

Issue No. 1

Newsletter – Spring 2022

Run Down of 2022

April 2022

The museum was able to reopen in March, for a near normal year post the Covid pandemics. Visitors have slowly started to return (over 4000) to view the five exhibitions held in 2022 and many events.

Exhibitions – Two art exhibitions, 'Dawn on You' work inspired by Art Therapist, Dawn Buckley and contemporary Italian landscapes and townscapes from the collection of Lucciano Cassaro.

'Free French Forces' celebrated the camp on the Old Dean in the Second World War. We ran a number of workshops in local schools as part of the exhibition with Project Officer, David Bedward (funded from SHBC and Community Fund for Surrey). Our Heritage Assistant, Nick Clifton produced a Free French Forces booklet for sale.

Events - We joined with Camberley Theatre to run toddler session at Squish, The Square and children's holiday workshops. We helped The Square with their visiting summer dinosaurs exhibition. Plus holiday workshops and exhibition talks.

Projects – The Military Remnants map has been published, covering 300 years of military heritage. The map was hand drawn by local artist Paul Butler and many have helped identify and work on the sites. It is available in the museum for $\pounds 2.50$.

Our Outreach – We have taught over 2000 local school children and lent many reminiscence boxes to local care homes.

Heritage Supporters' Group – two visits were arranged - Fairoaks Airport and Frimley Park Manor House. Thanks to both organisations.



HSG trip to Frimley Manor led by Cpt Mark Williams.



c. 1900 Family cottage at West End

WELCOME to our first newsletter containing information on SHBC Heritage Service and the activities we have been involved in. The next edition will be in the Autumn 2022

"Surrey Heath Heritage Services exist to preserve, manage and document the heritage of this Borough. We will promote our unique heritage via public exhibitions, events, outreach and research access".

Our Collection Work

The Museum's collections cover the heritage of Surrey Heath and include art, social history, archives, industrial and so much more. Items have been donated on Watchett's Bowling Club (closed down in 2012), the military shields from the walls of the Royal British Legion (Victoria Road, Camberley), the sign from the Fortuna Ice Cream shop in Bagshot plus items from West End History Project donated material.

Our volunteer's have returned to the stores helping to audit/catalogue and improve access to this material. Thanks to their dedication, the museum is applying for Museum Accreditation with the Arts Council. We are also able to make the collections below available online at https://e-voice.org.uk/surreyheathmuseum/ and handled over 140 research enquiries.

- Ron Francis negatives (photographic archive 1940s to 1990s)
- Information Files on local history (curated since 1930s)
- 1914 to 1920 Camberley News (thanks to funding from Museum Friends)
- Alf Tarry material (local historian's archive)
- Air Table Museum's collection database

The Museum is a part of a community partnership with Surrey Heath Museum & Heritage Foundation, awarded charitable status in 2021. Congratulations to Phil Stevens, Bernard Baverstock and Mike Hillman.

Museum Volunteers - we have 50

volunteers who help with the collection and front desk. Geoff Cox (local Librarian of Camberley and Frimley), Graham Scandrett (Art Tutor for many years) and Alex Webster (of Crazy Art fame). Plus SHBC Alderman Derek Franklin (advocate of the Free French and Royal Associations of the Borough) all passed away last year and are greatly missed. Our 2022 plans - How you can help?

Jubilee Exhibition – can you remember Silver or Golden Jubilees – if so, please let us know.

Surrey Heath's Cultural Makeup - a

summer exhibition on Surrey Heath's rich population and the countries we

represent.

Heritage Open Days – 9-18 Sept, help us celebrate the local heritage.

Museum Volunteers' picnic 2021 - thanks to Gill Bullus

Surrey Heath Museum, 33 Obelisk Way, Camberley, GU15 3JS. Open 11 to 4.30, Mon to Sat - 11 to 4.30, free admission. Tel: 01276 23771 Email: <u>museum@surreyheath.gov.uk</u>

Website: e.voice.org.uk/surreyheathmuseum