

FRIENDS OF DUDLEY CASTLE



IN TOUCH NEWSLETTER

NO 17 CHRISTMAS 2019



1989 - 2019

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
MEMBERS, SUPPORTERS
AND FAMILIES

1989 - 2019

2019 OUR 30TH YEAR

'The Friends' have had a fairly eventful 30th anniversary year. We started the year with a visit to Hagley Hall, had our final coach outing to the 'Churchill War Rooms' in London, been on a successful if a bit damp canal boat open water cruise in June, and in September we went on a heritage train journey along the beautiful Severn Valley Railway.

Plus, our usual excellent monthly speaker meetings organised by David, and now we are settled into our new meeting venue upstairs in the Dudley Archive Building.

Also, we had our celebratory Anniversary meal at The Lodge in Wellington Road, Dudley in July. Which along with the excellent carvery, we had our special Birthday Cake organised by Greta along with toasts for the future of 'The Friends', as we now go into our 31st year.

Finally, in order to help to preserve Dudley Castle for the enjoyment of the many generations to come, in our 31st year we shall be applying for charitable status. Graham and other committee members are pushing ahead in this after the almost unanimous approval at the special meeting held on the 31st October 2019.

There are many good things to look out for in the next 12 months....

As always, I thank you for your support with the events that have been organised and hope that you will be able to join in with some of next years' activities. Watch this space....

WISHING ALL READERS "A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR" PAM

2020

DUDLEY CASTLE WILL BE 950 YEARS OLD NEXT YEAR. 950 YEARS SINCE THE FIRST CASTLE WAS BUILT AS A MOTTE AND BAILEY.

THE ZOO ARE HOPING TO CELEBRATE THIS MAGNIFICENT ANNIVERSARY, 'THE FRIENDS' OBVIOUSLY WILL WANT TO BE INVOLVED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, AS SOON AS WE KNOW MORE I WILL LET YOU KNOW, IT WILL BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO WORK IN UNISON WITH THE ZOO STAFF!!!

THE ZOO IS PLANNING TO RETURN TO THE TRADE NAME OF DUDLEY ZOO & CASTLE IN 2020 TOO!!

MONTHLY MEETINGS 2020

All Thursday evenings, upstairs in the Dudley Archive building, commencing at 7.30pm

**January 30th Mary Bodfish
Beers, Bets & Bullbaiting**

**February 27th Ned Williams
History with a dividend**

**March 26th Alan Pearce
Interesting and quirky visitors to Himley Hall**

**April 30th AGM
Probably in the Chapel Undercroft, Dudley**