



FRIENDS OF GOSPORT MUSEUM

www.friendsofgosportmuseum.org.uk
or www.fogm.org.uk

NEWSLETTER

MAY/ JUNE 2017

Friends of Gosport Museum

Informal Coffee Meeting

in the Discovery Centre 10:30am
every 2nd Thursday of the month.

Dates of Next Few Meetings

Thursday 8th June

Thursday 13th July

Thursday 10th August

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

Gosport Gallery

Gosport Buses and Trams

6th May to 8th July FREE Admission

Naval and Local Studies Exhibition

Sailing Under the Red Ensign

3rd April to 31st May

Discovery Centre Talks

Gosport Buses and Trams £5

14th June Local Studies Centre 7pm

Chairman's Report to FoGM Committee 4th May 2017

At our recent AGM, Linda Batty proposed a vote of thanks to Sydney Aynsworth for his ten years service as Committee Chairman. This was unanimously seconded by the members present. We thank Sydney for his keen interest in museums and his contribution to stewarding the Gallery. We hope he will continue his interest and remain in better health.

As advised at the AGM, we are not covering our with the subscriptions we raise from memberships. Treasurer David Moore suggested a) attracting more members, b) raising subscriptions or c) generating income from other sources. There was a brief discussion and the matter was referred to a committee meeting ASAP.

(Editor) At the committee meeting it was agreed to leave subscriptions as they are, and look at reducing costs, such as encouraging those who can to have newsletters by email, but mainly from not sending out membership cards and looking at not remaining a member of the BAfM (British Association of Friends of Museums).

Linda Hedley reported only 34 members rejoining this April which is disappointing and needs urgent attention. We do however have a total of 11 committee members this year. A lapsed member of committee asked to be considered for co-option which was forwarded to the next meeting.

'Jack's Day out in London' was celebrated by us all. Jack Poole was chosen by the Churchill Retirement Homes Award scheme to receive the Local Hero Award for his long-term support as a

volunteer at SEARCH and Saturday sessions in Museum-on-the-Mezzanine talking to visitors. Those members remaining at the meeting discussed the future of the town museum and the possible HLF grant (Heritage Lottery Fund) of which we shall have news at the July meeting of the JMC (Council Joint Management Committee). I hope I will be able to keep out feet on the ground and accounts back in the black over my term of office!
Maggie Ventham, Chairman '17-18' 4th May 2017

Calling all Members of the Friends of Gosport Museum

The committee have agreed to involve the Friends with an event for Gosport
Heritage Open Days 2017

If you are available to help with Heritage Open Days on Thursday 7th or Saturday 9th
September,

we are offering to run some sessions in the Museum-on-the Mezzanine which will be good
publicity for us and for the Museum.

To get involved contact Maggie 023 9252 5229 or email margaret.ventham@btinternet.com

Thank you for your support.

Margaret Roberts

I am sure many of you have heard that Margaret Roberts, a founder member of both the Friends of Gosport Museum and what was then called the St Vincent Gosport Local History Luncheon Club, died on Thursday 12th April. An email was sent to members where I have an email address.

The Diary of Martha Georgiana Loftus Tottenham 1883

Thursday April 19th

Fowls came in the morning; she is going to bring me a simple song next time. Snape in the afternoon; it was our last lesson so we invited him to stop to tea which he did. Miss O brought Alick over in the morning, went back in the afternoon with Freddy. After tea Mama and Emily went to the Dursts; Lily, Louisa, Caroline and I walked into Gosport to shop, and came home round by Haslar; there is a short avenue of trees near Haslar like those near the stable at Hamble, and they smell simply lovely now the leaves are just coming out.

Friday April 20th

Hilda and I went round the village and into Gosport. After dinner E, H and I drove with Major and Miss Stewart to Porchester Castle. It is a pretty place, we looked all over it well and then refected on tea and new bread and butter in the tea-gardens. It was very jolly altogether and I was very glad I went though I was very anxious not to go. The Admiral came over in the morning to fetch Louisa and we had a game of tennis before dinner. I think he thought I was Lily when I came into the room first as he seemed very glad to see and came to meet me with open arms – Lily took Caroline to Dr Martin's where she had four teeth stopped; she had a big one out the other day and bore it like a Spartan. The Stewarts are not so bad after all; "Bessie" would be rather nice I think, though I should fancy she was more of a man's lady. Her mouth when she is not laughing is indicative of a very sour temper and I should think she was peevish, but she has nice eyes, grey-green-blue, and her hair grows nicely – We got back from Porchester a little after 7 p.m. 4 "Poor Miss Finch".

Saturday April 21st

Hilda went this morning to our great grief. We all went down to see her and Caroline; who went back to-day, off, by the 9.25 train – Picked Euphorbia Portlandica; the only place where it grows here is in a small triangular piece of common between the rail-road, the moat and the road, just at the foot of the pier.

I forgot to mention in my notes on the 19th April, the slanderous reports told by those gossiping old girls, the Rashleighs to Miss O "At the Fareham Ball the conduct of the second Miss Tottenham was most fast and the youngest Miss T was "following in her sister's steps". In fact,

young men said they could take any liberties with the two younger Miss T's (I should like to see any man taking a liberty with me). Miss Lily Tottenham's dress was disgustingly low, and "left nothing to the imagination"; and one of them was seen sitting up two flights of stairs with her partner's arm round her waist!. βββ beasts! I can I think who gave them the grain of truth from which all this came. We are always laughed at by Louisa and Hilda because we think dresses low which most people think quite high; and we tell them they wear too low dresses, and then for people to say such a thing as that!!! Moreover Lily was quite quiet in her behaviour at the Fareham Ball to all appearances and she says she was too. It is positively ridiculous for anybody to call me 'fast'; for I am the slowest of the slow. I believe myself it was all because I sat on a step with Wills down a dark passage and he looked up a narrow very dark flight of stairs and wanted me to come too, but I would not. There was another couple near, probably one of the Bradshaws. But I think it is rather hard to have my name dragged in with Lily's. Mr. Aplin and Key, Capt. Hassard, Wills, Major Stewart, Mrs Goldie and Miss Stewart came this afternoon to tennis. Maude came home to stay. "5" 'Poor Miss Finch' – a stupid book.

Aplin and Key stayed to tea and were very agreeable. Aplin is rather good looking and I like him the better of the two. Key affects the funny too much and in consequence is rather 'ennuyant'. They are neither of them changed much in face.

Sunday April 22nd

Church. Mr Pindar preached. Charlie P came. Painted after dinner until Mama came and sharried me. Emily wrote letters. After tea E, L and Charlie went to the Reading Room and returned rather late. Messrs Larking and Schenleigh called – so I fled out of the house into the garden till I thought it save to return. Air rather disturbed in consequence. There is to be a dance at Fort Monkton on Wednesday evening to which we three are invited! I will not go if I can help it. I had some rather good games yesterday, three sets with Major Stewart against Jim and Mrs Goldie, whom we beat into fits and one with Wills against Lily and Major Stewart when we beat them 6-5. Wills was not so sulky as usual, I suppose the sight of Lily the other side of the net revived him for he was quite animated. He is painting a skull. Major Stewart was much less offensive yesterday though still very condescending! He told me I served much better than he did and then added that he really was not chaffing, which I thought very good. Col. Webber was very rude. He came and dragged the major away from our game for about ten minutes to talk business. I have been reading Wood "Trespassers" this afternoon which is very instructive! One thing I learnt from it was the course of "second wind", and also that whalebone is really a kind of mouth arrangement to catch animals instead of strips of bone as I always (if I thought about it at all) imagined it to be – I heard the cuckoo last Friday, but E and others heard both the cuckoo and the nightingale more than a week ago -

Monday 23^d

Did not go out except gardening a little in the afternoon – snowed at intervals. Mama and E went calling.

Tuesday April 24th

"5" "Pickle" with my character which I will copy here verbatim, less I should lose it – 32 Dorset St. Portman Sq. London W.

"Madam – my thanks are sent to Miss Wood for her kind mention of me, be so good as to bear in mind that I expect all new correspondents to "name their informant". My address is slightly altered of late, as see above.

Your handwriting certainly does not point to weakness of mind – you have vigorous powers of intellect and much perseverance – you rather enjoy the sense of influence of which you possess more than appears at first sight, for there is no overbearing manner, nor too much self-assertion. Self-possessed, calm in moments of difficulty though hot and impetuous, with some love of novelty and excitement. You have great industry and determination to overcome difficulty but are not very patient with density or lack of quickness to understand. Bright, genial, and capable you are very obstinate at times, and a proficient in ignoring whatever may not exactly please you. Combative, sprightly, a little fond of argument but true-hearted, and prepared to do battle through thick and thin for those who have the honour of your friendship The Pickle

Gracious! I might imagine somebody who had known me (or thought they knew me) at College writing that. Why, I have no more perseverance or industry than a cow; and as to "powers of intellect" they are nil. I have no influence and am anything but self-possessed, and I don't think I am impetuous much – "Bright (!), genial (!!)" and capable (!!!)" – "true-hearted (!!!!!)". It must have been written by a woman, and how my hand-writing must lie! It will certainly accompany me to the lake of fire and brimstone. This afternoon we went out for a walk to Browndown; the nightingales and larks and all manner of birds were singing beautifully out there, 'though the soldiers were firing quite close below on the ranges – Papa and Freddy and I walked ahead, while E, L and Henry Webber came behind. We heard the "Adeste fideles" and volleys for Comm'r Denny's funeral in the distance. After tea Freddy, Henry and I quacked and fought a little in the school-room. Henry is a very nice boy but I like Raymond better; he is quite cousinly, especially when he puts his arm round your neck when he wants to look over anything you are doing. He walked along with his arm over Lily's shoulders to-day, as if she were a boy.

The Militia dance is put off because of Col. Webber's cousin's death.

By Yvonne Riddell

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Linda Hedley

Committee Members

Sydney Aynsworth

Mary Duly

Jack Poole

Yvonne Riddell

Subscription Reminder 2017/18

Subscriptions for Friends of Gosport Museum 2017/18 due from 1st April 2017 £6 single £9 joint please send the Payments (cheques made to: Friends of Gosport Museum) to Linda Hedley, 7 Fairhome Close, Elson, Gosport, Hants PO12 4HZ.

Joined since 1st November 2016 your subscription lasts to 1st April 2018.

Would You Like to Volunteer?

If you would like to volunteer for SEARCH it would be Wendy at 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 . If you would like to volunteer for the remainder of the Discovery Centre it would be Mark Collyer mark.collyer@hants.gov.uk . Gosport Gallery volunteering contact: Jef Whitcher enquiries@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. If for the July Newsletter by 23rd June or as soon as you can to: Ian Jeffery 11 Harcourt Rd, Gosport, Hants PO12 3NR 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. This will help save FoGM cost keeping the subscription down. Thank you Ian

Please send contributions for the Newsletter to
Ian Jeffery, FoGM Newsletter Editor
11 Harcourt Road, PO12 3NR ian@gosport.info
If you would be happy to receive this Newsletter
by email in .PDF, please let me know.
The views expressed are not necessarily those of
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member. Annual Subscription Individuals £6
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