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OPEN AIR MUSEUM

Autumn 2006



'Tin tabernacle' to join
historic building exhibits

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New Museum films will reveal how agricultural machines worked

The Museum's latest Designation Challenge Fund project began in April and involves producing short films showing the detailed setting-up and use of the Museum's horse-powered agricultural machinery.

Three recent graduates from Portsmouth University – Tim Connell, James Allison and Oliver Turner – have been employed to produce around 10 films which will provide an invaluable record of how agricultural machinery was used. The team began work in September, with the Horse Gin at Watersfield Stable.

The digital films will eventually be available for use by the Museum, other institutions and the general public, and cover the 10 most significant generic types of equipment in the Museum's collections e.g. implements used in ploughing, drilling and reaping. Three

versions will be made available: an on-site version for use in exhibitions and displays – up to five minutes long; a research version – up to 30 minutes long; and an online version – some two minutes long. Where possible, each film will show a range of examples within a generic type, and include demonstrations of preparation, use and maintenance of the equipment.

"It is increasingly important to record exactly how these types of machinery were operated since those people with the knowledge become fewer and fewer," says Curator, Julian Bell. "Besides the general working principles of each form of equipment, it is those unique pieces of personal knowledge that experienced operatives have accumulated over the years which are of great importance and in most danger of being lost."

The two-year project, for which the

Museum was awarded £76,000, follows on from previous projects funded by the Designation Challenge Fund. These have included the moving to a more appropriate site of Winkhurst Tudor Kitchen, the refurbishment of Pendean Farmhouse, the removal of the artefact collection to the Downland Gridshell, an Interpretation Strategy, the Volunteer Support Project and improvements to the condition and accessibility of the large collection of items stored off-site.

This funding has been invaluable in enabling the Museum to develop and tackle collections storage and interpretation to a degree which would otherwise have been impossible. The entire collections of the Museum were Designated as being of outstanding national importance in 1998, one of only some 60 collections throughout England to achieve this status.

2006 Museum Christmas Card



This year's new Museum Christmas card features our flock of sheep in front of Poplar Cottage, taken by Richard Pailthorpe, and is available in 10-card packs by mail order, at £6.00 per pack, including postage and packing. Each card includes the greeting, 'With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year'. The cards are also on sale in the Museum shop in packs of five cards, at £2.75 per pack. To order over the phone, paying with a credit/debit card, call the shop on 01243 811020.

The Museum has submitted an application for outline planning permission for its proposed 'Access Project', first described in the Museum Magazine, Autumn 2004 issue.

The aim is to improve the standard of our visitor services and there are two elements to the proposal:

- A new visitor centre containing reception, orientation, retail and restaurant facilities, the design brief to emphasise sustainability and landscape context
- New parking areas, carefully landscaped and screened on the flat land in the north-west corner of the site, maintaining the existing vehicle entrance on Town Lane.

The key to the visitor centre lies in the word 'orientation'. In our Forward Plan, adopted in March 2003, we recognised that our collections and site potentially cater for many varied interests among visitors, but people need guidance to understand what is available – hence the concept of an 'Orientation Gallery' at the heart of the visitor centre. The gallery would offer help at many levels and in many different areas of interest, from an introductory presentation to specific and detailed information on a wide variety of topics.

The second element of the project relates to parking facilities. Our car parks were created in 1971, carved out of the wooded chalk slope. They are charming but dangerous – too steep, too narrow, with no pedestrian separation, and extremely difficult for people with disabilities. We need safe and accessible car parks, designed to modern standards.

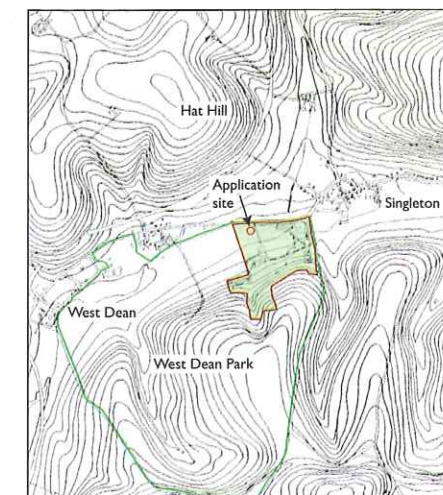
Our other problem is that our existing car parks can only support up to about 750 visitors. Above that number we have to use fields on the opposite side of the site as overflow car parks. This happens on less than 28 days in a year, but affects 25-30% of our visitors. It creates great difficulties both for visitors, who are remote from our facilities – and for us, as we have to run parallel ticket offices. So we need car parking areas that give all visitors access to a single reception point, whether on a winter's day with a dozen visitors, or a summer event with 5,000!

We commissioned exhaustive feasibility studies from consultants, including architects, road engineers and landscape consultants. We have studied our site in the context of West Dean Park, and thought long and hard about future development of the site. The result is that we believe that our proposed solution has the potential greatly to enhance the Museum's future.



The Museum moves forward on its Access Project

By Richard Harris



Top, aerial view looking south west, showing the Museum (left) with its boundary (broken orange line) and the site for the proposed visitor centre (red outline). West Dean College, park and village are in the middle distance, and the sweep of the River Lavant and the A286 turning southwards to Chichester can be clearly seen. Above, contour map of the Lavant valley, showing the boundary of West Dean Park (a Grade II listed historic park) and the Museum in its north-east corner.*

The proposal

- Develop a new visitor centre and car parks in the north-west corner of our site, including the 'Orientation Gallery' and all visitor facilities. No design work has yet been done, but we intend a building of the highest quality, with sustainability and accessibility being of over-riding importance.

- Maintain the existing vehicle entry point to the site through the existing entrance off Town Lane, using the existing site road around the back of the lake for access to the new visitor centre.
- Encourage the use of public transport by attracting greater numbers of visitors by bus and coach – the proposed new site gives direct pedestrian access to the Museum from bus stops on the A286. We will maintain our existing reduced price entry for bus travellers.
- Reflect the varying demand for car parking in graded provision, with a core area for year-round parking, an adjacent area designed for less intensive use (about 100 days per year) and an extensive grass area for peak days (less than 28 days per year). All three areas would give access to the site through the new visitor centre.
- Develop and enhance the existing landscape – the new building, car parks and landscaping would be designed as part of an integrated approach to enhancing West Dean Park, and new planting and other measures would ensure the long-term maintenance of the road-edge tree belt.

In September we submitted our application for outline planning permission, to establish the general principles of the proposed development. Our consultations had indicated that it would be a controversial project, and the trustees felt that it would be unwise to spend large sums of money on designs if there remained a possibility that the scheme would be turned down not on design, but on principle.

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23 Nov	Farrow & Ball – Colour in the Home
24 Nov	The Changing Shape of Fashion
29 Nov	Geffrye Museum Christmas Lecture
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The Museum acquires a 'tin tabernacle'

This summer the Museum acquired a new exhibit building for re-erection – the first for several years. It is a small prefabricated church, of the kind often known as a 'tin tabernacle'. Originally built in 1908, its site, at South Wonston, Hampshire, was needed for redevelopment and the owners, the St Margaret's Mission Trust, offered it to us.

We accepted it because there was clearly no other alternative to demolition. As an exhibit it will be ideal, as it is very small (30ft x 15ft) and simple: no spire or transept, just a plain rectangle plus a tiny porch and vestry. The interior was well preserved and had always had chairs rather than pews. It has an excellent provenance, in that a lot is known about the circumstances of its construction.

Several such chapels have been dismantled and re-erected in other open air museums, but no one seems to have published an account of the details of their construction, so we have taken detailed records in order to add to the sum of knowledge about prefabricated buildings. It bears interesting relationships with other exhibits at the Museum, such as the Whittaker's Cottages and the workshop from Newick, and we intend to re-erect it in the vicinity of these buildings to form a study area for buildings of the late 19th and 20th centuries. Its construction is also comparable with that of some of our wheeled vehicles and shepherds' huts.

The dismantling, which took three weeks, was carried out by the Museum's collections team – Curator, Julian Bell, Guy Viney and Ben Headon – while Museum Director Richard Harris did the measured drawings. Meticulous

planning is required, but there are always decisions to be made as the job progresses. Detailed recording has to be carried out at all stages, resisting the temptation to go too fast and miss significant finds – such as the wonderful 'Red Hand Inodorous Felt' labels that survived. All smaller components such as nails, and even later repairs and alterations, have to be sampled.

Naturally enough, the dismantling sequence is the reverse of construction – more or less. First the corrugated cladding was taken off, each sheet being numbered. Then the roof structure was removed as a series of intact sections consisting of the purlins and the internal boarding attached to them. The two internal roof trusses were also removed intact. Then the internal boarding was removed from the walls – the trickiest job of all, as it is all too easy to split the boards – so that the wall frames could be taken apart. Once the main structure was removed we lifted the carpet to reveal the original wooden floor which still bore a number of marks indicating where fittings had been, including the altar, altar rail, font and stove. The building rested on a brick plinth, and the top two courses of bricks were numbered to ensure complete accuracy of the reconstruction.

The timber framework was all of 4in x 2in softwood, jointed together, and the main building and porch were clearly



Left, St Margaret's Church, South Wonston, Hampshire, on its original site. Below, one of the timbers showing stencilled marks indicating their position in the structure.

supplied as a kit of pre-cut parts. The number '207' was stencilled in numerous places, which we assume was the kit number, and the horizontal rails were of three standard lengths. The vestry, however, was of slightly different and markedly poorer construction.

We intend to re-erect the building as soon as possible, subject to planning permission being obtained. It will be restored to its original state, the few later alterations being removed, and interpretation will cover both its function as a church and its manufacture as a prefabricated kit building.

Richard Harris

Red Hand Inodorous Felt

This material was the precursor of the modern bitumen-backed material we know today. It was made by D Anderson of Manchester and the idea for the logo has its origins in Anderson's plant in Belfast, where it was known as the Red Hand of Ulster (in the middle of the Ulster flag).



Wikipedia tells us that: the story of the Red Hand of Ulster reputedly dates to the arrival of Heremon, Heber and Ir, sons of King Milesius of Spain (Galicia), who were dispatched to conquer Ireland in 504 BC. One of them supposedly cut off his hand and tossed it ashore, that he might be the one to have first claim to the land. Another story relates to one of two giants engaged in battle, whose hand was cut off in the process and left a red imprint on the rocks. A third story recounts how Ui Neill and a man named Dermott both wished to be king of Ulster. The High King suggested a horse race across the land. As the two came in sight of the ending point, it seemed that Dermott would win, so Ui Neill cut his hand off and threw it. It reached the goal ahead of Dermott's horse, winning for Ui Neill the crown of Ulster. Ultimately, the story derives from Celtic mythology, viz. the Silver Hand of Lir.

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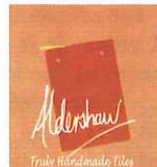
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Karen Kousseff describes the history of

St. Margaret's Mission Church, South Wonston, Hampshire

In 1892 an area of poor quality farmland, on a chalk downland ridge at the southern end of the parish of Wonston, near Winchester, was sold for development, and so was born the village of South Wonston. The Mission Church of St. Margaret's was among the earliest buildings erected there, and became the hub of the growing community.

With no water supply to the area, initial development was slow, and the 1901 census lists just 10 households in South Wonston. The Rector of Wonston, the Revd. R. F. Bigg-Wither, saw that it would be both practical and necessary to have a base in the new village, from which

sale, a concert and two offertories. The building was purchased for £89 10s, and the foundations were laid at a cost of £13 by Joseph Groves, a local carpenter and builder, whose eldest child became the first person to be baptised in the mission church.

The church was first used on Sunday 7 February 1909, and was formally licensed for divine service as a daughter church by the Bishop of Winchester on 20 December 1909. Baptisms could be performed there and recorded in the Wonston baptism register, but marriages and funerals would take place at the parish church in Wonston.

The church was originally heated by an



The interior of the Mission Church in 1981. (Photograph supplied by Karen Kousseff).

his curate could minister to its people. In July 1908 he paid £8 of his own money for a plot of land measuring 80ft x 50ft, for the purpose of erecting a mission room.

Within a matter of months, the curate (the Revd. Charles H. Roberts) had placed an order with Humphreys Ltd of Knightsbridge, a company that specialised in supplying corrugated iron buildings ready to assemble. The mission room was to be timber-framed, clad with galvanised corrugated iron, and measuring 25ft x 15ft (although its length as finally built was 30ft, not 25ft). The interior was to be clad with pine panelling; there would be a porch at the western end, a bell hung externally at the eastern end and a small vestry area added on the southern side.

Money for the structure and fittings was raised largely by public donations, but included the proceeds of a jumble

oil stove, but this was replaced in 1910 by a coal and wood burning stove. The church was lit by oil lamps, so 'evening' services were held only in daylight hours, as early as 3.00pm in the winter months. It was not until 1954 that electric lights were installed in the church. There were no pews, but wooden chairs and kneelers for up to 60 people. A sanctuary was created by means of two iron poles extending at right-angles to the wall either side of the altar, for which the ladies of the newly-formed St. Margaret's Guild made curtains. The altar rail consisted of a single length of wood supported on brass uprights, screwed to the floor. At Christmas 1912 a local couple gave a set of silver Communion plate to St. Margaret's, which had to be brought to church every Sunday from a neighbour's house, until a safe was later

installed in the vestry. Hymns were sung from the English Hymnal, accompanied on a harmonium donated by the Lady Laura Ridding.

While most of the fittings were bought or donated, the stone font, originally installed just inside the back of the church, was actually 'the ancient one of the parish', possibly around 400-years-old. It had been discovered under the floorboards of the parish church in Wonston, after a serious fire there just a few months before the mission church was opened. It is believed to have been deliberately buried there in 1871, when a new font had been presented to the parish church. A note in the Parish Magazine of 1917 warns the architect of the future permanent St. Margaret's church not to discard it, as it 'links up a score of generations by the act of entry into the Church of their fathers.'

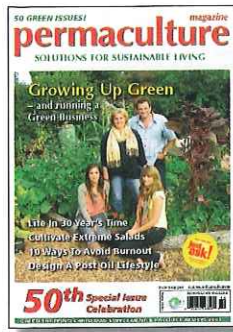
By 1918 the village was growing but still very small, and the residents must have been devastated when nine of their young men were killed in the First World War, two of them from the same family. The villagers clubbed together to commission a marble memorial plaque to hang in the church, and later a second memorial commemorated a further four men who died in the Second World War, including two sons of Joseph Groves.

In the 1920s, the role of St. Margaret's as the focus of community life was enhanced by the addition of a corrugated iron hall, put up next to the church. Over the years many activities took place, from Sunday School, youth club and harvest suppers to concerts, shows and sales of work. The community continued to cherish the little church, surviving various setbacks such as an attempted arson attack (1932), woodworm in the chairs and dry rot under the vestry window (1948), and the cross falling from the roof in high winds (1963).

After the arrival of electricity and mains water in the 1950s, and proper road surfacing and mains sewerage in the 1960s, South Wonston began to expand rapidly. By the mid 1980s, the mission church had become much too small for the size of the congregations, and some services were regularly held in the hall. The last 'amen' was said in the mission church on 29 September 1996, after which all services transferred to a new church of St. Margaret's, built in the centre of the village adjoining the local school. As well as being much larger and better equipped, the new church was licensed for all forms of service, so marriages or funerals could be performed in the village for the first time.

South Wonston is now preparing to become an ecclesiastical parish in its own right, an achievement founded on the faith and dedication of the early pioneers of the village, and for which the mission church will always have a special place in its history.

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Marjorie Hallam

Marjorie Hallam, who has died at her home in Graffham, West Sussex, was one of the key figures in the establishment of the Museum, making an enormous contribution to the rescue and interpretation of some of the earliest buildings to come into the hands of the embryonic institution in the 1970s and during its rapid development in the 1980s.

If there was a 'deputy founder' of the Museum to Roy Armstrong, it was Marjorie: she contributed a tremendous amount of time and energy to the project and in particular her special interest in the social history of the structures which came into the Museum's hands.

She became particularly involved in establishing the Museum's library and the cataloguing of its huge collection of books, photographs and documents. Her vast contribution to the Museum was recognised in her appointment as one of its vice presidents, a position she held until her death.

Marjorie, who was related to Elizabeth Fry, the Quaker reformer, was born on 11 November 1918. She grew up in Ashbury, where her father bred race horses, and owned her own Welsh Mountain pony. Always of an academic persuasion she studied botany at Exeter University. At the advent of World War II she ran training courses for typists in telecommunications work in the South West and London. This was a reserved occupation but she contributed to the war effort as an air-raid warden and was among the many volunteers who helped with casualties from the D-Day landings.

Marjorie's interest in the countryside and local history was nudged towards vernacular buildings while she lived in Lincolnshire and studied under Professor Maurice Barley. After moving to Sussex she joined Roy Armstrong and R T Mason in founding the Wealden Buildings Study Group in 1964, and naturally became deeply involved in the campaign to create an open air museum.

In October 1965 the first formal discussions took place that five years later would result in the Museum opening to the public. The occasion was a conference of the *Study Group on Timber-Framed Buildings of the Weald*, held at Balneath Manor, Chailey. It was chaired by J R Armstrong and R T Mason, and Marjorie Hallam was one of the 10 participants. The meeting discussed the idea of the creation of an 'Open Air Museum of the Weald', and Bayleaf Farmhouse was mentioned as a possible acquisition.

From then on, Marjorie consistently



maintained her role as a member of the founding group. She was a member of the *Committee for the Promotion of an Open Air Museum for the Weald and Downland*, which held its inaugural meeting in September 1966, and she was one of the seven founder-subscribers when the *Weald and Downland Open Air Museum Limited* was incorporated as a company in January 1969. In March of that year the Promotion Committee was replaced by the Council of Management, of which Marjorie was one of the 10 members.



Top, Marjorie Hallam, right, with Museum founder Roy Armstrong at the dismantling of Pendean Farmhouse in 1968; and below, on the right, watching the re-erection of Poplar Cottage in 1999.

75,000 transparencies. It is nothing short of miraculous that the task was completed in good order, with all records stored on floppy discs on an Apple computer system, under Roy and Marjorie's supervision – and that all this data is still live and in use on the Museum's current computer network 20 years later. The library was named the Armstrong Library, in memory of the Museum's founder on his death in 1993.

Marjorie retired as Honorary Librarian in 1987 but continued as a trustee and, from 1991, as a vice president of the Museum. She turned her attention increasingly to researching the documentary background to some of our exhibit buildings, especially the Bough Beech houses, Pendean and Boarhunt. She also took on the job of organising study tours for the Museum, to Poland in 1986 and Normandy in 1993.

Marjorie had a fine collection of books on vernacular architecture, which has been kept well up to date in recent years, and we are pleased that Nicholas and Caroline have kindly agreed that all her books and papers relevant to vernacular architecture and the Museum will be deposited with us. Charlotte Murgatroyd, who with her late sister-in-law, Jane, had recently started cataloguing other papers relating to the early history of the Museum, has kindly agreed to take the lead in sorting and cataloguing Marjorie's papers, while the volunteer library team – Bernadine Saunders, Jo Minns and Audrey Vetch – will tackle the books.

The Museum is planning a physical memorial in the form of a bench positioned next to Pendean Farmhouse, and a small clump of trees planted nearby, but Marjorie's real memorial is the Museum she helped to found.

Diana Zeuner and Richard Harris

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Collections update

By Julian Bell

Over the summer the Museum received its usual numerous and extremely generous offers of historic items from the public, invaluable to the continuing development of our collections.

Although a large number of offers are received, it is with regret and frustration that we are unable to accept them all. As with all museums, we have a collecting policy which dictates which types of artefact we collect in furtherance of our themes – historic buildings and rural life – and from which geographical area. We also have to take into consideration storage space and possible duplication of artefacts already in the collection. If we are unable to accept offers we always attempt to suggest alternative museums which may be able to help. Whether a donation has been accepted or not we are most grateful to all who have offered items.

Reed comber

One item which we collected at the beginning of the year was a reed comber (figure 1). This was actually a transfer from Plymouth Museum, rather than a donation from a member of the public,



and it comes from well outside our collecting area. However it was in good condition and was collected expressly for use on site.

Following some excellent conservation work and minor repairs by Ben Headon, our Collections Assistant, the comber is now in full working order and awaiting use.

Currently located in Redvins Yard, the comber will be attached to an external power source – a horse gin or small engine. The two spiked drums turn in opposite directions to each other and the sliding rack at the front feeds straw or reed into the machine which is then combed ready for use as thatching material. Great care is taken that the operator does not follow the straw into the machine!

Band saw

This hand-powered band saw (figure 2) was donated to us by Mr K White of



Storrington, West Sussex in May and is a superb example, in excellent condition. For a rugged piece of workshop equipment it has extremely graceful curves. It too has been conserved by Ben and brought into full working order.

It will shortly be transferred to the Woodyard where it will be used alongside the treadle lathe, racksaw bench and timber crane which was re-erected earlier this year.

Wheeled vehicles return to site

By the time this magazine is published we will have completed vacating one of our offsite stores, at Manor Farm, Singleton.

The artefacts stored there were all horse-drawn, wheeled vehicles and machinery, some of which have not been seen at the Museum for quite some time. By bringing them back to the main site, not only do visitors, staff and volunteers

have the opportunity to see them, but we are also able to conserve and repair them more easily.

There are a number of larger waggons, including a rare and important Hop Waggon, used on the Whitbread Estate in Kent for the transportation of hop pockets. This is now located in the Charwood Waggon Shed. A



number of tip carts are now stored and displayed in the open fronted shed in Redvins Yard, along with two Sussex waggons, which differ slightly from each other in appearance.

One particularly interesting item is the wheeled water carrier (figure 3) which was previously used on the Museum site. Ben Headon has restored it, including its attached hand pump, and it will shortly be available for use once again for transporting water to crops and livestock.

Mystery object

During the spring, we placed a glass display case in the Upper Gridshell to show new and unusual acquisitions and also those artefacts for which we would



like further information. This has proved to be very useful with visitors helping provide us with some extremely interesting details.

One such piece (figure 4) should, on the face of it, be fairly straightforward to identify as it has makers' details stamped on it. However, this has not been the case and despite enlisting the help of the Patent Office and the national Rural Museums Network, very little helpful information has materialised. Any help in identifying this item, or any other we have included in the case would be greatly appreciated.



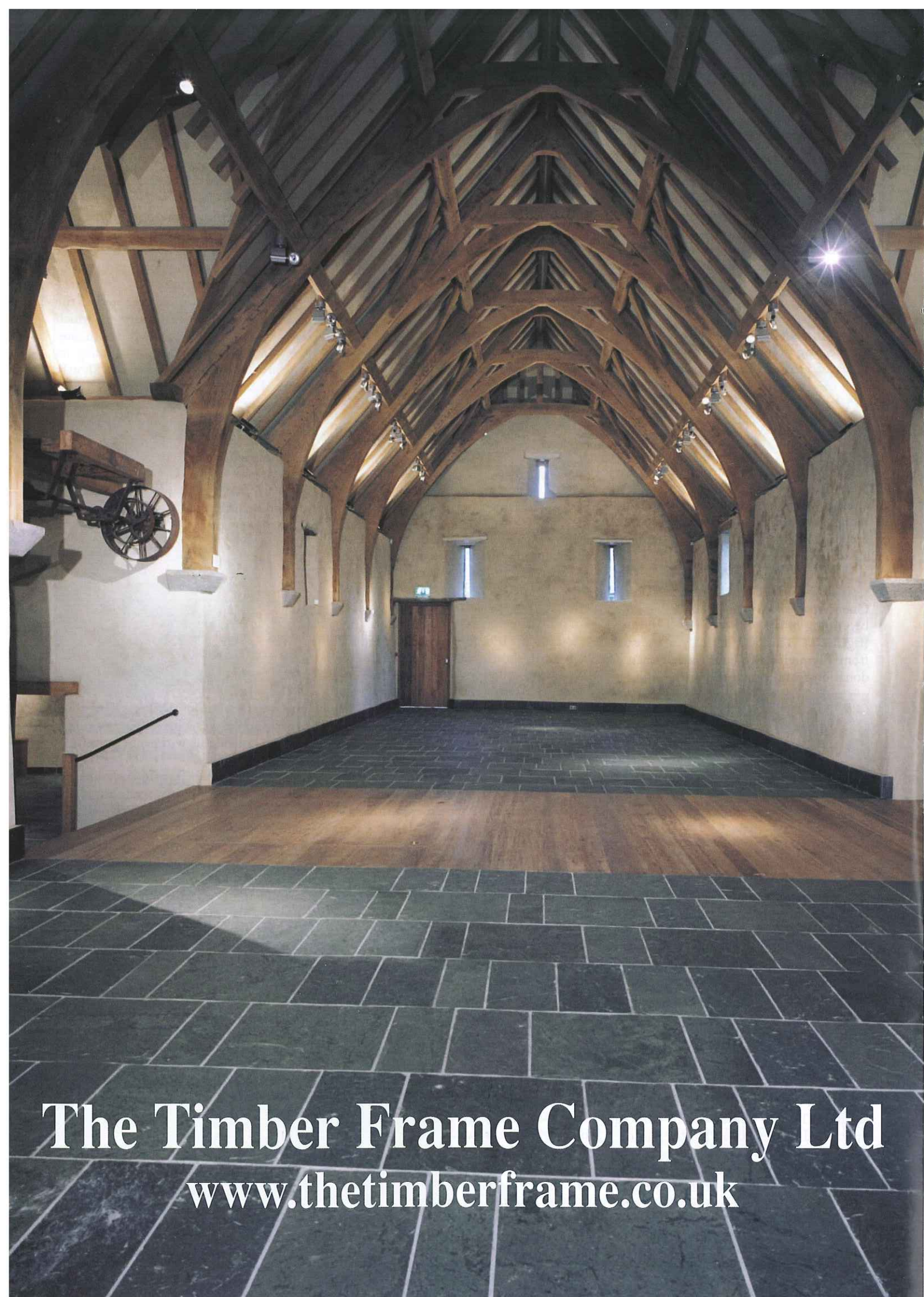
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Figure 1. The Boarhunt hall house, re-erected at the Museum.

Boarhunt Hall House and its origins

By Danae Tankard

The medieval hall house from Boarhunt in Hampshire has been tentatively dated to the late 14th century on the basis of comparison with similar Hampshire houses that have been dendro-dated (dated by tree-ring analysis) and the distinctive seesaw marks that occur on all the timbers.

When the house was rescued in 1971, in an advanced state of decay, it consisted of a timber-framed structure containing two rooms: a two bay cruck hall, and a room – possibly a service room – under the hipped end. It had brick walls, of several different dates, and a thatched roof. An upper floor had been inserted over the hall and a large brick chimney serving two ground floor hearths and a bake oven had been built in the lower end of the hall. The service room was still open to the roof, and the rafters and thatch battens were heavily sooted from the original open fire. Although only about 30% of the original timbers survived, the reconstruction of the medieval hall house was considered worthwhile since the building was small and simple and the remains well distributed throughout the frame. Elements of the building as it has been reconstructed remain speculative, however, notably the location of the doors and windows and the dimensions of the room at the hall's upper end (usually described as the 'chamber' or 'solar').

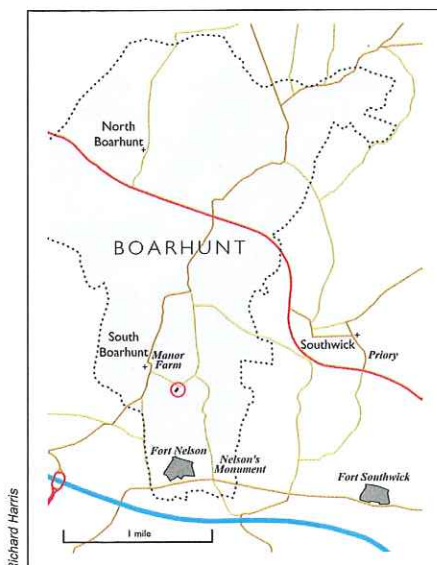


Figure 2. Map showing Boarhunt parish and the position of the hall house (red circle).

Medieval Boarhunt

Boarhunt lies on the northern slope of Portsdown approximately four miles north of Porchester (separated from it by the M27). It now forms two settlements, North and South Boarhunt, separated by the river Wallington. North Boarhunt, running northwards along Trampers Lane, is the more populous part. South Boarhunt consists of a few scattered farms, the church of St Nicholas and the former manor house (Manor Farm). During the medieval period Boarhunt was divided into at least three manors, West Boarhunt, Boarhunt Herberd and Boarhunt Herbelyn, with a possible fourth manor of

East Boarhunt. West Boarhunt, which appears to have been roughly coterminous with the parish of West Boarhunt, was the principal manor.

In around 1190 the manor was given to Southwick Priory, a house of Augustinian canons, situated approximately two miles away. In 1369 the Priory also acquired the neighbouring manors of Boarhunt Herberd and Herbelyn. The hall house was situated a short distance from the church and manor house, in what is now South Boarhunt but was previously the manor of West Boarhunt.

The area around Boarhunt is classic 'woodland' or 'wood pasture' landscape – meaning an area of land characterised by a mixture of pasture, woods, arable and heaths, with some edged fields. 'Woodland' was distinct from 'forest', which referred to an area subject to forest law. Forests, like the Forest of Bere, were reserved to the crown or its lessees and were used for deer ranching, hunting and timber. Woodland settlements tended to be dispersed rather than nucleated and this was the case in medieval Boarhunt, with the population thinly distributed throughout the parish. In this sense it was not a 'village' at all, but should be described as a settlement or a community.

The pre-Black Death community

In the first half of the 14th century the population of Boarhunt may have been in the region of 160 to 180 people. The majority of these would have been villeins or unfree tenants (also known as customary tenants or serfs). 'Unfree' refers both to personal status and to tenure. Unfree status was inherited through the male line and unfree tenants were (in law, at least) effectively chattels of their lord: they could be bought or sold along with his other property and evicted from their land at will. In return for holding land, unfree tenants were required to provide labour services, which were meticulously set out in manorial surveys or customals. Peasant holdings were uniform in size: a virgate (usually c.30 acres but in Boarhunt probably closer to 20), ½ virgate (c.10 acres), 1 farthingland (5 acres) or 4 acres. Most peasant holdings in Boarhunt consisted of five acres or less of land.

Farming and the peasant economy

The arable field system in West Boarhunt consisted of a combination of open common fields, and closes –



Boarhunt Hall House

enclosed parcels of land bounded by ditches and hedges. Each tenant probably held a mixture of land, some interspersed with other tenants' lands in the common fields and some enclosed. The crops on the demesne lands were wheat, barley and oats grown in a three-course rotation – that is, the arable was divided into three courses with each used in turn for winter and spring grains and then fallowed. On the neighbouring manor of Boarhunt Herberd beans, peas and vetch were also grown. The crops the tenants grew were much the same: 16th century probate inventories record wheat, barley and oats, rye and peas.

The seigneurial sheep flocks were pastured together with the tenants' sheep on the downland on the north side of Portsdown. In 1421 John Borewell was presented in the manorial court for killing a sheep worth 14d with his cart on 'Portesdon'. In the mid 15th century the priory was maintaining a flock of approximately 300-350 sheep in West Boarhunt – a small flock in comparison with those on the manors of the Bishop of Winchester, which could number up to 2000. In 1450-1 the Priory also had 12 oxen, 12 cows and 12 bullocks. The number of oxen suggests that the canons were still using oxen for ploughing, and possibly for hauling as well. The cows were probably used for milk, which was used to make cheese and butter. The tenants would have kept a variety of livestock, depending on their wealth and the size of their holdings. They paid pannage for the right to let their pigs forage in the woodland, the amount determined by the age of the pig: 2d for a one-year old pig down to ½d for a weaned piglet.

It has been suggested that this part of Hampshire was a consuming rather than a producing region, meaning that it had little surplus produce to export and external trade links were weak. Tenants holding less than 10 acres (the amount of land needed to feed a peasant family of five) can only have survived by hiring themselves out as wage labourers and most tenants probably supplemented their income with by-employment such as brewing, baking, dairying, and small-scale industrial activities such as potting. The overall impression of Boarhunt in the late medieval period is of a poor, woodland area with a relatively weak rural economy and little rural industry.



Figure 3. Hall house prior to dismantling in 1971. The lower part to the right is the medieval section.

The Black Death and its aftermath

Hampshire was one of the earliest points of entry for the Black Death in the summer of 1348. It was at its most virulent during the first six months of 1349, after which plague mortality abated. Nationally it is thought that the Black Death killed between 40% and 70% of the population, and some communities were wiped out altogether. In so far as it is possible to ascertain, Black Death mortality in Boarhunt may have been relatively low, at 25%.

The population of Boarhunt seems to have recovered fairly quickly so that by the end of the 14th century it was almost the same as it had been before the Black Death. The century and a half after 1350 was a difficult time for landlords. Faced with a shortage of tenants, increased tenant mobility and agricultural depression, they were forced to try to make customary tenancies more attractive, by 'improving' holdings (for example, by

adding more land), lowering entry fines and reducing or removing labour services. This period witnessed the gradual decline and ultimate disappearance of villeinage both as a form of unfree tenure and as unfree personal status.

In Boarhunt by the end of the 14th century traditional villein labour services had been commuted to cash rents and by the early 15th century the majority of tenants were personally free, although some land was still held by villein tenure. The standard peasant holdings of the pre-Black Death period disappeared as peasants took advantage of the reduced population to acquire vacant holdings. The ready availability of land meant that tenants abandoned less desirable holdings

and allowed the buildings that were surplus to their requirements to fall into ruin. The new mobility of the population is reflected in the fact that much of the population increase in Boarhunt in the late 14th century was the result of inward migration. All of these changes presented Southwick Priory with ongoing

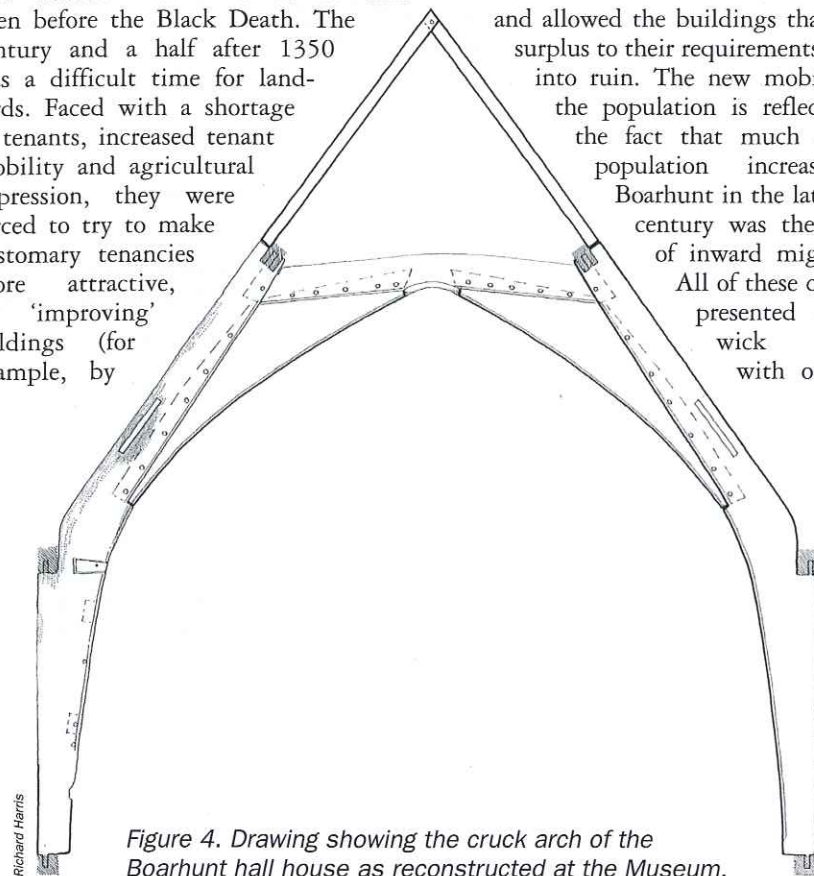


Figure 4. Drawing showing the cruck arch of the Boarhunt hall house as reconstructed at the Museum.

problems, as they sought to enforce traditional custom through the manorial court.

To illustrate some of these problems, we can look at the activities of John and Simon Roche, a father and son, as they are recorded in successive court rolls from 1413 to 1420. John Roche or his father may have been a post-plague migrant to Boarhunt. Roche's opportunism meant that he was able to acquire a mixture of customary and free land in different parts of the manor. In 1396 he is described as holding three (customary) cottages, for which he paid 2s 3d every quarter year. At the time of his death he was holding a messuage (a house) and three acres of villein (or customary) land from the Priory in joint tenancy with his son, Simon, and a tenement (a complete peasant holding, with house, land and any outbuildings) in free tenure from Richard Russell, which may have been where he lived.

In 1413 he was fined in the manorial court for allowing his 'tenement' to fall into ruin and ordered to repair it before the next court. In this and subsequent entries it is likely that the 'tenement' that is being referred to is the messuage with its three acres. The fact that he was failing to maintain it suggests that it was the land attached to the holding he was interested in, and not the house itself, which he did not need. In 1414 he was fined 3d for allowing the ditch (in front of his tenement) to overflow onto the highway and was again ordered to repair his tenement before the next court. In 1416 John Roche died and the court roll recorded a fine of 6d against him because his tenement (i.e. his messuage) was in ruins. In 1418 Simon Roche was fined 3d for failing to repair his tenement, and ordered to repair it before the next court on pain of a 20s fine. The same court roll records that he surrendered a cottage with five acres of customary land lying uncultivated into the lord's hands. In 1420 and 1421 Simon Roche was again fined for failing to repair his tenement. After this the court roll series ends so he disappears from view.

Across the country the combination of falling grain prices and rising labour costs meant that many manorial landlords abandoned direct cultivation of the demesne in the late 14th century. Southwick Priory kept the manorial demesne and its mill in hand for as long as possible but it was unable to resist the economic pressures of the post-plague years and by c.1450 both were being leased to farmers.

Medieval housing

The greater survival of peasant houses from the period after 1350 reflects the

rising wealth of the peasant class in the post plague period. Although documentary evidence for medieval peasant housing on the manor of West Boarhunt is relatively sparse such evidence as does exist is consistent with what we know about peasant housing on the better documented manors of Titchfield Abbey, most of which lay within a few miles of Boarhunt. Peasant houses on the Titchfield manors were of two or three bays, divided internally into a hall, a chamber or solar at the upper end and (for three bay houses) a service room at the lower end. Many dwellings had a barn, usually a detached building, and they might also have a detached bake house.

In probate inventories that survive for Boarhunt from the late 16th century the room described as the 'kitchen' was



clearly the service room at the lower end of the hall, and it was used for storage and possibly for food preparation (including dairying). Cooking and eating took place in the hall. The chamber or solar was where the family slept, and stored their linen, clothing and valuables. The relative poverty of Boarhunt is reflected in the fact that in the second half of the 16th century tenants were still living in traditional two or three bay houses, like the Boarhunt hall house.

Who lived in the Boarhunt hall house?

The short answer to this is that it has not been possible to identify any of the occupants of the hall house. The documentary sources surviving for the medieval period only identify peasant holdings by the name of a previous tenant. In a minority of cases the tenant's name has survived in a modern place name but in most cases, including that

of the hall house, it has not. Later records are similarly unhelpful. Although the hall house is numbered on the 1839 tithe map, it has no corresponding entry in the accompanying schedule. This is because it formed part of a large parcel of lands owned by Thomas Thistlethwaite for which tithe payments had at some previous date been merged. Moreover, as patron of the church, Thistlethwaite owned all the tithes. The omission of the house from the 1841 census (which listed all residential dwellings) would suggest that at this date it was not being used as a domestic residence.

However, whilst the medieval occupants remain unknown, it is possible to say with reasonable confidence that they were likely to have been customary tenants, probably men like John and Simon

Figure 5. The house photographed just after the First World War. The medieval portion re-erected at the Museum is at the far end.

Roche, who had benefited from the post-Black Death conditions and acquired a number of holdings, which could have included a mixture of free and customary land.

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Obituaries

Peter Stock, who died in February, was one of the key volunteers who kept Lurgashall Mill functioning on a daily basis for a period of more than 20 years.

He was trained in the mill's operation by Robert Demaus, the museum's consultant miller, and steadfastly kept it going, producing flour on a daily basis and operating the machinery for visitors to see.

Peter was an engineer; apprenticed at Vickers Armstrong he worked and studied there when Barnes Wallis visited the works. After Army service he studied at Faraday House, qualifying as an electrical engineer.

On retirement Peter and his wife, Ruth gave their voluntary time to the museum. When a volunteer prepared to train as miller was required, Peter stepped up to the challenge. Others followed later, leading to a dedicated team of volunteer millers, which of course included Ruth.

Diana Zeuner

Frank Knights was assistant warden to Keith Bickmore from 1990 to 1998. He had come to the Museum from Thorne EMI where he was support manager in charge of exhibitions and sales.

He became very involved with the museum's activities and organised one of the Friends' Spring Tours, to Plymouth. His wife, Christine, and son, James, also became much involved and during the early days of the Food Fair, organised a Food Cooking competition for staff and volunteers/Friends. Christine later became a shop supervisor and assisted Keith with the removal of the shop from the Lavant building to Longport House. On retirement from the Museum they all became involved in the Watercress Railway, Hampshire.

Frank, who was 74, died suddenly at home following a stroke.

Keith Bickmore

Together with her sister-in-law, Charlotte, **Jane Murgatroyd** made a substantial contribution to the development of the library, working especially on the cataloguing of material from the collections of

Radford Gym was the key working Shire gelding in the Museum's horse team for 16 years. Sadly his sweet itch and, especially, his breathing problems worsened with age, and his days ended in May.

Gym was bought by the Museum's director, the late Chris Zeuner, from Mike Horler, Radford, near Bath, who bred him in 1986.

Over the years Gym proved to be a truly outstanding horse with a steady temperament and willingness to tackle any agricultural and showing task set for him. He was an excellent schoolmaster for the younger geldings who came after him.

the Museum's founder Roy Armstrong, and the mill authority, Frank Gregory.

Jane and Charlotte visited the Museum soon after it opened, the first of many private and school visits. Jane was a volunteer at the Egham Museum where she was part of a small team cataloguing the museum's collection. In Spring 1996 they moved to Chichester, becoming volunteers at West Sussex Record Office. In 1999 they joined the Museum as volunteers.

About this time the Museum acquired a large collection of sketches, photographs, books and pamphlets from the late Frank Gregory. This provided a perfect task for Jane and Charlotte, who sorted and catalogued material which covered some 50 metres of shelving. The collection spanned the world and many times they came across material from places they had visited. When this was completed, Jane and Charlotte turned their attention to the archives of the Museum's founder, Dr Roy Armstrong. This proved a fascinating project as it gave an insight into the work that had taken place in the 1960s which led to the establishment of the Museum.

Unfortunately Jane's health caused her to stop working in the early part of 2006. Following a short illness, Jane died from cancer in June 2006.

Richard Harris

I first met **Rod Tuck** in the early 1960s at the Royal Naval School of Physical Training. Rod was a young Royal Marine Officer and a member of the Great Britain Modern Pentathlon Team training to take part in the 1964 Olympic Games. On leaving the Royal Marines Rod travelled widely and for many years taught in Norway and Lithuania.

As a volunteer he quickly immersed himself in the history of the Museum and was an excellent communicator.

Bob Easson

One of the Museum's newest members of staff, **Annie Keys** joined the interpretation team, working part-time in Winkhurst Tudor kitchen. Very sadly she contracted cancer and passed away at the end of September.

Annie first came to the Museum as a volunteer in March 2003 and her work in

At the Museum he was used regularly for the whole range of agricultural tasks, including cutting the wheat crop with a binder. He was a favourite of museum visitors and developed a following among local people.

For many years he took part in events away from the museum site, notably the London Harness Horse Parade, Portsmouth Parade, and Southern Counties Heavy Horse Association's spring working and ploughing matches. He also competed in the growing sport of heavy horse cross country driving, driven by Chris with daughter Francesca as groom,

the Tudor kitchen was also very relevant to her growing involvement with the History Re-Enactment Group. She joined the interpretation team in September 2004 having worked as a teaching assistant. She was profoundly deaf using aids for both ears but this did not prevent her communicating her ever-growing knowledge and love of the Museum's themes.

Born in Purley in 1959, she passed away peacefully, with her family around her, at St Wilfrid's Hospice, Chichester.

Diana Rowsell and Hannah Miller

Roy Money, who has died aged 82, was a dedicated volunteer at the Museum for 14 years although his association with the Museum stretched back even further. His contribution was particularly important for a museum with rural life as one of its two major themes because he was one of the few farmers on the volunteer strength.

Roy originally worked mostly in the hands-on exhibition, *Getting to Grips*, where he, John Warren, who had worked for the Ministry of Agriculture and another former farmer, Brian Weekes, put the farming world to rights each week (often joined by Museum director Chris Zeuner). Roy also led guided tours with a farming flavour, often in tandem with Brian Weekes. These tours specialised in the farming and rural life aspects of the Museum's work and were very popular. They also led farming tours on Goodwood Estate as part of the West Sussex Countryside Studies Trust educational partnership with the Museum. Most recently Roy has worked with Bob Holman on the Museum's various period gardens.

Roy Money farmed primarily at Sidlesham and Bersted, where he was born. Marblebridge Farm at Sidlesham primarily grew peas and corn (wheat and barley) although a dairy herd and pigs had been kept in the past. The farm is now run by his daughter, Sue. His son, Andrew, farms in Wiltshire, and Roy and his wife, Mary, retired to Boxgrove. Roy gave several farming artefacts and building materials to the Museum for its collection and for use on the site, including the original Ferguson farm trailer used behind the Ferguson tractor on site.

Diana Zeuner

and in 1999 he and stable mate Neville were part of the British team at La Route du Poisson (the Fish Race) in France. When Chris died in 2001 Gym was the natural choice of horse to draw the wagon through Chichester (driven by a former Museum horseman, the late Rob Dash).

Despite his breathing problems he always appeared keen to get to work and special mention should be made of the excellent efforts by staff and volunteers who kept him going on complicated medication in the last two years of his life.

Diana Zeuner

News in brief

■ For the last four years the Museum has offered 'Tudor suppers' based at Winkhurst Tudor kitchen. At first these were small events using just the kitchen, but more recently we have accommodated increased numbers by using Bayleaf Mediaeval Farmhouse. The suppers have provided excellent opportunities to build up the expertise of our staff and volunteer interpreters. However, a great deal of effort benefits relatively few visitors, and our hundreds of daily visitors watching the supper preparations are always very keen to know more, says Head of Interpretation, **Hannah Miller**. We have therefore decided to introduce feast days next year, intended solely for the interest of the general public, interpreting large scale cooking and Tudor dining during normal visiting hours.

■ The Museum's roots are in the vernacular buildings of the Weald and Downland, and this year the Interpretation Department has focused on developing regular domestic demonstrations in many of our buildings – from laundry and washing in Bayleaf to cheese-making in Pendean dairy. In Whittakers Cottages the range is to be replaced by another more suitable one, and we will have a copper, mangle and flat irons ready to use by next season. Meanwhile, Jon Roberts and his volunteer team have been working hard in the Museum woodlands to interpret traditional uses of wood, as well as supplying our buildings with firewood cut and stacked in traditional ways. Interpretation activities change daily and seasonally, so check the Museum's website or the blackboards at the Museum entrance to see what's happening!

■ **Gordon Rushmer, the Petersfield artist with whom the Museum has**

had close contact over a number of years, is to curate an exhibition drawing on the huge range of images of Bayleaf Mediaeval Farmhouse that have been made over the last 30 years. As well as images published commercially by the Museum, we could include the work of school children, architects and researchers, students on drawing and water-colour courses, models, and even houses that have been built copying Bayleaf's exterior form. The exhibition will take place next year, and we are now actively collecting material. We are looking for anything, from a rag rug to a teapot, on which there is an image of Bayleaf! If you have, or know of, any images that might be suitable, please let us know. A retrospective exhibition of paintings by Gordon Rushmer took place at the Museum this autumn to mark the artist's 40 years of painting.

■ A Quality Assurance Audit is as menacing to a university as an Ofsted Inspection is to a school! But Bournemouth University, the Museum's partner in the delivery of the MSc *Timber Building Conservation*, is facing this prospect in Autumn with confidence. As one of the University's most interesting external partners, the auditors have chosen to visit the Museum. It will not be an inspection of teaching competence, but of the University's systems for communication and support for us and our students. Their visit takes place this month during the first unit of the course for the new cohort – the seventh since the course first ran in 1994. Places have been offered to 19 potential students, an excellent level of recruitment showing that the course still has a vital role to play in the industry. In addition, the University has invited us to put forward proposals for a second MSc covering general building conservation. If all goes well we will welcome the first cohort on the new course in November 2007.

Growing flax at the Museum

Long fibre flax is not grown commercially in the UK, so it was a rare sight this year when Chris Baldwin grew flax on one of the Museum's field strips. Flax has a wonderful blue flower, the same as linseed, but is distinguished by a long stem of 24in or more which produces long fibres for spinning.



Flax seeds are sown by Chris Baldwin and harrowed in to the ground by the Museum's working horses, driven by Brian Silvester.

The crop was sown in April and weeds were laboriously hoed three times. The plants are harvested by pulling them up by hand to retain the roots intact, then tied into bundles called beets. These are put into a 'retting' pond for 5-10 days to rot the outside fibres of the plant, then spread on the ground to dry.

To extract the fibres the stems are broken to release them from the central pith, then separated by being drawn over spikes. The outer material is coarse and can be used to make string or rope, while the finer fibres are spun into linen thread for weaving.

The experiment was very successful and has provided the Interpretation Department with material for fascinating demonstrations.

Henry Warner

Benefiting from the Gift Aid scheme

New rules relating to Gift Aid on entry to charitable visitor attractions came into force in April, and as a charity the Museum continues to benefit from this scheme.

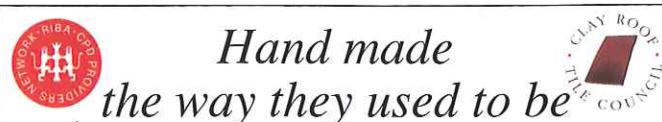
There was some initial confusion from HM Revenue & Customs, who accepted our first proposed scheme and then peremptorily withdrew, saying that our proposals did not fit within the regulations. This was disappointing as the scheme would have been simple to operate and easy to explain. Various dis-

cussions with HMRC, our MP and other organisations concerned took place but, although it was clear we were correct in our understanding of the new legislation, we were not in a position to take on the Government. The point of difference was whether the word 'or' was inclusive or exclusive!

We then produced 'plan B', which is now operating at the Museum. When a visitor who is a taxpayer buys an admission ticket and pays 10% more than the normal admission price he/she can par-

ticipate in the Gift Aid scheme. A Gift Aid form is completed and we claim 28%, as before, which amounts to £2.45 on an adult admission. The visitor will have paid an extra 80p but as a 'thank you' we present them with a replica medieval coin, which can be kept as a souvenir or 'spent' in the shop or café.

So far this year 21,000 people have participated in the scheme, which represents a significant income to the Museum – more than £50,000.



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18/19 **PIG TO PORK** Now incorporating the Big Pig Gig! Everything you wanted to know about pork! Learn about jointing, salting and using pork. Watch demonstrations of preserving and cookery, and sample some delicious pork cooked over the open fire in the Tudor kitchen. And for younger visitors, don't miss the Big Pig Gig, with piggy arts, crafts, games, stories, poems and much more!

DECEMBER

3 **TREE DRESSING** 12.30-4.00pm. A wonderful celebration for all the family of the life-giving properties of trees. Make a lantern (bring a jam jar!) and join the procession to dress the trees as darkness falls. Includes head-dress-making, story-telling, music, dance and seasonal tasty treats!

26-1 January 2007 A SUSSEX CHRISTMAS

Experience the traditions of Christmas past. Enjoy period music, children's activities, festive sweetmeats and warming drinks from the Tudor kitchen, and see the historic houses decorated as they would have been for Christmas.

FEBRUARY

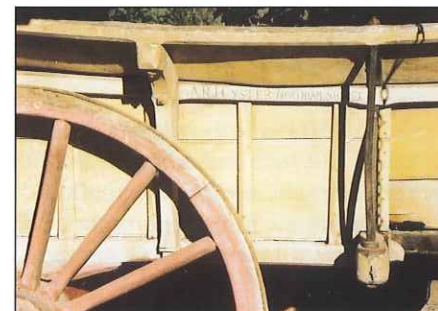
19-23 **HALF TERM ACTIVITIES** What do you mean it's cold? Put on your winter woollies and wellies, come to the Museum and warm up with a week of creative activities and countryside skills: outdoor trails, arts, crafts, and ideas to inspire accompanied children of all ages. 11am-4pm, under cover if wet.

MARCH

18 **OPEN HOUSE ON MOTHERING SUNDAY** A special spring day to welcome visitors old and new at the start of the season! £1 entry for everyone, plus our traditional bunch of daffodils for mothers and grandmothers!

APRIL

6-9 **EASTER ACTIVITIES** Activities and Easter celebrations for all the family throughout the holiday weekend. Good Friday – traditional pastimes, storytelling and music; Saturday – a bustling Easter market; Sunday – Feast Day; Monday – a lively day of games and activities with younger visitors in mind, including an Easter bonnet parade.



26-1 May FRIENDS 2007 SPRING TOUR TO COUNTY DURHAM

MAY

6/7 **CELEBRATE THE TASTE A** wonderful choice of quality fare to sample and buy from the local producers of the south east, including tastings, cookery classes, demonstrations and children's activities. In Association with A Taste of Sussex

20/21 **SUSTAINABILITY EVENT** Learn more about a wide range of low impact, 'green' products and techniques for building and sustainable living in the 21st century. Includes seminars, demonstrations and a wide variety of exhibits to interest domestic users and professionals on Sunday 20, and a day specifically aimed at children and school groups on Monday 21.



28-1 June **HALF TERM ACTIVITIES – Countryside Adventures.** Come and enjoy the great outdoors and make the most of the countryside which is bursting with life at this time of year. Learn about the natural world with trails, scavenger hunts, arts and crafts using natural materials, and a host of outdoor games. For accompanied children of all ages, 11am-4pm, under cover if wet.

JUNE

3 **HEAVY HORSE SPECTACULAR** One of the south's biggest gatherings of heavy horses: an unforgettable day of displays, demonstrations and a grand parade of horse-drawn vehicles, all with continuous ringside commentary.

17 **FATHER'S DAY** Toys For The Boys! A chance for dad (and the rest of the family!) to try some unusual and challenging countryside activities. Sample some of the Museum's courses in traditional rural trades and crafts, drive a vintage tractor and work with the Shire horses.

JULY

1 **EARLY MUSIC AFTERNOON** Song and dance from medieval, Tudor and Stuart times in the wonderful setting of our historic buildings. Come just to listen or join in the dancing!



22 **RARE BREEDS SHOW** Over 500 cattle, sheep, pigs, goats and poultry take part in this delightful agricultural show for rare and traditional breeds of farm animals. Includes craft and trade stands with a countryside theme.

July-August **WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS** Hands-on activities to occupy children of all ages! Have a go at all kinds of interesting and unusual country skills, crafts, activities and games: many similar to those undertaken and enjoyed by our rural ancestors. Lots of outdoor and indoor fun. 25 July, 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 August. 11am-4pm, under cover if wet.

AUGUST

16 **ST ROCHE'S DAY OPEN AIR SERVICE** A free open air service on the site of the chapel of St Roche, patron saint of healing. Meet at the Trundle, transport up the hill provided if required.

SEPTEMBER

21-23 **ROMANI ROOTS** (Provisional date) A celebration of Gypsy culture with displays, demonstrations, music and information about the traditional Romani way of life.

OCTOBER

6/7 **AUTUMN COUNTRYSIDE SHOW** Come and experience the sights, sounds and smells of a traditional harvest: enjoy heavy horses ploughing, vintage tractors, steam threshing and countryside crafts to browse and buy.

22-26 **HALF TERM ACTIVITIES – Autumn Action** Wickedly wonderful seasonal activities, fun and farming for accompanied children of all ages! Discover an interesting use for the humble apple; make a mini-scarecrow; carve a really scary pumpkin; and enjoy arts, crafts and much more. 11am-4pm, under cover if wet.

NOVEMBER

10/11 **PIG TO PORK**

DECEMBER

2 **TREE DRESSING**

26-1 January 2008 A SUSSEX CHRISTMAS

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News in brief

■ The Museum's programme of re-erecting rescued buildings in store will continue with Tindalls Cottage, which was dismantled in 1974. A timber-framed cottage dating from the early-mid 18th century, its timbers are mostly re-used from earlier buildings. As with all the historic structures re-erected at the Museum, before its repair and rebuilding can be planned, a full survey and investigation of the timbers has to be made – not least so that we can find out as much as possible about the earlier buildings from which they were sometimes re-used. This is a painstaking task, and we are most grateful to Fiona Keith-Lucas for her work on the project in the summer. Fiona is an archaeologist who has specialised in recording buildings, and has recently completed the Museum's MSc *Timber Building Conservation*. The remaining timbers will be recorded as soon as resources become available.

■ The Friends raised a total of £2,623 from its fund-raising activities this year. This will be matched by community funding support from Barclays Bank, bringing the total to £4,784. The grand draw made £1,119, with Philippa Brown from Lavant winning the hand-made log-cabin design quilt made by Friends' member Olwen Gudgeon. The Michaelmas Supper raised £661 and the barn dance made £843. See also pages 30/31.

Race for Life!



In July the Museum was the venue for the first Chichester Cancer Research UK 5k Race for Life. It was a hot sunny day and 2,000 women, including Museum staff and volunteers (pictured), ran or walked from the Museum through West Dean Estate and back to the Museum to complete the distance with the encouragement of motivating signs. Everyone finished the course, the first in less than half an hour and the last around two hours later. The race raised more than £124,000 for Cancer Research UK and the Museum looks forward to a repeat of the event next summer. The organiser said our site was easily the most scenic of all their venues!

Discover more about buildings and rural crafts through the Museum's courses programmes

Building conservation

Courses in building conservation and the use of traditional tools, materials and methods continue to expand. As ever the programme is dominated by timber courses, appropriate in view of the importance at the Museum of timber frame buildings.

The ever popular five-day framing courses will see a new dimension next year with the addition of three polygonal framing courses to build a spire (see also pages 22/23). Joe Thompson has taken up this challenge and we feel sure that many of our timber framers will feel inspired to join the course: as usual places will be limited to eight. Also new in the recently published programme is *Square rule timber framing*.

An exciting addition is *A door in a day*. Led by Master Joiner Ged Gardner, who has taught many students about the intricacies of the sash window, he will turn his attention to the crafting of a simple four-panel door while teaching the historical background to the style and methods employed.

All course enquiries to Diana Rowsell, Head of Learning, Weald & Downland Open Air Museum, Singleton, Chichester, West Sussex on 01243 811464. Email courses@wealddown.co.uk. Website www.wealddown.co.uk.

As well as repeating this year's very successful *Green architecture* day, environmental issues will be addressed in *Energy conservation in traditional buildings*, which will be led by Richard Oxley.

Recording vernacular buildings for conservation has been running in the same successful format for years, but next year following requests by students, this series will grow from three days to six. *Recording historic buildings using computer aided design software*, *Photographic recording of historic buildings* and *Preparing conservation plans* are designed to meet the needs of professionals who find

themselves working with historic buildings without the necessary depth of knowledge for specifying.

The *Vernacular architecture* series is under construction and will shortly be launched on the Museum's website. It will include lectures from leading specialists on particular features of old houses: walls, chimneys, windows, doors, as well as the regionality of building styles, materials and building types – agricultural, public and churches. Further details will be included in the Spring magazine.



Students learn the skill of applying wattle and daub infill to a timber frame. The next *Wattle and daub* course, run by Joe Thompson, is on 12 March, 2007.

Traditional rural trades and crafts

The walks have been a great success this year with each one full to capacity. On the *Bat walk*, led by the local Bat Group, no less than seven species of bat were identified on the Museum site on a fine evening in September, diving in and out of the roof spaces of exhibit buildings and swooping low over the pond to catch the thousands of insects they need to eat each night.

In December there will be two *Candlelit walks*, offering a magic two hours around the Museum without the aid of electricity and giving an insight into how people coped at night a hundred years ago. Everyone will share hot punch and mince pies in the Toll Cottage before going home.

Experimental archaeology at the

Museum concentrated on the food enjoyed by prehistoric people in the Bronze age. Delicacies prepared and cooked on the *Prehistoric cooking* day included bread rolls cooked in a sunken oven, pigeon breasts grilled on a hot stone and fish wrapped in leaves and herbs. Taught and encouraged by Neil Burridge, 10 participants had an amazing day! An addition to the prehistoric tool-making weekend was flax grown on the Museum site, harvested by Jon Roberts and given to John and Valerie Lord to show students how to make lashings to attach axe and arrow heads to handles.

New courses include *Traditional rope work* where students will make themselves a clout mat and *Skep making*, a useful addition to the beekeeper's equipment or decorative in a rural garden! Would-be beekeepers will also be able to learn how to put bees to bed for the winter.

Starter day schools in *Patchwork* and *Knitting* have been requested by students on other textile courses and these have now joined the varied range of crafts on offer. An exciting new one is *Elizabethan walnuts*, a day learning how to make little gift bags popular in the time of Elizabeth I.

Carve a green man was a great success this year with one student using hers

for the centre piece of her degree show at her university and another who seemed to design and carve a splendid self-portrait!

Frames for sale

As a product of the *Timber framing from scratch* courses the Museum has a number of oak frames for sale. Some are complete with studs and braces and others are the basic frame but could be completed for buyers willing to wait until the intermediate framing courses have taken place. Previous buyers are using them for summer houses, play houses, offices and garden sheds, clad in different appropriate materials. Prices are dependent on degree of completion and range from £2,500 to £4,250 plus VAT. Dimensions are 10ft x 10ft x 8ft to the eaves: photographs are available.

Courses Programme 2006-07 – Building conservation and the use of traditional materials and processes

TIMBER DECAY AND ITS TREATMENT

An examination of the causes of decay in hardwoods and softwoods, fungal and insect damage. Treatments with and without the use of chemicals, monitoring to maintain healthy buildings.

Leader: Brian Ridout

Tuesday 7 November 2006 £90

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT OAK

An introduction to the growth, conversion, seasoning and uses of oak for carpenters, joiners and cabinet makers. The day will look at how to choose and specify oak for carpentry (new build and repair), joinery and furniture making.

Leader: Joe Thompson

Friday 10 November 2006 £90

JOINERY BY HAND: SASH WINDOWS

The historical development of sash windows with practical. Demonstrations of traditional joinery processes. Opportunity to examine original examples from the Brooking Collection.

Leaders: Ged Gardiner and Charles Brooking

Monday 13 November 2006 £90

INTERMEDIATE TIMBER FRAMING – ROOF FRAMING

A 5-day practical course for students who have attended the Timber framing from scratch course. The common principal, hip and jack rafters are marked, cut and fitted to a timber frame that was made on a Timber framing from scratch course.

Leader: Joe Thompson

Monday-Friday 20-24 November 2006

Monday-Friday 14-18 May 2007 £450

SIGNS & SYMBOLS: MADE IN AN AGE OF SUPERSTITION AND FEAR

Explore the symbols made on buildings to protect the work of tradesmen, and how these apotropaic marks made the occupants feel more secure against intruders. Witchcraft was at its height in the 16th and 17th centuries.

Leader: Timothy Easton

Saturday 25 November 2006 £75

AN APPRECIATION OF EARLY OAK FURNITURE

An illustrated lecture exploring the qualities and characteristics of early furniture, followed by a guided visit to a local private collection of oak furniture.

Leader: Victor Chinnery

Wednesday 28 November 2006 £75

INTERMEDIATE TIMBER FRAMING – WALL FRAMING

A 5-day practical course for students who have attended the Timber framing from scratch course. The studs and braces of wall frames are marked, cut and fitted into a timber frame that was constructed on a Timber framing from scratch course.

Leader: Joe Thompson

Monday-Friday 22-26 January 2007

Monday-Friday 18-22 June 2007 £450

GREEN ARCHITECTURE

Reduce the environmental impact of building at design stage. A day school for architects and designers concerned with sustainability issues in new-build and refurbishment.

Leaders: Dave Barton & colleagues from Impetus Consulting sustainability specialists

Monday 5 February 2007 £95

ENGLISH FURNITURE-MAKING TRADES OF THE 16TH & 17TH CENTURIES

An illustrated lecture considering the ways in which trade practices dictated the form and appearance of post-medieval furniture and woodwork, followed by an accompanied tour of the furnished interiors around the museum site.

Leader: Victor Chinnery

Wednesday 7 February 2007 £75

TIMBER FRAMING FROM SCRATCH

A superb opportunity to gain hands-on experience of timber framing. A 5-day practical course introducing students to the historic use of structural oak framing, tools and techniques. The posts, cills, plates and tie beams of a 10in square timber frame are prefabricated during the course using only traditional tools and techniques, and the frame is erected on the Friday afternoon.

Leader: Joe Thompson

Monday-Friday 12-16 February 2007

Monday-Friday 16-20 April 2007

Monday-Friday 17-21 September 2007

Monday-Friday 15-19 October 2007 £450

CONSTRUCTION & REPAIR OF TIMBER FRAMED BUILDINGS

Exploration of the background to timber-framed buildings, dating techniques, structural problems and sympathetic remedial methods.

Leaders: Richard Harris & Richard Oxley

Tuesday 27 February 2007 £95

Laths are an important component of traditional timber-framed buildings – here, students learn lath-making in the Downland Gridshell Conservation Workshop. The next course on the subject is on 23 March, 2007.

AN INTRODUCTION TO DATING TIMBER-FRAMED BUILDINGS

The roof timbers often provide the best evidence for the period of construction. We will use the Museum buildings to look at roofs dating from the 1400s to the 1900s. Learn to spot the differences between a crown post and a king post, see how radically different the medieval roof is to the Georgian roof, watch the purlins appear and disappear over the centuries and marvel at the skill of the carpenters in their precise work.

Leader: Joe Thompson

Wednesday 7 March 2007 £95

STRENGTH GRADING OF OAK

A certified course. An introduction to the methods used for stress grading hardwoods. Successful completion of this course will result in a Certificate of Proficiency to Visually Strength Grade Temperate Hardwoods (oak) to BS 5756:1997.

Leader: David Woodbridge

Wednesday-Friday 7-9 March 2007 £450

WATTLE AND DAUB

Insights in to the historic use of wattle and daub, and its repair and conservation today. A morning of touring the Museum's examples followed by an afternoon of 'hands on' practical exercise applying wattles and daubing them.

Leader: Joe Thompson

Monday 12 March 2007 £100

RECORDING VERNACULAR BUILDINGS FOR CONSERVATION

Six linked day schools. If all six days are booked together a reduced price of £500 applies.

OBSERVING AND SKETCHING

Improving the accuracy of rapid sketches, the geometry of construction, using string lines, drawing individual timbers, rubbing surface features. Recording brickwork.

Leader: Richard Harris

Tuesday 13 March 2007 £95

RECORDING HISTORIC BUILDINGS USING COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN SOFTWARE: VECTORWORKS

Students will use Vectorworks to produce an accurate and highly editable and good looking drawing, using a measured survey as a starting place.

Leader: Steve Brann

Wednesday 14 March 2007 £95

IMPOSING A GRID

Setting up a plan grid, setting up levels, recording a timber frame, using a grid to record complex patterns by sketching, tracing and photography.

Leader: Richard Harris

Tuesday 20 March 2007 £95

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDING OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

First of several linked courses. Stitcher and Photoshop are used to stitch multiple photographs together to produce wide angle and/or panoramic photographs of exteriors and interiors.

Leader: Steve Brann

Wednesday 21 March 2007 £95

STUDIO TECHNIQUES

Basic equipment and materials, technical conventions, line, shade, stipple, shadows. Three dimensional visualisation. Drawing for publication.

Leader: Richard Harris

Tuesday 27 March 2007 £95

PREPARING CONSERVATION PLANS

Designed for those responsible for managing repair projects in historic buildings, providing an insight into the preparation of conservation plans. Techniques of building investigation and recording will be explored. Conservation professionals will be taken through the process from initial survey, specification, work carried out and presentation of the final report.

Leader: Eddie Booth

Wednesday 28 March 2007 £95

LATH-MAKING WORKSHOP

Learn how to split oak, ash and hazel to form laths for plastering or daubing. Students will make a panel to take home.

Leader: Nick Parker

Friday 23 March 2007 £75

ENERGY CONSERVATION IN TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS

The day will include looking at the implications of improving energy efficiency for traditional buildings, a review of the relevant regulations and guidance, case studies and a practical session of carrying out an air pressure test.

Leaders: Richard Oxley and Phil Oxley, Oxley Conservation

Friday 23 March 2007 £95

INTRODUCTION TO GAUGED BRICKWORK

A theoretical and practical course designed for practising professionals concerned with conservation and eager to have a closer knowledge of gauged brickwork.

Leader: Gerard Lynch

Monday-Wednesday 26-28 March 2007 £300

THE SINGLETON SHINGLED SPIRE

Thousands of steep spires were added atop medieval church bell towers replacing the simpler pitched roof. Over three week-long courses we will frame and erect on the Museum site a 14-foot high spire based on a local example. The resulting polygonal frame will be used as the model for teaching the craft of shingling.

Week 1: framing up the principal (large) timbers that make up the basic skeleton of the spire. **Monday-Friday 26-30 March 2007**

Week 2: framing up the secondary (smaller) timbers that flesh out the shape of the basic spire. **Monday-Friday 30 April-4 May 2007**

Week 3: erecting the spire and cladding with boarding, in which we will teach and apply knowledge of the roofing square to mark out the compound angles of the ends of the boards.

Leader: Joe Thompson

Monday-Friday 4-8 June 2007 £450 per week

FLINT WALLING: A PRACTICAL COURSE

A two day course covering the sorting, selection, preparation and knapping of flints. Experience of different styles of laying flints and the use of lime mortars.

Leaders: Mark Middleton & Chris Rosier

Monday-Tuesday 16-17 April 2007

Monday-Tuesday 3-4 September 2007 £180

LEADWORK COURSES

Design and specification of leadwork

A foundation course for those with little or no experience of working with lead. Based on the theoretical application, concentrating on design and specification. Case studies of repair and renewal projects.

Leader: Nigel Johnston

Thursday 19 April 2007 £110

PRACTICAL LEADWORK

For those who have already attended the foundation course. Based on the practical aspects of working with lead sheet by bossing, leadwelding and casting.

Friday 20 April 2007 £110

THREE-DAY ADVANCED LEADWORK

For those who wish to progress their leadworking skills. This course is three days of practical work where students will make patterns for a planter or hopper-head to their own design including decorative embellishments

Wednesday-Friday 20-22 June 2007 £300

BUILDING STONE IN THE WEALD AND DOWNLAND REGION

Geology moulds the landscape and the local building materials. A day examining geology of local stone, production methods and regional traditions in its use using the resources of the Museum buildings.

Leaders: Anne and David Bone

Wednesday 25 April 2007 £95

AS GOOD AS NEW: IN SITU REPAIRS TO HISTORIC TIMBER STRUCTURES

A course for architects, engineers and surveyors offering a step-by-step approach to the specification of remedial work to historic structures, wholly or partly in timber. The course covers stresses & strains: frame behaviour under load, the criteria for repair: strength/durability/appearance, the conservation view point, repair forms: traditional timber/steel/resin, and case studies.

Leader: Peter Ross

Tuesday 1 May 2007 £95

TRADITIONAL TIMBER-FRAME CONSTRUCTION

A one-day course on traditional systems of timber framing, including demonstrations on timber conversion, principles of layout, scribing method, pegs and assembly.

Leader: Richard Harris.

Thursday 3 May 2007 £95

OAK SHINGLES: HISTORY, MANUFACTURE & USE

A day of talks, demonstrations and practical experience of the equipment used in cleaving and finishing oak shingles under the guidance of the most experienced steeplejack in the country.

Leaders: Peter Harknett & John Deal

Tuesday 8 May 2007 £95

REPAIR OF TIMBER-FRAMED BUILDINGS

Day school including a lecture on the repair of timber-framed buildings by Richard Harris, a workshop session with Roger Champion and a critical examination of repairs executed at the Museum over 30 years.

Leaders: Richard Harris & Roger Champion

Thursday 10 May 2007 £95

ADVANCED GAUGED BRICKWORK

A theoretical and practical course designed for those with some experience of gauged brickwork. Hands-on work will include setting out, cutting and constructing a gauged arch.

Leader: Gerard Lynch

Monday-Wednesday 14-16 May 2007 £300

TIMBER FRAME DISMANTLING & RE-ERECTION

Learn how to survey, number, dismantle, move and re-erect a timber frame building. We will be moving the Woodland exhibition cattle shelter, or 'lewin' from its current position in the woodland at the top of the site to the Museum's wood yard site above Pendean.

Leader: Joe Thompson

Monday-Friday 21-25 May 2007 £450

COB WALLING – HISTORY, THEORY AND PRACTICE

The day school will explore the various types and methods of cob wall construction in the region. It will also examine causes of failure, repair strategies and problems relating to alterations to cob structures. Some hands-on practice.

Leader: Kevin Stubbs

Wednesday 6 June 2007 £95

A DOOR IN A DAY

"The making of a simple four-panel inside door was considered a good days work" (Walter Rose, The Village Carpenter, 1937). This course will cover all of the procedures involved in making a door by hand. Imperial measurements will be used for historical authenticity and almost all of the tools used will be of the 19th century.

Leader: Ged Gardiner

Monday 11 June 2007 £150

TIMBER: IDENTIFICATION OF SPECIES

An introduction to the identification of timber species through examination of anatomical features, demonstrations and practical work using hand lenses and microscopes.

Leader: David Woodbridge

Wednesday 13 June 2007 £95

REPAIR OF TRADITIONALLY CONSTRUCTED BRICKWORK

Causes of failure and decay and selection of methods of repair. Practical sessions including cutting out bricks, taking out defective joints, stitch repairs and re-inforcement and patch pointing using lime mortars.

Leader: Gerard Lynch

Monday-Wednesday 18-20 June 2007 £285

LIME MORTARS FOR TRADITIONAL BRICKWORK

Lectures and practical demonstrations on the traditional preparation and uses of limes and lime mortars and the modern misconceptions about them.

Leaders: Gerard Lynch & Douglas Johnston

Thursday 21 June 2007 £95

TRADITIONAL LIME PLASTERS & RENDERS

A practically based two-day course covering the fundamentals of lime plastering from the simplest renders to the finest ornamental work. Lectures followed by practical demonstrations, hands-on experience and opportunity for discussion.

Leaders: Ian Constantinides & Jeff Orton

Monday-Tuesday 25-26 June 2007 £190

Timber framing

from scratch is

the Museum's

flagship course,

offering

students the

chance to

frame a timber

structure

starting with

the raw oak.

The Museum

specialises in

courses related

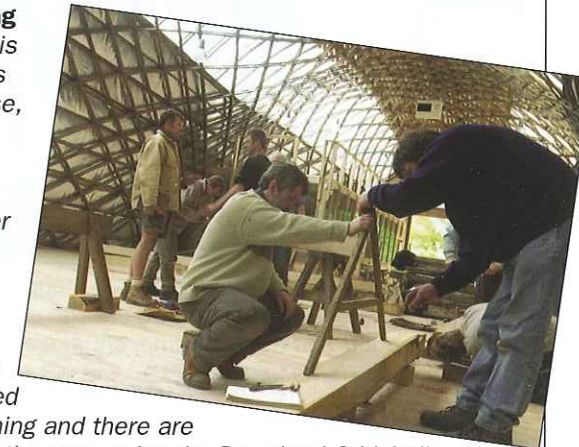
to timber framing

and there are

many through the year,

using the Downland Gridshell

workshop as the base.



THE ROOFING SQUARE

The use of the roofing square is a fundamental skill of carpentry. Learn how to mark and cut all the timber components for lean-to, gable and hipped roofs. This day will help demystify this essential carpentry skill.

Leader: Joe Thompson

Friday 29 June 2007 £95

TRADITIONAL ROOFING METHODS

Five linked days exploring the traditions, methods and materials used in the roofing industries.

Day 1: Thatch, lectures and practical thatch demonstrations.

Leaders: English Heritage specialist & Chris Tomkins

Day 2: Tile, the history of hand-made clay peg tiles and their refinements. Leaders:

Peter Minter & Michael Fildes

Day 3: Slate, conservation and repair of slate roofs and regional variations. Stone,

conservation, repair and the use of new local stone slabs. Leaders: Terry Hughes &

Michael Fildes

Day 4: Shingles, explore their use in historic buildings, and learn how to shingle on

part of the newly constructed Singleton spire. Leaders: Peter Harkett & John Deal

Day 5: Leadwork, theory, repair & replication. Leader: Nigel Johnston

Monday-Friday 2-6 July 2007 £95 per day (all five days £425)

SQUARE RULE TIMBER FRAMING

A hands-on course learning how the North Americans were fabricating timber frames in the 19th century. Their system had evolved from the 'melting pot' of European carpentry cultures combined with the straight timbers available from the virgin forests. However the roots of the new system can clearly be seen in the scribe rule practised in Sussex in the 18th century. Students will mark and cut the timbers for a small frame that will be erected on the Friday afternoon.

Leader: Joe Thompson

Monday-Friday 20-24 August 2007 £450

JOINTING AND POINTING OF HISTORIC BRICKWORK

The development of jointing and pointing from the Tudor period to 20th century. Practical sessions to include selecting materials and tools, preparation of joints for re-pointing, mortar mixes and preparation and after care of joints.

Leader: Gerard Lynch

Courses Programme 2006-07 – Rural trades and crafts

HEAVY HORSE EXPERIENCE DAYS

A series of days designed to give people the opportunity to work with the Museum's team of heavy horses and have a thoroughly enjoyable day. All days are hands-on and physically demanding, starting at 10am and finishing at 4pm.

PLOUGHING WITH HEAVY HORSES

Covering the basics of ploughing including preparing the harness and the plough for work in the field. Beginners and improvers equally welcome.

Sunday 5 November 2006 Sunday 12 November 2006
Sunday 3 December 2006 £75



Learn how to plough with heavy horses – courses on ploughing and driving heavy horses are run each winter with John McDermott and Robert Sampson, aided by Museum horseman Lee Harrison.

CARE AND MANAGEMENT OF HEAVY HORSES

A mix of theory and practice using the Museum's team of heavy horses. An introduction to stable care, feeding, harness and safe handling of draft horses.

Sunday 21 January 2007 £75

HORSE LOGGING

For those with some heavy horse experience. A day working with heavy horses extracting timber from the Museum woods. Participants must be agile and physically fit.

Sunday 11 March 2007 £75

DRIVING HEAVY HORSES

Harness up and drive the Museum's draft horses in the field and on the track, chain harrowing and shaft and pole work. Beginners and improvers equally welcome.

Sunday 22 April 2007 Sunday 20 May 2007 Sunday 27 May 2007
Sunday 10 June 2007 £75

If you book and pay for four or more courses at one time you may deduct £15 from the total.

COUNTRYSIDE SKILLS

MAKE A RUSTIC BIRDTABLE

A beginner's day in how to use basic hand and power tools. During the day you will make a rustic bird table, either free-standing or wall-mounted, to take home. Ideal for those participating in the 'Make a bentwood chair' course, who need a little more confidence in their skills. 9.30am-4.30pm.

Friday 3 November 2006 £60

INTRODUCTION TO COPPICE MANAGEMENT

A practical day encompassing good practice in coppicing to make best use of coppiced products with the safe use of tools. 9.30am-4.00pm.

Saturday 4 November 2006 £50

WOVEN HURDLE MAKING

An introductory two-day course for novices to learn the basic skills and make a traditional woven hazel sheep hurdle. 9.30am-4.30pm.

Saturday-Sunday 4-5 November 2006 £165

POULTRY HUSBANDRY

A half-day session giving participants the opportunity to handle a variety of poultry species. Advice and guidance on retailing eggs. 10.30am-2.30 pm.

Saturday 11 November 2006 Saturday 12 May 2007 £40

LEATHER BELT WORKSHOP

Come and make a plain, laced or stamped leather belt with a choice of buckles and designs on this one-day workshop. 9.30am-4.30pm.

Saturday 25 November 2006 £60

LEATHER WALLET WORKSHOP

Need a new wallet? Make a simple leather wallet with carved design, learning hand-stitching and hand-dyeing techniques. Make one for yourself, or give as a unique present. 9.30am-4.30pm.

Saturday 2 December 2006 £60

CONTINUOUS HURDLE FENCING

Learn the practicalities of making a continuous wattle fence using mature hazel rods woven between upright supports. Advice on sources of materials, tools needed etc. 9.30am-4pm.

Wednesday 17 January 2007 £50

WILDLIFE AND THE LAW

A day for anyone who needs to understand the legislation relating to wild creatures and plants, including the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 and the Crow Act 2000. 10.30am-3.30pm.

Friday 9th March 2007 £40

TRADITIONAL ROPEWORK

Come and try your hand at the art of traditional rope work. Students will make a round clout mat and a sailor's whisk brush during the day. 10am-4pm.

Saturday 10 March 2007 £40

MAKE A BENTWOOD CHAIR

Learn how to make a comfortable natural bentwood chair, selecting your own timber and using a minimum of tools to facilitate the steaming process. 9.30am-4.30pm.

Saturday-Sunday 24-25 March 2007 £200

WILLOW WORKSHOP: WEAVE AND WALE A BASKET

Using English brown willow and traditional techniques learn to 'weave and wale' a basket to take home. 9am-5pm.

Saturday 31 March 2007 Saturday 7 July 2007

Saturday 29 September 2007 £50

MAKE A BIRDBOX

Why not help the birds in your garden by giving them a new home. Using hand and power tools you will make one or more boxes suitable for a variety of garden birds including blue tits, blackbirds, thrushes, house sparrows, or whoever lives in your garden!

Friday 13 April 2007 £60

CORACLE MAKING WEEKEND

Coracles are traditional riverboats. Round in shape, they are paddled with one oar. On this two-day course you will make a traditional ash slatted coracle to take home, and try out your boating skills on the Museum's millpond. 9.30am-4.30 pm.

Sat-Sun 14-15 April 2007 £200

SKEP MAKING

Learn to make a useful addition to the beekeeper's equipment from straw, and find out how skeps are used in beekeeping. A rustic feature to a cottage garden, even if it is not inhabited by bees! 10.30am-4pm.

Friday 27 April 2007 £40

SMALL FARM ANIMALS: SHEEP AND PIGS

A day school to explore the feasibility and management of a smallholding with sheep and pigs. Feeding, housing, breeding and regulations. 9.30am-5pm.

Saturday 28 April 2007 £65

IRONS IN THE FIRE

A practical half day in the Museum's 150-year-old working smithy, learning about the traditional skills of the village blacksmith. Each student will make their own simple object to take home.

Saturday 5 May 2007 – 9am-1pm Saturday 5 May 2007 – 2pm-6pm £40

DOWSING WORKSHOP

Exploring the background and practising the fascinating ancient craft of dowsing. 10am-1.30pm.

Friday 11 May 2007 £25

POLE LATHE TURNING

An introduction to wood turning on the traditional pole lathe. Participants will have their own simple turned objects to take home. 9.30am-4.30pm.

Saturday 12 May 2007 Saturday 30 June 2007 £55

INTRODUCTION TO CHARCOAL BURNING

A practical day exploring charcoal burning using both traditional and current methods, from selection of wood to lighting the kiln, to marketing the product. 9.00am-5.00pm.

Saturday 12 May 2007 £50

BEEKEEPING FOR BEGINNERS

An introduction to keeping bees. Investigate the components of a beehive, see how to make up beeswax frames and find out what equipment you will need. 10.30am-4pm.

Friday 25 May 2007 £40

CORN DOLLY WORKSHOP

Learn the history and development of this ancient craft, as well as the practical skills involved in weaving a corn dolly. 10am-5pm.

Saturday 30 June 2007 Saturday 25 August 2007 £40

MAKE A BAT BOX

Why not encourage these fabulous crepuscular creatures into your garden by providing a box for them to roost in, and brush up on your woodworking skills at the same time. 9.30am-4.30pm.

Friday 7 September 2007 £60

GATE HURDLE WORKSHOP

Students on this workshop will make a gate hurdle traditionally used for penning sheep, using cleft ash and hand tools. 9.30am-4.30pm.

Saturday-Sunday 8-9 September 2007 £165

THE BEEKEEPER'S PREPARATION FOR WINTER

Find out about when and how to take off honey stores in autumn, reducing the structure of the hive and feeding to prepare the bee colony for the coming winter. A useful follow-on from beekeeping for beginners. 10.30am-4pm.

Friday 28 September 2007 £40

WALKS

CANDLE-LIT WALK

Explore the Museum by candlelight, and experience a winter's evening without electricity! A guided walk starting at 5pm, finishing with mulled wine and mince pies.

Friday 8 December 2006 Thursday 14 December 2006 £10

A WINTER WALK IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

Enjoy a guided walk through the local countryside. Experience the wonderful Downland scenery, whilst getting some exercise. Walking boots essential. Bring a flask. 10.30am-1pm.

Saturday 3 March 2007 £5

WILDFLOWER WALKS

Spend an afternoon learning about the wild flowers which grow in the meadows and woodland on the Museum site. Walks will take place in spring and summer. Start at 2pm and finish with tea and cake.

Spring wildflower walk: Thursday 19 April 2007

Summer wildflower walk: Friday 29 June 2007 £10

TREE WALK

Stroll through the woods at the Museum whilst your guide shows you different species of tree and gives advice on how to identify them. Start at 2pm and finish with tea and cake.

Thursday 17 May 2007 £10

DAWN WALK WITH BREAKFAST

Guided walk through local woods to hear the dawn chorus. Start at 4am and finish with full breakfast at the Museum.

Saturday 26 May 2007 £15

NIGHTJAR WALK

Guided walk through local woods to find nightjars, glow worms, deer and other nocturnal creatures. Start at 9pm and finish with hot drinks at the Museum.

DTBA, June 2007 £10

BAT WALK

Join our guided bat walk, where bat detectors will be used to locate and identify the different types of bat that live around the Museum site. A wonderful opportunity to learn about these beautiful and fascinating creatures. 8pm start, end with hot drinks.

Friday 7 September 2007 £10

FUNGI WALK

Explore the variety of fungi on the Museum site and in the woods, and be guided as to their delicacies and dangers. Start at 2pm and finish with tea and cake.

Friday 19 October 2007 £10

TEXTILES

CHRISTMAS RAG-RUGGING

Make seasonal decorations and gifts in a Christmassy atmosphere! Traditional rag-rugging plus some glue and glitter. 9.30am-4pm.

Friday 8 December 2006 £45

TAPESTRY WEAVING

Tapestry weaving can be used to produce wall hangings, using a simple frame loom and a variety of yarns. Learn how to put a warp on to a frame loom, and produce a sampler to take home using both traditional techniques, and knotting and wrapping to create special three-dimensional effects. 10am-4pm.

Saturday-Sunday 17-18 February 2007 £85

ELIZABETHAN WALNUTS

These little drawstring bags hide a secret; they are made from covered walnut shells. Embellished with beads, sequins and stitches, these were a popular gift in the time of Elizabeth the First. 10am-5pm.

Monday 5 March 2007 £45

KNITTING FOR BEGINNERS

For those starting out or wanting to rekindle their skills in hand knitting with an emphasis on learning a good, efficient technique, and with an adventurous approach! 10am-5pm.

Monday 19 March 2007 £45

SPINNING

Try your hand at spinning to create woollen yarn, using both the drop spindle and the spinning wheel. During the day you will also learn about fleeces and carding wool ready for spinning. 10.30am-4.30pm.

Friday 30 March 2007 Monday 23 July 2007 £45

RAG-RUGGING – A TRADITIONAL TEXTILE FORM

Rag-rug making is a uniquely accessible folk craft. This workshop gives a lively modern feel to this Victorian textile skill. 9.30am-4pm.

Friday 13 April 2007 Friday 29 June 2007 £45

SPINNING FOR IMPROVERS

Dust off your spinning wheel! Come and learn how to create different yarns, how to ply using the wheel, and prepare wool for knitting or weaving. A challenging day suitable for those with some spinning experience. 10.30am-4.30pm.

Monday 21 May 2007 £45

FELTING FOR FUN

An introduction to felt making – produce a colourful piece of handmade felt using dyed wools. Includes preparation of the fleece and some 'rainbow' dyeing. 10am-4pm.

Saturday 2 June 2007 £45

FELT BAG WORKSHOP

Design and make a seamless bag from hand-made felt using updated traditional techniques. Dyed and natural wool will be provided. 10am-4pm.

Saturday 9 June 2007 £45

FABULOUS FELT FLOWERS

A day making felt blooms, bobbles and bangles! Try your hand making beautiful felt flowers to decorate bags, hats, jackets etc. Felt bobbles can be used for necklaces or as buttons for bags and clothing, and thin felt rope joined in a circle can make bracelets or lengths for bag straps. 10am-4pm.

Saturday 23 June 2007 £45

QUILTING

Using the Museum buildings and environment as inspiration for the design, you will make the centre of a quilt or a cushion cover, and learn about this history of traditional English quilting. The day is ideal for beginners – if you can thread a needle you can quilt! 10am-5pm.

Thursday 28 June 2007 £45

NATURAL DYEING

Learn the basics of dyeing with natural materials, covering different types of mordants and their effects on colours obtained, dyeing with fresh and dried materials, dye-plant identification, environmental considerations, and the effects of dyes on various fibres. It's almost like magic! Students will have a selection of dyed yarns to take home. 9.30am-4pm.

Friday 20 July 2007 £45

EARLY TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOPS

LEADED-LIGHT STAINED GLASS WORKSHOP

Learn the traditional techniques of leaded-light windows and in just three days make something that will last forever. 9.30am-4.30pm.

Wednesday-Friday 9-11 May 2007 £250

Monday-Wednesday 1-3 October 2007 £250

CARVE A GREEN MAN IN WOOD

The carved image of a 'green man', made up of leaves and fruit, is found in churches and other historic buildings around the country. In four days, students will carve their own version of this ancient image in oak, as a way of learning or improving their carving skills. 10am-5pm.

Saturdays 21 & 28 April, 5 & 12 May 2007 £240



Pole lathe turning – the Museum's course gets under way with students learning to use one of the earliest traditional rural tools, the pole lathe. The next courses are on 12 May and 30 June, 2007.

BRONZE FLAT AXE WORKSHOP

Make a bronze flat axe from the early Bronze Age to take home. You will experience at first hand the melting and casting of bronze with charcoal, and the problems that early metalworkers had to overcome. This workshop centers mainly on casting with a charcoal heat source and stone moulds. 9.30am-5pm.

Saturday 28 April 2007 £75

GREEN STONE AXE WORKSHOP

The early settlers in the Weald cleared the tree cover and changed the Wealden landscape, firstly with flint axes, but later with hard stone axes. The green stone axes from Cornwall were probably some of the best. This workshop will cover knapping, grinding and polishing. 10am-5pm.

Sunday 29 April 2007 £60

BRONZE RAPIER WORKSHOP

As Bronze Age casting methods improved, blades increased in length. A classic rapier 17in long will be cast using a stone mould and authentic techniques. Could this be the root of the sword of Arthurian legend? 9.30am-5pm.

Saturday 26 May 2007 £85

GOLD SUN DISC WORKSHOP

A unique opportunity to work with pure gold and make a pair of sun disc earrings, and to understand why early metal workers held this soft yellow metal in such high regard. 10am-5pm.

Sunday 27 May 2007 £65

TRADITIONAL ENGLISH LONGBOW

Learn to make a working bow, from a single stave of timber to a medieval design, and then learn to fire it. 9.30am-5.00pm.

Friday-Sunday 15-17 June 2007

£250 (2006) £260 (2007)

SILVER WRIST TORQUE CASTING

Cast your own classic Bronze Age wrist torque with round body and flared terminals in pure silver, to a design starting from around 4000 BC. 9.30am-5pm.

Saturday 28 July 2007 £50

PEWTER SPOON CASTING WORKSHOP

Cast your own spoons using a bronze mould and charcoal. The spoons will be of a design called the 'commonwealth puritan' dating from around c. 1600, based on one made by Steven Venables, the famous spoon maker from London. Each student will make four spoons, with one being cleaned and polished during the day. 10am-5pm.

Sunday 29 July 2007 £55

PREHISTORIC TOOL MAKING WORKSHOP

Using the methods of ancient British people, including flint knapping, cordage manufacture from natural fibres, working with bone and antler, you will produce your own hafted tool to take home. 9.30am-5pm.

Saturday-Sunday 4-5 August 2007 £100

CELTIC SILVER BRACELET WORKSHOP

During this workshop you will work with pure silver sheet and rod to create a classic leaf shaped bracelet with opposite spiralled ends, using the techniques of punch decorating and spiralling. 9.30am-5pm.

Saturday 25 August 2007 £50

PREHISTORIC BEAD WORKSHOP

Beads are one of the oldest forms of body adornment, and probably started with animal teeth and seashells. Working with shell, bone, jet, amber, tin and red ochre this workshop will make beads using ancient technology. 10am-5 pm.

Sunday 26 August 2007 £45

EWART PARK BRONZE SWORD WORKSHOP

A two-day workshop exploring the manufacturing of the classic leaf blade, each student will work on their own sword, cleaning, forging and fitting handles.

Saturday-Sunday 29-30 September 2007 £180

DRAWING AND PAINTING WORKSHOPS

OIL PAINTING WORKSHOP

Oil painting in the fresh air – challenging but equally rewarding. This course will explore various painting techniques and give students of all abilities the freedom to work on a range of subjects from still life to landscapes and people.

Monday-Friday 11-15 June 2007 £220

WATERCOLOUR WORKSHOP

Five consecutive days of basic watercolour tuition, working out of doors in the Museum environment. This course offers a real-life challenge of working with watercolour. 9.30am-5pm.

Courses Programme 2006-07 – Rural trades and crafts

IMPROVERS WATERCOLOUR WORKSHOP

Five consecutive days of advanced watercolour tuition, working out of doors in the Museum environment. 9.30am-5pm. **Monday-Friday 10-14 September 2007 £220**

DOWNLAND SKETCHBOOK

Using the Museum as a base, you will spend five days exploring and painting the local downland countryside. Wear your walking boots! 9.30am-5 pm. **Monday-Friday 8-12 October 2007 £220**

HOMES

HOW TO BE A HOUSE DETECTIVE

Techniques for tracing the history of your house will be revealed in this day school covering both physical features and the use of primary sources commonly held in record offices and local history libraries. 9.30am-4.30pm. **Wednesday 15 November 2006 £60**

SIGNS & SYMBOLS: MADE IN AN AGE OF SUPERSTITION AND FEAR

Explore the symbols made on buildings to protect the work of tradesmen, and also how these apotropaic marks made the occupants feel more secure against intruders. Witchcraft was at its height in the 16th and 17th centuries. 9.30am-5pm. **Saturday 25 November 2006 £75**

AN APPRECIATION OF EARLY OAK FURNITURE

An illustrated lecture exploring the qualities and characteristics of early furniture, followed by a guided visit to a local private collection of oak furniture. 10am-4pm. **Tuesday 28 November 2006 £75**

CHRISTMAS HERBAL GIFTS & DECORATIONS

Make up to five different festive herbal compositions such as wreaths, fragrant baskets and candle decorations. 9.30am-4pm. **Friday 15 December 2006 Monday 18 December 2006 £35 plus some materials on the day**

WILLOW WREATH FOR CHRISTMAS

Make up to three willow wreaths to take home and decorate for Christmas. Choose from traditional round, star or heart shapes, using either buff or brown willow (or a mixture of both). These re-usable wreaths are a beautiful addition to your Christmas decorations, and are also great to give as presents to your friends and family. **Saturday 16 December 2006 £35**



Celebrating Twelfth Night – a very special day in the 16th and 17th centuries – with lectures, food demonstrations, poetry and a banquet on 6 January.

TWELFTH NIGHT: A CELEBRATION!

A day of post-Christmas delights in the form of lectures, foodie demonstrations and experiences, decorations, poetry and the Twelfth Night banquet! An exciting event exploring with words, images and traditional food the importance of this day that was so special in the 16th & 17th centuries. 10.00am-6.00pm. **Saturday 6 January 2007 £75**

SUPERSTITION, MYTH AND MAGIC

Discover how homeowners of the past reassured themselves about the invasion of witches into their homes and workplaces by hiding objects such as old shoes and mummified cats behind fireplaces and under floorboards. 9.30am-5pm. **Saturday 27 January 2007 £75**

ENGLISH FURNITURE-MAKING TRADES OF THE 16TH & 17TH CENTURIES

An illustrated lecture considering the ways in which trade practices dictated the form and appearance of post-medieval furniture and woodwork, followed by an accompanied tour of the furnished interiors around the museum site. **Wednesday 7 February 2007 £75**

16TH CENTURY DOMESTIC PAINTING TECHNIQUES

A hands-on course exploring the painting techniques used in Tudor furnishing and furniture. Plenty of practical exercises on canvas and wooden board will provide an insight into the minds of the Tudor painters. 9.30am-4.30pm. **Saturday-Sunday 24-25 February 2007 £160**

SOAP AND SOAP MAKING

Find out how people lived without modern detergents. A day-school on Tudor hygiene and cleanliness, learning how to make lye and soap, and the uses of soapwort. 10am-4pm. **Wednesday 28 March 2007 £60**

FROM HANGLETON TO POPLAR: THE HISTORY OF THE MUSEUM'S HOUSES

Part 1: 13th to 17th centuries: The day will explore the history of six of the Museum's houses by placing them in their social and economic context and looking at the social status and household structure of their earliest inhabitants. An overview of the methods and sources for reconstructing the past will also be provided. 9.30am-4.30pm. **Friday 27 April 2007 £60**

HOME OWNERS' DAY

Expert guidance for owners of old houses and cottages, including surveying, planning and refurbishment issues, run with the support of Jackson-Stops & Staff. The day will also include an exploration of the furnishings, artefacts and gardens of the Museum's exhibit buildings to give an insight into how people lived and worked. 9.30am-4.30pm. **Wednesday 23 May 2007 £50**

SECRETS OF THE TUDOR STILLROOM

The stillroom was the source of a variety of potions, salves, pest repellents, cleansers, cosmetics and fragrant mixes in addition to the all-important distilled aromatic waters. Come and explore some of the recipes handed down over the generations from medieval times, making cough sweets, salves, herb honeys and drinks. 9.30am-4.30pm. **Wednesday 20 June 2007 £50**

HERBS FOR THE KITCHEN

An appreciation of cottage garden herbs that have been grown, gathered and prized in cookery over the centuries. Details of when to gather and how to dry and store herbs, with recipes past and present and some hands-on experience included. 9.30am-4.30pm. **Friday 6 July 2007 £50**

HERBS FOR HEALTH

The origins of the herbaceous border lie in growing herbs for home remedies in the past. Led by a medical herbalist, the course offers guidance on the most safe and useful herbs to grow and how to harvest and use or preserve them. A practical day, including the opportunity to make a footbath, herbal honey syrups, herbal teas, infused oil, a herb pillow and more. 9.30am-4.30pm. **Saturday 7 July 2007 £50**

VICTORIAN HERB FAVOURITES TO ENJOY

Lavender, violets, chamomile tea and much more! A day of exploring the Victorian era and making delights to take home. 9.30am-4.30pm. **Friday 7 September 2007 £50**

GARDENS

LIVING WILLOW WORKSHOP

Come along to this one-day workshop and make a living willow structure which you can plant in your own garden. 9.30am-5pm. **Saturday 3 March 2007 Sunday 4 March 2007 £75**

GREENING YOUR GARDEN

An introduction to environmentally sensitive gardening techniques to help make your garden more productive, wildlife-friendly and enjoyable. **Saturday 21 April 2007 £75**

WILLOW FOR THE GARDEN

Make interesting contemporary plant supports to enhance your garden using English willow and traditional methods. 9.30am-5pm. **Saturday 12 May 2007 Saturday 15 September 2007 £60**

THE COTTAGE HERB GARDEN FOR BEGINNERS

Find out how the cottage herb garden evolved to supply the needs of the family, and how this can be interpreted in your own garden today. The day includes planning and maintaining a herb garden, integration with flowers or vegetables, techniques for successful herb growing, and an introduction to the use of herbs in cookery, fragrance and home medicine. (See also Herbs for health and Culinary herbs) 9.30am-4.30pm. **Tuesday 22 May 2007 £50**

THE TUDOR KITCHEN

An exciting series of day schools which explore the processes of Tudor food. All set in the fully equipped and interpreted Winkhurst kitchen, they will be hands on days which follow the seasons and the diets of Tudor times, learning about the dishes enjoyed by courtiers and endured by peasants.

MEAT AND MORE MEAT!

If you want to eat the best, freshest and tastiest meat around it helps to be able to prepare it yourself. The day will focus upon the practical skills of skinning, drawing, plucking and boning a range of birds and other game, and at some of the more interesting ways of cooking it. 10am-4pm. **Wednesday 8 November 2006 £60**

TUDOR CHRISTMAS FARE

Ditch the turkey, and have a go at something really traditional. A Tudor Christmas was a time of food, food and more food, when all the best things came out of the store cupboard to fuel twelve days of eating, drinking and making merry. We shall be cooking up a storm with shred pies, Twelfth night cake, brawn and roast beef. **Thursday 14th December 2006 £60**

THE 16TH CENTURY DAIRY

Milk, butter and cheese played essential roles in the Tudor diet and daily life. During this practical day participants will use a hand churn to make butter, which will be salted and potted for winter and learn the processes of making soft cheeses. An overview of all aspects of 16th century dairy production and use, plus a look at early 17th century dairying. 10am-4pm. **Wednesday 23 May 2007 £60**

TUDOR SALADS AND VEGETABLES

There may not have been vegetarians in Tudor England but there were plenty of vegetables, salad leaves and edible flowers. Explore a whole host of period recipes centered on herbs and vegetables of all kinds, from Peas Pottage to Grand Salat. The tradition of fasting days provides us with a strong and varied range of meat-free dishes to draw upon, and include an impressive number of different edible plants, some familiar and some less so. **Saturday 23 June 2007 £60**

THE TUDOR BAKEHOUSE – BREAD

Museum milled flour will be used to make common brown loaves of the working folk in the kitchen's historic bread oven. The day will include the role of bread in Tudor life, the technology of the Tudor bread oven, the law of the time and the special loaves baked for festivals. 10am-4pm. **Wednesday 12 September 2007 £60**

THE TUDOR BAKEHOUSE – PIES AND PASTRIES

A selection of techniques and recipes from a Tudor bakehouse, from hand-raised standing pies to deep fried choux pastry bennets. 10am-4pm. **Thursday 13 September 2007 £60**

PRESERVING FOOD IN THE 16TH CENTURY

This workshop takes the practical approach to learning the key methods of preserving foodstuffs in Tudor England. This was essential to keep the population alive and well until the next harvest. Meat, fish, herbs, vegetables and fruit. **Wednesday 3 October 2007 £60**

One of the most important elements of the Museum's work is its extensive training programme, especially in building conservation skills and techniques. Several of our tutors have been with the Museum for many years and have made a vital contribution to the continuation of their own craft skill. The Museum Magazine will be bringing specialist articles on some of these skills, the lecturers and the courses the Museum offers over the next several issues.

Traditional brickwork

Dr Gerard Lynch

I have had the honour to be involved with the Weald & Downland Open Air Museum since 1992 when Richard Harris and the late Chris Zeuner invited me to be the Museum's tutor on courses relating to traditionally constructed brickwork and lime mortars.

I served a traditional time-served apprenticeship and was fortunate to excel in the craft of a bricklayer, winning the silver and gold trowels. With almost 35 years on the tools, specialising in the higher branches of the craft, such as 'cut and rubbed' and 'gauged work', I have always continued to study in order to deepen my craft knowledge. This has resulted in a Masters Degree, with Distinction, in the Conservation of Historic Brickwork, a PhD in Historic Brickwork Technology, and the publication of several books, papers and articles on a host of related subjects. These seek to revive and detail almost-forgotten craft tools, materials and skills. I now also work as a self-employed lecturer and consultant advising on the repair of historic brickwork.

For many years I have stated that current craft training in 'fixing' skills, with minimal academic support, for modern building site needs, fails to deliver the depth of education and crafting skills necessary to work with confidence and empathy on the structural repair of buildings of all historic periods.

The Museum's newly-built brick workshop has been designed to facilitate tuition of some of the most important aspects of the craft, identified as essential for ensuring top quality work on the



Gerard Lynch tutors students on one of his historic brickwork courses in the new brick workshop.

repair and restoration of traditionally constructed brickwork, such as:

- Introduction to gauged brickwork
- Advanced gauged brickwork
- Jointing and pointing of historic brickwork
- Lime mortars for traditionally constructed brickwork
- Historic development of English brickwork and its conservative repair
- The repair of traditionally constructed brickwork

These hands-on courses are open to all, who I seek to welcome and inspire, including architects, surveyors, crafts-people, conservation officers and homeowners etc. The Museum and I are very grateful to the following who assisted in the financing, building and equipping of the new workshop: timber frame by *Timber framing from Scratch* students taught by Joe Thompson, Sussex Oak and Iron; roofing by Fildes Roofing, Bognor Regis; joinery and cladding by Haslemere Builders; groundwork, brick base and outshot shelving by Museum staff and volunteers; design and supervision of building of brickwork models by Dr Gerard Lynch; building of models by DGD Builders; donation of bricks by W T Lamb, Billingshurst; donation of lime mortars and putties by Masons Mortars, Edinburgh and The Lime Centre, Morestead; brick reinforcement by BRC Building Products; cutting bench by Paul Pinnington and electrical work by D & S Electrical.

Gerard Lynch is an internationally acknowledged Master Craftsman and consultant in the field of brickwork and mortars and their historical conservation. He is the author of Gauged Brickwork and Brickwork: History, Technology and Practice. For further information on the historic brickwork courses see pages 22/23

News in brief

■ The number of visitors to the Museum this year has remained consistent with the previous few years, writes Head of Operations, **Henry Warner**. By mid-September we had received just under 110,000 visits, 3% more than at the same time last year. This suggests the Museum will continue the trend of a small but significant year on year growth. The year began slowly with a very cold spring and a late Easter, but numbers recovered through the summer with some events achieving very

good attendances. This is especially pleasing as many attractions are struggling to maintain existing visitor levels in an increasingly competitive marketplace.

■ Following the sad loss of our Shire horse Gym (see obituary on page 16) and the sale of Donald by his owner, Diana Zeuner, the Museum has acquired a new horse. Ace is a five-year-old Shire gelding, black with four white feet, standing 18 hands. Bred in Shropshire by Tim Breeze he was broken for work by Jonathan Waterer of North Devon and will work alongside Neville on a range of tasks around the Museum site.

■ *The Company Presents*, an outdoor theatre company associated with

Arundel Festival came to the Museum in August to perform *Will at the Weald*, a gala evening of Shakespeare. A stage was set up under a tree in Greenways field where the action began with a scene from *Midsummer's Night Dream*. Then scenes from *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Twelfth Night* and *Richard III* took the players and audience on a promenade past Whittaker's Cottages, through the Market Square to the mill pond and back to the stage for more from *Midsummer's Night Dream*. It was a delightful evening blessed with fine weather and wildlife sounds at appropriate moments.

To Estonia for a lifelong learning conference

Five years ago the European Association of Open Air Museums formed a sister organisation to focus on lifelong learning. LLOAM held its first meeting in the museum at Jamtli, Sweden in 2002, followed in 2004 by a meeting at Bokrijk, Belgium. Jamtli, the provincial museum of Jämtland in northern Sweden, was developed by former director Sten Renzhog into a leading centre for living history, with a summer season known as 'History Land', while Bokrijk has moved in a similar direction in recent years. This year the meeting was held in Tallinn, Estonia, and Diana Rowsell and I made the trip there to make a presentation about our Museum's approach to lifelong learning – and to listen and learn.

As always at international conferences, every minute was filled. There were a dozen presentations by participants describing their work, and a session led by Triin Siiner, Head of Education at the Estonian Open Air Museum, when we all took part in a role-play exercise. We also saw the brand new KUMU Art Museum in Tallinn and talked to staff about their education programmes.

The presence of 17 participants from 12 open air museums in 10 countries ensured that the conference was both inspiring and productive. As we expected, our Museum is highly unusual in offering such a wide range of courses – known in the jargon as 'adult formal

learning' to distinguish it from 'informal learning' which is what everyday visitors to the Museum engage in. Less expected was that most other open air museums receive little or no help from volunteers in offering workshops – known as 'learning programmes' – to school children. Their staffing levels tend therefore to be higher, the extra cost in many cases being met from government funds. In some cases this has resulted in a greater variety of approach but not necessarily higher quality than we achieve with volunteers. But our colleagues will be able to judge this for themselves, as the next LLOAM conference will be at our museum in 2008.

Estonia gained its independence on 20 August 1991. There was no champagne in the streets: most of the people we talked to said they remembered simply the feeling of blank astonishment that it really had happened at last. So we were curious to discover how this had affected the national Open Air Museum, our hosts for the conference. At KUMU we saw art from the 1990s that expressed anxiety at the change: out of the frying pan into the fire? At the open air museum we saw no physical expression of the change, in that the collection of farmhouses and barns still express the solid traditions of Estonian life. But it was the education service that seemed to have developed a positive and creative programme to help young people understand the rapid and fundamental changes taking place.

Richard Harris

Whatever happened to Gert and Daisy?

Museum visitors and volunteers may remember the two lead sphinxes included in the early days of the Plumbing Exhibition in Court Barn. They were always felt to have a rather tenuous relevance to our subject of traditional vernacular buildings, and were eventually removed in 1992. Where are they now?

They have actually been installed in The Alnwick Garden, as they have an important link with Syon House, both estates being owned by the Percy family. Older museum supporters will immediately recognise the synergy here, since Assistant Director, Richard Pailthorpe, is now the Estate Manager at Syon House. But the removal was not of his making.

The sphinxes, each weighing one ton, and known as the 'Lambeth Ladies' or 'Gert and Daisy' after the war-time comedy duo, are thought to be the ones on the Lace Gate at

Syon House installed by Robert Adam in the 1760s. They were probably made by John Cheere, the 18th century sculptor, although this has not been proven.

In the 1920s they were sent for scrap to Calder Industries' Lambeth Works, rescued, and mounted at the factory entrance, hence their name. Whilst guarding the entrance in May 1941 they were strafed by a German fighter pilot, resulting in damage to Gert, and subsequently removed to the basement of County Hall in London for safe keeping. They returned to Lambeth at the end of the war and remained there until the works closed in 1948 and the site was cleared for the Festival of Britain. The two ladies were relocated at the company's Millwall factory where they once again guarded the entrance.

Gert definitely attracts the attention – here, on two occasions, London Transport double decker buses crashed into the entrance gate pillars, unceremoniously dumping Gert

Volunteering at the Museum

The Museum currently has more than 400 people registered as volunteers, undertaking a wide variety of tasks.

Although the majority of volunteers are retired – the average age of female and male volunteers is 61.3 and 67.5 respectively – we also enjoy the company of many young volunteers. In recent years, for example, five

One of our longest-serving volunteers, Ann Kirby, has retired from her post as Sunday shop supervisor after 23 years at the Museum. A retired nurse who worked at St George's Hospital, London, on its Hyde Park site, Ann came to the Museum in 1983, volunteering in various capacities. From 1992 she was employed as one of the supervisors when the shop was situated in the Lavant building, and when the new entrance arrangements opened in Longport House, she took on a more formal role, becoming shop supervisor on the all-important Sundays. Ann plans to continue her support of the Museum and we look forward to seeing her on various occasions in the future.

German students have spent their summer with us, improving their English. We currently have young volunteers on Duke of Edinburgh Award schemes, and several youngsters still at school help out during half term and holidays. We also welcome volunteers with disabilities; they come from various different organisations and, with their carers, make a valuable contribution to Museum life.

If you would like to join the Museum as a volunteer, please contact Bob Eason, Volunteer Coordinator on 01243 811933.

on the ground, causing further damage. The Millwall Works closed in the 1970s and Gert and Daisy were found a new home in the Museum's Plumbing Exhibition, mounted by the Worshipful Company of Plumbers. It was here that an eagle-eyed employee of Calder Industries spotted them, and in view of the Museum's concern that they should be found a more appropriate home, organised their donation to The Alnwick Garden. Before their installation in the garden Gert and Daisy were restored in the studio of Rupert Harris, a specialist lead conservator, with the aid of a grant from the Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust. At long last Gert, in particular, has had a makeover.

"For me it is a rather curious link between my two workplaces!" says Richard Pailthorpe, who contacted the Editor with the story.

*Friends of the Museum on the April 2007 annual trip will be able to pay their respects to Gert and Daisy at The Alnwick Garden, since it is on the itinerary! See page 30 for more information.

2006 – The year in pictures



The Heavy Horse Spectacular in June always attracts a good crowd. Left, volunteer Alan Wood drives Shire horse, Neville, to the Museum's bullock cart during the parade of horse-drawn vehicles.



Left, learning traditional skills – knitting is now one of them! A boy and his mother visiting the Museum on one of the busy Children's Activity Days in the summer holidays.

Below, the Museum's Early Music Afternoon – part of Chichester Festivities – adds sound to the sights of the historic buildings at the Museum. Here, the Renaissance Choir performs in the hall house from North Cray.

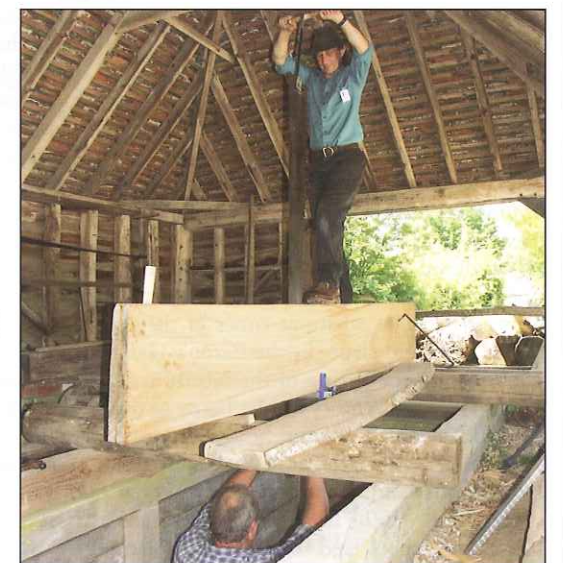


Right, winter sun streams through the bare branches of trees on the woodland edge behind Pendean Farmhouse.

The Rare Breeds Show is one of the busiest and most popular of the year, with thousands of visitors enjoying the atmosphere of a country livestock show, with nearly 500 farm animals on display. This year the museum held its 21st show. Right, Museum chairman David Tomlinson presents the trophy to the winning cattle exhibit, John Dunlop's Beef Shorthorn bull, Tarrant Paladin.



Right, one of the toughest rural jobs during the periods represented by many of the Museum's historic buildings was that of the sawyer. Here the sawpit from Sheffield Park is being demonstrated by Museum staff. The man in the pit had the worst job!



The Friends is a support organisation for the Museum, which runs fund-raising events and social activities for its members. It is one of the largest museum Friends groups in the country, with some 4,600 memberships representing about 11,000 individual members. Since its inception it has raised a total of £1.3 million for the Museum, making a major contribution to the Museum's work.

Friends' 2007 Spring Tour to County Durham

26 April-1 May

The 2007 Friends' Spring Tour will be to County Durham, staying at The Durham Marriot Royal County Hotel, situated in the heart of the city on the banks of the River Wear and overlooking the castle and the Cathedral.

On the way we will stop at Hardwick Hall for lunch and a tour of the house. Built in the 1500s by Elizabeth of Shrewsbury (Bess of Hardwick), the Hall, cared for by the National Trust, contains one of Europe's best collections of embroideries and tapestries.

On Friday we will spend all day at Beamish, North of England Open Air Museum. This extensive museum recreates life in the North of England during the 18th and 19th centuries, and includes many re-erected buildings from town and countryside, including a complete town street, a mine, and two working farmsteads.

On Saturday morning we will have a guided tour of Durham Cathedral by the Cathedral's architect, Christopher Downs and in the afternoon we travel to Wallington, home of the Red Squirrels. This National Trust house contains huge Pre-Raphaelite paintings depicting the history of Northumbria, an intriguing Museum of Curiosities and a collection of dolls houses. The gardens are in the style of Capability Brown.

On the way back to the hotel we will have a short stop at Gateshead to view the Millennium Bridge, which beat the Downland Gridshell to the RIBA Stirling Prize by one vote!

Sunday morning allows everybody free time, perhaps to attend church or the Cathedral, and in the afternoon there will be a visit to High Force, England's largest and most spectacular waterfall, on the Raby Estate in the North Pennines. Following that, by kind permission of Lord Barnard we will have a soup and sandwich lunch (at your own expense) followed by a guided tour of Raby Castle. This impressive medieval castle was built by the Nevills and has been home to Lord Barnard's family since 1626. Raby contains the grandest medieval kitchen in England and has been virtually unaltered since it was built in 1360. There is also a Garrison Room with walls up to 20ft thick where at times of danger men-at-arms and their horses lived and slept. In the Baron's Hall 700 knights gathered in 1569 to plot the Rising of the North in support of Mary, Queen of Scots. The 18th century stables house a coach and carriage museum.

Monday sees the tour heading north again to the medieval fortress of Alnwick Castle, home of the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland, members of the Percy family who have lived there since 1309. To Harry Potter fans this is the setting for Hogwarts School and where TV's Blackadder was filmed. The much-publicised garden created by the Duchess will be a highlight.

On Tuesday we head for home, stopping off at Shardlow Heritage Centre to have lunch by the canal.

Due to a rise in fuel charges and the distance travelled, the tour will cost a little more this year, but no more than £420 per person. This includes coach travel, the coach driver's gratuity, bed, full English breakfast and dinner, entrances and tours. It does not cover insurance (participants are advised to take out their own), lunches, drinks, incidental expenses at the hotel or hotel staff gratuities. The above programme may be subject to some minor changes as details are received from the venues regarding their 2007 arrangements.

To apply for an application form please contact Brian and Christine Weekes by 24 November at 2 Hawthorn Close, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9TF (Tel 01730 813684). Places will be chosen by ballot, as usual, and successful applicants will be notified and asked for £100 deposit.



Friends enjoying a day visit to Charleston Farm House, East Sussex, former home of the Bloomsbury Group of writers, painters and intellectuals. The National Trust's Alfriston Clergy House was also on the itinerary for the June event.

Spring Tour to Derbyshire, 2006

This year's trip was to Derbyshire, organised by Keith and Beryl Bickmore, staying in the spa town of Buxton. Stops on the way were the Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon and the Henry Doubleday Research Association at Ryton. Our coach driver, Peter, made good time and we arrived at the Palace Hotel after being driven through some spectacular countryside.

Our first visit on Friday was to Haddon Hall, one of the seats of the Duke of Rutland. It is the finest example of a medieval manor house, perfectly preserved and most probably the jewel of the trip for all of us. The enthusiastic guides were excellent.

In the afternoon we explored the village of Eyam, which became famous for its selfless action in imposing voluntary quarantine during the Plague. Cutting itself off from all neighbouring villages, it allowed no-one to enter or leave, helping prevent the disease spreading. On the way back to the hotel Peter drove us on a tour of the surrounding area, along the notorious Snake Pass and by the Lady Bower Dam.

After a free morning on Saturday exploring Buxton we set off for the beautiful Lea Gardens near Matlock, famous for its rhododendrons and azaleas. We were a little early for the full impact of colour, but made up for it with home-made cake and tea. On Sunday, after a free morning, we visited Quarry Bank Mill on Styal Estate near Manchester. This working cotton mill powered by the world's most powerful water wheel, was founded in 1784. Its workforce included orphans imported from workhouses from around the country. By the standards of the day they were well looked after, receiving three meals a day and education.

Our last full day was spent at Chatsworth House and Gardens, home of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire. This is a truly wonderful house, with sumptuous interiors and beautiful gardens, my favourite element being the amazing Paxton-designed waterfall.

We had an easy journey home, stopping off at Geoff Hamilton's gardens at Barnsdale used by the BBC for *Gardeners World*, now run by Geoff's son, Nick, who continues their development. We arrived safely back at the Museum after a lovely five days.

Christine Weekes

Gift aid and membership subscriptions

Over 80% of members of the Friends now gift aid their subscription, which allows the Government to pass back to the charity 28p in each £. That is an enormous help to us and in 2005 alone added almost £30,000 to the support the Friends was able to give to the Museum. If you wish to confirm your gift aid status, notify us of a change or sign up for gift aid, please write to us at Friends of the Weald & Downland Museum, Singleton, Chichester, West Sussex PO18 0EU or email us at friends@wealddown.co.uk.

Honorary Treasurer for the Friends

We were delighted and very grateful that four very qualified and enthusiastic members responded to the request in the Spring magazine to volunteer for the post of honorary treasurer of the Friends to succeed Maurice Pollock when he retires from this position at our AGM in April next year. We were pleased to appoint Andrew 'Fred' Fisher to the Friends committee at our July meeting and, subject to approval by the AGM, he will take over as honorary treasurer. Maurice will be continuing with his existing responsibilities as treasurer of the Museum Trust and the Museum's Endowment Trust.

Can you spare some time?

... to help Lisa Neville, who is membership secretary of the Friends. Lisa would value a couple of hours' help on a regular basis with her routine administrative work on either a Wednesday or Thursday morning. Please call Lisa on 01243 811893.

Honorary membership

At the Friends AGM in April two long-standing Museum volunteers were elected honorary members for their outstanding contribution to the Museum over many years. They are Heather Vincent and Ruth Stock.

Sadly Heather and Ruth both lost their husbands recently (see page 16 for Peter Stock's obituary; Peter Vincent died in 2004). As couples they played a vital role in keeping Lurgashall Mill running and producing stoneground wholemeal flour for more than 20 years.

Peter Stock was the first volunteer miller to come forward when the opportunity arose, and both couples developed great expertise in the intricacies of the mill's operation, and interpreting it for visitors. Heather and Peter represented the Museum at meetings of the Traditional Cornmillers Guild. They also passed on their knowledge to other volunteer millers who run the mill today.

Two new members joined the Friends committee this year, Sue Davis and Andrew 'Fred' Fisher.

Contacting the Friends

For all membership queries please contact the Friends office at Friends of the Weald and Downland Museum, Singleton, Chichester, West Sussex PO18 0EU. Tel 01243 811893. Email: friends@wealddown.co.uk. The office is staffed part-time so please leave a message if necessary and you will be contacted as soon as possible. For information about Friends' events (with the exception of the Spring Tour, for which the contacts are Brian and Christine Weekes this year – see opposite page) contact Sarah Casdagli, Honorary Secretary, Little Yarne, Singleton, Chichester, West Sussex PO18 0HA. Tel 01243 811726.



Give a special gift this
Christmas

Give a year's membership of the
Friends of the Museum

Share with your family or friends the pleasure that membership brings through visiting the Museum and the satisfaction in contributing to the development of this unique heritage project.

Just complete the application form and return it to us at the address below by 5 December. All correspondence will normally be sent directly to the member at the address on the form. If you want the membership card sent to yourself and not to the address on the form, and/or you want us to include a greetings card, please enclose a note with the details.

Friends of the Weald & Downland Open Air Museum
Singleton, Chichester, West Sussex PO18 0EU
Phone: 01243 811893 Email: friends@wealddown.co.uk
Registered Charity No: 288962

Friends of the Weald & Downland Open Air Museum Application for Gift Membership

Title.....Initials.....Surname.....

Second name (for joint members at the same address)

Title.....Initials.....Surname.....

Address.....

Post Code.....Telephone.....

MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED (please tick a box)

Family (a household of two adults and their dependent children or grandchildren under 18 or full time students) ☐ £53

Adult ☐ £20

Adults (joint) ☐ £40

Senior citizen (60 plus) ☐ £17

Senior citizens (joint) ☐ £34

Child/Student (under 18 or full time student) ☐ £11

METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ Cheque (payable to Friends of the Weald & Downland Museum)

☐ Credit or Debit card (Visa, Mastercard or Switch only)

Card number.....

Expiry date.....Switch start date.....Switch issue number.....

Signature.....Date.....

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New education website draws in the crowds!

The Museum launched a new website this year, designed for schools and teachers planning a visit as part of the National Curriculum – www.openairclassroom.org.uk. It has been a great success with enthusiastic response from schools and nearly 35,000 hits in the first three months. The Museum believes the site to be unique in the facilities it offers to teachers planning visits outside the classroom.

The site provides information on the resources available at the museum related to the key areas of English, history, science, maths and art and design. All can be studied in the context of the historic buildings, period gardens, traditional farming, artefact collections, document and photographic archive and library.

The aim is to provide readily accessible information to enable the planning of teacher-led visits to the Museum. The website suggests which areas of the curriculum can be best served by studying buildings and activities on the site. The site also contains full details of the popular programme of workshops and school event days, and downloadable activity sheets and material adaptable by teachers to their own requirements.

The site will showcase work resulting from school visits to the Museum and it is hoped teachers will provide feedback to ensure the schools service continues to develop to serve pupils' needs.

Schools Services Manager Jennie Peel says the next stage is to ensure resources are available via the website for the study of all areas of the curriculum for nursery schools up to sixth formers. "These resources need to be easy to use, rich in content and fun!" she says. "As habits are formed early in life, if children are used to exploring the diversity of this site from an early age we are building visitors for the future."

The Museum has started to expand its special events, such as the Sustainability and Romani Roots festivals, to include a day for schools, addressing cultural and environmental issues in new ways.

To ensure these visits key in to the National Curriculum, the Museum is working via the MLA (Museums, Libraries and Archives Council) Learning Links Placement Programme with primary and secondary school teachers, while Inset and Focus group days are proving a valuable way of finding out exactly what schools need.

News in brief

■ The Worshipful Company of Carpenters approached the Museum to explore the possibility of erecting a timber spire for use in the teaching of roofing with wooden shingles. In fact, we were already considering accepting a bellframe due to be removed from a Sussex church tower, so it made sense to combine the two projects. We are now designing a suitable structure for a planning application later this year. The necessity for a spire gives us the opportunity to offer courses in polygonal timber framing, with Joe Thompson as tutor, which will start in the spring. In May there will also be an opportunity to learn how to cleave wooden shingles under the tuition of Peter Harknett, an experienced steeplejack who is anxious to hand on his skills to a new generation. The craft of fixing shingles will form an additional day in the *Traditional Roofing Methods* course in July. (See pages 22/23)

Weald & Downland Open Air Museum Autumn 2006

Artwork: Paul Houlton

...not just history. An opportunity to explore many different subjects in a safe and inspirational environment. The Weald & Downland Open Air Museum has always had education at the heart of its work and welcomes around 23,000 children in school parties each year. A visit to the Museum is an excellent teaching resource unobtainable in the classroom.

The Weald & Downland Open Air Museum is set in 50 acres of beautiful Sussex countryside. Wander amongst a fascinating collection of nearly 50 historic buildings dating from the 13th to the 19th century, many with period gardens, together with farm animals, woodland walks and a picturesque lake.



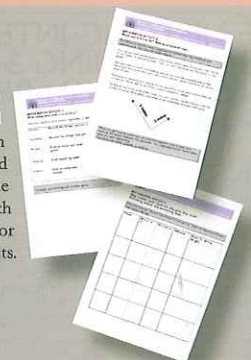
Hens peck in the straw, woolly faced sheep chew the downland grass and Shire horses work in the fields.

Enjoy the rhythm of the traditional countryside and unspoilt landscape.



The schools programme provides short, focused activities and whole day workshops on topics relating to the Museum site. Sessions cover a wide variety of subjects and enhance National Curriculum work at all levels.

We provide a wide range of written and visual material which can be downloaded straight from the website to help with your planning for teacher-led visits.



Why not plan a visit? Take a look at our website www.openairclassroom.org.uk and see for yourself the extraordinary range of resources that is available to ensure a worthwhile and hugely enjoyable day for children and teachers alike.



If you have any questions, special requirements or ideas that you simply want to discuss, please feel free to call Jennie Peel our School Services Manager on 01243 811459

www.openairclassroom.org.uk

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Helen Hughes

4-6 Dec 2006

CONSERVATION OF STONE SURFACES & DETAIL

John Ashurst & Colin Burns

22-25 Jan 2007

SPECIFYING CONSERVATION WORKS

John Ashurst
& Ian Constantinides

5-8 Feb 2007

Some courses are held in collaboration with The Weald & Downland Open Air Museum.



For further information contact Liz Campbell:
West Dean College, West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0QZ.
T +44 (0)1243 818219-811301 E bcm@westdean.org.uk
WWW.WESTDEAN.ORG.UK

Right, the market square is bathed in an eerie light from the film unit's helium balloon 'moon' for the live final of the BBC's Restoration Village. Below, the Gypsy circle of waggons in the paddock by Bayleaf Medieval Farmhouse during the Romani Roots event.

Dates for the Museum's special Events have to be fixed a long time in advance, which always leaves the possibility of unexpected clashes arising! This happened when we were approached to host the live final of the BBC's *Restoration Village* programme. The date was Sunday, 17 September, already booked for *Romani Roots*, our celebration of Gypsy music and culture.

Clearly *Restoration Village* would have a major impact on the Museum, which we normally try to avoid, but the programme's aims were so close to our own that we felt we should agree. The clash with *Romani Roots* was minimised by locating the event at the other end of the site, centred on Bayleaf Medieval Farmhouse, while *Restoration Village* was to be staged in the Market Square.

In many ways this turned out to be positive as it enabled us to explore the possibilities of using the west end of the site for the event. Bayleaf field proved an excellent location for the 'circle of wagons' – the group of traditional Gypsy vans centred around a cooking fire.

But Bayleaf is a long way from the Downland Gridshell, where many of the Flamenco music workshops and concerts were taking place – how could they be linked? Here was another opportunity to make a virtue of necessity: Gypsies have travelled west from India over many centuries and this journey was one of the themes of the event. So we created a new path on the edge of the woodland, linking the two ends of the site, and mounted a series of display boards making a thousand-year timeline telling the story of the journey. In the middle were two dates that neatly summed up the relevance of the event to modern life: Gypsies were first recorded in England in 1514, and the first legislation banning them was in place by 1530.

The BBC arrived on the Monday to start building the set, while the Gypsies arrived on the Thursday in readiness for a special day for schools on the Friday. But our site is such that one end cannot be seen from the other! It was a surreal experience on Friday night to walk from the Gypsy camp fires in front of Bayleaf to the *Restoration Village* site, where a brilliantly lit helium balloon 'moon'



Restoration and the Gypsies

had been hoisted, bathing the countryside in an eerie light – while in the Downland Gridshell brilliant Flamenco musicians brought the raw passion of Spain to Singleton!

The climax of *Restoration Village* was the live broadcast on 17 September at 9.00pm. Griff Rhys Jones and the two co-presenters, Marianne Suhr and Ptolemy Dean duly arrived, along with 300 supporters of the eight contending projects, some 200 members of the public and a smattering of VIPs who were entertained in the medieval hall from Sole Street. The only worried looks were from the director of the programme, waiting at the gate for a guest participant whose Sat-Nav had led him astray! Museum staff and volunteers supplemented the production's security team, and we managed to give everyone a Museum leaflet inviting them to come back another time.

Viewers who know the Museum were disappointed that there was no mention of our institution during the programme. But perhaps our links with the programme will flourish in the future, as we made contact with the supporters of the winning project, Chedham's Yard in Warwickshire. One of their aims is to use the project for training in traditional craft skills, and we have issued an invitation for them to come and see how our well-established training programmes work in practice.

The £5 million outside broadcast control van left minutes after the programme ended, the last Gypsies left on Monday morning, and by Wednesday morning the BBC had managed to remove almost all traces of their invasion. It was a gruelling weekend for us, but in all respects a great success with the public.

Richard Harris





Hundreds of lanterns light the encroaching dusk as the Museum's Tree Dressing event reaches its climax.

Enjoy the Museum this winter!

Winter days in the Museum's lovely downland setting are special, with warming fires providing a welcome in some of the 46 historic homes and workplaces which form the Museum's main exhibits. Once again the Museum will be holding *A Sussex Christmas*, providing a seasonal focus to visits between Christmas and New Year.

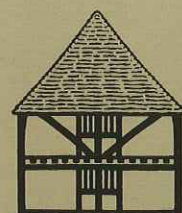
As Christmas beckons, the annual Tree Dressing event takes place on 3 December from 12.30pm offering visitors the chance to join in a festival whose origins go back to ancient times. People of all ages can take part in the lantern-making workshop (bring a jam jar and night light), watch morris dancing, listen to story telling, plays and songs and finally join in with the lantern procession and dance around the tree as it is dressed. Mulled wine, mince pies and roasted chestnuts will be served.

The Museum's annual carol singing in North Cray hall house takes place on 11 December at 7.00pm. In Christmas week (26 December-1 January 2007) all are invited to enjoy *A Sussex Christmas*, experiencing Christmas through the ages with many of the Museum's historic houses decorated for the season in the style appropriate for the period. Tasty treats and mulled cider will be served at Bayleaf medieval farmhouse and Winkhurst Tudor kitchen. Festive period music, carol singing, a Museum trail, children's activities and storytelling will take place at different locations around the site.

The Museum shop is open every day until 21 December offering a wide range of products from stocking fillers, to local crafts, books and hand-made axes. All profits from the shop are used to support the work of the Museum.



A Christmas banquet laid out in Bayleaf medieval farmhouse during A Sussex Christmas.



WEALD & DOWNLAND OPEN AIR MUSEUM

Singleton, Chichester, W Sussex PO18 0EU
Telephone 01243 811348 www.wealddown.co.uk

Directions

By car: Just off A286 Chichester to Midhurst road at Singleton village.

By bus: No 60 from Chichester or Midhurst. Discounted combined travel/entry tickets on Stagecoach Coastline buses, just ask the driver.

By rail: Chichester 7 miles, Haslemere 15 miles.



The Museum is open throughout the year

Apr-Oct daily 10.30am-6pm. **Nov-21 Dec** daily 10.30am-4pm. Plus daily for 'A Sussex Christmas' **26 Dec-1 Jan 2007** 10.30am-4pm. **3 Jan-18 Feb 2007** Wed, Sat & Sun only 10.30am-4pm. **28 Feb-31 Mar** open daily 10.30am-4pm.

Admission

Adults £7.95, over 60s £6.95, children £4.25, family £21.95 (2+3), under 5s free, until end 2006. Call 01243 811363 for details of group rates and disabled access. Free car and coach parking, dogs on leads welcome, lakeside café, picnic areas, gift and bookshop.



Weald & Downland Open Air Museum
Singleton, Chichester, West Sussex PO18 0EU

Museum office Tel: 01243 811363

Fax: 01243 811475

Information line: 01243 811348

E-mail: office@wealddown.co.uk

Website: www.wealddown.co.uk

Friends membership Tel: 01243 811893

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Magazine Editor: Diana Zeuner

Advertising: Michael Burton and Julie Aalen

Registered as a charity No. 306338 ISSN 0953 6051

Typeset by Dorchester Typesetting Group Ltd. Printed by The Priory Press, Dorchester, Dorset

