

### St. Thomas a Becket Warblington

At 10.30a.m. on Easter Saturday 7th April, Reverend Simon Sayers cut a blue ribbon to signify the start of the first exhibition for 2012.



*Reverend Simon Sayers opening the exhibition*

The exhibition "A Thousand Years of Worship" gives a fascinating glimpse into the history of the St. Thomas a Becket Church at Warblington.



It is full of a wealth of information about the original building by the Saxons in the 10th century, the 13th century extension, the Victorian modernisation right up to the recent fire and restoration.

A beautiful display of fine embroidery, rich blue, green and gold linen and silver ware often used in the Christening service complement the detailed information about the history of this much loved and interesting old church.



The exhibition displays familiar items that are in constant use as well as linen and silver and artefacts rarely seen.

It includes a precious 1611 King James bible, pictures and descriptions of four of the beautiful stained glass windows in the church as well as the history of the 1600 year old yew tree that dominates the churchyard.



*From left Mike Buchanan, Chris Morrison, Pheobe Eberle and Margaret Roberts-West who organised and set up the exhibition*

In thanking the museum and the team of church members who set up the attractive and informative display Simon reflected on the history of Christian worship at Warblington.

Dorothy



*Reverend Simon Sayers and Mike Buchanan*

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

# Dates for your diary

All MONTHLY EXHIBITIONS are held in the museum's David Rudkin Room.

TALKS are held in the Mountford Rooms, Church Path Community Centre at 7.30p.m.

From October admission charges are - Members £1.50 Non Members £3.00

April 7th - 29th      Exhibition - "A Thousand Years of Worship in St. Thomas a Becket  
Church, Warblington"  
23rd              St George's Day (museum will be open from 10.00a.m. until 2.00p.m.)  
24th              Local History Walk

May 5th - 27th      Exhibition - "Out of the Blue" by Stitchmakers  
5th/6th/7th)      Emsworth's Art Trail  
12th/13th )              museum open from 10.30a.m. until 4.30p.m. on all five trail days  
29th              Local History Walk organised by Chichester Harbour Conservancy

June 2nd - July 1st Exhibition -Royal Jubilation: Emsworth's celebration of royal events and historical connections

June 13th              Annual Treasure Hunt. See page 4  
26th              Local History Walk

July 7th - 29th      Exhibition of paintings by Angela Loader  
24th              Local History Walk

August 4th - 27th      Exhibition  
27th              Emsworth Show  
28th              Local History Walk

September 1st  
- 30th      Exhibition  
3rd              Four day holiday to Shropshire. See page 3  
25th              Local History Walk

October 6th – 28th Exhibition -  
22nd              "Bricks Steam and Guns" Illustrated talk by Geoff Hallett

November 26th      "One Hundred Years of Chichester Harbour" Illustrated talk by Judi Darley

Emsworth Museum is open every weekend from April 7th until the end of October. Opening times are Saturdays and Bank Holidays from 10.30a.m. until 4.30p.m. and on Sundays from 2.30p.m. until 4.30p.m.

In addition it will be open from 10.30a.m. for the 2 Sundays of the Art Trail and from 10.00a.m. until 2.00p.m. on 23rd April (St. George's Day).

The Museum is often open to members only on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 2pm and 4pm. You may wish to phone to verify this on the day.

ADMISSION FREE We are always grateful for financial donations to help with the costs of running the museum.  
Dorothy Bone 01243 373780.

## Admin's Alcove

I am writing this just before the AGM, and so thought the easiest way to keep you up-to-date was to paraphrase my AGM Annual Report; apologies to those of you who have sat through it since.

Considering the national predictions of gloom and doom we have heard I feel the Museum weathered 2011 quite well. Our visitor figures were slightly down on previous years, but this could have been because Easter was a lot later, which meant we missed the majority of April and the school holidays. This has been rectified for future years, because we will open on the 1st Saturday of April, or Easter Saturday, whichever is the earlier. This has the added benefit that the stewards will be ready to come in to the Museum in March for their training sessions, rather than waiting and wondering.

During the winter months we have had a quieter period with very little work. New lighting has been installed in the main hall, and as this appears to be working well, we hope to extend this during the summer. Kevin Griffen, our electrician, has indicated that each section will only take a couple of hours, which we can accommodate during our normal members days. One of our members, Mr. Giles, of Keppel Lodge, very kindly donated a glass wall display cabinet, which is in the process of being cleaned and polished so that it can take its place on the wall and help display some of the smaller items we possess. This will free up some of the bigger spaces for some of the bulky displays.

My thanks go to the 50/50 club for their support of the Museum, and their proceeds have paid for the lighting update and also the new map browser, which is in the Archive Room. Clive Pugh and Wendy Bright are working their way through our stash(!) of rolled up maps and posters, to put together a suitable selection for this area which will be of interest to our visitors, and will therefore be easily accessible to all. It does seem a shame to leave them rolled up and locked away, when they could be very useful to researchers.

Group visits to the Museum last year were not so numerous as in previous years, and I feel that it could be partly due to the muddle that has been our website over the last few years. When major changes happen there is always something that has to be left until a more suitable time to be tackled, and with us it was the website. It is very out of date, and has become a mess because no-one has had the time to sort it out. Wendy, Marguerita and I have tried to do this, and hopefully it will be live by the time you read this, so if you have a computer do have a quick look and let us know what you think. It is now linked in design to our newsletter and is easy to navigate around, so it can now be a useful tool to attract visitors and groups. Many group secretaries will check out the website of a destination before arranging a visit, and so hopefully we will look enticing! As always there are a few changes of personnel, and I think the AGM will have added a few more members to the committee.

Two people, however, who are stepping back from their very active roles are Alan Stewart-Fitzroy and Gerry Williams.

Alan has been our DIYman, or I think he should have been Head of Museum Maintenance (!) and has been there to do all the odd things I have requested, be they big or small. He did contrive to give me heart failure a few times with his insistence on working alone, but he has now had to bow to a higher authority than me (his wife) who is insisting that he slows down a bit, and I hope he does and that he enjoys the time that this creates.

Gerry has been Chairman for the last 15 years, which to me appears to be like a life-sentence. He apparently stepped into the breach at short notice, and has been stuck with us ever since. His calm good sense has been a sure anchor over the years, and I know we will miss him at the meetings.



*Linda delivering her talk on War Memorials at the AGM*

I am trying to persuade him to write an article for the next newsletter about the ups and downs, delights and disasters he has encountered in his role.

Our sincere thanks to both of them.

Linda

### Holiday in Shropshire – September 3rd to 6th 2012

At the last count we had 36 Members booked in for this holiday, visiting Ironbridge, Blists Hill, Ludlow, The Severn Valley Railway, Painswick Rococco Gardens and Stourhead Manor. A few places may still be available on a first come, first served basis.

Please note the correct dates, as shown above. Also the revised start time of 09:00 at Bridge Road Car Park.

Peter Morse



## SCHOOL VISIT



As you know, Emsworth Museum does not open to the public until Easter, but this year we had a request from St. James' School for their year 4 class to visit, because they were working on a project that involved opening their own little museum in the school to display their Egyptian finds.

Therefore on Friday 9th March, Emsworth Museum was invaded by 34 children, aged 7 and 8 years, with

their helpers. I had taken the precaution of asking Wendy Bright and Margaret Rogers to assist me, and at the end of an hour we were exhausted!

They were a delight, and so well behaved and interested in all we had to show them. Every single one of them found something of interest. Each group had a worksheet that they had to investigate; some looking at artefacts, some at the layout and some to interview me. Several times Wendy, Margaret and I had to have a quick conflagration to decide which were the oldest, youngest, newest and biggest exhibits in the Museum. At the end they all received a sticker to say that they were super sleuths in the Museum and they had lots of ideas for display in their Museum. Margaret gave them a card with the hieroglyphic alphabet on it and

Wendy had a length of material printed with Egyptian motifs; both items will be displayed in their Museum.

If any of you had popped your heads around the door that afternoon you would not have been able to resist a smile at their enthusiasm and energy. Hopefully we will have more visits like this. It was a great way to begin the year.

Linda



## HUNTING DOWN EMSWORTH

In North Street - What did Mrs George Wilder do? And when?

In The Square - Where can you see two poppies, two crowns and a cross?

In South Street - Where can you see golden griffins and an abundance of yellow tulips?

These are some of the questions from the 2011 Treasure Hunt. They are not too difficult are they? Last year's winners have already set the course for the 2012 Annual Treasure Hunt to be held on June 13th.

If you like walking in Emsworth you will enjoy taking part in this annual event. The hunt for clues starts from the museum at 7.00pm and the route takes you on a circular trip along familiar streets arriving back at the museum for a well deserved cup of tea and biscuits whilst you wait for your answers to be checked. The cost is £1.00 per person payable on the evening.

Come along, meet new people, and see how good you are at observing the things around you.

Dorothy

## The EMHT Video Library

In the Archive Room, there is a library of 50 DVD's, a player and TV. They are for use by the Stewards and the public. During some exhibitions, the organizers provide a DVD appropriate to the subject but otherwise the Stewards are welcome to put on what they like.

An "Index" lists the contents of each disc and maybe a little scrolling through may be needed to find what's required, but there is a wealth of recent history stored away. For instance we have recorded every exhibition and interviewed most of the organisers.

Here are a few highlights

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Disc 1 | Removal of The Ark from the harbour                          |
| 3      | Emsworth tour of the town 1989                               |
| 11     | EMHT visits St Aubin for D-day celebrations                  |
| 17     | Ian Carmichael unveils Wodehouse plaque                      |
|        | John Mant with boat Eva, interviewed for TV                  |
| 20     | Millenium Film of Emsworth                                   |
| 38     | Ernest Rudkin interviewed alongside Terror under restoration |

And lots of others, right up to the St Georges Day celebrations. I hope you enjoy them.

Adrian Fox

## WINTER TALKS



On Monday 16th January Mr Tony Yoward gave an illustrated and amusing talk entitled "The Changing Face of the Chemist Shop". He described the use of minerals such as carbon by chemists and the use of plants such as digitalis (foxglove) by druggists. Pills were made by hand in the shop by taking ingredients from the bottles in the shop mixing with chalk and rolling in a pill maker. By 1860 tablets were made by compression. He showed many objects that formed a fascinating display together with a series of photographs that illustrated the changes in the appearance of the chemist shop window during the 20th century. Imagine in 1910 purchasing petrol for your car or parts for your radio or cycle from the chemist!

In 1910, 22 North Street (the Strand) in Emsworth was a shoe shop when Mr Hobson took it over as a pharmacy. This business was subsequently bought in 1927 by Mr Williams whose daughter was present at the talk. Mr Yoward became the pharmacist at the shop in 1952 where he worked until retirement in 1995. He recalled the many changes in the 1950's. 22 North Street is now the Salon a hairdresser's shop. He briefly mentioned The Old Pharmacy on the Square. In 1771 it supplied the local workhouse with lotions and medication.

Mr Yoward concluded his talk with the pharmacist's toast "Moderate good health to you all" and was well received by the 56 people in the audience.

On 20th February Hampshire's Archaeological Treasures was the title of the illustrated talk by Rob Webley who administers the treasure process in Hampshire for the Portable Antiquities Scheme. The dates of the artefacts shown ranged from ½ million years ago to those of the eighteenth century and included stone axe heads, coins, stirrup strap mounts and dress accessories-- some found in Havant and Bosham. Most interesting was the Winchester gold hoard consisting of beautiful brooches and a necklace from 2050 years ago now on display at the British Museum.



An audience of 65 people with a higher proportion of non-members enjoyed this informative and well presented talk.

For more information about the Portable Antiquities Scheme in Hampshire see this website ([www.finds.org.uk](http://www.finds.org.uk)).

During each of the winter months October, November, January, and February talks are held on one Monday evening. From 1st October 2012 the charges for the talks will be £1.50 members and £3.00 for non members. We would welcome ideas from members for future talks and speakers.

Wendy Bright

## and Spring Summer WALKS.....

Just a note to say – Do NOT forget the guided walks taking place this year. All proceeds towards the Museum and quite an entertaining way to spend an evening in Emsworth. All walks start at 6.00pm outside the Museum. The cost is £2.00 for members booking in advance and £3.00 for non-members. We are limited to a maximum of 25 people.

The dates are: April 24th      June 26th      July 24th      August 28th      September 25th

The walk on 29th May is a walk in conjunction with the Chichester Harbour Conservancy and is £5.00 per person.

Linda

## ART TRAIL BANNERS

As Havant Borough Council is no longer able to financially support the Emsworth Art Trail it is now being run by a newly formed group of artists. Over the two weekends 5th/6th/7th and 12th/13th May a record number of local painters and designers will open their studios to show their work. Stitchmakers are displaying their embroidery in Emsworth Museum. Eight new banners have been purchased to advertise the event and you will see them on various buildings in and around Emsworth including the museum. Money donated to the Arts Trail in memory of Pam Clayton has been used to fund these banners which have been designed so that they can be displayed for many years to come.



## COFFEE ANYONE

As you can see from these pictures Cathy Rudkin's coffee morning on 28th February was a great success. Many of the people who came were Trust members – others were friends and neighbours. Judging by the happy chatter everyone enjoyed themselves. Donations and sales of museum items and Joyce's hand made cards produced £65.00. Thank you Cathy – we look forward to the next one.



## David Rudkin Room Exhibitions

Emsworth museum has now re-opened for the season. I hope that you will agree that the exhibitions arranged for the David Rudkin Room are interesting and varied and I look forward to seeing you when you visit during the summer months. If you know of a group or organisation that might like to come along to see one of the exhibitions please let me know and a special out of hours visit can probably be arranged.

The first exhibition "1000 years of Worship" is on the history of the St. Thomas a Becket Church at Warblington and is featured on our front page. It runs from Easter Saturday until 29th April.

Stitchmakers are displaying their work in the museum as part of Emsworth's Art Trail and the exhibition will continue for all of the month of May. The title "Out of the Blue" was chosen by the group because they decided that it lent itself to the idea of sea, sky and nature. The only criteria for each piece being shown is that it has to have something blue, either in the stitchwork or texture within the design. Members of the group use a variety of techniques – some preferring hand-stitching and some

machine embroidery. Many include acrylics, watercolour, print and dyeing and they also experiment with the amazing products that are available these days.

The June exhibition "Royal Jubilation" runs from 2nd June to 1st July and is tied in with the Jubilee and Emsworth's celebration of royal occasions such as the coronation. It will also touch on Emsworth's royal historical connections and visits.

"Paintings by Angela Loader" is on from 7th to 29th July. Angela Loader has been painting professionally since 1979 and has won awards for her work. Angela, a local artist, will be known to many of you. On show for the first time are the four original paintings featured in Linda Newell's new book "Uncovering the Past" about Emsworth's oyster industry and also Childhood Friends which Angela was commissioned to paint. All the pictures that are on display as well as a special limited edition of 50 prints of Childhood Friends will be on sale during the exhibition.

Information about the August to October exhibitions will appear in the next newsletter.

Dorothy

## Royal Jubilation.... Can You Help!

We are mounting an exhibition in June to coincide with the Queen's Jubilee and very much want to hear from members who might have items that we can use. Have you any memorabilia photos etc of the coronation, past jubilees or other royal events? The broad theme of the exhibition is Emsworth and royalty and this not only includes how the people of Emsworth celebrated these royal occasions but also royal connections with Emsworth including visits they made here.

We would also be interested in your stories .. what did you do on coronation day? Were there any Street parties or festivals? If you have a tale to tell (however short) or any photos or other items that we could use for the exhibition please do contact me. Please do not send in any ornaments or items of value before contacting me. If you do send any photos or your memories of royal celebratory occasions could you please mark them "Royal Jubilation Exhibition" and supply your full contact details. I look forward to hearing from you.

Marguerita Taplin 01243 374105 [margueritaplin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:margueritaplin@yahoo.co.uk)



## A GOOD READ

We have various publications available for sale in the Museum. I know many of you may have purchased several of them when they were first available, but I do recommend the 7 different publications produced by our late Founder, David Rudkin. They are still good value at £5.00 per copy.

We also sell the booklet produced by the Brook Meadow Conservation Group about the meadow and the nature reserve there. This is now becoming quite a renowned wetland site, and is an ideal habitat for the threatened water vole. Copies are £5.00

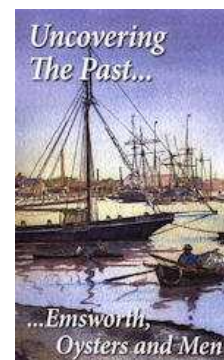
Emsworth Methodist Church have reissued their publication about the history of their church in Emsworth, and this is now available in the Museum at £2.50, together with a few copies of the booklet detailing Win Field's wonderful banners – also £2.50

Ralph Cousins of the Friends of Havant Museum is producing several leaflets about the history of parts of Havant and these are available at 50p, with all profits going to the Mayor of Havant's charity appeal. The Battle of Havant is the one most popular in our Museum, because of its railway connections.

Tony Yoward is still producing his very informative booklets about the Emsworth Marina and Lumley Mill, and they are both available at £5.00.

Finally, for this issue of the newsletter, my two books are still available. Sorry – but they are the most expensive. Tempus publication Images of England – Emsworth, contains over 200 photographs of Emsworth and its people and is available at £12.00, while the newer publication Uncovering The Past – Emsworth, Oysters and Men is available at £8.00.

The latter book is a result of the oyster archaeological survey and the



report that was written as a result. John Davis, the then Chichester Harbour Master, wanted the information to be available to the public, and so the book has surfaced and is dedicated to him. The proceeds will be divided between the Museum and the Terror maintenance fund. Since publication in December over 150 have been sold, and we are on a limited print run of 1000. Paul Fisk, who lives in Emsworth High Street produced the design so it is a very local publication which is only available in Emsworth. Despite being the author, I do recommend it if you are interested in the history of Emsworth.

Linda

## Membership Subscriptions 2012

Thank you to all those members who paid promptly this year. It makes the life of the Membership Secretary so much easier. All members should by now have received their membership cards. For any queries please phone Peter Morse (01243 697582)

## EM&HT 50/50Club

The 50/50 Club continues to fund improvements to the Museum. In addition to the new lighting we have also purchased a digital camera and associated equipment for the Oral History project.

Congratulations to all of the winners in the monthly draw – particularly Pauline and Brian Marshall who, by an amazing coincidence, won the bonus prize last year with the same share number at the March AGM.

Month	Share Number	Winner	Prize	Value
January	104	Dr M Rule CBE FSA D.Lit	First	£35
	88	Mrs D B Hemmings	Second	£15
February	28	Mrs G J Bailey First	First	£35
	22	Mr & Mrs A W Stewart-Fitzroy	Second	£15
March	57	Mr & Mrs B Marshall	Bonus	£50
	59	Mrs M Riding	First	£35
	139	Mr & Mrs J W Farrar	Second	£15

Have you considered becoming a member or increasing the number of shares that you hold? Shares still cost only £6.00 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 697582)

## 37th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The A.G.M. on 19th March was well attended and the minutes will be mailed / delivered with the November Emsworth Echo.



Detailed reports on the financial position and the Trust's / museum's activities were given by the Committee Member responsible for each item.

Following on from the Treasurer's comment that expenditure is continuing to rise Peter Morse suggested that Membership subscriptions might have to be increased and referred to the various options that he is considering.

The appointment of three new Committee Members was unanimously approved.

Robert Duncan is a builder who has lived in Emsworth for 30 years and is interested in the history of buildings. Tony Stimson is a retired Engineer who is researching his family history. Dr Peter Allen is a retired GP with a love of history.



Robert Duncan Tony Stimson and Peter Allen at the AGM

In addition James Meeke's appointment as Property Trustee was agreed and Havant Borough Council's appointment of Cllr. Richard Galloway as their representative to the Trust was ratified. Dr Margaret Rogers was unanimously elected Vice-Chairman and Andrew Bloxham was appointed Independent Examiner of Trust accounts for the year ending 31st December 2012.

The winner of the bonus prize in the special 50/50 Club A.G.M. draw was Bryan Marshall.

In his closing remarks Gerry Williams referred to the 15 years that he has been Chairman and said that the new appointments agreed during the evening bode well for the future of the Trust and museum. On behalf of the Trust Linda Newell thanked him for his time as Chairman and presented him with a pair of silver cuff links. His wife Rosamond was presented with an arrangement of flowers.



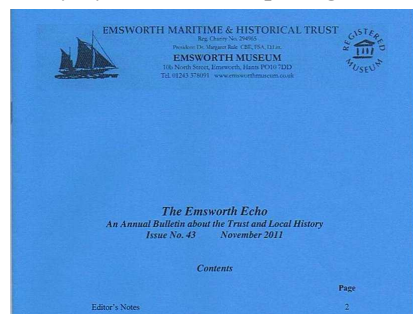
Gerry Williams being presented with a small gift on behalf of the EMHT by Linda

After a short break Linda Newell gave a very interesting and well illustrated talk on the history of War Memorials. These included the two that we have in Emsworth – the recently refurbished bus shelter memorial in The Square and the Memorial Garden and sculpture "Absence" in Horndean Road.

Dorothy

## Newsletter and Emsworth Echo Deliveries

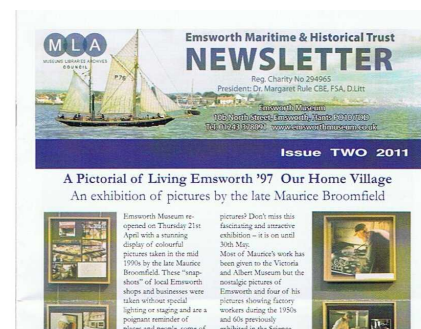
Most of the Newsletters and Emsworth Echos are delivered locally by hand to save postage.



However, at the moment, we haven't got anyone to deliver in the area between Selangor Avenue and the Havant Road.

If you can help, please contact Geoff Higgins, (tel. 376757 or e-mail jeffers310@gmail.com) or Dorothy.

We will be very grateful.



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 margueritaplin@yahoo.co.uk (disk or email preferred to hard copy)

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