerr Tong and Eileen Sheldon and her delightful granddaughters. We have raised a goodly amount towards our Roman Wall Interpretation Board. Is anyone else prepared to hold one, please?

REPLY SLIPS

Please return to: Jo Edwards, 43 Priory Street, Colchester CO1 2QB.
Make cheques payable to **Colchester Civic Society**.

Sunday 27th November Thames cruise Cost £32

I/We would like to come

Name

Address

Post Code

Tel.No.

Cheque for £

is enclosed



Saturday 3rd March 2012

Dickens' London

Cost £32

I/We would like to come

Name

Address

Post Code

Tel.No.

Cheque for £

is enclosed

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS 2012

This year, Heritage Open Days will be held on 8th and 9th September.

Once again I am asking for people to help steward the various properties that will be open. It has not yet been decided which those properties will be but most likely it will be the same as before. However, if anyone has a suggestion to make for a new property to be added to the list please let me know.

Last year the visitor numbers to all the properties were about the same but with some having more than before. It is thanks to those that act as stewards that the event is so very popular. I am now asking for stewards for 2012. If you have done it before you will know it is not difficult as everything is provided for you. So if you have not done it before, please consider giving two hours of your time to act as a steward. I would particularly like to hear from some of our newer members as we have a few older ones who have done it for a number of years and feel that they cannot help any more. My pool of helpers is therefore, getting very small.

Please indicate which times you can help and return the slip to me as soon as possible. It would help if you could say you can do any time on either day.

Return the slip to Miss A. C. Turner, 1 Robin Close, Great Bentley, Colchester CO7 8QH
Please reply before 30th June 2012.

I am willing to act as a steward for Heritage Open Days 2012

Saturday 8th September AM PM

Sunday 9th September AM PM

Full Name

Address

Telephone. Number

Email

To: (Removed in this digital version)

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE FOR RENEWAL 1 FEBRUARY 2012.

Subscription rates are £8 single membership, £12 joint membership and £12 for corporate membership. If you are paying by standing order please ensure that your Bank is paying the correct amount.

Please renew my membership for the year February 2012-January 2013. Your membership will lapse if not renewed by 30 June 2012. An early return of this form with your subscription would be appreciated.

Name

Address

Amount enclosed £ _____ cash/cheque made payable to **Colchester Civic Society**

GIFT AID DECLARATION – COLCHESTER CIVIC SOCIETY

Registered charity number 237885

Details of donor

Title

Surname

First name

Address

Signature

Date

I want the charity to treat as Gift Aid donation

- All subscriptions and donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise,
- All subscriptions and donations I have made since 6 April 2004 and all subscriptions and donations I make from the date of this declaration unless I notify you otherwise.
- Delete as appropriate.

Notes

- 1.This Gift Aid Declaration can be cancelled at any time by notifying Colchester Civic Society.
- 2.You must pay an amount of Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that the Charity claims on your donation.
- 3.If your circumstances change in the future and you no longer pay tax you can cancel your declaration.

You only have to complete this form once. It stays in force until you cancel it.

Return to: (removed on old digital version)