

FRIENDS OF WOODBRIDGE MUSEUM

Late Summer Newsletter August 2020



Chairman's News

Dear Friends,

We normally have the Autumn Newsletter in mid-September but, as there is important news to impart, I am early for once! Sadly, we do not have a **new programme** for 2020-21 to announce. Like many other organisations we are waiting until after Christmas, to see how things are going, before we book anything. We are not officially running the visit to Dunwich on Friday September 11th but **The Flora** Tearoom has rung me to say they are open if anyone feels like a trip out.

However, Gill Notcutt is very keen indeed for the **Garden Party** to go ahead and the date is Saturday September 12th, 12-30pm at Creek Farm, Sandy Lane. It will, of course be rather different this time so I will lay it out carefully.

- Bring your own picnic
- Bring your own glasses or we will provide plastic ones
- Wine provided by us.
- Book in advance via Anne (Max 30 people but less if we are inside because it looks like rain)
- £10 a ticket.
- Pay on day.
- Pay on door with correct money into a box.
- No change given.
- No Stalls
- Bring your own chairs if possible.

We are hoping that people will enjoy gathering in a lovely garden and being able to chat and catch up with others.

The other piece of news is that **Bob and I feel our time has come to retire from the Museum Friends** at the end of December 2020. We have been involved for almost 40 years, and enjoyed every minute of it, but it is time for new blood. Fresh ideas are needed and a surge of new energy! This does mean, however, that four jobs have to be filled. From January 1st 2021. The Friends will need a:

- Treasurer
- Membership Secretary
- Talks Organiser. (I am pleased to say that someone has offered to take on the running of the Summer Visits.)
- Chairman after the AGM

Please let me know if you are interested in learning more about any of these roles. If they are not filled then it may well mean that the Friends will have to close.

Bob and I will continue running the **Day Schools** as there are only 2 more to finish off in the present run. The next is *The People's War: Britain 1939-45* on Saturday October 17th 2020 and the final one is *Post War Britain: 1945-c1968* on March 20th 2021. We will have to confirm the October date when we have been told about rules and regulations for the use of St Mary's House but our lecturer, Dr Andrew Lacey, is happy to come. If it cannot go ahead we will just keep rolling it forward.

I hope you are all well and coping with the constantly changing times.

Anne Merrett Chairman of Friends (01394-385572) 12-viii-20

News from the Museum

COVID 19 requirements for a one-way system have necessitated the removal of some partitions. We are therefore having to reorder the displays. We have a great deal of material so will keep some in reserve for temporary exhibitions.

We are working on a new reception area and moving the kitchen upstairs. We are hoping to do a lot of the work ourselves but have had offers from a number of volunteers, and professional designers, to help where necessary. We are trying to be as economical as possible and hope not to have to apply for grants as that can be a complex process. It is possible that we may need to call on some financial help from the Friends but it is not yet clear.

We would like to thank Bob and Anne for all their hard work for the Friends and at the Museum and wish them a well-earned rest. With grateful thanks for your continuing support, we look forward to seeing stewards and Friends in early 2021.

Caroline Matthews Vice Chair Woodbridge Museum