



# MUSEUM NEWS

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Steyning Museum Newsletter

April 2019

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## Museum Diary

- 27.05.19 Steyning Country Fair  
High Street
- 08.06.19 Cream Tea  
Gluck Studio & Garden  
3.00pm
- 26.10.19 Autumn Coffee Morning  
Penfold Hall  
10.30 - 12.00
- 23.11.19 American Theme  
concert & lunch  
Methodist Church  
11.30

## 200 Club

### February Draw:

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize= Yvonne O'Sullivan (£35)  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize = Andrew Woodfield (£25)  
3<sup>rd</sup> prize= Charles Harries (£15)

### March Draw:

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize = Sarah Leigh (£35)  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize = Alec Harden (£50)  
3<sup>rd</sup> prize = Jose Peate (£25)

Some Friends have taken out a second membership of the 200 Club. As each membership can enter the monthly draw, you may notice some names appearing as winners more often.

## Coffee Morning

*from Maggie Hollands*

We are having our Spring Coffee Morning on Saturday 6th April in the Penfold Hall starting at 10:30. We have our usual stalls of homemade cakes, bric a brac, jewellery, bags and scarves. We also have a raffle and a plant stall. Do come along and enjoy a coffee and chat, whilst supporting our Museum.

## Steyning Country Fair

*from Stephanie Grant*

On 27<sup>th</sup> May, the Steyning Country Fair will take place in the High Street. As usual, the Museum will have a stall and be featuring games such as Shove Halfpenny and Bagatelle. We will be highlighting our refurbished Steyning Railway area in the Museum and will feature a small model railway exhibit.

This is always a great day out in Steyning and as the theme this year the organizers say is a 'throw back to the heritage of Steyning', the Museum has a key role to play in the festivities.

Please stop to say hello to the Friends who have offered to run the stall.

## Teaching Sessions in the Museum

*from Joan Denwood*

Since I last wrote about education sessions in the Museum, a great deal has

happened.

Since November we have had visits from:-

1. 1st Beeding and Bramber Beaver Scouts - *WW1 and WW2*
2. Shoreham College Year1 - *Old Toys*  
Steypning Grammar School 2 classes (12/13 year olds) - *Centenary exhibition*
3. Shoreham College Year 1 - *Homes and Buildings*
4. Steypning Air Cadets - *Centenary exhibition*
5. French students on an exchange visit with SGS students - *History of Steypning*
6. Steypning Primary School 2 classes (7/8 year olds) - *Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages*

Also we are due to have visits from German exchange students and 2 more classes from Steypning Primary School visiting us before the end of March, all learning about the history of Steypning. Not forgetting, last but certainly not least, we have small groups of pre-schoolers with their helpers visiting us for a Teddy hunt over the course of one week.

As you can see we are kept busy on the education side.

### **Additions to the Collections**

*from Margaret Benham*

A lot of the success of the Museum is down to the generosity of the Steypning public who pass to us family objects, many of which we are able to keep.

Recent ones have included a National lottery ticket from 1805, two Horsham Bank notes from 1813 and a scrapbook of newspaper cuttings and other documents about the broadcast from Steypning of the Wilfred Pickles "Have A Go" programme.

### **Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March in the Penfold Hall. Reports were presented by Muriel Wright (Chairman), Joan Denwood (Education and Oral History), Andrew Woodfield (Exhibitions), Erica Gaylor (200 Club). With the need to distribute this newsletter in time to remind Friends about the Coffee Morning on 6<sup>th</sup> April, more detail about the reports will appear in the next newsletter.

The business meeting was followed by tea/coffee and a much appreciated talk by Janet Pennington on "An Archaeological Childhood in Sussex."

The Management Committee agreed for the year 2019 - 2000 is as follows:

- Muriel Wright (Chairman)
- Jacque Buttriss (Family Research)
- Paul Norris (Treasurer)
- Helen Coutrouzas (Minutes Secretary)
- Joan Denwood (Education)
- Stephanie Grant (Publicity)
- Erica Gaylor (Subscriptions)
- Tony Kettelman (Communications)
- Maggie Hollands (Social Events)

### **Co-opted Members**

- Margaret Benham (Collections)
- Andrew Woodfield (Exhibitions)

### **Social Events Sub-committee:-**

Maggie Hollands (Chairman), Pam Perry, Mariella Alexander, Paddy Robson, Lois Roemer.

### **Can you find a new steward, please?**

As a Friend of the Museum you know the daily running of the Museum depends on the dedication of our stewards who give willingly of their time to welcome visitors. Our visitors often comment on the warm welcome they receive from stewards when visiting us. This means of course we do need enough stewards to be available

to look after our visitors properly. We are now down to about 68 stewards available for work and really we need about 80.

If you know anybody who might be interested in becoming a steward, can you encourage them to contact the Museum. Please explain that it's only one or two duties a month, each session two hours long, arranged well in advance and to their convenience. They don't necessarily need to know anything about the Museum to start with as they will get proper training and ongoing support. Maybe just a chat about what might be involved could be easily arranged.

If you find anyone (or you yourself) who is interested, please ask them to leave a note at the Museum (or put it through the letter box when closed) addressed to Gillian Brown and Vivian Kingston-Jones.

### **Archaeology in Steyning**

*from Judie English and Sarah Leigh*

Steyning centred on the church of St. Cuthman, seems to have become an important urban centre in the 10<sup>th</sup> century. The church was important enough for Alfred the Great to choose it as the first burial place for his father. Steyning seems to have become a scattered settlement on the southern slopes opposite the church. The "planned" settlements along Church Street and High Street may have been built in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries, but this is not certain.

The most recent exploration by archaeologists has been through a series of test pits in the gardens of houses in Church Street and High Street. They have shown that there was 10<sup>th</sup> century settlement closer to the High Street than Saxon Cottage and also medieval settlement closer to the mini-roundabout. Further work is planned, focussing on the Museum

and the deserted settlement in Mouse Lane. In April, it is hoped to excavate a small trench on the footprint of the new Museum extension.

In September we hope to move to the other end of town and field walk the arable land off Mouse Lane which has already produced medieval pottery, and to survey the earthworks in the adjacent pasture field. This is probably a settlement called Charlton which seems to have failed in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

It is possible that next summer we may try to repeat the test-pitting exercise in the High Street, but that will need considerable organisation. If anyone is interested in getting involved with the work, please contact Sarah Leigh on 01903 813422 or

[sarah.c.leigh@btopenworld.com](mailto:sarah.c.leigh@btopenworld.com)

The nature and difficulty of the work varies: no experience is necessary and you would be most welcome. Apart from the work around the digs and the finds, we need help with the organising and admin aspects.

### **Garden Cream Tea**

*from Maggie Hollands*

On Saturday June 8th at 3 pm We are hosting our Summer Cream Tea this year in the garden of Gluck Studio (Chantry House Church Street Steyning)

There will be homemade scones and strawberries, live music, raffle and lots of atmosphere.

Tickets £5 obtained in advance from the Steyning Museum from May 6th.

(Obtained on the day at the gate £6)

If possible please bring a chair. If wet we will be indoors.

Do come along and join in the fun. All proceeds to our Steyning Museum funds.

Tony Kettelman

Editor

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Friends of Steyning Museum

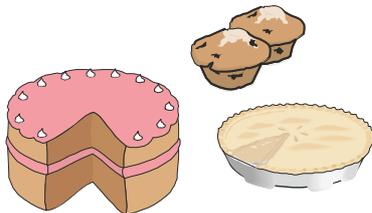
Saturday 6th April

10.30 - 12.00

# Spring Coffee Morning

raffle cakes books  
bric-a-brac bags  
jewellery and scarves

Penfold Hall  
Church Street  
Steyning



**Entrance - £1**

**ALL WELCOME**