

Issue TWO 2011

A Pictorial of Living Emsworth '97 Our Home Village An exhibition of pictures by the late Maurice Broomfield



Emsworth Museum reopened on Thursday 21st April with a stunning display of colourful pictures taken in the mid 1990s by the late Maurice Broomfield. These "snapshots" of local Emsworth shops and businesses were taken without special lighting or staging and are a poignant reminder of places and people, some of whom are no longer with us even though only about 14 years have passed. Did he take a photograph of your favourite shop or of you at work? Or do you know someone who might appear in one of his

pictures? Don't miss this fascinating and attractive exhibition – it is on until 30th May.

Most of Maurice's work has been given to the Victoria and Albert Museum but the nostalgic pictures of Emsworth and four of his pictures showing factory workers during the 1950s and 60s previously exhibited in the Science Museum in London have been donated to Emsworth Museum.

An interview with Nick Broomfield (a documentary film director), about his father's work,





Wendy Bright and Clive Pugh setting up the exhibition



was published in The Times newspaper on Saturday 16th April. The Public, a gallery in West Bromwich, is displaying 25 huge prints of Maurice's classic photographs until 26th June.

Dorothy

Our colour pages are sponsored by Steven Borland of Borland & Bound the local estate agents.



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Dates for your diary

23rd April Museum re-opens

21st April Exhibition in the David Rudkin Room - pictures by the late Maurice
- 30 May Broomfield "A Pictorial of Living Emsworth" '97 Our Home Village"

4th - 26th June An exhibition of embroidery by the Stitchmakers in the David Rudkin

Room - "Building with Stitch, Colour and Texture"

4th & 5th June Emsworth Art Trail (Emsworth museum will be open from 10.30a.m.

until 4.30p.m. on Saturday and Sunday)

21st June Annual Treasure Hunt starting from the museum at 7.00p.m.

£1.00 per person to include tea and biscuits.

2nd - 31st July Exhibition in the David Rudkin Room - "A Celebration of 200 years of

Cricket in Emsworth"

6th - 29th August Exhibition in the David Rudkin Room - "90th Anniversary of Emsworth

Slipper Sailing Club" including the refurbishment of Quay Mill in 1977

29th August Emsworth Show

3rd Exhibition in the David Rudkin Room - "Chichester Harbour

- 25th September Conservancy - Celebrating 40 years Managing Chichester Harbour"

5th

- 8th September 4 day holiday to Kent

1st

- 30th October Exhibition in the David Rudkin Room - "Emsworth in 1911"

Emsworth Museum is open every weekend from Easter Saturday until the end of October on Saturdays and Bank Holidays from 10.30a.m. until 4.30p.m.

and on Sundays from 2.30p.m. until 4.30p.m.

The museum is open for members to visit most Tuesdays and Thursdays between 2pm and 4pm. Drop in sometime - Linda will be pleased to see you.

ADMISSION FREE We are always grateful for financial donations to help with the costs of running the museum.

Dorothy Bone 01243 373780.

DVD on Walks in Hampshire

"Exploring Hampshire" is a DVD in which David Allen describes five different walks in Hampshire. The fourth walk from Langstone to Emsworth includes interviews with Linda Newell and John Tweddell.

The DVD (cost £10.99) will be on sale in Emsworth Museum from Easter.

For more information telephone 01243 373780 or email dorothybone@btinternet.com

Admin's Alcove

Easter is here which means that the season is upon us again. As Easter is late this year it means that we must all work much harder to bring in more people as the Museum will be open for a shorter period. This year we will have the added disadvantage of missing most of the school holiday period. Perhaps we should consider having a set opening date, such as 1st April each year.

Our stewards have been having their induction days in the Museum this year. Most of them prefer this, because they find it is easier to relate to my information if they are in the building, rather than having to remember to look at it later. There is a not a vast amount of new information to impart, but it is important that we all remember why we are manning (and womanning!) the Museum. This is not a private club, but a public amenity, and therefore we have to be very aware of our duty of care to our visitors.

Dorothy has worked very hard to pull together an interesting season of exhibitions in the David Rudkin Room, and I do hope that you will all visit these events. There are some very interesting topics being covered and more information will be found within the newsletter. Dorothy has some very good contacts for advertising within the rest of the community, and the posters will be ready for distribution shortly. We are very glad to hear that David Colson will be well enough to distribute them again this year after his recent spell in hospital. Thank you David. If you can think of somewhere that we can display posters, or are willing to display them on your own garden gates etc, please contact Dorothy and she will add you to our list.

As I write this, St. George's Day is looming and I hope the weather holds for the parade in The Square on 21st April.

This year the Museum has been involved in the restoration and rededication of the 2nd World War memorial in The Square. I hope you have all visited The Square recently and seen the magnificent improvement in the condition of the War Memorial. Men from 47th Regiment Royal Artillery based on Thorney Island have been providing the hard work, while the Business Association and the Residents Association have been raising the money to fund the restoration. The Museum has allowed some of their wartime photographs of Emsworth to be used in artwork decorating the glass of the structure, and I have researched the history of war memorials in Emsworth to produce a leaflet. I have included this leaflet in the series of leaflets that have been known as The Emsworth Papers for some years, so this is Number 7. Not only researched, written and proofread by me, but I also had to find the funding to pay for it. Luckily, Oyster Design and Marketing have designed the leaflet for free, and I have taken the printing to our own printers, PDC in Havant. The costs of printing are being met by 5 of our local pubs which mean that with no printing costs we are able to put the entire sale price into the Army Benevolent Fund, which is the charity we are supporting at this year's St. George's event. I do hope you will purchase a copy of this leaflet, not only for information, but also to support the Army charity, which does so much for soldiers and their families.



There are not many changes within the Museum this year, but I must thank Joyce Baldwin and Linda Gentles for their persistence and dedication in sorting out all the files that we have in the Archive Room. We are now in the process of labelling the files, so that everyone can have some idea of what is on the shelves. That means that all this information can be shared by all of us: locals, visitors, tourists and researchers alike.

I have started an overhaul of the swing boards within the main display areas. Some of the boards will change subject, while others will just be freshened. We do get more information on new topics so it is nice to include the additions when we can. I am also trying to highlight the additional resources we have available, such as oral history, visual history and the files, by indicating on the boards if there is more information available and how to access this (usually by asking a steward).

Joyce and Linda have also taken on the task of organising our steward's rota, and if you get a call from either of them, please be nice and helpful if you can. It can be quite stressful for them trying to find someone to help keep the Museum open on a busy weekend. Many of you are very happy to help, but there are always times when there is something happening and none of us seem available.

If you would like to be involved in some way with the running of the Museum, you know we are always happy to welcome you. We need people to steward, to do research, to help on the committee and to raise funds. I am sure there is something you are dying to do for us and the Museum, so please do not be shy. Contact us.

Linda

BRUCE V. DOXAT- PRATT

When Bruce died on 24th March the Emsworth Maritime and Historical Trust lost a dear, devoted and hard-working friend. The work he had put into Trust affairs over many years was just a symbol of his lifetime.

He had a distinguished war-time career which started in 1940 in the Royal Navy. He was commissioned and spent much of the war as an Observer in the Fleet Air Arm; serving in the Ark Royal when it was sunk and in many countries from the USA to Africa, Ireland and India.

He had lived in the vicinity whilst still in the Royal Navy and finally settled in Emsworth in 1983, when he soon became a much involved friend and worker for the Museum. He also enjoyed playing bowls and watching cricket, the latter particularly at Arundel where he took a lot of his friends.

We remember him driving us to Arundel one day and on reaching the straight stretch at Tangmere closing our eyes as the exairman may have thought he was moving for take-off.

For many years he had been a Trustee of the Museum. His

infectious enthusiasm led to many people being persuaded to join in various works for the Trust. He was a member of the Fund Raising Subcommittee, eventually becoming its Chairman. All sorts of events were organized, such as outings, the 50 / 50 Club and an auction, which raised funds allowing essential work to be done in the museum. He wrote many interesting and useful articles for The Echo on the history of the Trust and events.



He was there for meetings (even attending a meeting of Property Trustees two weeks before he died) and outings - always ready to volunteer for any work that needed to be done.

His unselfish enthusiasm, hard work and friendship will be greatly missed by everyone.

Roy Morgan

Those of you who enjoy visits to Chichester Festival Theatre might be interested to hear that his naval uniforms, his city bowler hat, walking canes etc. have been accepted by the costume and props department.

Dorothy

Letter from Margaret Rule

February 22, 2011

I regret that I will be unable to attend the Annual General Meeting in March. However, I wish you all well and my thoughts will be with you.

Since the early 1980s I have been fortunate to visit museums all over the world including well funded national museums, state museums and dedicated local heritage museums. They all have much to offer, but local museums reflecting the community do most to stimulate hearts and minds. Possible this is, in part, due to the dedication and commitment of volunteers. Anyway I am immensely proud to be your President and everything about your museum is truly professional.

I note that you are planning a field trip to East Kent including a visit to Chatham Dockyard. A brilliant idea, I wish that I could come with you. One of the many displays in Chatham Dockyard features an assemblage of finds from HMS Invincible. This ship was excavated by John Bingeman, a local ex naval diver. Perhaps you might wish to invite him to talk to you before the visit. He is a good speaker and anything underwater is always interesting.

Please convey my congratulations and best wishes to your team and thank Dorothy for keeping me in touch.

Yours most sincerely, Margaret Rule

End of Term Leavers

Virginia Wilson Smith is retiring as a borough councillor and as she was HBC's representative she will also retire from the EMHT Committee. Virginia has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Trust and has helped to forge a most useful link between the museum and our "landlord".

David Colson is also retiring from the General Committee. During his term in office he has readily volunteered to take on tasks and has done so efficiently and with great humour. He has been particularly successful recently in negotiating a reduction in our insurance premium.

We thank Virginia and David for all they have done for the Trust and wish them well for the future.

Gerry Williams. Chairman

Video Library

Good news regarding our collection of videos. Thanks to the Wessex Sound and Film Archive and others, Don Van't Riet, Donald Wells, Eddie McBride (and myself), we now have everything on DVD. Our collection of more than 50 films ranges from The Reopening of the Museum 1989, Ian Carmichael unveiling the plaque on Threepwood 1995, to the recent Afghan Medal Presentation in the summer. We have a unique record of events in and around the town easily accessible by anybody,

viewable on either the computer or the large TV screen. Please make use of this facility, just browse through the index and list of contents, you may be surprised!

Adrian Fox



Smugglers Talk

As the EMHT have reinstated the winter talks programme, I offered to give my small contribution. Many of you know and love the history of the oyster industry, but I felt that we had talked that one to death for the time being, so I went on a slightly different angle with smuggling.

It is one of those subjects that I find quite difficult to work on, because, although I love the mystery and romance of the subject, I do find that the lack of actual provable evidence is slightly disconcerting. Historians like facts written down so they can say with incontrovertible certainty that this happened. Smuggling is not like that.

The history of smuggling generally in this country is quite a fascinating one, and can be traced through the various Acts of Parliament imposing taxes and making demands on the customs system. However the life of local smugglers is very difficult to trace. They were secretive people, naturally, and they were protected by the local community. Everyone in the community could benefit by being involved in this trade, so they all protected each other; from the local lord of the manor right down to the humblest of shepherd boys or

labourers. Whether they worked on the land or at sea, all were involved in one process or another of the smuggling trade, and this is the area that is subject to myth, legend and downright fabrication.

Many people love to think that their house or family was involved in smuggling and many tales are told which frankly cannot be true; the laws of physics or geography will not allow them. Whatever the family involvement in the area, everyone seems to appreciate the stories of smugglers, and I found it very gratifying that so many people wanted to come and listen to me. About 100 people squeezed into the Lumley Room and we raised a nice amount for the funds.

I am now looking at preparing a talk on ghosts in the area, so look out – I may need some guinea pigs in the next year or two to practice upon.

Linda

Eddie Lewis

We are sad to report that Eddie Lewis, Chairman of the Fund Raising Committee and who arranged excellent holidays for Trust members, died on the 22nd April. A further article will appear in the next newsletter.

Thank you to John Tweddell for supplying many of the photos within this newsletter.

2011 ANNUAL

GENERAL MEETING

Although a smaller number of Members than usual attended the A.G.M. this year the reports were accepted with interest and the appointments and re-election concluded successfully. After the interval Adrian Fox showed extracts from video footage that he and his team had taken in past years including the day when Ian Carmichael visited Emsworth to unveil the blue plaque on Threepwood to commemorate that P.G. Wodehouse had lived there in the 1900s. This was very nostalgic because we saw so many faces of Members no longer with us. Resignation from the General Committee

After serving on the committee since 2006 Cdr. David Colson resigned at the A.G.M. He has however kindly

agreed to continue to be responsible for Trust / Museum insurance and also to distribute exhibition and talk posters to local shops, notice boards and other places where they are displayed.

David was always a helpful committee member, stepping in to open and close the museum whenever required – often at short notice and selling museum items at talks etc.

Cllr Mrs Virginia Wilson-Smith has been Havant Borough Council's representative on the General Committee since 1999. Even before this she had been a member of the Trust for many years. She has always been interested in the museum and has advised on a number of issues. She is stepping down from the Council at the local elections in May and will therefore no longer represent the council at Trust meetings. She will continue with her Membership of the Trust.

Thank you David and Virginia for your help over the years.

John Saunders' appointment as Vice-President of the Trust was extended for a further three years and Mrs Marguerita Taplin is now a co-opted member of the General Committee.

Joyce Baldwin and Linda Gentles were introduced as the new organisers of the Stewards' Rota.

Dorothy



Linda Gentles and Joyce Baldwin

EM&HT 50/50 Club

The 50/50 Club continues to fund improvements to the Museum. Following the popularity of the continuous display of the Hayling Billy line at the August Exhibition of 'Early Local Railways' we are now in a position to purchase a 'Blue-Ray' DVD player for our audio-visual recordings.

Congratulations to all the winners of the monthly draw – particularly to Pauline & Brian Marshall for winning the Bonus Prize of f,50 that was drawn at the March AGM.

Month	Prizes	Value	Share No.	Name
January	First	£30	131	Mrs B E Beaumont
	Second	£,10	190	Mrs V J Dennis
February	First	£30	192	Mrs V J Dennis
	Second	£10	32	Mr & Mrs J R Mant
March	Bonus	£,50	57	Mr & Mrs B Marshall
	First	£30	200	Mrs Dorothy Bone
	Second	£,10	12	Mrs C M Bury
April	First	£30	79	Mrs M Riding
	Second	£10	204	Mr M Walford

Have you considered becoming a member or increasing the number of shares that you hold? Shares still cost only £6 each for a year's membership but, in view of the increased cost of administration since the Club started in 1989, new applications will only be accepted for a minimum of 2 shares. However, existing members may increase their allocation by single shares.

Entry forms may be obtained from the 50/50 Club Organiser, Peter Morse (01243 375740)

EMHT APRIL DAY TRIP TO EAST SUSSEX

EMHT members and friends may have been alarmed to see our coach actually drive into the car park in Bridge Street raising concerns about our exit. We needn't have worried as our driver John skilfully manoeuvred out of the situation and we were on our way!

So it was then off to the South Downs Heritage Centre—where we were intrigued to find this gem of a museum located behind a huge garden centre. The Heritage Centre displayed a wide range of fascinating exhibits including reconstructed workplaces of times past. Vintage ploughs and other rural antiquities gave an insight into days gone by. Rural crafts included beekeeping, dairy production, trug and ropemaking. There was also a village shop and the history of Volks Electric railway. Members reminisced about the way we were!

Our next visit to the county town of Lewes allowed members to enjoy a leisurely lunch.

However some preferred retail therapy and others discovered the many antique shops. In the afternoon we moved on to Michelham Priory which was founded in 1229 by Augustinian Canons. It was surrounded by England's longest medieval moat and attractive gardens. The furniture and artefacts in the house traced both its religious origins and its life as a working farm.

The stewards appreciated a visit from members of another Museum and were well informed and approachable. During the Second World War the house became home to evacuees—both boys and girls and we saw one of their bedrooms and its contents.

This room stimulated a great deal of interest, recollections and discussion.



Imagine the delight of those evacuated children when they found a sledge on the frozen moat piled high with presents on Christmas day! In the grounds we visited a working water mill as well as physic, water and kitchen gardens and an Elizabethan barn.

After a fascinating day, that stirred the memories, we returned on time to Emsworth and gave our driver a chorus of happy birthday conducted by Gerry our Chairman. We echoed his special thanks to Alan and Monica Hurd for organising such a successful EMHT trip.

Wendy Bright

East Kent Holiday, 5th to 8th September 2011

A few spaces are still available for the Castles, Gardens and Chatham Historic Dockyard holiday in association with Woods Travel. A brochure and booking form are enclosed separately with this newsletter – or contact Peter Morse (01243 375740)

A GOOD START FOR THE 2011 SEASON



Almost 100 people visited Emsworth Museum on Thursday 21st April to see the exhibition of photographs by the late Maurice Broomfield.

54 came during the morning whilst the museum was open for the town's St. George's celebrations and a further 42 visited in the evening for a special pre-view event organised by



his widow Mrs Suzy Thompson-Coon.

This was a great start to the year and I hope that you will visit to see this and the other interesting and informative exhibitions that have been planned for 2011.

Dorothy

St.George's Day Parade





We are all so fortunate to live in Emsworth with it's strong sense of community and an event such as the St. George's Day parade bears evidence to that. Crowds turned out on an unusually warm and sunny day to witness the parade and rededication of the war memorial and flagpole. The pavements were packed wth cheering Emsworthians waving their English and Union flags





as veterans carrying their standards and soldiers from the 47th Regiment Royal Artillery marched past. Present on the podium taking the salute was Major Matt White their second in command accompanied by the Mayor of Havant Yvonne Weeks, and other dignatories including our local MP David Willetts.



EMHT members were in the crowd and there was a sense of pride that the Museum had played a part in the restoration of the War Memorial that was about to be rededicated. We had speeches from the Mayor of Havant and Major Matt White and there was a poignant moment as the veterans were presented with the 'Emsworth Rose'. Reverend Simon Sayers our rector then conducted the rededication of the War Memorial and the

More information on the memorial can be obtained from EMHT booklet No 7 now available from the Museum.





The views expressed by contributors to this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the General Committee.

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If you would like to provide a news article or illustrations for the newsletter, please send this to the editor, Marguerita Taplin margueritataplin@yahoo.co.uk (disk or email preferred to hard copy)



