Friends of Gosport Museum

Gosport Museum, Walpole Road, Gosport. Hants. PO12 1NS
Telephone 023 92588035

September Newsflash —— 2002

A thanksgiving service for the life of Canon Betty Hammond, who died in August, was held in Christ Church, Stoke Road, Gosport A member of the Mothers' Union for over 30 years, she became a deacon in 1984, was made an honorary canon of Portsmouth Cathedral in 1992, and ordained as a priest in 1994. Much loved for her modesty, cheerful smiles and unfailing helpfulness, she will be much missed by all who knew her.

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The excursion to Brighton to see the Pavilion and enjoy some easterly sea air (with no familiar sight of the Island) went well. Our Guide was well informed but kept strictly to her special subject, conservation and art, rather than biographical details of the Prince Regent (1762-1830). Dry rot discovered in the building in the 1980's resulted in an extensive renovation; some furniture that Queen Victoria had removed to Buckingham Palace has now been returned, and the exotic oriental decor and furniture and chandeliers are amazing. Worth not just one visit but several, to absorb the atmosphere and history of the place.

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MARY TYRRELL will be our Autumn Lecture speaker on the afternoon of

THURSDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2002

Do come along and hear about both the history of the War Memorial Hospital and the very successful fund-raising that the Friends (League of...) have organised on its behalf. 2.30 pm at the Museum.

PLEASE RING (tel.no. at top of this page) or DROP IN AT THE MUSEUM to put your name on the list of those attending.

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Finally, plans are afoot for our always enjoyable CHRISTMAS TEA-PARTY - 3 p.m. until 5, on Thursday 12th December 2002.

Mary Duly is preparing a Quiz to encourage you all to circulate around the Local History and the Geology galleries, and much thought is going into the provision of food and tea (or coffee).

This occasion is always enjoyed, in particular, by the hard-working Front Desk staff and gives us all a chance to get to know them a little more and to say a thank-you for their expertise.

The Gosport Gallery (once the Grammar School's gymnasium) has a fascinating exhibition at present, called INVADERS. And more is planned for the new year. Colin Baxter's exhibition was particularly successful - a credit for Oonagh and her staff who prepared it all 'in-house': most exhibitions are provided by the County Museum service or other sources. ‡1‡1‡1‡1‡1‡1‡1‡1‡1‡1‡1