

WEALD & DOWNLAND

OPEN AIR MUSEUM

MAGAZINE

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SIR ALASTAIR MORTON INAUGURATES LONGPORT HOUSE

Longport House, the most complex rebuilding operation so far undertaken by the Museum, was inaugurated in September by Sir Alastair Morton, chairman of Eurotunnel, which financed the dismantling and much of the reconstruction:

The former farmhouse, dismantled from the UK terminal of the Channel Tunnel, has been rebuilt over the summer following painstaking research and careful restoration undertaken with archaeological precision. Led by the Museum's research director Richard

Harris, the work has involved new techniques developed at the Museum to ensure faithful restoration of the building's materials, textures and curvatures and original positions.

More than 150 guests from all over the south east were welcomed by Museum president Lord Nathan to the

Outside Longport House on inauguration day, Sir Alastair Morton beneath the Eurotunnel umbrella talks to the Museum's research director Richard Harris and his wife Judy.

the Museum's commitment to the regional building heritage. An open day was held on the same occasion, designed to give a behind-the-scenes glimpse at the many facets of the Museum's work - conservation, curatorial techniques, education, training for building restorers, demonstration of rural skills, and opening the Museum to visitors.



Positioning the central timber-frame sections during the summer. Left to right, research director Richard Harris; carpenter Roger Champion; Pete, Ron and Mick Betsworth and director Chris Zeuner.

inauguration, which offered an excellent opportunity to demonstrate the depth of

"We were especially pleased to welcome Sir Alastair Morton to the Museum," says Museum director Christopher Zeuner. "Eurotunnel's support has given the building a new lease of life and will provide us with a much-needed new



Jimmy Clevett



Sir Alastair Morton, chairman of Eurotunnel, inside Longport House in September. Beside him is the Museum's president, Lord Nathan.

Jimmy Clevett



COURSES AND TRAINING TO BE EXPANDED

MSc teaching gets under way

This year the Museum delivered the first of the timber modules as part of Bournemouth University's MSc course in Building Conservation. Research director Richard Harris, who developed the content of the modules, led the teaching, supported by guest tutors. Many of the modules are open to students not following the full course, enabling expert tuition in timber-frame conservation to be available widely.

In 1996 the Museum will be further

developing its role as provider of courses and training in its specialist fields, especially building conservation. In association with Bournemouth University School of Conservation Sciences a part-time organiser will be planning a programme of courses. The Museum is delighted that Carol Hawkins has been appointed to this post and will be able to use her knowledge and skills to take this important part of the Museum's work forward. Full details will be published in the new year.

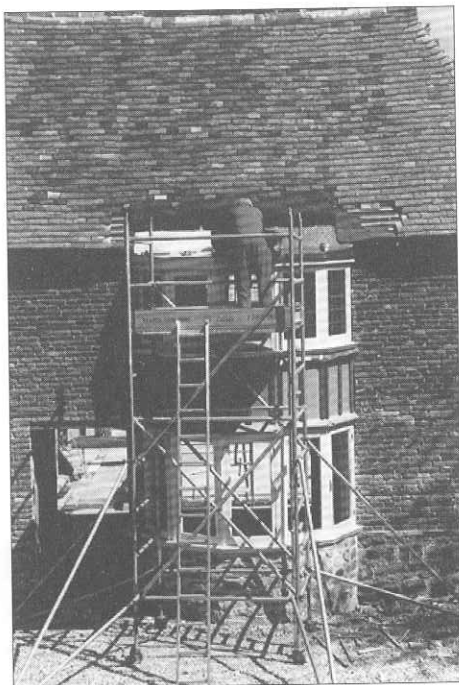
→ Longport House

visitor reception facility. We are most grateful for the financial help and interest in the project shown by all those we dealt with at Eurotunnel and to the many other supporters, especially the Museum's own Friends organisation."

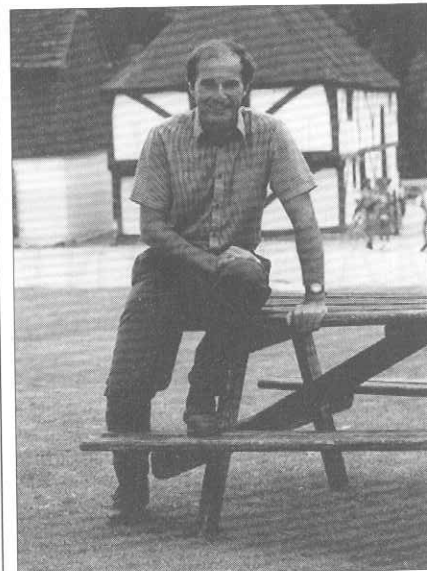
The inauguration by Sir Alastair marks the completion of the building's reconstruction. The final phase, its conversion for visitor reception, shop and offices, will follow during the winter.

Right, Richard Murdoch applies the lead sheet to the roof of the 20th century bay window.

Below, Richard Harris guides visitors around the building site during the reconstruction of the timber frame.



Richard Pailthorpe moves to pastures new



Richard Pailthorpe, who has been with the Museum for 16 years, left to take up a new post as administrator of Syon House, Brentford in September.

As visitor services manager Richard was responsible for overseeing the operation of the museum for visitors, the tasks of volunteers and publicity and advertising. Later he became assistant director (visitor services) with an expanded role including the organisation of special events and the development of the sale of woodland products such as charcoal.

He played a leading part in local tourism promotion and over recent years has been chairman of the Chichester Visitors Group, which co-ordinates publicity for attractions in the Chichester area.

During his time on the staff Richard made a major contribution to the development of the Museum and he will be greatly missed. We wish him good fortune and success in his new and challenging post.

Be a brick!

The Be A Brick campaign closed in July having raised a total of £3,683 for Longport House thanks to readers of the Museum Magazine, the hard work of volunteers who manned the stand at special events and all who donated so generously.

LYN ARMSTRONG



The final link with the Museum's founder Roy Armstrong was sadly broken in June with the death of his wife, Lyn. A tireless worker alongside Roy, Lyn's devotion to the Museum and its aims was every bit as constant as that of Roy.

Since the early struggles for a suitable site, Lyn had been involved with practical work, helping dismantle buildings, moving materials, making paths and planting trees - anything that was necessary to achieve the dream of an open air museum of traditional buildings of the weald and downland.

Those of us who followed Roy through Sussex on endless journeys inspecting buildings knew that our future lay in Lyn's hands. Interesting structures were an endless diversion to the right and left of every country lane and it was only Lyn's road directions that got us to our destination at all. Later, as Roy's driving skills became more out of tune with modern road conditions, Lyn took driving lessons and became chauffeur, enabling both to travel to the Museum from their Storrington home far longer than they otherwise could have done. Finally when Lyn too became anxious about driving, neighbour and long-standing volunteer Bernard Johnston and founding trustee David Russell took over and brought Lyn to the Museum whenever they could.

Lyn made the charcoal burning project one of her greatest personal interests, spending hours devoted to it, in the early days with the Langridge's, reconstructing the camp as they remembered it from their lives as charcoal burners. Later she helped rebuild the huts, mark one, mark

two, mark three - and assisted Alan Waters with the traditional earth burns which were such an attraction to visitors.

With the building programme well under way and in capable hands, Roy and Lyn turned their attention to establishing the library, spending endless hours with the help of some stalwart volunteers including "Qui" Quihampton, recording and cataloguing books, pamphlets and Roy's huge collection of transparencies. Between them they created probably the best library of vernacular architecture in the country, named the Armstrong Library in their memory.

It was Lyn, who during endless hours of conversation and discussion over 25 years, tempered with reality the most excessive ideas Roy was able to muster for his museum dream. For some Lyn had a disarmingly brusque manner - an outer shell few were able to crack. But finally, she was able to tell those staff in whose hands Roy's dream now lay that he had been confident for the future, and she was content - on the whole.

Ellen raises money for disabled museum users

Liphook schoolgirl, 11-year-old Ellen Crabtree raised more than £50 in sponsorship for the Museum when she walked Glen Coe in Scotland earlier this year. Ellen, who is a regular visitor to the Museum, wants the money to be spent on helping disabled people enjoy the site and buildings. The Museum is currently planning a special route to the market square for visitors using wheelchairs and a project to produce braille images of Bayleaf Farmhouse for partially-sighted people.

Trustees

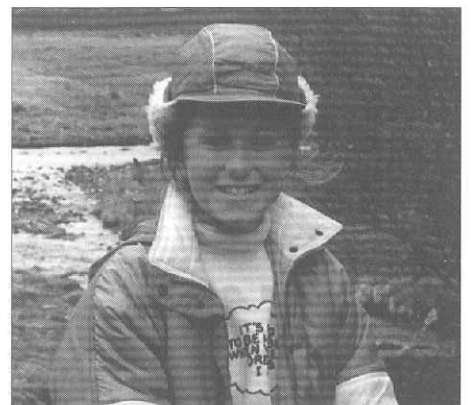
Two key posts on the Museum's executive board changed hands this year. Hon. treasurer Derek Bandey and Hon. secretary Michael Roberts stood down to make way for Martin Sharpe and Neil Hart.

Between them Derek Bandey and Michael Roberts have many years service to the Museum, especially during the difficult recessionary period. Their contribution to the governing of the Museum and their attendance at special events in particular has been greatly appreciated. However their interest in the Museum continues, as Derek Bandey remains on the board and Michael Roberts remains as a trustee.

Martin Sharpe comes to us from architects Miller Hughes of Chichester where he is their company secretary and Neil Hart is a partner in the Horsham office of solicitors Thomas Eggar Verrall Bowles. We wish them both an enjoyable and rewarding period serving the Museum.

A number of other changes within the trustee body have occurred. David Tomlinson and Michael Burton have been newly elected to the board. Founding trustee Kim Leslie has stood down from the board but remains a trustee. Richard Hunt and Leslie Weller have retired from trusteeship, but Richard Hunt will continue to contribute to the Museum as director of the newly-planned summer school (described on page 8).

A number of trustees have been made vice presidents of the Museum. They are our past president and Friends chairman, Sir James Waddell, former chairman David Biart, former Chichester Festival Theatre director Patrick Garland, and two founding trustees, Jim Oliver and Margaret Holt.



In brief

□ Sales of our wholemeal flour produced at Lurgashall Mill continue to rise. By the beginning of September 93 per cent of the whole of last year's sales had been achieved, supplying more than 5.5 tonnes of flour to the trade (excluding that sold to the public on site). The increase is due to the work put in to sales by Peter Stock.

□ Albert Peacock, spar maker *par excellence*, has increased his production. This year he will have made around 150,000 spars which are sold to a number of thatchers. For the first time he continued to make spars through the summer months due to the increased demand.

□ The candle making stand run by Brian Weekes and Heather Champion has continued to raise extra funds for the Museum. This year it had brought in an astonishing £2,500 by the beginning of October. Part of this will be spent on a new Tamworth boar for the Bayleaf farmyard.

Bon appetit!

Eating out at the Museum cafe has been granted an Egon Ronay seal of approval. Our catering facilities, run by the Ellis family partnership of Chichester, are praised in the Egon Ronay Britvic Guide for 1995, *Just a Bite*.

The guide praises the "well-sited and well-stocked" refreshment kiosk, the refectory atmosphere of the medieval hall and the picnic area by the lake and recommends one of the home-cooked dishes to round off a visit.

Fellowship awarded to Museum director

Museum director Chris Zeuner has been elected a Fellow of the Museums Association, the professional body for those working in museums. Fellowships are awarded to individuals deemed to have made a significant contribution to the profession. In addition to his work at the Museum, Chris has been chairman of the Association of Independent Museums, president of the European Association of Open Air Museums and currently serves on the Museums Association Council, chairing its publications committee.

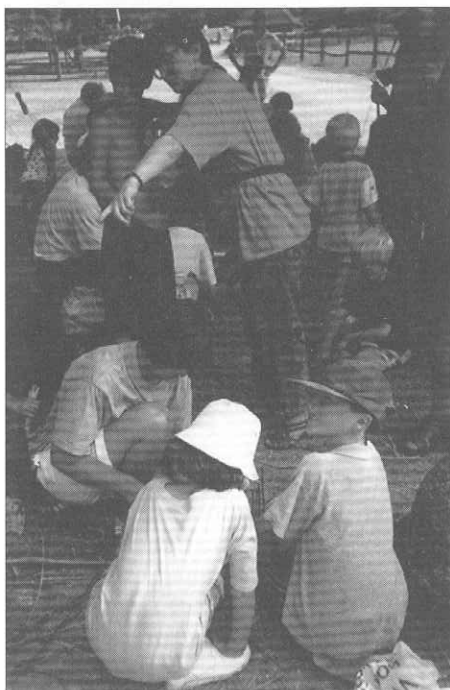
DOVETAIL attracts new audiences

The Museum's first-ever programme of arts events dovetailed neatly into the summer season, reaching out to new as well as familiar audiences and proving a financial success into the bargain.

Designed to "dovetail" with the Museum's character, theme and exhibits, it included a showing of a silent film, *Tansy*, about a downland shepherdess; the Copper family singing traditional songs; Patrick Garland's anthology of Sussex poets and a family musical evening with local schools and a barn dance. DOVETAIL ended on a magical high note with a sell-out performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by the lake in August. More than 1,000 people took advantage of the programme.

Assisted by the Chichester Observer, West Sussex County Council and Chichester District Council and a £3,000 grant from the Foundation for Sport and the Arts, the programme was such a success another is being planned for 1996. *Illyria*, the open air theatre company, will return with another of their boisterous Shakespeare productions.

Carol Hawkins



Volunteer Kathryn Gunn offering help to children busy learning weaving skills during one of two family activity weekends held during the summer.

People

Sue Shave joined the staff earlier this year as our interpretation officer, and is busy developing new projects for the interpretation of our historic buildings and rural life collections. Sue comes to us from The ARC, the Archaeological Resource Centre in York, a hands-on education centre using real and replica archaeological finds which has been a pioneer in its field.



Sue Shave

"Sue's appointment offers the Museum a wonderful opportunity to develop further ways of explaining our buildings to the public," says Museum director Chris Zeuner. "We have so much more to say about building technology and archaeology and the way of life led by the occupants of the historic buildings re-erected on our site. Sue's experience at The ARC is especially relevant to what we hope to do."

Christine Knights was appointed shop supervisor for the 1995 season and has been busy building up the stock and making changes to the displays. **Betty Putnam** and **Monica Hannevold** retired from the shop after many years sterling work contributing to a vital element of the Museum's operation - their time and effort is greatly appreciated.

In the office **Gaye MacLaren**, who came for a couple of months and stayed for two and a half years, has now "retired" but will help out from time to time. **Karen Searle** has increased her part-time work from two to three days. We are pleased to welcome **Jean Piggott**, volunteer and Friends secretary, on to the office staff for two days a week and **Eileen Croath**, also a volunteer, is helping in the office once a week. **Ann Allen** continues to help out when necessary, often stepping into the breach at a moment's notice.

Holding our ground

Museum visitors for 1995 stand at a similar level to that of last year - a satisfactory situation bearing in mind a general trend for a decrease in visits at museums in all parts of the UK, in some cases quite dramatically. On average museum visits were considered to be eight per cent down by September.

Special factors this season include an increase in adult numbers, although school parties are down; the effect of the extremely hot weather in the summer which depressed August figures and, pleasingly, a slight increase in visitors at the quieter times of the season.

Spadework . . .



The army of moles which tunnels its way beneath the Museum site each year has some stiff competition in the form of the three Betsworth brothers, who dug the whole of the foundations for Whittakers' Cottages by hand in the early summer. Mick, Ron and Pete, who have developed a reputation as formidable shifters of material whilst working on Longport House, made short work of the task, completing it in two days flat. These days foundations are dug by mechanical digger, but the Museum decided to use the same method as the original builders of the cottages - the spade.

MUSEUM CHARCOAL

ON SALE

AT

B & Q

Barbecue charcoal produced at the Museum is now on sale at one of the biggest superstores in the region - B & Q in Bognor Regis. The first delivery was made in June by horse-drawn waggon. Altogether more than two tons was supplied during the summer.

The charcoal, made from coppice woodland by charcoal burner Alan Waters is supplied to the store through



the Bioregional Charcoal Company, supported by the British Charcoal Group, the Coppice Association and the National Small Woods Association. With these credentials it has been able to command the attention of major stores and make significant improvements to the marketing and selling of British charcoal. The Museum has also started to supply a number of One Stop stores in the area.

Junior Friends re-launched

The Junior Friends group was re-launched in the summer by Sue Shave, the Museum's interpretation officer with an exciting summer camp based on a day in the life of an occupant of Winkhurst.

Children aged from eight - 13 were given an introduction to the daily life such a person could have expected and then took part in activities such as baking bread, caring for livestock, cleaning sheep fleeces and gardening. On the second day they had a chance to build their own shelters and create sculptures.

The final day introduced the children to more activities - spinning, weaving, dyeing and candle dipping. The camp ended with an early music workshop, a medieval feast and songs round the camp fire before staying overnight at the Museum.

The Junior Friends is extending its six months of Sunday meetings to cover the whole year and Sue Shave is developing a programme of practical activities involving a wide range of crafts and building skills and techniques.

Another milestone reached

During the summer the Museum was contacted by Beeding and Bramber Local History Society chairman Ken Schronder about the relocation of a milestone. It was of particular interest to us because it came from Upper Beeding High Street only a few hundred yards from our Upper Beeding Toll Cottage. It stated the distance of 52 miles between Upper Beeding and London.

Having survived since the early 19th century when the road was a turnpike or toll road, it had become a nuisance to contractors maintaining the roadside verge with mechanical equipment. The

stone was slowly becoming more and more damaged. Concerned for its well-being, the Society rescued the milestone 10 years ago and moved it to the safety of the garden of Society member Keith Nethercote-Bryant, where it stayed until August this year. Unable to relocate the stone on its original site the Society offered it to the Museum, thinking it appropriate that it should be sited close to its old neighbour, the Toll Cottage.

The stone, currently on the grass beside the building, will be re-sited as part of the track changes from Hambrook Barn to the Toll Cottage once Longport House is open.

FRIENDS EVENTS 1996

3 February 2.30 pm Crawley Hall, Open Air Museum. *Pigs in Archaeology* - a talk by Dr Ray Ashdown followed by tea and cakes. Tickets £2.

2 March Coach trip to Shakespeare's Globe and Southwark. Depart Museum 9.30 am. Return approx. 5.30 pm. Tickets £11.

30 March Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting. Guided visit to Midhurst and annual meeting at West Dean College

19 - 20 April Spring Tour to the Isle of Man. Details below. Cost £297. Deposit £50 by 1 December 1995.

N.B. No application forms are included. To apply for any of these events please write to the Friends' Secretary, c/o Weald and Downland Museum, Singleton, Chichester, West Sussex PO18 0EU. A stamped addressed envelope would be appreciated. All cheques payable to Friends of the Weald and Downland Museum.

Visits for 1996

A visit to the recreated Globe Theatre on Bankside is planned for Saturday 2 March to see the structure before it is finally completed. The Museum has provided the cleft oak battens used in the building. After a guided tour of the Globe, lunch will be at either the 16th century Anchor Inn or George Inn followed by an hour's tour of places of interest in Southwark or a visit to Southwark Cathedral.

The coach leaves the Museum at 9.30 am and returns between 5.30 - 6.00 pm, with a pick up stop in Midhurst. Cost (excluding lunch) will be £11 subject to a minimum of 40 people.

On Saturday 3 February Ray Ashdown will give a talk on *Pigs in Archaeology* at 2.30 pm in Crawley Hall, followed by tea and cakes. Tickets £2.

If you are interested in these events please write to Jean Piggott at the Museum office including an s.a.e and cheque payable to the Friends of the Weald and Downland Museum.

BUSY FRIENDS WORK TO HELP FUND THE MUSEUM

1995 has been a busy year for the Friends, starting in February with a seminar and discussion on Friends recruitment. Thank you to all those who help man the Friends' stand on special event days and play such a vital role in offering visitors a friendly welcome. It was generally agreed by all present, including stewards who recruit on ordinary days, that a permanent site for Friends' recruiting would be a great advantage. Over the last five years the Friends have donated £160,000 to the Museum, most of which has come from membership subscriptions.

The Spring tour to Cumbria was blessed with sunshine and had a strong literary flavour, visiting houses connected with Wordsworth, Ruskin and Beatrix Potter. The highlight for students of vernacular architecture was the 17th century "statesman's" house of Townend at Troutbeck.

Day coach outings took place to Winchelsea and Rye and to Braemore House. A Lutyens and Jekyll day was especially interesting architecturally and horticulturally, and thanks go to Ray and

Margaret Ashdown for all their preparation work.

The Friends acted as hosts to a group of Friends from Luton Museums and to 25 representatives from the Annual Congress of the World Federation of Friends of Museums. Delegates from Mexico, Spain, France, USA and Canada were impressed with their visit, and we were privileged that ours was the only museum they visited outside London.

Fund raising events began with the opening of Frith Hill Garden again by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Warne. Friends provided tea and cakes and the event made £170. This autumn supper with music by Cavatina was organised by Debbie Wigmore and Chichester Ladies' Circle and A Celebration of Harvest in words and music took place in Singleton Church. If anyone else would like to organise a fund raising event please let the committee know - we should be only too glad of help.

Virginia Lyon
Chairman

Spring Tour to Isle of Man

19 - 20 April 1996

Next year our annual tour takes us to the Isle of Man where we will experience the island's fascinating heritage. Visits include the Manx Museum, the "Island's Treasure House," a trip on the narrow gauge steam railway to Castle Rushen, resident of past "Kings and Lords of Mann," the Nautical Museum, home of the 200-year-old schooner Peggy and Cregneash Village Folk Museum, a working 19th century Manx upland crofting community.

On Sunday a journey by electric tram takes us to the Great Laxey Wheel, the largest working water wheel in the world, then on to the Grove Rural Life Museum, a Victorian time capsule with a house and garden complete with a Manx cat, and a visit to the west coast to Peel Castle and "Odin's Raven." On Monday there will be a chance to ride on a horse tram along

Douglas Promenade followed by a tour of the tram workshops or the Victorian Gaiety Theatre.

The cost of £297 per person includes a double/twin room, breakfast and dinner at the five-star Castle Mona on the seafront in Douglas, entrance to museums, guides and transport, and flights to and from Heathrow. Transport from the Museum will take us to Heathrow on the 19th, for a 16.10 departure arriving 17.20. Departure from the Isle of Man is at 17.50 arriving 19.00. Single room supplement is £33.50. Insurance is your personal responsibility. The cost of a coach to and from the airport will depend on the number of people travelling.

If you are interested please send a deposit of £50 to Jean Piggott, Friends' Secretary, by 1 December 1995 as it will be necessary to book flights as early as possible.

CANADIAN MUSEUM TOUR PLANNED

Museum curator Bob Powell is to lead a tour of principally open air museums in Ontario next year from 9 - 19 September.

Flying from Heathrow the tour will start in Toronto visiting the Black Creek Pioneer Village, before moving west to take in other museums such as Doon Heritage Crossroads and the Niagara Falls area. From here the tour will travel east along the shore of Lake Ontario taking in the 1,000 Islands area, before reaching Upper Canada Village at Morrisburg. Heading north the tour will next see Ottawa city including some of the national museums such as the National Museum of Science and Technology.

From there travel will be north west

through the forests and fall colours of the Algonquin Provincial Park, reaching the mining town of Sudbury, where the two main attractions are the enormously successful Science North (a fantastic hands-on museum) and the Big Nickel Mine. Finally the tour will return south through the French River area on the way back to Toronto.

The cost, currently £1,200, includes flight, accommodation in lower first class hotels for 10 nights and travel within Canada on an air conditioned coach. The tour will be accompanied by a Canadian guide, although Bob knows the province well. If you are interested in receiving further details and an application form please contact the Museum office. Bob will also be able to assist with further information.

Four centuries of farming

Farming Through the Ages was a new event held on the August bank holiday which caught the imagination of visitors and enabled us to make further links with the local farming community.

The day made use of our rural buildings and extensive agricultural collection to demonstrate activities of the farming year through the centuries. Local farmers brought modern machinery and livestock to compare with our own and there were some hands-on activities and busy demonstrations happening at different

locations on the site.

The highlights were two guided walks taking visitors away from the historic farming ways described at the Museum across the valley to Lady Elizabeth Benson's Cucumber Farm on the road to Midhurst where they were able to compare them with a modern commercial dairy and arable farm. The hour-long walks were led by Tim Heymann, former agent with the Edward James Foundation at West Dean and Michael Roberts, retired auctioneer with Wyatts of Chichester, a Museum trustee.

FRIENDS ANNUAL CONFERENCE VISITS UPPARK

Friends attending the annual conference were taken on special guided tours by Committee member John Eyre of the newly restored Uppark House before it was opened to the public, giving an insight into the difficulties and skilled craftsmanship involved in restoring the house to the state it had been in on the day before the fire.

A buffet supper in the Vicars' Hall, Chichester was followed by an update on the work of the Museum with special reference to Longport House by the Museum director Christopher Zeuner. The following day Caroline Adams, county archivist gave a talk and tour of the West Sussex County Record Office and an opportunity to listen to oral history tapes from the archives.

The annual meeting at Ede's House, Chichester, was packed to hear Museum trustee and Southampton University lecturer Richard Hunt give a most interesting and amusing talk on *The Labouring Man* in the 18th-19th century.

Next year's conference and AGM will take place on Saturday 30 March. Dr Annabelle Hughes and Mrs Marjorie Hallam of the Wealden Buildings Study Group will give us a talk at the Museum followed by a guided visit to Midhurst. Following a pub lunch the annual meeting will be at West Dean College at 2 pm, followed by a talk, tea and optional guided tour of West Dean Workshops by the new principal, David Leigh. Make a note of the date in your diary now; we shall look forward to seeing you there.

A Journey to Rajasthan and Moghul India

3 - 28 February 1997

An Indian journey tailor-made for people interested in folk traditions, crafts or historic buildings, planned in association with the Museum, the Association of Independent Museums and the English Folk Life Society and led by experienced guide, Richard Hunt of Halnaker, Chichester.

The tour will visit an open air museum in Udaipur, city of palaces beside lakes, a wonderful crafts museum in Delhi, temples, palaces and tombs, including the Taj Mahal and take in stunning scenery and wild life sanctuaries. But what makes this trip unique is the opportunity to visit villages and small towns to see something of the real lives of people at work and at home. Accommodation will be in interesting buildings such as forts, palaces and hunting lodges which have been converted to hotels.

Richard Hunt, who spent his childhood in India, taught at Madras University and worked with voluntary social work agencies in Rajasthan. He has led many tours to India and will be using his contacts to gain access to parts of India tourists seldom see. The group will be limited to around 20 people and the tour of 25 days will cost around £2,000.

Plans have to be made very far ahead. All those interested should contact Richard Hunt at Halnaker Park Cottage, Chichester PO18 OQH (01243 773597).

Volunteers man the new mobile ticket kiosk in operation in Greenways field during one of the Museum's special event days.



MUSEUM PLANS ITS FIRST SUMMER SCHOOL

The Museum is to hold its first Summer School next year from 6 - 13 July providing a focus for a summer activity holiday in beautiful surroundings offering a choice of themes related to those of the Museum itself.

An enjoyable and stimulating week of lectures, discussions and study visits to places of historic interest is planned on a "pick and mix" basis, led by expert tutors and with like minded companions staying in comfortable accommodation. School director will be Richard Hunt, former trustee of the Museum and social history lecturer at Southampton University.

Themes will include:

- ☐ Social history - landlords, farmers and labouring people; rural society before the coming of industry.
- ☐ Local studies - how to use village records and field visits to study the history of a community.
- ☐ Landscape and rural society as inspiration for literature, art and music

☐ Traditional crafts - history of major crafts, hands-on experience and visits to craft workshops

☐ Archaeology of the region - the Boxgrove Man site, Trundle iron age fort, Roman villa and palace, the coming of industry.

Fringe activities open to everyone include additional lectures, guided visits and demonstrations. Accommodation will be in a variety of guest houses and local inns. Camping is possible at the Museum. Light meals will be available at the Museum and dinner will be arranged in local inns. Shared transport and coaches will be used for visits. The cost will be £395 for seven nights' bed and breakfast in twin rooms, refreshments, light lunches and barbecue dinners, tuition, guided visits and entrance charges. Places will be limited to 20 members for each theme.

Please send for a detailed programme and booking form to the Weald and Downland Museum Summer School, Singleton, Chichester PO18 0EU.

EVENTS DIARY

23 November Volunteers' Christmas Party - West Dean College - 7 pm.

25-26 November Christmas Shopping Weekend

18 December Carols in Longport House - 7 pm.

3 February 1996 *Pigs in Archaeology* - Ray Ashdown - Talk arranged by Friends - Crawley Hall - 2.30 pm.

14 February Volunteers Briefing for 1996 season - 10.30 am and 2.30 pm.

17 February Volunteers Briefing for 1996 season - 2 pm.

2 March Friends trip to the Globe Theatre and Southwark

30 March Friends Annual Conference

7-8 April Food Fair

19-20 April Friends' Spring Tour to the Isle of Man



60ft load winds through Singleton

One of the longest horse-drawn loads seen on the roads in recent years took restored timber beams destined for Longport House through Charlton and Singleton to the Museum in June. The 60ft long load comprised 34ft long oak beams on the Museum's timber carriage drawn by Shires Jim and Neville in tandem, driven by our horseman Peter Albon.

Christmas Shopping at the Museum - 25 - 26 November

Reduced entrance charge!

Following last year's highly successful Christmas Shopping weekend another similar but slightly smaller event will be held this year. Once again there will be a specially reduced entrance fee to the Museum for non-Friends of £3 for adults and £1.50 for children.

In addition to some seasonal extra stock in the Museum shop there will be a dozen craft stands and demonstrators. Items will include toys, candles, lamps, barge ware and wines. Christmas refreshments will include mince pies and mulled wine, baked potatoes and hot chestnuts; a juggler, carols and a medieval play on Sunday will add to the festive atmosphere.

The Museum will be open from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. Put this date in your diary and tell your friends about this opportunity to find a Christmas present with a difference!

New Christmas card for sale



A new Christmas card featuring Bayleaf Farmhouse with the Sussex oxen in the foreground taken in snowy weather by Richard Pailthorpe is on sale in the Museum shop. A pack of five cards costs £1.60 (plus 30p postage for mail order). Please address your orders to the Museum shop, making cheques payable to Weald and Downland Museum.

