

THE NORTH STAFFS National Trust Association

Newsletter No. 93

and

Autumn 2012 PROGRAMME

Our Web Site – www.northstaffsnt.org.uk/



The recent excursion to Witley Court and Shobden Church was a great success. Fortunately, as this photograph from Sue Pitt shows, the weather when Witley church was visited, was most kind.



ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRIPS



Coaches depart promptly from **SCHOOL STREET**, Newcastle, behind the Jubilee Swimming Baths. Nearby there is long-stay parking. Should a member cancel a booking it is regretted that reimbursement is only possible if there is a waiting list. There will be a £2 per cheque handling charge. Members are requested not to find their own replacement. Non-members taking part in our trips will pay an additional £2 for coach outings and an additional £1 for car outings. The committee has agreed that it is only fair that members should have priority when booking trips and holidays.

Members are asked to note that it is not possible for the coach to stop at places other than School Street to pick people up or drop them off on the outward or return journeys. The coach will not wait for members who are late, either at School Street or at other pick up points. Members are advised to take careful note of when or where they will be picked up. Anyone missing a coach will have no claim on the Association.

It will greatly help organisers if you will make cheques payable to the “**The North Staffs National Trust Association**” and note that normally cheques are not cleared until after an event. Please also send a **separate cheque** and a **separate self-addressed** envelope for each separate event even when these go to one organiser. People who wish to ensure that they **sit together** on a coach should use one booking form.

Note: The committee does not consider it proper that an event should incur a loss and therefore reserves the right to cancel should there be insufficient support.

For Your Safety and Enjoyment

Please look carefully at what is involved in an outing or a holiday before booking. Consider the starting time, the length of the day, the amount of walking and stair-climbing involved, the number of times of getting on and off a coach, etc. so that you can enjoy the day to the full by being able to participate in all aspects of the outing.

If you have a problem with mobility or hearing, for example, please let the organiser know as soon as possible and we will try to arrange some help but we cannot guarantee to do so.

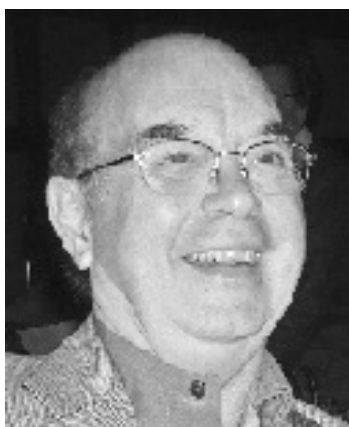
SPECIAL NOTE

Please note that the insurance carried by this Association through the National Trust does not provide Personal Accident cover for members aged 80 years and above, or for children under 10.

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A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR



I hope that you are having a happy and healthy summer and enjoying whatever good weather comes our way.

At the AGM in May I was re-elected as Chairman for another year (my second and last) as was the full committee, for which I thank you. I was particularly delighted that we also had two volunteers come forward to join the committee, Anne Beaumont and Bob Winter, who were also elected. As a consequence, the committee seems to thrive and rejuvenate itself over the years, which is as it should be.

That change is inevitable was highlighted to me (and to all) earlier this year during HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee as we were all reminded by the media and by commentators of the huge changes that have occurred in society over the 60 years of Her Majesty's reign. How fortunate we are, in many ways, at the huge increase in human knowledge over that period – but has it all been for the good? We will have our own views on that.

Also at the AGM we were asked by the membership to build up our funds reserved for donations, but also to respond to local and/or small requests for help.

I am pleased to report that we have just donated £500 to Rufford Old Hall to aid them in their (now successful) ambition to purchase some important paintings, drawings and cupboards which were on loan to them but were being sold.

More locally, we have just donated £1,000 to Biddulph Grange to pay for the

replacement of the bells in the Temple of China and to aid the cleaning and restoration of the Garden Room. As Biddulph is “our” National Trust property their interests are ours and it is always a pleasure to contribute to them when we can.

These, we feel, are worthy beneficiaries of our funds and we hope that you agree.

I commend the new social programme to you and hope to see you at the many events. You will notice that, following our very successful Christmas Evenings at Ford Green Hall, our Christmas Social this year will be at Gladstone Pottery Museum where up to 100 of us can get together on the one evening as the climax of the calendar year. Please be one of the 100, if you can.

David Dumbelton

John Beaumont 1943 – 2012

John was this Association’s enthusiastic and committed Newsletter Editor until his death earlier this year. At his funeral in March he was called “a kind and gentle man, a man to be trusted, kind and fun”. He was also described as “a rock we all love; a lovely person to the end; calm in the storm”.

He was a friend, to me personally and to so many other people, and he is greatly missed, despite his choice of sun hat and his cautious (!) driving style. He was a very active man, with interests in photography, U3A, the church and many others.

John was a deeply religious man and was a Lay Preacher at Trentham Parish Church; I always joked with John that I would like him to hold my funeral service but in the end it was we who attended his. On his death his widow, Anne, struggled through the tangle of his computer passwords, all of which were words from the Bible.

To John I say, God Bless You, thank you and may you Rest in Peace. To Anne, I send on your behalf our sincere condolences and best wishes for the future.

David Dumbelton

Meet the Committee

Peter Thompson.

Peter, son of an RAF Officer, lived a nomadic existence between 1943 and 1953 having lived two or so years in Guildford, Newark, Sleaford, Swindon, Bury St. Edmunds, Bulawayo (S.Rhodesia), Devizes and Marlborough.

By the time he had reached 10, his parents became concerned with the lack of his academic continuity and packed him off to an all boy boarding school at Stamford in Lincolnshire. He spent 9 years at Stamford and left with 'A' levels. During his time at school he had also met Anne, his bride-to-be, at a joint activity with Stamford High School for Girls.

He was awarded a cadetship to the Royal Air Force College and spent 3 years training there. He graduated from Cranwell in 1965 as a flight navigator on a permanent commission. After undergoing an advanced navigation course at RAF Stradishall, near Bury St. Edmunds, he was posted to RAF Transport Command to fly Hastings aircraft at RAF Colerne close to Bath. While there he married his wife, Anne, and started a family of two sons. His next posting was to RAF Fairford to fly Hercules aircraft. Unfortunately he suffered a serious illness, aged 26, on this tour which resulted in his being invalided from the RAF as a Flight Lieutenant.



He obtained new employment at Filton/Bristol in the Concorde Support Division in their Aircraft Service School. The future of Concorde did not seem secure and he joined the Michelin Tyre Company in Stoke on Trent as a trainee industrial engineer. He was later promoted and trained as a personnel manager, a position he kept for 21 years. He was transferred to a consultancy group (MPCG) within the Michelin Tyre Company and became an HR Consultant specialising in career outplacement.

He retired from Michelin in 2001 but was invited to become a self-employed consultant with MPCG for 3 years. He is now fully retired and enjoys having three delightful grand children to play with. In addition to his work as Vice Chairman of the North Staffs National Trust Association he works as an unpaid volunteer for the Ministry of Justice both at local level and also at county level.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, September 18 – Talk at the NS Conference Centre at 7.30 pm Barbara Andrew talks about “*Grandma was a Suffragette*”

The sub-title of what is likely to be a fascinating talk is “*One Woman’s Part in the Votes for Women Campaign*” and the speaker uses a collection of memorabilia left to Barbara (a member of this Association) by her grandmother who was a Suffragette in London between 1906 and 1909. About 20 artefacts are shown and some will be passed around; we will be expected to learn and sing a Suffragette marching song and there will be a slide show and a handout will be available.



This highly regarded talk is a good opening for the Autumn season.

Thursday, September 27: Car Outing to Heath House, Tean, Staffs, ST10 4HA.

Meet at 2.30 pm.

Mr Ben Philips has kindly offered members a visit to the Heath House, a spectacular mansion that bridges the Regency and Victorian periods boasting more than 60 rooms. John Burton Philips (1785-1847) and Joanna Philips (1795-1858) began building the present house which replaced an earlier dwelling occupied by the Philips family who bought the estate in the 1680s.

Members should arrive at the Heath House not later than 2.30pm when they will be given a guided tour of the house followed by afternoon tea/coffee and cakes and an amble around the garden. There is ample car parking.

Cost: £12 (non-members £13) includes entrance, tour, afternoon tea and cakes. Please apply to Peter Moxon, Millstone House, Butterton, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs, ST5 4EB enclosing a cheque and a stamped addressed envelope. Tel. 01782 616337.

Closing date 13 September 2012. **Urgent booking required.**
Directions on application.

**Wednesday, October 3 -Talk at the NS Conference Centre
at 7.30 pm**

Captain Gwyn Williams, former Concorde pilot, “*My Flying Career*”

As a prelude to our visit to Manchester Airport for a guided tour of the former British Airways flagship, Concorde G-BOAC, we are extremely fortunate to welcome a former Concorde pilot to talk to us. Gwyn Williams has now retired from flying but he was a highly qualified pilot and his talk will take us through an impressive flying career. His military career spans from flying as an RAF fighter/ground attack pilot, an all weather interceptor pilot with the Canadian Air Force and an RAF fast jet Qualified Flying Instructor. His civilian flying experience is equally impressive passing through business jet flying, commercial jet flying in Boeing: 757s, 767s and 777s to finally flying Concorde. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and members' guests will be welcome.

**Wednesday, October 10: Car Outing to Halfpenny Green
Vineyard, DY7 5EP, and Kinver (Holy Austin) Rock Houses,
DY7 6DL.**

Meet at 10.30 am.

This is a full day, two-location car outing where we visit the vineyard in the morning for a look at the winery, followed by a look at the vines and then on to a tutored wine tasting plus a slide show covering a year at the vineyard.



Optional lunch (must be pre-booked) will be available at Halfpenny Green after which we drive the short distance to the famous Kinver Holy Austin Rock Houses (NT) where we have a guided tour of the site – there is a café on site. Whilst the vineyard is essentially flat the Rock Houses, by their very nature, are up a quite steep hill. We then drive home after what should be a busy but fascinating day.

Cost: £ 9.00 (£10.00 for non-members)

Please apply to David Dumbelton, 32 The Lea, Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 8DY with your cheque and a medium-sized reply paid envelope.

Phone 01782 641765 for more details.

Closing date for applications: October 1

Thursday, October 18: Car outing to Highfields, near Audlem, Cheshire. Maximum 25. Meet at 2.30 pm.

The visit by members in May was heavily oversubscribed so Mr and Mrs J Baker have kindly proposed a second visit for members.

The land was owned by the Dod family since Saxon times and they built the present house, a black and white yeoman's manor, in 1645. It passed by marriage to the architect William Baker in 1763 and is still owned by the Baker family. The house has been added to over the years, without detracting from its cosy charm, all the downstairs rooms having fine fire places. Highfields features in Simon Jenkins book *England's Thousand Best Houses*.

Priority bookings will be given to members who applied for the earlier visit and were disappointed provided that their application for this visit, and cheque, are received on or prior to September 20.

Members should arrive at Highfields not later than 2.30pm when they will be given a guided tour of the house followed by tea/coffee and biscuits. Ample parking.

Cost: £7.50, to include tour and tea/coffee and biscuits.

Please apply to Peter Moxon, Millstone House, Butterton, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs, ST5 4EB enclosing a cheque and a stamped addressed envelope.

Tel: 01782 -616337. Directions will be given upon application.

Closing date 4 October.

Wednesday, October 24: Car outing to Manchester Airport for a conducted tour of Concorde and an opportunity to visit the Aviation Viewing Platform. Meet at 2.00 pm.

Following the talk to us by Captain Gwyn Williams, a former Concorde pilot, a visit has been arranged to undertake a conducted tour of the flagship of the Concorde fleet, G-BOAC. The aircraft is in a purpose-built hangar adjacent to

the main runway. The tour will commence at 1400hrs and members should meet at the Concorde departure gate at that time. The tour will last approximately one hour.

The Runway Visitor Park is open from 0800 and closes at 1700 for those who would like to use the Aircraft Viewing Platform to watch the aircraft take off and land. Of special interest will be the arrival and departure of the largest civilian passenger aircraft in the world – the Airbus A380. There is a glass-fronted restaurant, with a beautiful view of the runway, where you can have lunch or have a cup of tea or coffee.



Airfields are invariably very windy places and you should wrap up warmly. There are steps leading up to the aircraft and suitable shoes should be worn. If you want to visit Concorde but not to watch aeroplanes taking off and landing John Lewis has a store very close to the airport at Handforth Dean!

Cost: £16.50 (non members £17.50) to include the guided tour of Concorde and airport parking. Please apply to Peter Thompson, 220 Seabridge Lane, Newcastle, Staffordshire, ST53LS .Tel: 01782 613397 enclosing a cheque and stamped addressed envelope. Closing date: October 17. Please provide the names of all members and guests travelling with you when completing your application form. A commemorative personalised souvenir will be presented to each visitor on the completion of the tour.

Sunday, November 4: Walk to the Fault Crater. Meet at 10.45 am.

RAF Maintenance Unit No. 21 (“21 MU”) opened in a disused gypsum mine in Fauld, Staffordshire in 1939, and stored aircraft bombs for the RAF, and later also the USAF. In November 1944 it blew up, with the loss of seventy lives.

This was probably the largest ever explosion caused by man until Hiroshima, and still the largest ever in England. The resulting crater is some 250 yards across and 120 yards deep. It remains a chilling sight today, a place to stand and to wonder.

We will start our walk in the nearby village of Hanbury, at the Cock Inn (itself damaged in the explosion and rebuilt after the war), and take a circular route through the village, passing the remains of the gypsum mines, and on to the crater itself. Then it's back across farmland to the Cock Inn for lunch.

The total distance walked will be about 5 miles, and we will cross about 10 stiles. If you would like to visit the crater but not take on the full walk, I can show you the easy route there from the pub – about a mile and a half, there and back.

We will meet at 10.45 am on the Cock Inn car park, and expect to be back there for lunch at 1.15pm.

Cost £2.00 for members, £2.50 for guests (pay on the day). Children and dogs welcome at no charge.


Book your place with Richard Adams: email to rjadams@doctors.org.uk, or by post to: Gables End, Holly Bank, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 8FT, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Telephone: 01782 646054

Tuesday, November 13 – Talk at the NS Conference Centre at 7.30 pm. Danny Wells on “Cook’s Tours –the achievements of Thomas Cook and his Son”.

Danny Wells trained as a history teacher and gained an MA in Architectural History at Keele University. He tells the fascinating story of Thomas Cook and his son, John Mason Cook- the ‘*Julius and Augustus Caesar of modern travel*’.

Thomas Cook (1808-1892) was born in Melbourne, Derbyshire eight years into the century and died eight years before its end. His life, therefore, effectively spanned the 19th century, a time of dramatic change. When he was born, the words ‘tourism’ and ‘sightseeing’ were unknown yet by the time of his death, both he and his son had played key roles opening up the world to popular tourism. It was also an age of great turbulence and not all ran smoothly between the temperance reforming father and his businesslike son.

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Tuesday, November 20: Coach outing to Samlesbury Hall, near Preston.

Coach leaves at 9.30 am.

This half-timbered black and white mediaeval house was built in 1325 and has experienced a lively history before falling into dilapidation in the early years of the 20th century. Thankfully, it was saved from demolition by a group of businessmen during the 1920s when a charitable trust was set up to preserve and maintain it for future generations. On arrival we shall be served with tea/coffee and biscuits before enjoying a fully guided tour of the house (approx. 1½ hours). We shall then partake of a soup and sandwich lunch (included in the price) before the afternoon when you will be free to view the grounds and the house's other attractions. Art, antiques and shopping are all on offer and could even be combined as the West Wing houses a wide range of quality and affordable antique furniture, collectables, objets d'art, vintage clothing and jewellery. Exhibitions of Lancashire artists, photography, mixed media and fabric are also offered in two exhibition rooms and the gift shop is a treasure trove of speciality goods and gifts inspired by the county's finest food producers and creative artists. Start your Christmas shopping here!

The Galleries are accessible via a chair-lift, but the upstairs of the old hall and the history rooms are accessed via a staircase.

Coach departs School Street at 9.30 am to return by around 5.30 pm.

Cost: £29.50 (non-members £31.50) to include coach, driver's tip, admission and tour of Samlesbury Hall with refreshments on arrival, soup and sandwich lunch.

Please apply to Mrs Rose Wheat, 12, West Avenue, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs, ST5 ONB, enclosing a cheque and a stamped addressed envelope. Tel: 01782 616113.

Closing date for applications: September 20.

EARLY BOOKING ESSENTIAL.

Christmas Social Event:

Tuesday, December 18 - Christmas Social Evening at Gladstone Pottery Museum from 6.30 pm.

Following last Christmas's enjoyable and successful Christmas Social Evenings at Ford Green Hall we have now arranged a similar get together at Gladstone Pottery Museum where we they can accommodate as many people as want to

come, within reason, on the same evening.

We will be entertained by a Christmas Story Teller, have a guided tour of the Museum, meet a role player, see some demonstrations and partake of mince pies and mulled wine in the tile gallery. Gladstone has a superb gift shop of local items and there will be a very useful 15% discount on the evening, so you might decide to delay buying *all* your present purchases until the night!

This will be a wonderful opportunity to get together with friends before the hectic Christmas period gets really under way.

Cost: £11.00 (non-members £12.00)

Please apply to David Dumbelton, 32 The Lea, Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 8DY with your cheque and a medium-sized reply paid envelope.

Phone 01782 641765 for more details.

Closing date for applications: December 1.

Thursday, 24 January 2013 - Coach outing Manchester: A Day with the Hallé

Banish winter blues, and come and hear the award winning Hallé orchestra in their Manchester home, the Bridgewater Hall! This is a matinée performance commencing 2.15pm so no late night return to a dark Newcastle car park.

Programme – Mendelssohn *The Hebrides Overture* (Fingal's Cave)

Tchaikovsky *Piano Concerto No.1*

Brahms *Symphony No. 3*

The morning in Manchester is free for you to explore the area, its many museums and art galleries (a map and leaflets will be supplied) or to go shopping, no questions asked! Alternatively, you may prefer to join our specially organised morning *Walking Tour: Mr Hallé's Manchester* (length one and a half hours, limited to 25 participants). Starting from the Bridgewater Hall in the company of expert guide Andrew Derbyshire, explore the C19 Manchester that Charles Hallé the orchestra's founder would have known. This will include (with possible inside visits) the Radisson Hotel, the former Free Trade Hall, and the magnificent Town Hall. A third choice is an exclusive *Pre-performance Talk and Visit to the Hallé Archive* (length one hour limited to 25 participants). This archive of the oldest continuous professional orchestra in Britain contains an amazing collection of musical artefacts varying from the predictable such as the Wagner letters, scores by Elgar and Vaughan Williams,

photographs and conducting batons to the bizarre such as Sir John Barbirolli's camp bed! After a talk by Eleanor Roberts (Hallé Archivist as seen on TV's Antiques Road Show) there will be a chance to ask questions and examine a representative selection from the archive.

Depart School Street 9.30 am (promptly) and arrive back 5.30 pm (subject to traffic).

Cost £33.50 (£35.50 for guests) to include Centre Stalls tickets (face value £26), concert programme worth £3.00 (subject to availability), coach travel and driver's gratuity. In addition, the Guided Walk is £5.00 person (limited to 25) and Archive Talk and Visit £5.00 (limited to 25)

EARLY APPLICATION ESSENTIAL .

PLEASE NOTE – CHEQUES WILL BE CASHED IN OCTOBER 2012.

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Interesting Information for Internet Users

Many of us are of a certain age and a lot of us may be interested in old films – so here's a good website to look out!

If you search in the British Library Film Collection website and view the titles of some 80 old British short films made around 50 years ago you might be surprised; make your choice and watch each film which is usually about 10 minutes in length. They are fascinating and the two that caught my eye were "Colour in Clay" about the pottery industry and "The People's Land" about the National Trust. I feel sure that you will find some gems there to suit your taste and interests.
David Dumbelton

Christmas shopping event at Lyme Park, 24 October.

If you are not on the Manchester airport trip, Paul Mansell, the retail Manager at Lyme Park (NT), near Stockport, has invited all North Staffs Association members to a Christmas Shopping event at their shop on Wednesday 24 October, between 12 noon and 3.30pm. He promises a mince pie and a glass of mulled wine, as well as a 20% discount on all purchases in the Hall Shop. The house is closed that day; the park and gardens will be open.



WELCOME

Members who have recently joined us
are

Barbara Rickson
Peter and Margaret Wood
Gwen Dilks
Ann George
Sheila Tomlinson
F J Thomas
Alan and Maureen Waterfall
A D and J A Bailey
Richard and Jane Mayer
Helen Breen
Glenis Glover

We warmly welcome them and hope
that they will find our events a
rewarding enhancement of their
National Trust membership

Do you take photographs on National Trust excursions? If so, your Newsletter editor would welcome copies of the best to include in future editions. It would also be most helpful if those of you with a talent for sketching or watercolour painting would supply original art work, or photographs of your pictures, for the same purpose. All originals would, of course, be returned and fully acknowledged as your work.

Contact Paul Anderton email : panda.berneav@btinternet.com

Reports on previous events

Tuesday 6 March Coach outing National Media Museum Bradford

After a foggy start we drove into sunshine as we neared Bradford to arrive at the National Media Museum. We found refreshments first, then went into the Kodak Centre to see a wonderful display of cameras and their history from Niépce's first image in 1826 and Talbot's first negative 1857. The Great Exhibition was a showcase for photography. Cameras throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries were displayed from the simplest wooden boxes to the digital cameras of today.

The TV room showed lots of old TV sets and we read the news as if being televised in the production zone. Children danced in the virtual studio. In a down-memory-lane room we picked out the different TVs and videos we had once possessed. We also enjoyed the Magic Factory with the hands on activities (I want a convex mirror at home it made me so slim). It was so good we went back later for another go.

The Animation Floor was so interesting showing the cartoons, puppets and graphics we see so often in films and advertisements. Profiles showed us how the projectionists prepared the films. Some of the group visited the IMEX theatre and enjoyed the films. A lovely day also included enjoying a stroll outside, down into the town by the civic hall where fountains and gardens formed an attractive town centre.

John Huson

Sunday 11 March Trentham and Barlaston Walk

The sun was shining, it was a beautiful Spring morning as 34 walkers and 4 dogs accepted Richard's challenge.

We left an already busy Trentham gardens, passing the Church and into the Park. A climb to the Seven Sisters [sadly no longer there] raised ones heart rate and a short rest whilst the dogs were put on leashes. We proceeded through Kings Wood with no sightings of deer reported. The walk took us down into the valley with steps to aid our climb out. The Monkey Park was on the left but

they were keeping out of sight. Now we were on reasonably level ground and heading for Oak Wood and the Duke of Sutherland monument. Considerable work on the pathways and shrub clearance has recently taken place. A pause whilst Richard advised us of the good and bad attributes of the Duke. Not so many good ones!!!

Walking downhill took us through Tittensor village. Over the A34 our route was across the fields, a bridge enabled us to cross the River Trent and proceed to Barlaston. Through these fields ran the original Stafford to Stoke road. Passing through Barlaston we made our way to the canal for the final leg.

David Dumbleton gave us a short but informative talk about the Trentham lock and the Trent and Mersey canal. Crossing Barlaston Old Road again enabled us to cross the golf course, with very few people playing, for a pleasant lunch at the Italian restaurant in the Garden centre.

Thanks to Richard and his helpers for organising the challenge.

Ken Amos

Tuesday 13 March - Talk by June Pickerill: *1/8d In My Pocket*

June Pickerill presented an interesting and enjoyable talk describing the research she had carried out when she stumbled across her previously unknown Australian relations. Her story began when she and her husband were clearing out an elderly aunt's house and discovered nine letters in an old cocoa tin. These enthralled June and started her on a project that would play a major part in her life for many years and lead her to write and publish a book.

The letters were written in the middle of the nineteenth century by an ancestor of her husband to his family in South Staffordshire. He was a devout Primitive Methodist and June speculated that his decision to emigrate was driven by a wish to better himself and to gain more religious freedom.

June only had time to read three of the letters, but the recurring themes were his religious beliefs; his yearning for his wife to join him, which she finally did; the commercial success of the brick-making business that he set up; the building of Methodist chapels and a wish to return home when he had made sufficient money. Sadly this last wish was not achieved, despite his financial success, because having sold the brickworks and bought a sheep farm he was drowned

when transporting wool to a ship.

June described travelling to South Australia to meet heritage groups who helped her to piece together her story and find many of his 300-400 descendants.

Sue and John Till

Monday 16 April Car outing to St. Mary's Church, Nantwich and Dorfold Hall

Members of the Association visited Nantwich, seeing the parish church and Dorfold Hall. St Mary's Church looked its best, decorated for Easter, with an Easter garden, and a spectacular winding sheet let down the full height of the tower and draped over the Empty Cross. We heard about the church from its Cistercian origins through the damage done by Civil War prisoners and its restoration by George Gilbert Scott, down to the addition of a magnificent 'Creation' window, required to educate the laity in a post-Christian age just as its predecessors were in the Middle Ages. Perhaps the church's best-known treasures are the gothic misericords, but there is also a wealth of modern needlework, done by the very active tapestry group over the last thirty-five years, showing it a church of the present day as well as of the past. On one occasion they even brought a Rolls Royce into the church, to show the relevance of modern industry to the church's life.



After lunch we went on to nearby Dorfold Hall. We were shown over the house, hearing about the owners from the Wilbrahams down to the Roundells. The house, later remodelled by Wyatt, was built in 1616 – and had a statue of Shakespeare in the garden to commemorate the fact. Amongst the spectacular features is the magnificent barrel-vaulted Jacobean ceiling, one of the finest in England. We also looked round the gardens, which were very colourful with spring flowers, and include a magnificent thousand-year old Spanish chestnut, the last survivor of Delamere Forest.

Chris Wain

**Sunday 22 April Evening Coach outing to the Halle Orchestra,
Bridgewater Hall, Manchester.**

Those of us who had previously enjoyed one of Penny's trips to the impressive concert hall in Manchester had high expectations for the evening that lay ahead of us. We were not to be disappointed.

The timing of the clear run to Manchester allowed us to enjoy a relaxed start to the evening over a glass of wine – or two (no one was driving) – and amiable chat in the warm and intimate Stalls Café Bar area, before heading into the stunning, acoustically perfect auditorium, where our comfortable seats allowed us to sit back and enjoy the musical feast awaiting us.

Conductor Heinrich Schiff opened the evening with the gentle melodies and stirring fanfares of Rossini's *William Tell Overture*. This was followed by, what was for me the highlight of the evening, Liszt's *Piano Concerto No 2 in A* played with remarkable intensity and beauty by the Russian pianist, Polina Leschenko – looking too young for her vast achievements. She did start performing at six years old – or am I just getting old? After the interval, excerpts from Suite 1 & 2 of Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* kept us enthralled with the eight cameos of the great love story.

We headed out into a cool evening to be ably chauffeured home by our "coachman", tired but exhilarated. Thanks to Penny for arranging the evening – sorry you couldn't share it with us this time. We look forward to the next time.

Marion Lycett

Monday 23 April – talk at North Staffs Conference Centre:

Dr. Pamela Sambrook

Bringing back servants and the restoration of country house domestic life

Pamela Sambrook's long experience in museum and country house management includes a period as Curator at Shugborough and many years since acting as an advisor to the National Trust. It was at Shugborough that she undertook pioneering work in the restoration of the laundry, kitchens and brew house. Her illustrated talk outlined the development of change in the presentation of domestic life, from the publication of books in the 1960s which hardly recognized the role of the servants, to the recent public interest through films and TV series such as *Downton Abbey*.

The main thrust of the talk was identifying the present dilemma for the National Trust of appropriate restoration and/or conservation of its properties. Caution was expressed that the building, pictures, furniture etc. was only one theme and there is a new phase developing depicting the domestic life. Acknowledgement was given to the exciting development of the use of



documentary evidence to identify the roles of the domestic servants through websites, databases, reunions and exhibitions and the increasing involvement of traditional craftsmen. However, how far should the National Trust use the material to give their visitors a glimpse of actors/volunteers re-enacting the roles of the domestic servants? Do we want to be bystanders to the role-play or do we want to be able to interact with the servants?

It was a very interesting and thought-provoking talk on the progress of the portrayal of domestic life in the country house. Our thanks go to Rose Wheat for arranging the talk.

Anne Thompson

Monday 14 May A stroll to Stoke with Cynthia Dumbelton

Having researched the meeting point on London Road for our forthcoming “Stroll to Stoke” I was struggling to imagine that anything of real interest lay ahead of us. How wrong I was. Experience should have told me that Cynthia is a genius at winking out the extraordinary from the most unlikely places.

Despite the intermittent heavy rain 20 intrepid NT members sheltered by the Timothy Trow Monument before heading off down London Road where, in Shelbourne Street, we were surprised to see houses with a line of gold bricks with the words “Gold Coin” scrolled to honour the racehorse whose win at the local Boother Races provided the builder with the funds to build the street. Further on we found “The Villas” whose faded grandeur still reflects their past glory and where we were privileged to be welcomed into a home by present owners of a Class 1 Villa .

For me the highlight was the visit to the London Road Bakery – often passed unseen – where the aroma of bread baking drew us to the present bakery still

using the original oven. Despite the desolation around the abandoned Goss Bottle Ovens there is significant evidence of regeneration in the ornamental gates, railings and *trompe l'oeil* depiction of a canal boat, created by local artist



Rob Pointon set his picture in the pavement where the canal was once viewed from a bridge

Rob Pointon. Finally the Herbert Minton Building and the Colin Minton Campbell statue remind us of arguably the area's finest pottery.

Who would have believed all this could be found in a stroll down London Road? Thank you Cynthia for providing such a fascinating insight into some of our city's treasures.

Marion Lycett

Tuesday 15 May Talk after the AGM by Fiona Wallace :
"Behind the Scenes at the New Vic Theatre".

The New Vic's Executive Director, Fiona Wallace, gave an excellent presentation on the history of the New Vic Theatre and what goes on behind the scenes to put on a theatre production. The original Victoria Theatre

Company opened its doors in a disused cinema in Hartshill in 1962, under the founding director Peter Cheeseman. It was the first permanent professional theatre company in Britain to perform “in the round”. In 1986, having outgrown its premises, it moved to its present location and at that time, it changed its name to The New Vic Theatre.

Peter Cheeseman retired in 1998 after 38 years of untiring dedication to the theatre’s cause. He was replaced as Artistic Director by Gwenda Hughes who adopted an increasingly outward looking and collaborative approach to the community. She redefined the ways that a theatre can contribute to the cultural, educational, social, recreational and economic lives of the community. This eventually led to setting up the Educational Department and the Borderlines Programme which enables and promotes social inclusion in the community. These two departments account for a third of the company’s work.

Fiona went on to tell us how self-sufficient the theatre company is in having its own extremely professional costume production department as well as the facility to manufacture their own scenery and props. Using as an example the imminent production of *Far From The Madding Crowd*, she took us through, stage by stage, how the theatre committee selects a production, chooses the director, followed by casting and everything else that is necessary to stage a successful theatre production. Rather surprisingly, few rehearsals take place in the theatre itself, as so often the whole process moves at such a pace there isn’t the time.

She also went on to talk a little about the more popular productions such as The Uncle Eric Show, and the Christmas plays which regularly run to full houses and, equally important, are profitable productions.

This really was a splendid presentation and very well received by all.

Bob Winter

Monday 21 May- Car outing to Capesthorpe Hall.

On the first summer’s day since March, we joyfully assembled in front of Capesthorpe Hall where we were met by our guide, Val. Before entering the house Val explained the history of the landscape around us. Until the eighteenth century, the hall, chapel and village of Capesthorpe were situated in what is now the parkland, until all were demolished to provide a splendid view

for the new hall. On this occasion, the remains of a Roman road were discovered and the presence of a Bronze Age tumulus in the grounds indicated activity in the area before the arrival of the Capesthorne family, the first of only three families to have owned the estate. Val's knowledge of these three families, the Capesthorne, the Wards and the Davenports, was extensive and she kept us informed and entertained about the more notable or eccentric members throughout the tour.



Inside the chapel at Capesthorne Hall

The interiors were delightful- no shabby chic here- and all the rooms were light and airy unless the nature of the collection within meant that low lighting levels were necessary. I particularly admired the saloon and its gorgeous Sevres porcelain in a brilliant shade of blue called *bleu celeste*. Even the knowledge that it was actually chipped didn't detract from its appearance. At one time, before an especially hard-up Bromley-Davenport had to realize his assets, the hall contained many magnificent paintings including a Giotto. This was sold with all the others but a most unusual version of it remains in the family chapel. From the outside this building is a plain Georgian edifice, but the tribute of a grieving widow of another B-D squire transformed the interior into an ornate and colourful spectacle with carved wooden panelling, seven stained glass windows (each dedicated to their father by one of his children), Doulton terracotta plaques and the crowning glory, the golden mosaic reredos in which

the saintly figures were replaced by portraits of the deceased and his family!

A stroll through the garden and the bluebell walk followed by tea in the café ended a wonderful visit. Many thanks to Peter Moxon for arranging yet another enjoyable outing, once again he did us proud.

Rose Wheat

Thursday, 31 May : Car Outing to Highfields

The romance of Highfields starts as one leaves the main A525 road turning into Kettle Lane. After a short distance a beautiful black and white half-timbered lodge comes into view, tempting one on. Turning into the straight farm drive by the lodge and passing through luscious green fields one approaches a large farm complex but still no sign of one's destination. Bearing right off the farm drive and passing through some trees, Highfields, an enchanting timbered manor house, appears beckoning one inside.

The charm of Highfields immediately brings a warmth to one's inner being. The date 1641 is carved in the stone work of the porch and on passing through the door one is immediately enveloped in a time warp of Baker memorabilia. The house is full of delightful dark wood furniture, mostly oak, adorned with family ornaments. Several of the rooms have beautifully carved ornate fireplaces, necessary to repel the draughts from under doorways and ill-fitting windows. Many walls are adorned with paintings of historic and modern family portraits hanging in a slightly higgledy-piggledy manner, all adding to Highfields' charm

A cup of tea and a biscuit enabled members to soak up the atmosphere of the house and to reflect upon the very warm welcome given by Mrs. Susan Baker and her mother-in-law before retracing one's steps along Kettle Lane.

Note: Much interesting information concerning the involvement of Highfields in our nation's history can be found on the internet.

Tuesday 12 June : Car outing to Sugnall Walled Garden.

The wall in question is a magnificent structure, built in 1737 and comprising a quarter of a million bricks; the garden within, a two acre twenty first century reconstruction based on the original pattern and using the best traditional and modern horticultural techniques.

After a welcoming glass of wine or fruit juice, Mr and Mrs Jacques showed us around their property, each contributing their own specialised knowledge to the story. Mr Jacques told us the history of the various families who had owned the estate from the Middle Ages through to his own ancestor, who had manufactured carbolic in the nineteenth century. We toured the remains of the Jacobean and Georgian halls and heard how the quarter of a million bricks were made only fields away by travelling brick-makers for 5/- per thousand. Mrs Jacques entertained us with her knowledge of the garden's many trees – over 200 apple and pear trees and just about every other fruit grown in this country including medlars, peaches and greengages (Sugnall's fruit juice is in such demand that it was already sold out)- vegetables and bees, a settled swarm of which we saw at close quarters as we moved quickly on!

At the end of this most interesting tour, we enjoyed the produce of the garden as a delicious supper and many resolved to return to one of the monthly farmers' markets held there and perhaps to further sample the delicious food.

Many thanks to Penny and Terry for organising this most enjoyable evening and for ensuring that though the sky was foreboding at times, we experienced not a drop of rain - a rare experience this Jubilee month.

Rose Wheat

Saturday 23 June coach excursion to Shobden Church Food & Wine Festival and Witley Court

A green and pleasant journey (no motorways) to Shobdon in Herefordshire. The coach having squeezed into Shobdon with the help of a local runner, we headed for the Wedgwood Church to admire its light, white interior with pale blue decorative motifs. The brilliance of the light was emphasised by the intense blue and red of flower decoration on the pew ends and the glowing colours of the windows.

Outside, pausing to admire a four foot diameter pan of bubbling paella, the next objective was the food and wine marquee. Lots to see here, and lots to taste :- breads, croissants, pates, cheeses, meat, sausages, cakes, vegetables, sauces, preserves. Back on the coach we had time to picnic on our purchases on the way to Witley Court.

This is the ruined shell of a huge house; it was badly damaged by fire and subsequently looted. It and its surroundings have been cared for by English

Heritage in recent years. The lake is rich in fish again and a home to water birds. In the bare ballroom one can imagine elegantly dressed phantom dancers whisking around, 'footing it featly, here and there.' The Perseus and Andromeda fountain was 'fired' for about half an hour- many jets and not much wind so there was a lovely display.

A nice ghost story:- various people, including baddies engaged in looting, have seen the figure of a man with a short beard at one of the windows. At that point in the house there is no floor, so, not an intruder unless a very ingenious one.

Now, en route to tea (yummy scones) another church, entirely different from Shobdon. This one had lavish gilding, richly coloured windows, and a huge and elaborate memorial sculpture. Our arrival interrupted a string quartet, who vanished in the direction of the tea room, not too unwillingly. The church is noted for panels painted by Antonio Belucci.

We had a smooth journey home - our thanks to our driver. And many thanks to Ralph and James the organisers for a day of varied enjoyments.

Georgina Pritchard

Monday 24 June A Stroll Round Stoke (2)

Due to popular demand, a second group undertook the same walk with Cynthia Dumbelton, as reported by Marion Lycett, but this time on a warm midsummer evening. Armed with Cynthia's comprehensive handout, I was immediately struck by the importance of London Road in the development to the industrial and cultural life of Stoke starting in the late 18th century. Transport proved to be fundamental with the building of the canal, a branch of the Trent and Mersey main line canal and the introduction of the tramway.

One family, the Mintons, not only became important pottery manufacturers but I was very impressed to learn about their philanthropic projects providing the community with various amenities, including a municipal library, public baths and a contribution to the construction of the new sewage system. Several prominent Stoke inhabitants initiated a unique development of 24 houses, known as 'The Villas' by setting up an organization to secure finance, build, and eventually own their own houses. Building materials were sourced locally, eg: stone quarried in Hartshill and bricks made from clay on the site.

One entrepreneur's heritage continues today – the London Road Bakehouse . The coal-fired oven today provides bread sold in their shop and at Newcastle Market (every Friday by the Guildhall) and various local Farmers' Markets – I urge you to try some, it is delicious! Stoke City FC Management recommend the low GI bread for their players to provide them with energy on the pitch. Thank you Cynthia for a very enjoyable evening.

Anne Thompson

Wednesday 27 June Walk to Alderley Edge.

It was a fine morning as we gathered at the National Trust car park at Alderley Edge in anticipation of another well-planned walk led by Richard Adams. Richard had modified his intended route to avoid some of the more muddy conditions resulting from the recent heavy rain. This meant that the lower slopes and steep hill were to be omitted.

Leaving the car park just after 10.00 am we walked through the woods and crossed the Macclesfield road to gather at the clearing by Windmill Wood. Conditions were a little muddy underfoot before we reached more open ground with wild orchids and clear views of Jodrell Bank and the Cheshire Plain. Working our way back across the road we admired the view from the Edge across to Woodford where we could see one of the planes. Our route then took in a number of the prominent landmarks including the gated mine workings known as the Devil's Grave, The Beacon dating from the Spanish Armada, Stormy Point and the Druids Circle before returning to the car park via the old sandstone quarry. Many of the landmarks feature in the book entitled "*The Weirdstone of Brisingamen*".

The Wizard had a good menu with a wide variety of enticing dishes which they managed to serve in reasonable time especially since we did not pre-order. Several of the men also enjoyed a pint of locally brewed real ale.

Many thanks to Richard and Nikki for a lovely day out and to Stella their poodle who is much admired by our border collie. More adventurous members may be interested to know that guided tours of the underground workings are offered to the public on open days in April and September. Details and booking forms available on line at www.derbysc.org.uk/alderley

Peter & Sally Jones.

BOOKING DETAILS

Thursday, September 27: Car Outing to Heath House, Tean, Staffs, ST10 4HA.

Meet by 2.30 pm.

Cost: £12 (non-members £13) includes entrance, tour, afternoon tea and cakes. Please apply to Peter Moxon, Millstone House, Butterton, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs, ST5 4EB enclosing a cheque and a stamped addressed envelope. Tel. 01782 616337.

Closing date 13 September 2012.

Urgent booking required.

Directions on application.

SEE OVER PAGE

BOOKING DETAILS L

CAR OUTING:

Wednesday, October 10 – Car Outing to Halfpenny Green Vineyard (DY7 5EP) and Kinver (Holy Austin) Rock Houses (DY7 6DL) – 10.30 am

Cost: £ 9.00 (£10.00 for non-members)

Please apply to David Dumbelton, 32 The Lea, Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 8DY with your cheque and a medium-sized reply paid envelope.

Phone 01782 641765 for more details.

Closing date for applications: October 1

SEE OVER PAGE

CAR OUTING

Thursday 27 September: Car Outing to Heath House, Tean, Staffs, ST10 4HA.

Name (s)	Association number	£
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Total £	

NAME, ADDRESS

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tel number email address

FOR BOOKING DETAILS SEE REVERSE OF THIS FORM

CAR OUTING:

Wednesday, October 10 – Car Outing to Halfpenny Green Vineyard (DY7 5EP) and Kinver (Holy Austin) Rock Houses (DY7 6DL) – 10.30 am

Name (s)	Association number	£
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Total £	

NAME, ADDRESS

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tel number email address

FOR BOOKING DETAILS SEE REVERSE OF THIS FORM

BOOKING DETAILS

Thursday, October 18: Car outing to Highfields, near Audlem, Cheshire. Maximum 25. Meet by 2.30 pm.

Cost: £7.50, to include tour and tea/coffee and biscuits.

Please apply to Peter Moxon, Millstone House, Butterton, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs, ST5 4EB enclosing a cheque and a stamped addressed envelope.

Tel: 01782 -616337. Directions will be given upon application.

Closing date 4 October.

SEE OVER PAGE

BOOKING DETAILS

Wednesday, October 24: Car outing to Manchester Airport: meet at 2.00 pm for conducted tour of Concorde (opportunity to visit the Aviation Viewing Platform and restaurant from 9.00 am).

Cost: £16.50 (non members £17.50) to include the guided tour of Concorde and airport parking.

Please apply to Peter Thompson, 220 Seabridge Lane, Newcastle, Staffordshire, ST53LS .Tel: 01782 613397 enclosing a cheque and stamped addressed envelope.

Closing date: October 17.

Please provide the names of all members and guests travelling with you when completing your application form. A commemorative personalised souvenir will be presented to each visitor on the completion of the tour.

SEE OVER PAGE

CAR OUTING

Thursday, October 18: Car outing to Highfields, near Audlem, Cheshire. Maximum 25. Meet by 2.30 pm.

Name (s)	Association number	£
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Total £	

NAME, ADDRESS

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 tel number email address

FOR BOOKING DETAILS SEE REVERSE OF THIS FORM

CAR OUTING

Wednesday, October 24: Car outing to Manchester Airport, tour of Concorde , visit the Aviation Viewing Platform. Meet at 2.00 pm.

Name (s)	Association number	£
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Total £	

NAME, ADDRESS

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 tel number email address

FOR BOOKING DETAILS SEE REVERSE OF THIS FORM

BOOKING DETAILS

**Sunday, November 4: Walk to the Fault Crater.
Meet at 10.45 am.**

We will meet at 10.45 am on the Cock Inn car park, and expect to be back there for lunch at 1.15pm.

Cost £2.00 for members, £2.50 for guests (pay on the day). Children and dogs welcome at no charge.

Book your place with Richard Adams: email to rjadams@doctors.org.uk, or by post to: Gables End, Holly Bank, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 8FT, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Telephone: 01782 646054

SEE OVER PAGE

BOOKING DETAILS

Tuesday, November 20: Coach outing to Samlesbury Hall, near Preston.

Coach departs School Street at 9.30 am to return by around 5.30pm.

Cost: £29.50 to include coach, driver's tip, admission and tour of Samlesbury Hall with refreshments on arrival, soup and sandwich lunch.

Please apply to Mrs Rose Wheat, 12, West Avenue, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs, ST5 ONB, enclosing a cheque and a stamped addressed envelope.
Tel: 01782 616113.

Closing date for applications: September 20.
EARLY BOOKING ESSENTIAL.

SEE OVER PAGE

WALK

Sunday, November 4: Walk to the Fauld Crater. Meet at 10.45 am.

Name (s)	Association number	£
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Total £	

NAME, ADDRESS

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tel number email address

FOR BOOKING DETAILS SEE REVERSE OF THIS FORM

COACH OUTING

Tuesday, November 20: Coach outing to Samlesbury Hall, near Preston.. Coach leaves at 9.30 am.

Name (s)	Association number	£
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Total £	

NAME, ADDRESS

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tel number email address

FOR BOOKING DETAILS SEE REVERSE OF THIS FORM

BOOKING DETAILS

**Christmas Social Event:
Tuesday, December 18 - Christmas Social Evening at Gladstone
Pottery Museum from 6.30 pm.**

Cost: £11.00 (non-members £12.00)

Please apply to David Dumbelton, 32 The Lea, Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent
ST4 8DY with your cheque and a medium-sized reply paid envelope. Phone
01782 641765 for more details.

Closing date for applications: December 1.

SEE OVER PAGE

BOOKING DETAILS

**Thursday 24 January 2013 : Coach outing Manchester:
A Day with the Hallé**

Depart School Street 9.30 am and arrive back 5.30 pm (subject to traffic).
Cost £33.50 (£35.50 for guests) to include Centre Stalls tickets (face value
£26), concert programme worth £3.00 (subject to availability), coach travel
and driver's gratuity.

In addition, the **Guided Walk** is £5.00 per person (limited to 25)
and the **Archive Talk and Visit** is £5.00 per person (limited to 25)
Please apply to Mrs Penny Moore, 26, Parkway, Trentham, ST4 8AG,
enclosing a cheque and a stamped addressed envelope. Telephone: 01782
657645.

**EARLY APPLICATION ESSENTIAL .
PLEASE NOTE – CHEQUES FOR THIS EVENT WILL BE
CASHED IN OCTOBER 2012.
SEE OVER PAGE**

**Christmas Social Event: Tuesday, December 18 -
at Gladstone Pottery Museum from 6.30 pm.**

Name (s)	Association number	£
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Total £	

NAME, ADDRESS

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tel number email address

FOR BOOKING DETAILS SEE REVERSE OF THIS FORM

COACH OUTING in 2013

Thursday 24 January Coach outing Manchester: A Day with the Hallé

Name (s)	Association number	£
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.....	£...

Guided Walk £5.00 pp £ Archive Talk/Visit £5.00 pp £..... £.....

Total £

NAME, ADDRESS

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tel number email address

FOR BOOKING DETAILS SEE REVERSE OF THIS FORM

COMMITTEE 2012– 2013

David Dumbelton (Chairman) david.dumbelton@virgin.net	32 The Lea Stoke-on-Trent ST4 8DY Tel 01782 641765
Peter Thompson (Vice Chairman) pdthompson@tiscali.co.uk	Westerly, 220 Seabridge Lane Newcastle-under-Lyme ST5 3LS Tel 01782 613397
Richard Adams (Hon. Secretary and Membership Secretary) rjadams@doctors.org.uk	Gables End, Holly Bank Stoke-on-Trent ST4 8FT Tel 01782 646054
Madeleine Hopley (Hon. Treasurer)	5 Sedbergh Close Newcastle-under-Lyme ST5 3JQ Tel 01782 618821
Rose Wheat (Programme Organiser) rose.wheat@sky.com	12 West Avenue Newcastle-under-Lyme ST5 0NB Tel 01782 616113
Anne Anderton	14 Berne Avenue Newcastle-under-Lyme ST5 2QJ Tel 01782 613024
Anne Beaumont	4 Barnsdale Close Stoke-on-Trent ST4 8TT Tel 01782 642618
Roger Cartlidge	3 The Mount, Scholar Green Stoke-on-Trent ST7 3HY Tel 01782777513
Peter Moxon	Millstone House, Butterson Newcastle-under-Lyme ST5 4EB Tel 01782 616337
Sue Pitt	196 Dimsdale Parade West Newcastle-under-Lyme ST5 8EA Tel 01782 566871
Bob Winter	15 Robinson Road, Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 8ED - phone no: 01782 642942.

Photographs included in this issue were sent in by Cynthia Dumbleton, Sue Pitt and Chris Wain to whom grateful thanks are extended.

Autumn Programme 2012

Tuesday 18 September	Talk at the NS Conference Centre at 7.30pm	Barbara Andrew <i>'Grandma was a Suffragette'</i> .
Thursday 27 September	Car Outing <i>arrive at 2.30 pm</i>	Heath House, Tean
Wednesday 3 October	Talk at the NS Conference Centre at 7.30pm	Gwyn Williams <i>'Concorde'</i>
Wednesday 10 October	Car Outing <i>arrival at 10.30 am</i>	Halfpenny Green Vineyard and Kinver Rock Houses.
Thursday 18 October	Car Outing <i>arrive at 2.30 pm</i>	Highfields, Audlem. Repeat visit.
Wednesday 24 October	Car Outing <i>arrive at 2.00 pm</i>	Manchester Airport and Concorde
Sunday 4 November	Walk <i>start time 10.45 am</i>	Fauld.
Tuesday 13 November:	Talk at the NS Conference Centre at 7.30pm	Danny Wells <i>'Thomas Cook's Role in Opening Up Popular Travel'</i> .
Tuesday 20 November	Coach Trip <i>start time 9.30 am</i>	Samlesbury Hall.
Tuesday 18 December	Christmas Social Evening at 6.30pm	Gladstone Pottery Museum.
Thursday 24 January	Coach trip <i>start time 9.30 am</i>	Manchester Halle Orchestra
Some Future Dates for Your Diary		
Tuesday 15 January	Talk at the NS Conference Centre	Vince Williams – <i>A Personal Pilgrimage to K2.</i>
Tuesday 12 February	Talk at the NS Conference Centre	Andrew Edwards- <i>The Staffordshire Saxon.</i>
Wednesday 27 February	Repeat car outing	Staffordshire Record Office.
Wednesday 17 April	Walk	Stone canal
Thursday 16 May	Coach trip	Arbury Hall

Copy for the next Newsletter is due by 2 November 2012.