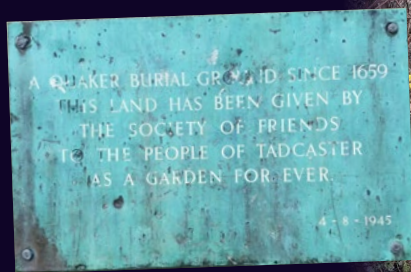


Tadcaster Town Council Newsletter

SPRING 2021



Photo: David Lindsay



Tadcaster's Quaker Burial Ground

Many people living in Tadcaster do not know that the town has a Quaker Burial Ground. This is located on the east side of the town on Oxton Lane just opposite Grange Road.

In recent times it has been used primarily as a cut-through from Oxton Lane to Grange Crescent but a closer inspection reveals an intriguing plaque set into one wall with the following inscription:

'A Quaker burial ground since 1659. This land has been given by the Society of Friends to the people of Tadcaster for ever'

Sadly, in 2020 the area was quite neglected with brambles and elder running riot and there was no reason for anyone to want to spend any time there, but there was lots of potential to create a space that would be an asset to the town incorporating trees, flowers, wildlife and history. Towards the end of 2020, Tadcrafters decided to initiate the creation of a new gardening group with the aim of bringing the garden and the story of the Quakers back to life and encouraging visitors to the burial ground. The first task was to tidy up the site and bring the brambles under control which required a team of volunteers armed with secateurs. Of course, the Covid restrictions made it impossible to organise any group activities at that time so this activity was postponed until it was safe to do so in 2021.

Both Tadcaster Town Council and Selby District Council support the project with the

Town Council agreeing to provide a £250 grant towards initial maintenance work and the District Council providing green waste disposal facilities when work was able to start on the site. In addition, the project is represented on the Selby District Green Spaces Partnership which meets every couple of months. As a result of these meetings we have been able to take advantage of the expertise of The Woodmeadow Trust and Project: Wild CIC, both of which are interested in the potential of the Quaker Burial Ground. They have visited the site, providing valuable advice on what to plant and how to manage the site in order to create a wildlife haven. Current plans envisage a small orchard and wildflower meadow, a seating area, colourful plants and flowers and an area for children to play together with information boards explaining the wildlife and the Quaker history of the garden. There are already some shrubs and bulbs waiting in the wings to be planted as the story of the plans for the burial ground has won £75 worth of plants in a competition for community gardens held by garden plant specialists J Parker.

If you are interested in getting involved in any aspect, take a look at the Tadcrafters CIC website or follow them on social media to see what is happening at the garden. Gardeners and historians of any age are very welcome to contribute to the project.

www.tadcrafters.org.uk

Tadcaster in Bloom

As Summer fast approaches the Council are working hard to keep the town looking bright and cheery and as restrictions are due to be eased and with many of us enjoying more of the outdoors we enthusiastically look forward to yet again another year of bigger and better displays of blooms.

The planters around town will soon be beaming with an array of colourful flowering plants and in a bid to maximise the planters and flowers Tadcaster Town Council would like to extend a plea for community watering volunteers.

Tadcaster Flowers and Plants need your help – Tadcaster has a number of displays and planters around the town all of which require watering throughout the summer months. This is carried out by groups of town volunteers and without this invaluable help summer planting would not be possible. Should you like to help the teams this summer



please contact The Ark on 01937 834113 or email clerk@tadcastertowncouncil.gov.uk
Sponsorship of planters and floral displays
 In order to make improvements year on year the Council have a Sponsorship initiative giving businesses the chance to sponsor planting in the town. Any businesses interested should contact the Town Council at the Ark on 01937 834113 or email clerk@tadcastertowncouncil.gov.uk

Tadcaster Home Library service

Books can take us into other worlds. A good read can feel just like taking a trip away (while staying at home...) and in these lockdown days, such a mental change of scene is doubly welcome.

Tadcaster Community Library is still open for customers to order books and other items for collection; you can browse the catalogue from home, order what you want and you'll get a notification when they're ready to pick up. Alternatively drop the library an email or phone them with your requests. However, there are many customers who can't get to the library at all, and this is where the Home Library Service can help. You get your books – and the magical escape they offer – brought right to your door. It's a free, personal service for people of any age who

can't physically get to the library. This can be for reasons including mobility impairment, disability, illness, shielding, or because you are caring for someone. Customers can borrow books in standard or large print, audio books or DVDs. You can choose the books or DVDs that you want, or just outline the kind of things you like and ask for a selection! It's easy to access this help. Just contact the library by email or phone and someone will talk you through it all. If you decide to register you'll get a socially distanced, fortnightly visit from one of the friendly volunteers to deliver and collect your choices.

Here's who to contact:

Email: tadcastercommunitylibrary@gmail.com
 Telephone: 01609 534525

Tadcaster Grammar School student receives Tadcaster Town Council Merit Award

Tadcaster Town Council are delighted to present local Tadcaster Grammar School student, Abigail Wilson with a Merit Award. Abigail volunteered at the library as part of her Duke of Edinburgh Award, and when the library had to close in March 2020 due to Covid-19 the resourceful student found a new innovative way to continue to help the Community Library. The year 11 student became frustrated by the amount of waste created by single use face coverings and encouraged by her mother she decided to design, and machine sew a more reusable option with all proceeds being donated to Tadcaster Community Library. Funds raised totalled £375 and Abigail herself was surprised she managed to raise so much money- "I didn't think I would make it to £100. I had fun volunteering in the library and I am glad it is going toward something beneficial for the local children."



Not only was this a fantastic way of being able to continue with her DoE Award but with all proceeds the Community Library is able to update the children's seating area. Abigail was presented with the Merit Award by Tadcaster Town Council in recognition of this considerable and selfless voluntary contribution to Tadcaster. Designing & creating facemasks to raise £375 has shown great adaptability and care for the community and Town. Tadcaster Community Library is due to open its doors on Monday April 12th in accordance with current guidelines.

Tadcaster U3A

On 2nd June our Tadcaster & Villages u3a is holding an Open Day in The Barn, St Joseph's Street, with displays of our activities, so come along between 11am and 4pm.



Tadcaster Neighbourhood Development Plan

Progress being made on Tadcaster's 'Chapter' of the Local Plan: our Neighbourhood Development Plan

A year ago, the Town Council announced its decision to write its own chapter of the new Selby District Local Plan – a planning document that would set out the future development opportunities for our town. A small group of Councillors and local residents and business people have come together as a Steering Group, Chaired by David Gluck, the manager of The Barn. It has also recruited a specialist neighbourhood planner, Mr Mike Dando of Otley, to provide expert advice and

guidance; and commissioned the services of consultants AECOM to help develop a Design Guide for new development across the town. Work is ongoing and the hope is that a first draft 'Policy Intentions Document' will be made available to the community to consult on as soon as restrictions on gathering are lifted in June. We value the input of our community in the development of this document, which will guide where and how development can take place over the coming 15+ years. It is also important to say that we are working closely with Selby District Council on this, with them having recently produced a draft appraisal of our extensive Conservation Area

which covers the whole of the town centre and which we have responded to with detailed comments.

For more information and on Tadcaster Neighbourhood plan including a video please see the Council's website www.tadcastertowncouncil.gov.uk or to get involved, get in touch with David at davidgluck@tadcasterandrural.co.uk.



Photo: David Lindsay



Tadcaster's Past

In each edition of the newsletter, The Town Council in conjunction with Tadcaster Historical Society aim to include interesting elements of Tadcaster's Past, this could be historical facts of the town's buildings, its heritage or unknown or hidden stories about the Tadcaster of old.

In this edition we cover interesting facts about The Ark and the construction of one of the oldest buildings in Tadcaster. Should anyone wish to know anything in particular about Tadcaster's Past please contact the Ark and we will aim to include it in future editions.

The Ark really is a uniquely built building and importantly one of the oldest buildings in Tadcaster. The earliest records suggest The Ark was possibly built in the late 15th Century, although it may have been earlier. Over the following centuries it was changed by various additions to the original structure. The name, "The Ark" is thought to have derived from the two carved heads on the corbels on the front of the building. These are said to represent Noah and his wife. In 1672 The Ark was known as Morley Hall and was licensed to hold Dissenters' meetings. The owner, Robert Morley, was the first Tadcaster Postmaster, and



is recorded as such in the Parish Register in 1653.

It is said that the building was used about sixty years earlier by some of the Pilgrim Fathers. This is probably a myth as there is no supporting evidence and none of the Pilgrim Fathers came from the area. Certainly the people of Tadcaster throughout the centuries were not without strong views on religious matters and it is not unlikely that those who



later sought freedom in the New World would have found many sympathisers in the town. During the Eighteenth Century the building was divided into two. The solar end became a cottage and shop and remained a dwelling house until 1959. In the nineteenth Century it was the premises of Messrs. England, butchers, and was also at one time a joiners shop. The other part became 'The Old Falcon Inn', one of Tadcaster's many coaching inns. The building became vacant in 1959 but was in poor condition. The adjacent "Falcon Inn" was demolished and The Ark was extensively restored over the next two years, the work being funded by John Smith's Brewery. The first part was restored in 1960-61 and the second part in 1966-67, the whole being opened as a Museum in September 1967.

The Museum closed in 1984 but was reopened by volunteers in 1987 finally closing in 1989. In 1992, Tadcaster Town Council purchased the premises to use as its Council Offices and Council Chamber. The building is now a Grade II* listed building and "and as such a unique piece of architecture" and should be preserved "not only as a beautiful relic of the past, but also as a source of interest and instruction". Its construction has two main features. It retains the large stones at the base of the medieval posts. The method of construction of the two open trusses is also found in a roof at St Anthony's Hall in York dating from around 1490. Any further information or photographs of the ark would be gratefully received. Please contact the council on clerk@tadcastertowncouncil.gov.uk.

Circa 1500s		Circa 1700s		1959	1987-89
Believed to have been built.		Said to have been a meeting place for the Pilgrim Father's.		The Ark becomes vacant. Old Falcon Inn demolished. Building is restored.	Museum reopens housing artefacts of local and brewing history.
1500s	1600s	1700s	1800s	1900s	
Circa 1600s A two story extension is added		1672 Becomes known as 'Morley Hall'	Circa 1900s Premises of Messrs England and the Falcon Inn.	1967 Becomes museum.	1984 Museum closes and building lies empty
					1992 Town Council purchase the Ark

Litter Pick News

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions and in a bid to avoid social gatherings and maintain social distancing the Council has decided to postpone the litter pick until further notice in line with government guidance.

However as more of us are walking and taking advantage of the outdoors it is important to Keep Tadcaster Tidy. We encourage residents and businesses of Tadcaster to keep a watchful eye for any loose rubbish in their areas. The Council

can provide and lend litter picking equipment i.e.

litter grabbers, gloves, and black bags to anyone who wishes to help. Anyone interested please contact The Ark at clerk@tadcastertowncouncil.gov.uk or call the Ark 01937 834113 during working hours Monday to Thursday 9.30am – 12.30pm.

We eagerly await the easing of Covid-19 restrictions. In the meantime, keep safe and please help to keep our town litter free.



Tadcaster Town Council – Grant Aid

Each year the Town Council makes Grant Aid donations for the benefit of the town and residents of Tadcaster.

Applications are considered for financial assistance towards a specific project or activity from community associations, cultural, educational, sporting and charitable organisations, which are non-commercial/profit making and whose membership and field of activity is centred in the town of Tadcaster.

Application forms which include Small Grant

Applications (limit of £250) are available on the Town Council website at www.tadcastertowncouncil.gov.uk applications to be received by 31 October 2021, Small Grants are considered throughout the year. This year grants were awarded to Citizens Advice Mid & North Yorkshire, Tadcaster Albion Football Club and a Small Grant was awarded to Tadcrafters. Funding from the Council's Community Fund was also donated to Tadcaster and Rural CIC for The Barn's Easter Holiday Club.

New developments and great opportunities for all!

Despite Covid 19, work at The Barn on the corner of St Joseph's Street has been non-stop.

Now home to a regular Holiday Club for primary aged children, and youth based activities such as The Tribe multi sports group and The Bridge Project, The Barn has hardly stood still over the last 2 years since becoming a community owned venture, transferred to Tadcaster by North Yorkshire County Council. In the last month, we were delighted to be awarded a grant from The National Lottery to recruit three new youth workers. As of May, Kirsty Perkins, Abda Bashir and Toby Davidson will join our team focusing specifically on new activities for our young people. The grant will also contribute significantly towards our ambitions to make The Barn sustainable in the long term, with a range of improvements in hand including the installation of solar panels to



help reduce our energy costs and carbon footprint.

Little Helping Hands, a local charity run by Jess Sherwood, has also joined the Barn family recently and will undertake its fantastic work in collecting and distributing infant clothes and essentials. This project complements

our existing School Uniform Upcycling project which we undertake with Tadcrafters and Chalks School Shop.

And coming back to The Barn very soon will be our adult educators, the University of the 3rd Age, who provide a range of varied opportunities for learning for our older (50 years+) residents.

So, find out more about what's going on @tadcasterbarn on Facebook/Instagram – or look at the website www.tadcasterbarn.co.uk. We love new ideas and are ready to help any person or group in the town fulfil its ambitions.

Your town councillors

Tadcaster West Ward:

Don Bain Mackay	T: 01937 835776
Ian Edmondson	T: 01937 830304
Dr Greg Lodge	M: 07835 941154
Chris Metcalfe	T: 01937 832501
Dr Claire Stephenson	M: 07532 673875
Richard Sweeting	M: 07842 164034
Vacancy	

Tadcaster East Ward:

David Bowgett	M: 07908 112444
Jean Chiswick	M: 07813 077892
Steve Cobb	T: 01937 835381
Fiona Greig	M: 07711 691413
Margaret Middlemiss	T: 01937 834872

Selby District Councillors:

Don Bain Mackay	T: 01937 835776
Richard Sweeting	M: 07842 164034
Andrew Lee	E: alee@selby.gov.uk

North Yorkshire County Councillor:

Don Bain Mackay	T: 01937 835776
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E: clerk@tadcastertowncouncil.gov.uk

W: www.tadcastertowncouncil.gov.uk

Until further notice Tadcaster Town Council Office can be contacted from Monday to Thursday 9.30am – 12.30 pm by telephone or email anytime at the above address.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this Newsletter. If anyone would like to send an article for the newsletter, please forward to the above address, all articles will be given due consideration.

Tadcaster Town Council makes every effort to provide accurate information but is not wholly responsible for the views expressed in this newsletter, which may be those of various contributors, any views or opinions in this newsletter are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the Council.

All information and details of events taking place was believed to be accurate at date of print.

