

# Friends of Lytham Hall

## Newsletter

Registered Charity No: 1069442

[www.friendsoflythamhall.org.uk](http://www.friendsoflythamhall.org.uk)

Issue 70

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### **Setback to Restoration Work**

*In 2011 a £2.4m Heritage Lottery Fund [HLF] grant was awarded to the Heritage Trust for the North West [HTNW] for the restoration of Lytham Hall. HTNW manage Lytham Hall on behalf of the owners, Lytham Town Trust under a 99 year lease agreement. This grant was subject to £3.5m being raised publicly to 'match' this award. There have been difficulties and delays in raising this amount, and a revised bid was recently submitted to the HLF for a reduced programme of work matched to the funds that had been raised, including a contribution from the Friends of Lytham Hall.*

*As you will read in the attached Press Release from HTNW, issued this week, the HLF have rejected this revised application. This is very disappointing news and will further delay the start of vital restoration work on the Grade 1 listed building.*

*However, as many of you will have seen, much work by an army of volunteers has been transforming the grounds and the Tea Room has been greatly improved, bringing in much needed revenue.*

*HTNW will be discussing with their funding partners a revised programme of work and we will keep you informed through our Newsletter, emails and our new website [www.friendsoflythamhall.org.uk](http://www.friendsoflythamhall.org.uk).*

*We will be re-doubling our fundraising efforts to ensure that the work on restoring the Hall can continue.*

*Lambert Dopping*

*Chairman, Friends of Lytham Hall*

### **Summer Bedding in the Parterre**



**Following the great success of the tulip bulbs, which had been provided by a donation from the Friends of Lytham Hall, I was disappointed to hear there was no budget allowance for a follow-on summer bedding scheme. I was therefore pleased to be able to use the generous donations given in lieu of flowers at my mother's recent funeral to pay for the summer bedding plants.**

**The remaining money has been donated to the Friends of Lytham Hall charity. My mother, Madge O'Callaghan, always enjoyed visiting the Hall and particularly enjoyed the snowdrop walks.**

**Pamela Greenhill**



### **The Friends of Lytham Hall Great Gatsby Ball**

*The ball was organised by the Ball Committee of the Friends of Lytham Hall and was held at the Clifton Arms Hotel, Lytham because it was anticipated that work would commence this year on the front of the Hall. The event raised £7,500 towards the Restoration Fund.*

*The main sponsor for the past few years has been Mercedes Benz of Blackpool, who had a fleet of luxury cars on the hotel forecourt.*

*The room was beautifully decorated by the Wedding Company, Lytham in 1920's style with black and ivory with lots of pearls and ostrich feathers on the tables.*

*There were some wonderful prizes donated by very generous local businesses such as a day at Cartmel Races with catering by Paul Rowley, and chauffeur-driven transport from Mercedes.*

*The evening was attended by 140 guests, most of whom were dressed for the occasion in Gatsby style.*

*Sue Havenhand*



### **The Friend's Bookshop**



The success of the second hand bookshop continues and we are running short of stock. It's time to think about having a summer de-clutter and recycle those unwanted books. Donations of the following, in good saleable condition, are urgently needed:

- **Paperback fiction**
- **Hard back non-fiction** such as Cooking/ Gardening/ Biographies/ Art/ Music
- **CDs and DVDs**

If you have items other than those listed above, or if you wish to make a large donation (say more than 20 books), it would help if you would first contact Eddie / Jo James via [friendlythambooks@btopenworld.com](mailto:friendlythambooks@btopenworld.com).

### **Our New-look Website**

We have a new website:< [friendsoflythamhall.org.uk](http://friendsoflythamhall.org.uk)> which is currently being developed and is well worth a visit.

## **How the Cliftons of Lytham Hall Ended Up In the United States**

**by Lauren Beth Herriges Kinter**

*In 1694, sometime after being acquitted of the fictitious charges of the Lancashire Plot, and subsequently released from the Tower of London with his brothers, James Clifton, son of Thomas Clifton and Ann Halsall left for the religious toleration of Maryland. Anne Brent Clifton, his wife, was the niece of Leonard Calvert, the first Governor of Maryland, so there was more than religious freedom to be found on the other side of the Atlantic. The name of the ship that he took is not known.*

*When James arrived in the New World, he arrived in the colony of Virginia, where he stayed for some time. In addition to claiming his wife's dowry, he bought a sizable amount of land. This land, however, would play a significant role in the history of the United States. The dower lands were later sold to the Washington family, and Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington, was built upon it. A while later, after spending considerable time with his in-laws, James Clifton went back to England, dying in 1714 as a recusant at Salwick House, one of the Cliftons' sizable land holdings. However, by this time, this branch of the Clifton family was well settled into the New World.*

*James and Anne's son, Thomas, was born in 1675, and joined the Jesuits in 1698. He left them a year later, leaving for Virginia shortly after. He spent time in Bermuda with some of his Brent cousins, and finally settled in Virginia, marrying a young widow named Sarah (nee Ashton) Alexander in 1706. In 1708, he died the same year as the birth of his son, Burdet Clifton.*

*Little is known about Burdet's early life, but he married Frances Hill in 1732, and they had six children: Thomas, born April 20, 1734; twins Burdett, Jr. and Baldwin, born February 3, 1736; Anne, born August 24, 1737; and twins Jane and Elizabeth Clifton, born May 14, 1743. Unfortunately, Frances died on the same day as the birth of her twin girls, as did one of the girls.*

*Two years later, on May 18, 1745, Burdet married a Mrs. Grace Seaton. On March 17, 1746, their first son, Henry Clifton, was born. Their second son, Charles Clifton, was born on December 12, 17*

### **Membership Renewals**

**May we please remind you that membership subscriptions renewals became due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June.**

**For those of you who pay by Standing Order, this will have automatically happened through your bank. Your continued support of the Charity is much appreciated and vital in securing the future of Lytham Hall.**

## Sad Loss of Two of our Loyal Supporters



### Jean Wilding-Walsh

We were sorry to hear of the death of our vice-president, Jean Wilding-Walsh at the age of very nearly 95.

She was a former councillor, Alderman and Mayor of Fylde, and a generous supporter of the conservation of Lytham Hall from the start.

She enthusiastically ran a bric-a-brac stall for many years at our Autumn Fairs and, through the Friends of Lytham Hall, paid for the restoration of the bell outside the courtyard in memory of her husband Eddie Walsh.

Jean's contribution to the Fylde has been of great value and she will be remembered with respect and affection. This photo was taken at the blessing of the newly restored bell in 2009.

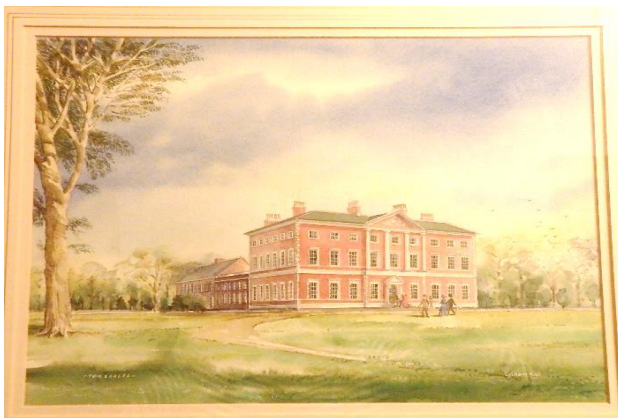


### Tom Eccles

Local watercolour artist, Tom Eccles supported the Friends of Lytham Hall with a generous donation of a painting of the Hall for the first major fundraising venture, a prize draw.

The painting boosted the funds further when it was donated to a Friends' charity auction.

He also painted a winter scene of the Hall for the Friends of Lytham Hall to make into very popular Christmas cards and regularly attended our Autumn Fayre to sign cards and prints.



Tom had an acute sense of the heritage of Lytham and painted its cobble walls, its atmospheric old buildings and its people, creating many happy scenes of bygone days. It was wonderful to have such a talented local artist who could interpret the area so brilliantly.



## Outdoor Theatre Events



The Friends have again been busy supporting the outdoor theatre events at the Hall, providing refreshments in all weathers! *Wuthering Heights*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Ruddigore* were all well-attended, and still to come is the matinee performance by Illyria of: Roald Dahl's **Danny the Champion of the World** on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August at 4.00 pm.

Tickets: Adult £13    Concessions: Senior/student £10    Schoolchild £6.50

ON LINE BOOKING: [www.illyria.uk.com](http://www.illyria.uk.com)

LOCAL TICKET OUTLETS:

Lytham Hall phone 01253 736652

Plackitt and Booth, Booksellers, Lytham 796958

Lowther Pavilion 794221

Stringers Homelife 740700

Storytellers Inc., St. Annes 781690

Bennetts Bakery, Ansdell 736318

**Friends of Lytham Hall can order their specially priced tickets directly from Julian Wilde by e-mail without any extra fees: [julian.wilde@btinternet.com](mailto:julian.wilde@btinternet.com) .**

### Contacts:

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*Lytham Hall – bookings etc.* (01253) 736652

*Websites:* Friends of Lytham Hall: [www.friendsoflythamhall.org.uk](http://www.friendsoflythamhall.org.uk)

Lytham Hall: [www.lythamhall.org.uk](http://www.lythamhall.org.uk)