

Newsletter No. 29 July 2018

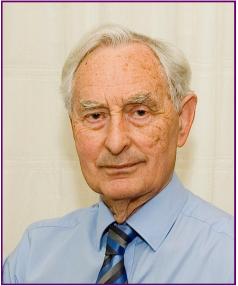
A Note from the Editor

The 2018 season is now in full swing. After a slow start the visitor numbers are holding up well and we all hope for a bumper 2018.

Our new Visitor Services team was successfully recruited and the three ladies are settling in well. You can see them on page 11 for our "Meet the Visitor Services Team" feature.

This season has already seen some interesting visitors to the museum, notably two sets of Wield family members. You can read about their visits on the opposite page.

This issue brings you up to date with the final talk by Dr. Nicholas Duke-Cox on the history and restoration of the Petwood Gardens. We also cover the museum presence at the



Woodhall Show back in May and look forward to the summer with the series of five concerts in the "Music in the Garden" events. These concerts have proved to be very popular and the event is now into its third year. Gill Noble introduces the artists for this year on the opposite page.

We must congratulate our five swimmers who between them swam 99 lengths and to date has



raised £460 from sponsorship. What a great effort!

Finally, a piece of breaking news - the museum has been awarded a Certificate of Excellence for 2018 by TripAdvisor based on "the consistently great reviews you've earned on the world's largest travel site", so on that happy note I will wish you a great summer and hope to see you at some of the events planned out for the coming weeks.

Philip Groves

Front Cover Story

February 6th. 2018 was the centenary of Votes for Women and was celebrated around Britain. Our very own Gladys Ireland wore a sash to complement her Victorian costume as she helped out with the Brant Broughton school visit. Many of our volunteers dress in Victorian costume during Cottage Museum events and help to show how life was in that era.

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The Newsletter Committee

Chairman - Paddy O'Neill Editor - Philip Groves Marjorie Sargeant To contact the Newsletter Team please write to:-The Cottage Museum, The Bungalow, Iddesleigh Road, Woodhall Spa, Lincs. LN10 6SH or email phil.delia.groves@btinternet.com Reg. Charity: 1114268 Reg. Museum:1929

Music in the Garden

There are five Sunday afternoon Music in the Garden events this year. They will all start at 2.00 pm. Admission to the garden is free, although the museum welcomes donations. Dogs on leads are welcome. There will be under cover seating if wet. The Courtyard Café will be open for homemade refreshments throughout the afternoon.

29th July

The CATS Strummers are making a return visit. This local group of ukulele players is based in Coningsby. They encourage audience participation.

5th August

Traditional Jazz Duo Colin and Gerry are back by popular demand. Lots of foot stamping and clapping.

12th August

Mike Warwick makes a welcome return visit. His lively session takes in the hits from 1950's to the 1990's. Pure nostalgia and great for joining in.

<u>19th August</u>

"Between the Lines" is a folk music band who are well known in the south of the county. They are looking forward to performing in Woodhall Spa.

26th August

"Sing Loud Woodhall Spa" This group came together when they all participated in the "Sound Lincs New Tricks" project. They are all local and share a love of making music together. Audience participation is encouraged. Gill Noble

Descendants of John Wield at the Museum

On Tuesday afternoon, 24th April, we were visited by John Wield Teanby and his lovely wife Maria for a look around our little museum, which was the family home of one of John's family at the turn of the last century. It turns out that John is the great nephew of John Wield who lived with his family in the prefabricated bungalow that has become the Woodhall Spa Cottage Museum.

Maria has done quite a bit of family history research which traces the family tree back to the 1600s and they are happy to share the details with our collection team in order to provide a bigger picture for our archives.

In addition to signing our guest book they said that they would tell all their family about our unique museum, so we can expect to see a few more Wield descendants visiting us soon. John is

pictured in the Wield Room by a photo on the wall taken by John Wield of his family when they lived in the property; very appropriate!

We were also visited by another 7 descendants of the Wield family. This time it was Angela Hudson-Peacock plus 2 generations. Angela's grandson Monty is doing photography at school and is using the Wield family, particularly John Wield, as the subject for his project. Receptionist Rosemary Brown commented: "It was lovely to meet such a charming family".



John Wield Teanby at the

Museum



Colin & Gerry at last year's event

Sponsored Swim



Martin Fearn and Jenny Baker before their swim





The sponsored swim, organised by the Friends of the Museum has raised £460 to date. Martin Fearn, Jenny Baker, John Wilkinson, Nigel Webb and Joy Bolt 5 took part and between them 99 lengths were completed.

John Wilkinson pictured above completed a personal best, whilst Nigel Webb swum his lengths at the pool in Horncastle.

Grateful thanks are extended to Jubilee Park Swimming Pool for the loan of a lane for the volunteers, to the swimmers who took part and all those who have sponsored them.

Nigel Webb

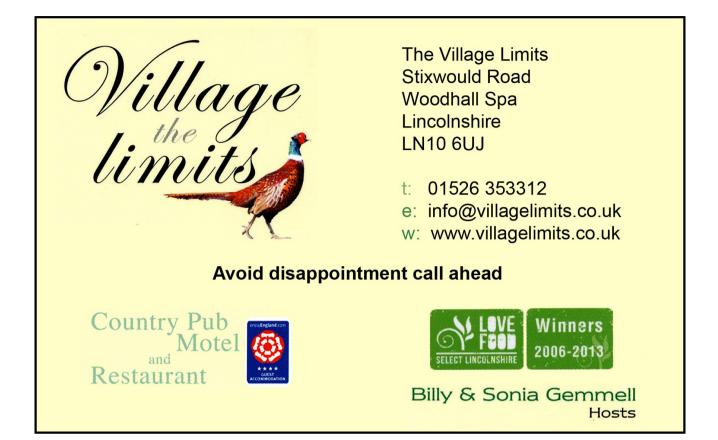
Pre-Opening Event

Sunday 25th March saw a gathering of Cottage Museum Friends and Volunteers to a pre-opening event, where all could see the changes and improvements made over the closed season. Viewing the new displays put together by the Collections Team (Patricia, Tom, Heather and all the other team members) and also the lovely refreshed garden and flower tubs that Gill and her gardening team have presented so well.

Our chairman, Patricia, welcomed everyone and reminded all of forthcoming fundraising



events which include the Old Time Music Hall, Petwood Gardens talk and a sponsored swim. The 150 club draw took place, being good news for three prize winners. Refreshments were provided and even the weather was on our side for a change.



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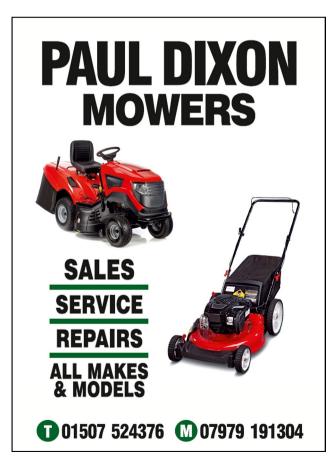
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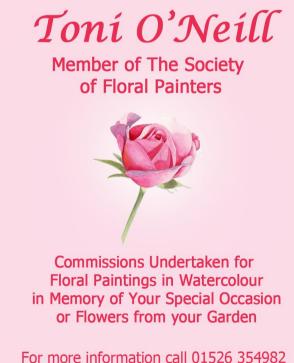
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From the Collection

Beside the Seaside

At this time of year thoughts turn to the summer holidays and for children, like Christmas, it is a magical time of the year. Here are three interesting images probably all taken by John Wield in the first decade of the 20th century.



PH04852 was taken at the North Landing near Bridlington on the North Yorkshire coast. Noticeable is the steep incline of the landing stage and many people are clambering over the rocks. In the foreground is a young woman who looks to be buying from the lad. Maybe shrimps, prawns or crabs.

PC02503 Again probably taken on the Yorkshire coast, four adults are sitting in the calm sea. Who they are is unknown. In the background a rowing boat is discharging its passengers into a horse drawn cart. The boat, with such a shallow beach can probably not get any closer.





PH04885 A delightful composition I am absolutely convinced from the camera of John Wield. It was taken at Skegness on a chilly day and shows a splendid view of the pier before it became a ruin. In the foreground is a 'graduated' row of children which may include John's children, Effie and Cedric.

Nicholas Duke-Cox



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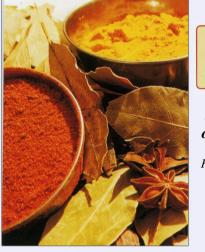
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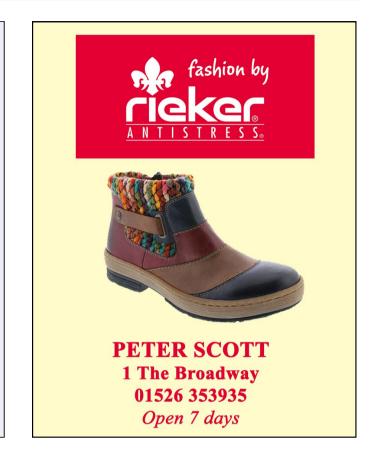
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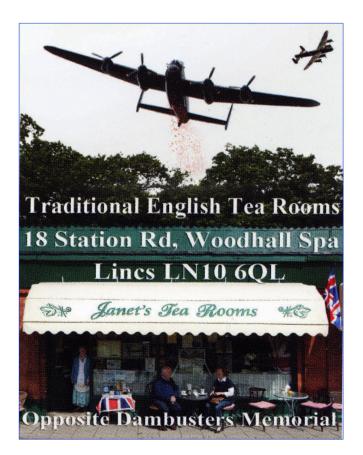


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Meet the Visitor Services Team

We have a new team of ladies manning the Reception Office this season, so we have invited them to introduce themselves to you.

Rosemary Brown

Having moved from Bedfordshire to Lincolnshire during 2016 I was looking for some volunteering work when I came across the Cottage Museum. During the 2017 season I volunteered in the museum reception on regular Fridays and so enjoyed my time here that I decided to apply for the Visitor Services post. Since starting in this role at the end of March I have met so many interesting visitors, many of whom have passed invaluable knowledge on to me about the local & wider areas. I particularly enjoy the tourist information aspect of my role and I am delighted to be part of this wonderful team of staff & volunteers.



Bev Lambert

I am blessed to have a lovely daughter and three gorgeous grandchildren. They seem to be growing up very quickly.

We spend our leisure time in the Lake District where we enjoy walking with our two dogs.

Having had a rewarding career in banking and legal advice, semiretirement is allowing time to fit in the things that were virtually impossible previously.

Having spent quite a bit of time in Woodhall Spa, as Mum still lives here, it has been a real pleasure learning so much about the area, much of it was as much a surprise to me as it is to people visiting the museum. It is wonderful meeting with visitors and having the opportunity to chat about the area and history of this lovely village.

Katie Edwards

I moved to Lincolnshire from Reading, Berkshire after working for 15 years at the local Council. I had lots of different roles at the council, but my favourite job was leading school group sessions about the Bayeux Tapestry, Romans and Victorian Life for Reading Museum. I missed this the most when I moved here, so I am very excited that I now get to welcome people to the lovely Cottage Museum. When not at the Cottage, I work at the beautiful Ayscoughfee Hall Museum in Spalding. On my days off, I'm pottering in my garden or off out exploring the beautiful Lincolnshire countryside.

My favourite part of being at the Cottage Museum is helping our mascot Donkey Oaty on his adventures around the Cottage, Woodhall Spa and Lincolnshire. We both particularly love meeting and chatting to all the people that come to visit. You can follow his adventures on twitter: twitter.com/Donkeyoaty1





The Museum at the Woodhall Show

We had lots of visitors to the Heritage tent who were interested to hear about the museum and the items on show. Many took away copies of previous newsletters and Friends membership application forms, so hopefully we will get some new members. Some of the visitors were able to give a lot of useful information about the exhibits from the museum collection that were on show. Gill and Judith Haddock were in the Heritage tent in the morning. in costume. Patricia, Ann Houlton and I were there in the afternoon.



Judy Everitt looks after the display in the Heritage Tent

The trade stall, organised by Lynnette, was nearby. Although there was a cost for that stall, we made a small surplus of £100 and everyone appeared to have a good time. In addition to selling new items of merchandise, books and DVDs, there was a tombola run by Gloria Crawshaw which took £100. The prizes were very well received and had been donated by Museum volunteers and 'Friends'. We also launched the raffle (£1 squares) for the David Waller print 'Return from Arnhem' which was also popular and will continue throughout the year. We would like to thank Gloria, Sally and Margaret who all helped on the stall, manning the Tombola, selling Museum Books, gifts and generally promoting the museum. Thanks also to Dick, Ken, Nigel and Paul for putting up the awning the night before.

Community Room for Hire

At the Cottage Museum Very reasonable rates: Morning, afternoon, evening or all day rates. Maximum number of people 24

For further details and bookings please contact:

info@cottagemuseum.co.uk

Judy Everitt & Lynnette Needham

150 Club Winners

February 2018
£20 [45] Joan Lovatt £15 [17] Jenny Baker £10 [60] Reg Wood
<u>March 2018</u>
£20 [76] Pam Cowlishaw £15 [42] Barrie Horton £10 [41] Margaret Horton
<u>April 2018</u>
£20 [3] Margaret Cole £15 [53] Amarylis Midgley £10 [45] Joan Lovatt
<u>May 2018</u>
£20 [61] Brian Olive £15 [43] Joe Stanhope £10 [145] Edith Palmer
June 2018
£20 [99] Roger Mills £15 [147] John Miall £10 [126] Ann Barker

Woodhall Spa in July 1918

Dear Readers,

This village is no longer the merry and optimistic spa it was. Another 5 of our young men have been killed fighting the Hun.

Last time I wrote to you, Capt. Hewson Street of Witham Road had been home on leave. He was a very brave man, mentioned in dispatches and awarded the Military Cross. But, oh dear, in May we heard that he had died during the attack on the Marne. Before him there was Henry Maynard who ran the pharmacy, Frank Sharp of King Edward Road, Maurice Leach of Stixwould Road and Edward Eyre - everybody knew him because he was chauffeur for the charabanc of Mr. Dickinson. So many dear young men, the village is saddened.

The village Squire, Capt. S.V. Hotchkin has been awarded the Military Cross for gallantry. He is well respected here, serving on the U.D.C and quietly helping many villagers, as well as tending his golf course. There have been complaints about the condition of that and I said to Perce that some of the toffs who play could pay to have it looked after but he said it was not lack of money but men that was the problem.

We have been given new ration books. They last 16 weeks and there are different coloured pages for various comestibles like dairy goods, meat, sugar. It is very difficult because when we have visitors we have to take their books and work out how to use the coupons while they are staying.

Lt. Col. and Mrs. Weigall have instigated a War Distress Fund. Recently, they took a box at the Theatre Royal in Lincoln. After the performance, the Lt. Col. acted as auctioneer for several items, then his wife swept off her grey fox fur stole, for auction. It sold for 11 guineas after which she bought it back for the same amount, thus benefitting the fund by 22 guineas!



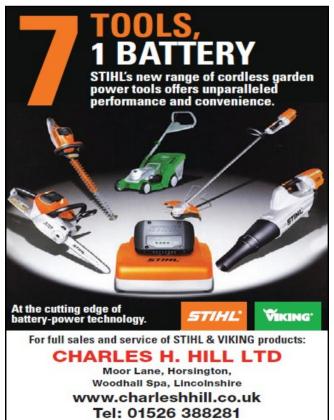
There has been а jewellery theft at the Victoria Hotel! Apparently. the thief entered rooms one afternoon. through windows which were open because of the summer heat. They say he escaped with gold and jewellery amounting to £450: this included valuable brooches. It have been must а visitor. No-one in our dear village would do such a thing.

Bertha

The Victoria Hotel

Marjorie Sargeant





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What Our Visitors Are Saying

We have already had visitors from as far afield as Australia and Florida and visits from descendants of the Wield family (see page 3). As always lots of praise for the friendly and informative staff.

B.O formerly from Melbourne	Fabulous museum with lots of information. Love the furniture
K.B. Horncastle	Been meaning to come for ages. Glad I made it in the end. A lovely visit to a friendly museum. Never been able to bring a dog before!
P &B B. Bucks	Beautifully kept house and garden. Brings back memories of how English life was. Helpful, friendly staff & volunteers.
BS Louth	Really enjoyed it. Two lovely ladies told us the history.
MC Essex	St. Hugh's School 1947 - 49. I visited with my family remembering years gone by. The museum is a wonderful exhibition of Woodhall through the ages.
P & C H. Hollywood Florida	Very interesting. Thank you for sharing the history of this lovely house.
Angela Hudson-Peacock	Wonderful memories of my childhood when visiting Grandma and Grandpa.
N T Chatteris Cambs	Incredible - so friendly - so informative - if only ALL museums were I like this!!!
G & S J Leicester	Absolutely fascinating. My family (the Johnsons) came from Woodhall Spa & have seen 2 of my uncles on photo of football team.

Philip Groves

Talk on the Restoration of the Petwood Gardens

A large audience gathered at the Petwood Hotel on May 30th for the last in a series of talks on The Petwood Gardens presented by Dr. Nicholas Duke-Cox. The talk focused on the recent Restoration. The event was hosted by the Spilsby Ladies Probus Group in association with The Woodhall Spa Cottage Museum.

The talk has led to a demand for guided walks around the grounds. Already a small family group and a large U3A group have enjoyed a Walk, Talk and Tea in the company of Dr Duke-Cox, the author of the successful book "The Gardens of Petwood". Anyone interested in forming a group of between 6 - 12 people can apply to the Cottage Museum to arrange a guided tour.

Volunteer Coffee Mornings

A coffee morning is held bi-monthly to enable volunteers from the various teams to meet each other and to meet some of the Directors. The next one is in August. It is a great opportunity to exchange ideas and make suggestions, or just have a general chinwag!

The Coffee Morning is held bi-monthly on the first Wednesday of the month, in the Community Room and starts at 10.00 am. Why not come along on August 1st. and give it a try?

EBRINGTON ARMS



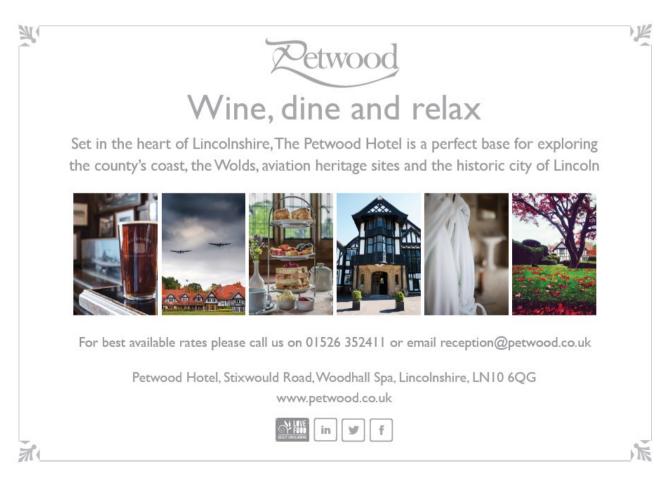
Food is served Tuesday to Sunday between noon and 2pm and 6pm - 9pm Sunday Lunch available noon - 2pm

> tripadvisor Certificate of Excellence

A family run traditional pub restaurant serving good home cooked food with a selection of cask and keg ales.(CAMRA Good Beer Guide) 3.5 miles from Coningsby and 2 miles fromWoodhall Spa.

Families, children and dogs welcome. The bar has a warm coal fire in winter. Outside the patio area is covered ensuring a dry seat whatever the weather and the pleasant beer garden has a gazebo and children's play area.

> All Year Round -A great place to eat and drink! Always advisable to book Telephone 01526 354560





POPPY'S PAGE Here we are again, with the summer holidays looming and lots of activities to take part in at the museum. Whether you like to play with fabrics, splash around with paints, do arts and crafts, or just have fun and games in the garden, it is all here. Remember there will lots to do in the museum over the 40's weekend, so whatever you do have fun. Bye for now. Poppy

Events and Activities for the Summer

Family Learning Activities

Wednesday 8th August

"Fabric Fun" 10.00 am – 12.00 pm

Come and learn how to do rag rugging by creating a fabric picture. All materials and refreshments included. £3.00 per person. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Wednesday 22nd August

"Create and Paint" 10.00 am – 3.30 pm The theme for this activity day is "Alice in Wonderland"

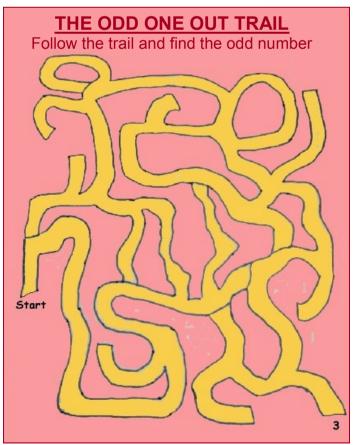
10.00 am -12.00 pm Have fun making a variety of crafts including crowns, masks, hats and clocks.

1.30 pm – 3.30 pm Fun and games in the garden including flamingo croquet and a visit to "The Rabbit Hole" for stories and rhymes.

The morning session is £3.00 per person including craft materials and refreshments.

The afternoon session is £3.00 per person.

The cost for both sessions is £5.00 per person. You are welcome to bring a picnic lunch, we have awnings in case of wet weather and hot and cold drinks will be available all day.



You can follow the Odd One Out Trail in the museum during the School holidays

Booking for these sessions is advisable. To book a place please contact Gill Noble on 01526 353455 or email

info@cottagemuseum.co.uk

Gill Noble



A recent "Play with Clay" family activity



The Friends of the Woodhall Spa Cottage Museum

Friends Committee

Acting Chairman: Membership Secretary: Committee Members: Patricia Duke-Cox Judy Everitt Margaret Reed Ann Houlton Martin Fearn

Hello to all Friends and Volunteers,

Do look at the What's On Guide to the right of this page as there is so much coming up over the forthcoming months. We would be delighted to see you at these events that we have arranged for your pleasure and entertainment.

The biggest event in the year for Woodhall Spa is the 1940s weekend and we are delighted to be one of the venues in the village that supports this by providing both musical entertainment and a VIP visitor in the form of Winston Churchill. This year the Sunday parade starts in Iddesleigh Road, so do come along and see that.

As a pre-cursor to the event we have arranged for a concert by the Lincoln Ukulele Band on the Friday evening at the Methodist Church Hall. This was a sell-out last year.

At the end of July we start our Music in the Garden Sunday afternoon performances with CATS, another Ukulele event and we continue throughout the whole of August with four more performances. These include Colin & Gerry, back by popular demand, Mike Warwick with his hits from 1970s onwards, then Mark Addison with "Between the Lines" and finally the recently formed group, "Sing it Loud Woodhall Spa", with Liz McIntosh. All these events are free and the café will be open for afternoon tea and cakes.

On 9th September we host the Boston Veteran Cycle Club. They will park their cycles on the front lawn but also cycle around the village, some in costume. On 16th September we offer free entry for the national Heritage Open Day scheme. The following week there will be a talk on John Wield and the Great War. This talk has been researched from the Museum's archive by Dr Duke-Cox and will be held in the Community Room with free entry. Please register your interest with the receptionist at the Museum.

On 27th October we have arranged a social meal for Friends and supporters with some interesting Snail Racing as a diversion! More details nearer the time, but please put it in your diary.

Patricia Duke-Cox

<u>Come and Join Us</u>

The backbone of the Cottage Museum is our volunteers and some of them are putting a lot of hours in and could really do with a hand. Can you help? Do you have a few hours to spare in the month? It does not have to be a massive commitment. There are numerous opportunities with a person to look after the Community Room bookings very much needed.

If you would like to find out more without committing yourself then please call us on

01526 352456



What's On Guide

Lincoln Ukulele Concert Methodist Church, 6 July at 7.30 pm £5

> **1940s Weekend** 7-8 July, all day

Music in the Garden All from 2.00 - 4.00 pm entry free

Refreshments available

Sunday 29th July CATS Ukulele Group

Sunday 5th August Colin & Gerry

Sunday 12th August Mike Warwick

Sunday 19th August **Between the Lines**

Sunday 26th August Sing It Loud Group

Boston Veteran Cycle Club visit 9 September 11 am to 3.30 pm

John Wield and the Great War 19 September, 2 – 4 pm Community Room Free

Supper and Snail Racing 27 October 7 – 10 pm Coronation Hall

See also www.cottagemuseum.co.uk & www.woodhallspa.org

