

## STEYNING MUSEUM TRUST

The Museum, Church Street, Steyning, West Sussex. BN44 3YB

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Registered Charity Number: 1169540



### Newsletter August 2022

#### Message from the Chairman - Muriel Wright

Welcome to our next newsletter.

I hope you are all managing to enjoy the Summer whilst keeping cool at the same time.

First of all, I would like to say thank you to everyone who has sent me their good wishes during my Chemotherapy Treatment. Fingers crossed I will continue to improve.

I understand that our recent Cream Tea was very successful a big "thank you" to Maggie Hollands and her catering team for their sterling work providing all those scones and cups of tea. We are very fortunate to have such a great team raising money for our Museum.

A warm welcome to our new members and some have joined our team of volunteers: Mary Corin, Anne Bellis and Elaine Rogers. I hope to meet you soon.

On behalf of the Trustees and Management Committee I would like to thank you all for continuing to support Steyning Museum.

Take Care,

Muriel

#### Curator of Exhibitions – Andrew Woodfield

The Accession exhibit will close on August 21<sup>st</sup> and our contribution to this year's Food and Drink Festival will replace it which will be all in place by 24<sup>th</sup> August:

#### **BOOZE! Brewed in Steyning**

A history of the breweries in Steyning. What is the link with the famous Irish stout **Guinness**?

Come and find out the answer!

The Charlton Street exhibit will now close on November 20<sup>th</sup> and will be replaced by a Festive Exhibit (title tbc).

Watch this space and Website for further details!

## Education – Joan Denwood

We had a request in June from a Care Home in Horsham. They had noticed, on our website, that we do hands-on activities. We decided to show photos of Steyning on their large screen, as an introduction. Some of the residents may never have been to Steyning. Then we all had fun talking about and playing with old toys, talking about what they were made of, how they worked and reminiscing. Andrew brought along a couple of engines and a Pelham Puppet, Pinocchio, too. At one point an elderly lady started singing the theme song from the film Pinocchio. A gentleman got up and disappeared, then reappeared with a wonderful pencil sketch he had done of a house in Steyning, which was opposite where he used to stay on holiday for many years. What wonderful recollections and an interesting experience for us too.

We got an email to say thank you for a wonderful talk, the residents were still talking about our visit the next day. We received petrol allowance and a donation for the museum.



The above pictures are – 1920 Acrobat Clown, 1947 Clockwork Clown  
and 1968 Jack in the Box

## **Events & Fund-Raising Committee – Maggie Hollands**

Thank you to you all who attended the Cream Tea at The Steyning Centre.

We raised almost £650 towards museum funds.... it was a brilliant success and I am sure everyone enjoyed the afternoon with the Cheer up Mollys.

Our next event is the Autumn Coffee morning November 5th.

I will keep you posted regarding our next event at the Steyning Centre which is next May which will be an afternoon tea with sandwiches and cakes and live music

## **Membership and 200 Club Secretary - Erica Gayler**

The following are the results from 200 Club draws since our last newsletter.

### **June Draw**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize Frances Woodward

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize April Henebury

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Malcolm Linfield

### **July**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize Mike Denwood

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize John Gardner

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Valerie Bullen

### **August**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize Gillian Downham

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize S R Webber

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Edwin Bray

Just a reminder to **PLEASE CANCEL YOUR STANDING ORDER/S TO STEYNING MUSEUM 200 CLUB WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT**. Standing orders are still coming through to this account which will be closed on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and after that date the Museum will not be notified of any amounts received and it will be necessary for the payee to claim the amount back through the banking system. Just to be clear, the bank account for the 200 Club is sort code 40-43-48.

## Publicity – Ray Powell



At the suggestion of Barbara Chandler, the museum has recently purchased three tabards for volunteers manning stalls at local events such as the Steyning Festival.

Displaying the museum logo, the tabards come with a handy pocket in the front.

We think they look splendid and hope you do too

## News from the Research Hub – Jacquie Buttriss

The major work of these past few weeks has been in preparation for the launch of the Graveyard Gossip audio-tour of our churchyard. This new venture was Nick Quinn's idea, which we all enthusiastically embraced. It has been a joint effort to ensure it would be ready on time for its launch at the beginning of the Steyning Festival.

Based on a great deal of her own research, Lois Roemer wrote the scripts, introducing each of 24 graves, selected for their interest, variety and, in one or two instances, their notoriety! Lois appealed for volunteers to read the scripts and many of you kindly came forward. This enabled her to arrange a recording schedule

Nick Quinn set up a temporary studio in our museum's work-room and recorded each of them in turn. Meanwhile, Leslie Slater marked out the route round the churchyard, by 'planting' blue flags by all the selected graves. Sarah Leigh recruited and organised some Friends of the Church to help her supervise the bookings and also the tour parties at the event.

Despite the persistent drizzle on the day, the groups enthusiastically embarked on the tour in turns and all were intrigued to learn some of our former residents' stories.

Many thanks to all our museum and church volunteers who combined to make this event a veritable triumph.

NB If you missed the Graveyard Gossip tour you can come to the museum and either install the app on your smart-phone to go on the tour yourselves or, if you prefer, we do have some printed transcripts of the of the tour to read and/or to purchase for £3 (the cost of the printing).