



MUSEUM NEWS

Steyning Museum Newsletter

June 2016

Museum Diary

- 31.05.16 Children's Activity Morning
10.00 - 12.30
Cuthman's Field Marquee
- 15.10.16 Big Draw
Museum and Penfold Hall
11.00 - 4.00
- 12.11.16 Autumn Coffee Morning
Penfold Hall
10.30 - 12.00
- 11.12.16 Southdown Concert Band
Grammar School Drama Hall
Afternoon event

200 Club

April Draw:

- 1st prize = Malcolm Linfield (£35)
2nd prize = Mavis McDougal (£25)
3rd prize = Andrew Slater (£15)

May Draw:

- 1st prize = Penny Hill (£35)
2nd prize = Colin Sutherland £25)
3rd prize = James Welch (£15)

Spring Coffee Morning

from Gillian Kille

The weather was kind to us for the Spring coffee morning and approximately 58 Museum Friends and others came along and enjoyed coffee, chatting with friends and the chance to buy goods from the stalls. All the stalls – cakes, plants and bric-a-brac – did very well, as did the raffle, but the 'star' of the morning was the scarves and bags stall, which raised a bumper £106 and the total net profit for the Museum amounted to £395.77, which was an increase of £121 on the amount raised at last year's event. Our thanks go to all those who supported the event, all the helpers and those of you who kindly made delicious cakes and donated items for the stalls and the raffle. We had the very successful and enjoyable open

air '1940's Cream Tea' last year on 6th June. However, there is no summer garden coffee morning event this year, as it has been decided to hold a summer event every alternate year.

As we had the scarves and bags stall at the Spring coffee morning, it was decided that the Museum's shop stall at the Autumn coffee morning on Saturday 12th November in the Penfold Hall, will sell some quality 'stocking filler' items plus other gifts ready for Christmas. There may be some more scarves for sale too, along with the usual cake stall, bric-a-brac, and raffle. We always welcome donations for the stalls, and although we have a loyal team of home bakers to call upon, new cake bakers are always welcome.

The Southdowns Concert Band Xmas Concert, Sunday 11th December 2016, the Drama Hall, Steyning Grammar School

Although we appreciate this is some time ahead, please make a note in your diaries; this will be a very popular afternoon event and will be the second time the Southdowns Concert Band will perform in Steyning.

Further details and timings, etc for the concert will be issued in the October Newsletter.

Calling all photographers

From Muriel Wright:

The Museum would like to produce its own Steyning calendar for 2017 to sell in the shop. As the photo competition for the 2016 Museum Christmas card was so successful, we would like to invite you to send us any of your photos of Steyning which you feel could be suitable for a calendar. We will include the 12 most suitable ones to make up the calendar.

I am sure many of you will have photos of Steyning stored on computers and memory cards, so please send some to us by email. They should be sent to:

photos@steyningmuseum.org.uk

The finished calendar will be sold to raise funds for the Museum. There are some conditions before we can print the selected photographs:

- A. Photographs must be your own work.
- B. Don't forget to give your name and say where the photo was taken.
- C. Send your photo in jpg format if possible

Time is of the essence, so the closing date for submissions is the END OF JULY. This will give enough time to have the calendar designed, printed and on sale at the Autumn coffee morning.

So photographers, please get busy. We are looking forward to seeing all the results.

The Saxon Hall

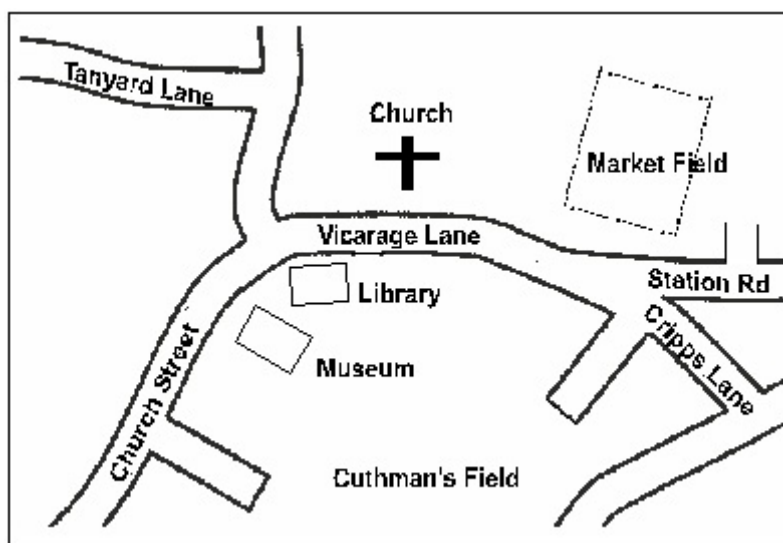
Those of you who came to the Annual General Meeting of the Friends will have enjoyed the illustrated talk about how the Weald and Downland Museum are re-creating a Saxon Hall, the remains for which were excavated in 1988 - 89 on Market in Field in Steyning. The design of the re-construction at the Weald and Downland is based on the archaeological evidence produced from the Market Field site. This was before the site was developed for housing.

What the archaeologists found pointed to there being a late Anglo-Saxon homestead with a Hall House on the site built in the 10th century. Ditches were uncovered marking the outer boundary of an enclosure where two buildings had once stood. One of the buildings was constructed with planks set on end, the other with squared timbers and a central line of round posts. The archaeologists found three types of pit had been dug on the site to serve as rubbish pits, cess pits and a third type serving as wells.

An interesting find was a gold ring with the inscription ÆCPVLFMECAH. The words have been run together and can be divided as ÆCPVLF MEC AH, which translate as "Aesewulf owns me".

In reconstructing the building at the Weald and Downland Museum, the staff have used only the type of tools available in the 10th Century. This has meant a lot of trial and error as techniques were explored to split and shape wood (saws were not used at the time when the Hall was built) as well as learning how to erect the completed building.

The reconstruction is nearly complete now so if you wish to learn more about this fascinating project and see how things have gone, why not join the trip which is being organised to the Weald and Downland Museum in September. On the next page you will find more information about this and an application form to complete and return to Peter Harris.



Please note that the next newsletter will be delivered in early October.

Tony Ketteman (Editor)

A Joint Coach Outing

for the Steyning Society and Friends of Steyning Museum to The Open Air Weald and Downland Museum at Singleton.

On Monday 12 September 2016 leaving the Steyning Centre car park at 9.30 am.

The programme: On arrival at the Museum we will have coffee followed by a guided tour, including the Saxon Hall. This will be followed by lunch (or picnic) with the remaining time providing an opportunity to explore the Museum individually and enjoy tea.

The day will obviously involve a certain amount of (gentle) walking. We will leave at 4.00pm, arriving back at Steyning at 5.00pm

The cost of the coach, gratuity, entrance and tour is £22.50.



The Steyning Society & Friends of Steyning Museum

Visit to the Weald and Downland Museum

Monday 12 September 2016

Leaving Steyning Centre car park at 9.30am

I\we wish to come on the visit at a cost of £22.50 per person

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS

Name(s).....

Address

.....

.....

Postcode Tel:

I enclose a cheque for £.....

*Please make cheques payable to The Steyning Society
and return the completed form and cheque(s) to:*

Peter Harris

6 Dukes Yard, Newham Lane

Steyning BN44 3NH

Tel: 01903 813983