Bingham Heritage Trails Association

Past, Present and Future

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Bingham Heritage Trails Association

- How did we start?
- What have we done?
- How do we do it?
- How do we pay for it?
- Where next?
At our beginning...

There was Hilda Smith!

Who called a meeting!

To talk about setting up a new Town Trail with blue plaques
Objectives

• Bingham Heritage Trails Association aim is to raise the level of public awareness of Bingham’s heritage.

• The Association takes an holistic view of heritage, including geology, archaeology, history, the built environment and natural history of the parish of Bingham.

• So we have an educational role – so charity, so formalised and structured objectives and a constitution

• Charitable status would help credibility and make fund raising a bit easier
Previously

• Wortley

• WEA – 18th century

• WEA – Victorian Bingham
Five leaflets...
... and a web site

The Bingham Heritage Trails Association was founded in the year 2000 with the aim to increase awareness of the richness of Bingham’s heritage. The Association takes a holistic view of the heritage, including geology, natural history, archaeology, history and the built environment of the parish of Bingham.

Bingham is situated in Nottinghamshire England

For Aims and Objectives click here

Our latest newsletter is available for downloading here

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• Needed cash!
  – Lottery — LHI - £13000, HLF (£23000 then £33000)
    » Awards for All - £2000 for churchyard survey
  – NCC Local Area Forum (lectures)
  – Bingham Town Council (lap top)
  – Local councillors have charitable funds available
  – Bingham United Charities
  – East Midlands Geological Society
  – Fund raising
    » Fair
    » Book sales
    » Social events calendars
Projects

• We are a research based organisation, so we do projects
  Some lottery funded

• History of Settlement of Bingham (Book 2010)
  – Field Walking the parish
  – Reconstruction of old maps from estate surveys
  – Crow Close - Is it a DMV?
  – Three house histories

• Churchyard Survey

• Roots and development of Bingham
  • Garden pits
  • More house histories
BHTA in action!

Winter teamwork!
By mid 1400s the Peripheral concentrations had virtually disappeared. Note none in Ox Pasture.

Was this a reorganisation by new owner, Stapleton, to establish the Open Field system?
BHTA – the story so far

Example of the scatter of one person's holdings
Non sponsored research

- School log books
- Old newspapers
- Convert census to data base
- Convert parish records to data base
- Bingham at war
- Collect trade directories into data base
- Wills and Inventories
- Photographic archive
Occasionally we do silly things like rescuing a Roman Well and converting the cemetery into an arboretum!
Garden Pits
Garden Pits

• Part way through project
  – Professional training
  – Volunteers from advert in CBA newsletter etc
  – Included primary schools
  – Expert examination
  – Data base

• Analyse to see if get a picture of build up of town
  – Already have Roman settlement we did not know about
  – Saxo-Norman finds around church area
  – Medieval wider scatter
  – So may be able to map how Bingham expanded/infilled
Town Trail and arboretum
Lessons

• Work with professionals as advisors
• Keep the press informed
• Work with local councils and councillors
• Professionally designed and managed website
• Keep community involved- emails, volunteers for projects, membership base, appear at events, newsletter
• Keep the whole thing tightly managed
• Be professional
Future of BHTA

• Need a succession plan

• Not clear where the next people are
  – They are probably still working and will turn up when they retire!

• Heritage room, exhibitions and talks may help find them
To come

Aim is to make material available for display and research in a Heritage Room in restored Manor House

– but that’s another story!