

Saturday 4th September



JJ

St. Albans Abbey & Verulamium Museum

This will be a joint visit with members of the Guildford Group of the Surrey Archaeological Society. Further details will be given in the next Events publication, but the general plan is to go by coach to St Albans Abbey where we would start with a coffee and comfort break and conducted tour of the Abbey. After lunch, at or near the Abbey, the coach will go to Verulamium for the Roman Theatre and St Michael's church (if open) with a view to finishing with tea and departure around 4.30pm

- MW** Event organised by Marjorie Williams (Tel No 01483 569794)
PH Event organised by Peter Hattersley (Tel No 01483 285995)
JW Event organised by John Wilkins in (Tel No 01483 831502)
conjunction with Jackie Malyon
JJ Event organised by Jonathan Jessup (Tel No 01483 569895)

Events publicity : John Wilkins

 Coach pick-up points are opposite the library in North Street and the bus stop opposite the BP garage at Burpham. Please use the tick boxes on the booking form to advise of your choice. In fairness to other members, coaches will depart strictly on time. Tickets for coach tours include provision for the usual gratuities. Unless otherwise noted, coach tours are planned to return to Guildford between 5.30 & 6.00pm.

Surcharge for non-members £1.00 per event

**Tickets are available from Hugh Anscombe
Hollybush Cottage, Colman's Hill, Peaslake, Guildford, GU5 9ST**

The Editor welcomes items for the Newsletter or comments Please send them to Eric Morgan 21 St Michael's Avenue, Guildford, GU3 3LW. Telephone Number (01483) 233344.

FRIENDS OF GUILDFORD MUSEUM
NEWSLETTER

February 2010



Issue 29



The Old Smithy, Guildford High Street
Pulled down in 1915

From the Editor

There have been a number of changes in the administration of the Museum so I delayed this issue to bring you up to date with the news.

Basically a new department –Heritage Services has been formed. This includes Jill Draper, our former Museum Manager together with Sophie Macleod, Cassie Herschel-Shorland and Lynn Szygenda. Both Sophie and Cassie have contributed to this edition and I am sure we will hear more from them in the future. Lynn is the Exhibitions Officer and she will be involved with the Lewis Carroll exhibition and the programme in general.

One of the problems with a Newsletter that appears only twice a year is that there may be events at the Museum that we are unable to tell you about. Often only the avid Surrey Advertiser reader(which I am sure many of you are) will find out about them.

For instance there was an excellent display of tokens(17c onwards) from local shops in November which coincided with a meeting of numismatists at the University and on 19th December, you could have spoken with Nigel Enser who was signing copies of his new book "Guildford – The Rock and Roll Years". One way we could keep you up to date with events is through email. If you are happy to let us have your email address (it will only be used to communicate with you and will not be divulged to other groups) then please send it to our Membership Secretary, Hugh Anscombe (fogmbusiness@yahoo.co.uk) It is, of course, always worth looking at the Museum's web site. For numerous reasons it is not always possible to keep the site up to date but we are hopeful that this can be rectified before too long. In the meanwhile email would be a safer bet.

Don't forget that the Museum runs a "Pastfinders" club for 8 to 16 year olds. This provides an opportunity for children to have fun discovering archaeology and history. At recent meetings they met a forensic archaeologist and heard about life in the trenches in the First World War from a military re-enactor.

Finally, included with this Newsletter is a membership renewal form. The Museum does very much value your support. All your money is being accumulated at the moment to assist with the lottery

bid. The Conservation Management plan which is essential for the Heritage Lottery Fund application has been completed and the next stage of the bid is underway. Subscriptions should be sent to Hugh Anscombe, Holybush Cottage, Colemans Hill, Peaslake, Guildford, GU5 9ST (£6 individual,£12 Family)

Eric Morgan

Guildford Heritage Services

Heritage Services, as has just been mentioned, is a new department within the Economic Development service sector of Guildford Borough Council. This is the umbrella for six different sites:

- 1) Guildford Museum
- 2) Guildford Castle
- 3) Guildford House Gallery
- 4) The Guildhall
- 5) The Undercroft
Wanborough Barn

Within this structure are

Access Officer
Exhibitions & Audience Development Officer
Customer Services & Marketing Officer

Staff at the Museum now work across all of these sites, however the majority are still based at the Museum. The team aims to link exhibitions taking place at Guildford Museum with those taking place at Guildford House Gallery (and vice versa) wherever necessary to try to generate two way traffic between the two attractions.

Sophie Macleod - Customer Services and Marketing Officer

People getting 'Closer to the Collections'

Guildford Heritage Service is currently developing relationships with new audiences through a project curiously called 'Different Stories:

New Perspectives'. The project is set-up and supported by the Surrey, East and West Sussex Museum Development Service and Renaissance South East. It is an ideal opportunity for Cassie to make contact with local people and other museums in the area from the start of her new role as Heritage Access Officer.

Local visually impaired people and people with head injury are exploring part of the collection, in sessions facilitated by Cassie, to help establish key principles for better sensory and intellectual access. The main focus is on Guildford Museum and Lewis Carroll in Guildford to inform the exhibition in 2010 and future development of inclusive resources.

One participant from Headway who had not previously been to the museum related to the collection by saying 'I realised I'm a curator!' as he actively collects and looks after his 'vinyl collection.' Participants from Surrey Association for Visually Impaired people (SAVI) enjoyed a visit to the museum while also providing invaluable practical suggestions for access to the building history, displays and interpretation. One group member commented 'What a great difference it makes when someone explains everything to you that you can't see. Have definitely changed my mind about Guildford Museum'.

Museum staff are now working with Cassie towards improvements that can be achieved with effective use of resources for Guildford Museum and the Lewis Carroll exhibition such as easy to read and descriptive pre-visit information, a heritage high light trail, items for touch tours to give a multi-sensory overview of the collection or displays. These principles can then be applied to other heritage sites.

If you would like to find out more about this project or are interested in access to the collection and sites then please contact:

Cassie Herschel-Shorland
Heritage Access Officer
Guildford Heritage Service
01483 444757
cassie.herschel-shorland@guildford.gov.uk

Lewis Carroll

From 10th July to 18th September Guildford Museum will have a Lewis Carroll exhibition in the temporary gallery. This will be supported by a Lewis Carroll photography exhibition at Guildford House Gallery, and possible connected activities in and around Guildford town centre. The Museum will be exhibiting objects connected with Lewis Carroll and his family, and objects inspired by the Alice books. Toys that his family have played with/owned when they lived in the Chestnuts. We are also hoping to borrow some of his clothes from his great niece, although this is not confirmed. We are also borrowing a range of paraphernalia and Lewis Carroll related memorabilia from Edward Wakeling (member of the Lewis Carroll Society), and I think we are hoping for an early addition book. We are also going to be delving into the collection for objects that have never (or a long time ago) been on display, including an old bone shaker, that may be displayed at Guildford House.

Should you have any Lewis Carroll memorabilia that you would be prepared to lend to the Museum for this exhibition, please contact Nick Booth on 01483 444750 or email him at nick.booth@guildford.gov.uk. Items such as photographs etc from the 1932 centenary celebrations of Lewis Carroll's birth or connected with his sisters who were active in Holy Trinity Church functions at the beginning of the last century would be particularly welcome.

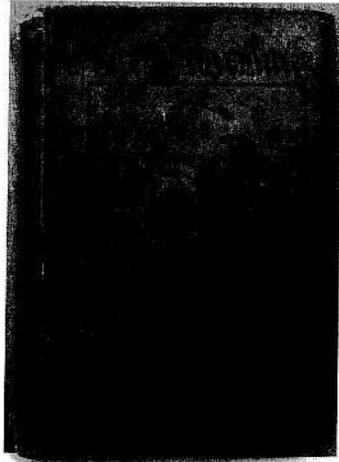
Exhibition

The latest exhibition at the Museum featuring gifts once given to children by adults. Nick Booth now tells us about it.

The decorations have been taken down and Christmas is over for another year, but the toys that were given as gifts are still very much being played with.

And some that were cherished many years ago have survived and are on display, along with a selection of Victorian Christmas cards, at Guildford Museum.

In England, the tradition of gift giving dates back to the Middle Ages (and possibly even further) when gifts were usually exchanged between those with some kind of legal relationship such as a landlord and tenant as a way of strengthening the bond. Similarly, in the modern world, gifts are most often given to those we share a close link with, such as families or friends.



The display at the museum includes a copy of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, inscribed with the message "Irene and Winifred with Auntie Minnie's love, Christmas 1890".

This work, by the children's author Lewis Carroll (who died and is buried in Guildford) is thought to have been one of the earliest books aimed at children which resisted pursuing any particular morals or subtle messaging. It proved a popular Christmas gift in the later

Victorian period - and beyond.

The display also includes a black studded travelling doll's trunk, complete with china doll and numerous outfits. A note preserved with the chest records that it was "Given to V. by Grannie Last about 1897".

There are a number of Victorian marbles, hand made out of clay rather than glass, which were found, and presumably lost by the owner, in a garden in Ewhurst. There are a couple of illustrated card games, including The Laughable Game Of What Dye Buy By Professor Punch, of Punch and Judy fame - a popular character in the 19th century.



That many of the other objects on display are also Victorian - isn't simply an accident of survival. Many of the Christmas traditions we recognise today owe their popularity to the Victorians.

For example, the first Christmas card was introduced by Henry Cole, who was also sometimes credited with helping to design the first postage stamp, the Penny Black. He commissioned an artist to design the very first card in 1843, the novelty of which led many to



purchase these first cards as presents.

The examples on display at Guildford include a Chinese themed card, representing the exotic allure that the Far East held for many Victorians at

the time, and one with a picture of a fish and the poem:

From meat to you, with sincerest Xmas wishes,
A safe and simple Xmas dish,
Tho' frugal, somewhat tasty,
You'll find herein a little fish,
And just a little Pastry.

The Museum is open from Monday to Saturday, 11am to 5pm, admission is free.

Guildford Town Guides offer free guided walks around the Town from May to September starting from Tunsgate Arch on Sunday's and Wednesday's at 2,30pm, Monday at 11am and Thursday's until the end of August at 7pm. – for more details see the Guide website www.guildfordwalks.org.uk

More Events at the Museum

The current exhibition "A Place of Safety: Evacuees in Guildford during the Second World War" continues until March 20. It is full of interest and if you have not seen it then do please try and view it before it closes.

Another event which as I write is in the first stages of planning and so it is still very much in the initial stages. Here Sophie Macleod tells us about it. "The Museum is hoping to hold a forum on 6th March to celebrate World Book Day (which falls on 4th March). We recently had a book signing at the Museum by local author Nigel Enever, whose new book 'Guildford – The Rock 'n' Roll Years' is on sale in the Museum gift shop. The forum will consist of a panel to include Nigel Enever, local journalist David Rose, and possibly Philip Goodhand-Tait of the Guildford 60s band 'The Stormsville Shakers'. This will be a chance for people to attend the forum and get involved with the discussions about the book and the Guildford music scene in the 60s. Various local books including 'Guildford – The Rock 'n' Roll Years' will be on sale at the forum.

Unfortunately, we don't have enough space to hold it at the Museum so it will be held at the Guildhall probably in the afternoon from 2.30pm onwards. Although held at the Guildhall, it will be a Museum event and all proceeds from the book sales and tickets sales will go towards the Museum. "

FRIENDS OF GUILDFORD MUSEUM

If you are not a member we would love you to join us. Please send a cheque with the appropriate subscription to **Hugh Anscombe, Friends of Guildford Museum Hollybush Cottage, Colman's Hill, Peaslake, Guildford, GU5 9ST**

Subscription rates for 2009/2010 Individual £6 Family
£12 Youth £3 Individual Life £100

Please make cheques payable to **FRIENDS OF GUILDFORD MUSEUM**

THE GUILDFORD MEDIEVAL UNDERCROFT ITS GREATEST TREASURE

Dating from the 13th Century and categorised as a Historic Monument, the Undercroft has been described by English Heritage as "the finest Medieval building of its kind". It is the remnant of a timber framed house, demolished in the early 1800s, which was built by a wealthy merchant who probably used it as a shop for wine and luxury goods. Measuring 30x19 feet, most of the original stone building material survives; its rib-vaulted ceiling is supported by four central columns and around the walls the arched ribs rest on brackets, known as corbels, carved in the shape of faces, some human, some grotesque monsters. The Undercroft under The Angel Hotel also survives intact, but not only is it of an inferior quality with no carving but also, following damage caused by its use as an air raid shelter, most of its stonework was replaced.



One of several carved corbels in the Undercroft

Following the 1960's many of Guildford's ancient buildings were knocked down. Horrified by this vandalism several people, especially David Watts, the Chief Executive, and Jac Cowie of the Guildford Group, wishing to preserve the historic character of their town, in 1988 persuaded its then owners, the Halifax Building Society, to lease the Undercroft to Guildford Borough Council at a peppercorn rent, which then decided to use the building as a tourist information centre.

The building was then restored and refurbished for this purpose, and the Guildford Tourist Information Centre remained there until

1996. Unfortunately the staff suffered ill health from its damp and dusty atmosphere, lack of space often caused inconvenience to the public, there was virtually no storage space and the necessity for constant heating was causing deterioration to the stonework. So a move was made to Tunsgate and the Undercroft was put under the Museum's care whose curator decided that the public would gain the greatest value and access if it could be displayed as a medieval merchant's shop. The Friends of the Museum which had been formed the previous year offered to provide volunteer stewards so that it could be opened at regular times, and to help financially in



paying for replica furniture, pottery, information boards and a publicity banner. Over the years this practical and financial help has continued with much money also contributed by the Tour Guides. The volunteer stewards continue to staff the Undercroft for public openings during the warmest five months

of the year when heating is not necessary. From the beginning the Tour Guides have been allowed the use of the building so they can take in groups throughout the year - a visit to the Undercroft has always been the highlight of their walks. The Tour Guides, formed in 1984 as a result of Matthew Alexander's first history of Guildford classes, have always had two aims; firstly to encourage local people, especially children, to appreciate their town's historic heritage, and thus be encouraged to preserve its ancient buildings, and secondly to promote its prosperity by increasing tourism.

Marjorie Williams

The Undercroft is open from May till September on Wednesdays from 2pm to 4pm and Saturdays from 12 noon till 4pm. If you could possibly spare time to act as a steward in the Undercroft for two hours once a month or even less this would be an enormous help. There are always two people on duty at a time. If you can help, Marjorie would love to hear from you. 01483 569794.

Jack of All Trades?

'David Irish was a quack Practitioner in Physick and Chirurgery who had a surgery and a private lunatic asylum in Stoke. In 1701 he published a collection of essays in a book printed for Isaac Walker in Swan Lane and in which he defended himself against his critics and then gave his advice concerning Physick, Melancholy, Phrensie and Madness as well as a *Miscellany of Pious Discourses* and *Touching Astrology*. There was also an essay *On the immutability of God and of Decency in his Worship* and some *Observations of Private Layman on a Pamphlet by Mr Woolstan entitled "A Discourse of the Miracles of our Saviour, etc."* which was dated 1728. Inter alia David Irish dealt with the treatment of lunatics, extracting teeth, performing various operations, the antidotes for smallpox, astrological and prophetic forecasts of the ending of the world which was to happen in 1859 and also an explanation of the Book of Revelation'

This extract was discovered amongst the research material left by Guildford's renowned historian Mark Sturley, former Head of History at the R.G.S. His widow Dorothy, one of our members, has kindly allowed us to use it.

Marjorie Williams



Another quack Doctor but this was painted later in 1793

John Russell depicted this local man, Dr Villiese in a simple coat and felt hat rather than the elegant society costume of the time. This portrait is also known by the title "The Quack Doctor of Worplesdon".

The Doctor is pointing his rather grubby finger to the label on a bottle of medicine which reads "Take a teacup three times a day."

From the Borough Collection

Murder, Rape or Revival?

The story of the Old Corn Market, Guildford

Murder

On January 4th 1936 the Surrey Advertiser reported that Mr. R.C. Jennings was persevering with his campaign for the demolition of the 'present Tuns Gate entrance'. He advocated the removal of the pillars entirely and tabled a resolution which was backed by eight members of the Council, asking the Council to give instructions to the Borough Surveyor for the demolition of the Old Corn Market.

It didn't happen of course - the Tunsgate Arch is still there - but although Mr Jennings' proposal was voted down by 17 votes to 8, it did not resolve the question of what to do with the building.

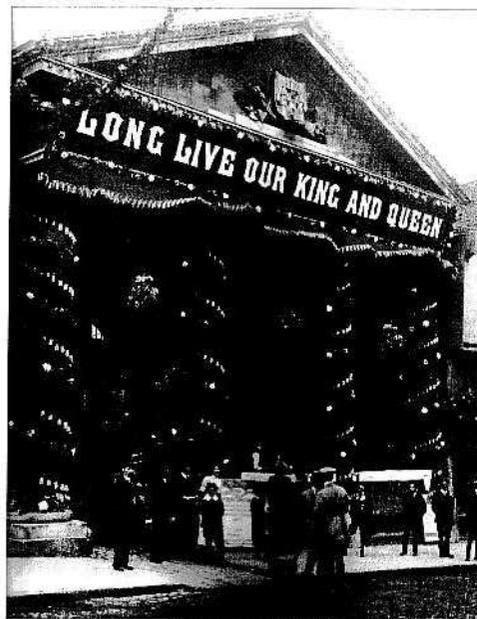
Documents in the Surrey History Centre suggest that there had been many schemes – each with a different price tag. It seems that the discussions had already been going on since 1931, or even earlier. The Surrey Advertiser reported (possibly with its tongue firmly in its cheek) that the Council 'never tired of discussing Tuns Gate'.

Rape?

A year later however, in 1937, the whole thing was done and dusted. Not, however as we see the Tunsgate Arch today, but with a tarmac road between the central pillars, which were moved wider apart to accommodate it. At that time there was a car park where the Tunsgate Square shopping centre is, and, whilst it had previously been possible to drive to this car park from the High Street, between the uphill-side columns of the Old Corn Market, through the entrance referred to by Mr Jennings, this entrance was extremely narrow.

How long had this narrow entrance been there? I have a photograph from 1895 which clearly shows it between the two left columns, but it is also quite clear that when the 'Corn Market House', designed by Henry Garling, a London-based architect, was originally built in 1818 by James Smart of Guildford, Stonemason, there was no way for vehicles through it into Tunsgate. The Corn Market then had steps across its entire front, fewer on the uphill side of course, but steps across the entire front nonetheless.

A hundred and twenty years later, in January 1937, when the modifications to move the centre columns were unveiled, a certain Florence Biddle wrote to the Surrey Advertiser and quoted Edmund Burke thus:



Tunsgate Arch decorated for the Coronation of George V in 1911 showing the symmetrical pillar arrangement and the entrance for cars between the two left hand pillars.

'The rays from the first round pillar will cause in the eye a vibration of that species, an image of the pillar itself. The pillar immediately succeeding increases it, that which follows renews and enforces the impression each in its order, as it succeeds, repeats impulse after impulse, and stroke after stroke, until the eye, long exercised in one particular way cannot lose that object immediately and being violently aroused by that continual agitation it presents the mind with a grand or sublime conception.'

Whatever you may think, in today's science-based world, of your eye being violently aroused by a colonnade of pillars, it is hard to avoid thinking that such

architecture is and was intended to be impressive – perhaps even oppressive – as one might say of the architecture of the Third Reich, which used massive stonework and huge colonnades to overpower and impress the people.

Edmund Burke was writing about the Sublime, which has the power to compel and destroy us, and the Beautiful, which is that which is well-formed and aesthetically pleasing.

A lengthy colonnade is more sublime than beautiful, in Burke's terms.

Revival

We don't have such impressive regularity in the Tunsgate Arch today. The 1936 road was closed in 1992 and the steps were put

back. However there was no over-enthusiastic restoration of the positions of the columns. We have the steps back more or less as they were in 1818, but the columns are in the positions they were moved to in 1936. The width between the central pillars is the way it is because it met a 1936 utilitarian need. It isn't a Tuscan Temple any more. You can say that the pillars are in the Tuscan Style however. The Tuscan Order is one of the five orders of Classical Architecture described by Vitruvius, a Roman architect who died in about 15 BC.

Tunsgate Arch is clearly an old survivor, some might say bloodied but unbowed. It certainly isn't an arch when viewed from the High Street, but it is recognisably itself despite having been adapted for vehicles and then adapted back to exclude them. It shows the history of its adaptations clearly in its face.

With its great lumps of Portland Stone it sits like an elephant in the High Street. It is still heavy-looking but it

isn't quite as solemn or as grand as when it was built, but anyway who cares, surely it is now just part of the furniture. It will probably be there forever – or until some utilitarian need pops up and requires it to change again.



Moving the central pillars a further eight feet apart

British Association of Friends of Museums

As usual the Journal is full of all the activities by Friends of Museums all over the country. The Norris Museum at St Ives in Huntingdonshire. Herbert Norris died in 1931 and left almost all his estate to found a lifetime collection of local history. Now the Friends are granting the museum £30,000 to provide a building for an 18th century fire engine. With only 220 members they have certainly done well. Ipswich is twinned with Colchester museum who invited them to Colchester Castle to enjoy a buffet. They saw the Roman Temple of Claudius even if people had to duck their heads. This is the earliest known stone building in Britain.

Charlie Dimmock came to open the new Stockwood discovery centre at Luton Museum. The centre is a fusion of old traditions and state of the art technology. It has a bright and cheery shop to encourage you to browse.

The Friends of Wigston framework knitters are needing to fund raise. Like all groups the increasing age of volunteers means they need to find younger members. However their three day floral festival with arrangements placed all over the museum was a great success. Over £1000 was raised.

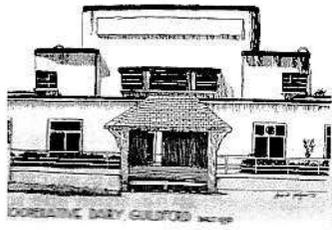
The Friends of Ferrens had an evening of Chinese art given by Brian Morgan. He gave an interesting talk on calligraphy, poetry and painting. Did you know that there are twenty nine ways to paint bamboo leaves?

The Friends of Lyme Regis Philpot Museum celebrated the 400th anniversary of Milton's birth with a charity lunch at which £750 was raised. The actor, Oliver Ford Davies, once a history professor before starting a career in the theatre, told the story of Milton's life, illustrating it with extracts of poetry and prose. The Priest House Museum, Wimbourne, socialised with a Caribbean lunch. Tropical flowers decorated the tables and the Friends enjoyed Jamaica Beef and beans, and West Indian Jerk Chicken with salads. This was followed by pudding laced with rum. A very jolly occasion which raised £166.

Finally the Friends of the Glynn Vivian Art Gallery have just celebrated 50 Years of the groups founding. A selection of works presented to the gallery by the Friends were exhibited at the celebration.

Gone Forever

Television programmes such as "Poirot" have generated considerable interest in 1920's/30's architecture. In August 1984, Mr Fred Pipes, a member of the Thirties Society, wrote in a letter to the Surrey Advertiser "Guildford is in serious danger of losing its 1930's heritage. Buildings he listed as threatened were the Co-operative dairy on the old A3 by-pass, the Odeon Cinema, designed by the architect of the Odeon, Leicester Square and the Surrey Advertiser building which he described as the best example of public 1930's architecture in the town. All three have since been destroyed. In 1984, Mr Pink, Surrey's conservation officer said "Thirties buildings need to be by specially named architects" Mr John Nightingale, Guildford planning officer at that time said "In my own personal opinion the way people enjoy the place that they live depends on a number of



The Cooperative Dairy



Odeon Foyer

things, one of which is familiarity and therefore there are often particularly idiosyncratic buildings or buildings which have some particular feature which may not be wonderful architecturally but nevertheless people like them. I think there is often a lot of

merit in keeping

these sorts of buildings. While there are many examples of 30's domestic houses in the area, there is a lack of public buildings and pressure for new



Surrey Advertiser

development could leave a historical gap. Mr Pink added that the public must fight to keep buildings if they feel they are worth preserving.

Remembrance Sunday

To take part in the annual service of Remembrance is a most moving experience. I have done this for the past 33 years and every time it is slightly different. This year with the tragic loss of so many young soldiers made it even more poignant, Holy Trinity church was packed and many were standing at the back as the MP Ann Milton, High Sheriff Mrs Tilson, Judge Bull and the Mayor Mrs Searle plus all the councillors filed into the pews. We magistrates, led by our Chairman brought up the rear. It was all timed so exactly that the trumpet was calling for the silence as we stopped. The choir sang beautifully with Robert Cotton preaching an inspiring sermon. Included was my favourite hymn, Jerusalem, which raised the roof with the congregations enthusiasm. It was a pleasure to see the residents of the Abbot's Hospital in their own pew.



As the service concluded with the National Anthem the congregation swiftly moved out the back of the church so that they could watch the procession, led by the Friary Meux band, march down the High Street and up to the Castle Grounds.

I find the steps down the front of Holy Trinity Church very tricky to manage nowadays so I watched the procession march by outside the Castle Grounds and then joined them for standing on the bowling green in front of the War Memorial. Here two elderly Gentlemen invoked two memorable verses heard, I expect, all over the country in the many churches having the same service.

Then wreaths were laid and a prayer said before we all filed down to the Guildhall for a welcome drink to warm us up. The Mayor thanked us all for taking part in Remembrance Day but it is a small thing to do in memory of all the lives which were lost in the two wars and many conflicts in the last 100 years.

Sandra Morgan

FRIENDS of GUILDFORD MUSEUM EVENTS 2010

Monday 26th April

MW

Quiz Evening

Come and enjoy our informal Quiz Evening organised by Marjorie Williams. Time **7.30pm** to approx 9.00pm. Ticket price of £5.00 includes light refreshments. Please bring your own drinks and glasses. Venue – The Parish Hall of St. Pius Catholic Church, Laustan Close, Mellow, GU1 2TS
Note – A map giving directions will be sent on request.

£5.00

Saturday 15th May

Annual General Meeting

To be held in the Brewhouse at 2.30pm

Please make a note of the date in your diary. The AGM will be followed with a talk by Hugh Anscombe on “The Story of the Old Corn Market”

Note : Tea and biscuits will be available from 2.00pm.

Thursday 27th May

SJW

Surrey Villages – Limpsfield

Meet for coffee at **10.30am** in The Bull public house in the High Street. We will then visit the Norman church which is Jackie’s musician’s church. Delius is buried there as well as Norman Del Mar, Beatrice Harrison, etc. The village has a large number of timber framed buildings, including a house converted from a Norman building. The Limpsfield website (www.Limpsfield.net) has a large amount of interesting information on it.

£9.50

Wednesday 9th June

SJW

Surrey Villages – Reigate

Meet for coffee at **10.30am** at Café Rouge, at the corner of the tunnel and Church Street. In the morning we will visit the church, which dates back to the 1200’s. The church contains the Cranston library, which we will also visit. In the afternoon we will visit The Priory, which was founded by the Waennes in the 1200’s. It has an important Tudor fireplace and an early 18th century staircase with interesting wall paintings.

Price includes the entrance fee to Reigate Priory.

Note: A map showing the Café Rouge and the long term parking will be sent with the tickets on booking.

£11.00

Saturday 26th June

PH

Wey & Arun Canal Cruise

Meet in the Canal’s car park (see note below) at **5.45pm** for a 3 hour cruise, going down the canal towards Drungewick Lane, on the new boat launched last year. During the trip a buffet meal and tea or coffee will be served, which is included in the ticket price.

There is limited accommodation on the boat and we expect this trip to be oversubscribed. So we suggest you book early (or send a non-returnable £10 deposit).

Notes: (1) You can bring your own drinks to consume on the boat (or purchase them from the Onslow Arms before the cruise)

(2) Access to the canal’s large car park is through the pub’s own car park which is reserved for customers only. Directions to Loxwood are turn off the A281 (Guildford – Horsham) at the Alfold crossroads and follow the B2133 through Alfold village to Loxwood. Go through village and the Onslow Arms is on the left after the canal road bridge.

£21.00

Saturday 10th July

PH

Henley Fort & Reigate Fort

Meet at Henley Fort at **10.00am** for coffee (or tea) and a conducted tour of Henley Fort. After the tour make your own way to Reigate Fort to meet again at the Fort at **2.30pm** for another guided tour.

Henley and Reigate Forts were part of a chain of nineteenth century forts built along the North Downs, and the interiors are only available for special guided groups by appointment only.

Access to Henley Fort is via the Mount (off the Portsmouth Road). To get to Reigate Fort take the J8 exit of the M25 and take A217 South (to Reigate). Within a ¼ mile the road forks. Take left fork, turn right and immediately left into Wray Lane car park. From here walk west along the North Downs Way for ½ mile and you will see the Fort on your left.

£10.00