

Surrey Heath Museum

2019/20 Report



Surrey Heath Museum, 33 Obelisk Way, Camberley, GU15 3SG.

Tel: (01276) 23771, Email: museum@surreyheath.gov.uk

Open Wednesday to Saturday 11.00 a.m. – 4.30.00 p.m – free entry

Great Place • Great Community • Great Future

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1.0 Brief History of the Service

Surrey Heath Museum dates back to the 1930s, when it was known as Camberley Museum and based on the collection of Mr. George Poulter, who was the first Curator. It was housed in the Frimley and Camberley Urban District Council Offices on London Road. In the 1960s the museum moved to Newstead, a Victorian house on Knoll Road in Camberley. In the 1970s it was closed and Newstead demolished. At that time a team of staff were employed to catalogue the whole collection. In 1987, the museum reopened in an annex of Surrey Heath Borough Council offices with a permanent display, exhibition area and on-site storage facilities. In June 2018 the Museum reopened at 33 Obelisk Way, Camberley part of a community partnership with Surrey Heath Museum and Action Group.



Newstead, Knoll Road



Frimley and Camberley UDC Offices, London Road



33 Obelisk Way, Camberley

2.0 Mission Statement

“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”.

3.0 The Collections



West End, c.1900



Painted Ostrich Egg
– late 1800s



George Kenner W/C - 1915

The collections reflect the social and industrial history of the Borough's past and fit into the following categories – costume, furniture, accessories, craft, art, photographs, industrial, archaeology, geology, education, military and natural history. There is also a large amount of reference material. There are over 30,000 objects in the collection. Nationally important art collections include Percy Harland Fisher (1865 to 1944), George Edward Lodge (1860 to 1954) and George Kenner (1888 to 1971). The museum has connections with San Francisco University (photographs by Edward Mendell, international wildlife and tribespeople, who lived in Windlesham) and the Imperial War Museum (collections by George Kenner, WWI German prisoner of war based in Frith Hill).

There are 2 collection stores – one in the basement of Surrey Heath House and the second at the back of Bagshot Library. The museum has begun the process of Accreditation and submitted the application in November 2019. The Museum volunteers' began working in the stores and students room, working through the audit.

The U3A team who were working on the Ron Francis collection have now begun to work on the Alf Tarry collection, deposited last year.

A selection of new acquisitions for 2019/20

The Museum has been kindly given a number of objects in the last year which are important to the heritage of the area.

4.0 2019/20 Performance Indicators

The performance indicators we collect help illustrate the work we are involved in, but also enable us to plan for future events, exhibitions and county engagement.

Performance Indicator	2017/18	2018/19 (from June 2018 to April 2019)	2019/2020
Visitor Numbers	2721	6112	8574
School Children taught	297	556	450
Web Hits			10843
Events attendees	1387	1387	
External Talks attendees	173	No. figure, combined in above.	
Enquiries	327	228	289
Income			
Schools	1190	2279	305
Sales of items	2109	2042	2355
Donations/Other	1157	565	188
Grant	1848	6231	0
Commission		0	52
Fees & Charges	992	446	1593
Total Income	7296	11563	4493

N.B (number) = number of events or talks.

5.0 Staffing

Gill Riding, Senior Heritage Officer – 30 hours week.

Kathy Joice – Heritage and Outreach Officer – 28 hours.

Natalie Morgan – Heritage and Outreach Assistant – 14 hours.

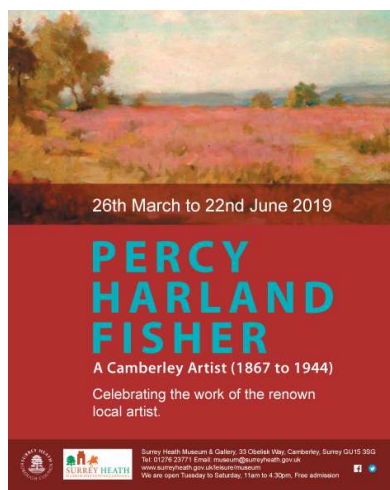
There are 30 volunteers helping with archive work, collection work, front desk duties and exhibition/events. Three volunteer 'get togethers' have been organised seeking their feedback on progress - summer picnic, Christmas meal and bacon and bagels morning. Volunteer hours equate to c. 1000 staff hours per year. Mick Bacon resigned in Spring 2019 and was replaced by Natalie Morgan, who had previously worked at Elmbridge Museum.

6.0 Heritage Supporters' Group

The Friends of Surrey Heath Museum disbanded in March 2018. Heritage Supporters' Group began their first full programme running monthly talks (May to Oct) and two outings to RMA Sandhurst and Mizen Railway. There are c.50 members paying £8.00 single and £12 double/family membership.

The Museum team has been working on a new website using a free platform provided by e-voice community partnership site. In the first three months of launching the site (Jan to March) they received 10843 hits.

7.0 Exhibitions and Events



The Museum's full collection of PHF paintings were displayed plus items lent by the family. His two sons along with previous Curator, Sharon Cross, gave an exhibition talk.



Celebrating the film history locally and covering over 50 films using the landscape of Surrey Heath. Joint exhibition with Chobham Museum.



Updated re run of a previous exhibition with new ghosts and stories. Covering ghostly sightings in the whole of Surrey Heath.



A selling exhibition featuring the work of three local artists.

EVENTS



TODDLERS CRAFT SESSIONS

Free drop in sessions for under 5's
Last Tuesday of every month
10.30am to 12.30pm, 50p

Tues 29th January
Storytelling month
Storytelling game and fortune telling paper craft activities

Tues 26th February
Flower Power
Finger flower pot craft activity

Tues 26th March
Mothers Day
Finger print love heart trees craft

Tues 30th April
Arty Potato Prints

Tues 28th May
Cookie Monsters
Chance to decorate a biscuit

Tues 25th June
Sooty's Surrey Heath Family

SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

Spring Half Term: 16th to 23rd February
11am to 1pm and 1.30pm to 3.30pm
£3, please book in advance

Wed 20th February
Recycling Fun with Verity Parker (SHBC Recycling Officer)

Thurs 21st February
Leather working with Mick Bacon (Museum staff)

Easter Holidays: 6th to 20th April
Easter Egg quiz around the museum

May Half Term: 25th May to 1st June
Drop in Daily Art Sessions, 11am to 2pm,
50p donation

LOCAL HISTORY EVENTS

Sat 11th May
Behind the Scenes at the museum - Local and Community History Month
12 noon to 3pm
Tours of the museum stores and join the campaign to raise awareness of the historical research in our area. #localhistory19

featured the ghosts in our archives...

Sat 23rd March and Sat 25th May
What have you found there?
11am to 1pm

If you have something you are not sure what it is, bring it along to our free identification mornings with Dr Simon Maslin ACIFA County Finds Liaison Officer for Surrey, museum staff and local experts. What we can not identify, we will research further.

www.finds.org.uk

HISTORIC WALKS OF SURREY HEATH

Led by local Historians, 6.30pm to 8.30pm
£3, please book in advance

Wed 15th May
Central Camberley with Ken Clarke
Discover the Victorian origins of the bustling town we know today.

Thurs 13th June
Historic Bagshot with Phil Stevens
Discover the old core of the village and the buildings which reveal its historic past.

Wed 19th July
National Rifle Association, Bisley with Tim Price
A walk around the NRA site and the history of the buildings and the rifle ranges. Includes tour of museum. Cost: £5

For further details visit our website
www.surreyheath.gov.uk

EVENTS



CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Summer School Holiday Continuous Craft
Dinosaur craft activity throughout the holidays, as part of The Mall Dinosaur event

Wednesday Summer Workshops for kids
11am-1.30pm and 2-3.30pm
£3 please book in advance
24 July - War Time Cookery Workshop
31 July - Make a Zoetrope Workshop
7 Aug - Geology Workshop
14 Aug - Dinosaur Diggin' Workshop
21 Aug - Make your own Super Hero toy Workshop
28 Aug - Mosaic Mayhem Workshop

Toddlers' Craft Sessions
(last Tuesday in the month)
10.30am-12.30pm

Drop-in craft and toy sessions for the under 5s
30 July - 'Walk of Fame' Making your own plaque
24 September - Autumn Leaf Rubbing
29 Oct - Halloween Tic Tac Toe
26 November - Ghosts and Ghoulies

Autumn Half Term Big Draw event and drop-in drawing 'life hacks'!
Tues 22 - Sat 26 Oct 11am-2pm
Perfect your drawing techniques with step-by-step advice on creating your own ghost. Your creation will be displayed in the 'Ghosts of Surrey Heath' exhibition.

'Talking Tuesday' Tea Room
1 Oct, 5 Nov, 3 Dec 11.30am-1pm
Monthly gathering at
Surrey Heath Museum and Gallery
Come and chat about bygone days over a cup of tea and home-made biscuits (£1.50 contribution).

LOCAL HISTORY EVENTS

Free Lunchtime Talks on most Thursdays,
12.30-1pm

SURREY HEATH HERITAGE WALKS

Thurs 5 Sept 6.30-8.30pm
The Inbetween Walk (Camberley and York Town)
£3 please book in advance
Walk an talk through the history of the residential area between York Town and Camberley with local Historian, Ken Clarke.

Wed 25 Sept 6.30-8.30pm
Chobham Walk
£3 please book in advance
Discover the history of one of the oldest villages Surrey Heath, the farming and military past, with local historian, Phil Stevens.

Wed 9 Oct 6-7.30pm
York Town Walk
£3 please book in advance
Discover the 'bustling past' of York Town, long before Camberley existed. Led by local historian, Ken Clarke.

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

7 September
Early morning 6 Milestone Walk (6-9am)
If you want to experience the magic of the milestones of Surrey Heath join us on this special walk for Heritage Open Days. As in the old coaching route days, we set off at sunrise and make the most of the daylight. We will finish with breakfast and talk on the history of the milestones with museum staff and volunteers. Please book in advance and lifts will be arranged to the first milestone outside Hillier's Garden Centre on the London Road.

Many local buildings are open during the Heritage Open Day weekend, please ask for more information.

For further details visit our website
www.surreyheath.gov.uk

Outreach

Schools - The Heritage and Outreach Assistant, Kathy Joice has continued to run workshops in schools with children were taught. The service also runs a loans scheme. She has also continued to develop the Reminiscence Service loan boxes and dementia handling sessions in care homes. We have regular group visits from disabled people both in Camberley and further afield. The ageing population and engagement with disability initiative groups is key for the service's development and enables us to work with other organisations (e.g. the sessions have been featured Surrey County Council Dementia Strategy).