



A JOURNEY THROUGH KIDDERMINSTER'S TOWN HALL

Issue 6, Summer 2025



Hello, welcome to the summer issue of our newsletter where we keep you updated on our National Lottery Heritage Funded Project, 'A Journey Through Kidderminster's Town Hall'. To find out more please contact Jackie Murrall, Heritage Volunteer Coordinator, T: 07818 506779, Email Jackie.Murrall@kidderminstertowncouncil.gov.uk or check out frequently asked questions on the Kidderminster Town Hall website www.kidderminstertownhall.org.uk where you will also find an audio version of our newsletters.

Kidderminster Town Hall Transformation Project Update



Work is now underway on the new podium outside the Town Hall (see photos below). This new podium will give access to the two previously separate buildings that comprise the Town Hall, entering via the new atrium and courtyard.

The Town Council staff made a welcome return to the building in June, having been based at Wyre Forest House whilst the Town Hall has been closed. A temporary office has been made available within the Town Hall whilst contractors remain on site and work is still being carried out. Access for staff is currently limited, as there is a lot of decoration and external works currently being carried out before we reopen to the public in Autumn.



MICROVOLUNTEERING

Would you like to get involved with the heritage project at the Town Hall but are worried about how much time you'd have to commit as you're juggling family and work life? Maybe you're a student and struggle to find the time outside your academic studies? Then micro-volunteering could be a good option for you. It's designed to be convenient, accessible, and flexible, allowing people to volunteer without needing to commit to a regular schedule. This could involve giving small amounts of time and effort to support Kidderminster Town Hall such as a one-off session cleaning historic silverware or remotely recording an audio version of the newsletter. Contact Jackie, Heritage Volunteer Coordinator to find out about opportunities available on T: 07818 506779 E: Jackie.Murrall@kidderminstertowncouncil.gov.uk.



THANKS TO THE PLAYERS

We'd like to send our thanks to the players of the National Lottery which has funded the Kidderminster Town Hall heritage project, enabling local people to get involved by volunteering their time, skills and enthusiasm!

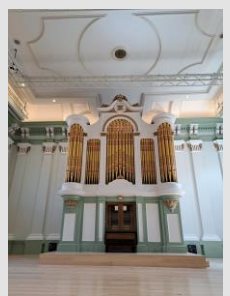
www.kidderminstertownhall.org.uk

Cleaning, restoration and conservation of paintings



We were delighted to welcome Sarah Bayliss, an independent art restoration consultant, to the Town Hall to meet some of our research volunteers. She gave a presentation showing us the various processes involved in cleaning, restoration and conservation of historical paintings. The volunteers were particularly keen to hear about her ongoing work on the King Charles I portrait as part of our lottery funded historical project and Sarah certainly brought it to life with before and after images. We are all looking forward to the re-hanging of the restored portrait when it is returned to its rightful place in the King Charles Room and to sharing the story of how the painting came to reside at the Town Hall.

Restoring a Piece of History – Videos Now Live!



We've uploaded some fascinating videos to our YouTube channel, showcasing some of the restoration work that was carried out off-site on the magnificent William Hill Organ pipes by Stephen Bellion Church Art. These behind-the-scenes clips highlight the incredible skill and care involved in bringing this historic instrument back to life. The pipes are now back in their rightful place. Watch the videos here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hG7sskKLs0s>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KDxkKLI_vxs

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1OVdcP7CWOg&t=1s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=83PrmEJxHo0&t=3s>

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/E367Iz6xfs4>

**** Volunteers needed ****

If you would like to get involved with the project please contact Jackie Murrall, Heritage Volunteer Coordinator T: 07818 506779 E: Jackie.Murrall@kidderminstertowncouncil.gov.uk



Kidderminster Town Council

