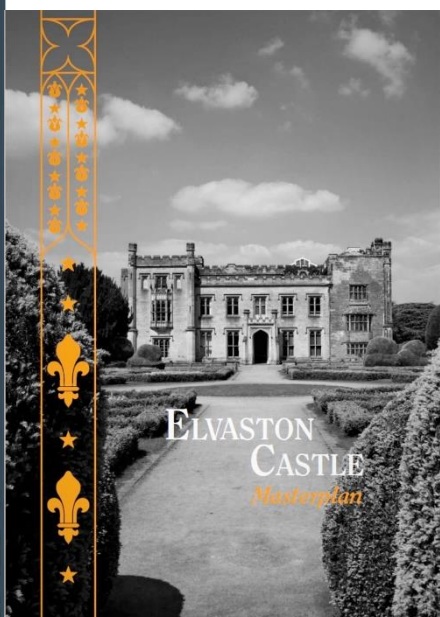


## Welcome from the Chair

Welcome to our newsletter - the first of many in which we plan to share updates and stories about our ongoing work as volunteers of the Elvaston Castle and Gardens. We are really excited to have completed the Masterplan and we're now working hard to turn that plan into reality. We are working with Mace and David Clarke Associates to inform our business plan to make sure each activity is thoughtfully designed to deliver the revenues needed to allow us to continue to invest in the sensitive restoration of the estate.

*Dr Peter Robinson*



## What has been happening?

There has been a lot of change afoot while we have been welcoming new trustees, working on our masterplan and exploring new opportunities. It was fantastic to speak to so many people at the Woodland Festival in September. Thank you for all your words of support. We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded Charitable status. This is a huge step forwards for the estate and it is fantastic to be recognised for the voluntary work we have completed so far, and plan to complete in the future. We have also submitted a small bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund which will enable us to continue our work and will provide employment opportunities.



## What are our plans?

The Masterplan which has recently been released this month outlines our plans for Elvaston Castle and Gardens. We are very excited to be able to share this with you. We look forward to securing Elvaston Castle and Gardens future, ensuring the castle and grounds are here for future generations to enjoy.

*View our masterplan via our website.*

## Who are the Elvaston Castle and Gardens Trust?

We are a group of volunteers who all share a passion for protecting the heritage of Elvaston Castle and preserving the gardens and wider estate for the local communities. Trustees have a wide range of skills and knowledge which are being utilised for our work. Tamsin joined the Trust earlier this year and shares her motivation for volunteering: "Parks and National Trusts have always been part of my life. I have so many happy memories from exploring the open spaces, beautiful gardens and historic buildings. They've had a real impact on my life and I strongly believe in the importance of preserving these amazing places for people in generations to come."

# Newsletter

Quarterly - November 2019



## Why has the Trust been formed?

The ethos of Elvaston Castle and Gardens being an enjoyable place for people to enjoy is at the heart of what we do. The building itself is remarkable. Like all of our trustees, Andy, Sarah and Liz are passionate about seeing the Castle building “become a safe and enjoyable place for visitors”. Sarah finds “history and heritage fascinating” and is passionate about bringing this “stunning estate back to life”. Ultimately, we want to secure the future of Elvaston Castle and Gardens are here for centuries to come. In order to do this, the Elvaston estate needs to be achieve a carefully managed balance of financial, social and environmental sustainability.

Many of our trustees have grown up around Derbyshire and have fond memories of visiting the grounds in the past. We at Elvaston Castle and Gardens Trust are dedicated to keeping Elvaston Castle and grounds as a place for memories to be made.



## Are there any opportunities to get involved?

Yes, we want to continue working with the public to ensure that our plans and work, meet the interests of the community.

There will be volunteer opportunities coming up in the near future, as well as a possible two posts for employment. To keep up to date with opportunities to be involved please follow us on Facebook – ‘Elvaston Castle and Gardens Trust’.

## Our favourite spaces....

The gardens and grounds are truly a place to escape the crowds with their unique topography and pockets of intricately designed areas. Our trustees pay homage to the gardeners of the estate. Their work around all the grounds does not go unnoticed. The wildflower beds in the Old English Garden are particularly stunning.

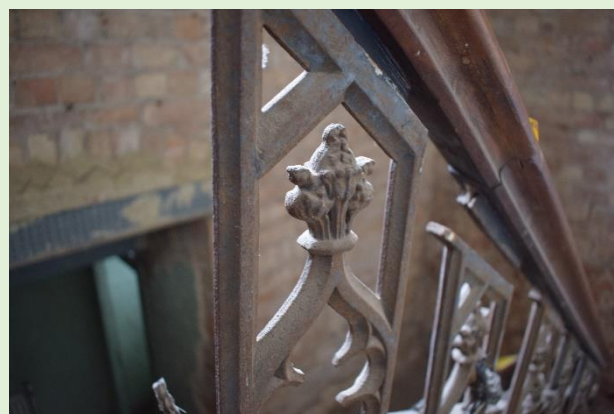
Our Trustee, David, observes that the displays here are on trend in the gardening world, but our gardeners were ahead of the game! Trustee Andy particularly values that the grounds are not overly developed. The sense of nature enhances the mysterious feel of the grounds, reflected by the history of the grounds and buildings. Of course, we cannot forget the wide, sweeping drive up to the house from the original gates which is a particular favourite of Tamsin's.

We look forward to a time when the castle is accessible for all and we can share our favourite parts of the castle with you, from the fascinating rooms and the grand staircases to the orchid room, there is truly so much to explore inside the castle as there is inside the grounds. It will not be a short-term fix; there is a lot to do. Elvaston has such potential and we really hope we are able to realise this with the continued support and encouragement from the local residents.

## Come and talk to us:

Recently we announced the first of many open evenings when we invite you to find out more about our work. We love talking to people and it's great to know there are so many people who love this very special place. Please Like our Facebook Page (Elvaston Castle and Gardens Trust) to hear about our latest news and events.

We look forward to welcoming you to Elvaston next time you visit.



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