

# Frinton & Walton Heritage Trust

**NEWSLETTER** [2025: 3 of 3]

**Winter 2025**



***Festival of Essex Archaeology & Heritage 2015***

***Dinosaur Day Doubled!!***

***Flypast: Almost But Not Quite***

***Apple Day Fair***

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## **Report & Notes from the Chair**

Thank you to everyone who has helped the Trust throughout 2025 with all its activities. What a year!! I have been looking through the photographs taken during the last six months and am amazed, and reminded, of the variety of activities we have all taken part in this year. Some of those events are recorded within this Newsletter, though there are many other activities which helped to promote the Trust.

We have managed to provide 'First Aid at Work' training for the first eighteen of our volunteers and hope to encourage more to do this course once further funding can be found. We must thank Woodruffe Benton Foundation who gave the Trust a grant of £1,000 which was used to fund this training.

Linda and I attended the Anglia In Bloom award ceremony, and subsequent seminar, to support David Foster and Frinton In Bloom. The Trust has hosted the visiting judges for a number of years and are pleased to report that Frinton was awarded 'Best Small Town' with a Silver Gilt. We were only two points shy of a Gold. See page 11 for a report on the It's Your Neighbourhood awards.

The Victoria County History conference at Galleywood on Medieval Crime in Essex was fascinating and found the Trust its first speaker for the 2026 lecture series, see page 19.

I enjoyed taking part in the two Dinosaur Days where we greeted several hundred visitors and children to both sites (see page 14). The T Rex puppet, representing a two-year-old animal, was so lifelike. The actor within the costume must be admired for coping with its weight in such heat.

With the membership of the Trust already over 370, we hope to continue to expand the membership and make every effort to encourage relationships with other local clubs and societies within our area of benefit; and heritage organisations further afield.

I hope to meet many of you at our Membership Day on Saturday, 3 January from 10 am to 12 noon, at 120 Pole Barn Lane, where you can drop in and renew your membership for 2026.

John Barter, November 2025

## **National Lottery Heritage Fund: an update**

by Rachel Baldwin & Peter Vadden

Phase 1 of our National Lottery Heritage Fund grant, awarded in 2024 and covering a two-year period, comes to an end early in February 2026. The funds were awarded to cover a ‘Phased Strategy for Development’ which included the start of the archive digitisation programme, the ‘development of the newly-acquired site at 120 Pole Barn Lane into a modern, welcoming and informative museum offering many opportunities and outcomes for the local community, schools, visitors and volunteers’, as well as consulting with the public to improve our offer overall.

The Trust continues to review its stated aims and achievements against the application bid and is preparing a report for submission to the Lottery, explaining how we have measured up against our intentions and targets: where we have achieved our goals and where there is still more work to be done.

The Lottery has four ‘investment principles’ which guides grant decision-making until 2033. All four principles have to be taken into account when making any application and every applicant must consider: ‘how does our project reflect what the Lottery wants to do for heritage and how will it help them achieve their ambitions for heritage?’ The four investment principles are:

- Conserving and valuing heritage, for now and the future;
- Protecting the environment;
- Inclusion, access and participation; and
- Organisational sustainability.

Our Phase 2 bid will follow the evaluation of Phase 1, taking what we have learnt over the last two years, to develop a programme which will expand our offer at the Museum & Heritage Centre in Pole Barn Lane, together with our Headquarters at Crossing Cottage. Overall, we want to develop and deliver a sustainable exhibition, events and activities programme, with defined and measurable results across the board to our audiences: children and adults, locals and visitors alike.

The Heritage Fund section of the National Lottery website contains interesting insights into its expectations of all bids and, together with the

summary of our Phase 1 bid, is a useful tool to understand the Trust's aims and ambitions for the future. We expect to be able to submit our Phase 2 bid at the end of spring or early summer of 2026. We will update you at the Annual General Meeting in May. To this end, we would appreciate some input from our members: what do you think the Trust should be doing to improve its profile within the area, to attract more volunteers, to make more of an impact on the local heritage, and to increase awareness of our local heritage assets, for instance?

This is not the chance for a 'We want a new....' type of response, but 'We could do xyz' to make the Trust more responsive to its responsibilities as a champion for local heritage. If you are a member and have ideas, then please get in touch with us. If you are a member who has ideas and would like to help us put them into practice, then even better....

The Trust is now 41 years old; we have submitted our application to the Charities Commission to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) so that our trustees are fully responsible for all decisions that are taken. We now have an operational handbook, for the first time, which clarifies how the Trust's myriad activities fit together through the work of six sub-committees. We are preparing role guidelines for all volunteers and a new website is under development. So, we are well into the transitional phase of reinvigorating the way we work, which neatly falls under the NHLF's heading 'Organisational sustainability'!

This is your opportunity to get more involved, so please contact us via [fwheritage.co.uk](http://fwheritage.co.uk) if you would like to help Frinton & Walton Heritage Trust continue to achieve maximum impact for heritage in our local area.

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Statistics: As a matter of interest, the Museum at 120 Pole Barn Lane had over 1,200 visitors from April to the end of September and although free to enter, we recorded £1,321 in donations. There were two exhibitions: one on how the local geology affected what grew and lived along this coastline and the other, on the area's development from early settlers to the present day. The Trust is very grateful to the team of volunteer stewards who kept the Museum open Saturdays, Sundays and bank holidays throughout the season.

## Festival of Essex Archaeology & Heritage 2025

by John Barter



The Trust was invited to exhibit at the first Festival of Essex Archaeology & Heritage at Cressing Temple Barns on Thursday, 24 July, 2025. At 7 am the team from the Trust began setting up our display in the Court Room, in one of the barns, which we shared with Burnham-on-Crouch U3A Archaeology Group. The Trust took the Test and Learn display which was a reproduction of our first exhibition at the new museum at 120 Pole Barn Lane, together with some of the

large mammoth bones from the collection. We were also able to have a small shop area selling our publications. From 10 am to 5 pm the organisers estimated that over 1,000 people attended the Festival.



We gave out hundreds of Trust leaflets and quite a few subsequently came to visit the Trust's sites in Frinton. There was also a series of lectures during the day. Peter Vadden and Rachel Baldwin, from the Trust, participated with a presentation entitled "Bringing Life to the Museum and the Museum to Life". This brought more people to our stand seeking information.



Although a long day, it was great fun and we hope to do it all again next year should Essex County Council run another Festival.



## Flypast: Almost But Not Quite

By Geoff Rayner



This year saw the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the loss of an RAF Hawker Hurricane fighter aircraft, shot down during the Battle of Britain, and the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the loss of a Royal Canadian Air Force Handley Page Halifax four engine bomber, just a few weeks before the end of war in Europe. Both aircraft fell at the Naze, just a few hundred yards apart, with no survivors from either aircraft.

To commemorate the loss of the nine airmen from these two aircraft, the Trust arranged for a ‘flypast’ at the Naze by aircraft from the RAF’s Battle of Britain Memorial Flight. As a spin-off, it was also hoped the event would help draw attention to the state of the Royal Air Forces Association (RAFA) memorial in the Walton Memorial Gardens next to Walton Parish church. The date for the flypast was chosen to coincide with one of the two days of the Clacton air show. The Memorial Flight’s Lancaster, Hurricane and Spitfire were due to be at the show and so would be close by. All was set for Thursday afternoon, 21 August.

The ‘flight engineer’ on the ill-fated Halifax was RAF Sgt Douglas Cooke. Although the Halifax was from a Canadian squadron (No.432 Squadron RCAF), and its crew were primarily



Canadians, it was not unusual for the RAF to provide the aircraft's flight engineer. Douglas Cooke left a widow and a young son, Colin. In later years, Colin moved to America but very recently he and his family have relocated back to England. The date was in their diaries and they would be attending.

The gathering at the Naze was also to include the rather imposing Scammell Pioneer heavy recovery vehicle which, in 1973, had hauled



the remains of Pilot Officer Gerard Maffett's Hurricane from the Naze mud. At that time, it was being used as a recovery vehicle by Kennings of Marks Tey. It was only later, when it was retired and bought by Dedham resident, Nigel Everett, that its former RAF heritage was discovered. Nigel restored the vehicle to full running order and returned it to its former RAF livery.

Thursday afternoon, and the weather could have been better. At least there was no rain, but there was a stiff breeze amplified by the exposed position of the Naze cliff top. An hour to go and news came though that the Memorial Flight's Lancaster had a problem with one of its engines and wouldn't be taking off. Also, the wind was out of limits for the 81-year-old Hurricane, so that just left the Spitfire.

Half an hour later and a further update announced that the Spitfire had developed a problem and so, with apologies, there would be no 'flypast' that day neither at Clacton or the Naze. Naturally it was a disappointment, but not unexpected for vintage aircraft of that age, which was made clear when the flypast was booked. The RAF needs to take great care of its heritage flight, both of the elderly machines themselves and the young aircrew who fly them. All sadly brought into focus only last year with the loss of one of their Spitfires and its pilot.



**The Memorial:** In 1973, a group of local people and cadets from 308 Squadron Air Training Corps excavated the remains left behind by the wartime salvage teams of both Naze aircraft. The considerable remains of Pilot Officer Gerard Maffett's Hurricane were sent to the RAF Museum at Hendon. Three propeller blades from the crashed Halifax were formed into a memorial erected in the Walton memorial gardens by members of the Frinton & Walton branch of RAFA. In 1978, a well-attended dedication ceremony included the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Essex, a representative from the Canadian High Commission, a group of Canadian Air Force staff serving in England and a relative of the Halifax's navigator, who had flown over from Canada especially for the occasion.

The memorial gardens had not long been created from what was an overgrown graveyard. As such the trees were small, the whole area was relatively open and the memorial was easily seen from the adjacent roads. Forty-seven years of vegetation growth has meant that the memorial is now largely hidden from view. Proximity of the foliage has helped moss form on the memorial and damp has aided corrosion of the metal propeller blades which are beginning to delaminate. It will not be long before at least two of the blades are beyond salvation.

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Footnote: Despite the absence of the planes, the Trust's display, which included parts of aircraft recovered off the Naze out of the collection, was well received. We gained two new members, sold some books and there was even some cash in the donation box.



Photos by Martin Leech, CPAGB

## The Garden in Autumn

by Marion Mear

It's nearly November and we are putting the Cottage Garden to bed for the Winter. So, we've all been busy cutting back all the perennial flowers that made the garden look so lush during the Summer, and thinning out the geraniums which tend to mount a takeover bid if we aren't firm with them. And there are others which are slightly thuggish too; the Helianthus (perennial sunflowers) just love to make bigger and bigger clumps which, although they look jolly and colourful, in the end drown out everything else. Tim has been waging war on these and I think he's enjoying doing it. Phlomis and something that looks a bit like Golden Rod, are others that just grow too well and need to be curbed; we're working on that. Once we've got the thugs under control, we'll start mulching as Bev (Queen of the compost) has produced bags and bags of wonderful compost which certainly makes our garden grow.

The big development this year was the vegetable plot which has been a tremendous success. Beans, beetroot and potatoes were all snapped up as soon as we could put them out for sale, and a lot of green tomato chutney is also being made. Frank is now looking after the plot and chard, parsnips, spinach and spring onions are all coming on well. Plans for what will be grown next year are all in hand and all this year's favourites will be available again.

And what else is being planned? Well, we're going to build a fruit cage and so we hope you will enjoy our own soft fruit; raspberries, strawberries and maybe gooseberries and blackberries too.

In the spring you'll see a lot more daffodils as Richard has been busy planting and I think that will look so joyful.

Sue continues to look after the herb bed, and we've welcomed Carolyn and Sandra to the team as well as Frank. Having extra pairs of hands really helps us to continue to make the garden the wonderful place it has been for so long, enjoyed by so many visitors and residents whenever it is open.

Come and see us on the third Tuesday of the month during the winter months, 10 am to 12 noon. Refreshments are available for a small donation and there may even be some produce and plants for sale.

## Heritage Trust Wins High Awards

By John Barter



Frinton & Walton Heritage Trust volunteers are grateful that their hard work in the Frinton Crossing Cottage Garden, the Frinton Station Railway Garden and the raised flower beds in Station Approach have been acknowledged by Anglia In Bloom and the Royal Horticultural Society. Out of

the ten It's Your Neighbourhood (IYN) awards earned by Frinton In Bloom this year, the Trust received three. The Crossing Cottage Garden received the highest accolade of *Level 5 - Outstanding* because the volunteers positively welcome visitors to what has become a quiet oasis next to all the comings and goings of a busy road and rail junction. Friendships have been formed and developed among the volunteers who steward Crossing Cottage and Trevor Bright Railway Museum and maintain the surrounding gardens.

The Frinton Railway Station car park garden, with the old Railway Gates and London Liverpool Street Station memorabilia was awarded a *Level 4 – Thriving* certificate and the five Community Engagement Gardens flowerbeds outside Crossing Cottage also received a *Level 4 – Thriving* award.

The Trust which hosts the In Bloom judges each year at the start and finish of their tour, has supported Frinton In Bloom for many years. Following the recent Anglia In Bloom seminar at Brandon, Suffolk, the Trust would encourage In Bloom groups in our local towns and villages to enter their own IYN awards and apply to join the In Bloom family.

The Trust's volunteers are so proud of our achievements this year and of our work improving the quality and ambience of the Crossing Cottage Garden with its new vegetable bed, wild flower woodland area and enlarged pond. The Trust welcomes visitors to the gardens during the winter on the third Tuesday of every month, from 10 am to 12 noon. Come and enjoy the peace and quiet. Tea, coffee and biscuits are available for a small donation.

## **DIARY OF**

**These two pages have been designed for you to pull out**

**New Year's Day Walk (see page 20)**

**Thursday, 1 January, 2026, 10:30 am**

Crossing Cottage Garden, Station Approach

Cost: £5 contribution towards the wine and food.

**Members' Day at the Heritage Centre (see page 24)**

**Saturdays, 3 and 10 January, 2026**

**120 Pole Barn Lane, 10 am to 12 noon**

Come and see us on these Saturday mornings,  
have a cup of coffee and pay your membership dues.

**Indoor Bric-a-Brac Sale**

**Saturday, 28 February, 2026**

**10:30 am to 1:30 pm**

**The Methodist Church Hall, Fourth Avenue, Frinton-on-Sea.**

**Admission £1**

Bric-a-Brac, books and small items of furniture for sale.

Refreshments available.

**Lecture Series *The Essex Witch-trials of 1645* (see page 19)**

by Professor Alison Rowlands, FRHistS; PhD; FHEA

**Tuesday, 3 February 2025**

McGrigor Hall, Fourth Avenue, 7:00 for 7:30 pm

Entry Members £5, non-members £7.

Tea/Coffee and biscuits served from 7 pm

**Special Members' Night - *Local Treasures* (see page 20)**

**Tuesday, 3 March, 2026**

***Frinton to Paris via Beijing an Interview with Martin Tinsley,***

McGrigor Hall, Fourth Avenue. – 7 pm for 7:30 pm

Ticket price: Members £5, Guests £7 to include a glass of wine. During the interval there will be an opportunity to purchase further refreshment.

## **TRUST EVENTS**

**and pin to your notice board to remind you of events**

### **Lecture Series *Frinton Park Estate and Oliver Hill***

by John Barter (see page 20)

**Tuesday, 7 April, 2026**

McGrigor Hall, Fourth Avenue, 7:00 for 7:30 pm

Entry Members £5, non-members £7.

Tea/Coffee and biscuits served from 7 pm

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### **Tuesday Winter Coffee Mornings in the Garden**

Frinton's Crossing Cottage Garden, Station Approach, Frinton-on-Sea:

10 am to 12 noon:

on the third Tuesday of the month.

16 December, 2025

20 January, 2026

20 February, 2026

19 March 2026

Refreshments, preserves, plants from the garden or any surplus home grown produce available for a small donation.

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### **Museum Openings**

**The Museum and Heritage Centre**

**120 Pole Barn Lane**

Will be open from Easter.

Please check the website for opening hours.

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**Do please check the website for the latest information about  
The Trust and its events – [www.fwheritage.co.uk](http://www.fwheritage.co.uk)**

## Around the Trust - Dinosaur Day Doubled!!

by John Barter



The Trust planned and produced a wonderful event on 12 & 13 August. We commissioned Renta-Dinosaur to come to Frinton to put on their show and arranged it so both of the Trust's sites, Crossing Cottage

Garden and 120 Pole Barn Lane, were involved. The main show, for up to 100 visitors twice a day, was at the Cottage while the mammoth bones in the Trust's collection were on display in Pole Barn Lane. After each show, the T Rex led the visitors from the garden to the Heritage Centre, through the traffic at



the Gates and down Pole Barn Lane where there were additional activities for the children.

The original booking was just for 12 August. However, all 200 tickets were allocated through the booking system in just 48 hours and we were then fielding phone calls from our disappointed



members; so arranged the second day. In the end, as we now understand often happens with a free event, many people just didn't turn up! So, after the first show, a shout out was put up on our social media by Pauline Jefferys to just turn up; luckily many did.



Lots of people, including many, many children, had a wonderful day, interacting with the dinosaur puppets as you can see from some of the photos.



The Trust, as it was a free event, qualified for a grant from the UK Prosperity Fund through TDC of £1,000, with the rest of the costs being funding through the National Lottery Heritage Fund grant.

## **Around the Trust - Events in the Cottage Garden**

### **Apple Day Fair, Saturday 11 October, 2025**

By Ann Gladwell

I'm glad to say that we have had another successful year of garden sales; thankfully helped along by the clement weather of 2025.

We were exceptionally lucky on Apple Day, as Storm Amy hit the country on the Saturday before. Had it been one week later, we would have been forced to cancel!

The proceeds from the Spring Fayre, the Bric-a-Brac sale and Apple Day combined, amounted to a figure approaching £5,000. But if we factor in the indoor Bric-a-Brac sale in February [the profits from which would show up in last year's financial year accounts as at 31 March 2025] then we are looking at a figure far exceeding £5,000 for the past year. It seems that although slightly fewer people actually attend our sales than in years gone by, the visitors who do attend, spend very generously.

Obviously, we are totally dependent on the work of our amazing volunteers and members, who between them, provide all the goodies on sale. Not to mention the stalwarts who turn up every time to spend their money, often queueing outside for quite a while before we open, held back and often entertained by John Barter! I think he has built up his own personal following among the regulars!



Though rather short on donations of cakes and savouries at the last sale, a last-minute SOS, put out on social media by Pauline Jefferys, brought in enough goods to make the stall viable. So, many thanks to all members who responded to the call.

I'd like to give an extra mention to the gardening 'newbies', who innocently joined the team, expecting to do gardening alone, and found themselves roped in to volunteer at our garden sales as well!

As usual, I will finish by thanking everyone involved, be they workers, donors of goods, or spenders; you're all essential in helping The Trust raise essential and much needed funds.



Photos by Martin  
Leech, CPAGB.





## **Around the Trust – Winter Lecture Series**

**Tuesday, 7 October, 2025**

### ***Tools with a Mission* by Paul Wiseman**

In a fascinating talk, Philip Wiseman left his audience better informed and generally enthusiastic about the work of Tools with a Mission (TWAM). He gave us a brief history of the organisation, founded in 2004, explaining its structure and work. He made clear the purpose of TWAM which is to lift people out of poverty, working mainly in such countries as Malawi, Zaire and Uganda. Tools and equipment donated are assessed, repaired and enhanced in the UK, chiefly by volunteers with individual special skills, before being packed and then sent from the UK to the various countries involved.

Each country has a local partner who creates a list of needs and seek to fulfil it through TWAM. In many cases, it is possible for a business to be created for the benefit of the local economy. The range of items required and used for such ventures included spades, sewing and knitting machines, haberdashery etc., the list is almost endless. One man's rubbish can give life and work to someone else. The substantial costs involved are funded purely through voluntary donations, there being no government funding for this type of project.

We also heard from Peter Simpson who runs Tendring Tool Refurb, our own local organization based in Beaumont, who explained that they work to refurbish items donated which are passed on to TWAM if appropriate.

There is an obvious benefit in supporting these two organizations in that items passed to them and reused would normally have ended up in our own landfill, so we are helping ourselves as well. All in all, a really good evening, sadly not well supported by members. However, those of us that went came home thinking about how we might be able to help people less fortunate than ourselves in the future.

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**Tuesday, 4 November, 2025**

### ***Wrabness Mine Depot,***

#### ***A Journey from Sea Mines to Turtle Doves* by Kevin Marsden**

This lecture was full of interest; Kevin Marsden was able to illustrate some of the uses of the site which is somewhat larger than most of us had appreciated. Pictures of the vast quantity of ordinance stored in the various

huts during World War II will stay with those who witnessed them for many a day. One just has to be grateful that they were not hit by any marauding enemy bombs. More happily, Kevin was able to show how the site had been developed in such a way that it is now a major reserve for the Essex Wildlife Trust. It is clearly worth a visit for the paths in the reserve are fairly level and probably within the capacity of most people. The number of species seen birds, plants, butterflies etc., is very impressive and will keep any naturalist happy for hours. An enjoyable evening deserving of a bigger audience.

by Tony Barrett

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### **Forthcoming Evening Lectures**

McGrigor Hall, Fourth Avenue, Frinton-on-Sea

7:00 for 7:30 pm Tea and Coffee available from 7:00 pm

Admission £5 members, £7 non-members

**Tuesday, 3 February 2025**

#### ***The Essex Witch-trials of 1645***

by Professor Alison Rowlands, FRHistS; PhD; FHEA

Alison Rowlands, Professor in European History at the University of Essex, has research and teaching interests in the history of witch-trials in Germany and England. She has always been intrigued by the lives and actions of everyday people in the past, especially in response to persecution and trauma.

Her talk will discuss the first phase of the East Anglian witch-trials of 1645/7, which took place in the Tendring Hundred of Essex in 1645, offering answers to these questions: Why did the trials start and which communities did they affect? What were the fates of the women accused as witches by their neighbours and what role did the witch-finders, Matthew Hopkins and John Stearne, play? And why did the trials then spread to Suffolk?

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**Tuesday, 7 April, 2026**

#### ***Frinton Park Estate and Oliver Hill***

by John Barter

To celebrate 90 years since the completion of the modernist houses in Frinton Park Estate, the Trust will be putting on exhibitions and organising special events during the year. To kick this off, John will give an illustrated talk on the Estate and the leading architect, Oliver Hill.

**Trust Events**  
**New Year's Day Walk**  
**Thursday, 1 January, 2026**

Cost: £5 contribution towards the wine and food.

Members and Visitors welcome

A volunteer will lead our traditional New Year's Day walk. Meet at Crossing Cottage, Station Approach, at 10:30 am, walk off any excess indulgence that may have occurred during the festive season and return to the cottage for mulled wine, sausage rolls and mince pies provided by The Trust.

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**Indoor Bric-a-Brac Sale**  
**Saturday, 28 February, 2026**  
**10:30 am to 1:30 pm**

**The Methodist Church Hall, Fourth Avenue, Frinton-on-Sea.**

**Admission £1**

Now a regular event in the Trust's diary, there will be plenty of Bric-a-Brac, books and small items of furniture for sale. Refreshments available.

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**Special Members' Night**  
***Local Treasures***

**Tuesday, 3 March, 2026 – 7 pm for 7:30 pm**

Come and join the Trust at the McGregor Hall for a special evening; the first in a series of illustrated interviews with some of the exceptional people living in our community, who are themselves, part of our heritage through their work or volunteer activity.

***Frinton to Paris via Beijing***

Martin Tinsley, long-time resident of Frinton and President of Frinton-on-Sea Lawn Tennis Club for over ten years, has had a fascinating career and has also contributed locally in many other ways. The talk will cover his wide ranging and sometimes surprising interests.

Ticket price: Members £5, Guests £7, to include a glass of wine. During the interval there will be an opportunity to purchase further refreshment.



## Notes from the Potting Shed

What a glorious summer we have had, both good and bad for the gardens. The very hot and dry weather gave us a bit of a headache trying to keep our plants watered and alive. On the good side, the gardens were enjoyed so much more this year and people started to ask whether we should be planting more drought tolerant plants – food for thought.

Plant sales have been really good throughout the summer and we were kept very busy planting up donations of your plants as well as many dug up from Crossing Cottage Garden flowerbeds that needed to be split and potted up.

Apple Day was getting close and we wondered if we would have any plants left to sell. However, donations started arriving a few days before and we had quite a lot of indoor plants which were very popular. David Foster arrived on the day with lots more plants which soon sold. We did our bit for Apple Day and picked apples from a garden nearby, where the owner was unable to pick them herself, but donated them to the Trust to swell the sales of fruit. Rethna also gave us a shout to pick her quinces so we could sell them on Apple Day. Quince jelly is lovely and a customer, who took a box full, gave us the recipe as he makes it every year.



Well, the rains finally arrived and the lawns and plants have started growing a treat.

We work all the way through the winter and public opening is now on the third Tuesday of the month until Easter. Do come along, have a coffee, a chat and enjoy our lovely gardens. If you fancy joining us for a bit of gardening, you are always made welcome.

Happy Gardening, Pat, Pauline and June

**Winter Tuesday Coffee Mornings in the Garden**  
**Frinton's Crossing Cottage Garden,**  
**Station Approach, Frinton-on-Sea:**  
**10 am to 12 noon:**

We have now started the winter coffee mornings on the third Tuesday of the month. We will be serving tea, coffee and biscuits and there will be the opportunity of purchasing preserves, plants from the garden or any surplus home grown produce. Also, local history books, posters and cards will be for sale. Come and enjoy the calm and tranquillity of the gardens.

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**IN MEMORIAM**

The Trust wishes to record the passing of the following Trust members:

**Georgina Rosemary Butler 'Gina'** died on 24 October, aged 95 years. She was the daughter of Thomas Allen, one of the most famous stamp dealers in the World, and a long-time resident of Frinton. Gina helped with local history research for some years and was a member of many local organisations.

**Diana Linda Frances Cobb**, died on 24 September. A member of the local Paxon family, she was also a baker, a marvellous seamstress and a member of the parish church choir. Once at a Trust talk on Paxon's, Diana remembered taking apart and restuffing clients' mattresses when she worked at the family business in Old Road during the 1950s; not a nice job! Diana and her late husband, Trevor, were the Frinton Station Adopters for many years and won awards for their work.

**Bill Ferreira**, formerly of Frinton, whose wife Claire died some years ago, passed away in London on 8 November. We last saw Bill at Claire's memorial service here in Frinton.

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## The Heritage Hive

by Beth Jackson

A new WI sub-group led by myself and Viv Stansfield commenced in October with the Heritage Centre and Museum being hired for these meetings. John Barter and Rachel Baldwin, from the Trust, kindly came to join us at the inaugural meeting where the history of the development of



Frinton-on-Sea was discussed before viewing the displays in the Museum. John kindly continued to support the group at the second meeting where our House Deeds, Covenants and the historical by-laws were discussed in relation to Frinton on Sea.

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### Elizabeth Bruce 'Liz'

It is with much regret that we announce the retirement of Liz Bruce, the Trust's Archivist. As many of you know, Liz's health has been getting worse over the last year and she has finally come to the conclusion that she cannot continue. Liz came to the Archive some 27 years ago to work with Joan Barter, the Trust's second Archivist, and took over the role when Joan died in 2006. Liz has curated many exhibitions both at the Crossing Cottage and the Walton Maritime Museum and, over the years, given talks and produced displays for many other events promoting the Trust.

She was also a vital part of the History Group, researching and producing the Trust's three history books of the area and, hopefully, will be able to continue dispensing her knowledge on the current project, the village of Great Holland. The Trust thanks her for all her valuable work over the years; it has been much appreciated.

**Members' Day at the Heritage Centre,  
Saturdays, 3 and 10 January, 2026  
120 Pole Barn Lane, 10 am to 12 noon**

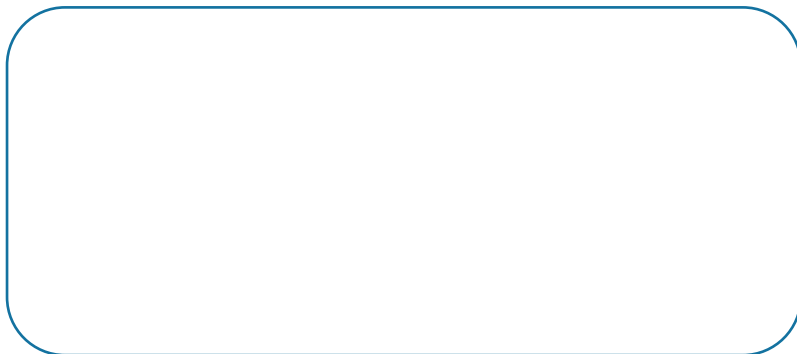
Come and see us on a Saturday morning, have a cup of coffee or tea and pay your membership dues. See the renewal letter included in this Newsletter for details. There will also be an opportunity to see the displays in the Museum if you have missed them during our open season.

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**Community Meeting Room for Hire, 120 Pole Barn Lane**

The meeting room at 120 Pole Barn Lane can be hired for small meetings at £25 per session - 9 am to 12 pm, 12 pm to 3 pm and 3 pm to 6 pm or by arrangement. There is Wi-Fi, projector, screen and a portable hearing loop available, plus a kitchenette with kettle and fridge. There are also twenty chairs and two tables (4 ft x 2 ft); included in the cost of the hire.

**Booking:** Email: [secretary@fwheritage.co.uk](mailto:secretary@fwheritage.co.uk) or telephone: 01255852993



**Ask your friends to join the Trust!**

For further information about the Trust, contact the Honorary Secretary, Linda Ellis on 01255 852993 or email: [secretary@fwheritage.co.uk](mailto:secretary@fwheritage.co.uk)

Visit our website [www.fwheritage.co.uk](http://www.fwheritage.co.uk)

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