

Castleton Historical Society News

51st AGM 18 January 2024

An excellent turnout by members, a delicious supper and a toast to the future of the Society, made for a very enjoyable winter's evening.

In her report on the past year, our Chair Maria Kenyon, had some sobering issues for us to reflect upon. Despite the very welcome news of the anonymous donation, for a period of up to 3 years, to keep the Visitor Centres afloat, the future of Castleton Visitor Centre is a long way from being secure. This is where we house our Museum and just as importantly our large archive of documents, photographs and artefacts. It's where we have worked closely with Peak Park staff and volunteers over the last 20 years to provide information and enjoyment for both visitor and residents. The latest news is that the Peak Park has asked consultants to review the "Visitor Experience" across the Park and to report back later in the year. Watch this space!

Other doleful news was the flooding in the Centre, and mainly in the Museum area, that has caused the floor to lift in places. This is an ongoing problem and affects us because access to the Museum is restricted. We are waiting for an update from the Peak Park....

There is, however, some very good news. The temporary display cases arrived and were put to use immediately with the first of 3 new displays (Castleton Hall; The Garland; and the First World War- all with a very local emphasis). We would welcome your ideas for more displays over the coming year.

The video display in the Centre now includes an excellent item on the archaeological digs on the Spital Field as well as early photographs of the village from our archive. The programme of talks is complete for 2024 and will offer something of interest to everyone. Visitors are more than welcome every 3rd Thursday in the Peveril Centre (just not in July when we have an outing, or August or December).

Archaeology on the New Hall site has progressed well as previously reported. All in all a busy, if alarming (!) year for CHS.

We would love more people in the village to join the Society (a bargain at £15 for a year's subscription). And we would be particularly delighted if anyone (current member or not) would be willing to join our merry band of Trustees. Don't hesitate to ask for details:

secretary@castletonhistorical.co.uk

Our programme of talks for 2024

Our talks are always on the third Thursday of the month, begin at 7.30pm, and in 2024 will be held in the Methodist church (Pevenil Centre) on Buxton Road. Visitors are very welcome to attend (£3 at the door).

Here's the entire 2024 programme of talks.

DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC
15 February	John Whitfield	Goosehill Hall Ten Years On
15 March	Mark Dawson	Just Desserts – An Alternative History of Derbyshire in 3 Puds
18 April	Malcolm Andrew	Earle's Cement Works – A History
16 May	Terry Newholme	Small Town Grotesques
20 June	Liz Keeley	Boarding Schools for Girls in Victorian Derbyshire
18 July	<i>Visit</i>	<i>Guided visit to Sheffield General Cemetery. Details tbc</i>
19 September	Kevin Kuykendall	Creswell Crag
17 October	Robert Mee	Policing in 19th-Century Derbyshire
21 November	Andrew Bower	John Tym of Castleton: Mineral Man and Museum Keeper