



The Georgian Times

Newsletter for Friends of the Cockermouth Georgian Fair
Number 2



Welcome again to The Georgian Times, our regular newsletter sent to all Friends of the Cockermouth Georgian Fair. This newsletter is intended to keep you informed about the activities of the Organising Group and the proposals for the next Georgian Fair, scheduled for 1 May 2010 – a date to make sure you have noted in your diaries. It will give you a line of communication to put your own ideas forward or to offer help should you choose to do so.

Anne Meeghan, Chair, GFOG

Inaugural lunch for the Georgian Fair 2010 3 May 2009

Friends met on 3 May for our lunch event – drinks and canapés, and music in Wordsworth House, and then lunch in The Trout Hotel, with a Georgian-themed menu, followed by a brief presentation of our plans, and an auction of promises kindly donated by local individuals and business, to help us with our fund-raising efforts.

We were very pleased that our patrons, Lord and Lady Judd, were able to be with us and Lord Judd made a very kind and encouraging speech about the Georgian Fair which spurred the Organising Group on to redouble their efforts for the 2010 event.

The auction raised £750 for Georgian Fair funds, and we felt that the whole event was very successful and enjoyable. Thank you all for attending and for bidding so generously in the auction. We hope that you all enjoyed it as much as we did.

Photographs taken at the event are now available to view on the website: www.cockermouth.org.uk/georgianfair.

Subsequent activities

Having got our Georgian costumes out of storage on 3 May, we decided that they could not languish for another year, so we have been out and about in Cockermouth raising awareness of the 2010 Georgian Fair.

If you attended the street market in South Street on the late Bank Holiday Monday in May, you will probably have seen us with one of the sedan chairs – with an interesting addition of wheels to make it more portable (don't worry – they will be removed for the sedan chair races at the Georgian Fair next year) – handing out St George's flags to the children and telling everyone who would listen to us about next year's event. We managed to convince one of the street traders that

he should attend the Georgian Fair, and spoke to one of the teachers from Cockermouth School, which has resulted in the school agreeing to participate more in the next event. This is in addition to their making us a pillory for use at the Georgian Fair, but which we hope should be ready for the Cockermouth lights switch-on in November.

We also took the sedan chair in the procession for the Children's Carnival on 20 June. Again, we were in costume, but this time accompanied by Arran, who also dressed up in costume and did a great job in handing out our postcards advertising the next Georgian Fair and seeking new Friends. Our thanks in particular to him for his efforts.

Annual General Meeting

We held the Annual General Meeting of the Cockermouth Georgian Fair Organising Group on 9 July. We reviewed the last year's activities, considered the

accounts and elected officers for the next year. Officers are as follows:

Chair: Anne Meeghan
Vice-Chair: Sue Hannah
Secretary: Margaret Green
Treasurer: Chris George

Maypole

We previously reported that we had been promised a maypole to be used for maypole dancing at the next Georgian Fair. We can now tell you that the maypole has been collected and we are storing it. It needs a little refurbishment before use, but we have that in hand.

Cockermouth Show - 1 August 2009

To keep up our publicity campaign, we are taking a stall at the Cockermouth Show on 1 August. Do come along and see us - we will be in costume, and hope to have the sedan chair there.

We will have copies of Cockermouth in Georgian Times for sale, and we hope to have a display of photographs from previous Georgian Fairs (weather permitting). Again, we will have our postcards to hand out, and we hope to be able to recruit more Friends.

However, we also intend to be selling cakes made to Georgian recipes. Come along and see our Plane Cakes, Vinegar Cake (remember the vinegar pie at

the lunch on 3 May?), and Little Cakes, to name but a few.

In addition to all that, we are pleased to say that we have ordered some Georgian Fair, Fairtrade cotton shopping bags which should arrive in time for the Show. Just the thing to carry around for those impulse purchases to try to reduce the use of plastic bags. These will be retailing at £1.50, but, as promised, Friends will be entitled to a discount on Georgian Fair merchandise, and the price for Friends will be £1.25.

The bags will look like this:



Sale of the bags will raise funds for the next Georgian Fair, and in addition, the more that we sell and are used, the more that awareness of the event will be raised. We do hope that you will come along and bring your friends and family to see us and get hold of these on-trend and desirable items!

Wordsworth House Election Days - Wednesday 26 August and Saturday 24 October 2009

As you will probably be aware, Wordsworth House has been a generous supporter of the Georgian Fair in the past. While the custodian, Zoe Gilbert is currently on maternity leave, the Acting Custodian, Alex Morgan has agreed to attend our meetings and to give us what help she can.

We are pleased to let you know about the Wordsworth House election days, which are sub-titled Beer and Bribery. We are told that there will be drama, scandal and bustle all day. If you are free on either day, why not go along and enjoy the fun?

Cockermouth Georgian Fair Organising Group - contact list

We always welcome new supporters, so please feel free to contact any of us if you wish to join us or have any ideas which you think that we can put in place.

Anne Meeghan (chair) - 01900 825952
Sue Hannah (vice chair) - 01900 822840
Margaret Green (secretary) and Trevor Green - 01900 828289
Chris George (treasurer) - 01900 828209
David and Bridget Hilton - 01900 821150
Kate Hilton - 01900 829061
Janet Mansfield - 016973 23997
Bob Pritchard - 01900 823228
Beryl Stephenson - 01900 828198
Stephen Walker - 01900 828748
Stuart and Margaret Wiltshire - 01900 827809