



FRIENDS OF GOSPORT MUSEUM

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

NEWSLETTER

MAY/ JUNE 2019

Informal Coffee Meeting

No Longer Take Place Each Month, maybe
reinstated in the future

Look out for changes and events in the old
Library/ Gosport Gallery/ SEARCH building.

Gosport Gallery

27th April 10am to 6th July 2019 4pm
International Garden Photographer of the
Year (IGPOTY)
FREE Admission

The world's most prestigious photographic
competition and exhibition for garden, plant
and botanical photography.

Launch of Hampshire Archives Trust Website

An Event Called 'Tea, Talk & Tipples

Friday 31 May 2019 - 4-7pm

The Cinema, Hampshire Record Office, Sussex St,

Winchester, SO23 8TH. Tel: 01962 846154.

Please book your place(s) by contacting

Barry at: barryshurlock@gmail.com:

tel: 01962 861913

I have more information. Ian Jeffery

Report from the Chair

Welcome to our first summer newsletter, the warm Easter weather was expected to return! Wendy Redman our Venue Manager will soon be joined by a replacement Manager for Search and a Visitor Service Assistant (VSA) who will be responsible for the volunteer team. More volunteers will be needed as further uses of the facilities in the former grammar school are developed. The Trust are making approaches to sources of funding, other than the HLF, to make some of the suggested changes.

The Snape exhibition was successful and, in the publicity material, the Friends were thanked for their help. As part of volunteering in the stores, Dot Bedenham and I were asked to help Tara Mckinney who curated the exhibition. It was a pleasure to work with Tara, a member of staff from the Exhibitions Team. We were thanked for retrieval and re-filing of contemporary photographs, from the museum's extensive collection, to accompany Martin Snape's pictures. While searching, we discovered an unforgettable photographic treasure trove of local views, people and work places.

Events at Search have attracted hundreds of visitors. Wendy is very grateful for the support of all the volunteers but she needs more of them! Trained volunteers must be given more responsible tasks to develop worthwhile skills which keep them interested in being volunteers! Times are changing and volunteering will also change.

The old building has useful spaces which can be hired as well as used for museum and gallery

events. Bob Harrop's sell-out 'Slide Show Tour of Gosport Past' - part of the Snape season - was so successful people are asking for more talks about the area. The POP-UP MUSEUM for Heritage Open Days will soon be our next project. It will remain in place for a while and stay open to the public. While visitors are there, the Trust will be asking them for their ideas about what they would want to have in a future Gosport Museum. It will be our opportunity to recruit new members.

I hope that you were able to come to the AGM on May 15th David Moore gave us a talk after the business part ends. Jack Poole has decided to stand down from committee. A thank you card and small present have been taken to him on our behalf. Maggie Ventham

Report on AGM 15th May 2019

The attendance at this years AGM was 10, full committee including the President Bob Whiteley and the Venue Manager, Wendy Redman. This was 3 more than last year. The Committee and Officers were elected as nominated, see current committee on page 4. The full minutes will follow towards the date of next years AGM and expect others will fill in the details of various reports over the next few months. I have also enclosed a copy of Margaret Ventham's report to the AGM. This is just a few points that stood out for me and I hope will be of interest to you.

Though 10 may not seem a great turnout but the current paid up membership as reported by Linda Hedley is 22. During the year a few more members are added so at the end of last year the membership was 27. It was suggested that a membership drive should be done, in particular to those that were members, but it was felt until we have something to show it could go the way of previous drives, numbers go up but few renew the following year. The accounts are in a good state though the main normal income comes from membership the expenses are mainly the newsletter, 9 are printed and posted/ delivered at each issue as well as 10 printed and delivered to organizations, such as the Discovery Centre, Libraries, Gosport Voluntary Action, SEARCH, Town Hall and Tourist Information Office.

In addition to the normal membership, income and expenditure, there are funds received for special projects. There will be a need for this in the future as Wendy made a report about all the plans for the work to be done on the building that is now the responsibility of the Hampshire Cultural Trust. I understand about half the required money has been promised with hopes that another quarter will come through. The remainder may come as the bulk should be there. The work will take a while and will be done as the money comes in and plans are finalized.

The main items I remember, but things may change, are that the entrance to the public areas, including the Gosport Gallery, Museum, Cafe and other exhibition spaces over the whole of the ground floor up to the SEARCH reception area, will be through the double doors at the front. There will be meeting rooms upstairs and they are currently renting rooms of different sizes to raise funds, contact Wendy Redman for details. The main savings to the cost of the original bid is the removal of the glazed corridor to the Gosport Gallery from the front and the conversion of the top floor to artists studios. They have a few questions to solve including, if a doorway is made in the false wall at the back of the gallery, there could be problems maintaining the atmospheric conditions to keep this space as a Government Indemnified Gallery for showing valuable exhibitions, one of only three in Hampshire. They also are looking for a new name for the building, one which will say what is there without putting people off and perhaps giving an idea of where it is. They have said something like, 'The Museum and Gallery at the Old Grammar School'. The thought being how many people know the building was a Grammar School.

Thank you for continuing your support of the Friends of Gosport Museum, I hope there will be a museum and more to support in the future. By Ian Jeffery

Requests For Gosport History Information Received by the Secretary

I, at times receive requests for information or photos about Gosport's past, normally by email. Some may have been sent to me as they have seen the website for the Friends of Gosport Museum and ask if any members can help with their requests.

At times I send them on to someone who I feel will be able to help them. This month as apart from the AGM there is not a large item to include in the newsletter I thought that I would put a selection of these requests as space allows, to see if this could be something to add to the newsletter now and again in the future.

I have not included the email address of the people who sent in the request but if you feel that you may be able to help please send your reply to me (email or post) and I will send it on. Please let me know if you would be happy for me to send on your contact information to the person requesting. Email address in email replies. Ian Jeffery (see my email and postal address below.)

Jack the Painter

I lived in Gosport as a kid but moved away more than 50 years ago. I am researching an article about the demise of Jack the Painter, the fellow who tried to burn down Portsmouth Dockyard in 1776. He was hung in a gibbet at Fort Blockhouse, but I remember us kids had stories of what happened to his body, including it ending up in a pub in Gosport. Does your society have any information about this? About 25 years I was in Gosport and found a few copies of 'Gosport Records' published by the Gosport Historical Records Society. Do you think there might be an article about this in this publication? Phil Williams

Turnpike Cottages

I am trying to find any information relating to the Turnpike Cottages, Brockhurst at about 1900. Especially, if there was a bakers premises there. Also. do the cottages still exist or are they well gone. Many thanks in advance. regards Martin Hall.

Gosport Watermen

I am trying to trace the records of the watermen of Gosport. They were so closely monitored that I thought these records would be easy to locate. However I am having a lot of difficulty. I have located mention in the Portsmouth Evening News 29th Nov. 1932 that licence renewal will take place at the Town Hall Gosport at 12 noon, when all men applying for licences are required to attend. All existing licence renewal must be made to the Flag Officer at the Town Hall Gosport. It is signed H. R. Mangnale Clerk of Board. The following year another advert, much the same except the Guildhall is mentioned. Then in 1935 it changes to Old Town Hall, Portsmouth and signed Edward Paddon Clerk and Treasurer. However I cannot locate where these records are now. I am concerned that the later records, 1935, may apply to the newer ferry service as an article in The Evening New July 11 1933 has an item headed '13 Watermen Left'. I am primarily interested in the old watermen records. Can you be of any assistance? Jenny Melides

Willam Osling and Osling Family

I have a will of William Osling, 1689 AD/157, a mariner, with a wife Sarah, of Gosport. I have two questions: Is there any information on the Osling family of Gosport? Secondly, are there shipping or passenger record, of ship leaving Gosport in the 1650 to 1690's. Dallus Oslin

I have a large number of these questions that I could put in later Newsletters where space is available. Please let me know if you would or would not like to see more of them. If not I may need other items to add. Ian Jeffery

Hampshire Genealogical Society our services that may be useful to your members.

Although our focus is on family history, many of the holdings at our Research Centre reflect the diverse overlaps that occur between local and family history. We have nearly 4000 items listed on our Research Centre catalogue covering the parishes of Hampshire and many surrounding counties. As well as local history books, many titles of which are now out of print, we also have maps, pamphlets, guides and local histories produced by volunteers.

We also have a Bookstall that goes to both local and national Family History Fairs, our most popular items goes to our group meetings, which may be of interest to your group meetings as well.

If the research projects of your society or individual members requires the locating of an individual in Hampshire it is likely that we will know a volunteer who is able to help. For more information on our Research Centre please contact Chris Pavey at researchmanager@hgs-online.org.uk or visit our website www.hgs-familyhistory.com. For more information on the Pop-Up Bookstall please e-mail me at bookstall@hgs-online.org.uk.

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Subscription for Membership

Subscriptions for Friends of Gosport Museum due from 1st April each year at £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. Subscription reminder should be enclosed.

Joined since 1st November 2018 your subscription lasts to 1st April 2020.

Would You Like to Volunteer?

If you would like to volunteer for SEARCH it would be Wendy at wendy.redman@hampshirculturaltrust.org.uk

There are changes at the Museum and Gallery.

I will advise when changes are made. Ian

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 21st 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
Hampshire Cultural Trust, GDC or its staff.

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