

# LUDLOW

## HERITAGE NEWS

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# THE JUBILEE GARDEN

On a blazing-hot June day, eighty of the most significant donors and campaigners for the Jubilee Garden came together for its formal opening. Sir Roy Strong performed the ceremony, having been a vocal supporter to save the land from development. He was introduced by our own President, Sir Keith Thomas, and thanked by The High Sheriff, Rhoddy Swire DL.

We here reproduce the speeches given at the opening ceremony, which help to explain why this project was so important. The Society is very pleased to have saved this land and turned it into a public garden for all to enjoy.





# THE JUBILEE GARDEN

## SIR KEITH THOMAS

As President of the Ludlow Civic Society, I'm delighted to welcome you all to this, the formal opening of the Society's Jubilee Garden, which all of you here have helped to make possible.

What we are celebrating is the triumphant conclusion of a battle which the Society has been waging since 2003, when a developer first put forward a plan to build five executive houses on this very site. For the next seven years, the Society, led first by its Chairman, Jim McFarlane, and its Secretary, Valerie Thomas, fought desperately to resist this appalling plan. They were not helped by English Heritage, who first rejected the scheme as wholly inappropriate and then disgracefully changed their minds, or by the Public Inquiry after which the Inspector came down on the side of the developer. Fortunately, the developer then found that his scheme was not feasible.

In 2010 another developer took an option on the site. There was huge opposition from the local community, led by John Nash, who was Chairman by this time, and skilfully orchestrated by Simon Buteux, who lived in the Reader's House. We were supported by outside experts, like Gavin Stamp in Private Eye, and architectural historians as far away as Russia. Nevertheless, in February 2011, the Shropshire Strategic Planning Committee gave the new developer permission to go ahead. But then the Church asserted its ownership of the old wall, which the developer would have needed to knock holes in. That was decisive and the developer abandoned his scheme. In 2012, by a heroic effort, led by John Nash, assisted by an anonymous 'White Knight' who underwrote the whole cost while the money was being raised, and thanks to the enormous generosity of you all, the Society succeeded in buying the land. This great victory was celebrated a few months later when HRH the Prince of Wales visited the site and inaugurated the garden by cutting a symbolic weed. Thanks to the hard physical work of Richard Hurlock, the Civic Society's current Chairman, and the horticultural brilliance of our Secretary, Juliet Diamond, there are no weeds here today, not even symbolic ones. We also owe thanks to our Treasurer, Alan Layng, who organized today's event.

The Garden celebrates Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and we are very pleased to have with us the Deputy Lieutenant and High Sheriff, Rhoddy Swire, who will say a few words on behalf of the Crown. But first we are honoured and delighted to have Sir Roy Strong to declare the garden open. Sir Roy is a man of many parts: museum director; art historian; diarist; autobiographer; and prolific writer on a huge range of subjects from



L to R: Sir Keith Thomas, Tim Gill (Mayor), The High Sheriff, Roddy Swire DL, Sir Roy Strong and Civic Society Chairman, Richard Hurlock.

the Coronation ceremony to the history of the English country church; and he is a dandy, the Beau Brummell of our day, endless creating new identities for himself by imaginative changes in his dress and appearance. Everything he does is life-enhancing. His appointment two years ago as a Companion of Honour consolidated his status as a national treasure.

He is here today, not only because in 2010 he lent his influential support to the campaign against the five houses, but because he is also a superb historian of gardening and himself the creator of one of the great gardens of England, the Laskett. We could not have had a more appropriate person to open the Jubilee Garden and I now have great pleasure in inviting him to do so.

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## SIR ROY STRONG CH

First I must note that the High Sheriff – who as a Deputy Lieutenant is standing in for the Lord Lieutenant – is far more glamorously dressed than myself.

I have become a professional opener of new gardens in this area. About a month ago I opened the new Nelson Garden in Monmouth which was similarly a wonderful effort by the Monmouth community and people within the vicinity, to restore a garden in which Nelson and Lady Hamilton had tea in 1805, or something like that. But it was a very moving occasion because, as in the case of this one, it began by the bringing together of a community in a garden project.

Well, what can I say about Ludlow other than that I fell in love with it when I came here in about 1958 to see a matinee of Comus in the Castle, and from thereon, it has absolutely entranced me. Then we came to live in Herefordshire – which I know is the 'other' county – and have always had good and loving friends in Ludlow. Then in the 1990s, after I had left the V&A, I remember doing a series of programmes on BBC 4 about our historic cities and about how many of them had been absolutely mucked up. But you were not one of them. And why wasn't Ludlow mucked up? Because things like the Ludlow Civic Society were here, busy with caring, knowledgeable about the history of the place, the ambience and the unique survival of somewhere so intimately precious and special.

Well, Sir Keith has already told you what a battle it has been. You won in the end, but my goodness it was a long haul. I mean, how could anybody even think of building executive homes here – the mind boggles. Here you are – the east end of one of the most beautiful churches in the Welsh Marches with the wonderful Palmer's Guild chapel and the Reader's House now in the



hands of people who were absolutely made for it. (Well, I'd love to clip those yew trees into shape, and I will join a campaign to tidy up a few things around here!) So everything is going for Ludlow.

A garden is always something beneficent, and to have a little garden in the middle of Ludlow is a beautiful idea. The garden is beautiful – you can already see it – it has a gentle, reconciliatory, friendly and appealing aspect to it which we catch here on a brilliant June day of this year,

I'm always very moved by these occasions because to me the garden symbolises England.

One goes back to Rudyard Kipling and that marvellous poem (which is far too materialistic and would be cut off everybody's list today as not being politically correct – but I still love it to bits.) What else can I say? Nothing really. I want to declare this garden open.

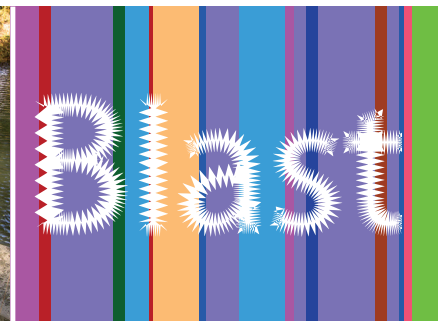
[Unveils information board to applause.]

There is a bit in one of the Jane Austen novels – one girl says to another: 'Is he a man of information?' Well, this board is definitely a man of information about this garden – it records

exactly how it was done, and the volunteers. And do remember this – it's not very easy. You raised money, you worked hard, you fought up hill and down dale – all the different aspects. (I have fought similar battles of my own.) It's one thing to get this far, it's another to keep it going. I think that's terribly important. You're going to depend on volunteers, so I do implore you – use this garden. Not just to come and sit in, but to have an annual Ludlow Civic Society summer drinks party or something. Make something happen in the space.

And now I want you to raise your glasses in salute – I'm glad you're dedicating it to our Queen's Diamond Jubilee. A fortnight ago I was present when she came to the Abbey and she went through the new Diamond Jubilee galleries. Amazing at 92. She is most extraordinary – never forgets anybody, never bats an eyelid, and on she goes. And may the same thing be applied to this garden – long may that go on.

To the Ludlow Jubilee Garden!



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## RHODDY SWIRE DL, HIGH SHERIFF OF SHROPSHIRE

Thank you very much, Sir Roy.

Sadly, the Lord Lieutenant can't be with us here today, but I know that this project is particularly dear to his heart. I am very happy to stand in for him, both as Deputy Lieutenant, and also in my year as High Sheriff. I'm not sure if that's a BOGOF deal or not!

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales also has a very keen interest as he came here to cut

the symbolic weed that existed, and certainly has wanted to be kept in touch with progress. The Lord Lieutenant will advise both Buckingham Palace and Clarence House that we – and I say we – have completed this task. It has gone through many twists and turns as both Sir Roy and Sir Keith have said, but one has arrived.

With every solution there is another problem – which is to keep it going, and making use of it. I'm sure all of you will come up with lots of ideas about how it can be integrated into

Ludlow, particularly with its peaceful nature and tranquillity. I live in Broad Street, and it is stunning to me how quiet our garden is, despite the cars and the motorbikes and the babies, and everything else that goes up and down Broad Street.

The Church is going to mark this celebration with a peal of bells, so it only remains for me to thank Sir Keith and Sir Roy, and, almost more importantly, to thank all of you and everybody who has contributed time, money, blood, sweat and tears...and a few prayers when the battle has been at its closest.

Thank you all for coming, and thank you, Sir Roy, for opening the garden.



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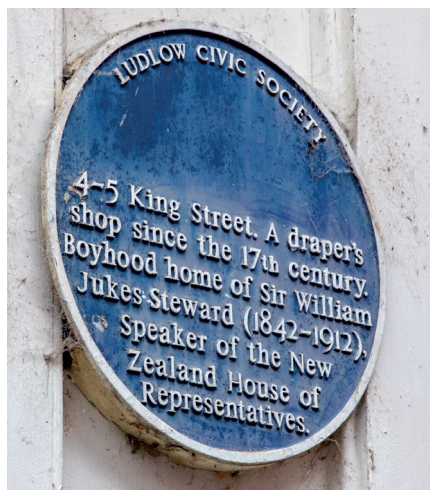
# SIR WILLIAM JUKES STEWARD MP

## FORMER SPEAKER OF THE NEW ZEALAND PARLIAMENT

*Geoffrey Collier*



*By permission of The Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.*



*Blue plaque with incorrect birthdate.*

Sir William Jukes Steward could correctly be described as a son of Ludlow, albeit one adopted by the town at an early age. He was born in Reading, Berkshire, on January 20th 1841, to William Steward and his wife, Ann Jukes, who migrated to Ludlow when son William was a young child. The family business was that of draper and they traded from 4-5 King Street, Ludlow, now identified with a blue plaque, although it wrongly gives his date of birth as 1842. (Fig 1 & 2).

As a pupil at Ludlow Grammar School (1851-55), he distinguished himself as a talented and disciplined student. He was awarded the Examiners' Prize in his final year, but had a nagging doubt regarding his future. As he was a non-conformist, Oxbridge was barred to him, and this arbitrary exclusion from his talented contemporaries was to remain with him all his life. (His frustration is articulated in verse 7 of his Jubilee Ode which can be found at the foot of this article. Steward wrote a considerable amount of poetry; it would be fortunate if students in Ludlow schools and colleges were acquainted with it.)

In 1862, after the death of his father, William Steward emigrated to New Zealand. For the first few years he gained employment in the drapery trade, but a significant change in his professional life came in 1867, when he was appointed editor of the Oamaru Times. Subsequently, Steward was to buy a series of small newspapers which included the North Otago Times, the Ashburton Mail and Guardian, and, most significantly, when

he moved to Waimate, the Waimate Times. This was to result in a change in his circumstances and social status. The political electorate of Waimate were to become familiar with Steward's political opinions, and in 1871 he was returned to the New Zealand parliament. Unfortunately, boundary changes were to see Steward lose his seat in the 1876 election, and this was compounded by Steward's being on the wrong side in a controversial political debate concerning the structure of provincial government. (He was an 'abolitionist', a designation which will be explained later.)

That setback presented an opportunity for Steward to serve as Mayor of Oamaru from 1876 to 1879. This was to assist him in his political career as his period as mayor coincided with the installation of the local water supply, significantly reducing the death rate. Credit was directed to him, and he was being hailed as a talented public figure, but he chose not to seek re-election as mayor, and, fortuitously, was free of involvement and blame when a substantial economic depression followed the 1879 mayoral election.

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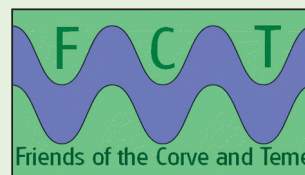


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The opportunity was not lost by the electorate to return Steward to parliament in 1881, and this was to be his first profession for the remainder of his life. He was certainly conscientious in his parliamentary duties, serving a total of forty-one years. He was absent on only one occasion and that resulted from the ferry connecting the North and South Islands experiencing mechanical problems.

Steward's parliamentary duties were not the only demands on his time. He was concerned with the defence of New Zealand, and served for many years as a major in the NZ Volunteers. In addition, he was a journalist, Justice of the Peace, horticulturist and a member of assortment of educational boards and Royal Commissions. Steward was an opponent of provincial government, (an 'abolitionist'), but that did not prevent his serving on the Otago Provisional Council from 1875 until provincial government was finally abolished the following year.

Steward was to become a notable 'first' in various areas of political life in New Zealand, mostly by chance. For example, historically, members of parliament had been elected as independents, but, increasingly, political party groupings were maturing, with Steward gravitating towards the Liberals. The election of December 1890 brought the Liberals to power, but the incumbent Speaker had lost his seat. Finding a new one was fairly contentious, and for the first time in New Zealand political history the Speaker was decided by a vote of MPs collectively, with Steward winning by seven votes and becoming the Parliament's first elected and Liberal Speaker. Steward's liberalism was of a very individualistic variety. At a time when many social élites believed that the multitude must be protected from their own folly, Steward was a strong advocate of the electorate's participation, with a conspicuous role for referenda in the electoral process. Not only did he believe that the rules should be defined, but that they should also have the force of law as their foundation.

His partiality for legislation on a wide range of matters resulted in his parliamentary colleagues' good-humouredly identifying him as the 'Beast with a Bill'. It was during his latter years that his health started to decline. A man of action, he was now being constrained by the vicissitudes of age. In 1911 he was appointed to the Legislative Council, but that was to last only until June 1912. His distinguished life was rapidly drawing to a close.

Those who have momentarily forgotten the constitutional history of New Zealand, may welcome a brief recapitulation of the salient points. With the status of being a colony, Maori chiefs ceded New Zealand to the Crown in 1840. An unelected Legislative Council of New Zealand existed between 1841 and 1951. Its powers were limited and it even lacked the authority to make laws. Originally, appointees were chosen for life at the judgment of the Governor. This remained the situation until 1891 when appointees were made for a seven year term. In 1852 New Zealand became self-governing and an elected House of

Representatives was established under the New Zealand Constitution Act of that year. Increasingly, appointments to the Legislative Council became the prerogative of the Prime Minister. A bicameral system had now been created comprising an unelected Upper House and an elected house of Representatives, with both components comprising the General Assembly.

The relationship between the two houses was not harmonious for many reasons, but one factor was a constant source of friction. The role of the Upper House to scrutinise legislation impartially, when many members had been elevated by the Prime Minister of the out-going administration, was deemed to lack credibility. That, however, is a weakness in many unelected second chambers. In 1947, the continuation of the Upper house had lost support across the political spectrum, but its abolition required changes to the 1852 New Zealand Constitution Act, as that statute had its origins at Westminster. Via the 1947 Westminster Adoption Act that impediment was removed, and in 1951 New Zealand abolished its Upper House and reverted to being a unicameral parliament, which is unusual in a modern state.

Sir William Steward's contribution to the Legislative Council was of short duration. He was to die on 30th October 1912. The written obituaries to him were generous in their appreciation of his public work and also acknowledged his personal integrity and many kindnesses.

He was a family man who, in Dunedin in 1873, married Hannah Whitefoord, daughter of the Rev. Caleb Whitefoord of Burford, near Ludlow. They produced one son and three daughters.

## A JUBILEE ODE

by William Jukes Steward  
(written on the occasion of the Jubilee of New Zealand)

Verse 7

'And within thy peaceful cities temples fair of Learning stand,

Art and Science, Music, Painting, grace and elevate the land,

And in ev'ry smiling hamlet see the neat-built schoolhouse free,  
Opens wide the gates of knowledge, needing not the golden key.

'For no cruel class distinctions bind thy people in their thrall,  
And the road to fame and fortune opens broad and free to all,  
Manhood lifts a brow undaunted, conscious of its high estate,  
Rich and poor, and great and humble, equal all before the State.  
Here the very breath of freedom fill the pure and healthful air,  
Verily, O fair New Zealand, thou art free as thou art fair.'

His life still awaits significant recognition in the town in which he was educated, and which was strongly instrumental in affecting his political thinking. The chemistry of circumstances frequently allows such omissions to be remedied.

### Bibliography:

*Autobiography of a Counterjumper*  
William Jukes Steward.

*Vision of Aorangi and other poems*  
William Jukes Steward.

Records of New Zealand Parliamentary Debates.

Fielding Star (Nov. 1912)

Obituary of Sir William Jukes Steward MP.

Parliamentary debates. Record of obituaries.

*Copy of birth certificate with correct birthdate.*

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| 1                                                     | January 17th 1841   | William Jukes | Boy | William Jukes              | Hannah Whitefoord                          | Draper               | James Jukes                                       | 17th Jan 1841   | [Signature]            | William Jukes                   |

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# FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF ALEC CLIFTON-TAYLOR'S 'SIX ENGLISH TOWNS'

Stanton Stephens

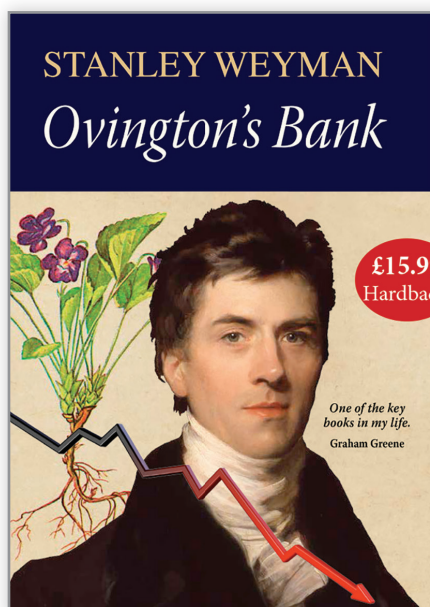
Many of you will remember the excitement generated by the screening on Friday 8th September 1978 on BBC 2 of Alec Clifton-Taylor's programme on Ludlow in his ground-breaking series of 'Six English Towns'. To some of you it may have been your first introduction to Ludlow. Ludlow, which was Alec Clifton-Taylor's favourite town, was last in the series.

Others may remember the special screening of it in the Prince Charles suite in the Feathers Hotel, which formed part of the 1979 Ludlow Summer Festival and in which Alec Clifton-Taylor made a guest appearance. David Lloyd memorably asked the question, 'Why wasn't Ludlow on the front cover of the accompanying book?' to which Alec Clifton-Taylor replied that he had no say in such matters! The series

went on to spawn two further series, 'Six More English Towns' in 1981 and 'Another Six English Towns' in 1984. Three books were published to coincide with the series which all went on to become best sellers, so much so that the BBC published paperback editions of the individual towns to satisfy demand! What is certain is that it is very unlikely that such a programme would be commissioned by the BBC today. Architectural

critic Jonathan Glancey, writing in the Guardian stated, 'It wouldn't work today. A lovely old duffer in a viyella shirt, tweed jacket and wobbly hat pottering about six small English towns with a camera crew in tow and speaking quietly of their simple virtues.' So it seems an appropriate time to take a look back at the series, its presenter and how the series came to be made.

Part of the success of the series lay with the choice of presenter. Alec Clifton-Taylor (1907-1985) was a highly respected architectural historian who was catapulted to television stardom by the series or, to put it another way, he had the manners of an eccentric English



Novelist Stanley Weyman (1855-1928) was born and worked at Ludlow's 54 Broad St.

He was, in his day, as famous as Dickens, although now largely forgotten.

His novel *Ovington's Bank* is considered his best and is set in a fictional Shrewsbury.

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schoolmaster who dispensed learning with a fervent passion. Born in Sutton, Surrey, he was educated at Bishop's Stortford College and Queen's College Oxford, followed by a period at the Courtauld Institute of Art in London. He followed in the footsteps of architectural historians such as Nikolaus Pevsner (to whose *Buildings of England* he was a contributor), John Betjeman, John Summerson and Christopher Hussey. His best-known work was *The Pattern of English Building* (1962) in which he championed the vernacular tradition of English architecture. This was followed by *The Cathedrals of England* (1967) and *English Parish Churches as Works of Art* (1974). Simon Jenkins in his seminal volume *England's Thousand Best Churches* paid tribute to the author, claiming that his volume on English parish churches 'remains the best general book on church appreciation'.

Alec Clifton-Taylor was introduced to BBC arts producer John Drummond through Nikolaus Pevsner. Drummond was very much in the tradition of Lord Reith who thought that broadcasting should educate as well as entertain. He had been involved with the ground-breaking art series *Monitor* during the late 1950s and early 1960s. In 1969 he became executive producer for BBC 2 arts features and was heavily involved with Kenneth Clark's *Civilisation*. Drummond got Alec Clifton-Taylor to present a programme on medieval architecture in the television series *The Spirit of the Age* (1974-75) and was very impressed with the way his style of presentation was received. This eventually led to the commissioning of a series on English architecture which was eventually to become a series about English towns, with Clifton-Taylor as both writer and presenter.

Six towns were chosen with the help of Bruce Norman, executive producer and Denis Moriarty, producer: Chichester, Richmond, Tewkesbury, Stamford, Totnes and Ludlow. In the first episode Alec Clifton-Taylor set out what he aimed to do in the series: 'These are not guide book

programmes. Our main concern will be with looking at buildings and especially with houses. I'd like every programme to be an exercise in Looking. Looking at the changing styles and fashions. And at the traditional building materials of England.' All the towns chosen had had their historic cores designated under the Civic Amenities Act of 1967, the first having been Stamford. He went on to say that because of this 'their future preservation will be secure.' He was also heartened by the number of people in these towns 'unselfishly devoted to the subject of their town's future'.

The Ludlow programme contained, as would be expected, two lengthy sections devoted to both the castle and parish church. He was particularly impressed by the hexagonal porch and the misericords at St Laurence's. This part of the programme concluded with a diatribe about the nature of many English churchyards which had been filled with 'screaming white marble from Italy, polished pink granites from Aberdeen, pepper-and-salt granites from Cornwall, shiny blacks too, and various other totally inappropriate materials'. Ludlow's grave clearance, while being not quite right, he thought was a good compromise 'a broad expanse of mown lawn always enhances the dignity of a large town church...providing a valuable 'lung' in what may otherwise be a heavily built-up area.'

He then went on a general preamble around the town discussing the development of the town with reference to specific streetscapes and buildings. It was in this particular segment of the programme that some of his most memorable quotations regarding Ludlow's architecture were made. How can one forget his description of a house in Broad Street as a building whose diamond-shaped lozenges recalled nothing more than 'a visit to the oculist'? Also in Broad Street, his description of number 39, 'But whoever would have thought of having Venetian windows and nothing else? Eight of them. A prize example to be sure of over-egging the pudding.'

Alec Clifton-Taylor was no fan of Victorian architecture, and said, 'It is hard to find a good, even a bearable Victorian building in Ludlow. He called the Methodist Church 'a painful jog' amongst the Georgian houses which surround it. Worse was to follow. 18 King Street was called a 'Victorian abomination' and 1 Dinham 'a high-Victorian shocker'. His least favourite building in Ludlow was the Market Hall of 1887. He never saw its demolition in 1987, and one can only speculate as to how he would like to have seen the space utilised.

Through this television series Alec Clifton-Taylor became a minor television star. He was awarded an OBE in 1982 for 'services to the study of architecture'. To return to Jonathan Glancey, 'Architecture is a notoriously difficult subject to get across on television....I still think these programmes are some of the best made on architecture, buildings and places, because I learned so much from them.'

In 2003 on the 25th anniversary, we invited the five other towns in the first series of *Six English Towns* to send us accounts of what had happened to them in the intervening years. We ended with an account of Ludlow written by Martin Speight. These articles will be available soon when the relevant editions of *Heritage News* are downloaded onto our website.



*Alec Clifton-Taylor with the classic Ludlow panorama as a backdrop.*

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# THE SUMMER PARTY

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In the spirit of trying something new, the Committee decided to switch from having a Christmas party to a summer one. Rather than just repeat the December evening ritual in July, we ventured into that hottest of current fashions for the sophisticated socialite – upmarket afternoon tea.

On a July day a room in the Castle was transformed into a top London hotel tearoom, with beautiful table decorations, proper tablecloths, tiered cake-plates and delicate cups and saucers.

Fifty members and guests then enjoyed an elegant afternoon tea. Fancy cakes, delicate sandwiches, scones and strawberries were all washed down with glasses of bubbly....along with cups of tea, of course. Everyone had enormous fun and were most impressed by the feast provided by the marvellous team of workers.

We will consider in due course whether this was just a one-off change to the regular pattern, or whether we stick to the new summer timing.



*Ludlow Civic Society members enjoying an afternoon tea in The Beacon Rooms at Ludlow Castle.*





# COMMITTEE NEWS

## CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Following the successful reception of the larger format for our 'Georgian Number', we are continuing with the new look, a testimony to the design and editing abilities of the magazine team as well as the contributors. After several issues with a central theme, this one is a bit of a mixture, with a range of eclectic articles.

Continuing the theme of innovation, I must mention the Summer party as an alternative to the Christmas Drinks party. A glass of fizz and cucumber sandwich in the sun-drenched setting of the Castle (all right, we were very lucky with the weather!) has provided enough positive feedback to encourage us to repeat the experience next year.

A further experiment is the change of time for the season of talks, beginning with Dr Sylvia Pinches 'The Almshouses of Shropshire and Herefordshire: a social and architectural history' at the Methodist church in Broad Street on

Wednesday 14th November at 4.00 pm. Time and attendance will confirm the wisdom or otherwise of this idea. The year's outings have included Compton Verney, Pitchford Hall and Worcester. All seem to have gone very well, leaving the prospect of the Richard III 'experience' at Leicester in 2019, all of which deserves a huge vote of thanks to Jane, Gaye and Roy.

Recently, the Society sent a circular letter to householders potentially affected by fronting onto the town's cobbles. In the absence of any lead, example or initiative from those who should be conducting repairs, and being the recipient of a

raft of empty promises, we have decided to repair one section in Broad Street. This is to point out the method, cost and feasibility of the way things should be done by the Council and the utilities, and remove the commonly cited excuse that there is no example to follow. We will not be liable for maintaining the work, and the whole venture is focussed on jabbing official inertia with a pointed stick on the basis that 'Nothing happens until something moves.' (Albert Einstein)

A goodly number of generous members have made donations to the scheme, which we hope to start very soon, after the interminable health and safety permissions have been completed! I'm sure it wasn't like this in Telford's day...

*Richard Hurlock*

## MEMBERSHIP, TALKS AND EVENTS

This past year, 2017 into 2018, has been marked by a greater diversity and range of activities than we have attempted before. The opening of the Jubilee Garden appears elsewhere in the magazine.

As regards our main programme, there has been a small shift towards excursions and visits with slightly fewer evening talks. The highlight of the spring, as heralded in the last issue, was our trip to Compton Verney to see the Ravilious exhibition which was complemented in May by Alan Powers's talk about this artist. An interesting feature in March was the talk on Town Walls and their preservation in general and Londonderry Walls in particular. We hope this will promote ongoing interest and networking for the future of Ludlow's town walls. September will have seen the visit to Pitchford Hall which has attracted huge interest, and in October we will have visited Worcester.

The entire Committee and partners were involved in our Summer Tea Party held in the Beacon Rooms with an amazing attendance of over sixty people on one of the warm and sunlit days marking this summer. Real gratitude is expressed to all seventeen of us who made elegant cakes and sandwiches, poured the sparkling wine,

served the tea and cleared up!

Looking forward now to the coming year's programme, members will see that we have a mix of topics ranging between art, history and architecture. All members will have been asked by email to reply and express any interest they have in a visit to the Richard III tomb in Leicester in the spring of 2019.

The talks will continue in the Methodist Church, but the time will be earlier - 4 pm. The Committee have changed this as an experiment and will ask members if they like the idea of not turning out in the evenings in the winter months when most talks are held. We hope the changed time is popular and that more members will venture forth and swell the audience.

As always, your views and thoughts about talks and speakers will be gratefully received, and, of course, if you know anyone of interest who would like to talk to us, please be in touch.

*Jane Hunt*

*Membership Secretary and Talks/Events sub-committee.*



## GETTING OUR HANDS DIRTY

It's not all dull meetings for the members of the committee. We had noticed that the flowerbeds in the passageway to the Women's Centre were full of debris, and so the society's Guerrilla gardeners were sent out to deal with under the leadership of Vice Chairman Tony Mahalski. A tough morning's work and some much-needed pruning and thinning yielded two bin fulls of garden rubbish. Joules Brewery who own the Rose & Crown next door were so pleased with this effort that they joined the Society as corporate members - welcome!



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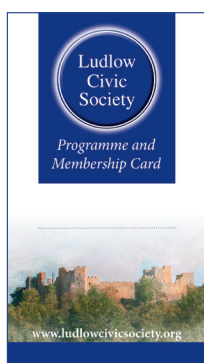
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# IF YOU LOVE LUDLOW



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2. We need your support in our fight against over-development and bad design.
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To: The Membership Secretary, Ludlow Civic Society,  
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Please accept my/our application to join the society.

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Responses to articles are always welcome.

Please address your letters to:

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If you care about Ludlow and its surroundings and if you  
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### Ludlow Civic Society 2018 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

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