

## FRIENDS OF GOSPORT MUSEUM

13 Burney Road  
Gosport PO12 2QB  
April 10<sup>th</sup>. 2007

Dear Friend,

This letter replaces the April newsletter, as we want to explain to you some necessary changes in our programme - we are sure you will understand. Both the Chairman, Bob Whiteley, and the Secretary, Mary Payne, are ill and have been in hospital, and so some changes are needed.

However, first of all we must mention Maurice Hutty's excellent lecture on HMS Warrior on March 7<sup>th</sup>. There was a good audience, and all enjoyed it greatly. He used beautiful and evocative paintings to make clear, in its social, political and international settings, the revolutionary nature of the technical changes brought by the first ironclad warship. A fascinating story!

The main points for our programme are:

- 1) The AGM be postponed from May 24<sup>th</sup>. till **Wednesday October 31<sup>st</sup>**. This is partly because of the great amount of paperwork - about 1800 pages - required.
- 2) The summer social be cancelled for this year.
- 3) Members are reminded of the excellent **Ancient Greeks** exhibition in the Gosport Gallery, open 10am-4pm until **June 30<sup>th</sup>**. This is a British Museum exhibition, in fact the first time it has been on tour, and is of a very high standard. It has been made possible by the recent upgrading of security etc at the Gallery.  
In connection with this, there is to be a **lecture on Herakles (Hercules)** by Peter Higgs, a curator from the British Museum, on **Thursday June 7<sup>th</sup>**. at 7-30pm in the Discovery Centre - we can thoroughly recommend this. It is sure to be of a very high standard.
- 4) **Coach Trip** - once again Mary Duly is arranging a coach outing. It is on **Saturday September 22<sup>nd</sup>**, and is to Chilcomb House, near Winchester, the headquarters of the Hampshire Museum Service. The cost will be £10-50, with lunch extra. Sandwiches and drinks will be available. Mary says the sandwiches are rather good!  
The curators of Archaeology, Art and Design, Community Collections and Natural History are putting out exhibitions especially for us, and are giving up a Saturday to do so. It may be possible for some time to be spent in Winchester.  
Do please reserve this date. Booking forms will be sent later. Personally, I've been wanting to visit Chilcomb for many years!
- 5) Members will be glad to know that a new member of staff, Alison Marsh, has been appointed as a Community Curator. She is working mainly on the Museum part of the Discovery Centre, and we are very pleased to welcome her.
- 6) Thank you to the many members who have already renewed their subscriptions - can we remind you that they are best sent to the Membership Secretary at her home  
**(Miss L. Hedley 7 Fairholme Close Gosport PO12 4HZ)**

Finally, we hope to see you at the lecture on June 7<sup>th</sup>. and thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Yours sincerely

*Joan Symonds*

(on behalf of the Committee)