

WIGSTON CIVIC SOCIETY
NEW YEAR 2011/2012 NEWSLETTER SPECIAL

2011 has certainly been a year to remember, the highlight probably being our AGM in May when Peter Cousins of the local Family History Society gave a talk on local benefactor, builder and business man, Orson Wright.

After much searching and some persuasion Maureen Waugh agreed to take on the role of Vice Chairman after Alan Kind stood down. We placed a small advert in a local free magazine resulting in three volunteers to become minute secretary of which we were very pleased to appoint Devasish Goswami to replace Colin Hames following his resignation from the post. Devasish is doing an excellent job. Both Alan and Colin remain on the committee.

Another highlight was our hosting of the Leicester Branch of the Victorian Society on a conducted tour of South Wigston. The idea of themed walks will be one that we take forward and develop in 2012.

During the year we have, in conjunction with our friends at the Greater Wigston Historical Society, improved our website(www.wigstonscivicsociety.org.uk); exhibited at the 'Young at Heart Day' at Parklands; maintained the 'local interest groups' notice board at Wigston Library and supported the successful extension of the Green House project in Wigston. We have continued our fight against street clutter; greenery overhanging footpaths and for a 20mph speed limit.

Looking forward to 2012, one project will be the development of a piece of public art in Wigston Magna. At the same time we will monitor progress by the council on the Town Centre redevelopment action plan which could influence the location of the public art. We hope to work alongside the Historical Society and the Framework Knitters Museum to mount an exhibition of 60 photos and memorabilia with local royal connections for the Diamond Jubilee.

We have been keeping a close eye on The Localism Bill which received Royal Assent on 15 November and as an Act of Parliament it now presents us with opportunities to influence what is happening on our patch in terms of environmental change, these we hope to take up vigorously. There will be another opportunity to exhibit at an open day and we will try to take part in Civic Day in 2012. Finally, as always, we will watch out for relevant planning applications.

In closing please accept our thanks for all your support in 2011 and our best wishes for the New Year