

SOMME REMEMBERED

The Mayor of Havant, Councillor Faith Ponsonby and her consort Michael arrived in the Museum a



little earlier than expected in order to open the July exhibition on the Battle of the Somme. However she coped

comfortably, putting everyone at ease and even cutting the doorway ribbon with her special scissors twice for the photographers. She was welcomed by our Chairman, Tony Stimson, and in reply said she thought that Emsworth was a special place - 'the jewel in Havant borough's crown' - which everyone appreciated very much. She went on to talk about her father's WW1 service and said she could understand the importance of commemorating the battle when such a small town as Emsworth had lost so many in that conflict. Earlier in the year she had visited the Museum to record her father's WW1 memories and had met two second-year Chichester University students who were on work experience secondment with us and she was given a copy of that recording.



Margaret Rogers then described what the ten Rudkin Room panels held, which included graphs, maps, a pictogram, cartoons, verses, and photographs, prepared and mounted by Christine Bury, Sylvia Courtnage and Margaret helped by Bernie Gudge.

The Mayor then toured the exhibition, joined by her brother and sister-in-law, who had come especially for the occasion, and posed again in front of Ian Banfield's original painting of Archie Paxton, a casualty of the battle on the very first day.



On the last panel behind the door Margaret pointed out that no fewer than 24 people had generously contributed towards the exhibition and that their artefacts, books and

memorabilia were displayed in the two large and one smaller cabinet in the room.

In the Research Room's wall a 90th anniversary edition of the Somme battle had been mounted, together with the Paxton painting and a drawing of a war horse and his rider.



To accompany a visit there were available CDs of WW1 songs, one from Havant's Heroes and one describing a visit to Thiepval. Also available was a DVD copy of the recording made by the Mayor. After touring the exhibition and chatting to everyone she ended the visit by joining Dorothy to sit down with a welcome cup of tea and a biscuit.

Our colour pages are sponsored by Steven Borland of Borland & Borland the local estate agents.
www.borlandandborland.co.uk

Dates for your diary 2016

All monthly exhibitions are held in the museum's David Rudkin Room.

Talks are held in the Mountford Rooms, Emsworth Community Centre, North Street, Emsworth at 7.30pm. Members £2.00 non members £3.00.

July 1st – 31st	Exhibition - "100th Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme"
August 5th – September 11th	Exhibition – "10th Anniversary of the Ems Valley U3A"
August 8th	Local History Walk – led by Margaret Rogers
August 29th	Emsworth Show
September 5th	E.M. & H.T's 4 day holiday.
September 17th – October 30th	Exhibition - "Treasure in Store - Art and Artefacts Revealed"
October 17th	Illustrated talk - "Digging for Defence: Fort Nelson 1860 – 1914" by Philip Magrath.
November 21st	Illustrated talk - "A Tale of Two Abbeys: Construction, Reconstruction and Legacy" by Christine Bury.
December	Stewards' Christmas Tea Party

Museum Opening Times

Emsworth Museum will be open until 30th October 2016 on Saturdays and Bank Holidays 10.30am - 4.30pm and on Sundays 2.30pm - 4.30pm.

In addition it will be open on all Fridays in August 2.30pm - 4.30pm.

Members are welcome to visit the museum for research on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons 2.00pm – 4.00pm. except when committee meetings or other special events are planned. If you intend to visit and would like to be sure that the museum will be open, please telephone or email me.

ADMISSION TO THE MUSEUM IS FREE We are always grateful for financial donations to help with the expenses of running the museum.

Dorothy 01243 373780 dorothybone@btinternet.com

Thank you to our Neighbours

With so many events and activities in and around the museum at weekends car parking can be difficult. We are very grateful to Chris Halliwell (Addison Law) for giving permission for our MP Alan Mak to park in one of his reserved parking spaces on Easter Saturday when he came to open the "Terror" exhibition and also for offering the

same facility to the Mayor's Chauffeur when Mayor, Cllr Faith Ponsonby, opened the "Battle of the Somme" exhibition on 1st July.

For the second year running Peter Reed of Drayton Reed has made a financial donation to the Trust so that the payment for the insurance renewal due on 2nd July only increased by a few pounds.

These gestures are very much appreciated.

Dorothy Bone

Curator's Corner

It is triennial time again when the important matter of filling out forms for the Arts Council's accreditation renewal is here. This is of paramount importance to a museum like Emsworth's and several of us will be working at it feverishly over the coming weeks. I am hopeful that I shall be part of a successful team when the announcement is made later in the year.

There is a little progress with the accessioning backlog, and I am doing my best to reduce the number now that I have full OMEKA access.

Amidst all of this, my thoughts are turning to the exhibition "Treasure in Store - Art and Artefacts Revealed" that Wendy Bright, Clive Pugh and I will be assembling in the early autumn. Keep an eye out for further news later.

Phil Magrath



The Red Cross Shop Display on St. George's Day



The Red Cross shop on the High Street Emsworth celebrated St George's Day (23rd April) with a special display of three Red Cross uniforms. The uniform on the left of the picture was on loan from Emsworth Museum. It had been

donated to the museum by Phyllis Farnham who wore it in the 1960s when she was a member of the Emsworth Red Cross. In an article in the November 2012 edition of Emsworth Maritime and Historical Trust's annual historical bulletin "The Emsworth Echo" Phyllis describes the 10 years she spent in the Red Cross, including driving the ambulance and some of the events she attended. She later joined the NHSR (the National Hospital Service Reserve) which was a group set up to be prepared should an atomic bomb be dropped on Portsmouth during the "Cold War".

Dorothy Bone

Breakfast for Two @ Driftwood

Come along to see the Museum stand at the Emsworth Show on the 29th August and you may win a Breakfast for Two at Driftwood Cafe. The prize kindly donated by Clare Wright of Driftwood Cafe will be awarded to the winner of the quiz that we will be running at the Show. Entry is free so come along and have a go.

We will also be giving away copies of the Oyster Trail pamphlet that outlines several interesting guided walks around Emsworth. On sale will be various museum

publications and we will have boards of exhibits including extracts from the Gas Holder and Somme Exhibitions.

The Museum stand will be manned by volunteers so please come along and introduce yourselves. I still need a couple more volunteers so if you feel inclined to give up one or two hours to help please contact me beforehand. The Emsworth Show is held at the Jubilee Recreation Grounds in Horndean Road from 10.30 am to 5 pm.

Marguerita Taplin 01243 374105
ms.taplin@yahoo.co.uk

Queen Elizabeth's 90th Birthday celebrations

Although we didn't put on an exhibition during June to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's 90th birthday Christine Bury designed an attractive "poster" of congratulation and this was displayed on the Museum front door with Union Jack bunting draped around it. To continue the patriotic theme a Union flag was flown from the museum flag pole on



11th and 12th June instead of the museum banner.



Emsworth Museum Annual Treasure Hunt 2016

The questions used in this years Treasure Hunt were devised by Ann Sims assisted by her team Rennies who were the winners in last years competition. Details of the winners for this year appear in the article on the back page For those of you who could not take part the questions are below and the answers will be published on the museums website www.emsworthmuseum.org.uk. The Treasure Hunt is an annual event and if you enjoy solving the questions below perhaps you would like to take part in the 2017 hunt next summer.

This trail is a mixture of cryptic clues, anagrams and maths – but mainly observation.

Start at the Museum. As you leave the museum turn right into the Car Park

1. What is the Location Number of the Car Park?

Continue through the Car Park towards the Emsworth Community Centre

2. What does Alex Mullen do for a living?

Continue into the ECA car Park

3. Find the “Structural Damage”

4. Which creature is CY responsible for?

Retrace your footsteps to rejoin the path and go along the side of the ECA building.

At the end of the building turn right and walk towards the Church

5. How many hours each week is the Parish Office open?

6. What did Major Middleton Robinson do, and when?

7. Who used to live at Quedgeley?

Continue through the lychgate and walk towards the metal gates at North Street

8. What is Earth Anchors responsible for doing?

Continue through the gates and turn left, going up North Street

9. Did impecunious residents live here?

10. Who was their skilled neighbour?

11. What number do the owners of fine heads of hair live at?

Turn left into St. James Road and follow the road around the bend

12. Where can I have something I’m wearing repaired?

Continue along St James Road then turn left at the corner then right into Church Path

13. What colour is the front door of the house with green shutters?

14. Have we arrived in Scotland?

Walk through the gap on to the main road, turn right and cross the road by the pedestrian crossing. Turn right on the other side, pass the millpond and turn left into Bath Road. Stroll along Bath Road with eyes peeled:

15. Where did Mrs J.J. Allen live?

16. How is the gardening playboy getting on?

17. Where would you be safe after a voyage?

18. In the Sailing Club Car Park, can you find “Eeriest Arcs” and Fine Arches”?

Turn left at the end of Bath Road along The Promenade (the seawall footpath)

19. Who donated a plaque in memory of The Fishermen of Emsworth?

20. What boat did Tubby skipper?

21. How old was Dulcie when she died?

22. When did Colin Loader die?

Continue walking northwards into and up South Street

23. What is the address of 36 On The Quay?

24. How many red stripes does Steve have?

Look out for traffic as you criss cross The Square

25. (Question void as no longer current)

26. When was Emsworth’s War Memorial erected and what is it?

Retrace your path southwards and turn down Nile Street

27. Which house would be likely to interest Lord Nelson?

28. Which horoscope sign keeps residents secure?

At the end of the road, at the millpond, turn left for a few steps

29. Which occasional visitor has an expensive facial feature?

Retrace your steps and continue north alongside the millpond on Bridgefoot Path.

Turn right and walk along the Main Road.

30. What happened to the solicitors?

Cross the Main Road at the pedestrian crossing and turn right towards the roundabout.

31. Where is “The Turning Point?”

32. How many FEET before you get to the low bridge?

Follow the pavement towards the roundabout and then continue up North Street to the Museum.

33. On what date did the Museum open?

Answers to these questions will be available from the Museum and on the website www.emsworthmuseum.org.uk from the beginning of August

Newsletter

This is the last issue of the newsletter that I will edit. I have enjoyed producing this over the past five years and my thanks to all those who have contributed articles over that time. My special thanks to John Tweddell who has always been willing to turn up at exhibitions and special events and produced such excellent photos for the newsletter. Thank you also to all those businesses who have sponsored the colour pages which I think has dramatically improved the appearance of the newsletter, and special thanks to Stephen Borland of Borland and Borland who has sponsored the majority of these.

Christine Bury takes on the role of editor from 2017 and I am sure will make an excellent job of producing this in future.

Marguerita Taplin

Oyster Book Launch

Special guests joined about 40 people to attend a very convivial evening at Emsworth Museum on 27 May 2016 at the successful book launch, to promote the new edition of "Uncovering the Past... Emsworth, Oysters and Men" by the late Linda Newell.



Chairman, Tony Stimson, welcomed guests and thanked those who had contributed to the Oyster Project and re-publication of the book. He said: "We especially remember Linda Newell, who sadly died suddenly last year. Her book was the inspiration for the Oyster project and film. Her enthusiasm was infectious; and the new edition of the book is another way for us to remember her and to ensure that what she started will continue". He gave a special mention to Valerie Davis, the widow of John Davis, the Chichester Harbour Master who died in August 2010 and to whom Linda had dedicated the book. John had given Linda great encouragement to write the original book.

Tony also welcomed colleagues Richard Austin and Judi Darley from Chichester Harbour Conservancy,



"with whom we have been working more closely as a result of the Project. Long may that continue". He said: "We are also very grateful to the Conservancy for the funding which has made the reprint possible." Special thanks also went to Ali Beckett, who had worked tirelessly on the project and had since presented the Oysters film widely and acted as an ambassador for the Museum. Thanks were also paid to those who had helped compile the new edition including designer, Paul Fisk, who gave his services free, to all those who agreed to allow their pictures and photographs to be used and to Linda's daughter Helen and son Steven for giving their permission to produce it.

Other special attendees included Sheila Privett, Linda's sister, Marjorie Smallcorn, former Mayor of Havant and local artist Marian Forster. Richard Austin made a short speech, where he spoke warmly of John Davis and his enthusiasm for the harbour and its history which had been instrumental in the restoration of the Oyster boat, Terror. The reception also marked the end

of the Oyster Project – and, as a final part of this, copies of the new book have been distributed to each of 19 Chichester Harbour primary schools. The book's new edition includes a foreword by Margaret Rogers, recalling Linda's life and contribution to local history research about Emsworth. There is also an expanded appreciation of the life of John Davis and the addition of an index. The book is on sale at the Museum and at Bookends in Emsworth High Street, price £8. If you don't yet have a copy, please buy one. If you do, buy one for a friend!

Sylvia Courtnage



Oyster creations. Children in the museum visiting the relaunch of the book exhibition.

Chairman's Message

Once again, I am pleased to be thanking all those active volunteers who work so hard to keep our Museum in good shape and who welcome our visitors.

Also, many thanks to Margaret Rogers, Sylvia Courtnage and Christine Bury for all their research and preparation of display boards for the newly opened exhibition marking the 100th anniversary of the start of the Battle of the Somme. It was a great pleasure to welcome to the Museum on Friday afternoon 1 July, her Worship the Mayor of Havant, Councillor Faith Ponsonby, who very kindly opened the exhibition for us and told us about her family connection to the battle. It was a relaxed and friendly social occasion much enjoyed by all who attended. The exhibition is excellent and I strongly recommend a visit by those with an interest in military history but

particularly those interested in the Battle of the Somme and the Battle of Jutland, both of which battles took the lives of many fine Emsworth men.

We are delighted that Lord Willetts has accepted our invitation to become the Trust's President succeeding the late Dr Margaret Rule. We will provide more information on this shortly.

As is becoming customary, I am again asking for more volunteers to come forward to help us keep the Museum going. We still urgently need a replacement for Peter Morse as Membership Secretary.

The following key vacancies are open for:

An Insurance Intermediary to fill the gap left by the late David Colson.

An organiser for the Trust's stand at the Emsworth Show in August 2017.

Stewards – the more the better as some of our existing Stewards are being called upon to do extra duties to fill gaps opening up on the duty rota.

The April Newsletter gave more details of these vacancies for anyone wishing to offer their services. Please contact Dorothy Bone if you are willing to take on one of these opportunities. We are always grateful for volunteers to carry out other tasks to assist with the work in the Museum so if you would like to help in a small way, we can find you a suitable job to do.

I am pleased to say we have received an offer for a replacement for Andrew Bloxham as the Independent Examiner of our Accounts with effect from 1 January 2017. I will provide more details of this in due course.

Tony Stimson. Chairman

FORTHCOMING TALKS

Digging for Defence: Fort Nelson 1860-1914

What was the reason behind the building of five huge fortifications on Portsdown Hill in the nineteenth century? Were any guns ever emplaced and did it see any soldiers? Was it a successful deterrent? These are just a few of the questions that our Curator, Philip Magrath's talk will cover on Monday 17th October at 7.30pm.

A Tale of Two Abbeys: Construction, Reconstruction and Legacy

Two 13th century abbeys, Netley and Titchfield owe their origins to one man, Peter des Roches, Bishop of Winchester. The story of the abbeys' subsequent history will be illustrated and explained by Christine Bury during her talk, beginning at 7.30 pm on 21st November in the Mountford Room of Emsworth Community Centre, for Emsworth Maritime and Historical Trust.

EXHIBITIONS

“Display of prints, paintings and sculpture”

by Deborah Richards. April 23rd – May 15th

Deborah's display of attractive and colourful work was extremely popular and she had a constant flow of visitors asking questions and talking about the local scenes that inspired her prints and pictures. Her ceramic sculptures of people, wolves and horses were very unusual and

attracted a lot of interest as did her strings of fish that caught the sunlight when they moved gently. She said that feedback from some of her visitors indicated that her art looked especially good displayed in the pleasant gallery atmosphere of the museum's David Rudkin Room. 1,400 people walked through the door during the Art Trail and the following 2 weekends. The commission due to the Trust as a

result of her sales amounted to over £500.00 which was a great boost to the Trust's finances.



The Rise and Demise of the Emsworth Gas Holder. June 4th – 26th

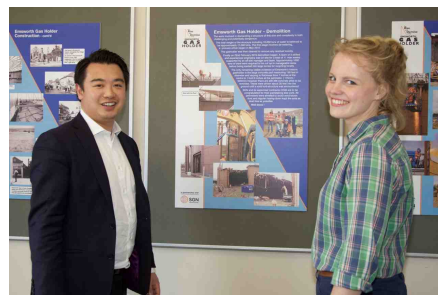


With just a few weeks to prepare Howard Jacobs kindly agreed to put together this exhibition which was sponsored by Scotia Gas Networks who were responsible for organising the removal of the gas holder. Using information and images produced over the years by Tony and Jane Yoward, John Horne and Barry Mapley, and recent pictures of the

demolition by John Tweddell and Mike and Eve Wood this exhibition was extremely interesting and informative. It covered the history of the Emsworth Gas and Coke Company which was founded in 1853, and continued to produce “town gas” until it was closed down as a manufacturing plant in 1927. Gas consumption continued to grow and the small gas holder (later added to by a second) was replaced by the large storage facility in 1933/1934. Black and white pictures showed the laying of the huge concrete platform that the gas holder sat on followed by the assembling of the storage unit, which was built in West Yorkshire and transported in sections by rail to Emsworth. Dramatic pictures taken recently showed men working on the site to demolish the gas holder and remove

all the metal, sand and rubble leaving the site clear and open.

The information contained in this exhibition which records this important aspect of Emsworth’s history will eventually be displayed in the museum’s archive room. Our MP Alan Mak was in Emsworth on 12th June to attend the “street” party in International House and for the second time this year he visited the museum - this time he dropped in unannounced but fortunately John Tweddell was on hand to take a picture.



FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

“The 10th Anniversary of the Ems Valley U3A” August 5th – September 11th

To celebrate the 10 years that they have been active in Emsworth the Ems Valley U3A are delighted to be able to share their enthusiasm for learning with the wider Emsworth community.



Spanish Group Outing

The U3A has become a way of life for many retired people and the displays during August and the first 2 weekends in September will illustrate the various interests and activities that the members take part in.

The Mayor of Havant, Cllr Faith Ponsonby, is visiting on Saturday 6th August to open the exhibition.

“Treasure in Store - Art and Artefacts Revealed” September 17th – October 30th

This display will include finds of historical, artistic and scientific interest from the depths of Emsworth Museum’s Storeroom. Have you ever wondered what lies hidden in Emsworth Museum’s store? So did we and in this

exhibition the Curator brings to light old objects of yesteryear and will display fascinating posters, pictures and prints! He says there will be something to interest everyone.

This year I have been unable to organise a new exhibition for every month that the museum is open and the last two exhibitions are being spread over three months. If you know a club, group or business in Emsworth (or the surrounding area) that is celebrating an anniversary during 2017 and would be able to put on an exhibition to tell the story I will be pleased to hear from you.

Dorothy 01243 373780 or email dorothybone@btinternet.com

WALKS

The penultimate walk of the summer season took place on 11th July, and although the weather was fine it stayed a little blustery. When I arrived at 5.50pm just one person seemed to be awaiting my arrival, but many more were sheltering along the fire station frontage and even more

joined at the last minute. In total it was attended by 27 enthusiastic adults including four Museum members and a dalmatian called Harriet, raising a total of £79 for Museum funds. The walk lasted an hour and three quarters, ending as usual back to where we had started.

Margaret Rogers





*Winners The Girls
led by Sally Church*

Annual Treasure Hunt

Now having run for almost twenty years, the Annual Treasure Hunt around Emsworth has become firmly established on the Museum's Calendar. This year it took place on Wednesday 6 July, but on this occasion unfortunately that date clashed with another of Emsworth guides' commitments. However, the hunt attracted six teams of very keen scouts and also six teams of equally keen adults, raising £33.50 for the Trust's coffers.

As is customary, this year's hunt was devised by last year's winners, which was team Renee, led by Ann Sims. Ann and her ladies duly turned up promptly and did an excellent job of quickly marking through the completed entries. On competitors' return to the Museum they were refreshed by welcome cups of tea or coffee, juice and biscuits.

This year's winners in the junior group were Scouts 3 & 4, and the adult team was that of 'The Girls', led by Sally Church, with several other pairs close behind, many already looking forward to joining us next year.

Margaret Rogers



*Junior Group Winners..
Scouts 3 and 4*

FECH Summer Fete Saturday 25th June 2016

Since the Victoria Cottage Hospital closed their supporters were renamed "Friends of Emsworth Community Health" (FECH). EM&HT as a neighbouring charity was given an opportunity to run a stall at the annual Fete in the hospital garden. The Trust accepted and welcomed the chance to be out in the community representing the Museum. An ever popular event, an enthusiastic queue formed at 10 am.

The fete was opened by Alan Mak MP for Havant just as the heavens opened! At that point we attracted a large crowd as they sheltered from the deluge under our gazebo! We were happy to chat to local people about progress in the Museum under the guidance of the new Curator. It was encouraging to know from stewards that some visitors went straight across to visit the Museum. We sold books and cards, gave out membership forms and listened with interest to some stories from local residents. It is so important to preserve our town's

heritage and promote the conservation of artefacts as well as recording tales from local people. Thanks to everyone who helped to support this event.

Wendy Bright



Havant MP Alan Mak with Clive Pugh Wendy Bright and Maureen Barratt



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