

PERSHORE CIVIC SOCIETY SPRING 2021 NEWSLETTER

www.pershorecivicsociety.org

Message from Chairman Michael Hodges:

Dear Member,

Despite the challenges presented by COVID 19 the Pershore Civic Society has managed to make an active start to 2021.

Your committee have so far hosted three evening Zoom talks that have enabled those with the appropriate technology to enjoy presentations from the comfort of their own homes. However, but it cannot be denied that the chance to meet up in person remains something we look forward to with eager anticipation. When the pandemic is past, we may well decide to offer a mixture of actual and virtual meetings over the Winter months to try and meet the expectations of all members.

Meanwhile, as a formal consultee the Pershore Civic Society has also been able to play a key role in defending the Almonry Close site scheduled for re-development by Rooftop Housing Association. Whilst their endeavours to provide suitable housing in sustainable locations is admirable, the architectural treatment of this sensitive site, which overlooks Pershore Abbey & Park, must also be considered. Via the appointment of an expert building historian, the Pershore Civic Society has submitted an architectural significance report that seeks to defend the site from over-development and from inappropriate design.

As the Summer approaches the Pershore Civic Society plan to roll out a programme of visits originally planned for 2020. Understandably, these will be announced when your Committee is confident that the venues will be able to welcome us and when we can be assured that compliance with the then applicable guidance can be met.

Thank-you all for your support. Let us hope that 2021 is memorable as they year when we re-emerged from the pandemic with a fresh appreciation of all that holds us together as a society – in the widest interpretation of the word!

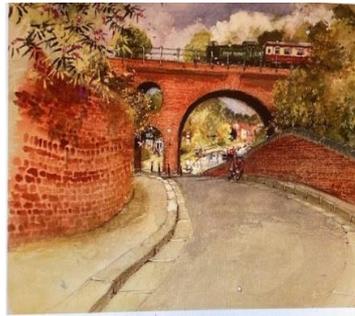
Yours sincerely,

Michael Hodges
Chairman

During the early part of this year when we were in full lockdown the Civic Society was determined to carry on with events albeit abiding by restrictions with the aid of zoom, which although not perfect with the odd freezing taking place, has proved its worth during these difficult times and thanks have to go to our chairman for managing and hosting the technical aspects of presentations.



Broad Street, Pershore



Worcester

DAVID BIRTWHISTLE gave 2 fascinating talks with illustrations in December and January showing a collection of his iconic paintings of many local scenes including Broad Street here in Pershore. He pointed out that he could always be found in one of his scenes featured as either the man in red in the distance, a cat or a dog!



Otto von Bismarck aged 34

The next talk was by Chris Bristow in February who gave an informative and very entertaining presentation on the topic of " Otto Edouard Leopold von Bismarck 1815-1898". This focussed on Bismarck's role in the unification of a diverse collection of states and principalities to form modern Germany. Arguably his achievements continue to have an impact on life today in Germany, the EU and beyond. Chris is currently in the process of completing his book on the subject – this year's Christmas present?

AVON BOATING

The latest presentation was given by Keith Goddard who showed a fascinating selection of photos of life on the River Avon during the last century including a picture of Pershore Mill and the original Watergate (demolished during the 1950s) to facilitate better navigation of the river and construction of the various locks.



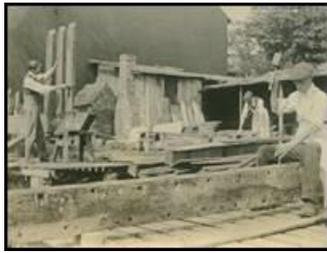
Evesham Ferry cartoon

Pershore Mill

Future events:

Wed 12th May 7.30pm via zoom
THE HISTORY OF SELLY MANOR

Next on the agenda is a talk via zoom with illustrations on The History of Selly Manor, Bournville by Daniel Callicott manager of Selly Manor Museum, showing the history of its mediaeval origins to the incredible story of how it was saved from demolition and moved to Bournville in the early C20th.



Stages in Selly Manor demolition and reconstruction

For details of the zoom link contact: Debby Rowley email: deb.rowley@btinternet.com
or see website: www.pershorecivicsociety.org

Sat 10th July 10am-1pm

PHOTO SHOW

St. Andrews Hall

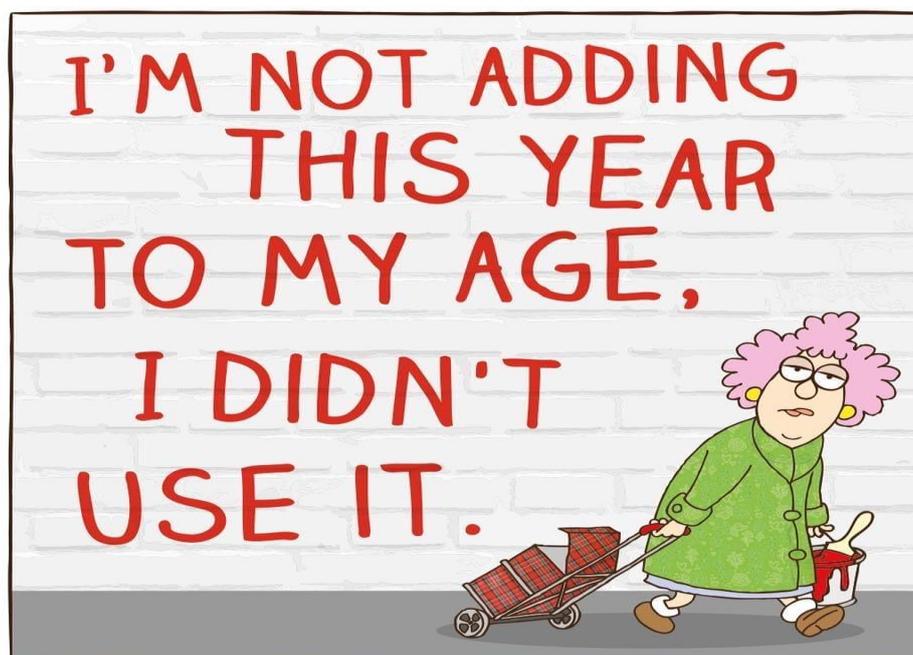
The Photo Show in St. Andrews Hall has been changed from its usual date in June to July and is of course, dependant upon Covid restrictions being fully lifted.

FUTURE VISITS:

Following the cancellation of a tour of Cotswold Churches, a visit to the Organic Orchard in Drakes Broughton and to a Blacksmiths Forge here in Pershore it is hoped that these can be rescheduled later this year, again all dependant on government regulations.

Further information will be given on our website: www.pershorecivicsociety.gov

Keep safe everyone and hope to see you soon



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