



General News

- The Bailiffgate Museum and the Alnwick Gardens will be trialling a joint entry ticket during this Half Term. Customers will be able to buy a joint ticket at the Garden's till and then present it here. We will record the entry on the special sheet I have placed in the till.

Attached to the sheet is an example of what the joint ticket will look like. Please double check that the date on the ticket is valid and that it is a joint ticket for the museum and gardens and not just a gardens ticket.

It is very important that you accurately record the number of people coming through on these tickets!

Our own tickets will continue to be on sale at our till at the usual price.

If anyone asks about the joint ticket stress that it is a trial but that we are very pleased to be working with the gardens. If they ask about money, adults will save £1.50 by buying a joint ticket whilst seniors will save £1. Children are free for us but remember to record the number of children as usual! £1 from every joint ticket sold will come to the museum at the end of the trial.

If they have any further questions please direct them to me, either in person or via email.

Thanking you in advance for your hard work this half term and let's show why the Bailiffgate Museum is one of the best attractions in town!

- I would like to invite everyone to a volunteers meeting on Friday 26th February from 5.30 to 6.30. I will be giving a short presentation on the new volunteering structure and the new roles being created and answering any questions you may have about it with the help of Jane Nolan. I know there are some burning issues that people would like to address about it, and I will make sure I put everyone's minds at rest. There will also be tea, coffee and cake and plenty of time for socialising.

Front of House News

- Please continue to do Z readings on a night and check the date on the top of the receipt as it is not always correct when it comes out of the printer. Also please remember to offer to loan the backpacks to families with young children. Please also record any loans in the book.
- Half term is in the offing Saturday 13th – Sunday 21st. We will be opening on Monday during half term and will continue to be open 10.00 – 16.00.

Collections/ exhibitions News

- The new shelving has arrived and will be going up shortly in the mobile shelves. This will nearly double their storage capacity. This has been made possible by a grant from the Sir James Knott Trust and some money from the Friends

- The New Exhibition is up and running and looks fantastic as ever. This time it is 'Hot off the Presses'. It will run until 12th March.

Events News

- The volunteering fair went very well and the societies fair is shaping up nicely. The Camera course has been a rousing success so far and Nigel, the teacher, is fantastically knowledgeable (despite his rubbish jokes). These have all been part of the Broadening Horizons Project. We will have two more fairs next year and another camera course later this year.
- I secured some money to run sleepovers last year. These will be going ahead over the next two months. I will be spending 4 nights in the museum with different groups. If anyone would like to join me and has an up to date CRB check, I would be happy to have you.
- The activities for half term will all be done by Deborah, Alex and Ray as part of the Printing Press Project organised by the Friends. There are some fantastic things being planned and it should be a really good time for anyone taking part. It will also be great to welcome three good friends of the museum back.

Volunteer News

- Welcome to our new volunteer Joseph
- Also welcome to our new placement David who starts next week
- Good bye, or perhaps Aurevoir (I never was any good at French) to Bill whose placement ends this week. It will be a real shame not to have Bill in the museum every day but I know we will still see him around and about.

Thanks as always to everyone who gives their time for the museum. Myself, the Trustees and all the visitors who enjoy their time here, really appreciate it.

James

P.S. I am looking for a new editor/ writer for the bugle who can gather together all the stories for you. If you are interested in the job please let me know, ideally I would like to put out a new newsletter twice a month, it usually takes half an hour or so to write so it isn't a huge commitment.

P.P.S. I am looking for a lift this Friday (12th) to go and pick up some small printing presses and material in Amble. I am also looking for a lift to go to Craster to collect a model of a stem drifter on Tuesday 16th at 11am. I promise I will learn to drive myself soon (when I get time to stop and take a breath). I can pay expenses for the trips. If you can take me please let me know asap.
Cheers