



MUSEUM NEWS

Steyping Museum Newsletter

April 2018

Museum Diary

- 07.04.18 Spring Coffee Morning
Penfold Hall
10.30 - 12.00
- 23.08.18 Sussex Produce Dinner
(Details to follow)
- 13.10.18 Autumn Coffee Morning
Penfold Hall
10.30 - 12.00
- 10.11.18 Armistice Lunch
(Details to follow)

200 Club

February Draw:

- 1st prize = Tony Kitson (£35)
2nd prize = Brian West (£25)
3rd prize = Pam Hazell (£15)

March Draw:

- 1st prize = Brian Hill (£35)
2nd prize = Maggie Wynne £50
3rd prize = April Henebury (£25)

Children's Activity Morning in February

from Joan Denwood

1. There were children making Mother's Day cards, children playing with Glove Puppets, children dressing up as knights (with an amazing helmet) and damsels, children playing games and

making mosaics, children playing with toys and frightening themselves with the Jack-in-the-box, children creating excellently clear brass-rubbings and children being archaeologists and finding a wonderful collection of objects - all happening in Steyping Museum during the half term holiday.

What a fun morning! We also had the adults enjoying themselves and even a few visitors who braved the fun.

So thanks to all who came and all who helped with the activities, making it a busy morning with a happy atmosphere.



We will be organising another activities

morning on 31st May as part of the Steyning Festival, so do please come along to the Festival marquee on that morning.

Find the Soldiers - Answer the Questions

from Joan Denwood

A new initiative in our Museum relates to 'Soldiers' which stand about 6 inches high. This came about after a visit to the Gentle Gallery near Washington Roundabout where the soldiers were spotted, discussed and finally an order placed for 6 of them. They are accurately made by Nick Gentle and now form a new quiz for all in our museum. They are far too good for only children to find! And by answering the questions our visitors will learn about a variety of aspects of Steyning's history.

So why not come along and have a go yourself.



Steyning Showcase

from Joan Denwood

We took part in this community event in February in Steyning Centre. Our theme was to attract visitors and get some offers of help. Our display boards focussed on '*Have you been to Steyning Museum?*', '*How we Work?*' and '*How you can help*'.

We also had a few mystery objects to discuss with visitors and supplied information including membership forms, opening times, exhibitions

(current and future) and Museum leaflets.

We chatted to lots of visitors, which resulted in 7 new members and 2 new stewards signing up.

Many thanks to our stalwart stall helpers who cheerfully manned the stall throughout the day.

Steyning Locomotives

from Margaret Benham

For the many people interested in the Steyning railway, Mrs Jessica Lloyd, a volunteer from the Isle of Wight Steam Railway (and former resident of Upper Beeding and Steyning) has given the Museum pictures and documents relating to the re-launch of the restored steam locomotive, the Ivatt 41313 which drew the last steam train into Steyning Railway station before the line was closed. The locomotive was restored in Somerset on contract to the Isle of Wight Steam Railway and is now permanently at the Isle of Wight Steam Railway. Its sister locomotive, the Ivatt 41312, which also ran on the Steyning Line, has also been restored and is now at the Watercress Line. If anyone is interested, we have information in the Museum about a May Bank Holiday weekend event at the Isle of Wight Steam Railway when the Ivatt 41313 will be running.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Museum was held on Saturday 24th March. Following the retirement last year of Chris Tod as Curator, the Museum has been organised over the year by small teams, and Muriel Wright's annual report as chairman included information gathered from them.

At this time last year, the committee had hoped by now to have handed over administration to the new CIO(charitable incorporated organisation.) Various practical problems had been thrown up to

delay the change over, but things were now proceeding well.

Muriel in her report highlighted several points:

A major point of concern in the past year has been the legal status of items loaned to the Museum.

The problem of space for storage had increased.

A start had been made to transfer the Museum catalogue to the “Modes” computer system. It is a lengthy job, but once complete it will enable items to be rapidly located.

Visits from local schools had continued to be made together with those from Continental ones.

The Museum joined the Library for the summer reading event, the children’s activity days continued, and a new development was a “soldier quiz”.

Andrew Woodfield and his team continued to mount exhibitions of a high standard.

A new team has taken over the creation of the stewards rota as Sarah Leigh steps down from the task after many years. The chairman offered special thanks for Sarah’s commitment and hard work over the years. She was presented with a gift of flowers in thanks.

The treasurer’s report highlighted the very healthy financial position of the Museum. Of special interest was the way that the roof panels has been covering our electricity consumption.

Elections

All the existing officers and helpers were re-elected.

The CIO AGM

Though matters had not yet progressed to the point where the CIO could take over, its first AGM was held. The only item of business was the election of the

five trustees. Only five were needed and they would be responsible for choosing the committee members.

The five trustees elected by the meeting were: Helen Coutrouzas, Paul Norris, Sarah Leigh, Chris Tod and Muriel Wright.

200 Club

Paul Norris reported on the 200 Club. He was pleased to report that through Erica Gayler’s hard work, the membership stood at about 190. This was good news as it had been feared that as over the past year the membership had dropped to the point where the prize monies would have had to be reduced.

The Speaker

Following the meeting, the speaker was Andrew Woodfield who gave us an amusing talk starting with his Yorkshire childhood and his later involvement with theatre performance and about a career with Brighton Toy Museum and now Steyning Museum.

A plea for help

from Lois Roemer and Jacquie Buttriss

Do you have any **suffragettes** in your family tree? Or do you know of any Suffragettes who were linked with your forebears or with Steyning and the surrounding area? If so and you’re willing to share what you know, we would love to hear from you. Please call Jacquie Buttriss on 01903 814426 or email her at: familyhistory@steyningmuseum.org.uk

Next month’s newsletter will include an article about suffragettes and suffragists in the local area, or related to local families, and may include any information you are willing to give us.

Tony Kettelman (Editor)



Steyping Festival

Thursday 31st May

Steyping Museum presents an

Activities Morning

for primary age children

in the Festival Marquee on
Cuthman's Field



puppets
brass rubbing
dressing up
toys
games
crafts

Tickets
£4 per child

On the door or from Steyping Bookshop



Festival Box Office for ticket sales and further information:
Steyping Bookshop Tel: 01903 812062 or visit
www.steypingfestival.co.uk



Steyping Museum

Saturday 7th April

10.30 - 12.00

Coffee Morning

Raffle, Cakes, Books
Bric-a-Brac, DVD's, Jewellery
Handbags and Scarves
Items from the Museum Shop

Penfold Hall
Church Street
Steyping



Entrance - £1

ALL WELCOME