

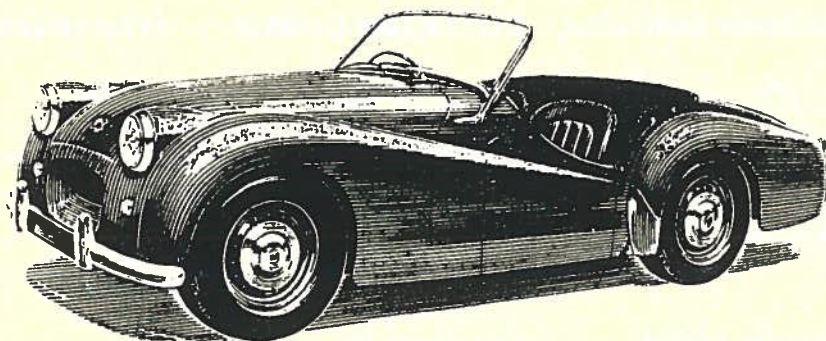
FRIENDS OF GUILDFORD MUSEUM

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2000



ISSUE 10



MODEL OF TR2 SPORTS CAR MADE BY VICTORY INDUSTRIES (SURREY) LTD

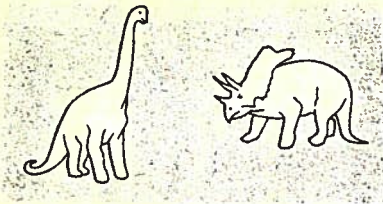
Not to be Missed

Guildford 2000 **1st July** **11am to 4.30pm**
Event for all the family in Castle Cliffe Gardens. Costumed interpreters tell the history of Guildford from the Roman period to the present day. - FREE

Guildford 2000 **8th to 22nd July** **11am to 4pm**
Exhibition on above theme in Salter's - FREE

Wey Lade **9th to 23rd September** **11am to 4pm**
Exhibition, activities and talks on the theme of transport and cargo on the River Wey. Produced in conjunction with the National Trust at Dapdune Wharf for Heritage Day. -at Salters- FREE

Dinosaur Exhibition **21st to 28th October** **11am to 4pm**



Travelling exhibition produced by Surrey Museums Consultative Committee Geology Officer, Paul Davis.

'Creatasaurus -design a dinosaur'
Holiday activities for children.
Phone museum (444750) for details

Lecture Series **see page 12**

Book Festival **18th October at 7.30pm**
'Fiction, Legend & Damn Lies'
A talk by Matthew Alexander at Salters
£5 including a glass of wine.

Victorian Christmas Party **18th December at Salters**
£5 including refreshments

Secretary's Letter

Again the time has come for membership renewal. At the end of the subscription year on March 31st, our membership stood at 257 which is the highest it has been. However, as I have said in earlier Newsletters, it does seem that a membership around 250 is a stable and sustainable number. I have now, at the end of April, received 174 renewals and look forward to receiving the rest. If you have not renewed your membership when reading this, do please take action and continue to support our museum in a practical and enjoyable way!

At the recommendation of our Treasurer, Tim Bryers, it has been decided to adjust the accounting year from the existing period of 1st April to 31st March to a new period which is to be the same as the calendar year. Members will be asked at the AGM to approve this proposal which will make the accounting easier as the end of the calendar year is a quiet period for the Friends. However please note that the membership renewals will continue to be due on March 31st each year. You will see from the Treasurer's accounts (page 15) we had another successful year, or rather for this time only, a successful nine months. We were able to finance just over £3500 of expenditure that Matthew Alexander and his staff particularly wanted for the museum collections and also for display facilities in the Undercroft in the High Street. The total expenditure made to date by the Friends for the benefit of the museum is now in excess of £10,000. This means that during the five years we have existed, each member has generated a net £10 per year every year for the museum. This is twice the annual subscription rate and I think properly reflects the hard work put in by members and also the pleasurable activities enjoyed by many that continually generate modest surpluses.

The outings arranged by Peter Hattersley and administered by Derek Somner continue to be very popular. During the past six months since the last Newsletter, there have been a number of full day outings. The first was to the celebrated Roman palace at Fishborne and then on to Chichester. This was the final 1999 outing and it was followed by a visit to the Old Operating Theatre and The London Fire Museum, both in Southwark. The day started in The George, the sole remaining coaching house

in central London, which is Grade 1 listed and now owned by the National Trust but let to a brewery company; surely the best of both worlds?!

The guide at the Old Operating theatre was a gifted speaker and spared us none of the gory details of surgery in the early 19th century. The Fire Brigade Museum was equally interesting, particularly the efforts of fire fighters during the second world war. We were fortunate to be escorted by two expert and enthusiastic guides. In April the Friends visited the Inns of Court, the Royal Courts of Justice and the Old Bailey. I have to say that it was one of the most fascinating days I have ever been privileged to enjoy. The planning was impeccable except for the weather which was dreadful! We were treated to a mine of information on some of the more arcane practices of the legal profession. Perhaps some of us had a twinge of envy for the peaceful surroundings and exquisite buildings that the barristers are able to work in and enjoy. It was indeed fascinating to be able to walk into any of the Royal Courts of Justice and listen to trials in progress. Peter had arranged an after hours visit to the Old Bailey as access is severely limited during the day. We all sat in No.1 Court and were told of all the infamous defendants who had been committed there, including Crippin, Sutcliffe and Nielson. We were then "taken down" to the cells below, a grim underworld of graffiti covered bare walls and steel gates. It was a memorable and at times sobering day.

An open evening, attended by 35 members, was held in February for the Friends at the museum and another successful Skittles Lunch was organised by Heather Anderson. The season of village walks got underway in April with a stroll through Walton-on-the-Hill, led as usual by Jackie Malyon. You will see in the updated flyer sent out with this Newsletter the future programme of events and outings; do take the opportunity to make plans to attend; they are great fun and very informative.

I will end by thanking all those who work so hard to make the Friends so successful for the museum and so enjoyable for the members. Long may this continue. Please support us and encourage your friends and family to join. Have a pleasant summer, blessed hopefully with some fine weather.

Richard Sinker, Hon Secretary.

The Curator's Column

The Friends have recently purchased for the Museum a model of a Triumph TR2 sports car made by Victory Industries of Guildford. As the name might suggest, Victory Industries (Surrey) Ltd was set up after the Second World War at 14, Worplesdon Road, Stoughton, where it continued to trade until about 1970.

The model is of 1:18 scale and dates from the 1950s: Triumph introduced the TR2 in 1953 and it was discontinued in 1955. The metal and plastic chassis contains an electric motor powered by three 1½ volt batteries, rather awkwardly inserted by removing the seats. There is a forward, off and reverse switch which doubles as the exhaust pipe and the front wheels steer from the steering wheel. The body work is of moulded plastic and altogether the model is of a high standard - no doubt cherished by the boy called 'John' whose 'Auntie Glad' gave it to him - for a birthday or Christmas present, one assumes.

The Museum already has a model motor boat made by Victory Industries, and this car forms a valuable addition to our collections. I would be very interested to hear if any Friends had any recollections of Victory Industries or their products.

Matthew Alexander - Curator

At the AGM on May 17th it was agreed that the subscriptions for the period 1st April 2000 to 31st March 2001 remain unchanged and that the financial year be changed to the calendar year.

To join the FRIENDS OF GUILDFORD MUSEUM, please send a cheque with the appropriate subscription to
Mr T.C.Bryers, Friends of Guildford Museum,
2 Southbury, Lawn Road, Guildford, GU2 5DD

Subscription rates for 2000/2001

Individual	£5	Family	£10	Under 18's	£2
Corporate	£25			Individual Life	£100

Please make cheques payable to
FRIENDS OF GUILDFORD MUSEUM

History Panels

During the past year panels detailing the history of the area have appeared on buildings around Guildford. How many have you seen? At the moment I understand there are eleven and another five are planned. They were instigated by Maurice Byham the Town Centre Manager after a visit to Chester and the text has been prepared by our curator Matthew Alexander. Why not spend a pleasant afternoon wandering around the town looking at the panels? They can be found at or near the following places:-



1. Castle Keep
2. Castle gardens by gate leading to Castle Arch
3. Quarry Street by Castle Arch
4. Quarry Street by Rosemary Alley
5. Junction of Quarry Street and High Street on right-hand side of White Lion Walk.
6. Angel Hotel - on right -hand side of Boots.
7. Guildhall - on opposite side of High Street adjacent to Jeffrey's shop.
8. Tunsgate Arch - High Street
9. Holy Trinity Church - on right- hand end of wall outside church
10. Abbots Hospital - on opposite side of High Street on right-hand side of Abbey National Building Society
11. Royal Grammar School - Upper High Street



Surrey Young Archaeologists Club

Following the departure of Christine Hardman last year, the Surrey Archaeological Society has now appointed Sarah Ellison who took up her post in January. Sarah is a student of archaeology at University of London and is particularly interested in Romano-British archaeology - as are many of our YAC members. Sarah has organised an interesting programme of visits and activities including an investigation of the Mount Cemetery and a trip to Woking Palace to be led by our YAC Chairperson, Steve Dyer. Previous sessions have included a most interesting talk and hands-on activity on archaeological conservation by professional conservator, John Price, and in March, on a rather wet day Professor Alan Crocker (President of the Surrey Archaeological Society) and his wife took us on a very interesting visit to Chilworth gunpowder mills.

In February some of the YAC's brought a touch of humour to the Surrey Archaeological Symposium with tales of their favourite moments as YAC members.

The membership is growing daily and with plans for expansion of the Club, we all look forward to a busy and exciting year.

The club is open to all between the ages of 8 and 18 who enjoy archaeology and history and wish to learn more. The club meets once a month on a Saturday (Junior group 10am to noon - Senior group 2pm to 4pm) and they learn about archaeology and local history using the Museum's resources, practical sessions and trips to places of interest.

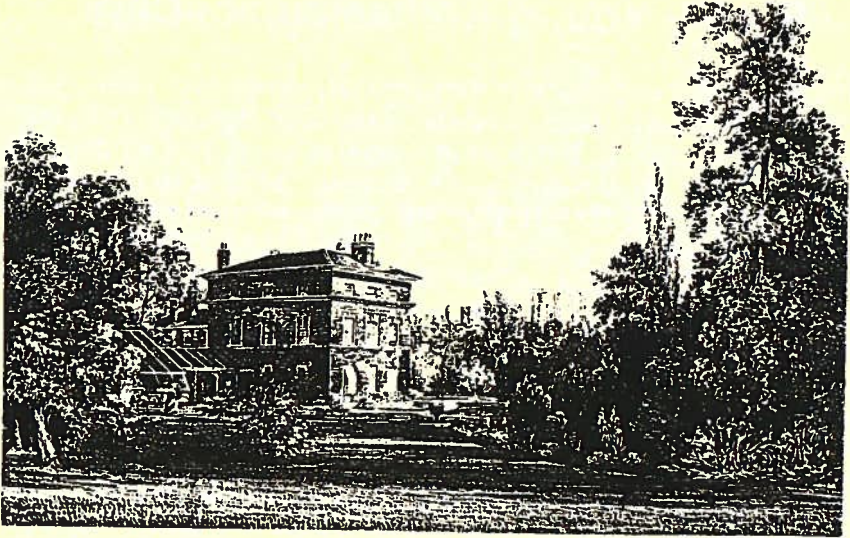
Please contact me if you know of anyone who might wish to join.

Sue Roggero

Deputy Curator & Administrator & joint YAC Organiser.

The Club is jointly funded by Surrey Archaeological Society and Guildford Museum

Millmead House



Back in December the Friends purchased for the museum a watercolour painting of Millmead House by local artist George Frederick Prosser. It dates from the middle of the nineteenth century. George was the brother of Henry Prosser and many of us have prints of Henry's paintings on our walls. The picture shows the House standing in extensive gardens, with the tower of St. Mary's and the castle keep on the skyline.

At the heart of the house, now the offices of Guildford Borough Council, is the mansion built in the 1740's and 1750's by William Haydon. He was a successful draper who probably built his own fine High Street Shop at this time, now Lloyds Bank. In fact he found banking was more profitable than selling fabrics, and in 1765 he founded Haydon's Bank, the first in Guildford. The family prospered and several served as mayors. Haydon Place is named after them.

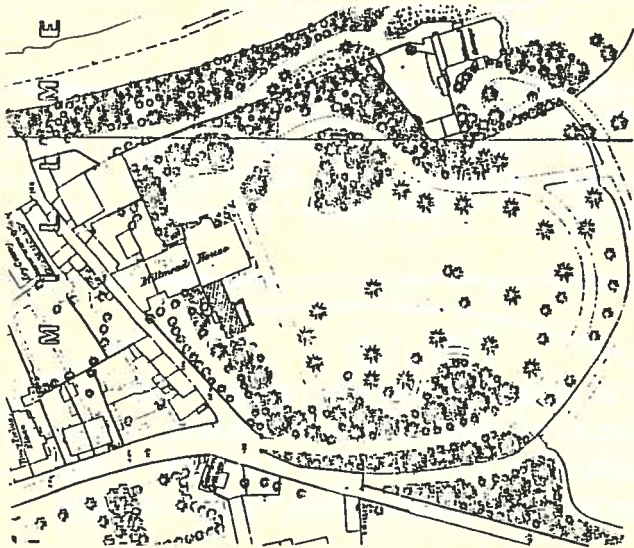
The original house had two storeys with a central front door and three sash windows on the first floor, with rubbed brick detailing. What survives of this house, are the main stair case, pannelling, cornice and fireplace surrounds in the Mayors parlour and what is now committee room two.

By the end of the 1700's Millmead House had become a girls' school. The headmistress, Miss Ogbourne, had married

the second William Haydon after the death of his first wife. The marriage was kept secret and she kept her wedding ring hidden on a ribbon around her neck. Only when William was on his deathbed did she put the ring on her finger and she nursed him through his last days openly acknowledged as his wife. He left her enough money to live without having to run the school. It closed in 1816.

Soon after this a top floor was built for servants accommodation and a new porch and front door added. This work was probably done by the third William Haydon, who lived in the house until 1855. It was during his residence that the glasshouse or conservatory was added at the rear. The painting shows the house as it then was, with a stucco two-storey extension to the north.

*This is an abridged version of the Curator's article which appeared in the **Surrey Advertiser** for December 10th 1999*

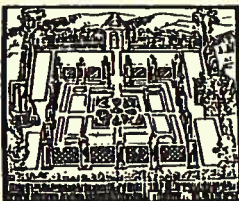


Plan of Garden in 1870

It's Knot a Garden (But with your help it could be)

Hiding the other side of the museum walls and tucked in between the museum and castle wall lies a courtyard that is just longing to be converted into a mediaeval garden. Today it is just wasteland but with your help it could be converted into a haven of tranquility and beauty where you might also enjoy refreshment. Skills in clearing, designing, and planting the site are all required. So if you can offer help in this exciting

Phone
on



project.
Matthew
444750

Help is also required for cataloguing the Museums photographic collection. This is an important task that will in time allow the public access to material not previously seen. Phone Mary Alexander on (01483) 444750 if you would like to help.

Thanks

to all those Members who continue to aid the museum by staffing the exhibitions and Undercroft. If you would like to be on the list of helpers - if only occasionally, then please contact Marjorie Williams on

Guildford 569794

Museum Lecture Series 2000/2001

Thursday 26th October Byzantium: the forgotten Empire
Dr Jonathan Harris explores Byzantium's legacy.

Wednesday 22nd November Their name shall live on
Professor Nigel Saul on English medieval church
brasses.

**Thursday 14th December Richard the Lionheart and
Saladin**
Dr Jonathan Phillips explores these
legendary characters of the Third Crusade.

**Thursday 11th January The decline and fall of the
British Empire**
Professor Tony Stockwell

Thursday 8th February Bloody but unbowed
Dr Peter Dewey discusses British economic
growth since 1945

Thursday 8th March The fame of illusion
Professor Pam Pilbeam tells the story of Madame
Tussaud and the history of the waxworks

Thursday 5th APRIL Renaissance galleyware
Dr Hugo Blake traces the start of delft pottery

*All lectures will take place in the Guildhall in Guildford
High Street and will start at 7.30pm. The ticket price
for each lecture is £5.00. This includes a
complimentary glass of wine after the lecture.
Tickets from Guildford Museum (01483) 444752*

How to go on with a letter

Some more wise words from Lewis Carroll.

(from Eight or Nine Wise Words about letter Writing purchased by the FRIENDS in 1998 along with the Wonderland Stamp Case)

Here is a golden Rule to begin with, Write legibly. the average temper of the human race would be perceptibly sweetened , if everybody obeyed this Rule! A great deal of bad writing in the world comes simply from writing too



Dodgson's sketch of himself - 1868

quickly. Of course you reply, "I do it to save time". A very good object, no doubt: but what right have you to do it at your friend's expense? Isn't his time as valuable as yours? Years ago , I used to receive letters from a friend and very interesting letters too written in one of the most atrocious hands ever invented. It generally took me about a week to read one of his letters! I used to carry it about in my pocket, and take it out at leisure times, to puzzle over the riddles which composed it holding it in different distances, till at last the meaning of some hopeless scrawl would flash upon me, when I at once wrote down the English under it; and when several

had been guessed, the context would help one with the others, till at last the whole series of hieroglyphics was deciphered. If all ones's friends wrote like that, Life would be entirely spent in reading their letters!

This Rule applies, specially to names of people or places and most specially to foreign names. I got a letter once, containing some Russian names, written in the same hasty scramble in which people often write "yours sincerely". The context, of course, didn't help in the

least: and one spelling was just as likely as another, so far as I knew: it was necessary to write and tell my friend that I couldn't read any of them.

My second Rule is, don't fill more than a page and a half with apologies for not having written sooner!

The best subject, to *begin* with, is your friend's last letter. Write with the letter open before you. Answer his questions, and make any remarks his letter suggests. *Then* go on to what you want to say yourself. This arrangement is more courteous, and pleasanter for the reader, than to fill the letter with your own invaluable remarks, and then hastily answer your friend's questions in a postscript. Your friend is much more likely to enjoy your wit, *after* his own anxiety for information has been satisfied.

In referring to anything your friend has said in his letter, it is best to *quote the exact words*, and not to give a summary of them in *your* words. *A's* impression, of what *B* has said, expressed in *A's* words, will never convey to *B* the meaning of his own words.

This is specially necessary when some point has arisen as to which the two correspondents do not quite agree. There ought to be no opening for such writing as "You are quite mistaken in thinking I said so-and-so. It was not in the least my meaning,&c., &c.", which tends to make a correspondence last a lifetime.

A few more Rules may fitly be given here, for correspondence that has unfortunately become *controversial*.

One is, *don't repeat yourself*. When once you have said your say, fully and clearly, on a certain point, and have failed to convince your friend, *drop that subject*: to repeat your arguments, all over again, will simply lead to his doing the same; and so you will go on, like a circulating decimal. *Did you ever know a Circulating Decimal come to an end?*



Solving the Grid Lock

A proposal for a Monorail transport system for the town is still on the cards as a reader reported recently in the Surrey Advertiser. A few years ago, the paper carried an article by Surrey University on a proposed underground system but the towns residents avoided the public meeting called for noon on April 1st outside the Guildhall. Perhaps they felt they were more likely to be projected into space in view of the University's expertise in that field. Ron Hill has been looking through the archives at the Guildford Institute and has come up with this article in the Surrey Advertiser for 15th September 1903

"The proposal to establish an electric tramway in Guildford has now taken definite shape. The Town Council considered a plan by the West Surrey Light Railway Company. It is proposed to connect Shalford, Stoughton and Merrow with Guildford Railway Station: Shalford being reached by Park Street and Quarry Street: Merrow by way of Bridge Street, Woodbridge Road, Church Row, York Road etc. and Stoughton Barracks by way of the Woodbridge Road. There will be nine cars and current will be supplied by the Guildford Electricity Supply Company."



NEW MEMBERS

We are delighted to welcome the following new members to our Association and look forward to meeting them at the functions.

Mrs M Andr�e	Mrs P Berryman	Mr C C Cheverst
Miss A Clark	Mr & Mrs J Glanfield	Dr M Grisewood
Miss E Hall	Mr & Mrs N Hardy	Mr K Kapur
Mrs J Mulley	Mrs A de Rebello	Mrs R Noakes
Mrs A Rogers		Mrs J Waddington
Mr D & Mrs C Watts		Mrs J Worrall

Friends of Guildford Museum

<u>Financial Statement for the period</u>	<u>ended 31/12/1999 (nine months)</u>		<u>ended 31/12/98 (twelve months)</u>	
<u>Income</u>	£	£	£	£
Friends' Subscriptions		1206		1411
Town Walks		797		1117
Bank interest(net)		56		151
Donations		5		
Surplus on Events(net)		<u>1986</u>		<u>1676</u>
		4110		4385
 <u>Expenditure</u>				
Guildford Museum	3531		2073	
AGM Expenses	91		65	
Sundry Expenses	<u>144</u>		<u>322</u>	
		<u>3766</u>		<u>2460</u>
Surplus for period		<u>344</u>		<u>1925</u>
Balance Sheet as at 31/12/99			Balance Sheet as at 31/12/98	
 <u>Current Assets</u>				
Cash at Bank		8371		8960
Debtors & Prepayments		<u>143</u>		<u>235</u>
		8514		9195
Less Creditors				
Ticket Sales in Advance		<u>2025</u>		3040
Sundry Creditors				<u>10</u>
<u>Total Assets less Liabilities</u>		<u>6489</u>		<u>6145</u>
 <u>Represented by :</u>				
Accumulated funds at 1st January		6145		4220
Surplus for Period		<u>344</u>		<u>1925</u>
		<u>6489</u>		<u>6145</u>

April 2000

T.C.Bryers Hon.Treasurer

Make a note in your Diary

12th July	Wednesday	9am	St Albans & Verulamium
26th July	Wednesday	10.30am	Surrey Villages - Wimbledon
13th Aug	Sunday	9am	No 1 London & Albert Memorial
22nd Aug	Tuesday	10.30am	Surrey Villages - Richmond
3rd Sept	Sunday	12 Noon	Friend's Barbecue-see below
23rd Sept	Saturday	9am	Rochester & Dickens
10th Oct	Tuesday	9am	Poppies & Periwigs
18th Oct	Wednesday	2pm	Surrey Villages - Worplesdon
25th Oct	Wednesday	7.30pm	Quiz Evening

Full details of these events can be found on the sheet circulated to members.

Tickets are obtainable from Derek Somner,
18 Abbot Road, Guildford GU1 3TA



(01483) 539447

**Friends' Social and Barbecue
at Glen View, West Horsley**

**Sunday 3rd September 2000
at 12 Noon**

**Chicken-Mint Lamb Sticks-Sausages-Salad
Wine-Fruit juice-Dessert-Coffee**

Croquet-Post Card Quiz-Book & CD stalls-Raffle
(Offers of help would be appreciated by Peter on 01483 282507)

Tickets from Derek Somner - price £8