



## Nineteenth Century Semi-Detached Cottage Rescued by Museum

The latest addition to the Museum's collection of buildings is a pair of mid-19th century weatherboarded cottages from Ashted in Surrey. This type of building would normally be protected by being listed, but the Department of the Environment decided that in this case the cottages had been too much altered to warrant listing. The site is very valuable for residential development, being only a few minutes' walk from Ashted railway station, and all the surrounding plots had already been developed with modern flats.

Dismantling of the cottages had to be arranged at short notice and completed within a strictly limited period. Within three days of hearing about the building we had negotiated with the owner, Hyde Developments Ltd, for a period of 3 weeks to complete the dismantling. Work began on May 7th and ended on the agreed date of May 22nd with all the timbers, bricks, and material samples safely stored at the Museum.

One of the two cottages had been considerably altered during improvements by the last occupant, and having been empty for some time had been squatted and vandalised. The other cottage, however, was still occupied by Fred Cook, who had lived there for most of his life. On May 6th he moved into one of the new flats on the adjoining plot and took a great interest in the dismantling of his old home. His cottage had been very little altered since it was first built, and we were able to ascertain most of the original details of its original construction and fittings.

The cottages were originally identical. Each one contained two ground floor living rooms and two first floor bedrooms, with a wash-house and privy attached at the back. There was a chimney in the front half of the building, providing a fire-place in each front living room and front bedroom; the rear rooms were unheated.

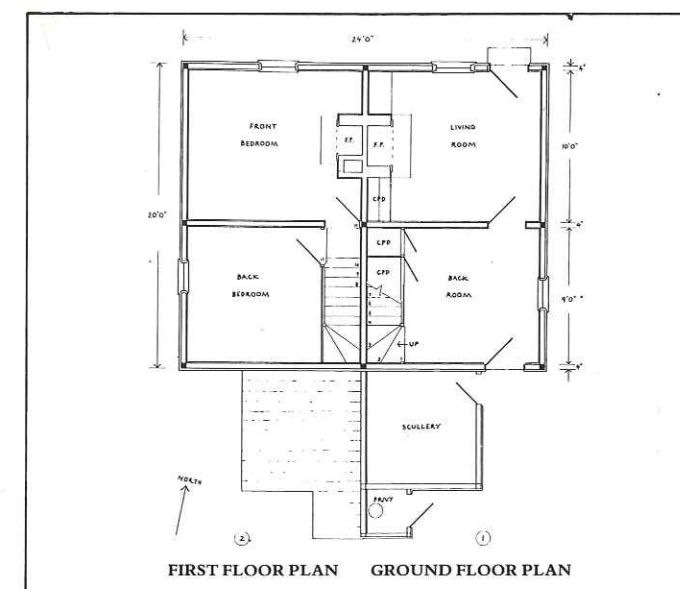
The walls were timber-framed. The main posts and plates were of softwood, and the secondary studs and braces were a mixture of softwood and poor quality hardwoods. The party wall between the cottages was infilled with brick nogging,

but the exterior walls were simply boarded on the outside and plastered on the inside. The front wall was given extra status by being rendered with stucco which was lined in imitation of ashlar stone blocks (similar to the internal plaster of the West Wittering School). The windows were sash windows of a very simple design. In recent years the boarding and stucco had been painted dark green, but the original colour will be analysed and reproduced when the buildings are reconstructed at the Museum. The roof was covered with slates.

The cottages are of a type which was once common in the Epsom area and, with slight differences, over our whole region. They are far removed, perhaps, from the image of timber and thatch which many people associate with our Museum, but their value will lie in showing visitors the living conditions and construction methods of a period which is already well represented at the Museum in non-domestic buildings such as the West Wittering School, the workshops from Newick, Windlesham and Witley, the sawpit shed from Sheffield Park, and the pugmill house from Redford.

**Richard Harris**

Continued on page 2



### ICI Gives £10,000 for Farming Exhibition

In May Dr Alan Hayes, Chairman of ICI Plant Protection Division, and a Trustee of the Museum, presented ICI's cheque for £10,000 to the Museum for the joint **History of Farming Exhibition** which forms a major part of the Bayleaf Project.

The presentation took place in Bayleaf on a rather wet evening. Chris Zeuner and Richard Harris explained to the guests the nature of the proposed Project. Representatives from many aspects of the agricultural and farming industry were present.

A special exhibition explaining the Project was mounted and this exhibition was later transferred to the South of England Show at Ardingly to form a major part of the Museum's display there for 1987.

The ICI donation is a generous and very vital part of the funding for the Bayleaf Project, which will be completed in time for British Food and Farming Year in 1989.



## Bayleaf Project Under Way

The foundations for Cowfold Barn and Redvins cattle sheds have been laid. The cattle sheds from the Goodwood Estate, known as *Redvins*, have been dismantled and are now being repaired by Paul Russell, a carpenter and joiner who repaired the Museum's Sussex Wagon some years ago. By the end of the summer the building will be ready for re-erection in the Bayleaf area.

Jackie Demaus has been undertaking field research for the **Farming Exhibition**. She has been concentrating her work on the Petworth Estate and on other farms in the Norchapel area.

Perimeter fences for the Garden have been constructed by Alan Waters. The continuous woven fence is based on evidence from early manuscripts – two types have been constructed, one using medium sized hazel rods in the round, the other using cleft hazel. Dr Sylvia

Landsberg's proposals for the garden have now been completed and planting will begin in the Spring.

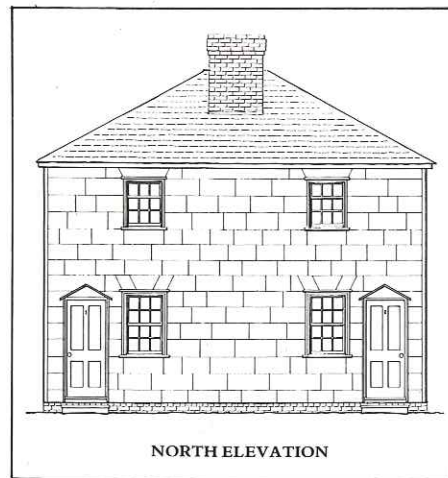
Unfortunately Cowfold Barn will not be re-erected this year as planned. Roger Champion will be absent from the Museum for a number of weeks in order to undergo an operation. The re-erection of the building has been postponed until Spring. It is at present scheduled for the Easter weekend and will therefore launch the new season in the best possible manner.

## Winkhurst

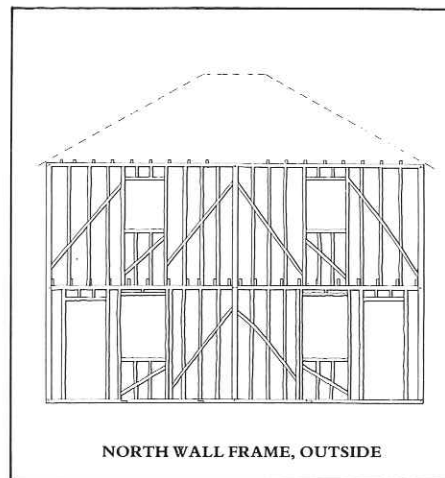
The timber repairs to Winkhurst and retiling is now complete, and the rewattling and daubing nearing completion. As it is now certain that the building did not originally stand on its own but was attached to structures on its east gable end and south side some panels have at this stage been left open.

In due course a small extension will be erected on the present southern side in an attempt to illustrate how the building originally may have worked. This extension will cover timbers whose unweathered surfaces are well preserved because at no time in its history would they have been external until the building's re-erection at Singleton. The building will eventually be displayed in such a way as to offer maximum protection to these timbers and other original parts of the building.

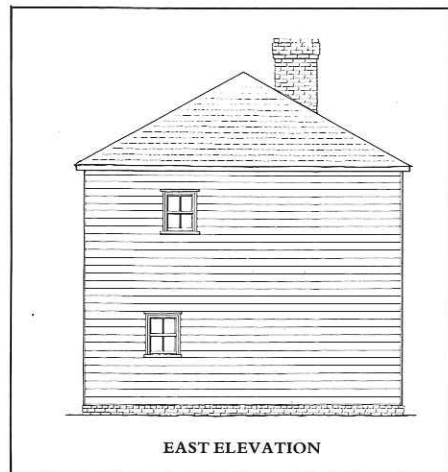
Whittakers Cottages ...  
Cont. from page 1



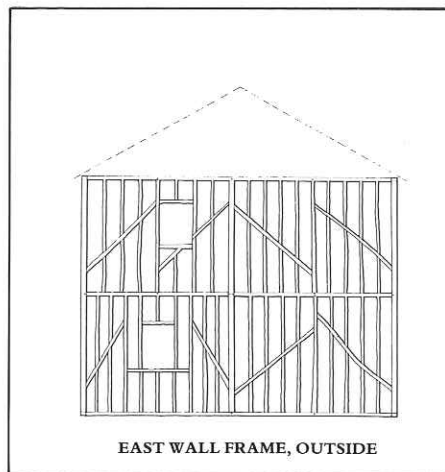
NORTH ELEVATION



NORTH WALL FRAME, OUTSIDE



EAST ELEVATION



EAST WALL FRAME, OUTSIDE

## Robin McDowall

Robin McDowall, a Trustee and for many years Chairman of the Museum's Sites and Buildings Committee, has died aged 73.

Mr McDowall, who spent 43 years with the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England, was one of the crucial personalities in the development of the Museum, chairing as he did the Museum's main academic committee which made key decisions about the buildings re-erected on the site.

During his career he played an important part in the recording of historic buildings and was an early champion of vernacular architecture. He was Secretary of the Royal Commission from 1973 - 1979, a pioneer of "photogrammetry" (the derivation of measured drawings from photographs) and a pioneer promoter of vernacular studies by local societies. He was an early member of the Vernacular Architecture Group, helping to promote studies in Surrey where he lived.

He played a vital part in the expansion of the Commission's tasks to include the surveying of archaeological sites and threatened buildings, and launched a series of publications. One of these, "Monuments Threatened or Destroyed" was written with Eric Mercer and contained a list of almost 700 buildings.

His quiet and steadfast dedication to the aims of the Museum will be much missed by his colleagues here and sympathy is extended to his wife and children.

## Split Lathes

Chestnut and oak split lathes for roof battens and plaster work are in much demand. The Museum has been supplying large quantities of battens as far afield as Yorkshire and Cornwall. The battens are made by local woodsmen. Principal among these is George Marsham of Plaistow, who is regularly seen demonstrating at the Museum. During the past year approximately 50,000 feet of battens have been supplied for use in conservation projects, including the restoration of Hampton Court and Calke Abbey in Derbyshire.

## Building Conservation Exhibition

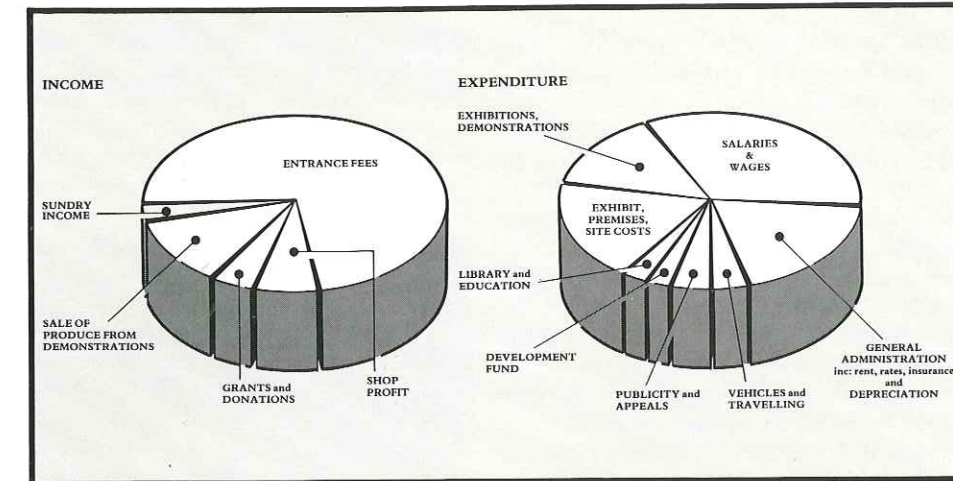
The successful exhibition on Building Conservation held in 1986 is to be repeated in 1988. Suggestions and ideas for participants would be welcomed by the Museum Director.

## Museum Finances

### The Weald and Downland Open Air Museum and its subsidiary, Singleton Museum Services Ltd.

Published below is a summary of the Museum's financial position for the year ended 31st December, 1986. The summary does not include expenditure on exhibits which has been funded from the Development Fund. This Fund is kept separate because new work is only embarked upon when funding is available.

The categories of expenditure are slightly different to those used last year and it is hoped that they make the position clearer.



INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
Entrance Fees	184,106	Exhibit, Premises and Site Costs	32,837
Shop Profit	29,150	Exhibitions and Demonstrations	30,245
Grants and Donations	14,621	Staff Salaries and Wages	96,564
Sale of Produce from Demonstrations	24,476	General Administration and Depreciation	47,045
Sundry Income	5,004	Vehicles and Travelling	15,860
Deficit	628	Publicity and Appeals	17,947
		Library and Education	7,926
		Transfer to Development Fund	9,561
	<u>£257,985</u>		<u>£257,985</u>

In addition reconstruction expenditure of £51,662 was funded from the Development Fund Appeal.

### Development Fund – Over £100,000 raised in a year

In April 1984 the Museum announced an exciting £250,000 10-year Development Plan. This includes the Horsham/Reigate and Bayleaf projects, and most of the smaller projects to be seen in progress at the Museum.

By September last year £93,000 had been raised from grants, donations, and events, the results of a combined effort by the Friends and the Museum staff and trustees.

This last year alone has been even more successful – a further £100,000-plus has been achieved. This has included the magnificent £10,000 sponsorship from ICI Plant Protection at Fernhurst, as part of their 50th anniversary celebrations. Other substantial donations have been £2,000 from the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust specifically for Bayleaf garden, £5,000 each from the Idlewild Trust and the John Lewis Partnership, and legacies totalling almost £6,600. Donations of up to £500 have been received from Barclays Bank, Charta Furniture Ltd, the Dowty

Group Trust, E. Allman & Co Ltd, Roth & Partners, Dexam International Trust, The Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers, the Church Commissioners, and Surrey Archaeological Society. We thank them all again now.

The English Tourist Board and the Countryside Commission have offered grants totalling over £21,000 for Bayleaf. The National Farmers Union, which is working with the Museum to establish the History of Farming exhibition near Bayleaf, is also contributing financially.

Within this £100,000 the Friends of the Museum have passed to the Museum over £33,000 from subscriptions, donations, tax reclaimed from Deeds of Covenant and a variety of efforts such as the sale of horseshoes,

## Sally Stradling

We are pleased to welcome to the Museum staff, Sally Stradling, as the first holder of the new post of Keeper of Collections. Sally takes up her post on 1st September.

The Keeper will be responsible for the care, security, and conservation of the Museum's library, photographic and general collections for use by the general public.

Sally Stradling has recently been working as a field worker for the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission. She was also engaged in the re-survey of listed buildings by the Department of the Environment. Prior to this she worked as Museums Liaison Officer for the Association for Suffolk Museums.

### The Conservation of Traditional Buildings: Current Practices and Policies.

Southampton University Adult Education Department. Eight-meeting Course held on Thursdays at 7.30pm starting on 8th October. Details of this course, led by Richard Harris and organised in collaboration with the Museum, can be obtained from the Museum office or from Caroline Sargent, The Old School House, 37 East Lavant, Chichester PO18 1AX.

The course will concentrate on the repair of timber frame buildings by traditional and modern methods, but will also consider the conservation of stonework, brickwork, and paintwork. The course will be of value to architects and planners as well as those concerned directly with Museum buildings or their own homes.

members' open gardens (and a farm), produce and plant stalls, quizzes, donations for talks given by members to W.I.'s etc, and the Christmas Market. The Museum itself has transferred £9,500 from its "earned" income (admissions, shop sales, etc) to the Development Fund.

The pressure is still on to raise more, to complete Reigate and its exhibition and to meet the challenge of finishing the Bayleaf farmstead and exhibition in time for Food & Farming Year 1989. With these new ideas the original estimate of £250,000 has been increased to at least £300,000 or – in other words – we have a new target of another £100,000 by the end of next year. On past performance this is no problem, providing the Museum and Friends continue to have YOUR help!



## Museum Special Events, 1987

The Museum ran its usual wide range of special events throughout the summer season designed to attract more and different visitors to the site. In addition there was a special approach to August, with demonstrations of a variety of crafts and skills arranged on most days during the month.

The **Novice Sheep Dog Trials**, the first event of the Museum's season, has become increasingly popular, not only with local shepherds but also from further afield, including the Isle of Wight and Oxfordshire. From over 30 entrants, the winner of the Karova Farms Challenge Cup was Mr. S. Fruin from the Isle of Wight and his dog, Bel. The Museum is most grateful to John Mills, Manager, and Roger Linley, Shepherd to Karova Farms, for their assistance.

The **Tools of the Trade Day** was once again organised in association with the Tools and Trade History Society. The Society's South Eastern members provided an excellent display of their collections, and a number of interesting woodland crafts were demonstrated. It was a pity that the event, despite the weather, was not better supported by the public. The Museum is most grateful to Jane Rees, secretary to TATHS, for her assistance.

Atrocious weather spoiled what promised to be an excellent **Show for Rare Breeds** with over 400 animals entered and a number of other activities taking place. It was a credit to the entrants that so many attended and to the popularity of the event that over 2,600 visitors came.

Prizes were presented by Mr Tim Finney from BBC Radio 4's "Farming Today" programme. The Museum is most grateful to Jean Crozier and other

members of the Show Committee for their hard work in organising this event which grows annually. Generous assistance is received from a number of local firms including Summersdale Garage, Portman Building Society and the National Westminster Bank. However, if the Show, which is now the largest Show for Rare Breeds in the South, is to remain financially viable, a major sponsor must be found.

The usefulness of the heavy horse was again demonstrated at the Museum in June when the annual **Heavy Horse Day** was held, attracting about 3,500 people to watch more than 40 horses at work using a variety of different equipment and machinery. The event was again held in conjunction with the Southern Counties Heavy Horse Association.

Following the success of the arena displays last year the Museum arranged a programme of similar demonstrations this year, including a display of the main breeds of heavy horse used in this country, show vehicles, timber vehicles, in-hand, and two rather unusual items, a horse-drawn turf cutter owned by Nigel Westcott and a lawn mower belonging to West Dean Estate. Commentary for all these events was ably undertaken by John Lovatt, of the SCHHA. Throughout the day there was also a continuous working demonstration of ploughing and cultivation.



Tim Finney, with Ted Nash in attendance as steward, presenting rosettes to the Young Handlers' Class entrants.

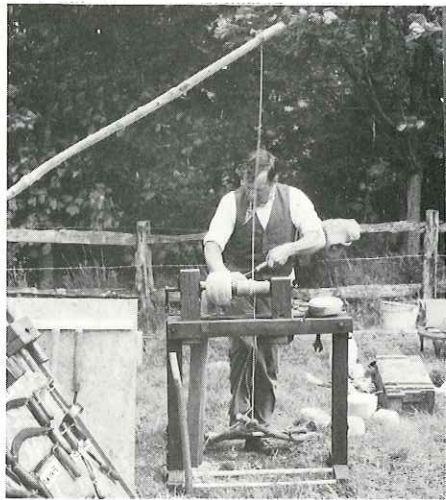
## Toll Cottage and Carpenter's Shop

Two room settings have been completed by Museum designer Margaret Williams-Ball of Wolfsbane in the Toll Cottage and Windlesham Carpenter's Shop, using items mostly from the Museum stores and mannekins. The two displays help to bring these exhibits to life. The surprise element on entering the Toll Cottage inner rooms seems to be effective!

Shutters have been added to the Toll Cottage, the evidence for their existence coming from the sister Toll Cottage at Bramber.



Tim Heymann, Agent to the Edward James Foundation, presenting the trophy to Mr. S. Fruin with his dog, Bel, at the Sheepdog Trials in May.



Tools of the Trade - A volunteer from the Upper Hamble Country Park using a pole-lathe to turn wood.

## The Classic Slum

A Photographic Exhibition Monday 5th October - Sunday 1st November

A photographic exhibition based on the book "The Classic Slum" by Robert Roberts will be shown at the Museum during October. The book and the exhibition describe life in Salford around 1900 - the same Salford described by Engels in the 1840's. Roberts set out deliberately to preserve a record of a community and a way of life that has gone forever, giving a place in history to people who lacked the time and means to produce their own testimony. The photographs in the exhibitions have been drawn from public and private collections, and number about 200.

Associated with the exhibition is a day school arranged by the Department of Adult Education of Southampton University. The day school, organised by Richard Hunt, sets the scene, contrasting urban and rural conditions. It takes place at the Museum on Saturday 10th October, and potential enrolments should be sent to Caroline Sargent, The Old School House, 37 East Lavant, Chichester PO18 1AX.

## Display of Decorative Interior Painting in the Reigate House

This building, of which the timber frame has now been repaired and re-erected at the Museum, stood at the rear of 43 High Street, Reigate. In 1981 it was due for demolition to make way for a shopping centre development, and was presented to the Museum by the developers.

It contains the two main rooms, one on each floor, with a basement and attic. It dates from the early 17th century and was an addition to an earlier building. Two timbers survived from this earlier building and showed that it was probably a late-medieval stair tower, so at the Museum the 17th century addition has been reconstructed attached to the modern stair tower at the rear of the Upper Hall from Crawley. Each of the two upper rooms contained a fireplace with good quality surrounds of carved stone typical of the period. Access to the rooms was originally from the earlier stair tower. A corner of the lower room was partitioned with oak panelling to form a small closet or lobby enclosing an external doorway, possibly for a garderobe. The upper room also contained a closet under the stairs leading up to the attic.

During dismantling it was discovered that substantial fragments of original decorative painting were concealed under later coats of paint. Most of these were in the upper room, and included an overmantel painting of St. George slaying the dragon. The painting on the wall and ceiling plaster consisted mainly of floral patterns executed in black line with patches of colour, typical of the period. The stones of the fireplace surround were also painted. During dismantling the painted areas of plaster were carefully removed and have been restored for reinstatement in the reconstructed building.

No other building yet acquired by the Museum has any contemporary decorative painting, so the Reigate building presents us with a suitable place to form a permanent display of other items from our collections which are connected with the craft of painting. In detail our proposals are as follows:

**Upper room:** it was in this room that most of the original painted areas survived. One external wall panel, one internal partition panel, about one third of the ceiling area, certain areas of exposed timber, the overmantel, and the stone fireplace had reasonably well preserved paint on them. Our intention here is that the whole room should be restored to its conjectural original appearance, with new paint applied to all areas except those in which original paint is preserved. However, because the Museum's concern is as much with the building process as with the final product, the room will be displayed as it would have been while the painting was being carried out. A figure will be installed, dressed in period costume and

with the tools of his trade (in replica), as if nearing completion of the original scheme of painting. The display will be accompanied by a tape-recorded commentary, operated by a push-button. This will provide a unique opportunity for visitors to see original painting preserved, its reconstructed context, and the process of production, all in a single display.

**Lower room:** no original painting survived here except for fragments of an overmantel scene showing a view over a town. We therefore intend to use this space to inform visitors about other late-16th and early-17th century wall paintings in our region by means of colour photographs, and in particular to display four outstanding painted panels from Ivy Cottage, Fittleworth, which were acquired by the Museum and conserved in 1970. On the subject of conservation of wall-paintings we intend to co-operate with the UKIC wall-paintings section to produce a display panel to inform visitors of what to look out for and the do's and don'ts of wall-

painting conservation, including information on how to obtain professional help.

**Basement:** access to the basement is from outside only, quite separate from the rooms above. Its original use is not known, and we intend to use it to house a display of materials and equipment which belonged to the Petworth Estate painters' workshop, collected by the Museum in 1979. As with the upper room above, this display would be accompanied by a push-button operated tape commentary, using spotlights to illuminate selectively the various items on display. The original workshop from which the items were collected was a windowless room, so the choice of the Reigate basement for their display is apt from the point of view of environment as well as theme.

**Attic:** for structural and operational reasons the attic will be closed to the public. It contains no features of particular interest.

Richard Harris  
Research Director

## Twentieth Anniversary Celebrations

A party was held on July 25 in the Market Square to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the foundation of the Museum. Friends and volunteers and a number of guests were present at a barbecue. Entertainment was provided by buskers, and the weather was fair to us, just!

### RMP & Chichester March

A team of ten, of ages from 6 to 75, represented the Museum and raised an expected £100 sponsorship. Retrospective donations welcome.

## Race Meeting

The race generously arranged at Goodwood's evening race meeting on June 25 by the Earl of March and Goodwood Racecourse took place in disappointingly poor weather conditions. Despite this the evening was supported well by a large number of Friends of the Museum, many bringing guests.

Opportunity was also provided to the Museum by Payne and Gunter, Posgate and Denby and Winners to entertain a number of special guests. These arrangements worked extremely well and the Museum is grateful to all who provided hospitality on its behalf during the evening, particularly to the Racecourse and Rod Fabricius, Clerk of the Course.

### Spring Tours

The 1987 tour to York was a great success. Next year's is to the Cheshire area, on 14-18 April. Details enclosed.

### Greetings Cards

A new winter scene is available, sponsored by the Friends.

### Friends Produce/Plant Stall - 25 October

Contributions gratefully received at the Museum by Joan Brooks from 2 days before.



Lord Watkinson, the Museum's President, right, presenting the winning trophy to Mr Charles Wacker III from Chicago, U.S.A., owner of Western Gun, the winner of the Weald and Downland Museum Stakes.



# Jigger Wheels Restored

A pair of jigger wheels used for hauling large butts of timber out of the woods by a team of horses have been restored by the Museum with the aid of a grant from the Area Museums Service for South East England.

The wheels came from Nurstead House, near Petersfield.

When restoring items such as these a number of important questions have to be answered before work can proceed, not dissimilar to those faced when repairing a building. If as in this case the intention is to use the item for demonstration purposes, repair must take into account the stresses and strains that will result from these activities. If the item were to be used only for display the minimum repair work would be undertaken.

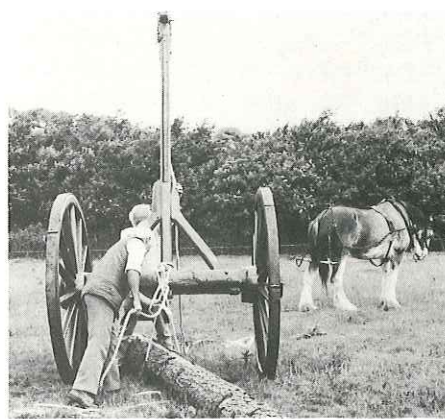
The Nurstead jigger wheels were generally in good condition, but re-

quired a number of new fellowes and spokes. This work was carried out by wheelwright Keith Randall of Westbourne. Samples of the paint were sent to a specialist paint supplier who provided the necessary colour match.

The Museum's collection includes two other jigger wheels, those on display in the Woodland Exhibition, and another pair in store. The restored wheels make a nice compliment to the already restored timber carriage and the two vehicles were used together for the first time in an arena demonstration on the Heavy Horse Day in June.



Westbourne wheelwright, Keith Randall, right, fitting the strakes onto the jigger wheels which he recently restored for the Museum.



The restored jigger wheels being used during the Heavy Horse Day by Bob Moulard, Chairman of the Southern Counties Heavy Horse Association, and his horse, Trampas.

## Forthcoming Events

**Sat 7 November** – Friends AGM – 2.30pm County Hall, Chichester. A chance to meet friends and learn about the Bayleaf project.

**Sat/Sun 24/25 October** – Autumn Activities Weekend (steam ploughing, threshing etc.)

**Mon 16 November** – Volunteers and staff party. 7.30pm, West Dean House.

**Fri 20 November** – 7.30pm, Crawley Hall – talk with slides by Richard Pailthorpe based on his book, produced jointly with Ian Serraillier, "Goodwood Country In Old Photographs".

**Sun 10 January** – 2.30pm, Crawley Hall – a light-hearted quiz based on the Museum. Devised and conducted by Brig. Walter Greenway. Tea.



Local shepherd, John Dewey assisting Roger Linley, shepherd to Karova Farms, West Dean Estate with a shearing demonstration – a skill both shepherds have regularly demonstrated this summer at the Museum.

## Entrance Facilities

In the last newsletter proposals for major changes to the Museum's entrance arrangements were set out and these proposals had been accepted by the Trustees. Since then detailed planning has begun and opportunity has been taken to allow as many people as possible involved with the Museum to comment on and make suggestions about the plan.

In particular two occasions were provided for volunteers to voice their views. A number of points have arisen as a result of this consultation and these are now being considered. During the forthcoming winter it is hoped that a start will be made to the improvements, in particular changes to the car parks which will result in extra parking spaces and improved safety by the removal of the very steep exit road.

Progress towards the provision of a pedestrian entrance will also be made. However the existing kiosks will remain in use for next year. Serious doubts have been expressed about the practicality of moving the Museum shop into Hambrook Barn. This will now not take place and alternative proposals are being prepared.

## Vivat Trust

Enclosed with this newsletter is some information about a rather unusual holiday home, the Summerhouse at Eyton-on-Severn. The property has been rescued and restored by the Vivat Trust, a non-profit making building preservation trust.

The Trust is currently working on projects in Bridport and Wigan. The Vivat Trust will be making a donation to the Museum for every booking made by a Friend as a result of this notice.



**The Weald and Downland  
Open Air Museum  
Singleton, Chichester  
West Sussex.**

**Chairman:** David Biart

**Founder:** J.R. Armstrong

**Chairman of the Friends:**

Sir James Waddell

**Hon. Secretary of the Friends:**

Carol Hawkins

**Hon. Treasurer of the Friends:**

A.B. Rush, Black Lion Cottage,  
Cocking Causeway, Midhurst,  
West Sussex.

**Museum Director:**

Christopher Zeuner  
Telephone: Singleton 348

**Research Director:** Richard Harris

**Magazine Editor:** Diana Zeuner

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