



THE HERALD

Reminders of Richmond in the Antipodes



**Portrait of George Augustus Selwyn,
Dunedin Cathedral, New Zealand**

Spending the month of January in New Zealand, I was constantly reminded of Richmond's history by encountering, in three cities, Auckland, Christchurch and Dunedin, an illustrious member of the Selwyn family, George Augustus Selwyn, first and only Bishop of New Zealand.

The Selwyn family were, of course, landowners in Richmond. We are aware of them today in the name Selwyn Avenue sited on land where Major Charles Selwyn, the first Selwyn to settle in Richmond, built a house in the 18th century. St Matthias church, the great Richmond hill-top landmark, was built in the 850s on land given by Charles Jasper Selwyn, George Augustus's younger brother.

George Augustus seems to have been universally revered and is still well-remembered in 21st century New Zealand. Very much a pioneer, he was willing to put up with many hardships to help all sections of the community. Nick Selwyn, his descendent, addressing the Richmond History Society in April 2009 also noted that Selwyn's life-long friend, William Gladstone, used the epithet *noble* to describe him.

The Julian Fellowes Fund-raising Gala

This was a great success thanks to the co-operation of *Artsrichmond* and the generosity of Julian Fellowes, who waived his fees, and the Richmond businesses, who gave items for the raffle. £2,390 was raised for our renewal programme. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way.

The Museum 21st Anniversary Reception

Thanks to the generosity of our patron Colin Dare, the Board will host this at the Petersham Hotel on 17th June 2010 and it will be attended by our Royal Patron HRH Princess Alexandra. It will be a marvellous opportunity to thank individual donors and benefactors both past and present. The committee of the Association of the Friends of the Museum of Richmond will be there to receive our thanks on behalf of the Friends for their considerable support over the years and for their Platinum donation to the renewal fund-raising.

Valerie Boyes, April 2010

Museum of Richmond

Old Town Hall, Whittaker Avenue, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1TP

Tel: 020 8332 1141. E-mail: museumofrichmond@btconnect.com

www.museumofrichmond.com

Royal Patron: HRH Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy

Patrons: Lord Attenborough, Sir David Attenborough, John Cloake, Colin Dare, Bamber Gascoigne, William Reid, Lord Watson

Board of Directors: Valerie Boyes (Chair), Norman Simpson (Treasurer), Sally Capper (Secretary), Pat Astley Cooper, Sue, Lady Durie, Charles Pineles, Lisette Simcock

Curator: Sue Barber **Museum Officer (Education and Audience Development):** Phillippa Heath

Trustees of the collection: Pat Astley Cooper (Chair), Sally Capper, Lord Watson

Education News

Schools

School visits have been healthy over the Spring Term with over 300 students visiting us for taught sessions. An additional 11 schools have used our discovery boxes in the classroom.

We were delighted to welcome two trainee teachers from Kingston University for an intensive three day placement during which they developed teaching resources for Primary teachers and students, inspired by a selection of clay pipes found in Hampton.

Terry Denton de Gray

The annual competition that is run in memory of local history enthusiast, Terry Denton de Gray, will be awarded at this year's May Fair to the school which has submitted the most imaginative history project. The Fair will be taking place on Richmond Green on Saturday, 8th May.

Family Events

It has been a busy term for families. During February half term, we had a week of well-attended *Swanky Hanky Workshops*. Looking at the souvenir handkerchiefs in the Museum collection, attendees designed and made their very own celebratory handkerchief. Over the Easter break, activities included tile painting and story board drawing.



Some 'Swanky Hankies' during February half term

More family events will be taking place during May half term (1st – 4th June) inspired by the forthcoming exhibition. Please see our website and publicity for more information

Adult Events

With the closure of the *Richmond on Page and Screen* exhibition, the accompanying series of events has also, of course, reached its conclusion. Thanks to all those who have participated.

We have, however, programmed a series of films, talks and workshops connected to the new exhibition *How the Vote was Won*. These varied events will be focused on the theme 'Voice of the People'. A full list can be found in the separate insert in this Herald and on our website www.museumofrichmond.com

Love Reading Historical Novels?

Join our new monthly reading group at the Museum of Richmond and share your appreciation of historical fiction with other readers!

Meetings will take place on the first Wednesday of the month at 6.30 pm (starting in June)

To join, please contact Phillippa Heath at mor.education@btconnect.com or on 020 8332 1141

Local Studies

Richmond Local Studies have recently received funding for an exciting new project. They want to find volunteers who are interested in local history and who could spare a few hours a week helping them catalogue and accession a huge collection of building plans that are now in their possession.

Do get in contact if you think you can help. Please talk to Jane, Richard or Carol on 020 8332 6820 or email on: localstudies@richmond.gov.uk

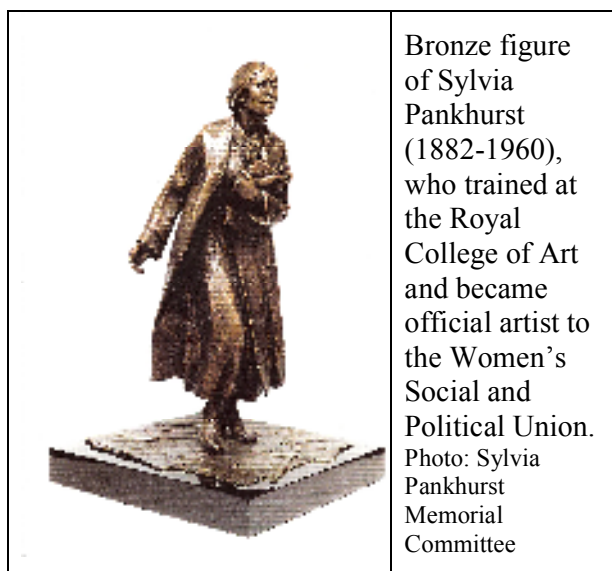
Phillippa Heath (Museum Officer: Education and Audience Development)

Exhibition News

How the Vote Was Won: Art, Theatre and Women's Suffrage **1 May to 4 September 2010**

In 1910 *How the Vote Was Won*, one of the most popular plays of the women's suffrage movement, was staged at Twickenham Town Hall. In this election year 2010, our new exhibition celebrates the struggle of women for the vote, focusing particularly on the key role of artists, writers and actresses in winning public acceptance of women's rights.

The exhibition also features local connections with the women's suffrage movement, such as the arrest in Richmond in 1913 of Lillian Lenton, who was accused of setting fire to the Tea House in Kew Gardens. Notable local supporters of the movement included Princess Sophia Duleep Singh and Bertrand Russell.



On display will be material from the Museum of London, the Women's Library, Smallhythe Place and the Sylvia Pankhurst Memorial Committee. Exhibits include some fine items of decorative art, such as enamels created by Ernestine Mills (1871-1959).

The exhibition is being mounted in conjunction with Aurora Metro Arts and Media, with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. It is curated by Dr Susan Croft

(formerly Senior Curator at the Theatre Museum) and Irene Cockroft (author, lecturer and freelance curator).

A reading of the play *How the Vote Was Won* will take place at the Orange Tree Theatre on Saturday 19th June at 11am. Tickets are available from the box office at £10 or £8 for concessions. Please see the double-sided exhibition flyer enclosed with this copy of *The Herald*.

There will be a private view of the exhibition on Wednesday 5 May and we hope to see as many Friends there as possible, space permitting. Please apply for tickets using the Friends Events booking form enclosed with this copy of *The Herald*.

The Chinese from Bengal **22 June – 3 July 2010**

The Museum will host this small touring exhibition from the Meridian Society, a charity committed to the promotion of Chinese culture and the fostering of Sino-British understanding. In 1962, many Chinese, who had been expelled from Bengal during a border dispute between India and China, settled in Britain. The Meridian Society has received Heritage Lottery funding to carry out an oral history project, resulting in the exhibition, educational activities and a website. The Meridian Society will be providing free workshops to local schools and will also be running a family workshop at the Museum of Richmond on Saturday 26 June. For further details of the exhibition, see the flyer enclosed with this copy of *The Herald*.

Richmond Theatre 110 exhibition **Opens 18 September**

Our next major exhibition will be mounted in conjunction with Richmond Theatre as part of the Heritage Lottery funded project to celebrate their 110th anniversary. The Theatre has recruited a team of volunteers who will learn curatorial skills and use these to create an exhibition on the history of Richmond Theatre. Further details will follow in the next edition of *The Herald*.

Other Museum News

Richmond May Fair, Saturday 8 May

The Museum and the Friends of the Museum will be at the May Fair, sharing a marquee with the Richmond Local History Society and the Richmond Heritage Guides. We hope to see you there.

House of Fraser Shop Window display

House of Fraser, Richmond, will be lending the Museum a shop window (and two mannequins) during the first week of May. We will be mounting a display to tie in with the *How the Vote Was Won* exhibition. Thank you to Liz Carran for negotiating with House of Fraser and securing this opportunity for the Museum.

Unclaimed raffle prize

There is one unclaimed raffle prize (a voucher for tickets the Orange Tree Theatre) from the Julian Fellowes event in January. If anyone has peach/orange ticket number 843 (small number AB7H HC4N) tucked away, please bring it to the Museum to claim your prize.

Sue Barber (Curator)

Friends of the Museum News

Dear Friend

On May 19th at the AGM, I relinquish the post of Caretaker Chairman, and I have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the team. Your Committee has worked so hard to produce the 2010/11 programme, and you have shown your appreciation by your continued support. It has not been an easy year as several members have been unwell, but I am delighted that they are all on the mend and playing their part as your representatives.

The new programme of events is enclosed and I do hope that you will continue to enjoy the forthcoming activities. Your feedback and suggestions are welcome, so do not hesitate to express your views. We have increased our membership and a number of

you have used this as a gift for a relative or friend.

I shall continue to support the Museum and the Friends be it on the reception desk, at events or involved with the shop, and will always enjoy meeting you. I hope to see you at the AGM and social event in May.

Jean MacKinnon

Jean, who will be remembered as a dedicated supporter of the Museum and an active member of the Friends Committee, has sadly passed away. Jean was a part of the Museum almost from the beginning. She was always there to give input and support, whether greeting visitors on the front desk, representing the Friends at conferences, attending fund raising events or acting as Secretary to the Committee.

Jean's family is encouraging donations to be made in her memory to the Museum of Richmond or to the RSPCA.

With best wishes,

Jenny Webb
Chairman.

Kitchens Past and Present

Those who attended the talk given by Jenny Webb may wish to look at some of her old TV clips talking about electrical appliances, which are now on the Internet. If interested: Google *Youtube*; click on *Broadcast Yourself*; type in *jenny webb appliance historian*. You can then select and view up to ten clips. In those days she was a brunette!