

Ponteland Historian

Newsletter of Ponteland Local History Society

SPECIAL OUTINGS EDITION 4th March 2019

DILSTON CASTLE & CHAPEL

Members will recall Liz Finch's talk "Jacobitism in the North East" and her descriptions of Dilston Castle and Chapel. We are privileged to have been offered the opportunity for two parties of 10 people to visit the site on Thursday 2nd May and Thursday 9th May.

The buildings are being cared for by 'The Fifteen' (The Northumbrian Jacobite Society) with the permission of the owners of the site, Cambian Dilston College (successors to Mencap)



The visit will start at 1.00 pm, and will last about 2 to 2 and a half hours consisting of an introductory talk in the Chapel, a refreshment break with the opportunity to view an exhibition on the 1715 Jacobite Rising, followed by a full guided tour of the Castle. The cost of the visit will be £7 including tea or coffee and a biscuit.

Expressions of interest by email to: pont.historian@btinternet.com
OR telephone 01661 824162 OR by signing sheet at meetings on 21st March and 18th April

Payment to PLHS treasurer by the meeting on 18th April

FORD AND ETAL

A 33 seat coach will leave Thornhill Road at 9.30am on Tuesday 4th July for a visit to Ford and Etal. The provisional itinerary is:

9.30 Coach leaves Ponteland.
10.30 Arrive at Lady Waterford Gallery in Ford for coffee and biscuits and tour.
11.30 Walk to church etc.
12/12.30 Coach Etal. Visit castle and have lunch at Black Bull or Lavender tea rooms.

Then take train to Heatherslaw Mill and Visitor centre and another tearoom.
4/4.30 Coach leaves to return to Ponteland by 6pm.

The two villages proclaim "There's so much to do on the Ford and Etal Estates, you'll find something for everyone."



Lady Waterford Hall This inspiring building was commissioned in 1860 by Louisa Anne, Marchioness of Waterford, and owner of Ford Estate. It was the village school until 1957 and in its heyday had as many as 134 local children on the register. Lady Waterford was a keen English artist associated with John Ruskin and the Pre-Raphaelite movement and spent 21 years decorating the interior of the Hall with stunning Biblical scenes as a teaching aid for pupils.



Heatherslaw Corn Mill There is a history of over 700 years of milling on this site. Powered by a 16 foot water wheel the fully-restored mill machinery, including three different pairs of millstones, still makes high quality, stone-ground, wholemeal flour from wheat grown in the local fields.



Other things which members may choose to do including:

Etal Castle Discover the history of border warfare at this small 14th century castle, captured by James IV just before his defeat at the nearby Battle of Flodden (1513). Displays together with an audio guide, tell the story of the conflict.

There are a number of catering establishments and Members will need to make their own arrangements. The two local pubs boast a great range of real ale and excellent home cooking and there are five coffee shops and cafes.

The cost of the visit which is being subsidised from Society funds will be £15 per head which includes coach, entry to Lady Waterford Hall, train trip and Heatherslaw Mill.

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NEWCASTLE CITY WALK

"Sandgate: Miners, Mariners, Keelmen and Lawyers"

A guided walk commencing at 10.30 on Thursday 13th June starting at The Wynne Davis Building, Ellison Place and ending near Millennium Bridge an hour and half later.

There is no charge for this walk but reservation of places is required as numbers participating is limited.



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