



STEYNING MUSEUM TRUST

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

T: 01903 813333W: www.steyningmuseum.org.uk

Registered Charity Number: 1169540

Newsletter November 2021

Message from the Chairman - Muriel Wright

A warm welcome to all our new members: Sue Baxter, Miles Cary, Michael Davies, Anne Ditchfield, Leonie Etherington, Anita Evans, Angela Gold, Charles Henderson, Brenny Herrington, Estelle Hilditch, Sarah Hyde, Sarah Joakim, Jane Keane, Sean Keane, Jennifer Knowles, Nicola Mason, Penny Tribe, Linda Wakeford, Hilary Winter and Justin Young many of whom have also signed up to be new Stewards. Thank you for joining Steyning Museum, I look forward to meeting you all.

Our visitor numbers are improving, some days better than others.

Paul, Guy and Andrew have finished the new bottle display if you have time please pop into the Museum and have a look. Behind the scenes our workshop is having a makeover so if you hear drilling or hammering don't worry; everything is under control.

The Museum and Steyning Society's Christmas supper will take place on Friday 17th December. Pre-supper drinks will be from 7pm in the Saxon Room at The Steyning Centre followed by a 3-course meal with wine & coffee in the Coombe Court at 7.45. The popular Cheer up Mollys will be providing a musical interlude. For our members and members of The Steyning Society tickets are £24 and £26 for guests. Tickets can be purchased now from Steyning Bookshop – cash or cheque only

Before that we can look forward to the Museum's next event which will take place on Saturday 20th November at the Steyning Centre. I'm sure Maggie Hollands will give more details about this.

Take Care,
Muriel

Summer Raffle - Joan Denwood

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Julia Donaldson themed Summer Raffle and particularly to Steyning Bookshop who kindly donated all the prizes. We were delighted to raise £63 and also that 2 prizes were won by stewards.

Cowerson Headstone Update - Joan Denwood

William Cowerson, Steyning Smuggler.
Shot in Worthing, brought home to Steyning
for burial



For further information visit Steyning Museum
Open 10 - 4 Wednesday to Sunday

After the strimming to clear the grave as reported last time, we have now put up a notice board, with the Vicar's permission, showing what it should look like (as shown). It is by the footpath and close to the grave. Do go along and have a look. It is about 6 graves up on the left approaching from the Shooting Field entrance. There is no further news from the Vicar about improving the lettering.

Social Events Committee – Maggie Hollands

Thank you to you all who attended our Autumn coffee morning on the 2nd October. It was a very wet Saturday, but everyone seemed to enjoy themselves making it a lovely atmosphere. It was nice to get back to some sort of normality and catch up with everyone. It was great to see some new faces too.

We did very well on the Bric a brac, books and cake stall. We made a profit of over £200 for museum funds.

Our next event is our **Vintage Afternoon Tea** at The Steyning Centre. Coombe Court November 20th 3:15 for 3:30. Sandwiches Cakes and Tea with entertainment by Sing Out Sisters.

Tickets £8 on sale at the Museum from 3rd November.

We will also be selling raffle tickets for our Christmas Hamper which will then be transferred to the museum to be drawn Christmas week.

Curator of Exhibitions – Andrew Woodfield

Our Autumn exhibitions are now installed.

Allotments – A Passion to Grow

The allotments in our area including the large former Gas Works allotment.

Bramber – Tourist Destination

A journey through time. Thank you to the Stewards who have loaned items for the extended Potter`s Museum exhibit.



Photos showing: Walter Potter outside his Museum of Curiosities, and delivering provisions to Mr Chatfield retired Station Master of Bramber Station during one of the regular floods from the River Adur

Both these exhibitions will be displayed into the New Year.

Our next major exhibition will be **UPPER BEEDING** (title tbc). It will include the Priory, Salt production, Cement Works, The Towers and farming life etc.

The new Bottle Display is also finished.

Future exhibition plans for 2022 include **A Celebration for the Queen`s 70th Anniversary.**

Andrew Woodfield – continued

A potential mine field: the problems of Copyright.

Recently a Steward told me that she had seen an article and photograph on the Upper Beeding Spotted site. There was a question from one of the Spotted members asking if the museum could install images of Upper Beeding on-line.

The answer is quite simple: it is a matter of copyright.

The copyright of many images in the museum archive does not belong to the museum.

We are not breaking the law if we exhibit an original image with copyright acknowledgement.

Should we display an enlarged photocopy however the permission of the copyright owner has to be obtained and any required fees paid.

During the “**Centenary**” exhibition in 2019 we wanted to display a Suffragette image. To gain permission and a licence to do so would have cost the museum over £2,000 for a six-month permit. We could not afford such a high cost.

This is why we ask our visitors not to take photographs.

As we have a disclaimer of “**No Photography**” any consequent legal action regarding copyright would fall on the person who took the image and not the museum.

In the 1950/60s the large post card producers took over the smaller firms when owners retired (including Hall`s of Steyning). A look at the Yorkshire based **Francis Frith** Postcard Company site reveals that they own the copyright of quite a few local images in the museum collection.

Christmas Cards Delivery – Maggie Hollands

Again, this year there will be a local Fund Raising Christmas Card delivery service for museum members only

Areas covered Steyning, Bramber and Upper Beeding

The cost is £2 for up to 5 cards. Cards must be delivered to the museum by Sunday 28th November and will be delivered between 6th and 12th December

Payments with your cards please
cash or cheque payable to Steyning Museum Trust



Jacque Buttriss

To all Stewards – Upcoming Research Training Opportunities

Whether you are long serving or new stewards, this is just to let you know that we will be offering you all the opportunity to join some optional training sessions from early next year. These will be in two stages:

- a) How to help visitors answer straightforward questions, from families to past events, using resources on the bookshelves in the stewards' area.
- b) The range of resources we have in the Research Hub, how they are organised and how to use them to answer more complex enquiries.

If you are interested, watch this space for more details in the next newsletter

To Stewards and Members – Invitation to 'Adopt-a-Scrapbook'

As some of you may have noticed, the scrapbooks of newspaper cuttings along the bottom shelves have now all been numbered on their spines as well as top left of their front covers. This is to make it easier to take them out to look at, then put them back in their right places. Most of them are in date order, but we are very keen to index them so that it will eventually be possible to find a particular person, place, incident or event.

For example, when I was on steward's duty one day, a visitor came in wanting to know the date and details of a plane crash nearby. I knew there was an article in one of the scrapbooks about this but, without an index, I was unable to find it for him.

Anne Ketteman made an excellent start on this initiative several years ago, with a number of helpers, including some of you, but the majority of the scrapbooks have yet to be adopted.

This initiative does not need money, but it does need willing volunteers to make very brief notes of the content of each article, so that we can start to compile a master index.

If any of you would like to join our Adopt-a-Scrapbook project to help us compile an index, please contact me for further details via jacque.buttriss@talktalk.net and I will allot you a scrapbook to start work on.

Membership and 200 Club Secretary - Erica Gayler

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

September Draw

1st Prize Alan Edwards

2nd Prize Margaret Holloway

3rd Prize Jackie Canning

October Draw

1st Prize Charles Harries

2nd Prize Alan Edwards

3rd Prize Anne Ketteiman

I have been kept very busy with our new members over the last few months, which is fantastic. Especially for those new members a reminder that you are now eligible to join our 200 Club with an annual investment of £10 you have a chance to win £35, £25 or £15 in our monthly draw and this is increased each December to £100, £50 or £25. All applications received by 30th November are entered into the December draw.

I, along with some other 200 Club members, was shocked when I received notification that from 1st November HSBC are starting to apply Account Charges to Charity Accounts. I have written to all members that normally pay their annual membership by cheque or cash asking if they would consider changing their annual payment to Standing Order. Many of you have agreed to do this which is great. For those of you that would prefer not to, which I understand, please would you consider paying by cheque rather than cash? To bank a cheque the cost will be 40p per item, to pay in cash will be 40% and so the charge will be £4 for banking an annual membership of £10. Please note this only applies to the 200 Club Account. The Steyning Museum Trust account (which takes your Museum membership subscriptions) is currently with Barclays and we have not been notified of them considering charging Charities at this stage.

Newsletter compiled by Erica Gayler