



# MUSEUM NEWS

Steyning Museum Newsletter

April 2006

## Progress With Fitting-Out the Extension

If you have been in the Museum lately you will have seen the progress that is being made in fitting out the interior of the extension. Paul Norris and Peter Lee are to be seen several days in the week using their carpentry skills to make and erect the display boards. Chris Tod is kept busy producing new designs as the layout is adjusted to fit any new circumstances which occur as work progresses. For instance, it was felt that the new space could be put to better use if the research area was housed outside the office and not in the extension. This will give room in the extension for a temporary exhibition space, which in turn will create more space in the original Museum area.

## Museum Diary

- 08.04.06 Spring Coffee Morning  
Penfold Hall 10.30 - 12.00
- 29.05.06 Museum stall at Spring Fair
- 01.06.06 Official opening of Extension  
Penfold Hall/Museum - 11.45
- 28.10.06 Autumn Coffee Morning  
Penfold Hall 10.30.12.00
- 20.01.07 Stewards and Helpers Social  
Penfold Hall 10.30 - 12.00

The Museum will again have a stall at the Spring Fair in the High Street on 29<sup>th</sup> May. We need helpers to give an hour of their time at the stall on the day. If you can offer some help, please telephone Helen Coutrouzas on 814603.

In the spirit of strengthening community links, I will in future include in the Museum

newsletter a diary entry covering items from the programmes of other organisations who share with us an interest in the past of Steyning and its neighbours.

## Beeding and Bramber Local History Society:

- 06.09.06 Sweet Chestnuts - a Sussex story
- 04.10.06 The medieval and manorial sites of Stretham and Ovingdean
- 01.11.06 The flint miners of Cissbury

All meetings will be in Beeding & Bramber Village Hall. Details from Pat Nightingale on Tel: 812847

## 200 Club

### February Draw:

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize = Ted Wilson (£35)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize = Jill Kemp (£25)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize = Joy Davey (£15)

### March Draw:

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize = Joyce Guy (£35)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize = Joyce Sleight (£25)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize = Bernard Gravatt (£15)

## An Interesting Donation

Some of the most interesting items to come our way recently have been those donated from a collection which belonged to the late Colin Garlick, landlord of the Chequer Inn. If you have read Janet Pennington's account of the inn, you will know what a colourful history it has. Colin's collection contains documents from the Chequer past

as well as photos and news cuttings on Steyning generally. We shall, hopefully, be able to include some of these in a future exhibition.

### Good Neighbours

As part of the programme to mark the opening of the new extension, we are inviting the mostly elderly and infirm clients of Good Neighbours to come and visit us on 22<sup>nd</sup> June to see the extension and have tea in the Penfold Hall.

### Official Opening of the Extension

Thursday June 1<sup>st</sup> will see the official opening of the new extension. Though work continues apace, fitting out the new space is, as expected, taking a long time, so everything may not be quite ready. Nevertheless, the building will look impressive by 1<sup>st</sup> June.

We will start with coffee and refreshments in the Penfold Hall at 11.00am and move on to the official ceremony at 11.45am when speeches will be followed by a cutting of the tape to mark the opening of the extension.

All the Friends are welcome to join in the occasion, but we need to have some idea as to how many will join us for coffee before the ceremony. Will you please therefore complete and return the form below if you intend to join us for coffee.

### End Piece

When you go into the Museum you will often see David Thompson beavering away at the records of Steyning's past. He has now translated so many from the original Latin texts and old handwriting styles, that there are several shelves in the archives devoted to his large output. We owe him a great debt for his labours, and to give you a flavour of his work, David has written a piece for us this month describing what he does on our behalf. It includes two passages from the records showing the challenges involved in interpreting what our forebears wrote.

Tony Kettelman  
Editor