



THE PENTRICH & SOUTH WINGFIELD REVOLUTION GROUP



4th edition

May 2017

Free

PENTRICH 2017 - COMMEMORATIVE EVENT

2017 Pentrich

200 years
of history

Presents

**A Bicentenary
Commemoration
day to be held at
South Wingfield Social Club
on Saturday 10th June 2017
1pm to 11pm.**

**The Big Adventure Theatre Company will
perform from the musical The Last Revolution
Children's entertainment for 2-5 year olds
Refreshments available all day
Commemorative Exhibitions
Evening entertainment with Ewan McLennan
BBC award winner
Music by Ed Sanders
and much, much more!!!**

*Excitement is mounting as we
prepare for the Bicentenary
Commemoration Event on
June 10th 2017.*

It promises to be a great day out
for the whole family with a variety
of activities for all ages including
Morris Dancing and Children's
entertainment

There will be an opportunity to
visit Wingfield Manor and other
locations of interest in the area.

For those who want to find out
more 'England's Last Revolution'
(Stevens) there will be a historical
display with full details of those
who took part and why.

There will also be a display of 46
paintings depicting The Pentrich
Revolution by local artists and the
new Pentrich quilt made by the
2nd Revolution Quilters.

An extensive genealogy scroll will
be on display so you can see if
you are descended from a
revolutionary.

Food and drink will be available
throughout the event. Books and
souvenirs will also be on sale.
You will also be able to buy our
Souvenir Brochure filled with
fascinating material, old and new
about The Pentrich Revolution.



THE PENTRICH
& SOUTH WINGFIELD
REVOLUTION GROUP

Charity Incorporated Organisation Number 1160940



LOTTERY FUNDED

Adults day ticket £5
6 - 16 year olds £2
Under 6's FOC
Free raffle entry with
every ticket number

www.pentrichrevolution.org.uk

www.facebook.com/pentrichrevolution

Thomas Bacon – the real Pentrich Revolutionary!

We do not have any pictures of Thomas Bacon but he is described as follows by John Stevens in his book *England's Last Revolution*:

'In 1817 Thomas Bacon was a silver-haired man of middle height, with a yellow-complexioned face pitted with pock marks. Bamford remembered him as looking older than he was stooping, beneath probably 70 years, his venerable locks hanging to his shoulder and having one hand on a stick.'

The description by RJ White in *Waterloo to Peterloo* is more graphic;

'A venerable figure, much like an Old Testament prophet, with white locks hanging upon his shoulders and a staff clasped in his ancient hand. He carried a basket which contained rolls of worsted and small articles of hosiery, which gave him the air of an old pedlar.'

Thomas Bacon had been a political activist for many years in the early 19th century and was a central figure in planning The Pentrich Revolution. Why then did he not take part in the rising on 9th and 10th June 1817?

Bacon was a member of the Nottingham Committee but aged 64 he was considered too old to lead the rising and they brought in an outsider, Jeremiah Brandreth, to lead the march of the revolutionaries.

Bacon claimed to have served in the army and also to have travelled to America but neither of these can be asserted as facts. At the time of The Pentrich Revolution he was an unemployed framework knitter and he was suspected of breaking machinery as well as insurrectionary activities so it is believed that there was a warrant for his arrest. For this reason he went into hiding on June 7th or 8th 1817.

However, Bacon's part in planning and instigating The Pentrich Revolution was well known to the authorities and he was subsequently arrested, imprisoned and brought to trial in Derby with those who had taken part in the rising. He pleaded 'Guilty' and was one of the fourteen men transported to Australia for life.

After the rising the main buildings in Pentrich

associated with the Bacon family including his home and The White Horse, owned by his sister Nancy Weightman, were demolished.

Bacon continued to express radical views during his period of imprisonment and transportation but his influence on events in Derbyshire and beyond was lost forever. He died in 1831 having suffered ill health over many years which excused him from the hard labour experienced by the other transported men.

Bacon was a literate man who would read news and pamphlets to others in Pentrich and could represent their views at meetings of the Hampden Club and other political gatherings. He was;

'A man of 'rude and uncultivated' appearance, yet he possessed an excellent natural understanding, a degree of knowledge far beyond that attainment of men of his condition of life and a most artful and insidious manner.'
(John Stevens – *England's Last Revolution*).

His opinions of other key figures such as William Oliver (the spy), Brandreth and the other men who took part in the rising make interesting reading. For more information see Michael Parkin's book *The Making of a Radical*.

The Making of a Radical

The life and times of
Thomas Bacon
a working-class radical from
Pentrich, Derbyshire'.



Michael Parkin

Our bicentenary walks



Join us on June 4th for the Re-enactment walk along the full route taken by the revolutionaries in 1817.

Three of the walks - South Wingfield, Pentrich & Giltbrook will be available as a sound walks - please watch our website for future details.

www.pentrichrevolution.org.uk

The Amber Valley walks will also be walked as part of the Autumn Footprints programme

The walks in Australia

15th Oct 2018 - The Sydney walk
16th Oct 2018 - The Parramatta walk
17th Oct 2018 - The Kiama Walk
Brochures will also be available for these walks in the near future

A book of the entire collection of walks will be available in the near future. There will also be a virtual overview of the whole route on our website

2017 Pentrich

Re-enactment walk

Period dress optional



LOTTERY FUNDED



Taken from painting by Fiona Ibbotson



Follow the route of the rebels march in 1817

9am - South Wingfield - Yew Tree

10am - Alfreton - Market Place

10.30am - Pentrich - The Dog Inn

11am - Butterley - Gatehouse

11am - Swanwick - Hill Top Mink Farm

11.30am - Ripley - Cock Inn

12.30pm - 1pm Codnor - Poet & Castle

2pm - Langley Mill - Great Northern

2.45pm - Eastwood - The Sun Inn

3.30pm - Giltbrook - Ikea

1817
2017

www.pentrichrevolution.org.uk
www.facebook.com/pentrichrevolution



Taken from painting by Sandy Hillier

The complete walk from South Wingfield - Giltbrook is 14 miles. You can also choose to walk part of the route meeting at the stated times. Transport to be arranged to bring walkers back to their starting points from Codnor, Langley Mill & Giltbrook

Register now at - rogertanner@yahoo.co.uk

Charity Incorporated Organisation Number 1166940

Do you want to become a revolutionary?

As we get further into 2017 we will need more volunteers and helpers for the many events, walks and exhibitions that we have planned. Attendance at training sessions may be required for certain activities. For further information or to become a member or a friend of the Pentrich and South Wingfield Revolution Group please contact Valerie Herbert - valerie.mherbert@yahoo.co.uk You can become a Friend for as little as £5 per year. You will receive our Newsletter giving updates on all events. As a charity we depend on donations to carry on the work both now and after the bicentenary commemoration in 2017. If you would like to become a member or make a donation it will be eligible for gift aid as we are a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Number 1166940)

In the June Issue... a special edition for the Commemorative event

Meet more of the organisers ...



Sylvia Mason

Genealogy, exhibitions and walks. Retired Lifeguard Trainer and swimming teacher. Interested in the family trees of the Revolutionaries



Heather Scoffield

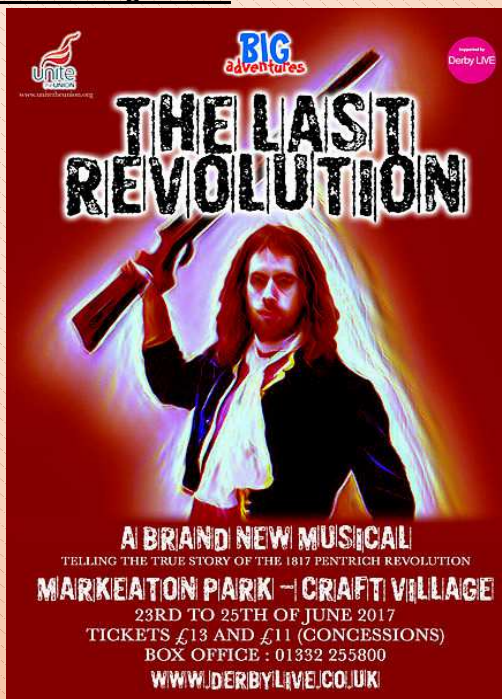
Liaison with English Heritage. Event and entertainment professional with a background in theatre marketing and show production.



Beki Howey - Project Manager

Management of all aspects of Pentrich 2017 and coordinating the work of other specialists and service providers.

Forthcoming events



Join Big Adventures and their new community theatre for The Last Revolution. The Time Has Come...

In 1817, a ragtag group of ordinary working men from Derbyshire took the decision to march on London. Their effort was crushed by an unyielding government who had placed a spy in their midst. Three of the men were put to death, and 14 were transported for life. Supported by Unite The Union and Derby LIVE, Big Adventures Theatre Company have written a brand new musical which tells the story of the people at the heart of the last recorded revolution in England. A story of love, of honour, of brotherhood and betrayal. This production marks the 200th Anniversary of the Pentrich Revolution and also forms part of Big Adventures' 20th Anniversary season.

DERBY MUSEUM – PENTRICH REVOLUTION EXHIBITION

May 6th – September 9th 2017 at Pickford House, Derby

The execution block will be on display at this exhibition as will the Derby Porcelain toilet pot featuring a painting of the execution of Jeremiah Brandreth by Daniel Lucas.

The Pentrich and South Wingfield Revolution Group was formed in 2014 as a single purpose community organisation dedicated to increasing and retaining awareness of the 1817 Pentrich Revolution. It is now a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Its objectives are:

- to commemorate the 1817 Pentrich Rising;
- to educate and increase awareness about the rising;
- to establish a legacy which preserves and entrenches the heritage of the Revolution.