



SUMMER 2022

Dear Members and Friends,

## ***W*elcome to the Summer Newsletter**

As always, lots going on at Winters, although we are looking forward to our summer break. The business will be closed for the week between 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> August to allow Angela and Louisa to have a well-earned break – then it will be full steam ahead into the autumn.

As always, any thoughts, comments, and suggestions, please do get in touch and we look forward to seeing you soon, best wishes Jane.

## ***‘Mr Winter’ is back at the studio in September!***

We are opening our doors again for Heritage Open Days in September. The theme this year is ‘Amazing Inventions’, so a gift for us, as photography fits the theme perfectly! Tours will take place between 10am to 1pm on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September.

As usual, after a big spring clean, we plan to open the back rooms and show visitors around the building. We need to have volunteers in every room to help interpret what is on show and to be able to explain something of the history of the business.

On both Open Days we will have a visit from a ‘Victorian photographer’, who will resemble Mr Winter (Simon has been growing and sculpting his beard to perfection!!)

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The  
*W.W. Winter*  
Heritage Trust  
Registered charity no. 1174440

Made possible with  
 Heritage  
Fund



Mr Winter aka Simon, one of our very friendly volunteers. Come along and meet him and the Winter's team to have your portrait taken like the Victorians did. Let see how serious you can all be!

We are very excited about this new departure and are sure that visitors will very much enjoy the chance to have a photograph taken in the way that would have been familiar to their great grandparents.

Simon will be using a specially and carefully adapted box camera to take a digital image via his MacBook, which will be emailed to the sitter after a quick session in Photoshop.

On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September younger visitors will have the chance to make a pinhole camera, that will enable them to understand the way that photography works.

The plan this year is to bring the camera to the fore and so in addition, the Second-Class Waiting Room will feature new and related items from the collection in the long display case, to complement the amazing camera collection already on show there.

Booking for Heritage Open Days opened on 1<sup>st</sup> July and the phone was pleasingly busy – so we are excited to welcome the crowds! If you would like to help in any way, either with cleaning or as a room host, please contact Jane on the main office email address: [office@wwwinter.co.uk](mailto:office@wwwinter.co.uk).

## ***F*** **Feasibility Study**

The Innes Associates Feasibility Study to help work out a viable future for Winters is well underway. The consultants have measured the building and are as enthused by the potential of the place as we are!

They are challenging us and questioning everything, which is great and will result, we hope, in a robust forward plan. The whole team is working hard to this end.



The recent workshop in the studio held with the consultants from Innes Associates.

The study has been funded by the grant we received from the National Lottery

Heritage Fund.

## *Lecture Series*

We are thinking about re-starting the autumn lectures, which have been held over for two years. We have two dates in mind: Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and are looking to tie-up speakers shortly.

Unfortunately, the wonderful facility of the University lecture rooms won't be available to us, and we are looking around for other venues. We are also exploring possibilities of joint lectures with other organisations, so watch this space!

## *Derby: A New Vision*

Please can as many of you as possible look at and comment on the proposals being put out for public consultation relating to the plans for the City Centre. As we see it, Midland Road is on the very 'edge' of the area being highlighted for change and The Arboretum and Royal Crown Derby (two institutions with which we have heritage links and an obvious synergy) are outside the designated area.

<https://letstalk.derby.gov.uk/city-centre-vision> - consultation open until 31st August, 2022.

## *New Discoveries*



The well-known photograph of the Retouching Room, with a close-up of the speaking tube.

We continue to find out things about the building and recently, looking at a picture of the Retouching Room, noticed a 'speaking tube'. Although this is a well-known image, it had never been spotted before!

Amazingly, in the last month, the ‘lignum vitae’ mouthpiece has come to light – complete with integral whistle to alert someone in another part of the building to pick up!!

We still have a lot to discover and are hoping to be able to trace the route of the pipe and learn more about the workings of such systems.



The original Victorian Lignum Vitae mouthpiece for the speaking tube.

## *Midland Road Project*



The well-known Midland Road street sign on the exterior of the Midland Hotel.

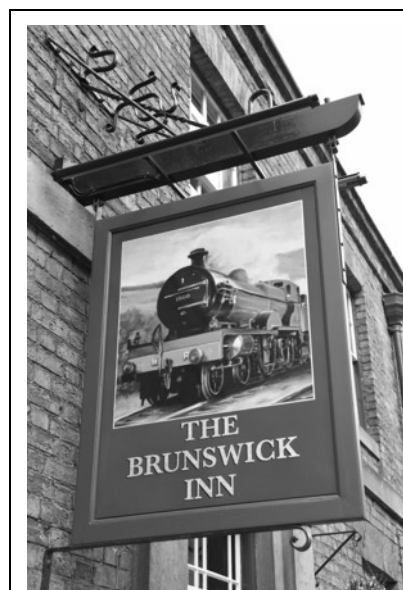


The once derelict and now restored cottages on Railway Terrace.

We have launched a new research project to see the studio into the context of the street. Joanna and Nick are heading this up and, whilst Joanna is beavering away in the archives, Nick is pounding the pavements to create a detailed photographic survey of the street and it looks now and then compare his views with known images of the street in the past.

It is planned that this will add some weight to Jane’s ambition to highlight the fact that the road is a ‘Conservation Area’ and enable a little campaign to improve the streetscape to be launched.

It seems timely, with the Castleward Quarter now entering a second phase and with the new, Nightingale Quarter coming onstream.



The Brunswick Inn hanging pub sign.