



# Roath Local History Society

*Bringing History to Your Doorstep - since 1978*



**Dear R.L.H.S. Members,**

Except for one topic, which has resulted in everything else being cancelled, this month's E-Newsletter is rather short on news! Wishing to stay in touch (whilst observing social distancing), April's greeting is more a letter to friends. Firstly, a message from Ted:

As Chairperson I am writing to wish all our members remain safe though the Covid 19 pandemic. Sometimes it is good to be around at times of great historical significance such as man landing on the moon, at other times less so.

We have already cancelled the remaining lectures in our current programme. We have not as yet taken a decision on our Summer programme.

The lecture programme for 2020-2021 is currently being planned, some of which will be the lectures held over from this season.

Best wishes

Ted Richards



Our daily lives have become rather surreal, on my daily constitutional roaming the deserted streets of Roath, I can't shake off the feeling I'm on the set of an eerie disaster movie. That said, the mini-heatwave we've enjoyed and the coming of spring, really raises the spirits. Last week, I was delighted to see both a grey wagtail (lemony-yellow) and a grey heron, stalking and fishing in the brook. How lucky we are being confined to Roath. Since a child, I have also loved looking at the variations in stained and leaded glass, the glazed porch tiles and the decorative ironwork on the houses hereabouts.

It is quite a novel experience having a blank diary and being ordered to stay at home. I must say, I am not short of occupation and if the silent meditation gets a bit much, there is always the telephone. All in all, if you have to self-isolate / shield, living in this age, must be the best era for it - at least here in the West. For starters, most people are literate, have telephones, televisions, home entertainment centres and access to the internet. All of which connect us to and give us a window on the world.

Whilst they've gone dark, I've noticed a lot of Art Galleries and Museums & Theatre, Ballet and Opera companies, are keeping themselves in the public eye and providing us with our cultural fixes, by offering free virtual tours, activities and streaming. Some to look out for include: *The National Gallery*, *Royal Collections Trust*, *The Royal Mint Experience*, *The National Theatre* (free play every Thursday night), *The Royal Opera House* (free opera and ballet every Friday at 7.00), *The Globe* (6 free-to-stream English-Language Plays starting with *Hamlet* in April and continuing to the end of June), *Exhibition on Screen* (occasional free-streaming via Facebook), *Royal Academy of Arts* and Virtual Tours of *Buckingham Palace*, *Windsor Castle* and other Royal Residences.

On the Homefront I find myself with an unprecedented opportunity to spring clean! Dabbling with this has turned up some long forgotten treasures, including the gift of a bread-making machine, received some time ago. On finding the instruction manual, I was at last inspired to give it a go. Alas, after trudging up the hill with a large bag of strong flour, sunflower oil etc. I discovered that one vital ingredient proved scarcer than toilet tissue - fast action yeast! It couldn't be had for love or money, on or off-line. Ever resourceful, I've now found another recipe that uses beer, baking powder and the oven - one day the machine will have an outing!

I wish to draw your attention to this scam awareness campaign. Apparently, even the coronavirus pandemic provides criminals with an opportunity to defraud.

Further information can be found on the National Trading Standards website, where you can also do a short online course to become scam savvy: <https://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk>

## Wash your hands of coronavirus scams!

Friends Against Scams aims to protect and prevent people from becoming victims of scams.

### Be **aware** of people offering or selling:

- Virus testing kits - these are only offered by NHS.
- Vaccines or miracle cures - there is currently no vaccine or cure.
- Overpriced or fake goods to protect yourself from coronavirus such as anti-bacterial products.
- Shopping or medication collection services.
- Home cleaning services.

### Protect yourself and others:

- Don't be rushed into making a decision. If it sounds too good to be true it probably is.
- Only purchase goods from legitimate retailers and take a moment to think before parting with money or personal information.
- Don't assume everyone is genuine. It's okay to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.
- If someone claims to represent a charity, ask them for ID. Be suspicious of requests for money up front. If someone attempts to pressurise you into accepting a service they are unlikely to be genuine. Check with family and friends before accepting offers of help if you are unsure.

Be a good friend,  
help to protect  
your family, friends  
and neighbours  
from scams.

**Read it.  
Share it.  
Prevent it.**

#Coronavirus  
#ScamAware



### Contact

For advice on scams call the  
Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on **0808 223 11 33**  
To report a scam call Action Fraud on **0300 123 2040**  
Contact your bank if you think you have been scammed.

**NATIONAL  
TRADING  
STANDARDS**

Scams Team

To learn more about the different types of scams visit [www.FriendsAgainstScams.org.uk](http://www.FriendsAgainstScams.org.uk)



Rationing items at Tesco is nothing new. Here's the scene on Albany Road in 1914 outside Home & Colonial Stores (now occupied by Tesco) with queues stretching around the corner into Inverness Place . The only difference is they didn't have to stand 2 meters apart.

At this time, I would appreciate more than ever, receiving E-Newsletter contributions from you, the Membership. It can take any form, be it an article, film or book review, comment, reminiscence, photograph, poem, observation, puzzle, joke etc. - all will be most welcome.

Keep safe, keep strong, keep laughing!

Very best wishes,

**Elizabeth Morgan, R.L.H.S. Honorary Secretary.**

P.S. Don't forget to add 🐣easter 🥚eggs 🐣 to your shopping list.

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