



WAKEFIELD CIVIC SOCIETY

Building Interest in Wakefield

Registered Charity No 236034

Autumn Winter Programme 2014/15

2014 is the Society's 50th anniversary and we have, once again, put together what we hope will be an interesting and varied programme of talks and other events to see us through the coming season. Details of the events now confirmed are given below but more are in the pipeline, so do keep an eye on our website www.wakefieldcivicsociety.org.uk and follow us on Twitter (@WakefieldCivicS) and Facebook to keep up to date with our plans.

Many of our events are free and open to members and non-members. Some events are chargeable and require advance booking: please read the information below carefully to make sure you don't miss out!

Friday, 12th September, 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm, 19 King Street, Wakefield Talk and Walk: As part of this year's Heritage Open Days, meet us at Wakefield Civic Society's Office at 19 King Street, Wakefield, WF1 2SQ between 12.30 pm and 1.00 pm to view our exhibition of photographs of old Wakefield. Light refreshments available. At 1.00 pm, a short overview on the history and architecture of Wakefield's buildings from the Society's President, Kevin Trickett. This will be followed at approximately 1.30 pm by a guided walk around part of the city centre and will include a visit to the County Hall. The walk is expected to finish no later than 4.00 pm.

This is a free event but advance booking recommended as spaces are limited. To book places contact Wakefield Civic Society by email on info@wakefieldcivicsociety.org.uk or contact Wakefield Visitor Centre in person at 9 The Bull Ring, Wakefield, WF1 1HB or by phone on 03456 018 353.

Sunday, 14th September, 1 pm to 4 pm, 19 King Street, Wakefield: Exhibition – Photos of Old Wakefield: As part of this year's Heritage Open Days, the Society will open its exhibition space at 19 King Street, Wakefield, WF1 2SQ, between 1 pm and 4 pm for people to view a collection of photographs of Wakefield through the ages. There will be much to see and talk about with committee members on hand to answer questions. Light refreshments will be available. (The opening coincides with the city's Long Division Festival and will be one of a number of properties open to view in Wakefield on the Sunday, some with heritage-related interest) Free event.

Thursday, 18th September, 7.30 pm, The Orangery, Back Lane, Wakefield: Talk - A Bed of Roses, Dr Jonathan Foyle: Discovered in a hotel car park in Chester, an old bed, originally thought to be Victorian, turned out to have a much longer history. Could this be the bed made to celebrate the marriage of King Henry VII to Elizabeth of York in 1486? Come along and hear Dr Jonathan Foyle, Writer, Historian, Broadcaster and CEO of the World Monuments Fund as he reveals the fascinating story. Booking essential – tickets £10 (£7 concessions and Society members). Booking form available from the Society or download it from our [website](http://www.wakefieldcivicsociety.org.uk).

Monday, 22nd September, 7.30 pm, Theatre Royal Wakefield: This Sporting Life: Join us for a special screening of this iconic 1960s film which was filmed in and around Wakefield. Released in 1963, *This Sporting Life* is based on a novel of the same name by Wakefield-born author David Storey who also adapted the screenplay. Directed by Lindsay Anderson, and starring Richard Harris as a rugby league footballer, and Rachel Roberts, the film also features William Hartnell (the first **Doctor Who**!) and Arthur Lowe (**Dad's Army**) among a cast of many recognisable actors from the period. As well as telling a good story about a local miner turned rugby player whose success on the field is not matched by events in his personal life, the film provides glimpses of the city as it was in the early 1960s. Tickets £6 (£4 concessions) are available from the Society or from the Theatre Royal Box Office.

Wednesday, 24th September, 5-9 pm at 19 King Street, Wakefield: Wakefield Artwalk: We'll be opening the doors of our office once again for the ever popular Wakefield Artwalk. Drop in and see us between 5 and 9pm to see our collection of photographs of old Wakefield and talk to committee members about the latest developments at the Society.

Thursday, 16th October, 7.30 pm at Unity Works: Talk and Building Tour - The refurbishment of Unity Hall, Chris Hill, Development Director, Unity Works: Join us at Unity Hall to hear about the restoration and refurbishment of this major landmark building, due to re-open in September this year. After the talk, there will be a chance to have a look round inside the building as Chris Hill shows us the results of this remarkable transformation. Free event.

Thursday, 20th November, 7.30 pm, The Orangery, Back Lane, Wakefield: Talk – *The Year of the Celt*, Rob Godfrey:

In the shadow of the great Scefing ridge, 2,500 years ago when the Brigantes ruled the north, a tiny community ekes out a precarious but half-decent living, largely ignored and indifferent to the shifting currents of the outside world. But the climate is rapidly deteriorating, triggering events many leagues to the north in the lands of the Carvetii. As the Scevinge huddle by the hearths in their roundhouses they can have no idea of the approaching chaos...

Step back in time to the winter of 499BC. The location is a tiny settlement nestling under the dark Scefing ridge in a remote valley in Brigantia, Northern Britain. The Scevinge have lived by the river Warf for so long, only half-remembered tales recount when their forebears first hacked living space out of the surrounding densely wooded valley. The struggles and triumphs of past generations always fade over the ages, but the story of the Scevinge (the people below the ridge) is a story worth retelling. Come and hear author Rob Godfrey speak about his book, *Imbolc*, part one of Year of the Celt, a saga set in the Wharfedale valley in and around Otley 2,500 years ago. The book will be available to buy on the evening.

Free event.

Wednesday, 26th November, 5-9 pm at 19 King Street: Wakefield Artwalk: Further details will be made available nearer the time.

Thursday, 15th January 2015, 7.30 pm at The Orangery, Back Lane, Wakefield: Talk - The Style, History and Influence of Art Deco: Kevin Trickett, President of Wakefield Civic Society From architecture to art, furniture to fashion, and much more besides, Art Deco has been one of the most enduring styles of the modern age. Although coined only in the 1960s, the term 'Art Deco' describes one of the most important design movements of the 20th Century. Taking its inspirations from ancient Egypt and the primitive art forms of America and Africa, the innovative, streamlined and decorative elegance of Art Deco reached its zenith in the 1920s and 30s but continues to influence design today. Original items from the period are now highly collectable but manufacturers frequently incorporate elements of Art Deco style into their current ranges.

Kevin Trickett has long been fascinated by all things Art Deco and will share his insights into this fascinating subject at our annual joint meeting with Wakefield Historical Society.

Free event.

Dates for your diary:

Please make a note of these dates in your diary now for the following events and we'll confirm the arrangements later.

Wednesday, 28th January 2015, from 5-9 pm, 19 King Street: Wakefield Artwalk. It's too early yet to say what we'll be doing for next year's Artwalk evenings but our plan is to stage another year of exhibitions and events, so put the date in your diary and watch out for further announcements.

Thursday, 19th February 2015 at 7.30 pm: Talk – subject and speaker to be confirmed later

Thursday, 19th March 2015, 7.30 pm: Talk – subject and speaker to be confirmed later

Wednesday, 25th March 2015, from 5-9 pm at 19 King Street: Wakefield Artwalk – subject and artist to be confirmed later

All these events are organised on behalf of the Society but are open to all. Except where stated otherwise, the meetings are free of charge although donations are always welcome.

Please note that meetings start promptly at the time stated and it may not always be possible to admit latecomers.

For more information about the Society, visit our website, www.wakefieldcivicsociety.org.uk