



The Mildenhall Post

Mildenhall Museum Society Newsletter



September 2019

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News from the Trustees

The Trustees took the decision to stop accepting items for identification until such time as Chris returns from Yorkshire. Things were accumulating and we don't have the space to store any more.

An assortment of reminiscence items was taken to Barton Mills Church fete and to Lark in the Park proving a success across the generations. Norma Chapman lent some animal bones to add to the appeal!

We were pleased to write a letter of support for the Cricket Club's successful Heritage Fund application for funds for their Heritage project "That's Over". The club now has a fully digitised archive and excellent Timeline dating back to 1876.

The next temporary display in the community space will be recent acquisitions showing the variety of items we receive. It will be there until we close for a winter break.

Stephanie Palmer

Society News

Dear Members

For those of you who were around when Lark in the Park took place last month you will have seen the Museum stall amongst the others surrounding the centre arena. We had quite a few visitors who were drawn to the competition which Mary Drake prepared for us. The First prize of £50 was an attraction in itself. Thanks also to Mary for this.

There was a lot of interest in the "What Are These" objects which Norma had arranged for us. There were quite a few wrong answers too, especially the one which identified the horse skull as a dog. Baskerville anyone?

Sadly, we did not make many sales although there were several books and pamphlets relating to the locality, thumbed through but not purchased. Although the wind got up at times at least the day remained dry and we showed the face of the Museum, several people saying they would call in during the summer as they "hadn't ever been in before." Sadly, this is true of many, including locals. With the sign outside the building and our presence in local literature there are still those who say "we didn't know there was a Museum in town."

Anne Cross has lined up some very interesting talks for the Autumn period so the Committee hope to see you there. We have arranged an evening on Thursday 20th September when a Detectorist will talk about the "hows and whys" of his hobby.

Thanks to all who have supported the Society during the year.

Lloyd H

MUSEUM SOCIETY TALKS and EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2019 – JANUARY 2020

20th September **Social Evening: Buffet and Drinks
with Quiz and Guest** **Local Detectorist
Colin Hardwick**

**Tickets £4 on sale at the
Museum**

3rd October **Hallowe'en coming.....
"Ghosts of Suffolk"** **Graham Higgins**

7th November **"Bill Tutte of Newmarket and the Bletchley
Park Code Breakers"** **Sandra Easom**

Xmas chutney on sale!

2nd January A.G.M. at 2.30. p.m.

****PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME****

TALKS ARE AT THE MUSEUM AND COMMENCE AT 7.30

FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS. ALL WELCOME

For the latest information please check the Museum website at

www.mildenhallmuseum.co.uk/talks

Talks are also advertised on the Museum Notice Board, in the

Mildenhall Messenger and on Facebook (see mildenhallpeople)

NB A NOTE FROM THE SPEAKER FINDER.....

The programme of talks up to June 2020 is now arranged so if you would like to take over from me, this would be an ideal time whilst I am still around, more or less alive and kicking, to assist. There is a considerable file of speakers now built up, many of which I owe to Norma's close study of the BFP each week! Clearly time has not stood still and as many of us advance into our eighties it would really be better if an orderly handover could take place. This is a very interesting role and I have enjoyed meeting, as you would, some remarkable people. Please come to the AGM and offer your services or ring me on 01638 712883 for a chat. Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you.

Anne Cross

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS are held in September. Some places of interest that are not open to the public will open on certain dates and others waive normal admission prices. Mildenhall and District Museum is normally closed on a Sunday **but will be open from 2- 4.30 on SUNDAY 15th SEPTEMBER.**

There will be an opportunity to be led on a short walk in the town centre to observe points of special interest. **GROUPS WILL BE LIMITED TO 12. BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL.** Book after SEPT 1st by coming to the Museum during normal openings hours (Wed., Thurs., Sat. 2-4.30, Fri. 10.30-4.30) or 'phoning during opening hours. No charge but donations for tea/biscuits after the walk would be appreciated.

Also, associated with HOD, the Museum will have a presence in the Market Place on FRIDAY 13th SEPTEMBER. Do drop by and say "hello" when you are shopping.

Comments from visitors

We encourage visitors to sign the book and make a comment. Sylvia was asked to select a few of the remarks from the most recent two pages. Here they are, made by people from Thetford, Chatteris, Bury St. Edmunds, West Midlands, Horseheath, Eye, Florida and Mildenhall.

'A perfect local museum'

'A real gem - fascinating'

'Very child-friendly'

'Interesting place to bring children'

'Good to see history about my family'

'A fabulous museum, something for all ages'

'Interesting, liked trying on the clothes'

'Learned a lot of new things, very helpful'

'Really interesting, glad I visited'

'Wonderful, I will recommend'

'A lovely museum - well cared for'

Many visitors are surprised that we are an all-volunteer organisation, having to raise all the running costs of the museum. If you have contact with new residents to the area do encourage them to visit and get to know about their new neighbourhood.

Museum winter closing date

Friday 20th December



The Suffolk Traveller by John Kirby, Year: 1764

244 HUNDRED of LACKFORD.

MILDENHALL, situated on the River *Lark*, is a very large Town in Bounds, and a Half-Hundred of itself. The Borough, commonly called High-Town *Mildenhall*, is a pleafant well-built Town; its noble Church and tall Steeple, are good Ornaments to it. There is a plentiful Market Weekly on *Fridays*, well served with Fish, wild Fowl, and all other Provisions. The Fair begins Yearly on *Sept. 29*, and a considerable one it is, lasting four Days. Towards the Fens are several large Streets as big as ordinary Towns, called by the Inhabitants, *Rows*; as *West-Row*, *Beck-Row*, and *Holywell-Row*.

One Manor of this Town was given to the Abbey of *Bury* by King *Edward* the Confessor, that the Religious might eat Wheat, and not as they did before Barley-bread. At the Dissolution it was granted 4 and 5 *Philip* and *Mary*, to *Thomas Reeve* and *Christopher Ballet*: It is now the Estate of Sir *William Bunbury*, Bart. Nephew of Sir *Thomas Hanmer*, Speaker of the House of Commons in the Reign of *Queen Anne*, who constantly resided here in a noble Mansion North of the Church. This Town has furnished *London* with two Lord-Mayors, *Henry Barton*, who was Lord-Mayor in 1428, and *William Gregory*, who was Mayor in 1451. In the Year 1567, *May 17*, great Part of this Town was consumed by Fire. Here is also the Seat of ——— *Rushbrooke*, Esq.

When Trustee Councillor Richard Alecock was in the record office he came across a publication called The Suffolk traveller by John Kirby dated 1764 referring to Mildenhall High Town. He has scanned it, had it framed and it will soon be on display in the Museum. This vindicates all arguments about the High Town designation being a recent fabrication.

Mildenhall Heritage Plaques Trail

I work as a Teaching Assistant at Mildenhall College Academy and part of my job is encouraging students to improve their basic literacy and numeracy skills, specifically in Years 9,10 & 11.



Recently I arranged for a small group to follow the heritage trail, we were met by Stephanie Palmer at point 10, The Bunbury Rooms who was able to explain in more detail information on points 10, 11 and 12.



The group enjoyed their walk and all apart from one of them live in Mildenhall and were surprised by the history surrounding the various points on the trail. They were able to write a report about their trail which enabled them to sign off a challenge from their Personal Development Programme. We ended the warm afternoon with an ice cream on the Jubilee Field.

Kay Finnis - Mildenhall Museum Society Newsletter Editor.

Mildenhall Cricket Club Project "That's Over"

The aim of this project was to produce an informative history of Mildenhall Cricket Club using a wide range of materials and displays. It was felt it was important to preserve the history of the Club for future generations. We hoped to create a system that would be flexible to accommodate any additional archive items made available in the future. It was then decided to seek funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund for which our bid was successful, and a grant was awarded in April 2018.

We would like to thank The Trustees of Mildenhall and District Museum for their backing and agreeing to display our mobile unit to coincide with the new cricket season in April 2020.

For more information about the project please visit the website <https://mildenhallcricketclub.hitscricket.com/>

Mildenhall Cricket Club "That's Over" Project Committee.

