

Charter Day May 15, 2022

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Steve Soreff, MD

One of the big events in Nottingham's celebration of its 300th anniversary will be Charter Day scheduled for Sunday, May 15, 2022. The day actually features three significant happenings. First, at 11 AM that morning there will be the installation of the Nottingham Summer Institute: Fall Edition's Time Capsule at the flag pole in front of the Community Center. Second, at 12 noon there will be a Charter ceremony and then an actual reading of the King's Charter for Nottingham in 1722 at Nottingham Square. And, third following the Charter reading, the Nevers' Second Regiment will perform a concert also on Nottingham Square.

The Time Capsule is the product of the Nottingham Summer Institute: Fall Edition. For the Capsule the students collected the photos including Nottingham School, the Fire Department (old and new), The Recreation Center and their fields, Demmons Old Country store, Liars Paradise, and the Nottingham art projects at this year's Deerfield Fair. They also included depictions of Nottingham 2021/2022. Nottingham Summer Institute: Fall Edition had its leadership Mrs. Breslin-Dawson and Ms. Henderson and these four students Braydan Behr, Noah Santry-Merrill, Steven Boulard, and Riley Cloutier.

Next, the event commences at 12 noon with a ceremony where speakers offer welcoming remarks. One of those talking will be Dr. Peter Abbott, Order of the British Empire. OBE Her Majesty's Consul-General for New England. He is based in Boston and he and his family will join us for the day. He will offer remarks appropriate to the occasion. Remember in 1722 we were a British colony



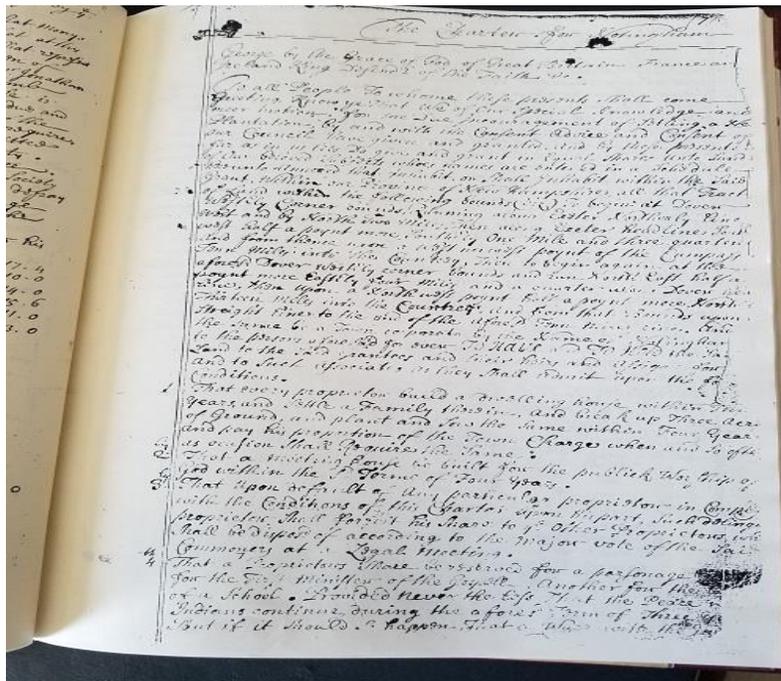
Dr. Peter Abbott

Following the Charter Ceremony, there will be a reading of the 1722 Charter for Nottingham. This will be read by a member of [His Majesty 10th of Foot](#). In addition, members of His Majesty 10th of Foot will participate in the Charter ceremonies. His Majesty's Tenth Regiment of Foot in America is a historically re-created infantry unit formed to portray the service of the British Army during the American War for Independence. Also, members of the Nottingham militia will be there.



His Majesty 10th of Foot

Here is the story of the Charter as written by Bill Garnett. “ On May 10, 1722 (by the Gregorian Calendar) a charter was granted by the Governor’s Council of the Royal Province of New Hampshire to a group of petitioners from Newbury and Boston, Massachusetts for a tract of land ten miles square in the southeastern part of the province. As a result of the grant, the petitioners became known as proprietors. Among the conditions laid down by the grant were: 1. Individual lots were to be assigned to the proprietors “indifferently” – i.e. by lot. 2. Owners of individual lots were to erect a “dwelling house” and plow and fence three acres of land within four years. 3. The proprietors “were to settle the town compact in as defensive a position as the land will allow.” (The “town compact” became what is known today as Nottingham Square) 4/ Three lots were to be set aside for a minister, a ministry and a school. And, A “meeting house” was to be built within five years.” Of interest, the Charter included not only all of Nottingham but also Deerfield and Northwood aka the called the north woods.



A copy of the 1722 Charter for Nottingham from the proprietor’s book at the Nottingham Historical Society 320

Following the Charter events, the Nevers’ Second Regiment Band will do a concert, also on Nottingham Square. The [Nevers’ Second Regiment Band](#) is a Concord-based professional community band. dedicated to bringing an annual series of summer concerts to the region. Its compound name derives from its military affiliation with the Second Regiment of the New Hampshire National Guard in the late 1800s and direction for more than half a century by Claremont cornetist, Arthur Nevers. The band also has links to the Civil War Band of 1861 that accompanied the Third New Hampshire Regiment to Hilton Head, South Carolina. Of great local interest, that band also played at the dedication of the Four General’s statue there in 1917. The band plays a diverse repertoire that includes popular numbers, patriotic music, classic orchestral transcriptions, and music from motion pictures.



Nevers' Second Regiment Band

Also, at Nottingham Square that day there will be a number of things. There will be community tables by the Nottingham Historical Society and [the First New Hampshire Regiment](#). The Nottingham Fire Rescue Association will provide food and refreshments. It is recommended folks bring chairs with them for the concert. In case of rain, the events will be held at the Nottingham School.