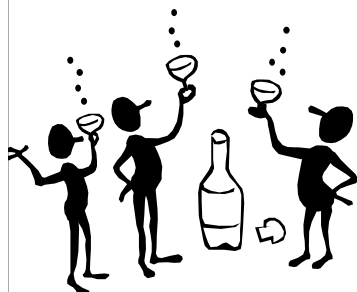


HERTFORD MUSEUM NEWS

January 2008, No.51

www.hertfordmuseum.org



Success!

£985,000 Heritage Lottery grant to improve our museum!!

In November we heard the news that we have all been waiting for...Hertford Museum is to be awarded a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for £985,000 towards improving our museum and the services that it provides. The grant will help the museum achieve its aims of encouraging more people to learn about, enjoy and have access to the heritage of Hertford. This involves:

- a completely revamped first floor display on the story of Hertford, called 'Our Town'
- a new lift to allow access for all
- a ground floor 'resource room' where visitors can access our paper collections and photos
- a new 3 year full time 'Learning Officer' post to widen learning opportunities in the museum
- a new learning space on the ground floor
- improvements and conservation of the historic Bull Plain building

Even with this grant and the money that the museum has already raised, we still need to raise a further £100,000 in order to achieve all of the aims of the development project.

CAN YOU HELP? A donation of any amount will help greatly. You can help by picking up a museum leaflet in the museum or by cheque (made payable to Hertford Museum). Please help us to make a better museum for everyone!

We now wait to hear with baited breath whether our application for over £25,000 to the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation to conserve the collections to go in the new displays will be successful. The museum was unfortunately not successful with its application for £180,000 to the BIG Lottery Fund, for the 'Our Village: Our Museum' part of the development project. We still plan to include the history of local villages in our temporary exhibition programme when the museum re-opens. The development plans are continued on page 4.



Supported by

The National Lottery[®]
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Heritage
Lottery Fund

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Open Tues-Sat, 10am-5pm, Admission free

Supported by Hertford Town Council



HERTFORD MUSEUM

Inspiring Generations

WHAT'S ON FOR CHILDREN

Australia Day, Saturday 26th January, 10am—4.30pm, drop-in, 50p charge. Find out all about Australia Day and make a flag, see our Australian collections and have a go at Aboriginal finger-painting! (aprons supplied!)



Chinese New Year, Saturday 9th February, 10am—4.30pm, drop-in, 50p each Its year of the Rat! Find out all about Chinese New Year and how it is celebrated in China . Lots of fun activities for all ages.



February Half Term: **MONSTER WEEK AT HERTFORD MUSEUM!** Tuesday 12th—Saturday 16th February, 10am—4.30pm, drop-in, 50p each. Inspired by our 'Devoted to Doctor Who' exhibition, we will be finding out about Doctor Who monsters and making a model of a monster out of clay, a monster mask or add to our mural. Fun for all the family all week! There is also still the 'Design a Doctor Who monster' drawing competition which closes in April.

Hina Matsuri— The Japanese Festival of Dolls, Saturday 1st and Saturday 8th March, drop-in, 10am—4.30pm, 50p each. This festival falls on Monday the 3rd, but we are celebrating it on two Saturdays! Find out all about this festival and make Kokeshi dolls to take home! 50p charge per child.

Spring festivals around the world! Tuesday 25th March—Saturday 5th April, drop-in between 10am and 4.30pm, 50p each. Find out about the different festivals that take place around this time of year, including Passover, Easter and Vaisakhi. Lots of fun things to make and do!



Model Railway Day, Saturday 3rd May, 10am—4pm. Admission Free (suggested donation 50p per person). Come along and see amazing working model railway layouts. Fun for all!



Oak Apple Week—a week of old-English celebrations! Tues 27th —Sat 31st May, drop-in, 10am—4.30pm, 50p each Find out about the legends of this old English festival, lots of activities including add to our mural, making an oak apple or leaf brooch, and crowns. Come and meet 17th century soldiers (*right*) during this week—dates and time to be confirmed on posters and on the museum website or contact the museum on 01992 582686.

ATTENTION ALL DOCTOR WHO FANS! 'Devoted to Doctor Who' exhibition finishes on Saturday 12th April. Make sure you don't miss it!

Back by popular demand! *Adventurine the narrowboat* will be brought out into the activity room for children to play in (for free) on Saturday 15th March until the beginning of the summer holidays.

Bygone Brands: An exhibition of packaging on the ground floor until 8th March 2008. On display are a large collection of old advertising tins and household items, courtesy of local collector Dennis Preston. Items include many familiar brands such as Ovaltine and Oxo.



125 Years of Hertford East Station from Saturday 23rd Feb to 28th June. This exhibition on the ground floor of the museum will detail the development of our Hertford East Station and will include personal reminiscences from staff together with an array of photographs and objects. On Tuesday 17th June, David Dent (who wrote the exhibition) will be giving a talk to the Friends of Hertford Museum at the museum. Non-members are very welcome to attend (£2 charge on the door). The talk starts at 8pm.

CAN YOU HELP? We need your photographs! Does anybody have any photographs of the station or staff that we could borrow to scan? We would need photographs in the museum for copying by Saturday 30th February at the latest.

Devoted to Doctor Who' exhibition runs until 12th of April. For visitors who are unable to access the first floor there is a file with photographs and text on the ground floor together with a virtual panoramic tour of the exhibition on screen.

Come along to a talk all about Doctor Who and other Sci-Fi! On Thursday 17th January, 3pm, John Ghafur will be talking about the wonderful world of Doctor Who. Tickets are available from the museum priced £3 for adults, £1.50 for children (suitable for ages 7+).

Meet the 6th Doctor (right)! Saturday 9th February sees Colin Baker, the 6th Doctor visiting the museum between 10.30am and 1pm. There is a £10 charge to have a signed photograph of him which also entitles fans to get one piece of their own collection signed by him on the day.



Peter Ruffles; Who does he think he is? This special exhibition on the ground floor all about our local Hertford celebrity runs until 29th March. Written by local Historian Jean Purkis, this exhibition has many photographs and quotes all about Peter and his upbringing in Hertford.

Forgotten Blues' an exhibition about Christ's Hospital School at Hertford, 19th March - 9th August

This exhibition on the ground floor tells the story of the school that existed in Hertford for over 300 years.



The exhibition illustrates the development of the school, from its early origins in 1552 in London, to the eventual move to the home counties and in particular – to Hertford in the late 17th century – which eventually became the home of the girl's school. This is a very personal exhibition that centres on the lives of the girls who attended this school and also to their teachers, who had so much involvement in their lives. Visitors will be able to listen to personal memories of pupils and teachers, see amazing photographs of the school and pupils, together with uniform, memorabilia and other miscellaneous items.

Photograph shows girls dressed in Christ's Hospital uniform through the ages.

Miss Elizabeth Tucker who was headmistress at the school for 10 years, will be giving a slide show and talk at the museum on Thursday 3rd of April at

3pm on the first floor. Tickets are available to buy from the museum priced £3 each. All proceeds go to Hertford Museum's development project.

'Images of Hertford and its environs' an exhibition of works by the Hertford and District U3A Digital Photography Group. This exhibition runs from the 12th of April until the 24th May and is on the ground floor of the museum.



The Friends of Hertford Museum support Hertford Museum through a number of fundraising activities and run a series of talks for their members throughout the year.

To find out more, pick up a Friends newsletter from the museum or see the museum website for more details. Membership is only £10 per year for individuals or £15 for a family.

Lottery success! Continued from page 1! Hertford Museum will be closing at the end of the summer or one year for all the improvements to take place. Up until then, its business as usual, with lots of events and exhibitions taking place. When we close, we are hoping to rent a shop premises in the town so that we can publicise our events and continue to sell local books, crafts and toys. We also hope to do a number of outreach events in various venues in and around Hertford and provide children's activities, own tours and stores open days. Supporters will be able to find out what's happening inside and outside the museum through our newsletter which will be available in January, September and May.

Pans and Polish' Cooking and Cleaning in Victorian Times 22nd April—16th August. Find out all about the daily chore of running a home in the days before electricity! Certain aspects will be remembered by some such as the ritual of 'Washday Monday' with coppers bubbling away and mangles being turned. But the sheer hard work and long hours, particularly of the Victorian domestic servants, is beyond most people's imagination. Children today would find it hard to believe that people coped before the days of electric cookers, microwaves, fridges and freezers, washing machines and vacuum cleaners. On display will be an array of Victorian household objects together with a fun trail and dressing up for our younger visitors.



TEACHERS! Book a hands-on tailored session for your class all about the Victorian household. A half day session (10am—12pm) costs £1 per pupil for Hertford schools, £2 per pupil for schools outside Hertford. Please phone the museum on 01992 582686 and ask to speak to Sara or Ruth.

CREAM TEAS IN THE GARDEN—every Saturday from 5th April to 30th August. Home made scones and clotted cream as well as home made cakes and cookies available in our beautiful garden from 11am—4.30pm **CAN YOU HELP?** We are always in need of voluntary helpers for our 'Cream Teas'. All training is provided. Please contact Connie on 01992 582686 for more information.

HERTFORD MUSEUM'S 100 CLUB!

A draw takes place every month (on or around 25th) and 35% of the money allocated to prizes: 20% first prize, 10% second prize and 5% third prize. All proceeds after the prizes will go towards the upkeep of the museum. You can join at any time, tickets are £2 per month and the year runs from June 07 to May 08. If you would like to join, please contact Connie on 01992 582686 who will explain everything to you and send out a form to fill in and return to us with a cheque.

Please note, the museum will be closing to the public **on Saturday 30th August** for approximately one year, whilst improvement work takes place. There will be lots of summer events and activities taking place before then. After the temporary closure, the museum will also be organising a variety of events and activities in and around the town. To keep updated of these, look on our website or pick up the newsletters which are available in libraries and other local museums and are distributed every January, May and September.

Our newsletters are available in large print. Please phone 01992 582686 or email hertfordmuseum@btconnect.com.

JOIN THE MAILING LIST TO RECEIVE OUR NEWSLETTER! Hertford Museum's Newsletter is published in January, May and September. If you would like to receive a copy as soon as it is printed, please complete this form and enclose 3x 2nd class stamps.

Name:

Address:

Please send to Hertford Museum, 18 Bull Plain, Hertford, HERTS SG14 1DT. The newsletter is also available to download from the museum website (www.hertfordmuseum.org).
