

# THE KING'S CHRONICLE

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Keeping you in the picture with Bovey Tracey Paradiso Arts

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Image courtesy of Viv Styles



## From the Chairman

*Dear Supporter,*

*On behalf of the Directors of Bovey Tracey Paradiso Arts may I wish you all a happy and prosperous 2019.*

*We purchased the King of Prussia building just over a year ago (27th November 2017), after a determined fundraising effort led by our former Chairman Tony Pearce, who sadly passed away in April. Encouraged by many in the community, Tony was the driving force behind setting up the Paradiso Arts project. Our team remains enthusiastically committed to realising the exciting community arts venue we all want to see.*

*A special thank you to the volunteers who have done a great deal of work in stripping out and other preparation ready for contractors to start the heavy aspects of the building and renovation work. We anticipate the detailed structural and other design changes, which have become necessary, to be finalised very soon and inviting tenders for the building work with contractors for phase 1 of the project in early February. Phase 1 is the building modifications and refurbishment of the Tudor heritage building which will allow the art gallery and studios to be opened. We will keep you informed on progress on this first phase of the build project which should be finished in the third quarter.*

*Phase 2 of the project, building of the new cinema theatre, will begin later this year once we have topped up the existing funds. We are looking forward to another exciting and busy year, but most of all to a new community life for one of Bovey's treasured old buildings.*

*Thank you for your continued support.*

*Stephen Willmore - Chairman*

## Annual General Meeting 2018



The AGM for members/shareholders took place on 26th November at Café 3 Sixty. What an amazing turn out from our supporters, all eager to find out about the progress and plans. The draft minutes and notes from the meeting are available on the website via the button below. Thank you to all who attended, to Café 3Sixty for their hospitality and to Joshua Wheaton for entertaining us with music and song. We would be very grateful if those who attended the AGM could give their feedback via our questionnaire. This can be accessed by the AGM feedback button below.

[AGM notes from the meeting](#)

[AGM Feedback](#)

## Test pitting at the King of Prussia

David Stone with the help of Frances and Malcolm Billinge conducted test pitting in the former garden area of the King of Prussia. They dug three 1m<sup>2</sup> test-pits, the first two pits very quickly hit natural soil, but the third one yielded a range of more interesting finds including a variety of pottery sherds. Several from the early modern period, North Devon ware, South Somerset ware, all from the C17th-C18th; one sherd of Totnes-type ware from the C16th-C18th; and one sherd of Frechen German stoneware from the C16th-C17th.



The pit also yielded one small sherd of medieval pottery. Perhaps most evocatively, the finds also included a fragment of a decorative mug, perhaps produced in a local pottery at Bovey Tracey, with a transfer reading 'KING' (Could this be '....of Prussia'? ). A possible cobbled feature at the base of the pit was photographed and left *in situ*.

## Progress with the King of Prussia.



Work continues on stripping back the layers on the inside of the King of Prussia. After the removal of some panelling it was revealed that the Elizabethan fireplaces on the first floor and the chimney were being supported by very little. Some 200 years ago a section of what was the original back-to-back granite fireplace was taken away to enhance the doorway. This took place perhaps when building regulations were not something to be considered. Who knows what would have happened in a few years time when hidden rotten wood would have finally given way.



This discovery and subsequent investigations of all the structural issues in several places, the associated calculations and design work will have added around 6 months to the restoration timetable. To make the structurally safe significant reinforcement, blockwork and steel beams will be added.

# THE KING NEEDS YOU!



## Director Vacancies

It is with great thanks for her time and commitment that regrettably we say goodbye to Felicity King as Finance Director. Felicity has resigned her directorship due to changes in personal circumstances and she is now no longer permanently resident in Bovey Tracey. Felicity, a chartered accountant has been a first class Finance Director since the formation of BTPA Ltd and we wish her well for the future.

We are seeking to co-opt 2 new members to the board. If you feel that you can commit the time and expertise to this role please get in touch. We are especially interested in those who are a qualified accountant to replace Felicity and those who have expertise in Human Resources. Please contact us via email using the button below.

[Email us here](#)

## What's ahead for 2019

Plans for the structural changes will be finalised; especially relating to the unsupported chimney issue.

We are updating the business plan which will be available to view on the website when it has been completed.

More funding bids are being made to enable the work to build the cinema/theatre and café bar to progress to completion. We have engaged a professional fundraiser to assist with the bidding process.

We are arranging an event for the volunteers. If you have signed up to be a volunteer then we will be contacting you soon.

Work on gathering stories and memories of the King of Prussia will be starting shortly as part of our heritage engagement with the community. Volunteers to record, edit and tell their stories are required. Get in touch if you can help via the 'Email us here' button above.

Pop in to the King of Prussia and see us. A list of times of when Stephen Willmore will be on site to enable you to view work in progress will be displayed on the website and at the King of Prussia.

## Link to Paradiso website

You are receiving this email because you have signed up to the Bovey Tracey Paradiso Arts Ltd newsletter mailing list or you are a shareholder or donor. We will communicate with you in relation to our projects or events related to the King of Prussia and Bovey Tracey Paradiso Arts Ltd. Bovey Tracey Paradiso Arts Ltd does not wish to send unsolicited e-mails; if you do not wish to receive this information please use the unsubscribe button below.

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