



Members' Magazine WEALD AND DOWNLAND OPEN AIR MUSEUM

Autumn 1979

No. 14



Petersfield Drying Shed

A drying shed, which will form part of the brick-making exhibit, was dismantled during the summer from its site at Petersfield, together with a stable associated with the brickworks. This housed the horses working on the site. The dismantling was undertaken by volunteers from the Birdham & West Wittering Youth Club, under the supervision of Museum Director, Chris Zeuner, and their own Youth Leader, Alan Waters, who is now a member of the Museum staff.

The site has been carefully surveyed by our Research Director, Richard Harris, who traced records of the brickworks on the site back to the 1840's.

Known as the "Causeway Brick & Tiles Works", it appears to have stopped operating at the outset of the Second World War. A number of papers and documents relating to the business were found in a desk in the abandoned office.

The Museum already has a considerable collection of hand brick-making equipment, which will be displayed in the finished brickyard complex.

A later drying shed that was alongside the one taken by the Museum, has been dismantled by the Amberley Chalk Pits Museum. The Museum aims to return to the site for dismantling the brick kiln sometime in 1980.

Charlton Workshop

The first phase of the conversion of Charlton Farm and Workshops is nearing completion. Services for the whole scheme have been installed and the range of buildings (which will form the Museum's workshop) is now nearly ready for occupation. Repair on the first workshop for 'letting' is also underway: the first tenants will be "The West Sussex Rural Engineering Company". This Company is a new venture, recently formed to specifically undertake restoration work ranging from windmills to waggons. They are also due to start work soon on Phase I of the restoration to Salvington Mill, near Worthing, Sussex.

As reported in an earlier issue, Charlton Farm will be managed by a subsidiary company of the Museum, to be formally known as "Singleton Museums Services Limited". The Company is wholly controlled by the Museum's 'Council of Management'; covenanteeing any profit it should make to the Museum. The purpose of this is to enable the Museum to undertake certain related activities with greater flexibility and separate from the main responsibilities of the Museum. One of the most important activities will be the 'Materials Bank', a revolving "fund" of materials for conservation work. The Chichester District Council has enabled the 'Bank' to commence work by a very generous 'priming' grant of £3,000. The complex at Charlton will not be open to the public. However, members wishing to see the premises can do so by prior arrangement through the Museum Office.

Redford Roundhouse

One of the most spectacular operations in the Museum's history took place this summer when massive stone and brick walls, weighing well over 20 tons, were moved, intact, onto the site. From their original site at Redford, near Midhurst, the walls undertook a 15 mile journey along the West Sussex roads, taking more than three hours to reach the Museum - a trip which normally takes no longer than 20 minutes! Sections of the building were underpinned with concrete beams into which were set large lifting "eyes". A framework of timber was built around the walls to hold them firmly during this tricky and slow journey back to the Museum. One of the walls was "cranked" and weighed a total of about 20 tons with its concrete beam. It was a tense moment for the Museum staff and Consultant Engineers (who volunteered their 'time' for the project) when the wall was carefully lifted by crane off its original site. The walls were fixed to two low-loader transporters, which then began the arduous journey back to the Museum. On arrival at the site, the walls were lifted into their new position on foundations prepared in readiness for the

building - an instant historic building exhibit! Visitors to the Museum gathered around to watch and responded enthusiastically to this spectacular operation with a loud round of applause! Work on underpinning the building took six weeks and was carried out by Museum staff, led by John Friar. The Consultant Engineers were R.J. James & Partners and Mr. D. Wilkinson. The project was greatly assisted financially by Marsh Plant of Havant, who sponsored the 36 ton crane. C.W. Burch & Sons, of Walberton, provided two of their low loaders, together with exceptionally careful and helpful drivers.

The huge walled sections that are now firmly in position below the Market Square, are part of the hexagonal building, which once housed equipment for preparing clay in a rural brickyard. The building was featured on the front page of the 'Spring Newsletter', with a drawing by Research Director, Richard Harris. For the Museum, this attractive 19th century roundhouse is an important addition to its buildings collection. It forms the beginning of a planned exhibit on rural brickmaking, which will include a re-erected drying-shed and kiln, with an exhibition on

the brick-making craft. The roundhouse was offered to the Museum by its owners due to it falling into increasing disrepair through disuse. It was the last surviving remnant of the brickyard, which appears on the 1838 Ordnance Survey map.

PHOTOS— REDFORD ROUNDHOUSE
above: removal from original site
below: arrival at museum



VICE CHAIRMAN RETIRES

During this year, a number of changes have taken place on the composition of "Council of Management". The most important one being the retirement of Maj.Gen. L.A.Hawes as our Vice-Chairman. Maj.Gen.Hawes has served the Museum from the very early days; continuously placing his experience at the disposal of Council and also rarely missing a committee meeting. In addition, he has worked as a volunteer steward and is well known by many people for the friendly and informative way in which he has carried out his duties. Nevertheless, Maj.Gen. Hawes will still continue to serve as a Member of Council and as a volunteer steward. One of the most significant contributions made by Maj.Gen.Hawes to the Museum has been the close relationship he has always maintained with members of staff - this interest and concern being greatly appreciated by all. The successor to Maj.Gen. Hawes as Vice-Chairman is now Sir James Waddell. Sir James has been involved with the Museum for some years; serving as a Member on the 'Friends' committee and 'Council'. His willingness to provide time and support to the Museum is appreciated.

Another important change is the resignation of Mr. K. Leslie as Honorary Treasurer, who decided the time had come for the books to be handed over to someone else. Mr.Leslie undertook the task of treasurer from the very first 'promotion committee' and we thankfully acknowledge his work for the Museum.

Mr.P.Tye has now accepted to undertake the role of Honorary Treasurer and Council are grateful for his help. Mr.Tye previously held the position of 'Area Treasurer' for the Regional Health Authority.

Three new members have been welcomed to Council:

Mrs Jean Illius: (Chichester District Council) Mrs. Illius has been deeply involved with problems of conservation and her interest, together with enthusiasm, is most welcome.

Mr. David Biart: (Solicitor). Mr.Biart has been actively involved in a number of local cultural activities, in particular the 'Chichester Festival Theatre'.

Mr.Eric Kay: (Extra-Mural Lecturer at Southampton University) Mr.Kay has been a long-standing friend of Roy Armstrong - who maintains that it was Eric Kay who introduced him to the potential use of cameras for survey work. We are all well aware of the results of that suggestion!

Membership on the 'Council of Management' now totals twenty-two.

New members of staff

Over the last year, it has become increasingly clear that the Museum Director and Education Officer have been unable to concentrate on their main responsibilities and it was eventually decided the appointment of an assistant should be made.

Richard (Dick) Pailthorpe has now joined the staff as "Senior Assistant". He has previously worked for the Agent at Goodwood Estate and lives closeby in East Dean village.

Mrs. Jan Pack has joined us during the year as "Office Secretary". This is a thankless task but one which is vital to the smooth running of the Museum - her cheerful welcome is a valuable asset.

Anthony Burch has joined as "Assistant Carpenter" to work with Roger Champion and his first challenge will be the repair of the roof on Redford Roundhouse.

Alan Waters, who joined us last winter as Leader on the Manpower Services Commission scheme, will be returning after a spell at West Dean. Alan will undertake site duties and - more importantly - development and co-ordination of volunteer workers. Alan's work will concentrate on developing links with naval teams, youth clubs and other groups of young people.

Les Whitecall, who recently retired from a lifetime of farm work, has joined us in a part-time capacity. His responsibilities are maintenance of the site; the high standards achieved this season being due to his efforts.

The number of new staff listed above may suggest a substantial increase in the total staff. In fact, four members of staff have left over the last few years and some replacements, together with reallocation of duties have been implemented. It is essential for the Museum to have a team of staff able to undertake all the necessary duties involved. However, 'Council' are very aware of the dangers of "over-staffing" and the current level will be sufficient for a long time.

Appointment of Richard Harris as Research Director

Richard Harris, who has for sometime been working for the Museum, has recently been appointed as "Research Director". This appointment was made on the suggestion of Roy Armstrong, who felt that he could not give the necessary time demanded by this post. Roy Armstrong will, of course, continue to play a major part in the Museum's future but a great deal of the detailed work will be undertaken by Richard.

Richard Harris will be responsible for all building projects at the Museum; from the initial survey and inspection of buildings to careful examination of timbers dismantled and brought to the Museum. Richard will also expand the survey work undertaken by the Museum and respond to the many requests we receive for advice and information on buildings. He will also begin work on organizing the slide collection. One of Richard's major tasks will be to "harness" the expertise offered by many people who have given their help over the years on the 'Sites and Buildings Advisory Committee'. Richard will still continue his commitments at the 'Architectural Association' and those in Worcestershire. During the winter, he will run a WEA Extra-Mural class ("English Building Traditions") at the Museum.

C. Zeuner.

HATCH!

Congratulations to Chris and Diana Zeuner on the birth of a daughter (Francesca) who joined us on 12 August 1979. No doubt, Francesca will soon become one of our most stalwart volunteers!

Visitor Statistics to 1st October 1979

During the season, we became extremely concerned with the crisis created by the petrol shortages. As the initial shock of price increases were absorbed, it became clear that (at least this time) the public would continue to use their cars for leisure purposes and the effect was not too dramatic on our attendances. Adverse weather conditions, together with a disappointing August, took a toll on our numbers, as compared against 1978 figures. Totals to date are as follows:

1978	1979
148,305	143,392

Carol Service

The annual 'Carol Service' will be held in Bayleaf Farmhouse on Thursday, 20 December 1979, at 7.00 pm. In order to ascertain numbers would members wish to attend inform the Museum Office.

APPEAL FOR MINCE-PIE MAKERS!

If anyone has the time to make a few mince-pies for refreshments after the service, this would be gratefully appreciated and help to reduce costs.

Barn Dance

The Barn Dance held in Court Barn in September, raised £250 towards the Market Square project.

Due to the popularity of this event, another dance may possibly take place at the beginning of next season.

Building Programme

During the winter, work will recommence on Boarhunt Cottage. It is expected that this project will be completed by next season. The thatching will be undertaken so that the public may watch.

The completion of Boarhunt will be followed by the start of a most important project - the repair and erection of North Cray Hall House. The repair of this building will take at least nine months; the majority of timbers need some attention. In some cases, the repairs will be quite complicated. The building will be re-erected on the East side of the Crawley Hall. In the meantime, the Redford Roundhouse will be completed. So will the Windlesham Carpenter's Shop and work on the curtilages of these buildings will also be undertaken.

In addition, all staff are likely to be engaged in the dismantling of an early 17th century building (with an early medieval roof) due to be demolished in the Chichester area. Details will be published in a later Newsletter.

As usual, the craftsmen will be diverted to undertake small jobs; some repairs and improvements. This is an inevitable situation with such a small staff.

The Charcoal exhibit will be repaired with the hut being rebuilt. The Ham-brook Barn exhibition to be improved: new photographs mounted to replace the soiled ones with some modifications being made to the text. Uninspiring but very important improvements will also be made to the 'Mens' toilet facilities.

Centre Field

Next year, West Dean Estate will be ploughing the centre field adjoining the Museum. For many years, it has been down to 'pasture' and now needs rejuvenating with a different crop. Following conversations with the Agent, M.Heymann, and Farms Manager, J.Mills, it has been agreed that the Estate will sow wheat-straw in the field and harvest it for use as thatching material. South Western Thatchers (who undertook thatching on Court Barn) will harvest the straw by use of a "binder", thus providing a useful demonstration for visitors to the Museum. The field is expected to be returned to 'grass' again the following year.

TREES

The future of the trees on the hillside have now been agreed. During the winter, the compartment above Pendean Farmhouse is to be clear-felled, with every effort being made to minimise the damage to existing regeneration. In time, the scars are expected to disappear. The work will be carried out by the West Dean Estate who, as the Museum's Landlords, manage the trees within the Museum.

The Countryside Commission's possible grant which was intended to finalize an alternative policy, (that would have heightened the contribution made by the remaining trees whilst the regeneration behind grew up) has been withdrawn as a result of Mrs. Thatcher's "cut-backs"!

The mature Beech is now diseased and there is no other option than to fell these. In addition, the condition of the apartment above Winkhurst is very poor and this is likely to be clear-felled in the near future. In this area, a number of large spreading trees may be left. Indeed, they may soon blow over after the surrounding trees have been felled but this is a risk considered to be worth-while. Exposure of the coppice and small valley above the charcoal hut may well cause some serious loss in these areas. However, the sad truth which has to be accepted is that within a few years, there will be few large trees remaining on the site.

Tree planting still continues to be put into effect and, as Members know, this work is undertaken by the Museum. The Museum has an agreement with the Edward James Foundation that all new planting by the Museum will not become the property of the Landlord and can only be felled with the Museum's consent. The support given in this work by Members is very important and greatly appreciated.

This year, a number of hedges will be planted, with hazel and hornbeam planted in the coppice area. In other areas, replacement of some previously failed planting will take place.

FRUIT TREES

As a result of a kind offer from the Principal of the West Sussex College of Agriculture, a number of early varieties are being prepared for planting at the Museum. This is being undertaken by a fruit tree expert from the College, Mr.I.Baldock. The main area for planting will be in the Orchard, by Bayleaf Farmhouse. Some trees will also be planted by Pendean. This will take place when the grafting is completed and has become well established.

Friends' Subscription Rates

The Friends' Committee have reluctantly agreed that the minimum subscription, with the exception of OAPs. The new minimum rates are as follows:-

Individual Membership:	To include free pass for one year and Newsletters -	(Minimum) £3.00.
Special Membership for O.A.P.:	... as above ...	(Minimum) £1.00.
Family Membership:	Includes Newsletter and one pass for parents, plus children under 18 years -	(Minimum) £5.00.
Life Membership:	Under 50 years	£40.00.
	Over " "	£30.00.
Sponsor's Membership: (Suitable for Companies, etc.)	(Per Unit)	£50.00.
	Each unit to include 5 copies of Newsletter, plus 5 passes per year.	

It is stressed that the above are minimum rates. It is hoped that Members will be able to increase their subscriptions over the above amounts. It is to be noticed that "Sponsor's Membership" is a new term, replacing that of "Corporate". Hopefully, Companies will take advantage of this new membership by interesting their staff in visiting the Museum. This could be done by distributing passes and the Newsletters.

FULFILLED COVENANTS

Now that the Museum is entering its 11th year, it is disappointing to note that many of the covenants entered into during the early days of the Museum for a seven year period have not been renewed. As you will see from the detailed extracts from past accounts, covenanted subscriptions are very important.

Year ending	Total Income	Subscriptions & Donations	Tax Refund
1971	£4479	£4035	£341
1972	£2240	£1828	£310
1973	£2198	£1853	£291
1974	£2365	£1744	£412
1975	£2765	£2225	£348
1976	£3613	£2951	£425
1977	£3960	£3013	£427
1978	£4509	£3385	£419

Spring Excursion 1980

Following the excursions made during the past three years to Bokrijk, St. Fagan's and Arnhem museums, it is proposed to make 'Avoncroft Open Air Museum' the focal point of a three-day excursion in Spring 1980.

The coach to leave the Museum Friday morning, visits on that day to include the 'Lord Leicester Hospital' at Warwick, together with the adjacent Courthouse. Friday/Saturday night to be spent at the same hotel, situated in or near Warwick.

On return journey, the main interest will be centred on the town of Tewkesbury with its timber-framed buildings.

As with other excursions, the cost will be kept to a minimum. Details will be given later in the Spring edition of the Newsletter and displayed on the noticeboard outside the Museum Office.

Enquiries regarding this excursion can be made to the organizer: Bernard Johnson, tel no. Storrington 2350.

Visit to Ulster Folk Museum

There is also a possibility of an excursion to two most interesting museums in Ireland. The largest one is the 'Ulster Folk Museum' a most impressive establishment and well worth a visit. The second one is to be the 'Ulster-American Folk Park', a new project which illustrates both Irish and American buildings and artefacts at a time of the great 19th century emigrations. It is based on a particular well-known family - the "Mellons" - its centre being a farmstead from which the "Mellons" emigrated.

The trip would be a 'long weekend', with arrangements and advice from the Ulster Office.

The Museum Director and Richard Harris both recently visited the above museums, at the invitation of the Ulster Office. They found their visit extremely interesting and very rewarding.

Anyone who would be interested in joining such a trip are asked to contact the Museum Director, Chris Zeuner, at the Museum Office.

Miss Selby

All those Friends who knew Miss Dorothea Selby will be grieved to learn of her death at the age of 86. For some years, her health had not been good and she was in a nursing home, near Findon. However, two years ago, she managed to attend the Friends' 'Annual General Meeting' and during that Summer visited the Museum for the last time. Miss Selby's family came from Kent and she became interested in local history and architecture through WEA Lectures. These were attended in Worthing and Washington, well before the Committee for the Promotion of an Open Air Museum had been formed. Later, when the Museum began to take shape, she twice helped it with donations amounting to £500. This was at a time when that amount was sufficient to turn the tide towards definite success! Miss Selby's generosity in this was typical of the adventurous optimism with which she met many challenges. Before the war, Miss Selby had been running a Domestic School. During the war, she taught herself to be a Gardener by applying for (and being given) the job at the Vansittart's. This was followed by taking on the management of a mixed farm at Kniveton, in Derbyshire, with her sister. The farm continued to run for twelve years and during the later part, Miss Selby ran the farm entirely by herself. On retirement to Findon, she continued to be a keen gardener: when it was noticed that Kew Botanical Gardens no longer had a species crocus that was native to Turkey, Miss Selby cheerfully undertook the journey during the last decade to fetch specimens - carrying this mission through most successfully!

In the last years of life, Miss Selby donated over £2,000 towards the Museum: this being "earmarked" for the re-erection of Boarhunt Cottage. It is disappointing that this could not have been completed in time for Miss Selby to have seen photographs, even if she could not personally have made the journey to view it. Boarhunt will carry a plaque to serve as way of a Memorial to Miss Selby.

In Miss Selby's Will, the Museum was made one of three residuary legatees to her Estate: St. Barnabas Home and Worthing & District Council for Social Service being the other two. Exactly what this gift will actually amount to cannot, as yet, be known.

It is a pity that illness made it impossible for her to join in activities at the Museum during the last years; she had much energy and vitality. Miss Selby would have enjoyed stewarding and in particular, seeing so many schoolchildren visiting the buildings or feeding the ducks and geese as she had a great enthusiasm for all living creatures.

It may interest those who visit the Museum in the winter months to know that the single belled snowdrops originated in gifts from her garden.

Book Review

This year, both Roy and Lyn Armstrong have written books on subjects especially applicable to the Open Air Museum.

"Woodcolliers and Charcoal Burning" by Lyn Armstrong.

Everyone interested or connected with the Singleton Museum will know that from very early days, there has been an exhibit of the charcoal burner's camp: this has been almost entirely due to the efforts of Mrs. Armstrong.

In the book, it is obvious that Mrs. Armstrong has exhaustively researched both documentary and practical sides of her subject. It commences with a survey of the iron industry from pre-Roman times and the expansion of the industry during the Roman occupation. The iron industry in turn depending on charcoal both for the initial smelting and later fabrication. After a lapse of production in the Dark Ages and Saxon rule, there was evidently a resurgence by late Norman times, as revenues were being obtained by the Crown in 1217 on the transport of the charcoal. In 1290, there was a prohibition on the export of charcoal from the Weald. From late 15th century, the competition for charcoal for the new technique of casting iron cannon was intense. Evidently the price of charcoal was the chief item in the cost of iron.

"WOODCOLLIERS AND CHARCOAL BURNING" by Lyn Armstrong: Reviewed by Bernard Johnson.

"Traditional Buildings - Accessible to the Public" by Roy Armstrong.

"This new book, by Mr. Armstrong, which is to be published this Autumn, breaks entirely fresh ground in its arrangement and illustrations", writes Bernard Johnson.

"Each of the seven chapters are sub-divided into a total of some forty specialised aspects: thus, under "Buildings in the Landscape" there are sub-divisions for "Aisled Buildings" and "Buildings in Cob", making the book particularly easy for reference". There is scarcely a page without at least one illustration, many having two or three. Each illustration complements the text of the same page, making it a pleasure to read. Many of the drawings and diagrams are by Richard Harris, the Museum's Research Director.

The book lists some 200 buildings illustrating trends in vernacular architecture which are accessible to the public and uses geological maps of the country, divided into ten sections, showing their sites.

The book will be available at the Museum Shop, price: £4.95, or by post at £5.55.

The Museum Shop

From the Museum's earliest days, it was apparent that there was need for a shop. It was not only because it could make a useful contribution to the funds - of which we were so desperately in need of - but also because our visitors would be looking for some memento of their visit. The educational potential of the shop was also realized and has been a high priority in the selection of goods. Today, the shop, staffed by volunteers (who are almost run off their feet) makes a profit of over £10,000 per year. It is partly thanks to this that we are able to keep up the policy of continuous growth which gives the Museum its special attraction to those visitors who repeat their trip.

At the outset, John Lowe, then the Museum Director, did not find it at all easy to produce suitable objects for sale. Postcards were an obvious choice but there was little in those days to make postcards of! The drawings, which our Honorary Architect, John Warren, provided made a valuable and tasteful addition. A very early inspiration came from Mrs. Hett, of South Harting, who brought her designing skills to the art of producing 'cut-out' models from card. These made an instant appeal to children who could go home and make for themselves an authentic model of what they had seen. Also their fathers, dragged in to assist them, might often become interested enough to follow up the school visit with one by the family.

These cut-out models have become one of our best-selling lines. As each year, fresh buildings go up, Mrs. Hett has been busy at work in preparing models for them in her detailed and meticulous style.

Like others who have put their talents at our disposal, Mrs. Hett has been content to do all this without reward; seeking only the advancement of our work. If one were to calculate what it would have cost for this work to be done on a commercial basis, the Museum has duly benefited to the tune of many hundreds of pounds.

The Museum aims to cover standing costs from the gate receipts, looking to the shop profits to provide part of the cost of improvements and new developments; relying on grants and donations to meet the balance. Since the shop has been installed in the Lavant building, the turnover has increased. This has been achieved without departing from the high standards which have always been set in the articles on sale. For those who offer their time to serve behind the counter it can be an arduous day but perhaps a rewarding one too but the benefit to the Museum is immeasurable.

BUILDING PROGRESS

Court Barn

Certainly from a visual aspect, the most significant addition to the Museum during the year has been the magnificent Court Barn, from Lee-on-Solent, which will house an exhibition of lead-working sponsored by the Worshipful Company of Plumbers. The timber-frame, repaired by Museum Master Craftsman, Roger Champion, was re-erected in April. The following month, the Worshipful Company of Plumbers launched an appeal for the project by unfurling the St. George's flag above the finished timber-frame.

In the following weeks, battening of the huge roof was completed and thatching started. This was carried out by South Western Thatchers of Eastergate, Sussex and Dorset. The reed thatching provided an excellent demonstration of the craft for visitors to the Museum.

Oak weatherboarding was completed on the outside of the building in time for a "Barn Dance". This was organized by Roger and Heather Champion and took place inside the structure to raise funds for the Museum's next project, the medieval hall-house from North Cray. The "Barn Dance" also provided a good opportunity for local people living in the surrounding villages to enjoy themselves. For some time previously, they have held a barn dance in the large 19th century barn at Charlton, which the Museum is now converting as its main

collections store.

Court Barn was rescued by the Museum last year in a desperate bid to beat the bulldozers. It was not listed and when the site was chosen for development, the Museum had only one week in which to record the structure and dismantle it!

Architect for the barn and its interior was Mr. David Russell, a member of the Sites and Buildings Advisory Committee and Council of Management.

The barn will realise a long-cherished ambition for the 'Plumbers Company', which holds an important collection of articles on leadwork and plumbing but had nowhere to display them. The Singleton project will now make this possible: the exhibition aims to illustrate the role of craftsmen in lead and plumbers from Roman times though to present day.

Lurgashall Mill

Work continues on repairing the machinery of the Mill and it is hoped that it will be ready during 1980. Peter Stenning, the Millwright, has completed the installation of the large mill-wheel, the wooden leat and sluice arrangements. The proof that all is in working order came in July when the Museum made use of a hired pump to test the water-wheel. It responded well and the big wheel turned on its new site for the first time. Undoubtedly, this will prove an invaluable attraction when it can be demonstrated to the public in working order.

Windlesham Carpenters Shop

Another smaller building which will add greatly to the attractions of the Market Square area is the Carpenter's Shop from Windlesham, Surrey. The work was undertaken entirely by volunteers who worked through the depressing winter ready for re-erecting the workshop in late Spring. The project has been under the leadership of Philip Burchett, with help from Brig. Greenway, John Warr, Ken Ayling, his family and other helpers.

The Museum has the entire collection of carpenters tools and benches from the workshop. It is hoped that eventually a professional carpenter can be found who will work (either full or part-time) in the workshop to bring it 'alive' for visitors.

Shepherd's Hut

Volunteer, John Powick, is progressing well with his restoration of a shepherd's hut. This will form the central exhibit in a display illustrating the life of the Downland shepherd which is being prepared by the Museum for 1980. The aim is to "furnish" the shepherd's hut with equipment and domestic items used by the traditional shepherd. The exhibit is being financed by the Society of Sussex Downsmen, who are contributing £500 to the project. The exhibit will compliment the small flock of South Down sheep, which are folded over the Museum's grasslands by a local farmer, Mr. Humphries of East Dean. Mr. Humphries has had a very successful year showing sheep from his flock.

PHOTO- Thatching of Court Barn
Rod Miller of South-western Thatchers



DIARY OF EVENTS

OCT.	25th	WEA Course "English Building Traditions" - Richard Harris Crawley Hall	- 7.30 p.m.
	31st	End of 1979 season	
NOV.	1st	WEA Course "English Building Traditions"	
	4th	Museum - open to the public every Sunday	
	8th	WEA Course "English Building Traditions"	
	10th	Friends' ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Assembly Rooms, Chichester.	- 2.30 p.m.
	15th	WEA Course "English Building Traditions"	
	22nd	WEA Course " " "	
	29th	WEA Course " " "	
DEC.	20th	CAROL SERVICE Bayleaf Farmhouse	- 7.00 p.m.
	26th	BOXING DAY - Museum Open	11.00 - 4.00
	30th	Museum open	
1980			
JAN.	1st	NEW YEAR'S DAY - " " " "	
MARCH	30th	1980 Main season commences	

Museum Hostel

The hostel is now completed and already it has been used by people working at the Museum. Conversion has been financed by grants received from the Queen's Silver Jubilee Fund and Olbys Limited of Bognor Regis.

Wood Day

On the completion of the Sheffield Park Saw Pit, a special demonstration day was organized. Various ways of converting timber from the 'round' were demonstrated. The saw-pit was in use for most of the day and members of the public were invited to try their hand! Not much timber was actually cut but the experience seems to have been appreciated. The Lilliwhite brothers, from Charlton, demonstrated the felling of a number of dead trees on the site by using felling axes and cross-cut saws. A horse was on hand to push the logs to the saw-pit but unfortunately he was not in a suitable mood for this work. The public though certainly derived great amusement from watching the frustrated owners attempting to make him pull! Rod Miller (who thatched Court Barn) demonstrated spar-making, with Paul Clear showing hurdle-making. Roger Champion gave demonstrations of side-axe and adze work. Cleaving chestnut, with free and beetle was also shown. It is hoped to repeat the event sometime again early next year.

Filming

This summer, the BBC again used the Museum as the basis for one of their major programmes produced for the 'Schools Service'. They spent three days filming and used children from the Central Junior School in Chichester. The programme was made for the "Merry Go Round" series on 'Different Sorts of Houses'. The Museum's Education Officer, Heather Champion, was involved in the making of this programme, which was televised in October.

Volunteer Work

This Winter

Any Members who wish to retain their links with the Museum during the winter will be extremely welcome. In past years, a number of useful jobs have been undertaken by volunteers coming during the week. If you would like to help in this way, please contact Chris Zeuner or Heather Champion.

Weekend work will also continue, mainly on Sundays and amongst the jobs needing to be done this winter are:

Help on Windlesham Carpenter's Shop.
Tree-planting.
Thinning new growth in the car-parks.
Rebuilding of the Charcoal Camp.
Restoration of a horse-drawn water cart.