



MUSEUM NEWS

Steyping Museum Newsletter

October 2016

Museum Diary

- 15.10.16 Big Draw
Museum and Penfold Hall
11.00 - 4.00
- 27.10.16 Children's Activity Morning
The Museum
10.00 - 12.30
- 12.11.16 Autumn Coffee Morning
Penfold Hall
10.30 - 12.00
- 11.12.16 Southdown Concert Band
Grammar School Drama Hall
Starting at 2.00 pm
- 18.03.17 Annual General Meeting
Penfold Hall
2.30pm

200 Club

June Draw:

- 1st prize = Mr C Canning (£35)
2nd prize = Laurie Keen (£25)
3rd prize = Mrs J Canning (£15)

July Draw:

- 1st prize = Judith Krolick (£35)
2nd prize = Elizabeth Coatsworth (£25)
3rd prize = Jenny Toomey (£15)

August Draw

- 1st prize = Alan Dow (£35)
2nd prize = Anne Ketteman (£25)
3rd prize = Diana Smyth (£15)

September Draw

- 1st prize = Andrew Slater (£35)
2nd prize = Michele Etheridge (£25)
3rd prize = Tom Aubrey (£15)

About the 200 Club

Erica Gayler, Membership Secretary

The Museum's 200 Club is an important fund raiser for the Museum and currently has places for new members. Membership is limited solely to Friends of Steyping Museum and, as the name suggests, is limited to 200 members who pay an annual subscription of £10. All members' names are entered into a monthly draw with (from February to December) prizes of £35 (1st prize) £25 (2nd prize) and £15 (3rd prize). The January draw is a bumper one with prizes of £100, £50 and £25.

Members can have more than one membership for an additional £10 fee and so increase their chance of being a winner.

If you are not yet a member of the Club, please consider joining by completing an application form obtainable from the Museum and leave it together with a cheque for £10 in an envelope addressed to Erica Gayler, Club secretary.

Children's Activities Morning in May

from Joan Denwood

It was a cold, very wet and windy morning in late May and 14 brave volunteers gathered to wage war (well it felt like it) in the Big Tent for Steyping Museum on behalf of the Steyping Festival.

What a morning it was! We set up 9 activities for children, had a practice, took a deep breath, smiled sweetly and off we went. Two and a half hours and 62 children later we surfaced to a still cold, wet and windy morning, hoping that the children, parents and grandparents had been duly entertained, hopefully had learnt something and would visit us again in Steyping Museum.

As you can guess we had a really busy time.

Once the children had decided what to do they got stuck in. Sometimes parents and grandparents would sneak off to the Co-op cafe, within the tent, and have a hot drink, then return and carry on playing!

We had set up tables consisting of two very different costume periods, as well as brass rubbing, design a crest, colour a century, puppets, toys, games and a floor based archaeology activity (to make it a more authentic experience). The children were kept occupied, with one or two staying for a very long time at the colouring table, others being very imaginative designing a family crest based on their surname or likes and dislikes onto a shield shape.

The ever popular brass rubbing was very busy with many boys rising to this challenge. Also the boys proved adept at handling the string puppets, whilst both boys and girls enjoyed wearing the historical costumes. Once again bagatelle was the most popular game and all ages enjoyed using the toys, with grandparents showing younger family members how some of the older toys worked. The archaeology corner was kept busy with children carefully digging up their finds. The morning ended with a puppet show in a traditional puppet theatre.

We could not have achieved all this without our wonderful volunteers who worked patiently with the children all morning, so a great big thank you to them.

Looking forward to seeing you in Steyning Museum at our next Children's activity morning in October half term on 27th October (Half Term) from 10 - 12.30. It is for primary-aged children and costs £1 per child. There will be costumes, brass rubbing, art and craft, bagatelle and more! You saw us in the Festival Tent, so this time come along and join us in Steyning Museum!

Social Reports

from Maggie Hollands

I would like to thank Gill Kille for holding the reins whilst I was away travelling. What a great job she and the committee did during the year raising money for the Museum.

Sussex Produce Charity Dinner - 15th September.

This was a great success enjoyed by everyone. Chris kept us amused by his photo quiz of the places in Steyning in bygone days. The hamper donated to us by the Sussex Produce company raised a total of £175 and was won by Andrew Slater. The grand finale was when the local *Vocal Fusion Acapella* arrived to sing for us. They were fantastic and a great bunch of guys. The overall profit for our Museum funds is over £350.

Autumn Coffee Morning

This will be held at the Penfold Hall **Saturday 12th November** between 10:30 and 12.00

Please come along to support us. There will be the usual stalls - cakes, bric a brac, bags, scarves and books. There will also be an opportunity to buy our **new** Steyning Calendar, Christmas cards and stocking fillers for children and other Museum items.

We will be very grateful if anyone has any items to donate for the bric a brac, books or raffle stalls. Please bring them along on the morning or leave them at the Museum prior to the day.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the morning.

Southdown Concert Band

Sorry to mention December whilst it is only September, but it's to remind you to put a note in your diaries. We are having a concert at the Drama Hall of Steyning Grammar school on Sunday December 11th at 2pm. Last time they played for us they were a great success so do please come along.

Tickets will cost £7.50 for Adults, £3.00 for under 16's and be obtained at the Museum or the Bookshop from 20th October.

Museum Calendar 2017

from Muriel Wright

I would like to thank all the photographers who contributed photos for the Museum Calendar.

By the time you read this the calendar should be at the printers. Hopefully it will be ready for sale at our Autumn coffee morning.

As we have concentrated on the calendar this year, there will not be a new Christmas card but we do still have a good supply of last year's cards.

The annual card sale on 26th November has been cancelled, but the Museum will have a stall at the Steyning Grammar School Winter Fair on 19th November,

Churchyard Survey

from Lois Roemer and Lesley Slater

Lesley Slater and I worked on the Sussex Family Graveyard Project together and during our work we became quite attached to several graves in our area. I began to look into the family history of some of the people and we thought that there could be a project there somewhere, but didn't know how to go about it.

Shortly afterwards Helen Coutrouzas showed Lesley a leaflet she had found in another church - three pages of A4 copy paper folded in three and detailing the family details of some of the people buried in the graveyard. This was exactly what we needed, and we decided to do something similar for our graveyard.

We selected about 20 gravestones, basically for the way they looked, without really knowing who was buried there. I began the research and Lesley took the photos and went to work on the layout. We produced the first leaflet and showed it to Chris Tod at the Museum as we wanted his approval before we went any further. So we are now going ahead - at the moment we are working on 15 graves with the aim of outlining the family history of each one and hope to have a folder at the Museum containing all the information we have been able to find including a basic family tree. The results of our research have been fascinating and we have certainly come across some interesting characters - the WW1 soldier who died as a result of his injuries in 1926 in New York turned out to be a Broadway actor: a young girl who died at age 21 who has a most illustrious family tree and the postmaster whose sister was sent to trial for stealing money

from letters posted at the Post Office. We have named our file LOLY, obviously from our combined names, but I like to think of it as the Lots of Lively Yarns file!!

Curator's News from Chris Tod

There are three temporary exhibitions in the Museum at the moment. They are "Recipe Books and Menus from the Museum Collection", "New Photographs of Old Steyning" and "The Life and Creativity of Jackie Binns".

The Jackie Binns exhibition will be replaced by one called "Steyning on the Stage" by mid October. In the new exhibition there will be old costumes used in past shows put on display together with posters, photographs and other bits and pieces from Steyning's show time. If you haven't yet seen Jackie's amazingly beautiful and imaginative artworks do come and have a look before it is too late. They will be being returned to her family when we take them down.

The exhibition of old recipes and menus, although it was set up to coincide with Horsham's September "Food and Drink Month", will continue into November and perhaps longer. It has plenty to tempt the taste buds. Discover how to make Flummery and how to Fricassee a Kangaroo's Tail - and other rather more appetising alternatives.

We are aiming to change the panel of old photographs from time to time and will be asking any volunteer who fancies browsing our collection of photographs to make their own choice for display.

Christmas Supper

We are again holding a joint Museum and Steyning Society supper on Friday 16th December in the Steyning Centre, starting at 7.00 pm. It will follow the usual pattern of pre-supper drinks followed by the meal at 5.45pm.

You will find an application form from Peter Harris at the end of this newsletter with further details and an application form if you wish to attend.

Tony Ketteyman (Editor)

Steyping Museum

Thursday 27th October

Activities Morning

10.00 - 12.30

Entry -
£1 per child



brass rubbing
arts & crafts
costumes
bagatelle

and much more



May Activities Morning in the Marquee