



Easter 2024

Dear Members and Friends,

Welcome

I am delighted to be able to announce that our application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for some 'Resilience' funding has been successful! This is very encouraging news and we have already appointed a Specialist Museum Conservator who will help to cost the sum required to conserve (or restore) props, furniture, paintings, and ceramics in the collection.

A social scientist is also on board, to write an evaluation strategy and to undertake baseline analysis of awareness and views. We are still waiting to award the contract to a legal team to ensure that our business planning and funding strategies are robust and in line with the new Subsidy Control Act of 2023.

Once all the reports have been received, the Board can proceed to the next step of our plan to restore the studio. Fundraising will be key to success and any help that Friends and supporters can give will take us a step nearer to our goal.

I am looking forward to beginning what is proving to be a very busy and exciting year!

By the time you read this I will be in Australia visiting my daughter who has been out there for the past few months.

Jane

2023 – 2024 Lecture Series

As mentioned in our last newsletter "Portraits and Pictures – the Fine Art side of the business at the Midland Road premises", will be presented by our wonderful Volunteer Joanna Neal.

Page 1 of 5

The W W Winter Heritage Trust
45 Midland Road, Derby DE1 2SP
01332 345224
Email: friends@wwwinter.co.uk
Web: heritagetrust-wwwinter.co.uk

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

Made possible with
 Heritage
Fund

However, due to unforeseen circumstances the lecture due to take place in April will be moved to later in the year and be a joint lecture with Derby Civic Society.

Don't forget that previous lectures (copyright permitting) are available to view on our YouTube channel – just search W W Winter on YouTube or follow this link –

www.youtube.com/@WinterPhotographers

Derby Uncovered & 11 Sadler Gate

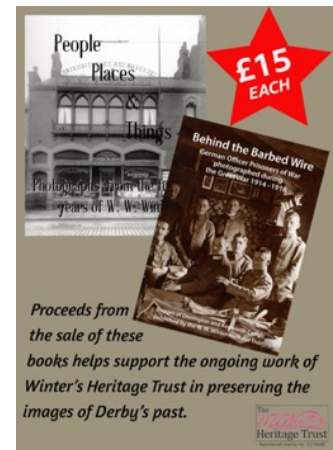
I'm sure many of you will be aware of "Derby Uncovered", which is dedicated to Derby history and heritage. They produce a bi-monthly Newspaper, host events, have a fascinating social media presence, and since last month now have a shop at 11 Sadler Gate, selling and promotion all things Derby and Derbyshire.

As part of the shop launch, we were asked to mount the first exhibition and we have redisplayed part of the 150th Anniversary exhibition 'People Places and Things', in the stair well leading to the Derby Pyclet Parlour on the first floor.



Just part of the display of Winter's images on display at 11 Sadler Gate.

For those not familiar with Derby Uncovered or their shop in Sadler Gate, why not pop in and take a look – you will be surprised at what they have to offer, and while there purchase some original Derby pyclets, or better still stay for a delicious lunch, with every dish incorporating pyclets or oatcakes – you won't be disappointed!



Poster advertising our books on sale at the Derby Uncovered shop on 11 Sadler Gate.

Focus On ... Volunteer Alan Bannister



I am a retired Police Inspector and, latterly, civilian Office Manager with Derbyshire Constabulary. My partner, Louise, and I were inspired to become volunteers for the W W Winter Heritage Trust following attending a studio tour and exhibition during the Format Photography Festival in 2017, which coincided with the 150th anniversary of the opening by Mr Winter of his studio on Midland Road, Derby.

I was a member of Ilkeston Arts and Camera Club from 2003 to 2012 and was Photographic Secretary from 2003 to 2008 and Club Chairman from 2009 to 2012. I have been a member of Clay Cross Photographic Society since 2012 and was Club

Chairman from 2020 to 2022 and continue to serve on the club committee. I am also a member of Beauvale Photographic Group in Eastwood, Nottinghamshire. My photographs have featured in exhibitions, including alongside the work of Sir Paul Smith.

In 2004 I was elected to the Executive Committee of the North & East Midlands Photographic Federation (N&EMPF). I have held the position of Portfolio Secretary since 2006 and Archivist since 2017. I was honoured to be asked to be the President of the Federation, one of the 15 photographic federations forming the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PAGB) from 2018 to 2020.

My interest in 'real' photography was first sparked in 1992 when my brother gave me his Praktica MTL5 manual-everything M42mm screw mount SLR because he "couldn't get on with it". Up to that point I had been a confirmed point-and-shoot, auto-everything compact camera 'happy snapper' but I bought a book on photography and taught myself the hard way, through trial and error, about f-stops, apertures, shutter speeds, split-glass prisms, manual focus and...film!

A couple of years later I traded up to a semi-automatic, manual focus Pentax P30T SLR and, in 1999, to a Pentax MZ5N Autofocus SLR, which I still have because I couldn't bear to part with it but haven't used since I finally succumbed, reluctantly, to the all-engulfing tide of 'digital' with the purchase, in 2007, of a then whopping 10MP Pentax K10 D-SLR. My experience with manual film cameras, however, has meant that I still try to get composition and exposure right in the camera rather than blazing away firing off dozens of shots, hoping to capture that 'decisive moment' by happy accident. I currently use a 24MP Pentax K3 digital SLR as my main weapon of choice but I have also recently acquired a Panasonic compact camera which has been converted to shoot in infrared and am looking forward to some more sunny days when I can again view the world in IR.

In recent years I have started to feel a little nostalgic for the 'good old days' of film so I bought a retro Diana F+ medium format analogue camera kit from the Lomography company, complete with plastic lens and light leaks as standard. I also have a collection of old 35mm, 120, 127 and other roll-film format antique folding-bellows cameras. My ambition is to run at least one roll of film through each one...

In my role as a volunteer, I am a member of Marketing and Research groups for the Heritage Trust, which means I am able to contribute my ideas towards preserving the legacy and heritage of this wonderful, atmospheric and historic studio for future generations to enjoy. I have relished getting to know the studio, staff and fellow volunteers and becoming immersed in the fascinating history of W W Winter. But the part I enjoy the most is talking to members of the public on studio tours who, like I did myself, visit the studio for the first time and experience for themselves the unique character and atmosphere of this iconic place.

Easter



Our Easter window was inspired by a photograph taken in 1946 by a 17 year old Hubert King as part of his course at Nottingham Technical College.

It featured a SylvaC rabbit, which were somewhat similar to Denby rabbits and was produced in large numbers over a period of some 50+ years from the mid 1930s by the SylvaC potteries based in Stoke-upon-Trent.

Staged on sand, with leaves and a twig in the background, this attractive image showed

Hubert's skill and was a foretaste of his prolific output as a commercial photographer in later years.

Focus On ... Trustee – Jane Middleton- Smith

Jane has had a lifelong interest in history and still owns the Ladybird books that first ignited her interest in the subject. Teenage years were spent on archaeological digs at Roman sites at Wall and Wroxeter; joining the local historical society and undertaking work experience in museums. Unsurprisingly, she chose to read history at Durham, one of the most ancient university cities and loved every minute of walking to lectures through a Norman Cathedral and along 18th century streets! Following her degree and a PGCE, Jane taught history in a large, rural comprehensive school: an experience which honed her communication skills, and which proved to have been a fantastic foundation for her career in the heritage sector in the South-East, following her relocation to London.



Twelve years in the museums sector, saw Jane networking at national level, writing a regular column in the Museums Journal and travelling to Sweden, collaborating with colleagues on projects connected to a British Council museum exchange. During this time, she worked on large-scale events and led teams working on EU and Arts Council funded projects, including an international academic conference. Work on an acclaimed Millennium Arts Project, with environmental artist, Stephen Turner, marked Jane's move into freelance work, whilst bringing up her young family.

Having relocated to Derbyshire, now over 20 years ago, Jane was employed on a number of freelance contracts in and around the Derwent Valley and on NLHF funded initiatives, including two community film projects, both of which involved her writing up her team's research findings for publication as books.

In 2009, Jane joined John Smedley as their first company archivist and has absolutely loved working in the fashion industry – uncovering the stories not only of the garments themselves, but the social and industrial context in which they were made. In addition to a huge cataloguing task, the work

has involved her in creating a team of volunteers, researching, and writing up the company history, working with design and marketing colleagues, telling the story of this special, Derbyshire-based family company, now 240 years old.

As the role was part-time, Jane looked for other freelance work and in 2015, came to Winter's as the curatorial adviser and volunteer coordinator for an NLHF grant the first awarded to a commercial company in the East Midlands. Although the project ended the following year, Jane remained working with the Winter's Directors, and applied for a small grant from the NLHF 'Then and Now' fund, on the project 'Behind the Barbed Wire'. Since then, she has worked in the shop one day a week, and in addition to helping with customers, has been keeping the heritage work going, running the volunteer project, and assisting the Board of Trustees for the Winters Charitable Trusts. She was delighted to be asked to become a Trustee of the Collections Trust this year and looks forward to working alongside other Board members.

As Jane states: "I feel passionate about Winter's. It's a very special place and the company is the guardian of an incredible archive of the people, places and things that are part of the ongoing story of Derby. I feel so fortunate to have been able to join the team taking it forward to the next stage in its life. I am enjoying planning for the Trust taking over the building and picking up the mantle of keeping photography alive here and adding to the collection as we undertake the restoration project and become part of the heritage and educational scene in the city and the wider East Midlands".

And finally

Our next newsletter will be published in the summer. If you have any comments, thoughts, ideas, or information please contact us on office@wwinter.co.uk, or phone 01332 345224 - all contributions are gratefully received.