

DISCOVERING BINGHAM

Quarterly NEWSLETTER of the **Bingham Heritage Trails Association**

BHTA: Increasing public awareness of our heritage in Architecture, Folk & Natural History, Archaeology & Geology

www.binghamheritage.org.uk

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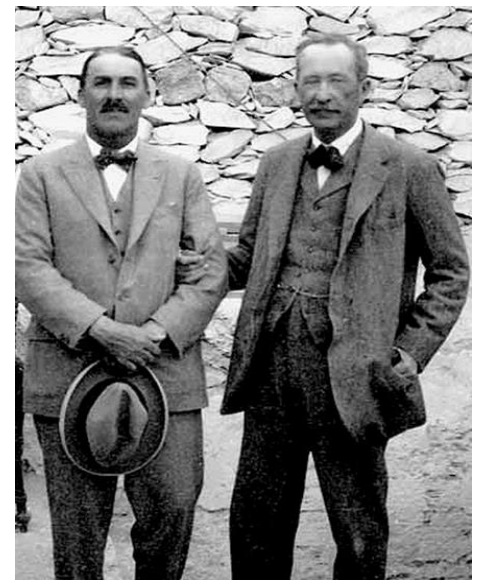
Issue No. 69 May 2024

Welcome to the latest newsletter of Bingham Heritage Trails Association.

In this issue you'll find news about forthcoming talks and events, some exciting developments with our website and our plans to hold more frequent events for our members.

Ten things you might not know about Bingham

1. One of Bingham's estate agents is based in a building that used to supply our daily bread. Hammonds Estate Agency on the corner of Newgate Street and Market Street has an 18th century bread oven in the cellar, once capable of baking 200 loaves at a time.
2. Bingham helped to fund the excavation of the tomb of Tutankhamen. The Earl of Carnarvon sold off the freehold of many properties in the town to finance the archaeological expedition of Howard Carter to Egypt in 1920.
3. The oldest house in Bingham may date back to 1617. The property at 61/63 Long Acre has a Victorian frontage but dendrochronologists have identified roof timbers at the property from the early 17th century.
4. The Chesterfield Arms (now the site of Domino's Pizza) could have been Bingham's very own 'Queen Vic'. In 1843 the Queen's carriage stopped off at the hotel for a change of horses on a journey from Nottingham out to Belvoir Castle. We have no record of whether Her Majesty partook of a sustaining beverage.



**Howard Carter &
The Earl of Carnarvon**

This edition has been kindly printed by Bingham's Community Estate Agent who has pledged to donate £100 to B.H.T.A. for anyone who uses their services and has a genuine link to the B.H.T.A.

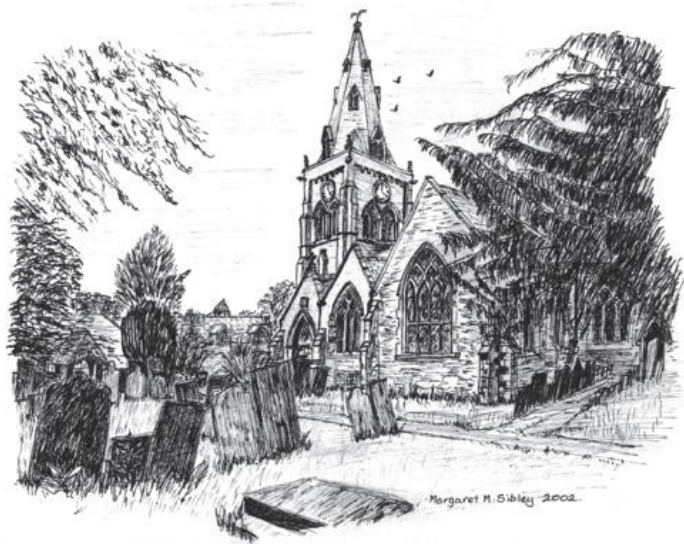


5 The White Lion pub on the corner of Fairfield Street and Nottingham Road was previously called the Stingo Tap. Stingo was slang for strong beer.

6 The Buttercross in the market square was built as a memorial to John Hassall, the land agent for the local estate. He was obviously a popular chap as the required funds were raised by public subscription.

7 You might want to consider your choice of footwear as you wander down the medieval holloway known as Jebb's Lane. "Old Jebb" was a cobbler and records show he had a hovel in the corner of Warner's Paddock.

8 The Vaults Hotel in Long Acre was located in the old post office building. We can only presume it had a good wine list.

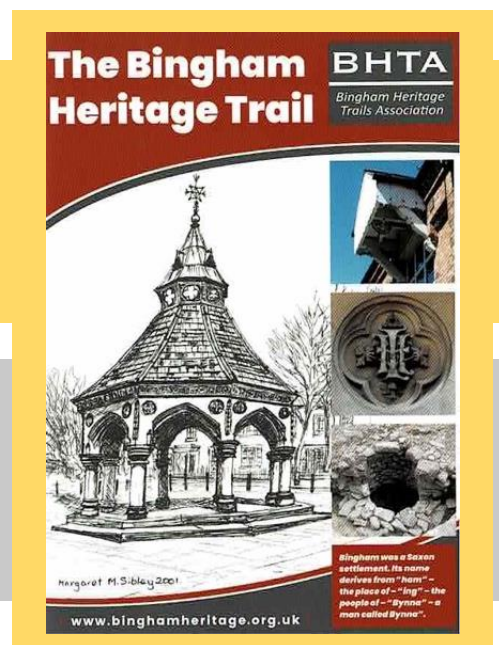


9 We know that the Reverend Robert Miles had friends in high society and could call in a favour as and when required. St Mary's church was remodelled in 1845, at the request of the reverend gentleman, by the renowned Victorian architect Sir George Gilbert Scott. Sir George was also responsible for many famous landmark buildings in London, including the Albert Memorial.

10 James Prior Kirk, an accomplished Victorian novelist moved to Bingham in 1891, originally at Lushai Cottage and later at 22, The Banks. Both properties are now marked with 'Blue Plaques'. He made use of the local dialect to bring a realism to his works which reflected the realities of agricultural life in our beautiful Nottinghamshire countryside.

Find out more fascinating facts about Bingham as you wander on a self-directed tour of the town using the recently updated Bingham Heritage Trail guide, available free from Bingham Library.

As well as Bingham's built heritage, BHTA is also interested in less visible aspects of the town's historical record, including its archaeology. Our next two free public talks will focus on different aspects of archaeological research.



Forthcoming talks

On **Thursday, 20th June 2024** **Meghan King** will speak on: 'An Introduction to the Portable Antiquities Scheme and Treasure in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire'.

Meghan is the Finds Liaison Officer for Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire whose job is to record small finds of archaeological interest, found by members of the public.

She also reports and records objects which qualify as Treasure under the Treasure Act 1996.

The talk will explain her role, giving an overview of interesting finds from around the counties. Attendees will have the opportunity to handle typical objects recorded by the scheme.



The talk may be of interest to anyone thinking of taking up metal detecting.



On **Thursday, 26th September 2024** **David Ingham** will talk about **BHTA's archaeological work and its impact**, placing it in the context of the regional archaeological research framework. He will also touch on the Cotswold-Wessex excavation on the line of the dualled A46 and Oxford Archaeology's work on the Romans' Quarter.

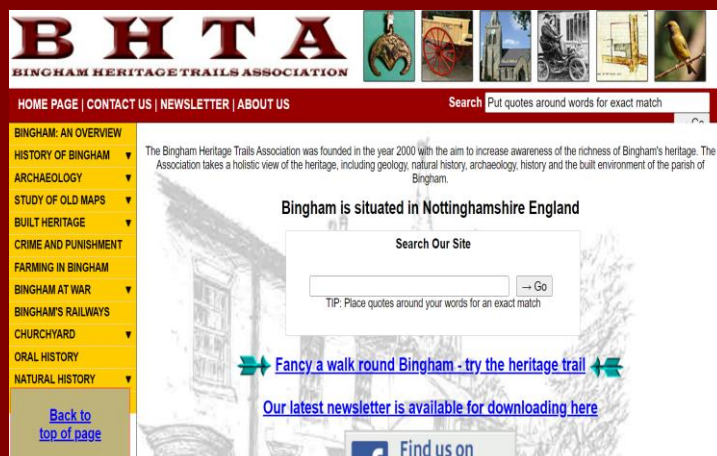
David is Chairman of the Council for British Archaeology, East Midlands, and a long-standing friend and collaborator of BHTA.

Talks are held in the Methodist Centre, Bingham starting at 8.00pm. Admission is free and all are welcome.

Website developments

The BHTA website is now hosted by Hrunck Ltd. The change of hosting service will enable us to update and develop our pages, making them more flexible and responsive in the future.

www.binghamheritage.org.uk



Member events

BHTA is planning more frequent events aimed specifically at members.

The first of these was held on Friday, 8th March 2024 at the WI Hall on Station Street.

Billed as an occasion to formally launch the newly expanded and updated Heritage Trail Guide, the event attracted a respectable turnout of members, given the inclement weather. Those present were updated on various current developments and a lively discussion, over wine and soft drinks, allowed the exchange of ideas for future activities.

BHTA Treasurer, Andy Balls, provided attendees with an interesting display of stone-age and other artefacts found on walks around Bingham.

Members will be advised of future events in due course.

A welcome donation

BHTA is delighted to acknowledge a generous recent donation from the Bingham Business Club which will help us to continue our public-facing work, highlighting and researching Bingham's rich heritage.



Dates for the diary

BHTA will have a stall at **Bingham Town Fair**, on Saturday, 8th June, 2024. Come along to find out more about our activities and to get involved with our work.

Thursday, 6th June 2024 is the **80th Anniversary of D-Day**, a key date in the liberation of western Europe from Nazi tyranny. BHTA is collaborating with the Royal British Legion in commemorating the event.

BHTA welcomes membership enquiries which can be made by contacting the Secretary on 01949 876 570 or email: nrthomas@ntlworld.com

We can also be contacted via our website at bhta@binghamheritage.org.uk