

All Day

£10

Wednesday 18 July
Surrey Villages - Forest Green (S.W. Dorking)

Forest Green is in a beautiful setting with a large green. We will meet for coffee at 10.30am at The Parrot Inn, (post code RH5 5RZ). We will visit the small Victorian church and also the site of the mill owned by St. Marylebone School.

All Day

£10

Thursday 16 August
Surrey Villages - Milton Street, Westcott

Meet for coffee at 10.30am at the The Prince of Wales pub in Guildford Road, Westcott (post code RH4 3QE). We will explore Westcott Street, where the film actor Leslie Howard lived. In the afternoon we will have a guided tour of Milton Street in which many of the houses were owned by the Bury Hill Estate. Our guide will provide tea, the cost of which will be included in the charge, below.

Please note- There is a reasonable amount of walking and we will not be finished until 4.30pm. This visit is limited to 21.

All Day

£12

Other events

We are planning some other visits for 2012 including a boat trip on Thames around Marlow in the summer. We will send out information on these with our Spring mailing to members.

Further information

Quiz night: Marjorie Williams Tel No 01483 569794

Surrey Villages: John Wilkins in conjunction with Jackie Malyon Tel No 01483 831502

Others: Nick Bale Tel No 01483 459997

Surrey Villages - coffee and donation to church included in price

Tickets are available from Hugh Anscombe
c/o Friends of Guildford Museum, Guildford Museum, Castle Arch, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 3SX

Please use enclosed booking form

FRIENDS OF GUILDFORD MUSEUM
NEWSLETTER

ber 2011



Issue 31

SURREY
Iron Railway.

The COMMITTEE of the SURREY
IRON RAILWAY COMPANY,

HEREBY, GIVE NOTICE, That the BASON at
Wandsworth, and the Railway therefrom up to Croydon
and Cusshalton, is now open for the Use of the Public,
on Payment of the following Tolls, viz.

For all Coals entering into or going
out of their Bason at Wandsworth, per Chaldron, 3d.

For all other Goods entering into
or going out of their Bason at
Wandsworth per Ton, 3d.

For all GOODS carried on the said
RAILWAY, as follows, viz.

For Dung, per Ton, per Mile, 1d.

For Lime, and all Manures, (except
Dung,) Lime-stone, Chalk, Clay,
Breeze, Alhes, Sand, Bricks, Stone,
Flints, and Fuller's Earth, per Ton, per Mile, 3d.

For Coals, per Chald, per Mile, 3d.
And, For all other Goods, per Ton, per Mile, 3d.

By ORDER of the COMMITTEE,

W. B. LUTTLY,

Clerk of the Company.

Wandsworth, June 1, 1864.

PRINTED BY THE FRIENDS OF GUILDFORD MUSEUM, GUILDFORD.

From the Secretary

Museum Up-Date

Guildford Heritage continues to play a major part in Guildford's life. With the Olympics and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, 2012 will be an especially exciting year.

The Friends are playing an important part in the Museum's development by raising funds, volunteering and generally being supportive. Included in this newsletter is the list of events and outings being organised by them for the coming year. The Guildhall is under new management and with the help of the Heritage team research is being carried out on how to maximise its usefulness. A report is also being prepared on ways the Museum should develop over the next three to five years, for the benefit of Guildford residents and, of course will attract more visitors to our town. A grant has been received towards the restoration of the beautiful bronze bowl.

The Museum is a member of, The British Association of Friends of Museums (BAFM). Like most other museums, Guildford Museum has its own computer system – anything that needs to be found, can be, at a press of a button.

2012 is indeed going to be an exciting, busy year for Guildford. Meanwhile the Museum staff and the Friends wish you a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Janet Hilderley

4 bottles found in the St Catherine's area of Guildford.

Earlier this year (2011) the Museum received the offer of a donation of a collection of four bottles found in the St. Catherine's area of Guildford. The donor's husband and father had found them bricked up in a chimney in a property on St Catherine's Hill in around 1968, and has kept them ever since.

The bottles were identified by Mary Alexander before being added to Museum's Local History Collection :-

Bottle 1 – Large Green Bottle with candle stub in neck. 18th century date. It is handmade and has a seal attached to the side, which usually shows the owners initials or crest. In this case it is an anchor, which might be a personal crest, or might show that the bottle belonged to an inn called the Anchor. At this date wine came in barrels and was decanted into the customers own bottles. The candle stub is of a more recent date (post 1968) and is a nice example of how found objects can be reused by their new owners.



Bottles in reverse order 4,3,2,1

Bottle 2 – This bottle originally contained Daffy's Elixir, as it says on it. This was a patent medicine invented by a Mr Daffy in the mid 17th century. He died in 1680. The elixir was a mixture of herbs advertised mostly as a general tonic and became very famous. It was in use until the late 19th century. This bottle probably dates to

the late 18th century or the first half of the 19th century. It has 'True Daffy's Elixir' on one side and 'Dicey & Co. No.10 Bow Churchyard London' on the other. Dicey and Co were one of several companies who used the name 'Daffy's Elixir'. It has been made in a mould which split diagonally across the bottle, which can be seen on the shoulder. It could have been bought at St Catherine's fair.

Bottle 3 - This bottle was also made in a mould, although the lip has been finished off rather unevenly. The bottle probably dates to the first half of the 19th century. It would have been used for various liquids sold in small quantities. The bottle has brown encrustations on the outside.

Bottle 4 - This bottle is of a 19th century date, and was used perhaps for perfume or cosmetics.

The property the bottles were found in dates from the 17th century, which means that they must have been bricked up in the fireplace at a later date than the buildings construction. It is interesting that the bottles do not all appear to date to the same period, with the large green bottle dating to the 18th while the others are slightly later. This suggests that the bottles were placed in the fireplace no earlier than the 19th century, and also that the larger green bottle was fairly old by this time as well.

Unfortunately no evidence to suggest why the bottles were bricked up survives, however it is tempting to suggest that there was some type of 'good magic' at work. It was an apparently widely followed custom to brick items such as bottle or items of clothing into buildings, especially close to entrance points such as doors, windows and chimneys. The most famous examples of this are what's known as Witches Bottles, which often contained urine or hair from the owner and sometimes pins or other sharp items. The idea was that a witch or demon would come into the property and attack the bottle, attracted by the urine or hair, become stuck and pricked by the pins. In this way the intended victim would be safe, and the magical attacker would be foiled and perhaps even stopped altogether. This relates back to the Hidden House Histories Exhibition held by the Museum a few years ago.

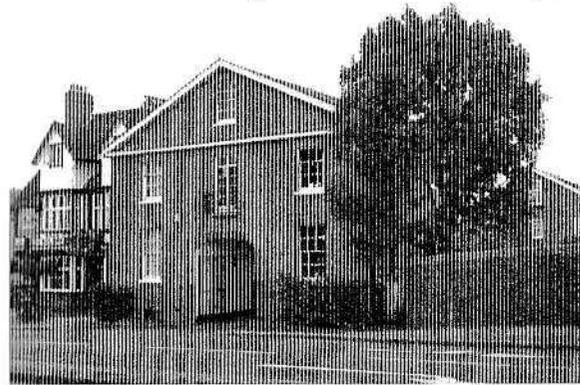
The bottles, which were some of the first to be catalogued using the Museum's new computerised database, have been added to the Museum Collection and assigned the number LG.4601.

Nick Booth (Curator)

Surrey Iron Railway

In my youth a trip on the railway was always exciting, one certainly never tired of the tube train as it dashed from the surface into its underground warren and for that holiday journey nothing could surpass the Cornish Riviera Express with its first stop, Truro. No one counted the stop just outside Newton Abbot to take on a second steam engine to climb the hill or even cared. As far as we were concerned it was non-stop to Cornwall. The present day commuter who has just been shunted into a siding outside Weybridge due to yet more engineering works is however, unlikely to thank you for telling him that the first public railway in the world was built in Surrey. He would probably suggest he was travelling on it.

But before I tell you about this Surrey Railway let me give a rapid history of our Railways. The train, of course, travels along a track or permanent way as it is called. The use of a track in England specially designed to fit the carriages can be traced back to the time of Elizabeth the First in 1597, when it was used in the mining



Mitcham Station

industry to convey heavy loads from the pit mouth to the waterside. These were all private concerns reserved for the exclusive use of their owners. Passengers were first carried on a railway or tramroad as perhaps it should be called at Oystermouth on the Mumbles near Swansea. That was on March 25th 1807. It was provided by a private contractor paying tolls to the owning company. The first railway with mechanical traction started on August 12th on the Leeds Middleton Railway largely as the result of the high cost of animal feed. The first modern public railway is often thought to be the Stockton and Darlington Railway opened on September 1825 but this used horse drawn vehicles to carry passengers. It was not until the formal opening of the

Liverpool and Manchester Railway on September 15th 1830 that the modern conception of a railway, to transport the public on rails by mechanical traction was realised. So until the 1800's any railways were solely for the use of their owners and not for public use.

In the 1790's the British Shipping sailing up the English Channel and through the Straits of Dover to reach the Port of London was under constant threat from French boats. Indeed Napoleon's military adventures resulted in a European war in which every country was involved, directly or indirectly. The thought that London's waterway life line to the sea could perhaps be blockaded by the French became a real possibility and exercised the minds of many people. The general view was that London needed a new route to the sea capable of carrying heavy goods and various schemes for Linking London and Portsmouth were mooted. Some ideas were for canals, some for a railway and others for a mixtures of the two. Whatever method was used it was unlikely to receive government funding and so from the beginning only a transport system for public goods was considered.

The route was to start at Wandsworth and go via Croydon. The first idea was to turn the river Wandle into a canal. However some thirty eight mills and factories employing 3000 persons, lined the banks of the river and these businesses drew the water to power their machinery. It was soon realised that if the river was turned into a canal, there would be insufficient water for the factories unless water was pumped from the Thames and the scheme was abandoned as being too expensive. Attention was then turned to a railway scheme. The permission of Parliament was first sought and at a meeting held at the Spread Eagle Inn Wandsworth on June 4th 1801, the officers of the company were appointed. It was proposed to build a horse drawn railway from Wandsworth to Croydon. The railway would be open to the public for the conveyance of goods and in particular the carriages were to be designed so that they could be removed from the track at the nearest point to their destination and the carriage then pulled along ordinary roads to its final point. Hence unlike the a railway of today where the wheels have flanges which keep them on the track the wheels of the Surrey Iron Railway as it was to be known had no flanges. The flange, if you can call it such, was on the rail and these were L shaped to

prevent the carriages slipping off. The line was completed in two years and opened on 26th July 1803. It had cost about £33,000. On the inaugural day the committee travelled in wagons drawn by one horse. I also understand that a gentleman with two companions drove up the railway in a machine of his own contrivance at fifteen miles an hour. This device was probably a plate layers trolley propelled with the men powering it themselves through hand operated levers. These were used in coal mines and one had probably been adapted for the L shaped track. They were certainly capable of this speed.

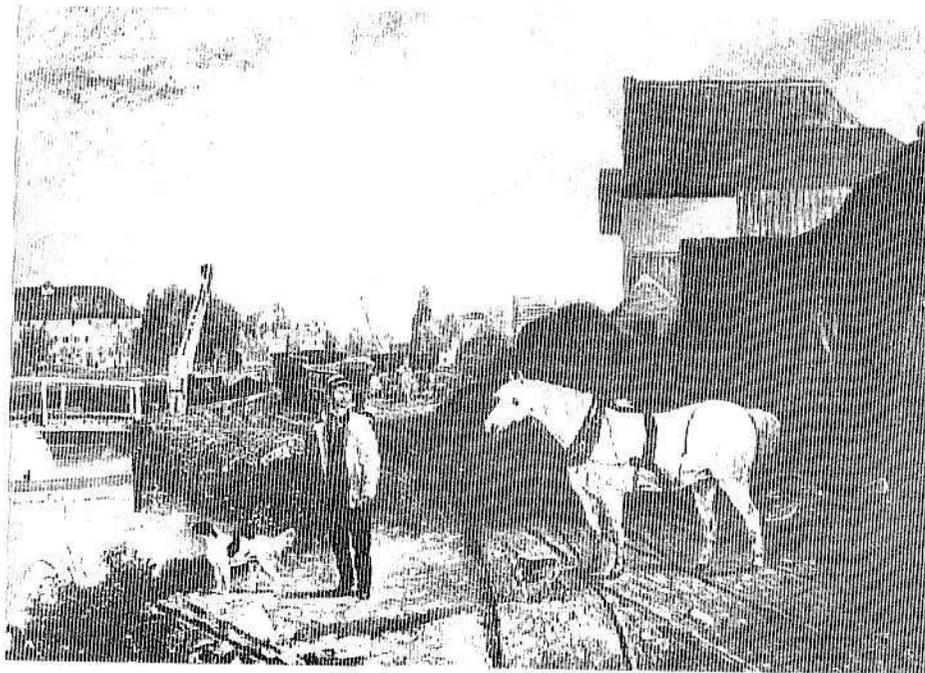


Section of track at Wallington

The line was soon extended to Merstham and this section opened in July 1805. To show the capabilities of the railway Mr Banks wagered that one horse could pull twelve wagons all loaded with stones, A horse, more used to pulling timber carts was coupled up to the wagons and was seen to pull them effortlessly a distance of six miles in the time of one hour and forty nine minutes. To avoid suspicion that the carriages were on a slope moving downhill, they were stopped four times and the horse had to pull them from this rest position each time. Having won his wager Mr Banks asked for four more loaded wagons to be added and again the horse pulled all sixteen wagons easily. As a final test fifty workmen climbed onto

the wagons without any apparent effect on the horse. The combined weight of the sixteen loaded wagons and fifty men was just over fifty-five tons.

In October 1805 Nelson won the battle of Trafalgar and the strategic importance of the line diminished. Plans to extend the line back from Wandsworth and across to the Strand were abandoned as were plans to extend beyond Merstham. The Railway was profitable in its earliest days and paid a dividend of £1 in 1805 and 1806 but no dividends were paid after 1825. It closed in 1844 when it was bought by the London and South Western Railway. The present Brighton line now runs over the site of the Surrey Iron Railway although of course on a different track. A wheel and short length of track from the railway are on display in Guildford Museum.



A painting of the Wandsworth Basin. The tracks of the Surrey Iron Railway are visible in the foreground and a string of wagons is visible behind the man. Two dockside cranes are visible in the background.

George Abbot

Most of you will be aware that this year marks the 400th anniversary of the publication of the King James Bible and there have been many events marking this, particularly at the Abbot's Hospital since George Abbot was involved with the translation of the Acts of the Apostles.

George Abbot's father was a Guildford cloth maker, one of thirty – two in the town. They made the famous Guildford Blue cloth in standard lengths of 19 yards long by one yard wide. He and the family lived by Guildford's town bridge on the Farnham road side opposite St Nicolas Church. One night Mrs Abbot dreamt, so the story goes, that if, when she drew water as usual from the river in her bucket, she was to find she had caught a pike in her bucket and eat this pike, then she would give birth to a great man. You will not be too surprised when I tell you that sure enough she found a pike in her bucket and ate it. So in 1562 Mrs Abbot gave birth to a son George. He was the fourth son of six who all became prominent

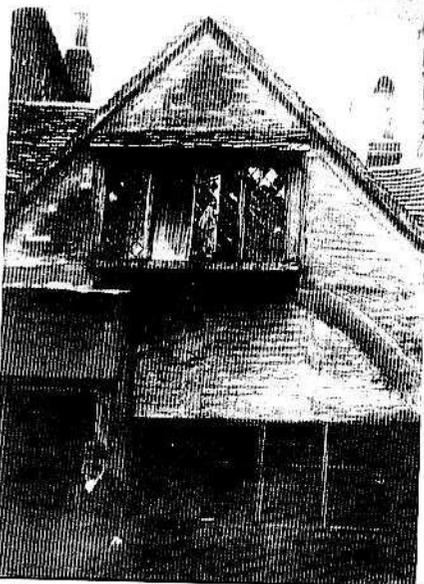


HERE LIE THE BODIES OF MAURICE ABBOT & ALICE HIS WIFE, INHABITANTS OF THIS TOWNE OF GVILD FORD, WHO LIVED TOGETHER, MARRIED 53 YEARES, & HAD 6. SONES ALL WHOME THEY LEFT ALIVE. THREE DYED THE 15. OF SEPTEMBER, 1606. BEING 30. YEERE OLD AND HE THE 25. OF THE SAME, MONTH AND YEERE, BEING OF AGE. 86. YEERES. BOTH IN ASSVRED HOPE OF A IOYFVLL RESYRREC^{TION}.

Memorial to George Abbot's parents in Holy Trinity Church

people. The eldest son Richard became the first Master of the Abbot's Hospital, Anthony was Mayor of Guildford and the third, Robert, Bishop of Salisbury. Maurice became Lord Mayor of London while John practiced as a Lawyer. George went to The Royal Grammar School and at the age of sixteen entered Balliol College at Oxford. He proceeded to take Holy Orders in 1585 and earned a reputation for his lectures and sermons. Apparently he drew large congregations at St.

Mary's Church in Oxford. They were often long, sometimes well over an hour or more. It took him thirty sermons covering six hundred and thirty eight pages to explain the forty eight verses of book of Jonah. "Public worship" George Abbot, said "should be an eager joy". Well we would not disagree with that but I feel today's press would have a field day over his next statement. He went on to say that if Christians will not attend worship freely, the magistrate should compel them to go "for it is a most blessed compulsion for a man to be driven to the truth – for a woman to be forced to heaven." To proceed at Oxford, Abbot required a patron and found one in the Chancellor Thomas Sackville hence Abbot rising to Master of University College, becoming Dean of Winchester and in 1600 to Vice Chancellor of Oxford. A post he held on three occasions. Abbot became involved with the first Bible in English and the translation of the Gospels and Acts of the Apostles. In 1609 he made a significant contribution to the union of the English and Scottish churches and attracted the attention of the King. This gave him a meteoric rise becoming Bishop of Lichfield and nine months



*George Abbot's Birthplace
opposite St Nicolas Church-
demolished in the 1800's*

later Bishop of London. Within a year Archbishop Bancroft died and George Abbot was one of four considered for the appointment. He was not the preferred man but he had at this time found another influential patron, the Earl of Dunbar who pleaded Abbot's cause. Fortunately the Earl died, for King James then felt obliged out of respect for his friend, the Earl, to appoint George Abbot Archbishop of Canterbury.

Seven years later George Abbot arranged for the Hospital of the

Blessed Trinity in Guildford's ancient High Street to be built "out of gratitude" so he said, "for the town he was brought up in." It was

built as a home for elderly people and has remained that way ever since.

George was a follower of Calvinism and as such was Presbyterian in outlook. He refused to sanction the reading in churches of James I "Declaration of Sports" advocating Sunday games. For this and other reasons he lost favour with the King and matters reached an all time low on 24th July 1621. Abbot was invited by his friend, Lord Zouche, to consecrate a new chapel in his house at Bramshill Park. He extended his visit to a short holiday and joined a hunting party. Armed with a cross bow he took aim at a doe and missed, but killing Peter Hawkings, a gamekeeper instead. Naturally the Archbishop was overcome with grief from which he never fully recovered, fasting once a month for the rest of his life. It turned out that Peter had been repeatedly warned to keep clear and although the inquest absolved the Archbishop his influence was still further reduced when the King was forced to set up an inquiry into the incident. How did Mrs Hawkins fare? Well she received a considerable pension from George Abbot and she soon remarried. Bramshill Park is now a Police College.

James I died in 1625 and Abbot crowned Charles I. Abbot's fortunes could only get worse. Charles believed in the divine right of Kings, not a matter Abbot could tolerate. Furthermore he refused to sanction the printing of a sermon by the extreme royalist, Dr Sibthorpe. Efforts were now made to restrict the Archbishop's power and he had little influence for the rest of his office. He died on the 4th August 1633 and had requested burial at Guildford. His magnificent marble memorial still stands in Holy Trinity Church today. The Archbishop dressed in his robes of office is supported on piles of books indicating a learned man. Even the clasps securing the covers of the books together have been carved. It was carved by the Christmas brothers who were primarily wood carvers and more used to undertaking the elaborate carvings on ships. The canopy carries the shields of colleges and diocese with which the Archbishop was associated. On the front of the memorial, as a *momento mori* are carved some parts of the human skeleton, mainly the head. School parties love these carvings.

In his will Abbot left £20 a year to the widow of Peter Hawkins, £100 to Princess Elizabeth daughter of James I to make pretty cap of gold. He also gave his library to Lambeth Palace and £100 to be lent to poor tradesmen of Guildford for two or three years. Nineteen years earlier in 1614 he gave money to the Mayor of Guildford for educational purposes (mainly to build the manufactory, which is now the Edinburgh Woollen Shop).



A new public sculpture for Guildford

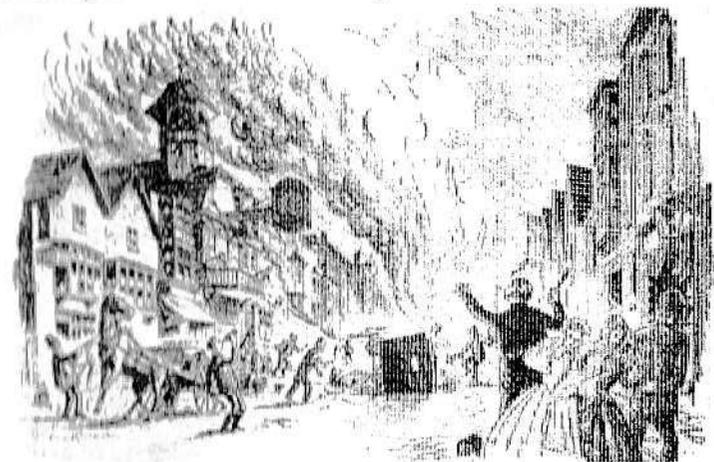
The computer game developer Electronic Arts, based in Onslow Street, has commissioned a new public art for Guildford. The design comes from the award winning creative practice, Mooch (www.mooch.co) and the plan is for a steel bonfire sculpture.

The story behind the work

The sculpture recalls the town's origins as a rural market town and celebrates the spirit of its people. It also shines a light on the birth of modern Guildford as it changed into a respectable satellite of London.

In the early 1800s on November 5th, bonfires were lit in the High Street by a secret society called the Guildford Guys. Fences and carts were stolen from properties. Fireworks were let off in the street and smashed through windows. Surprisingly, the occasion was enjoyed by many, even those whose property was damaged. This boisterous mayhem was common in towns across southern England and can still be witnessed in Lewes (minus the damage to property). Guildford, however, turned its back on its rural traditions. Following the arrival of the railway in 1845, people moved in who had no sympathy with the Guys. Attempts to suppress the celebrations

provoked the notorious *Guildford Guy Riots* but the police were eventually victorious. It was a time of general change in the country. Municipal government was developing and town dwellers started to enjoy better public services and improved law and order.



Benefits to Guildford

The bonfire sculpture could be used as a focus for residents and tourists to explore the town's history and debate its identity. Some ideas are suggested below to illustrate the range of possibilities and hopefully inspire thought and discussion.

Heritage The story of the bonfire brings the town's nineteenth century history alive. It is a colourful and encouraging way to explore the town's past and could be used by the Museum in outreach events.

Tourism It is an ideal topic for a town trail or guided walks. The events were based around the High Street and took in places such as the Abbot's Hospital, Holy Trinity Church, Town Hall, Angel Hotel.

Education The story makes history relevant and introduces themes such as local government, social change, law and order in a lively and colourful way.

Arts The Guys Society created elaborate costumes and masks for their processions. There is an opportunity to use them for inspiration e.g. a mask making competition.

Police The defeat of the criminal element of the Guys must rate as one of the finest hours for the Guildford Police. This is an opportunity for the police to use the story in their outreach.

Charity Work The modern legacy of the Guys is the bonfire procession organised by the Guildford Lions. The Guys saw themselves as protectors of ancient traditions and local liberties so would probably be pleased to see their tradition being used to raise money for local issues. The bonfire sculpture could be used to publicise local charities.



The sculpture as it might appear if placed on the Wood bridge Road Roundabout

A book on the Guy Riots is available from the Museum

GERTRUDE JEKYLL

Gertrude Jekyll is a name that all gardeners aspire to and was one of those energetic people who seem to be able to turn their artistic ability to anything. She was born in London in 1843 but the family moved to Brimley by the time she was five. Her Mother was an artist and had also studied music under Mendelssohn so it is not too surprising that at the age of seventeen Gertrude became a student at the Kensington school of Art. On leaving she toured Greece, Turkey and Rhodes with Charles Newton of the British Museum and his wife. This led Gertrude into a circle of Friends who were followers of Ruskin. She was a keen painter, often to be seen copying pictures at the National Gallery and at the age of 23, one of her pictures was selected for exhibition at Burlington House. On returning from extensive travels in Europe where she studied all form of art including having singing lessons in Paris, the family moved to Wargrave in Berkshire. In addition to Ruskin her acquaintances now included William Morris and George Watts who later came to live at Compton. Seven years later on the death of her father the family moved back to this area taking a house at Munstead. Miss Jekyll was a very talented lady, in addition to painting she was a keen needlewoman, metal worker and gardener writing articles for the magazine 'The Gardener'.

In Godalming Museum you will find a banner for the Godalming Branch of the Suffragette movement This was made by Miss Jekyll. It is a banner within a banner, creating the impression of a white banner hanging on a red velvet background. The town name is applied on in green velvet and the banner appears to rest on a vase of roses. Flowing out of this to the left is a sprig of thistles and to the right, a sprig of shamrock. To complete the nations the edge is lined with leeks.

The standard of her metal work can be judged from the fact that Witley Church commissioned a communion plate from her. By 1887 photography was a well established art and Gertrude became a keen photographer.

With the coming of the railway, Miss Jekyll saw the demise of local cottages, crafts and dialect and was anxious to record them. She published a book in 1904 with the title "Old West Surrey" which records the way of life that was now fast disappearing. She also collected many artefacts from the cottages and in 1907 presented

them to the Surrey Archaeological Society. A new gallery was built at Guildford Museum to house them and this opened in 1911. A collection of some of these items is still on permanent display in the museum.

It was in 1889 that Miss Jekyll was introduced to a young man by the name of Edward Lutyens and she became associated with him for the rest of her life. Lutyens has been described as the greatest English architect since Wren and is more generally known as the designer of the Cenotaph in Whitehall. By now her eyesight was beginning to trouble her so she threw all her energy into gardening which was less strain for her. A Lutyens house with a Gertrude Jekyll designed garden is a highly sought after property. Miss Jekyll brought her artistic eye to the garden and created living pictures. She believed no plant should stand alone but that its beauty could only be appreciated in relation to the colours close to it. She goes on to say "one finds a great deal about flowers and plants by smelling them and it is one of the most important ways of getting to know them". Lutyens designs extended into the garden and he created imaginative terraces and steps for Gertrude to plant. In 1920 Gertrude reluctantly agreed to have her portrait painted by William Nicholson. However every time Nicholson arrived at Munstead, Miss Jekyll was in the garden and not to be found. As a result Nicholson found himself staring for a large amount of time at her gardening boots. So much so that he committed them to canvass and the picture is in the Tate Gallery and world famous. His portrait of Gertrude hangs in the National Portrait Gallery. Marjorie Williams kindly sent me a piece telling us how the Boots came to be looked after by Guildford Museum. This is what she says "Recently, her famous boots which are held on loan by the Godalming Museum were on show in a special exhibition at our museum. I wondered when they had originally arrived at our museum - surely not during Miss Jekyll's lifetime? I found the answer in Sally Festing's excellent biography, 'Gertrude Jekyll'. All

is now revealed.



*Painting of Gertrude Jekyll's Boots by
William Nicholson*

A few years after Gertrude's death in 1932, her brother Timothy Jekyll had auctioned nearly all his sister's papers and possessions but decided to send her beloved gardening boots as a personal gift to one of her American admirers, a Mrs. Allen, also a gardener, who intended to present them to the Garden Club of America but never got round to it. Eventually at the beginning of 1956 at the age of 87 she decided that the boots, kept all those years in a tin box, ought to be returned to England, perhaps to the Tate Gallery to be exhibited next to Nicholson's famous portrait of Gertrude.

Then the boots' journey and virtual journeys commenced

'Many thanks but no room at the Tate - would the National Gallery like them?'

'No thanks, what about the Royal Horticultural Society as they already own a picture of the boots?'

'No, thank you - try the Haslemere Museum'

'No, thank you, but what about Guildford Museum?' This led to an appreciative letter at last, from Miss Enid Dance, the then curator, in July 1956:

'Dear Mrs. Allen, I have just received through the mediation of Miss Mary Chamot of the Tate Gallery the famous "Boots" once worn by Miss Gertrude Jekyll. We are most pleased to have them' Thus the boots had a home at last, and not far from their original home at Munstead Wood, and now even closer by being on show at Godalming Museum.

Ref: 'Gertrude Jekyll' by Sally Festing, pub. Viking, Penguin Group, 1991"

Gertrude Jekyll died in 1932 and a memorial to the family was designed by Lutyens and erected in Busbridge churchyard.



Miss Jekyll painted by Mary Norton in 1863

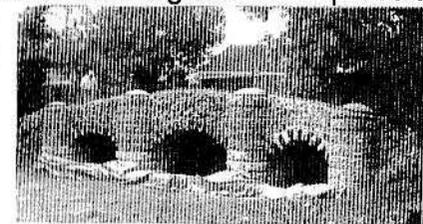
British Association of Friends of Museums

The Friends of Lancaster Museum achieved a great success recently when they managed to resist the City Council who wanted to resite the market on the ground floor of the museum. It was pointed out that it is not easy to improve a museum if part of the area is lost. The long term plan is for an extension.

A recent review of the Ipswich Friends donations over the past 30 years revealed that almost £250,000 went to the Museum Service. After some years of fund raising by the Friends a new family friendly Museum has opened in the Guildhall of the Royal Borough of Windsor, open daily 10am-4pm and 12noon-4pm on Sundays. Guided tours of the 17th century building are also available.

The Trustees of the Carshalton Water Tower have recently restored a mid 18th century gem, a sham bridge. This is a rare folly built to deceive the eye at the north end of the lake. It gives the impression

that water appears to flow beneath it but is actually a dam. It was made possible by the Friends in both fund raising and also clearing trees and vegetation. There are few of these sham bridges so its restoration



will be well worth seeing. The main sponsors of this project was the Viridor Credits Environmental Company. The company administer the part of the governments land fill tax which is given to sponsor social projects. Funds are also available from a government land extraction tax.

Anne of Cleves House which is owned by Sussex Archaeological Society has been fortunate to receive substantial grants from the Monument Trust of Sainsbury's and English Heritage. The house has been closed for nearly a year to enable extensive work to be done including plenty of painting and decorating. There is still much to do but happily the house has now reopened.

Under the scheme "The Happy Museum Projects" Godalming Museum and the Lightbox at Woking received two of the six grants totalling £60,000 founded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation for promoting well-being and sustainability.

Forthcoming events at the Museum

Make your own Christmas Decorations

Date: Christmas holidays: Wednesday 21st December 2011

Venue: Salters Gallery

Cost: £2 per child – no booking required

Design and make your own Christmas decorations using miniature pompoms, glitter and sequins.

Make your own Valentine Cards

Date: February half-term: Wednesday 15th February 2012

Venue: Salters Gallery

Cost: £2 per child – no booking required

Make your own funky pop-up Valentine card, choosing from a variety of fun designs.

Pastfinders: From this Earth workshop – Make your own pots!

Date: Saturday 10th December 10am – 1230pm

Venue: Guildford Museum

Details from the Museum 01483 444751

Forthcoming Exhibitions

From this Earth

26th November 2011 – 10th March 2012

An important collection of Tudor Ceramics now housed in Guildford Museum was uncovered at Farnborough Hill Convent. This find reveals the importance of Surrey and Hampshire potters to the early ceramics industry in Britain.

From this Earth celebrates this successful early industry. Displays will feature Farnborough Hill Convent excavations and subsequent ceramic production in the area.

A programme of lectures and activities will accompany the exhibition.

Victorian Child – Aspects of childhood in the time of Alice

26th March – 12th May 2012

Guildford Museum is to build on it's permanent Victorian displays with this one-off exhibition showing glimpses of childhood at the time when Lewis Carroll wrote and published his "Alice" stories for children.

Proposed Exhibitions at the Museum

28th May – September

Golden Jubilee

September/October

Big Draw

October/November

Civic

November/December

Georgian Guildford

Local History Author Talks

Venue: Salters Gallery

Cost: Tickets £3.50 or £3.00 if more than one talk is booked. Advanced booking required.

Following the success of the first series, we will be running a second series of local history author talks. Each talk relates to books currently sold in the Museum Gift Shop.

Saturday 28th January, 2.30pm

Jenny Overton – **On the Front: Peaslake 1939 –1945**

Saturday 25th February, 2.30pm

Terence Patrick – **Royal Guildford**

Saturday 10th March, 2.30pm

Olive Maggs – **The Blackheath Arts & Crafts Murals of Anna Lea Merritt**

A list of the local books available from the Museum Gift Shop can be found on the Museum web site www.guildford.gov.uk/article/2976/Museum-shop ideal for those last minute Christmas presents.