



The Mildenhall Post

Mildenhall Museum Society Newsletter



September 2018

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News from the Trustees

Congratulations to the Society Committee and Guide Dogs for the Blind for organising the Open Gardens. We were blessed with wonderful weather and before the heatwave had created too many problems. Thanks for all the hard work put in by everyone.

We had a stall at Lark in the Park and were grateful for the loan of a gazebo as it was a very hot day. We had a good response to the items we took for folk to handle and several local history enquiries.

The Blue Plaques around the town have been well received and the accompanying leaflet is available from the museum, library and bus station. It has been a joint initiative between the Museum, Mildenhall Community Partnership and council.

The WW1 display that has been in the Wartime Gallery has been brought down to the community space until the end of the year and we hope to put some other items on display.

Visitor figures have been encouraging for the summer and I hope the treasurer can report a corresponding increase in donations as running costs continue to increase.

We look forward to an interesting autumn season of speakers and events.

Stephanie Palmer

Dear Members

I'm delighted to be able to tell you that the Open Gardens event that we took part in raised £1020 for the Museum. As you probably know this was organised in conjunction with Guide Dogs for the Blind and they received an equal share of the proceeds. I'm not able to thank everyone individually as the list would be longer than this newsletter but the committee are most grateful for everyone who either organised, opened their gardens or helped raise funds by visiting them. It really was a tremendous effort.

Also, to add to our enjoyment of the day we hear that the first prize in the raffle for the tree, so very kindly donated by Barcham Trees, was won by one of our very own, very hard working volunteers – Gary Ewington. We'll obviously expect to be able to visit his garden in about 10 years' time and sit in the shade under it – while he mows the lawn obviously!

Please follow the rest of the year's programme as Anne Cross has engaged some extremely interesting talks, including that for the Supper Talk in November.

We are hoping to host a Members' Evening at the end of September with a short film that was postponed earlier this year about Americans in East Anglia during the post war years. The date has yet to be finalised.

Lloyd Hughes

PROGRAMME OF MUSEUM SOCIETY

TALKS AND EVENTS

2018 -19

DATE	TITLE	SPEAKER
4 th October	“Bury’s Own Tudor Queen” Bury Blue Badge Guide and author. Books for sale.	Martyn Taylor
1 st November	“The Most Secret Place on Earth” The last of three talks on Elveden Author of book with this title	Roger Pugh
16 th November	Riverside Dinner “Tales from the Bench”	Graham Higgins
6 th December	RAF Centenary Celebration Squadron 617 “The Dam Busters” Guest of Honour: Mr Sidney Grimes	Dr Robert Owen Squadron Historian
3 rd January 2.30 PM	AGM 2019 followed by talk “Suffolk Ghosts”	Graham Higgins
7 th February	“The rest of your natural life” Stories of Suffolk convicts and their families Author and local historian.	Pip Wright
7 th March	“Where have all our rabbits gone and does it matter?”	Mike Taylor Reserve Manager National Nature Reserve Breckland

ALL TALKS ARE AT THE MUSEUM AND COMMENCE AT 7.30

Except Riverside Dinner: details on tickets. Note: A.G.M. is at 2.30

Members £2 Non-members £4. Refreshments. ALL WELCOME



We would like people to know that the Museum has a Facebook page (it's listed as "Mildenhall and District Museum") and invite them to Like us, comment on their visit or ask us for any information.

June's edition – What would these farming tools be used for? – Answers



old hay knife, long blade for hand-mowing



Unfortunately, I apologise but I can't access the link that gives me the answers for two of these farming tools. If you know what they are please email me at kay.finnis@yahoo.co.uk and tell me what they are. I will share the answers in the next newsletter.

Kay Finnis

MERRY MILDENHALL 2018



THE MERRY MILDENHALL EVENT THIS YEAR TAKES PLACE ON DECEMBER 6TH 2018, IN THE PRECINCT AND MARKET PLACE.

EXCITED CROWDS GATHER IN THE CENTRE OF THE TOWN FOR LAST YEAR'S MERRY MILDENHALL EVENT.

"Mildenhall Charity and Fund Raising Trust.

Long-standing members of the Society will probably remember the Charity Shop which was situated in St. Andrews Street some years ago, and which was staffed in turn by members of local organisations.

Although this closed several years ago, the Charity's Bank Account has continued to exist. The Trustees of the Charity have now decided to finally wind up its affairs, and the monies in their account have been distributed to local charities and organisations.

Thus it was that the Museum's Trustees were astonished –but nonetheless delighted! –to find the Museum had been given a donation of no less than **£3000**. This is a magnificent boost to our coffers, and it goes without saying that grateful thanks have been made for this unexpected gift."

MILDENHALL MUSEUM SOCIETY MEMBERS

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

As you may have heard the rules on how organisations process personal data changed on 25th May 2018. We are writing to you because as a member of Mildenhall Museum Society, we currently process your personal data within our contacts database.

We take your personal data security and rights seriously and wish to inform you about how we are currently using your data and how we will continue to manage it going forward.

Please read below for further information of how we manage your data, and how to let us know if you would like to change any of your preferences.

What data are we holding?

We will only process information that is related to our relationship with you. This may include:

- Contact details including email, phone numbers and address details;
- Communication preferences;

What is the legal basis for processing your data?

Under article 6 of GDPR we are required to tell you under which lawful basis we are processing your data. In this instance we are processing your data under 'Legitimate Interests', specifically to keep you up to date on the Museums events, activities and news.

How we use this data

- To maintain direct communications with you as a named individual;
- To improve how we communicate with our members;
- To maintain accountability to members to inform you of relevant news and information that you would expect to receive from us – this may include marketing information to which you will always be able to opt out;

How we manage and store your data

All of your data is stored and managed securely within the Museum policies and procedures.

Your data protection rights

Under GDPR you have a range of rights, which include:

- The right to be informed about how we use your data
- The right of access to your data via a subject access request
- The right to have personal data rectified so that it is accurate
- The right to have your data erased (under certain circumstances)
- The right to object to or restrict how we use your data

Mailing lists

As a Museum contact you may be on one or more of our mailing lists depending on our relationship with you. You will always have the option to unsubscribe from these communications or if you wish to do so now please e-mail kay.finnis@yahoo.co.uk or Society Membership Secretary, Jean Smith.

Your request will be actioned within one month of your email/letter which will be retained on file for future reference to ensure we can manage your preferences effectively.

Should you have any concerns or questions please contact me at kay.finnis@yahoo.co.uk

With best wishes

Kay Finnis

WW1 Centenary – 1918 – 2018



As we approach the commemorations to mark the end of The Great War, here are a few unusual facts you may not know.

1. An explosion on the battlefield in France was heard in London.

Lest We Forget

While the war raged on in the mud and trenches, a very different war was taking place beneath the soldiers' feet. A group of miners, operating in total secrecy, dug tunnels up to 100ft underground, to plant and detonate mines beneath the enemy's trenches. Their biggest success was at Messines Ridge in Belgium where over 900,000lbs of explosives were simultaneously detonated in 19 underground tunnels. Much of the German front line was destroyed, and the explosions were heard 140 miles away by the British prime minister in Downing St.

2. 12 million letters were delivered to the front every week.

Astonishingly, it only took two days for a letter from Britain to reach the front in France. The journey began at a purpose-built sorting depot in Regent's Park before being shipped to the trenches. By the end of the war, two billion letters and 114 million parcels had had been delivered.

3. The youngest British soldier was 12 years old

Sidney Lewis was just 12 years old when he lied about his age and joined the army during World War One. He was one of thousands of eager underage boys who enlisted and ended up fighting alongside their adult counterparts on the front. Some were motivated by patriotism, but for others it was an escape from their dreary lives.

4. Blood banks were developed during WW1

The British Army began the routine use of blood transfusion in treating wounded soldiers. Blood was transferred directly from one person to another. A US Army doctor, Captain Oswald Robertson, established the first blood bank on the Western Front in 1917, using sodium citrate to prevent the blood from coagulating and becoming unusable. Blood was kept on ice for up to 28 days and then transported to casualty clearing stations for use in life-saving surgery where it was needed most.

5. WW1 sparked the invention of plastic surgery

Shrapnel was the cause of many facial injuries in WW1 and unlike the straight-line wounds inflicted by bullets, the twisted metal shards produced from a shrapnel blast could easily rip a face off. Horrified by the injuries he saw, surgeon Harold Gillies, took on the task of helping victims and pioneered early techniques of facial reconstruction in the process