



# Emsworth Maritime & Historical Trust NEWSLETTER

President: The Rt Hon. Lord Willetts of Havant  
Reg. Charity No. 294965

Emsworth Museum

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February 2023

## Terry Stubbington: Photographer

Terry Stubbington, fellow Trust member and steward, had his '5 seconds of fame', as he calls it, when he appeared on the BBC South Today News programme on 10th January. Simon Marks from the BBC interviewed Terry as part of a news clip on an exhibition at Fareham Library of works by photographers with impaired vision. Terry has been partially sighted from birth. The photographers all belong to the Below 20 20 Media club. Chief photographer, Dave Taylor, is responsible for sharing tips and encouraging the use of the latest camera technology to help vision impaired photographers take photographs every bit as effective as their more visually acute colleagues.

Terry had two photographs in the exhibition and the Mayor of Fareham, Cllr Mike Ford, bought a view of Langstone Harbour at sunset. Terry had taken the shot from Hayling Bridge. The Mayor, who was accompanied by the Mayoress, said the photograph was intended for his chambers.

This exhibition was on throughout most of January and concluded on 6th February. Visitors were able to vote for their favourite exhibit.

*Terry Stubbington (centre) with the Mayor and Mayoress of Fareham*



Emsworth Museum will re-open on Saturday, 1st April and close for the winter on Sunday, 29th October

Opening times are Saturdays, Bank Holidays and Fridays in August 10.30am to 4.30pm  
Sundays, 1.30pm to 4.30pm

## Diary Dates

All **Talks** are held in the Mountford Rooms, Emsworth Community Centre, North Street, Emsworth at 7.30pm. Doors open at 7pm. Tickets, £5.00 each, (cash only please) are only available in advance from Bookends, 7 High Street, Emsworth.

**Walks** £5.00 per person. Walks + Museum visit outside opening hours £6.00 per person

Sat., February 25th	The History Fair – The Spring Arts & Heritage Centre, Havant
Thur., March 2nd	<b>Talk</b> “The Fred T Jane Magic Lantern Show” by Richard Brooks
Thur., March 9th	48th AGM of the Trust at 7.30pm in the Mountford Rooms, Emsworth Community Centre. An AGM package is included with this Newsletter.
March	<b>Instruction Sessions</b> for Museum Stewards and key holder Stewards
Sat., April 1st	<b>Museum Re-opens</b>
April 1st – 16th	<b>Exhibition</b> “Brickmaking in Emsworth and the Local Area” (includes Good Friday 7th April and Easter Monday 10th April)
Thur., April 6th	<b>Talk</b> “Goodnight Mister Tom – Which Version” by Michelle Magorian
April 22nd – May 1st	<b>Exhibition</b> Emsworth Arts Trail. Artist – Photographer Ben Timmis (The 5 days include the early Spring Bank Holiday, 1st May)
Thurs., May 4th	<b>Talk</b> “Portsmouth Harlots, Dung and Glory 1100-1800” by Andrew Negus
May 6th – 21st	<b>continuation of Exhibition</b> “Brickmaking in Emsworth and the Local Area”. Includes Bank Holiday Monday, 8th May. Saturday 6th May is the Coronation of King Charles III
May 27th – July 2nd	<b>Exhibition</b> “Coastal Archaeology (Archaeology on the Coastal Plain)” by Ann Davies
Wed., June 7th	Summer Evening <b>Walk</b> led by Nigel Brown
Wed., June 21st	<b>Treasure Hunt</b> around Emsworth
Wed., July 5th	Summer Evening <b>Walk</b> led by Nigel Brown
July 8th – 23rd	<b>Exhibition</b> “Extreme Weather (1963 and 1987)” by Bernie Gudge
July 29th and 30th	Rope Making Demonstrations
August 5th – 20th	<b>continuation of Exhibition</b> “Extreme Weather (1963 and 1987)”
Wed., August 9th	Summer Evening <b>Walk</b> led by Nigel Brown
August 26th – September 3rd	<b>Exhibition</b> “Visual Marks” by Elizabeth Saunders and friends. Includes Bank Holiday Monday, 28th August
September 9th – October 29th	<b>Exhibition</b> “Ripping Yarns and the Tale of the Forgotten Author – The story of Percy F Westerman” by Nigel Gossop
October 29th	<b>Museum Closes</b>

*Dorothy Bone 01243 373780, email: [dorothybone@btinternet.com](mailto:dorothybone@btinternet.com)*

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## Preview of 3 Exhibitions in the David Rudkin Room

### ***Brickmaking in Emsworth and the Local Area***

Before the widespread use of the internal combustion engine, brick making was a localised activity. Seams of clay suitable for making bricks run through Emsworth, Rowlands Castle and Hayling Island and they have been exploited since the Roman period. Often brick making was seasonal and incorporated into the annual farming cycle.

This exhibition explains the traditional brick making process using photographs from the Pycroft brick making business on Hayling Island.

*Continued on facing page*

## Emsworth Arts Trail

Dr Ben Timmis (LRPS) is a semi-retired Consultant Radiologist and has been taking photographs for the past 60 years – now mainly around Emsworth where he lives with his wife Sue and dog Daisy. He has taken several of the photographs in this issue of the Newsletter.

Ben originally spent four months working in a professional darkroom learning traditional photographic development and enlarging techniques before turning to digital photography in 2021.

His photograph entitled 'Isolated together' was chosen by the National Portrait Gallery as one of the final 100 (out of over 31,000 submitted) to represent Britain during the pandemic and was presented in a book commemorating the event and on an advertising board outside Waterloo Station in London.

## Coastal Archaeology (Archaeology on the Coastal Plain)

The increasingly extreme weather is eroding our coastline revealing features of historic interest which are then swept away. Chichester and District Archaeology Society runs regular monitoring programmes to record these changes.

This exhibition looks at some of the revealed features (Bronze Age to Tudor) as well as outcomes from projects that CDAS has undertaken on the coastal plain. The Roman Villa at Warblington continues to have its own cabinet in the Main Room of Emsworth Museum.

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## The 50/50 Club

The rules of the 50/50 Club require that 50% of the proceeds are returned to club members in a monthly draw. With over 250 shares held by 72 members of the Trust we are able to offer a first prize of £40 and a second prize of £20. The prize list for 2022 is shown below. Congratulations to the winners.

Most members hold just 2 shares but many hold more than that. This is reflected in the table; members with more shares tend to win more often. The winning numbers are drawn from a set of numbered plastic discs, otherwise identical. We could use a computer program to do this in a similar manner to various lotteries, but we prefer the draw to be as public as possible.

The proceeds from the club are used to enhance the Museum. Last year the club sponsored the LED lighting in case number 9 (the one in the photo) at a cost of well over £300. The new lighting has made a huge difference to the visibility of the objects in the case. However, these lights were very expensive as we have a duty to protect our displays from UV light.

Shares cost £6.00 per year but, because of the cost of administration, we ask members to hold at least 2 shares. New members, or applications to hold more shares from existing members, are always welcome. Please ask for an application form from **Peter Morse** on [peter.morse1934@gmail.com](mailto:peter.morse1934@gmail.com), phone **01243 697 582**, or from **Shelagh Standen**, our membership secretary, on [shelaghstanden@gmail.co.uk](mailto:shelaghstanden@gmail.co.uk)



## Congratulations to all 2022 winners

Month	No	Name	Prize	Value
January	39	Mrs D Bone	First	£40.00
January	208	Mrs F Cassidy	Second	£20.00
February	111	Mrs R Williams	First	£40.00
February	248	Mrs L Harris	Second	£20.00
March	137	Dr D Last	First	£40.00
March	59	Mrs M Riding	Second	£20.00
April	58	Mrs P Marshall	First	£40.00
April	99	Mr A W Stewart-Fitzroy	Second	£20.00
May	127	Mr N Craig	First	£40.00
May	1	Mr A W Stewart-Fitzroy	Second	£20.00
June	266	Mr & Mrs A Davies	First	£40.00
June	200	Mrs D Bone	Second	£20.00
July	122	Mr & Mrs M Edwards	First	£40.00
July	45	Mrs M Riding	Second	£20.00
August	28	Dr M Rogers	First	£40.00
August	218	Mrs M Taplin	Second	£20.00
September	193	Mrs S Morgan	First	£40.00
September	31	Mr & Mrs A Wickham	Second	£20.00
October	233	Mrs D Hemmings	First	£40.00
October	102	Mr W Stimson	Second	£20.00
November	222	Mrs P Williamson	First	£40.00
November	106	Mr G Braddock	Second	£20.00
December	234	Mrs F Cassidy	First	£40.00
December	208	Mrs F Cassidy	Second	£20.00

# From the Chairman



## Museum Refurbishment

The major project in the Main Room this winter has been to demolish the cabinet that housed the Black Rod uniform and pack the uniform away, for a while. We will then move the Warblington cabinet into the space released. The result should be a more spacious feel to the east end of the main room.

These moves will give us the opportunity to sand and treat the floors that had been under the cabinets to the same standard as the remainder of the floor.

As the pictures below show, removing the cabinet revealed the dire state of the decoration behind it. We have agreed with J-P Roberts (who decorated the David Rudkin Room in 2019) that he would re-decorate from the Oyster Gallery round to the main door, including the associated ceiling panels early in 2023. Completing this part of the re-decoration, sets us up nicely for re-decorating the western end of the main room next winter.



*Before redecoration*



*After the refurbishment*

The Warblington cabinet has had to be stripped as part of this work. The Chichester and District Archaeology Society who are engaged in writing the report on the Warblington excavation will re-think the way the main messages are portrayed in the light of their latest research.

Before we re-open, we will have the carpets in the David Rudkin Room cleaned. At the moment, the Covid-related arrows can still be seen. Our contractor has trialled a part of the carpet and believes that all the marks will be removed. The carpet has not been cleaned for some years, so the result should be impressive.

## Heritage Trail

Over the last few months, the Museum has been involved in a project with the Emsworth Forum to create the Emsworth Heritage trail. There will be a series of locations round Emsworth, each associated with a building of interest, with a label containing a QR code (see picture below). Visitors can scan the QR code with their phone and read a short explanation of the building's history. The research has made extensive use of the Museum's archives and, with Jane Yoward's help, her father's personal archives. An initial trial has been set up in South Street – so, keep your eyes peeled. We hope that the trail will engage children by looking for the labels and scanning in the code. Based on what we learn from the trial, we will progressively extend the trail through other areas of Emsworth.

## Thank You Party

As you know, the Museum is entirely volunteer run. Simply put this means no volunteers; no Museum. So, I am really pleased that for the first time since 2019, we were able to run the Thank You Party. It was a joyous occasion, and I am grateful to Christine Bury for organising it, supported by a stalwart band of assistants. Those present were challenged by the quizzes prepared by Christine and her husband, Michael.

*Trevor Davies*



## Our Christmas Thank You Party

Thursday, 8th December was a momentous day because it was the first time since 2019 that Museum stewards and volunteers had been able to gather in large numbers to meet one another, chat, do puzzles and tuck into a festive tea. The venue was Emsworth Parish Hall which at times during the winter was one of Emsworth's warm spaces.

Chairman, Trevor Davies, gave everyone a warm welcome and added that this year, before it closed, we had received more than 3000 visitors in the Museum.

Exterior refurbishment by Havant Borough Council in the late winter/early spring will mean that the building will be shrouded in scaffolding prior to opening.

Thank you to everyone who provided food, decorations and entertainment and 'thank you' to all who came.



*Above: The helpers and Below: Some of the guests*

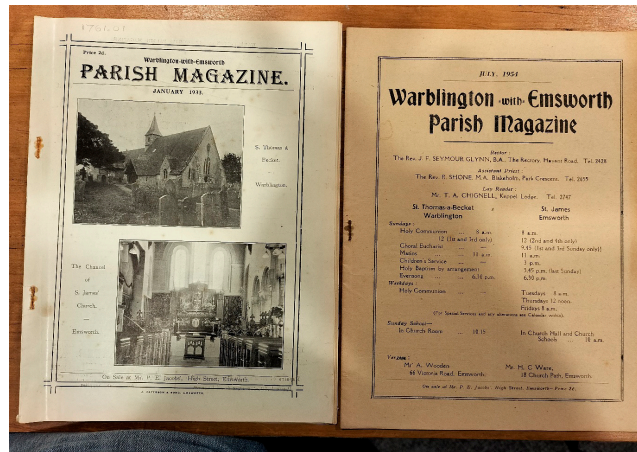


## Curator's Corner

The Trust was very fortunate last year to receive three volumes of monthly issues of the Warblington-with-Emsworth Parish Magazine for the years 1933 (September missing), 1934 and 1936 as well as oddments from 1951, 1952 and 1954. These are a gold mine for the local historian providing a fascinating glimpse into the parochial past.

It is not known when the magazine commenced publication although I suspect that clues probably lie somewhere within the issues. The front of the January 1933 issue features images of the north-western aspect of St Thomas à Becket's Church, Warblington and an interior view of the Chancel of St James' Church, Emsworth. These remained the same for the December 1936 issue. Sometime between then and 1951 the format changed to a plain brown cover with fewer pages and a cost increase from 2d to 3d. The 1930s issues were printed by J. Paterson & Sons of Emsworth and on sale at P.E. Jacobs in the High Street. By the 1950s the printing had been taken over by Hants & Sussex Printing & Publishing Co. Ltd. (County Press), North Street, Emsworth. Selecting the earliest issue dated January 1933 what caught my eye?

The inside page contains adverts for seven local suppliers. We learn that P.E. Jacobs of The Library, 3, High Street, Emsworth was the outlet for all stationery requirements, newspaper supplies etc. Table stationery was also available at competitive prices and bookings could be made for Southdown and Coastal coaches. E.M. Phillips of North Street, hairdresser, milliner, and ladies' and children's outfitter – whom the Museum has featured in its Self-Sufficient Emsworth display – had everything in stock for mother and baby. W. Wraight & Son of King Street offered building, decorating and undertaking services; J. Hetheridge of North Street provided monumental, general masonry work as well as undertaking; J.T. Vaughan as a Baker, Pastrycook and Confectioner described his premises at 31, North Street as 'The Hygienic Bakery'. Not far away at number 47, the jeweller C. Bailey, advertised watch and clock making and repairs. Spectacles were also available here 'to suit all sights'. W.T. Slatter who is



featured in the Museum Chemists' Shops display completed the septet as a Chemist at 38, High Street.

The first page provides lists of the principal people associated with each church together with church service times and various parish organisations. We learn that the rector for both churches was Reverend

H.M. Lake M.A. of The Rectory, Havant Road and the churchwardens Colonel H.L. Powell, D.S.O., resident at Valetta, Emsworth and T.A. Chignell of Keppel Lodge. The next few pages detail parish notes including two rector's letters, slightly unusually as the rector admits "I always include the whole parish in a letter...but sometimes I have a particular message for the Warblington people which requires expression in a separate letter". This section is then followed by adverts from a further fourteen tradesmen.

The 'Home Words' section contains a mix of short theological articles such as 'The Blessing of Confirmation' by the Bishop of Plymouth; 'What can a Layman expect from his Parson?' by the Rev. L.B. Ashby M.A.; and even a love story entitled 'The Bat Brooch' by Theodora Wilson Wilson. There is a 'Church News from Home and Abroad' section and 'Our Weekly Pages for Women with Homes'. This provided handy tips for the ladies of the parish divided thus: Monday's Washing; Tuesday's Sewing; Wednesday's Nursing; Thursday's Cooking; Friday's Household and Saturday's Children. For example, under Monday 'when washing silk stockings, do not rinse them in clear water, but soapy. This helps to prevent their laddering, and should they do so the ladder will not run so easily.' This issue ends with 'Missionary Notes on the Work of the Church Missionary Society', further general adverts for Dr. Barnardo's Homes, Ovaltine and Nestlé's Milk as well as a further ten for local outlets.

From a conservation viewpoint and in the best long-term interest of the issues all the rusty staples were removed. If left in place these can over time completely deteriorate discolouring areas of the paper rendering it extremely brittle and liable to easily flake off.

*Philip A Magrath*

## Visual Marks

'Past & Present' was the title of the textile and mixed media exhibition held in the David Rudkin Room over two weekends last summer. Opening on Friday, 26th August and including Bank Holiday Monday, 29th August the exhibition ended on Sunday, 4th September having been seen by an appreciative audience. On display were works by several talented and diverse textile artists. The Group was co-founded nine years ago by Wendy Fleckner and Elizabeth Saunders. Incorporating both 2D and 3D work, the talented stitchers aim to create their own unique styles within a personal or group perspective. They share research and practical skills.

At the Museum, Elizabeth, Wendy and other members including Sue Emery, Sue Evans, Janet Ferguson, Ann Riches and Barbara Strange showcased some of their colourful work incorporating materials as dissimilar as embroidery, painting, screen printing and photography. These items were for sale as were cards and small collages.



*Works by talented textile artists*



*Ann Riches (left) with friends on the opening weekend of the exhibition*

## Living with War in Emsworth: The Valerie Bacon Diaries 1939-45

The last exhibition of the year in the David Rudkin Room began on Saturday, 10th September and ended eight weeks later on Sunday, 30th October. It was curated by Nigel and Wendy Gossop and friends, and sponsored by Zero West Watches, Bridgefoot Path, Emsworth.

Nigel and Wendy as custodians of the Bedhampton Historical Collection had inherited the Valerie Bacon archive from Bernard Stanley, Valerie's friend and solicitor. On reading the diaries and other memorabilia, Nigel discovered that he had a treasure trove of personal observations and thoughts on day to day life in Emsworth and London. Although born in London in 1921, Valerie moved with her mother to Emsworth in August 1939 and remained resident here until her death in 2002.

This exhibition mainly focused on Valerie's diaries and letters to her father during the war years. It provided a fascinating insight into everyday life in Emsworth. She worked locally throughout the early years of the war. Valerie joined the WRNS in 1943 and was based in Southwick and Westleigh House. Every diary entry begins with a comment on the weather and the war news but goes on to talk about work, National savings collecting, shopping, walks, gardening, amateur dramatics or cinema visits.

None of these entries, be they short or long, were meant to be published. However, they are a valuable resource for researchers who want to know what life was like in the past. The whole collection has been donated to the Emsworth Maritime & Historical Trust.



*Left: Stewards Carol Birchall and Peter Tier examine the memorabilia*



*Right: Andrew Brabyn of Zero West Watches (centre, left) opening the exhibition*

## Operation Overlord: Great Plans and Big Egos



General The Lord Richards of Herstmonceux, former Chief of the Defence Staff and Emsworth resident, spoke to a packed audience in the Community Centre last October. His theme was the great plans and the big egos of the planners who masterminded Operation Overlord, the invasion of Europe on D-Day, 6th June 1944.

This talk was a reprise of the one he had given in January 2020. That talk was so oversubscribed that the decision was made that the talk should be repeated.

Lord Richards reminded his listeners that all wars involve making plans and resolving the egos of the planners. The fundamental nature of war remains the same even when the character of war changes. Looking back nearly 80 years, the planners then had experienced or knew about what had happened in WWI. Churchill, for instance, had experienced the disaster of the invasion plans for Gallipoli. The quagmire of WWI on the Western Front haunted the planners in WWII.

Strategy and tactics were the keys to success but in 1942/3 divergent strategies and objectives had to be overcome. The Americans wanted to invade Japan first while the other Allies favoured Europe. It was agreed that the invasion of Europe should come first but where was it to be: in France? or maybe Italy? The Dieppe Raid was a tactical disaster in 1943 but the lessons learnt proved vital in the planning of D-Day. Other keys to success included the winning of the Battle of the Atlantic, Battle of Kursk and air superiority. Not all the Planning Commanders got on but the Supreme Commander, General Eisenhower, somehow managed to get them to work together.

Prior to invasion, Operation Bolero brought into the UK some 1.5 million American and Canadian troops. Operation Neptune was the plan for the assembly of shipping. Mulberries were built, some locally, to create harbours. Members of the Combined

Operations Pilotage Parties based on Hayling island provided beach reconnaissance. There were practice runs, deception plans, even a fake army under General Patton.

In his entertaining and authoritative audio-visual talk, Lord Richards covered all these operations, showed maps, spoke about the varied personalities involved and the often fractious debates that led eventually to the Allied victory. This was a talk by a professional serviceman, a gunner, about other servicemen, including those in the opposing army, and the problems they all faced.

Question time after the talk provided further enlightenment on the topic and the evening concluded with the drawing of the raffle.



### 48th AGM

9th March, 2023

Emsworth Community Centre

7pm for 7.30pm

### Correction

On page 9 of *The Emsworth Echo*, distributed in November, ownership of the Old Boathouse in Bridgefoot Path was attributed to Andrew Brabyn and Graham Collins. This was incorrect: the owner is Toby Sherwood. We apologise to Mr Sherwood for any inconvenience caused.

## Unwrapping the Valerie Bacon Archive

Following the Valerie Bacon exhibition reviewed on page 7, exhibitor and talks organiser, Nigel Gossop gave a fascinating peek during his talk into how he and his wife, Wendy, and friends had curated the display. Nigel looked at the difficult choices that he and his team had had to make while building the exhibition from diaries and personal letters. His talk on Thursday, 3rd November, aimed to enthuse and encourage more in-depth exploration of this archive, which was only touched on with the first diary exhibition that primarily covered the years 1939-45.



Valerie May Bacon was born in London in 1921 and grew up in Wales. In the 1930s Valerie and her mother moved to Hampshire but in 1937 they relocated to London where Valerie attended the Kensington High School for Girls and the Italia Conti Stage School in South Kensington. However, with war on the horizon, they moved to Emsworth in August 1939 and Valerie lived here for most of her life until her death in 2002.

From a very young age Valerie kept a daily diary. Her diary entries were never meant to record the war as a historical record, but simply to document aspects of her own daily life, and in so doing they have captured elements of the war and the impact it had on Valerie and daily life in Emsworth and the surrounding area.

The first thing that Wendy and Nigel Gossop did on receiving the archive was to 'home in' on the diary collection. As Nigel said, "When you see a pile of half-foolscap diaries with 1939, '40, '41, etc. printed on the covers, they have to be interesting".

The couple spent a weekend flicking through them and reading selected entries to each other and found that the earliest diary in the collection was for the year 1935 when Valerie was just 13 years old. It gives her weight as 7stone 2lbs and her height as 5ft 5ins. Even at this young age Valerie is already recording lists and accounts of films that she has been to see at the local cinemas.

For example, the entry for New Year's Eve 1935 reads

*"Horrid wet day. Nothing in morning. Went to the party at the Royal Naval Barracks from 3pm to 6.30pm. It was more like a fair than a party! We all had a lovely time! Switch-backs, roundabouts, pirates cave etc. great fun. Went afterwards to the Commodore to see Honours Easy. Heard the old year out on the radio."*

The team gave themselves several research criteria

for the exhibition. The panels would chart the progress and impact of the war on Emsworth; would include entries of local significance and record social views and attitude about the war as it developed. Unlike Facebook, Instagram and Twitter that are all designed to be shared, diaries of this type are very personal and were never written to be shared or read by others, so there were times when both Wendy and Nigel felt a little uncomfortable and voyeuristic, trawling through Valerie's innermost thoughts and observations. Especially when it came to her views on the opposite sex.

The wartime letters differ from the diary entries inasmuch as they are less formal in style, and demonstrate a light touch with sparks of humour. In a letter to her father in 1940 she wrote

*"I have practically given up the idea of going on the stage professionally, but I have by no means abandoned my preparation for a career, for I am quite aware of the fact that I shall have to be self-supporting by the time I am twenty-one. I am still studying dramatic art and I hope to become an elocution teacher (...) that will give me a very good chance of obtaining a position, whereas war-work in the ATS or WRNS is no more than a blind-alley occupation, for after the war there will be very few jobs for the girls who are de-mobbed. Anyhow, I am 'doing my bit' in a small way by helping in the canteen at Talbot House, the local Toc H Services Club."*

That said, she remained involved in local amateur dramatics for most of her life, acting, writing, directing and producing for the stage – hence the marvellous collection of theatrical photographs in the archive.

In addition to the photographs there are drawings and scrapbooks. Future exhibitions are planned. There are also plenty of family history documents and some of her close family have a stunning pedigree.

*Continued overleaf*

## Unwrapping the Valerie Bacon Archive contd.

In WWI her father, Frederic, was a technical expert, probably based in *HMS Vernon* Portsmouth, to cover the experimental development of anti-mine and anti-submarine devices. Her aunt, Gertrude Bacon, Frederic's sister was a:—

Member of the British Astronomical Association

Member of the British Association for the Advancement of Science

Member of the Wild Flower Society

The first woman in England to make a balloon ascent

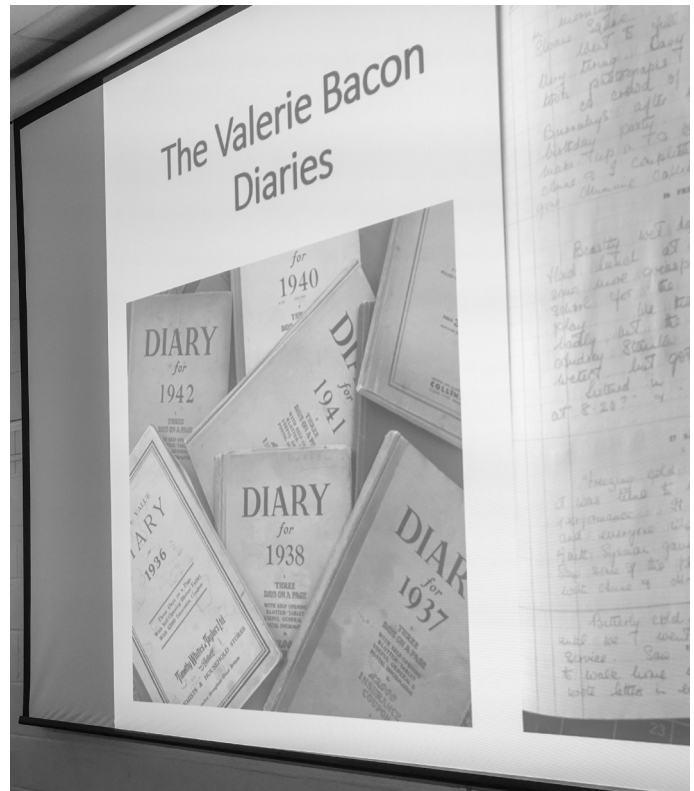
The first woman to fly in an airship and the first passenger to fly in a seaplane

She was also the author of a number of books on early flight and today is rightly recognised as one of the early, fearless pioneers of flight.

Gertrude was the family historian and retained and collected together much of the early archive. Valerie's grandfather, the Rev. John Mackenzie Bacon, was a well-known aeronaut and pioneer of aerial photography. Further back still the family history lists several renowned sculptors.

Nigel spoke of one of his favourite items in the archive and one that, after a respectable time away from the archive having spent the last seven months pouring over the contents, he plans to pick up and explore further in 2023. There is a very curious autograph book within the archive containing lots of badly drawn pigs.

The story behind this at the present time is unknown, but could well have started off as some kind of after dinner parlour game, with the origins lost in the mist of time. However, from



some research it was found that in 1899 Gertrude Bacon submitted a series of articles to *The Strand Magazine*, in which she exhibited a selection of these pig drawings that had been collected from eminent people and celebrities of the day. She believed that in the same way that handwriting can show personality traits, people's attempt to draw a pig whilst wearing a blindfold would show more of their character. The results are quite intriguing.

In conclusion, Nigel bought Valerie's life up to date. We know that she remained involved in Emsworth activities. Indeed. Valerie was a member of the social and fund raising sub-committee of the Emsworth Maritime & Historical Trust. This talk would have fitted admirably into that category.



## Summer Walks

**Where:** Guided walks led by Nigel Brown looking at the history of Emsworth. Approx. 90 minutes long.

**When:** Wednesday evenings 7th June, 5th July and 9th August

**Cost:** £5 per head

**Meet** at Emsworth Museum in North Street by 6.15pm. Walks must be booked in advance but can be paid for on the evening. Please email [walks@emsworthmuseum.org.uk](mailto:walks@emsworthmuseum.org.uk) to book a place. Numbers are limited to 12 so that stories can be shared more easily.

## Forthcoming Talks

### The Fred T Jane Magic Lantern Show, Thursday, 2nd March

This illustrated talk by Richard Brooks, the author of *Fred T Jane: An Eccentric Visionary*, examines Jane's career from his early work in the 1890s as a naval artist and author of fictional works to his worldwide success as the inventor of *All The World's Fighting Ships* and its offshoot *The Jane Naval Wargame*.

### Goodnight Mister Tom: Which Version? Thursday, 6th April

Michelle Magorian, the author of *Goodnight Mister Tom*, will discuss her novel which has been a spectacular success since its release in 1981. This award-winning book has been translated into more than eleven languages, adapted for the stage and radio and is fondly remembered by millions of viewers following the classic television adaptation that starred the late John Thaw.

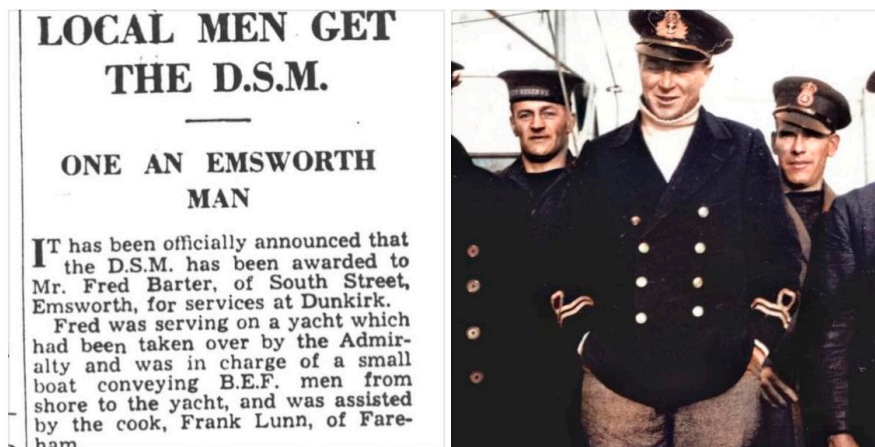
### Portsmouth: Harlots, Dung and Glory 1100-1800, Thursday, 4th May

This entertaining illustrated talk by Andrew Negus explores the growth of the Royal Navy and the Navy's part in making the UK one of the most powerful countries in the world by 1900. Along the way Andrew Negus will introduce you to murderers, harlots, Kings, Queens, admirals, authors and actors who all played a part in this impressive story.

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## Navy Friends Get DSM

Lieutenant Sparkes of Sparkes Boatyard, Hayling (centre). Fred Barter DSM to his right and Frank Lunn DSM far right



From time to time Emsworth Museum receives press cuttings and one such came in a couple of months ago about Fred Barter of Emsworth who was awarded the DSM for actions at Dunkirk. (See above picture.) The editor asked around and received another cutting from the *Hampshire Telegraph and Post*, Friday, March 7, 1941. The cutting said,

“Like his friend and neighbour, Leading Seaman Peter Beach of Bedhampton, Fred Barter, who is serving with the Royal Navy, was decorated by the King.....

When war broke out [Fred] volunteered with the Royal Navy, and was posted aboard a private yacht. Then came the Dunkirk campaign.

In company with Fred Lunn, cook, of Fareham, who has also been awarded the DSM, Barter shared charge of a rowing boat which was sent ashore to pick up soldiers. Normally the boat held only six, but Barter and his companion got in 20, and towed rafts carrying several other soldiers.

‘We were sunk by enemy action and had to swim for it,’ said Barter. ‘Many of the BEF men returned to the shore, but Lunn and I swam over a mile back to the yacht, took another boat, and carried on with the good work. Eventually we got nearly 400 soldiers safely on to our yacht.’”

The cuttings were sent in by local historians Neil Spurgeon of Fareham and Ann Griffiths of Langstone.

## Ben Timmis: Photographer

In 2021 The National Portrait Gallery launched a nation-wide photographic competition, called 'Hold Still', to record a nation under lockdown. The interpretation of Hold Still was left up to the individuals to decide for themselves.

About 31,000 photographs were submitted to the judges; of these 100 were selected to represent the mood of the nation. The 100 images were exhibited in The National Portrait Gallery, they were also printed in a book, and were put up on advertising hoardings around the UK.



My photograph, called 'Isolated Together', was one of the 100 selected by the judges. The photograph was taken in our house in Emsworth with my wife Sue looking over my shoulder at the camera. I hung up a piece of black velvet, and put the camera on a tripod. I took several images, but this one was the one I felt 'worked' and was the one selected by the judges. It's image 66 in the book *Hold Still*, and was exhibited on a hoarding outside Waterloo station in London.

### For the technically minded:

*Camera:* Sony A7R IV.

*Lens:* Sony GM 135mm f1.8 lens. The camera shutter was fired remotely using an App on my iPhone, automatically activating the shutter every 1/second.

Natural light, no flash.

Auto white-balance.

Exposure values: 1/80 s. @ F 3.5. ISO 2000.

The image was converted to B&W using Silver Efex Pro, and final adjustments were made in Lightroom Classic and Photoshop.

**Ben Timmis**

## Napkin Ring

The bone napkin ring, which can be viewed in the Cabinet of Curiosities in the Museum, was found in mud in the Prinsted channel in 1934. Further research has revealed that it could have originated in Loango (now Angola) West Africa based on the style – face profiles, hats, etc.



## 2023 Subscription Reminder

Anyone who has not paid their subscription to the Trust and does not pay their subscription by standing order should send their cheques to the Membership Secretary at Emsworth Museum, 10b North Street, Emsworth, PO10 7DD.

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Printed by SRP Design & Print, Leigh Road, Chichester, PO19 8TU Tel: 01243 782988

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