



Emsworth Maritime & Historical Trust NEWSLETTER



Reg. Charity No 294965

President: Dr. Margaret Rule CBE, FSA, D.Litt

Emsworth Museum

10b North Street, Emsworth, Hants PO10 7DD

Tel: 01243 378091 www.emsworthmuseum.co.uk

Issue January 2007

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD IN
THE LUMLEY ROOM CHURCH PATH COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON THURSDAY 8TH MARCH 2007 STARTING AT 7.30PM.**

PLEASE COME TO THIS IMPORTANT EVENT, AND BRING WITH YOU THE AGENDA,
AND MINUTES OF THE 2006 AGM, WHICH ARE ENCLOSED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR 2007

SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR 2007 ARE UNCHANGED, AND ARE PRINTED BELOW. MEMBERS WHO PAY BY
STANDING ORDER MAY WISH TO CHECK THAT THEY HAVE BEEN CHARGED THE CORRECT AMOUNT.

Category	Under 65	65 & over	Amount
Life	£75	£50	
Single	£7	£5	
Joint ¹	£12	£9	
Country member ²	£3	£2	
Junior (under 18) FREE			

¹ AVAILABLE TO TWO ADULTS AT THE SAME ADDRESS

² SEE 'MEMBERSHIP MATTERS' INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER

This edition of the newsletter is prepared by John Tweddell 01243 374416

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Hon. Secretary Dorothy Bone - 24 Hollybank Lane, Emsworth, PO10 7UE 01243 373780

Membership enquiries to Bruce Vail 01243 375360

Outings organised by Eddie Lewis 01243 373197

Dates for your Diary (more information in the next newsletter)

8 March	A.G.M. Lumley Room, Church Path Community Centre (see enclosed papers)
5 May - 28 May	Exhibition in the David Rudkin Room “Draftsman’s Flowers” by Jenny Stewart
5/6 May	Art Trail Weekend
15 May	Day out to Staplehill Abbey and gardens
2 June - 1 July	Exhibition in the David Rudkin Room “West Sussex Wildlife” by Mike Russell
TBA, June	Treasure Hunt (date to be confirmed)
TBA, June	Visit to St. Nicholas’ Church, Thomey Island
4 to 8 June	Weeks holiday in North Wales
11 July	Barbecue at the garden of Jenny and Andrew Bloxham
7 July - 19 August	Exhibition in the David Rudkin Room “Historic Churches of Hampshire and West Sussex”
25 August - 16 September	Exhibition in the David Rudkin Room “Rhythms of the Tides 2” by Robert Perry
27 August	Emsworth Show
5 September	Coffee morning organised by Liz Smyth.
22 September - 28 October	Exhibition in the David Rudkin Room “Journey to the Stars” by John Green
11 October	“Travels to Exotic Places” by Adrian Fox (more information later) Church Path Community Centre



Painting by Rex Phillips

The editor of the November ‘Emsworth Echo’ apologises for a date which was given wrongly in the article “They got their names in the paper”. On page 6, 8 lines from the bottom, please delete ‘February 1607’ and insert ‘February 1807’.

Museum Administrator resignation

Tessa Daines resigned as Museum Administrator for Emsworth Museum in December 2006. Tessa was appointed Havant Borough Council's representative to Emsworth Maritime and Historical Trust in 1988 and she subsequently took over as Museum Administrator in 1992 when the previous Administrator, Joan Rutherford, resigned. Tessa was elected to the General Committee of the Trust in March 1993.

Tessa Daines is a keen and enthusiastic lover of Emsworth and its history and she worked hard to show local people and visitors what life was like over the years in this pleasant town. Her flair for display and boundless energy made the museum a popular and interesting place to visit.

The committee will appoint a new Museum Administrator as soon as possible. Already one person has shown an interest in taking on this important position and if you would also like to be considered please contact our Hon. Secretary, Dorothy Bone, on telephone 01243 373780 or write to her at 24 Hollybank Lane, Emsworth, Hants P010 7UE.

CHAIRMAN

We have printed below just one of the letters and messages we have received to thank Tessa for her enormous contribution and hard work.



Join 'Terror' for a sail

Chichester Harbour Conservancy (CHC) has organised sailings for members of the public in our recently restored Emsworth Oyster boat "Terror" during the summer sailing season (from May onwards).



About 10 sailings a month will be available for booking at a cost of £10 per adult and £5 for children. Additionally, you will be able to book the boat and its crew by the hour or day for that special occasion, subject to availability. Details about the trips will be made available soon by CHC.



As you may know EM&HT is working closely with CHC on the 'Terror' restoration project and the establishment of a Maritime Heritage Trail in Emsworth. More details about this will be published in the newsletter, later in the year.



JOB VACANCY

With effect from 9 January 2007 I have resigned as Vice Chairman and as Membership Secretary. John Tweddell is acting as Vice Chairman until the AGM. This means that we urgently need a new Membership Secretary. Anyone willing to offer their services in this capacity should please contact Dorothy Bone. If you would like to know what the job entails please contact me on 01243375361. I shall be happy to supply any information and support needed to ease the successful candidate into post.

Until the new person is in post I shall continue to discharge the duties of Membership Secretary. I should like to thank all of you for your support over the seven years of my tenure.

Bruce Vail

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Annual subscriptions for 2007 became due on 1 January. Members who pay annually by cash or cheque will find an A5 form enclosed with this Newsletter requesting payment. Please return the whole of this form with your remittance.

Names and addresses as they are recorded on my files are shown on an A5 form included in this mailing. For those who pay by cash or cheque one form does double duty. If you wish me to amend my records please print the correct details in the space provided and return the whole form to me. If the form contains the correct information there is no action to be taken.

Membership cards are enclosed with this Newsletter if your subscription has been paid by a standing order. If you pay by cash or cheque your card will be waiting for you at the AGM (see front page). Cards not collected will be posted out with the April News Letter.

COUNTRY MEMBERSHIP.

Regrettably, increased costs of producing and posting News Letters and The Emsworth Echo have made it uneconomic for the Trust to continue with the present arrangements for Country Membership. For this reason the Trust will discontinue this category of membership from 1 January 2008. In its place existing country members will be offered a choice.

They will be able to choose

A - Become a FULL MEMBER with all the rights attaching to that status. Please note that arrangements for 2007 are unchanged.

OR

B - Enrol in the new category of FRIENDS OF THE EM&HT Members who select this option will continue to receive copies of **The Emsworth Echo** (not Newsletters) for a standard annual subscription of £3.

BUILDING WORK IN EMSWORTH MUSEUM

The Trust has been pleased to receive a number of bequests from Members and non-Members and the Committee decided that a portion of this money should be used to improve and update the facilities in Emsworth Museum. To this end Mr. Jim Garland, a local Architect, has been appointed to produce a design that will make better use of some of the rooms, allow for easier storage space and create an area

where visitors can watch videos, listen to tape recordings and do family history research. Work will start soon to give a disabled toilet, move the office to the west side of the building and create an activity/study room where the office previously was. An opening will be created in the wall between the David Rudkin Room and the new activity room, with doors between the two rooms, so that the area can be used either as one

room or two. No work is at present planned for the main exhibition room and this will remain unchanged for the time being.

Mr. Garland has agreed to come to the Lumley Room on 8 March 2007 at 7.30p.m. so that he can talk about his ideas and give an update on progress with the work before the business of the A.G.M. begins.

Visit to Stapehill Convent & Gardens

near Wimborne, Dorset on Tuesday 15th. May

An early 19th. Century Cistercian Abbey for over 200 years was the home to a closed order of Nuns. It is now open to the public to learn about monastic life and enjoy the tranquillity of the Cloistered Garden. The Abbey with its wide variety of attractions, all under cover, offers an interesting day whatever the weather. Wander through the Abbey, visit working craft studios and see the artisan workshops, follow the development from manpower to machinery exhibition.

The award winning garden - the walled section has the rose garden, the herbaceous borders and the cottage garden. There is also a Japanese garden which has won acclaim.

The craft workshops produce Silk Flowers, Decoupage, as well as Candle making, Embroidery and guitar making. Many special gifts can be purchased.

Refreshments - there is a coffee shop with a sunny terrace serving morning coffee, light lunches (noon to 2p.m.), plus afternoon teas including cream teas. There is also a large area by the lake, where you can picnic, weather permitting.

Booking Form, for Stapehill Abbey on 15th May

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Please send this form to: Stapehill Abbey, Wimborne Road, Wimborne, Dorset, BH20 7BN. (Tel. No. 01202 77397)

Seats are allocated on a 'first come first served' basis.

FORM AT BACK OF THIS NEWSLETTER

ART-DECO AVIATION A TRIP TO SHOREHAM AIRPORT

On Wednesday 6 September Eddie Lewis led a group of us on a coach trip to Shoreham Airport. The airfield fills the patch of level coastal plain to the south of Lancing College, and to the north of the railway line to Brighton. To the East it is bounded by the River Adur.

The striking Art-Deco terminal building, opened in 1936, serves now as a visitor centre and restaurant. The building has appeared in many films, representing airports around the world in the past, including - Changi (Singapore) in 'Tenko'; Bucharest in 'Fortunes of War'; and various airports in 'Poirot': Most recently, it played the part of Le Bourget in a scene from 'The Da Vinci Code'.

Having lunched, we were taken in hand by the guides from the Shoreham Airport Historical Association, a keen body of volunteers who show off the airport to visitors, research into the history of the airfield, publishing their results, and build model aircraft, up to full size on occasion!

HISTORY.

In the "Pashley" Room, Susanne gave us a quick briefing on the history of the airport. In 1910 the amateur aviator Harold Piffard (educated at Lancing) started trials of his 'Hummingbird' biplane. In 1911 the first Brooklands to Shoreham Air Race was held. In 1913, the brothers Cecil and Eric Pashley flew their Pashley biplane.

In WWI the field was used as an RFC training base. Captured enemy aircraft were evaluated. The Canadians formed both a fighter and a bomber squadron at Shoreham.



Post-war, the field reverted to grazing land.

By 1926, the brothers Fred and George Miles joined up with Cecil Pashley to form Southern Aircraft Ltd and the Southern Aero Club. Cecil gave joyrides in an Avro 504K. In 1930, Sir Alan Cobham, engaged by the local authorities to survey the options for a local airport, chose Shoreham.

In 1932, Cobham returned with his National Aviation Day Display. In 1934, work on the Terminal Building started. In 1935, Olley Air Services were appointed to manage the airport.



(your reporter first flew in an Olley-owned De Havilland Rapide in 1933, when Olley was running the Liverpool - Ronaldsway (Isle of Man) service!)

The airport was officially opened in 1936 (like Thorney Island). There was a 2-day flying display, featuring aircraft from British firms, and also

Continued on page 6

A TRIP TO SHOREHAM AIRPORT

continued from page 5

those from France, Belgium and the USA. The RAF sent a trio of Gloster Gauntlets, tied together by ribbon.

With the opening came regular air services by Channel Air Ferries and Jersey Airways, to Bristol, Cardiff, Liverpool and Manchester, Jersey, Le Touquet and Deauville.

In 1937 the RAF set up the Martin (latterly Airwork) School of Air Navigation, initially to train RAF Volunteer Reserve aircrew. The School flew DH Tiger Moths, Hawker Harts and Hinds, Avro Ansons and Fairey Battles.

In May 1939 the last Empire Air Day was held at Shoreham. Military aircraft present included the Vickers Vildebeest, Fairey Swordfish and Supermarine Walrus (all seen also at Thorney Island).



WORLD WAR II.

In the period of the 'phoney' war, to May 1940, Shoreham became an international airport. Although still only a small grass field, the airport handled the whole of the normal Croydon traffic, with a variety of airliners (some 4-engined) still flying to Europe, North Africa and India.

In the Battle of Britain, Shoreham was an emergency field for damaged Spitfires, Hurricanes and Blenheims. When Tangmere was bombed, radar-equipped Blenheim and Beaufighter night fighters used the field. Shoreham was itself attacked by the Luftwaffe in October 1940.

From 1941 an Air-Sea Rescue unit (part of 277 squadron) flew Walrus, Sea Otters, Defiants and Spitfires. In total they saved 598 lives.

During the war there were many emergency landings. The grass was extended to the west, tempting in damaged US 8th Air Force Liberators, as well as Spitfires, Whitleys and Thunderbolts. For D-day a Free French Spitfire squadron operated from Shoreham, until landing strips were available across the Channel.

PEACE.

The airport opened again as a civil airport and flying club in June 1946. London University Air Squadron, with Tiger Moths, held their summer camp at Shoreham in August.

The revival of flying was much influenced by the return of the Miles brothers. Their first jet, the Sparrowjet, first flew on 14 December 1953, at Shoreham. It was in the early '50s that Chelsea College of Aero Engineering set up their buildings on the southern edge of the field (now Northbrook College) Miles merged with Auster in 1962, becoming part of Beagle Aircraft. This group went on to build a range of small aircraft.



THE TOUR.

Following our brief, Susanne took us 'airside'. At the Fire Station we admired the emergency vehicles, 6-wheeled Landrovers to get there fast, and a larger "engine" with plenty of fire-fighting foam. We clustered round a restored Tiger Moth,

the 'Spirit of Pashley': We witnessed an emergency, with the "engine" speeding out to meet an aircraft landing, that had reported a problem (all was eventually well!)

There are many smart modern aircraft parked at Shoreham. Some are privately owned recreational aircraft. More expensive, and more extensively equipped electronically, are the business aircraft, and the 6-8 seat aircraft running scheduled services, within the UK, and across the Channel. A single tarmac runway on the western side of the field handles these larger aircraft, and the occasional business jet (the grass runways are still subject to occasional flooding). A large number of small helicopters operate from the south-east corner of the field (where Piffard first flew).

The Historical Association publish the number of visiting aircraft movements to and from Shoreham, day-by-day. (i.e. excluding movements by resident aircraft). This varies between 4 or 5 a day in early February, to as many as 27-30 a day in summer months. The great majority of these are UK registered, but of foreign manufacture.

In one of the several hangars we discovered Tim Hogben, a volunteer of the Historical Association, hard at work on a full-scale (1 : 1) model of Piffard's Hummingbird biplane. From the photos in the Association's ARCHIVE journal, this is clearly a long-term project! The structure is now substantially complete, a great cathedral of wooden struts and spars, braced by wire.

In all, a fascinating visit, both to see the present airport in action, and to talk to the enthusiastic members of the Airport Historical Association, and learn of the very real part that Shoreham has played in the history of aviation. Thank you, Eddie!

Tony Cowin

NORTH WALES



5 DAY SUMMERTIME BREAK 4-8 JUNE 2007
Cost £254.00 / person, this includes entrance fees to all attractions.

Enjoy a refreshing early summertime five-day break to Llandudno, with an interest-packed itinerary of coach excursions and visits to some of the finest attractions of North Wales, in the company of our expert guide.

OUR ITINERARY

MONDAY

After a morning departure, you will travel by coach to our hotel in Llandudno, arriving in good time to unpack and relax before dinner. Llandudno is the largest resort in Wales. Superbly located on a sweeping bay between the Great and Little Ormes, it retains much of its Victorian and Edwardian charm and has fine promenade walks and attractive ornamental gardens. It is an ideal base for exploring this interesting area of north Wales.

TUESDAY

A whole day coach tour in the Snowdonia National Park taking you to Betws-y-Coed and Llanberis and with a ride on the Snowdon Mountain Railway. The national park covers 800 square miles and is an area of outstanding natural beauty with wild rocky mountains, moorland, hidden valleys, cascading rivers, deep lakes and forest. Snowdon, at 3,560' is the highest peak in England and Wales and the mountain track and pinion railway offers a memorable ride for all through an inspiring landscape rich in natural wonders, history and romantic myth. The train has an in-carriage commentary and the visitors' centre at Llanberis station provides a 13 minute audio-visual virtual journey to the summit. Please note due to the building of a new visitors' centre on Snowdonia, it is not possible for the railway to take you right to the summit of the mountain and will terminate about 1/4 of the way up at Clogwyn, at 2,500'. Even so, weather permitting you will still have good views from here towards Anglesey and the



sea and of the surrounding mountains. Dinner in the hotel in the evening and overnight stay.

WEDNESDAY

A whole day coach excursion to the Isle of Anglesey, offering you the chance to see and hear about this lesser known part of Britain, visiting ancient Beaumaris Castle and Llanfairpwll, with our guide to add interest on the way. Wales is noted as a land of castles and Beaumaris, started in 1296, is one of the finest castles in Wales. Although unfinished, it is nonetheless an awesome sight and is set in a commanding position overlooking the Menai Strait. It is today a World Heritage listed monument. During the day you will also visit Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwymdrob willantysiliogogogoch, which has gone down in the record books as the village with the longest name in Wales! Dinner in the hotel in the evening and overnight stay.

THURSDAY

A whole day coach tour visiting the lovely Bodnant Gardens, Portmeirion and with a ride on the Ffestiniog Steam Railway. The National Trust gardens at Bodnant are a real treat. Set over 80 acres of steep banks of the River Conwy they have beautiful views towards the Snowdon mountain range. The upper part is called the Terrace and the lower, the Dell. The gardens offer colour throughout the seasons and are noted especially for their fine collections of rhododendrons, camellias, magnolias and azaleas. There is also a famous laburnum

arch, lovely collections of summer flowering herbaceous plants, clematis and roses. The beautiful and intriguing Italian-style coastal village of Portmeirion, built in 1926, is the wonderful creation of Welsh architect and landscape designer Clough Williams-Ellis. The village has gift

shops, a famous pottery, cafes, woodland walks, sub-tropical gardens and a museum commemorating the 60's TV series 'The Prisoner' which was filmed at Portmeirion. The Ffestiniog Railway takes you on a wonderful, steam-hauled journey from Porthmadog to Blaenau Ffestiniog. Make sure you remember to bring your camera as you ride on 13 1/2 miles of track through spectacular Welsh scenery and climbing to 710' on the way. Dinner in the hotel in the evening and overnight stay.

FRIDAY

A morning visit to Chester. This historic, Roman city set on the picturesque River Dee has a fine Cathedral, ancient city walls, fine riverside walks and superb medieval 'Flows' shopping galleries. We will begin the homeward journey in the early afternoon.

THE GRAND HOTEL,

LLANDUDNO

This fine looking Victorian hotel is itself a landmark of Llandudno. It is splendidly set on the promenade on north shore and at the foot of the Great Orme with fine views over the bay. It offers a warm welcome and traditional hospitality. The comfortable bedrooms all have a private bathroom. The hotel has a restaurant, bar and games room with snooker table.



**FORM ON NEXT PAGE
OF THIS NEWSLETTER**

ANY QUESTIONS?

Outings organised by Eddie Lewis
01243 373197

Emsworth historical moments 2006

The re-launch of the 'Terror' oyster boat



**Into the water
Dolphin Quay Boatyard**

The re-launch 2006 Emsworth Food Festival



Sailing in the harbour



Booking form for North Wales holiday,
leaving Emsworth at 9am. on Monday 4th. June 2007

Name (*first & surname*) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Tel: No: _____

My party will consist of the following: _____

Coach leaves at 9.0 am from Bridge Road car park [] & Beach Road bus stop []
Please tick preferred departure location.

Accommodation required - Double room [] Twin bedded [] Single [] please tick
NB. There are limited number of single rooms, save yourself some money and share!

Cost - £254.00 per person _____ No. _____ Total _____

Insurance (optional) £9.95 per person _____ Total _____

Single room supplement £40.00 _____ Total _____

Grand total _____

I enclose a **stamped addressed envelope and cheque in favour of EMHT.**

Total £ _____

Please send this form **a.s.a.p.** to **Mr. H.E.A.Lewis, "Ridgewood", Westbourne Road.**
Emsworth. PO10 7RN. (Tel. No.01243 373197)

Seats are allocated on a "first come first served" basis.

Last date for booking 30th April.

Booking Form. for Stapehill Abbey visit
on 15th. May.

Name _____

Address _____

Post code _____ Tel: No. _____

My party will consist of the following _____

Coach leaves at 9.0 am from Bridge Road car park [] and Beach Road bus stop []
Please tick preferred departure location.

I enclose a **stamped addressed envelope and cheque made out to EMHT**

for _____ persons @ £ ~~20.00~~ per person. Total £ _____

Please send this form a.s.a.p. to **Mr. H.E.A.Lewis, Ridgewood, Westbourne Road.**
Emsworth. PO10 7RN. (Tel. No.01243 373197)

Seats are allocated on a "first come first served" basis.

Last date for booking 15th. April.

