

Make a Note in your Diary

Wednesday 19th July

Tilford Village & Rural Life Museum
Meet 10.30 am in Barley Mow on Tilford Green £14.50

Wednesday 2nd August

Silchester Roman Town
Depart 9.15 am Cost £18

Thursday 10th August

Godstone
Meet 10.30 am at White Hart, Godstone
Full day outing Cost £9

Saturday 16th September

Coventry Cathedral & Coventry Transport Museum
Depart 8.15 am Cost £26

Wednesday 18th October

London Canal Museum & Narrow Boat Trip
Depart 8.45 am Cost £22

Tickets from Derek Somner
18 Abbot Road, Guildford, GU1 3TA(01483 539447)

FRIENDS OF GUILDFORD MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

June 2006



Issue 22



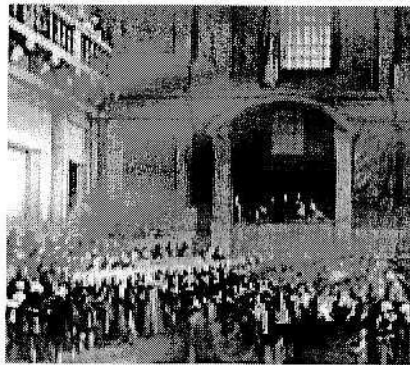
From the Editor

Royal Maundy Thursday

The 13th April 2006 will surely be recorded forever in Guildford's history for the honour the Queen bestowed on us all by bringing the Maundy Service to our fine modern Cathedral. Later The Queen and Prince Philip delighted us with a walk up the High Street, lined with packed crowds, to lunch with the Mayor at the Guildhall and I know you would not wish me to let this day pass without recording some of its highlights.

The Maundy ceremony dates right back to 597 AD when the tradition of giving silver coins to the poor is said to have originated with St Augustine at Canterbury where it was noted that the ceremony originally involved the king, queen or their representatives washing the feet of the poor. ('Maundy' is derived from the command or mandatum by Christ at the Last Supper, to love one another.) The first Monarch known to have taken part in a Maundy service is King John (a visitor to our Castle) at Knaresborough in 1210 when he gave thirteen pence to each of thirteen poor men, probably in commemoration of the number of people at the Last Supper. There are continuous records of the Distribution having been made on Maundy Thursday since the reign of Edward I (We still have remains of his nursery chamber in the Castle Grounds) but it is Edward II who started the tradition of the Monarch participating in the ceremony. When Edward III was fifty years old he provided food and clothing for fifty poor men and most monarchs have since made donations to as many poor individuals as their age. This year the Queen being in her eightieth year presented purses to eighty men and eighty women. The monarch usually washed the participants feet although Elizabeth I

Watercolour by S K Grimm shows the 1778 Maundy service in progress in the Banqueting House. George III, Queen Charlotte and other members of the royal party can be seen watching the ceremony from the royal box.



avoided it on at least one occasion and Samuel Pepys commented in 1667 that Charles II 'did not wash the poor people's feet but the Bishop of London did it for him'. James II was the last recorded monarch to do so although the washing of the feet continued until 1730. The Maundy money as we know it in the form of 1d 2d 3d & 4d appears to have been introduced in 1731 when a report states that the Maundy gifts included 'leathern bags with one penny, two penny, three penny and four penny pieces of silver'. The Maundy coins are legal tender and when we changed to decimal currency in 1971, the face value of a set of four coins became 10 new pence instead of 10d in the old money.

The ceremony was held in the Banqueting House, Whitehall from 1660 to 1890, when it ceased to be used as a Chapel Royal. Maundy Thursday 1774 was recorded as follows: 'His Majesty's alms were distributed to thirty-five poor men and woman, three ells of Holland, a piece of woollen cloth, a pair of shoes and stockings, 20 shillings in a purse, 35 silver pence, a loaf of bread and a platter of fish to each'. In 1814 a lean-to was erected at the rear of the Banqueting House to house the Maundy offerings, and it was recorded in 1815 the bread was spoilt by rain.

During the course of the nineteenth century these offerings were replaced by specially minted coins distributed in leather purses.

This year each recipient (80 men and 80 woman) received two purses as normal. The first – a white one – contained 80p in Maundy coins reflecting the Queen's age on her forthcoming birthday. The second - which is red – holds a £5 coin celebrating her 80th birthday and a 50 pence coin marking the 150th anniversary of the Victoria Cross. The recipients are all retired pensioners recommended by clergy and ministers of all denominations, in recognition of service to the church and to the community. Since the Queen has been on the throne the ceremony has rotated around the cathedrals in the country returning to Westminster Abbey about every 10 years.

I have been a guide at the Cathedral for 23 years and very fortunately was allocated two tickets in the Queen's Chapel for the Maundy service. Here my wife gives a flavour of the atmosphere.

Maundy Thursday and we were sitting in Guildford Cathedral at 9.15 am waiting. There was an atmosphere of general anticipation as we passed the time before 11 am when the Head of the Church of England, Her Majesty the Queen, would arrive. We were not receiving the two little bags, red and white, containing the Maundy Money but we knew several people who were. They gradually arrived among the 160 people who were to have the privilege of meeting the Queen.

The organ started to play at 9.45 and the beautiful strains of Bach's Toccata and Fugue filled the vast nave. Three organists took it in turns, two from Guildford and one from the Chapel Royal. Then the processions began to arrive, six in all and they were detailed in our beautiful programme so everyone could follow who was

arriving. First the representative of the Church in Surrey and the Chancellor of the University. Then the choir procession, the young choristers of the Chapel Royal in their lovely red uniforms. Then the Cathedral and Diocese, the County and Civic. The Dean and Chapter and finally the Royal Almonry at 10.45. Now we were ready and waiting for the final procession, the Queen herself. As the hour approached eleven the Queen's procession arrived and the service commenced. Beefeaters carried the Maundy money on their heads. As the Queen distributed the Maundy money the joint choirs sang, some pieces in Latin and the most famous piece Zadok the Priest which always sends a shiver up my spine.

Finally after all the beautiful hymns and prayers we all sang "God Save The Queen" and the Royal Family departed and the vast congregation made their way back to their cars. What a wonderful experience!



*Her Majesty the Queen, the Lord High Almoner and the Dean of Guildford
Carrying the traditional nosegays*

A Recipients Tale

Beryl Montague-Butlin is one of the recipients and she lives with her dog in Cranleigh. She served in the WRAC, has been active on Cranleigh Council and now is a volunteer at the Cathedral as a guide, flower arranger and assisting with brass rubbing. Here is her story.

When Eric asked me to write an impression of the day the Queen came to Guildford Cathedral to present the Royal Maundy- I faced the prospect of marshalling my thoughts with much trepidation, I hope I can convey some of the magic. It was the culmination of several months of very detailed planning by the Royal Almonry and Buckingham Palace in cooperation with the Dean, his personnel assistant and staff at the Cathedral. It certainly became the most magnificent spectacle I have been involved in - the whole morning went so smoothly - not even the tiniest hitch. The Sunday before, a large gentleman came into the Cathedral as a visitor with his wife and turned out to be the senior NCO of the Yeoman of the Guard - he came to "pace" the Cathedral - he explained that every slope and step had to be negotiated while holding huge and very heavy Maundy trays on their heads holding all the purses and they were never to look down - a revelation of his skill as Eric Morgan and myself watched his very large feet pacing ever more difficult surfaces. What a privilege. We felt we had acquired inside information.



*The Yeomen
carrying the dishes
of alms*

When the Thursday morning arrived, my youngest RAF son having arrived to be my "companion" we drove in from Cranleigh very early to find the whole hill swarming with police and mobile HQ's. The daffodils on the roundabout and the Cathedral hill were just out in full bloom and we got through each identity check to the north carpark. 1st hurdle – the wind was blowing hard – the fabulous hats had to be held onto heads as we went to the large marquee to be checked in by the Almoners Staff. Companions were accompanied by the Royal Wandsmen (10 foot high staff which could be seen over heads while the recipients sat to hear information from the Lord High Almoner and the Dean who wished us a wonderful day and then we went escorted in groups to our seats in the nave. The Cathedral was filling and humming with anticipation. The flowers were fabulous (we had chosen and invited experts from all over Surrey) While the organ was being played members of the congregation from all kinds of churches waved to anyone they knew as we took our seats – our companions in the same numbered seat as us but immediately behind us. Then the processions started, seven of them, very stately and stepping together led by our Vergers. Wonderful to see, the solemn faces looking straight ahead. The last great procession surrounded the Queen who was in a beautiful cream outfit. (I recognised a famous surgeon among the men of the Chapels Royal and a previous Chaplin of Cranleigh School, following the Lord high Almoner.) I don't know how others felt - I had butterflies in the usual place as the whole service started. The choirs were superb and the congregation sang with great voice. The Duke of Edinburgh read the first lesson beautifully and the ceremony began. Her Majesty tripped gracefully down the Chancel steps and was followed by the Royal Almoners and the Yeomen carrying the huge loaded trays down to the south side of the Nave aisle, each recipient thanking HM and giving a little bow or curtsy to her as she then moved on – once or twice she showed her interest by having a word with someone who was wearing medals or a badge she did not recognize.



Distributing the purses

After a circuit of the South aisle with the choir still singing she returned to the Chancel, then the 2nd lesson was read and the procession headed for us on the North side. She came towards me and stopped in front of me saying "what wonderful badges", asking what they were and I answered 'or the W.R.A.C. Ma'am and the new one is the recently issued Veterans one' It was most exciting to speak to her and my son behind had an enormous grin on his face. How my twins in Canada and America would be told the details. My other fantastic memory is of the Yeoman of the Guard. Those not carrying the Maundy were holding very long staffs. As they processed, every time their right feet hit the marble flooring all the staffs hit the floor exactly together. The bang was incredible and the precision fantastic. Those not carrying trays had remained standing between the congregation and the way down the nave so we could all see the magnificent uniforms (originating from Tudor times) and watch their poise. What a wonderful morning, superb pageantry linking precious traditions stretching back through the ages – only the British can boast such wonderful history carrying on since Christ's washing of the feet of his disciples. Although we inside missed the final pageantry onto the West steps and then the events in the High Street and Guildhall – we have those incredible breath taking memories of the service in the Cathedral to treasure, all of us recipients more or less the same age as Her Majesty and for one hoping she will be our Monarch till her life ends and her crown will be handed on.

NEW MEMBERS

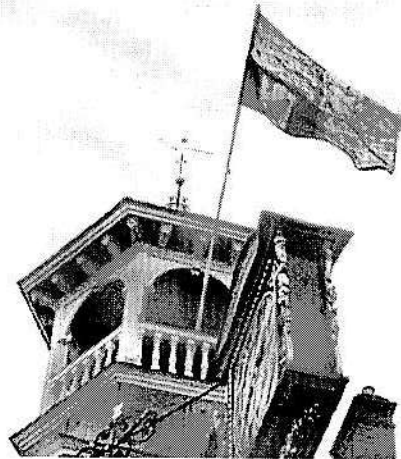
We are delighted to welcome the following new members to our Association and look forward to meeting them at the Functions

Mrs Vera Bavin (our eleventh LIFE MEMBER)	Ms Melanie Bright
Mrs Sheila Marsh	Dr A Nusbacher
Miss Regina Pickett *	Miss E A Smith
	Mr David Williams

Mrs Rosemary O'Brien
Miss Kathleen Vallins

* new member since November 2005

OUR QUEEN IN GUILDFORD



Her Majesty the Queen and the Mayor of Guildford

THE DAY I MET THE QUEEN

Marjorie Williams now gives us a flavour of the excitement of meeting the Queen.

Probably the greatest shock of my life was to open a letter from Guildford's Mayor, Cllr Tamsy Baker, inviting me to the lunch which she was hosting for the Queen at the Guildhall following the Maundy Day service at the Cathedral. It was requested that for security reasons the invitation should be kept confidential. Later I was told that there were to be fifty guests, thirty consisting of the royal entourage and some V.I.P.s, and twenty local long-serving volunteers. When news of the visit was published in the newspapers I was embarrassed to read that my name, and those of three other volunteers, were listed as those to be presented to the Queen, especially since the strict schedule of the event suggested that this would be quite impossible.

Then, two days before the visit, at five o'clock, I received a telephone call from the Mayor's office asking if I would present the special Guildford cake to the Queen - but fortunately for me it would be held by Tony, the Borough Chef. I was so amazed that I agreed; however after a sleepless night I rang the Mayor's secretary to refuse, saying that I thought the presentation should really be made by one of the Borough's officials. The reply was that Buckingham Palace had requested that the ceremony should be quite informal, and that the Queen herself had suggested the presentation should be made by one of the lady volunteers. Probably because I had the loudest voice they had chosen me! Well, on the day, there I stood in the centre of the High Street, carefully positioned, with Tony (holding the cake) and with a grandstand view of the approaching royal party. First came the Duke of Edinburgh who lifted a corner of the cake box, asking if it was a Christmas pudding, and had I made it? (Luckily for him and the Royal digestion, this was not the case). Then the Queen arrived and with a lovely smile she actually shook my hand, then she and the Duke both asked about the custom, dating from 1674, of presenting a special cake to visiting monarchs. I had rehearsed a longer speech, but in the event all I was briefed to say was, "Your Majesty, the people of Guildford would be most honoured if you would accept the gift of this cake." Gosh! I still can't believe it - it really seems like a dream.



*Tony Watkin
and Marjorie
Williams in
conversation with the
Duke of Edinburgh*

The Royal Plum Cake

The Royal lunch was a great success and unexpectedly quite informal, since at the five tables were placed a mixture of the important guests and the thirty volunteers. I was seated at a table between the Queen's Lady-in-waiting and the Bishop of Guildford who were entertaining companions, and looking across the hall to the Queen's table I could see Her Majesty seated next to the Dean laughing at his stories. The Queen clearly thoroughly enjoyed her visit, with the informal walkabout and the wonderful welcome she received from the people of Guildford.

Guildford Royal Plum Cake

. This is an unusual custom that has become established when Royal visitors come to the town. It can be traced back to 1674 when a cake was presented to the Duke of York who became James II.

Recipe as presented to The Queen in 1957

Butter 1lb	Castor Sugar 8ozs	Brown Sugar 8ozs
10 Eggs 1lb4ozs	Flour 1lb 4ozs	Ground Almonds 4ozs
Currants 1lb 8ozs	Sultanas 2 lbs	Cut Citron Peel 2ozs
Cut Orange and Lemon Peel 2 ozs		Whole Cherries 8 ozs
Mace 1/8 oz	Cinnamon 1/8 oz	Brandy 1 oz
Sherry 1oz	Zest of 2 Oranges	

The butter and sugar were creamed light and the eggs gradually added. The fruit was then well mixed in (the brandy and sherry having previously been poured onto the fruit) and the flour and ground almonds lightly mixed in. 7 ½ lbs of this mixing was then weighted into a 10" round hoop and baked for 4 ½ hours at a temperature of 330 degrees F.

Secretary's Letter

On April 1 this year our membership stood at 250, which is somewhat down on the peak reached in 2003 of 268 members. For the second year running there was a small number of new members, in fact only 13 joined the Friends during the previous 12 months, an intake which is just about half of that which is required to maintain a constant membership. So far, a couple of days before our AGM, there have been 192 renewals of membership and the first reminder has just been sent out to some 50 members, which I very much hope will prompt them to renew their membership. On the plus side our renewal rate has, in the past, been very high and I hope that this year will be no exception. May I repeat my annual request to you all to try and recruit a new member as we do really want to maintain our current numbers and, if possible, increase them to around 300. The next few years will be an important and exciting time for the museum. The work involved in submitting an application for a Heritage Lottery Fund grant to co-finance a major development plan is well underway but the route is long and complex with many hurdles still to be overcome. Therefore particularly during this time, but also for the longer term, the inflow of new members is vital so that the Friends can provide support to the museum.

The 2006 AGM was held in the Brewhouse, behind Guildford House, for the third time on a Saturday afternoon, rather than on a weekday evening. It would appear that this timing is sufficiently popular to continue in the same way in future years. Whilst the number of members attending does not seem to show a significant increase, there is the benefit of not having to pay a fee for the room during the day! We hope that all of you, who attended, enjoyed the talk by Professor Alan Crocker, who is a Friend, on the Industrial Archaeology of Surrey, and in particular on paper mills in the county.

The 2006 season of outings was to start in April with a visit to the Royal Gunpowder Mills at Waltham Abbey but unfortunately the visit had to be cancelled due to insufficient support. Going ahead would have meant a financial loss to the Friends on the day. This was followed by a successful outing to Old Sarum, the Iron Age Museum and Danebury Fort in May. In June there will be a village walk in East Clandon and a visit to Bristol which is celebrating the 200th anniversary of Brunel's birth. There are several more interesting days out through the summer and early autumn for you to enjoy. Do please book if you have not already done so.

At the beginning of February there was the annual open evening at the museum at which Friends were able to meet the new Museum Manager, Jill Draper. We are happy to note that she has experience of successful Heritage Lottery Fund

applications so her appointment has come at a good time for the museum! The regular annual Skittles Lunch, organised by Heather Anderson in February, has become a firm favourite in the calendar and was again well supported by the regular band of devotees.

You will, I am sure, be pleased to learn that the Reserve Fund which your committee, on your collective behalf, has built up over the past few years, has now reached £15,000. This money will be put to good, and specific, use during the development of the museum.

Finally, on behalf of the committee, I would again like to thank you all for your support and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible over the coming months on the events and outings that have been organised for our collective benefit and pleasure.

Richard Sinker Hon. Secretary, tel. 01483 502207

LONDON WHALE BELONGS TO THE QUEEN, BY LAW!

John Viney JP of Newcastle and Ogmore bench hopes that Her Majesty was consulted about what to do with Wally the London whale sadly lost to us in the Thames earlier this year. After all, since the statute called Prerogativa Regis (of the King's Prerogative) was instituted back in the reign of Edward II (1284-1327), the law has been very clear! The King shall have throughout the realm whales and great sturgeons taken in the sea or elsewhere within the realm...!

The custom was that any whale caught within the waters of Britain became the property of the Crown, and the head went to the King, the tail to the Queen, who found whalebone corsets wonderful for the figure! In case you think this is some old fish story, no pun intended, in 1970, the Queen agreed for her prerogative rights to be abolished, and the Law Commission put this to the vote in Parliament, only for the House of Lords to reject the proposal in 1971. So Wally the London whale, dead or alive, belongs to Her Majesty and hence is royal property, and that's the law!

From "Magistrate" March 2006

Gladys Ball

A Few of My Memories

Gladys Ball was born in Liss, Hampshire in 1923. and moved to Worplesdon at the age of two. Her Father took a job at Merrist Wood as cowman — a tied cottage went with the job. It was situated on the edge of Littlefield common; it got the name of 'Bog Hole' as the ground was always wet there. Here Gladys tells her own story

At that time, Merrist Wood was privately owned by Mr Arbuthnot. After about two years there were four cottages built in Holly Lane for the farm workers. We moved into number 4 until 1939, when we came to Fairlands. Merrist Wood employed a lot on the farm, and in the big house. They had several maids, a butler and also a chauffeur. I remember, as a child, all the staff and families were invited to a Christmas party. We were waited on by the butler, Mr Bradley; he lived in one of the lodges. After tea we all went into the big hall, played games and Mrs Arbuthnot presented us all with parcels from under a huge Christmas tree.

I started school at the age of five, quite different from the schools now in 2005. We all walked to school then, not many cars about, or bikes, so no getting round the back of the bike shed, Talking of bikes, I was about fourteen when I had my first one, an old one at that. The first thing I did was fall off coming down the hill at the top of Holly Lane and grazing my knee, - scars I have still got today. The only sympathy I got from my father was ' you shouldn't have been going so fast'.

Once a week we walked to the Memorial Hall, the boys outside for 'sports and girls inside for cooking and housewifery. The cooking was all right, but the housewifery consisted of washing up, washing and ironing, cleaning the gas oven and the kitchen range, and also scrubbing wooden tabletops. Back at school again, the boys had to get the buckets of coke in ready to stoke up the fire. It wasn't all bad at school though. We did country dancing which was nice. We went to the borough hall in Guildford every year, to compete against other schools for a cup. During our sewing lessons we had to make our own dresses to wear on this occasion. — all matching of course.

We danced round the maypole on May Day every year on the village green. Once a week, after school, I went to the GFS (Girls Friendly Society). It was held in the garth at the top of the mount, right on the side of the bank (not the one you draw money out of). In there we knitted and sewed garments and

toys for the foreign countries. It was run by Mrs Chitty, the rector's wife. The garth has long since gone. It had a room at the bottom that was a carpenters' workshop, and stairs going up outside to another room where we went to GFS. No mod cons as I recall. Some Saturdays I went to Merrist Wood, picking up potatoes that were dug up by the carters using horses and ploughs — can't remember what the pay was.'



Harvest time, we used to help stack up the sheaves of corn, also take flasks of tea out to the men. I also did jobs on Saturdays for my Mum, including cleaning the cutlery, cutting up blocks of salt and putting it in stone jars — it didn't come in packets in those days.

Another job was to walk across the field belonging to Fairlands farm, to a poultry farm belonging to the people that lived in Newlands cottage. I believe it was mainly wooden, but was rebuilt with a brick one. Mr and Mrs Sayers worked there and it was them that I saw. I was nearly always given a small bar of chocolate, so I didn't mind that job. One of the highlights of the week was when the grocer called. I was allowed to go out to the van and choose something out of the sweetie box, costing a penny or two.

On Sundays, best clothes were put on for Sunday school in the afternoon, and a walk with Mum and Dad in the evening. This was usually round Wood Street, across Broad-street common, through Gravetts Lane, calling at the New Inn, which stood where the White Lyon does now. Dad and Mum went in for a beer and I sat outside and waited for them to bring me out a packet of crisps and a

glass of lemonade, sometimes a penny chocolate wafer as well. Our homeward journey was usually through Merrist Wood drive, with sore feet.

On Guy Fawkes night, a big bonfire was lit on the village green. We all took our own fireworks and the boys used to throw jumping jacks behind us — very naughty!

I left school at fourteen. For the first couple of years I worked in Fairlands farmhouse for Mrs Brock in the mornings, then in the afternoon I went cornflower picking. They were grown in a field behind the school; we had to put twelve in a bunch and then tie six bunches together to earn about two pence halfpenny. They were then taken to Covent Garden. I also went to Normandy sometimes, picking daffodils.

When it was Aldershot Tattoo week, we walked to the bottom of Holly Lane to watch coaches go past (mostly open top). We used to shout 'throw out your mouldy coppers,' and sometimes they did; that meant a share out afterwards.

Not many holidays away in those days, but I remember staying with friends of my parents, also with my grandmother in Petworth; that was Mum's mother. I don't remember any of my other grandparents.

Dad had to leave Merrist Wood when it was taken over by the council. He then went to work for Mr James in Holly Lane.

When I was about sixteen, I started going to dances at Worpleston Memorial Hall. All the locals went there.

It was there I met my Ken, my dear hubby. By then I was eighteen, although I knew him before that as he was born at Fox Corner. He was one of the village 'likely lads' but I guess, when he married me, people thought I was one of the 'unlikely lasses.' I pulled his leg, saying it was the Red Cross uniform that attracted me.

Ken used to *cycle* to the dances. Afterwards, though, he used to walk me home to Fairlands, one hand pushing his bike, the other round my waist. How romantic can you get!

In the war, I worked at the R.F.D. factory, in the part that made flotation bags for Wellington bombers etc.

Ken was in the RAF from 1941 to 1946. We got married in 1943, while he was on a week's leave from Scotland, on a 'special' they got to get married, but he was recalled half way through our honeymoon that was being spent at — guess where? Fairlands! - and how romantic was that!

It was a busy time working at the factory, clocking on at 7.30am and off at 6pm and cycling home in the blackout, but we enjoyed ourselves. We had to take

turns fire watching; no canteen at night, so we used to slip across the road for fish and chips. I still keep in touch with friends from those days.

There were lots of Canadian troops stationed at Bordon and around. They didn't get many girls to their dances, so they were allowed to send army trucks to the factory to collect us girls — and bring us back of course! The lads were all right, doing their bit for the country. The only bit

I didn't like was getting my toes trodden on by army boots.

I left the factory when Sandra was born in 1945. Ken got compassionate leave for that but, soon after, went to Gibraltar for a year. He was demobbed in 1946. Although he enjoyed his air force days, like many others, he was pleased to be home.

Ian was born in 1947 and June was born in 1949. We were, and I still am, so lucky and proud to have such a lovely family.

Our young days may sound rather tame compared with today, but I can assure you we enjoyed it as much as young people enjoy themselves today.



Free Guided Walks of Guildford.

May – September 2006

Mondays	11 am
Wednesdays	2.30 pm
Thursdays	7.30 pm
(until end of August)	
Sundays	2.30 pm

Walks most days during
Festival in July – details
from Tourist Office
Tel No 01483 444333

A VICTORIAN CHILDHOOD

At the end of July and throughout August, Guildford Museum will mount an exhibition illustrating the way children lived in the Guildford area during the reign of Queen Victoria.

It has been said that the most important thing in life is to choose your parents carefully. The difference in the lives of children in wealthy and in poor households has been stark throughout history. The Victorian age saw a determined effort by government to improve the lot of the poor generally, and of poor children particularly. Indeed, the age saw tremendous changes in almost every aspect of life, and south-west Surrey felt the impact of those changes as much as any other part of the country - and in some ways more.

There is a tendency (which the Museum's Victorian Schoolroom does nothing to dispel) to concentrate on the 1890s as the classic Victorian decade. Yet the 1840s were as much 'Victorian' as the '90s, and there was a greater contrast between them than between today and the 1950s. When Victoria came to the throne, transport through Guildford relied on the Wey Navigation and the stagecoaches. When her reign ended, the railway was taking commuters to London each day and motor cars were spluttering up the High Street. Telephones, electric light and a host of other inventions had been introduced, and the borough's population had nearly tripled. What had been farmland was now increasingly covered by brick-built housing. A sleepy market town had become a bustling residential centre. Childhood had changed as well. The exhibition will look at these changes, concentrating on the topics of work, school and play.

In the Guildford area, children's working lives were not transformed quite so dramatically as in the industrial cities. Legislation to regulate the employment of children referred mainly to textile mills and coal mines, and there were none of these in south-west Surrey, and few factories. Outside the town, work for early Victorian children meant farm work and it was not until 1873 that this attracted the attention of the reformers. Even then, children under 8 could still work for their parents and those over 8 could be employed if a specified amount of schooling was received as well. None of the restrictions applied during school holidays or the harvest.

A Parliamentary report of 1843 gives a wealth of detail on the agricultural employment of children in Surrey. Typical working hours were 6am to 6pm, with a half-hour break for breakfast and an hour for dinner. Bread and cheese were the normal diet, washed down with beer or cider. A six-day week could earn an 8 year-old boy three shillings. Except at harvest, girls were less commonly employed in the fields. They usually left home at the age of 12 to be servants.



Oranges and Lemons by Harry Brooker

Children could be and were exploited in a thoroughly Dickensian manner. Chimney sweeps would employ small boys to climb up inside chimneys to remove the soot with a brush and shovel. The boys were given a holiday on the First of May. They would decorate their clothes with ribbons and dance in the streets of Guildford, banging their brushes and shovels together and collecting money. When the employment of 'climbing boys' was banned in 1864, the celebrations petered out.

The Education Act of 1870 is often seen as watershed in children's history, and rightly so. However, it should be seen in its local context, for the villages and the towns had a different experience. Literacy among Surrey farm labourers at the beginning of the period was claimed to be as low as 7%. On the other hand, besides the Royal Grammar School, Guildford had a National School (C.of E.), a British School (Nonconformist), a Bluecoat (charity) School in the tower of Holy Trinity, together with several small boarding schools and 'Dame' schools, in which women - often widows - taught a handful of children. It was only from 1870 onwards that educational provision in the villages became adequate.

Many museums illustrate Victorian childhood with a display of toys; with dolls, rocking-horses and Noah's Arks prominent among them. To some extent this

creates a false impression. Only the wealthy child experienced a well-stocked nursery. For most, toys were basic and few. They could be home-made - such as rag dolls - or made in the village. (A blacksmith could quickly make a boy's hoop with the tools with which he made tyres for waggon wheels.) Cheap, brightly-painted wooden toys were increasingly imported from Bavaria. Nevertheless, when most children played, they played not with toys, but with each other. Playground games are still a feature of primary schools today, and the basic principles behind them have remained unchanged for centuries. The details - rules, chants, counting rhymes and so on - do change with time, and some have been recorded.

"A Victorian Childhood" will be open from 11.00am - 4.00pm from 22nd July until 31st August (closed Sundays) in Salters, Castle Street. Entry is free.

Matthew Alexander

FRIENDS OF GUILDFORD MUSEUM

If you are not a member we would love you to join us
Please send a cheque with the appropriate subscription to

Mr R. Sinker, Friends of Guildford Museum
2 The Ridgeway, Guildford, GU1 2DG

Subscription rates for 2005/2006

Individual £6	Family £12	Youth £3
Corporate £25	Individual Life £100	

Please make cheques payable to

FRIENDS OF GUILDFORD MUSEUM

The Editor welcomes items for the Newsletter or comments Please send them to
Eric Morgan 21 St Michael's Avenue, Guildford, GU3 3LY.

Telephone Number (01483) 233344

Copy date for next Newsletter is November 1st 2006

British Association of Museums

One could spend a lifetime visiting all the small museums listed in the "B.A.F.M." The magazine dedicated to helping the Museum Friends and Volunteers. Bushey Museum has an exhibition of wedding dresses from 1870 to the present day and are asking for models (the dressmakers dummies not humans). The Friends of Lancaster Museum used the Easter Holiday for a Maritime Festival. Disasters in Morecombe Bay will be the subject of a future display and a lottery grant of £4,100 will pay for a project worker to assist primary children to produce a town trail leaflet. The Green Howards Regimental Museum had a temporary display of "Normandy to Berlin 1944-1945". Sadly the Green Howards will be merged with two other Yorkshire Regiments in the summer.

The British Balloon Museum have been given two balloons to add to their collection. One a beer barrel and the other a bowler hat. Gilbert White's house and the Oates Museum celebrate 50 Years this year.

Leatherhead Museum celebrated their 25th anniversary by having a 1937 London bus outside outside the theatre. I remember travelling on these lovely vehicles and have no doubt the children who rode on them during the day touring the town's landmarks will not forget the experience.

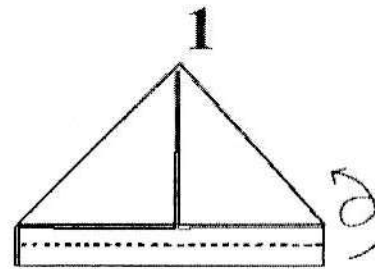
Finally Friends of Guildford Museum made it into the magazine with a report on the new development plan which we hope will result in an upgrade for our museum.

Extracted from the BAFM Newsletter by Sandra Morgan

Papermaker's Cap

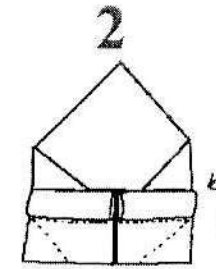
As our Secretary mentioned in his letter that we were greatly entertained by Professor Alan Crocker at the AGM with his talk on the Paper Mills. To our delight he produced an origami hat of the type used by these paper makers at about the turn of the last century. The instructions he supplied for making one are on the following page so get busy and make one.

TO MAKE A PAPERMAKER'S CAP

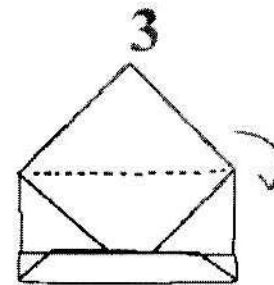


Take a double page of a newspaper. Turn it so that the fold is at the top and then turn the folded edge to the center to make two triangles and a flap.

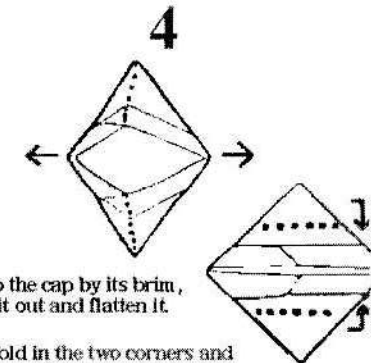
Taking the TOP SHEET ONLY of the flap, fold it in half and then fold it again over the triangle.



Turn the paper over. Fold each side to the center. Fold up the outside corners of the bottom flap, and then fold the flap itself up and tuck it into the brim above.

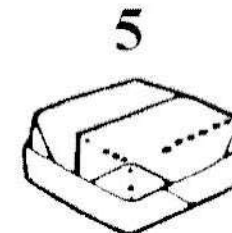


Fold the top down and tuck that into the brim too.



Pick up the cap by its brim, open it out and flatten it.

Fold in the two corners and tuck them under the brim.



Open out the cap and square it.

Museum Manager's Report

Jill Draper unfortunately could not be present at our AGM but in her report read by Peter Hattersley she informed us that the Castle Keep attracted 14,000 visitors in its first full season since the extensive programme of conservation work was completed. There was also good news with the Victorian schoolroom. The numbers enjoying this recreation of a Victorian School increased by 1000 to over 3000 children in total.

Jill gave particular thanks to those who had taken part in the survey of visitors to the museum. This is an essential requirement for a Heritage Lottery Fund application and indeed was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

This year Jill's first priority is to prepare the museum's application for Museum Accreditation, the Government's minimum standards scheme for museums. This is a mark of acceptable professional standards and a requirement for many grant sources

History of Guildford Lectures

(Under the auspices of the WEA)

Commencing Tuesday September 26th

and every Tuesday 10am to 12 noon until spring 2007

Details from Matthew Alexander at the Museum
(Tel No 01483 444751)

I am grateful to Guildford Borough Council for permission to publish the pictures on the cover and pages 8 and 9. To Guildford Cathedral for permission to publish those on pages 4,5& 6. To Gladys Ball for permission to use her photograph on page 14 – Editor.-

Events at the Museum

National Archaeology Week

Saturday 15th July - Stone Age Summer

8 - 11yrs olds two sessions 11 - 12.30 and 2 - 3.30 £2.50 a session

Create a cave painting, piece together pottery and handle stone age objects

At Salters Gallery, pre-booking essential. Contact Amy Thorpe 01483 444749

'A Victorian Childhood'

July 22nd - August 31st

Summer exhibition on the life of children in Victorian Surrey, with an opportunity to visit Guildford Museum's re-created Victorian Schoolroom

Mon - Sat 11am - 4pm in Salters Gallery, Free Admission

'The Mad Hatter's Tea Party'

Sat 29th July -

A family fun day of games and entertainments at Castle Cliff Gardens.

A celebration of the link between Guildford and Lewis Carroll, including a fancy Dress competition based on the 'Alice' characters.

11am - 4pm Free Admission

'Follow the White Rabbit...'

July 31st - August 31st

Museum trail for the school summer holidays with clues and prizes. Discover interesting items from Guildford's past and explore the history of your local community. Entry to quiz £0.35p

Don't miss Heritage Day

Saturday 9th September

Over 20 buildings in Guildford open free