

Newsletter Number 7



Since the last newsletter there have been two visits and three meetings.

Filby. On 17 August nearly 20 members visited this delightful village and after an introductory talk by Derek Nicker he gave us a guided tour showing the magnificent flower arrangements and other projects arranged by Filby in Bloom. These consisted of the greenhouses for raising the plants, the allotments and apple orchard. The group raises money from the re-cycling it does and produces much of its own compost. It has great ties with the local school, the village hall and playing fields.

Broads Trip. A conducted tour of Burgh Castle, some of the wind pumps and areas of the Broads was very much appreciated by the group who did this visit on 28 August. Another one will be arranged next year.

AGM and a talk by Vanessa Trevelyan on Norwich City Wall and the Norwich Society was held on 11 September. Vanessa spoke about the Norwich Society's activities covered many aspects of the City's wall. It was reported that the Society is now a charity so that Gift Aid may be collected on subscriptions which gives us an extra income of 25%.

Regional meeting for Civic Trusts on Saturday 22 September. We organised this for Civic Voice, the umbrella organisation for Civic Societies, and it was run by their Chief Executive. It proved very worthwhile and Paul Davies gave an excellent presentation about the workings of the Great Yarmouth Preservation Trust. It was an opportunity to learn from other societies and to discuss Conservation Areas and the future audits which we are planning.

Aileen Mobbs gave an excellent presentation about the Maritime Festival and the recent difficulties being faced in funding the event. This was held on 2 October. All were saddened to learn that this year's Festival was the last one in which she would be in charge.

FUTURE MEETINGS: Held at Christchurch, King Street, NR30 2HL at 7.30pm

Tuesday 6 November Joe Mackintosh, CEO of SeaChange Arts, on Art and Culture in Great Yarmouth

January (Date to be confirmed) **Paul Patterson on Ideas for the development of the Market Place**

Tuesday February 19 Talk by Charles Watt, High Sheriff of Norfolk

VARIOUS SUBGROUPS

If you would like to sign up to any of the subgroups below you may do so at our meetings. Alternatively, if you cannot get to a meeting, let me know by email. hugh@sturzaker.plus.com

Litter Group. This group meets each fortnight to deal with the litter along the course of the Town Wall and associated streets. We have arranged to meet with Carl Smith, Chair of the Environment Committee, on Tuesday 20 November in the Conservative Club, 34 Pier Plain, Gorleston-on-Sea, Great Yarmouth NR31 6PE at 6pm to discuss our findings and our views about tackling litter and the seagulls. If you would like to attend please add your name to the list at the next meeting. If you cannot make it let me know.

Greening up Group. We have been making plans to provide more planters around the town and to take over the cultivation of at least three flower beds. We have been discussing the making of the planters by various voluntary groups and the use of a greenhouse to bring on plants. We are also looking at various sources of grants to help us with our plans. We are hoping to involve schools and colleges in these projects. We have asked the Council to carry out another soil analysis on South Quay to see why trees planted there died as the original report cannot be found.

Conservation Areas are “areas of special architectural and historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance”, as defined by the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. There are 19 in the Borough and 8 within the town. We are planning to audit the eight in the town using forms designed by Civic Voice so that our results will be part of a national survey. This work will give us a baseline of what needs to be done to improve these conservation areas and we will be working with Darren Barker our chief Conservation Officer.

Awards. We have decided to make three categories of awards which, hopefully, will be awarded in April. They are

- A. For shops, businesses and eating and drinking establishments
- B. New Generation Civic Pride Award. Given to a young individual, school or group in recognition of what they have done to promote pride in the town.
- C. Outstanding contribution to the Town Award. To be awarded to an individual or business that has gone that extra mile.

Applying for grants. If you have expertise in applying for grants and would like to help please let me know.

Two monthly Dinners.

The first organised by Brenda Taylor was held at Strollers in the Prom Hotel on Wednesday 26 September. The next is being held at Ambitions Restaurant at East Coast College, Suffolk Rd, Great Yarmouth NR31 0ED on **Thursday 15 November at 7pm**. The cost will be £20 and if you would like to attend please contact Ann Hacon: annhacon@yahoo.co.uk .

On Friday 12 October I had a meeting with **Brandon Lewis MP** to update him on the activities of the Society and to see if he could do anything to get the Highways Authority to look after the roads leading into the town and the roundabouts. We also discussed the charges which Norfolk County Council are going to make throughout the year to park on North Drive which will discourage visitors to the Venetian Waterways.

Membership Fees. Over half the members have signed up for this coming year. You may do this at our meetings . Alternatively you may do so through our membership secretary, Ann Hamilton. She no longer works at St.George’s on a Fridays but you may send the completed membership form below to her. Details are on the form. If you pay income tax please fill in the Gift Aid Form as we can claim £2.50 for each £10 paid.

Hugh Sturzaker

I wish to become a Member of the Civic Society of Great Yarmouth and agree with its aims and Privacy Policy. For the purpose of the Data Protection Act, the Civic Society of Great Yarmouth is the data controller in respect of your personal data. The Civic Society will use your details to send you news of special events either by post or email. Our Privacy Policy may be found on our website: www.civicsocietyGY.co.uk

Name (Please print).....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Home telephone number.....Mobile number.....

Email address.....

I enclose my cheque/cash for £10.00

(please make payable to Civic Society of Great Yarmouth)

This form may be handed in at one of the Society's events or sent to:

Ann Hamilton,
Membership Secretary,
1 Webster Way,
Caister, NR30 5XA

.....

Charity Gift Aid Declaration – Single donation

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year.

Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £10 to the Civic Society of Great Yarmouth.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Please tick box if you wish future donations to be Gift Aided

My Details:

Title _____ First name or initial(s) _____ Surname _____

Full Home address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Date _____ Signature _____

Please notify the Civic Society of Great Yarmouth if you:

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or home address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.