



FRIENDS OF GOSPORT MUSEUM

Supporting Gosport Museum & Art Gallery
www.friendsofgosportmuseum.org.uk
or www.fogm.org.uk

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2023

AGM

The first since 15th May 2019

Will be on Friday 4th August 2023
at 7pm

The Gosport Museum and Art Gallery
www.gosportmuseumandgallery.org.uk
Front Entrance, Walpole Road,
Gosport PO12 1NS

Hope to see you there.

Gosport Museum and Art Gallery
www.gosportmuseumandgallery.org.uk

Underwater Photographer of the Year 2023
1st April to 15th July 2023

Gosport Tipple Tours
10th June to 23rd August 2023
Please book various dates at 2pm and 5pm
£17.50 including 3 drinks.

Sandstories Events
27th July to 26th September 2023
Please Book for the event/s you want to visit

Report from the Chair

As Maggie prepared her report 21st June 2022 before she resigned as Chair, though she has agreed to continue on the committee, no newsletters have been prepared since then, sorry, I have made adjustments to the report to allow for information that has changed since then.

Report

Welcome to the summer newsletter. The re-opening of the building happened in November 2022 with a few items to finish. As a cultural venue for everybody in our area, the Gosport Museum and Art Gallery will be very different from the way we knew it! Many groups and people who remember the past – working, living and spending their free time here - have shared their memories with the staff team at the HCT to create an engaging, new kind of museum.

Meanwhile, the High St shop called 'One of a Kind' was very busy. Wendy and her team are to be congratulated and thanked for the time, effort and thought which has made the shop a success. In co-operation with English Heritage at Fort Brockhurst, the recent Summer Fair was a wonderful event which I enjoyed - along with over seven thousand other visitors over the two days it was open.

There have been changes in the Gosport team, Kieron Bradley is now Visitor Service Assistant (VSA) organising the Art Gallery volunteer rota, which does need more people, sending the regular newsletter to all of us who volunteer in the building. Katie Andrews has taken another role – she's a very good organiser!(on maternity leave) Helen Ellis will be with our team for longer. Alex Bogards (has now moved on to another museum. The Trust has given Wendy short-term staff to help her with projects for the future. Maggie Ventham 21/06/22

AGM

Finally an AGM, 4th August 2023 at 7pm, details in the box above. There has not been one since May 2019 partly due to not being able to meet for a couple of years and partly due to the loss of a number of members some who held positions on the committee in the past and some of those were founder members.

I will say the loss of the Treasurer who was in post from the beginning of the Friends of Gosport Museum in 1991 to his death in 2022 has taken some effort with the Bank but all is sorted now, as I hope you will see at the AGM. Thank you to Linda Hedley for checking through the papers to make sure I have the information in order.

I hope that as many members as possible will be able to attend not only to, perhaps, think about taking on one of the posts, or be on the committee. If you would like to take on a post that someone else has I am sure that will not be a problem, also to help shape the Friends of Gosport Museum for the future.

In the past the Friends was involved in a number of areas in the museum as well as holding events for members. These have been cut back partly due to the reduction in membership. Now we know where the museum will be and how it will be run, I would hope for a good few years yet, perhaps the time is right for making plans. The main area where things have changed is that in the past as the museum was run via Hampshire County Council the Friends could be directly involved with fund raising. As the Hampshire Cultural Trust is a charity they have a number of people who carry that out, though we can continue to help on a local level.

I do not want to say too much about what can be done as I want you to say what you want, but as an example Wendy did say at the last committee meeting that perhaps we could bring back talks to the Museum and Art Gallery.

Attachments Enclosed

For AGM

Nomination Form for Officers and Committee 2023

Agenda for 4th August 2023

Minutes 15th May 2019

Financial Statement and Balance Sheet 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023

There are copies of the draft statements by David for the years to 31st March 2022 which will be available to look over at the AGM.

Subscription Reminder 2023/24

The Subscription Reminder Form for the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

If you have already paid, thank you.

If you would like me to bring any of the forms etc in printed format for you to the AGM, please let me know. ian@gosport.info

Gosport Local History Luncheon Club - www.gosporthistoryclub.org.uk

Meets on the third Thursday of each month except April, August, December 12noon to 2pm at the Christchurch Parish Centre there is an optional ploughman's lunch at extra charge details of the talks each month and cost are on the website above.

Local History Questions sent in by Email

Russell

I am currently researching my great grandfather's second world war service history. He was in the 215 Battery of the 57th Wessex Heavy Anti Aircraft Regiment, based in Gosport.

I have established the 215 would drill out of the drill hall on Walpole Road. I understand the drill hall was demolished in the 70s, but I have found reference to a memorial bench dedicated to 215, also said to located on Walpole Road. I have had a look around the area and cannot locate it. I am wondering if you or any of your members would have any knowledge of this bench i.e. Was is removed as part of the drill hall demolition or perhaps moved to a new location.

Any information anyone has would be gratefully received.

Angela

I would be grateful for any words of advice with a current puzzle. I am looking to find records from a Naval School at Gosport called Burney's Academy, Gosport Academy and also Dr Burney's Royal Academy. It was a school opened by Burney in 1791 and run by his sons and a grandson and later closed in 1904. I understand that your school has a naval background and as I'm a bit stuck as to where to look next hoped to ask for advice.

The school trained young boys to take naval entrance examinations and was under patronage of Queen Victoria, her husband and two of her sons the then Prince of Wales and Duke of Connaught. I am particularly looking for pupil roles or records between 1824 and 1840 as part of my research into a particular family. I have tried to approach the national maritime museums but found that quite complex with redirects. I have also tried the Royal Hospital school in Sussex that I believe has links in the past to Greenwich.

Tim

My nephew (aged 17) is highly motivated by investigating family history. This is partly his way of coping with his grandfather's death last September. We have established that a distant relative was an outfitter in North Cross Street around 1880.

Could you advise me how I could access some photos of the street or information about him?

My nephew lives in Worthing and I live in Derbyshire but I visit from time to time. I'm keen to develop his interest in history.

Catherine

I wonder if you can help me or give me a contact regarding the burial place of Chick Henderson, the singer. I believe his gravestone will be in his birth name of Henderson Rowntree. I was born in West Hartlepool and my aunt and Chick's aunt were cousins. Mary Boagey, nee Rowntree visited us quite a lot....I didn't realise, until I began genealogy studies, that he died in Portsmouth and was buried in St Lukes cemetery Haslar. I would like to visit St Lukes. My grandson will keep me company. When the weather improves...

Sue

I went to St Cecilians school for girls Alverstoke for a few years, I cant find any trace or photos of it. It would have been the late fifties or early sixties I am now in my 75 year and trying to write about my past for my grandchildren I can remember our school uniform was blue with a sax blue scull cap in winter with a grey outer coat and a boater in summer with a blue blazer. Our head teacher had or was a concert pianist and as far as I remember she had a lovely sports car. We played lacrosse on a green a short walk from school and I cycled in from home when dry. Any help you can give in regard to where the school was in Alverstoke. I would be grateful and pictures.

Stewart

A residence in Alverstoke known as Brockhurst Lodge (near St Mary's Church, I think) is mentioned as occupied by the Collins family up to 1820. Richard Collins was an artist, his brother, James, a solicitor. Rebecca Anne Collins was married from there in 1816. Does the house still exist? If not, what is on the site now?

Subscriptions for Friends of Gosport Museum 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

The subscriptions for 2023/24 are due, there should be enclosed or attached a subscription reminder. If you do not have one please let me know or download from the website fogm.org.uk the 'Join the Friends of Gosport Museum' page.

Still £6 for an individual and £9 for a couple at the same address.

If you joined from November 2022 your membership is paid to 31st March 2024.

If you have already paid or have a standing order thank you.

President
Bob Whiteley

Committee Chairman

Vice Chairman

Hon. Treasurer

Hon. Secretary
Ian Jeffery
023 9252 3358

Committee Secretary
Dot Bedenham

Membership Secretary
Linda Hedley
023 9258 6130

Project Director

Committee Members
Sydney Aynsworth
David Taylor
Margaret Ventham

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. Tel: 023 9258 6130

Joined since 1st November 2022 the subscription lasts to 31st March 2024.

Would You Like to Volunteer?

If you would like to volunteer for SEARCH it would be Wendy at wendy.redman@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk also for the Museum and Gallery as Katie Andrews is now on maternity leave. Thank you.

If you have information, articles, events or photos that may be of interest to the Friends of Gosport Museum, for the next Newsletter please send it , to: Ian Jeffery 11 Harcourt Rd, Gosport, Hants PO12 3NR ian@gosport.info

The Newsletter can be received by email (.pdf) let me know if you would be happy to receive it this way. This will help save FoGM cost. Thank you

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, or its staff.

Membership of Friends of Gosport Museum is
open to all - Please contact any Committee
member. Annual Subscription Individuals £6
Families £9.00. Due 1st April Each Year.
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