



# FRIENDS OF GOSPORT MUSEUM

[www.friendsofgosportmuseum.org.uk](http://www.friendsofgosportmuseum.org.uk)

## ***NEWSLETTER***

***MAY/ JUNE 2015***

### Friends of Gosport Museum

#### Informal Coffee Meeting

in the Discovery Centre 10:30am  
every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month.

#### Dates of Next Few Meetings

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August

meet at; Community Table in the  
Quiet Area past the café.

### Friends of Gosport Museum

#### Sponsored Talk

Meet and greet with wine at 7pm  
Duelling in the Royal Navy - 6<sup>th</sup> August, 7.30pm  
Local author Mark Barton tells us about some  
of the duels that occurred within the Royal  
Navy and the Royal Marines, including the very  
last English duel which took place in Gosport.

Tickets £3, Friends of Gosport Museum FREE  
Booking Essential

#### AGM 7<sup>th</sup> May 7pm

Gosport Discovery Centre Followed by  
Talk by M Ventham 'Grove Estate'

### **AGM 7<sup>th</sup> May**

This year's AGM will be at 7pm in the Gosport Discovery Centre on the 7th May 2015. There should be a copy of the Minutes and Agenda enclosed, if not there will be copies at the AGM.

I've been asked to correct my earlier assumption that the cuts to library service were the reason for withdrawal of the rota staffing the gallery. Annabel Cook the Area Manager for SE Hampshire Cultural Trust wants to reassure you that the gallery continues to be supported by the DC.

" As part of looking at new ways of working, Gosport Gallery are looking for new volunteers to support the work of the Hampshire Cultural Trust in partnership with Gosport Discovery Centre. This change is in recognition of the valuable contribution made by volunteers at sites around the county who bring a wealth of skills, knowledge and advocacy. This change is not due to staff cuts as previously stated and Gosport Discovery Centre will continue to support the gallery as volunteers are recruited, trained and learn their new roles.

Annabel Cook Area Manager South East  
Hampshire Cultural Trust "

Apologies for the inconvenience caused by assuming the worst!  
Maggie Ventham, Friends of Gosport Museum

## **Articles for the Newsletter**

The magazine is for all the FOGM and is dependent on you for its articles. It does not have to be very long and it does not have to be about Gosport. I have been reading a selection of magazines produced for the Friends of other Museums and they all contain articles on other museums or places of interest people have visited. This article only contains 250 words.

Recently I had a week in Cambridge. Never having been before I was looking forward to seeing all the colleges and old buildings and was not disappointed. As well as the Fitzwilliam Museum which I think everyone visits I also went into the small Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology – just the ground floor which only contained items relating to Cambridge – and was stunned at some of the finds. There was some of the most fantastic Anglo-Saxon gold jewellery. I also went to Evensong at Kings College Chapel and was lucky enough to hear the full choir singing. Well worth it, and free, whereas if I had gone during the day I would have had to pay for the privilege of going into such a fantastic building. If you have a spare couple of days and want to go somewhere in this country, like old buildings and history then Cambridge is well worth a visit.

So please, don't be shy, tell us where you have been recently or what you thought of an exhibition or talk you may have attended at the Discovery Centre or at the Gosport museum.  
By Yvonne Riddell

### **Gosport Museum 'Partnership' Meeting**

In February Sydney Aynsworth and I attended this committee as your representatives. The funding provided by the partners HCC (Hampshire County Council) and GBC (Gosport Borough Council) is used by the Hampshire Cultural Trust (HCT) to manage our museums and galleries. A report on the successes of the recent programme was presented, and we heard about the future themes, events and exhibitions coming to Gosport.

This summer VE Day will be commemorated on 8<sup>th</sup> May. Later on, be prepared to take part in the "Seaside" events in the town – there will be pirates! Dinosaurs will be coming to Hampshire in the autumn via a Dinofest.

You may have met Annabel Cook, our area manager, at the "1914 in Gosport" event last year. Annabel has joined the Trust's new team creating ideas for change in museums. Cllr Mrs Hook will be ending her term as Chair of this committee at the next meeting. M. Ventham

### **Youth Open Art public award winner**

The winner was Jess Coleman for artwork St John's Cathedral (the large piece on the back wall).  
Wendy Redman

### **From BAFM 'E' Newsletter**

I hope you have all had a good Easter and are looking forward to the Spring and Summer seasons at your respective museums and galleries. I have been busy planning the Regional Conference with the Friends of Reading Museum (FoRM) and am delighted with the final programme we have agreed which you should have received via email last week. If you would like a postal copy of the information, please do get in touch with me either by email or phone. Bookings have already started to come in and I am very pleased to report that we have Catherine Townsend from 'Kids in Museums' coming to the Regional Conference. Catherine will

be co-facilitating one of the afternoon workshops and will be sharing her knowledge and experience of projects she has run to attract young people into museums. Another very exciting bit of news is that John Mullaney, one of our keynote speakers on the day, has recently featured in the news as he is going to be involved in **the search for the bones of King Henry I**, which is being planned near the ruins of Reading Abbey. The project is backed by Phillippa Langley, who helped find the remains of Richard III in Leicester, so no doubt Reading will be gearing up for a lot of media attention over the coming months. More information about the project can be found at this BBC link: [www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-berkshire-32037999](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-berkshire-32037999) - I am sure John will be touching on this recent news in his presentation and also be able to give more in-depth information on one of the afternoon walking tours.

Thank you to all of you who have renewed your BAfM membership for this year. I am pleased that the majority of the Groups have renewed and would also like to welcome a couple of new groups in our Region. Please do keep any feedback and suggestions coming as we really do appreciate your comments. They help us to shape our services and provide you with the support and information you would like to receive. As a direct result of the feedback from our Journal Questionnaire we are currently exploring options to introduce more regular contact with members.

Finally, I am keen to develop this newsletter as a vehicle for sharing your news, information and good practice and would welcome input from members either in the form of an article or even just posed as a query which can be featured in future editions. I have created a 'Friends Noticeboard' as part of this newsletter which I hope will provide an information sharing platform. I look forward to receiving your feedback and meeting many of you at our Regional Conference in June. Best wishes and many thanks for your continued support. *Hassi*

Friends of Gosport Museum is a member of BAFM I receive copies of The Journal and if you wish to see a copy when they arrive please let me know. If you receive copies of FoGM Newsletter by email, I will also send of the BAFM eNewsletter when they arrive. Ian Jeffery

From The Curator – Erica Munro

## **GET INVOLVED!**

We are looking for volunteers to help steward Gosport Gallery

Gosport Gallery opens 6 days a week  
and hosts a wide variety of exhibitions  
from local artists and groups to touring exhibitions from national art  
galleries and museums.

We are looking for responsible, independent people (aged 18+) who  
love art and culture  
to join us. You will welcome visitors, invigilate exhibitions and help us  
provide a friendly  
and vibrant visitor experience.

**For more information contact Erica Munro**  
**[erica.munro@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk](mailto:erica.munro@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk) or ask at the Gallery**

Friends of Gosport Museum might have been watching a recent BBC 2 television programme called 'Collectaholics'. One collection investigated was of a houseful of Pelham puppets. The collector was put in touch with the Norwich Puppet theatre with the idea that maybe the theatre might be interested in housing the collection, to their mutual benefit. The idea seemed to be working.

In learning about the history of Pelham Puppets, who should be interviewed outside the theatre but one of our own founder members, Miss Rosemarie Gibaud. It seems that Rosemarie had actually worked for some years in the firm in Marlborough at its very start in the late 1940's, She even recognised some of the early puppets that she had painted herself. She interviewed really well.

Rosemary was a staunch member of FoGM for many years until she moved to the Norwich area.

Rosemary Gibaud also added the interesting info that it was her idea for the interview to take place at the Norwich Puppet Theatre - the production team had been looking at Reading and London for some reason without success The N.P.Theatre was ideal as it was so relevant to the subject and geographically convenient for Rosemarie. By Mary Duly

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*Linda Hedley*

Committee Members  
*Mary Duly*  
*Jack Poole*  
*Yvonne Riddell*  
*David Taylor*

### Subscription Reminder 2015

Subscriptions for Friends of Gosport Museum 2015/16 are due from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015. Payments to Linda Hedley, 7 Fairthorne Close, Gosport, Hants PO12 3PU. Single £6 Joint £9.

If you joined since the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 your subscription lasts to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016. Thank you to those of you who have paid this years subscription.

### Would You Like to Volunteer?

If you would like to volunteer for SEARCH it would be Wendy at [wendy.redman@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk](mailto:wendy.redman@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk) you need to contact. If it is for the Gosport Museum Collection then it would be Jacqui Ready [jacqui.ready@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk](mailto:jacqui.ready@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk) . If you would like to volunteer for the remainder of the Discovery Centre it would be Rose Redman [rosemary.redman@hants.gov.uk](mailto:rosemary.redman@hants.gov.uk) . The Gallery volunteering to now contact Erica Munro [erica.munro@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk](mailto:erica.munro@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk) .

If you have information, articles, events or photos that may be of interest to Friends of Gosport Museum, please let me have them by post or email. A big thank you to those who have contributed to this newsletter. If for the July Newsletter by 12<sup>th</sup> June or as soon as you can to : Ian Jeffery 11 Harcourt Rd, Gosport, Hants PO12 3NR – [ian@gosport.info](mailto:ian@gosport.info)

The Newsletter can be received by email (Adobe Reader .pdf) let me know if you would be happy to receive it this way. Ian

Please send contributions for the Newsletter to  
Ian Jeffery, FGM Newsletter Editor  
11 Harcourt Road, PO12 3NR [ian@gosport.info](mailto:ian@gosport.info)  
If you would be happy to receive this Newsletter  
by email please let me know.  
The views expressed are not necessarily those of  
Hampshire CC Museums Service or its staff.

Membership of Friends of Gosport Museum is  
open to all - Please contact any Committee  
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