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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



To be held on **SATURDAY 6th May 2017** at

**The Visitor Centre, Red Walk, Jesmond Dene, Newcastle upon Tyne NE7 7BQ**

*Attendance at the AGM is free of charge. Tickets for the optional refreshments and tour £15.00.*

### PROGRAMME:

Arrive 13.00 for light buffet and refreshments; 14.00 AGM business;  
14.30 Talk by Martin Hulse on Jesmond Dene Banqueting Hall; 15.45 Visit to the Banqueting Hall;  
Depart 17.00 approx.

The Banqueting Hall was built in 1860-2 to a design by John Dobson for Sir William Armstrong, whose nearby house could not accommodate his increasing needs for corporate entertainment and social functions. It was extended westward in 1869-70 with a reception hall, art gallery and gatehouse to designs by Richard Norman Shaw. In 1883 the building (along with Jesmond Dene Park), was gifted by Lord Armstrong to the City of Newcastle for 'arts, literature or education purposes. It was used for weddings and civic and other banquets through the 20<sup>th</sup> century until neglect led to removal in 1977 of the roof of the original 1862 banqueting hall together with demolition of its ancillary facilities to the north. The gatehouse continued in use until recently but further neglect resulted in dry rot running rampant and it is currently unsafe to enter. The 1870 reception hall and art gallery remain habitable and are on lease to the Armstrong Studio Trust.

Martin Hulse of the Tyne & Wear Building Preservation Trust will talk on the creation and subsequent partial loss of the complex, with an overview of current ideas for re-roofing and development to secure the future of what survives.

Jennie Speirs Grant of Jesmond Heritage and The Armstrong Studio Trust will conduct us on a tour of the accessible parts of the building and outline the occupants' hopes for its future.

*Please note that the tour involves steeply sloping paths and multiple flights of steps. Warm clothing is advised.*

Please return the booking form to: Chris Downs, 8 Holmside Place, Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 5AJ Tel: (0191) 2760060

***By Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at the latest***

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### NAHS AGM Saturday 6th May 2017 – Booking Form

Name/s.....

Number of 'AGM only' tickets..... Number of tour and buffet tickets required.....

I enclose a stamped addressed envelope and my cheque (payable to NAHS) for £..... ( ) tick or cross

OR: I will pay £..... by electronic transfer to: Barclays Bank, 7 Market Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 6JN

Account name: Northern Architectural History Society, Sort Code: 20-59-42 Account No: 70694274 ( ) tick or cross

Please note that if you pay electronically you still need to send in the booking form and stamped self-addressed envelope for issue of the tickets

Address.....

Contact E-mail.....

Phone No.....