

#### Thank you Molli

As announced in the last edition of the Herald, during the renovations we were able install an audio-visual presentation in the architecture bay. This was made possible by the bequest left to us by Molli Cloake, wife of our founder and first chairman, John Cloake, and a keen contributor to the life of the Museum.



The presentation is a survey of the residential architecture of Richmond from c.1500 to the present day. In three 7-8 minute topic-based programmes it looks at the historical and stylistic development and details of a selection of the buildings found in Richmond (including East Sheen), Ham, Petersham and Kew. It covers dwellings from palaces and villas to modest cottages and almshouses. The script was written using research on the buildings done by John Cloake with some input by Paul Velluet. We are particularly grateful to Bamber Gascoigne who provided his mellifluous voice for the commentary. The show was excellently photographed, designed and put together by Penny Steele of 'Luck and Steele Design'. We are also grateful to some of the owners of the houses who let Penny and me have privileged access to their properties during the three days taken on photography.



Do you recognise these buildings and details? View the A/V presentation at the Museum to check if you are right.

#### Valerie Boyes

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## **Farewell to valued Friends and Supporters**

#### **Jenny Hodder MBE**



Jenny at the opening of the 'Turner on Thames' exhibition, 2005.

Jenny Hodder, who died on 17th December 2011, was Chairman of the Friends of the Museum of Richmond from 1993 to 2000 and a member of the Board from 2001 to 2005. John Moses, Chair of the Board (2000-8), who knew her and her contribution to the Museum well, remembers –

Jenny ran the Friends with both tact and determination and ensured their continued support of the Museum. When she gave up the Chairmanship of the Friends I invited her to join the Museum Board in 2001. She was a valuable member of the Board who had a sensible no-nonsense approach to all issues. Her excellent sense of humour made her a pleasure to be with both at Board meetings and social events.

Jenny was born in London and was commissioned into the Wrens in the Second World War. She lived in Malaya in the 1950s where her first husband served as a senior police officer. Back in England she worked for the London Tourist Board where she took the initiative to set up 'London in Bloom', inter-borough gardens and parks competitions aimed at brightening up post-war London. She took a horticultural degree at Wisley and became an international judge of horticulture for 25 years. In the 1970s she became Director of Tourism for Richmond and was for many years an active and imaginative member of several societies along with her second husband, Denys. Jenny received her MBE for 'services to the community' in 1996.

#### Valerie Treasure



Valerie at the opening of the Museum by HM the Queen, 1988

Valerie Treasure, who died on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2011 in Orkney, founded 'The Friends of the Museum of Richmond' in 1988 and was an invaluable Chairman until 1993. She was born in Cambridge. She and her family came to live in the Richmond area in 1950 settling at Cholmondely Lodge on the riverside in 1978. She was an art lover and patron of local artists. Simon Lace, who was curator of the Museum from September 1989 to January 2003, remembers –

We used to meet in her house on the riverside and she was always the perfect hostess. She and her husband always appeared at the Museum's events and I remember that she was very involved with the Virginia Woolf exhibition we staged in the early 1990s. Valerie was very interested in the Bloomsbury Group and she, Alan Martin and I visited Charleston, the Bloomsbury's Sussex retreat. Valerie insisted that I drive her brand new BMW, because she knew I'd be thrilled to drive such a fabulous new car.

Valerie kept her interest in the Museum after her move to Orkney in 2006, continuing to receive copies of the 'Herald' and sending messages of encouragement to us all.

**Hugh Lee**, who died recently, was the husband of Penny Lee, one of the Museum's desk volunteers. He was a talented artist and held two exhibitions at his home and sold postcards of his work to raise funds for the Museum.

Valerie Boyes (Chairman of the Board)

# **Exhibition News**

# Happy and Glorious: popular Royal celebration and commemoration in Richmond

#### 4 February - 23 June 2012

This exhibition, which itself is being mounted to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, looks at how local people have celebrated royal events over the last 150 years. A variety of feasts and festivals held in honour of royal marriages, coronations and jubilees will be covered and exhibits will show how local people have made merry by indulging in activities such as cow-riding races and grinning competitions. On display will be memorabilia produced to commemorate royal occasions from the wedding of Edward, Prince of Wales, in 1863 to the wedding of Prince William in 2011. Specifically local events, such as the opening of Kew Bridge by the Prince of Wales in 1903 and various royal visits to the Old Town Hall, will also be included.

Supporters of the Museum of Richmond are invited to the private view of the exhibition on Wednesday 8 February from 6pm to 7.45pm. Please apply for tickets using the enclosed application form.



Detail from a 1953 Coronation souvenir handkerchief

# Thank You

We have several people to thank for their recent support for the Museum. Firstly, Paul Velluet for giving the talk, *From the coming of the Railway to Victoria's Diamond Jubilee: Richmond and its buildings in the middle and later years of the nineteenth century* on 17 October. The talk took place in the Parish Church of St Mary Magdalene – a fitting venue for the subject and very atmospheric on an autumnal evening. The audience was treated to a fascinating account of later 19<sup>th</sup> century architecture and the event raised £440 for the Museum.

This was the second talk given by Paul for the Museum in 2011 and we are pleased to announce that he will continue into 2012. His next talk, *Arts and Crafts Richmond: architecture and design in the early years of the twentieth century*, will take place on Tuesday 24 April. Please see the enclosed flyer for further details.

Secondly, we would like to thank Gina Way and Warren Walters of Aspects Productions for organising the annual Big Band Blitz, which took place on Saturday 12 November. The event, in aid of the Museum, was great fun as usual.

The third thank you is to everyone who helped at the Christmas Bring and Buy Sale on Monday 28 November, and to those who attended. We are grateful for your support. The event made just over £400.

Finally, the Richmond Victorian evening took place on Friday 2 December after a gap of 10 years. The Museum stayed open until 7pm and we also had a table in the Old Town Hall foyer with Victorian mystery objects to identify and replica costumes to try on. Thank you to the Desk Volunteers who helped.

### **Supporters News**

The Supporters of the Museum of Richmond, which was founded after the Friends disbanded in 2010, has just reached the end of its first full membership year. Thank you to all former Friends who joined the Supporters, and also to new members who have joined during the year. Your interest in, and support for, the Museum is much appreciated and your membership fees play a vital role in funding our work.

We look forward to welcoming you to the private view of the next exhibition on Wednesday 8 February. Please see under "Exhibition News" and the enclosed leaflet.

# **Education News**

#### Schools

The Autumn Term was extremely busy for school visits. In total, over 830 students visited us for taught sessions, approximately 20% more than during the same period last year. In addition to the on-site sessions, a further 11 schools hired discovery boxes.

For 2012, we are planning to develop our work with secondary schools. We aim to work on special projects and to produce a programme along the lines of the one that we have for primary schools.

#### **Family Events**

A number of family activities have taken place since the last newsletter. In October, we ran Victorian Toy Making Workshops during the half term week. Then, in December, we held a well-attended Georgian Richmond Christmas activity.



Our next family events will be taking place during half term (14 - 17 February 2012) inspired by the forthcoming exhibition commemorating the Queen's Jubilee. Please see our website, facebook page and publicity for more information.

#### Adult Events

Please join us for the final events connected to the exhibition on Leigh's Panorama, which draws to a close on 21 January. From February, we will be holding events linked to the new exhibition commemorating the Queen's Jubilee. A full list of the forthcoming events can be found in the separate insert with this edition of *The Herald* and on our website <u>www.museumofrichmond.com</u>.

And Finally.... Your Memories are Needed! The Museum is lending its support to a new

project run by Simon Fowler, under the auspices of the Richmond Local History Society, to research what happened in the town during the Second World War. Simon writes:-

Initially the intention was to publish a book...but it seems to have grown. There will now be an oral history project recording for posterity the memories of those who were in the town during the War. And, funding permitting, we hope that there will be an exhibition at the Museum to coincide with the publication of the book in late 2013 or early 2014.

It's early days yet, but it is clear that we are going to need help. At present we need volunteers:

- To find Richmond residents who lived here during the War and would be happy to be interviewed
- To track down photographs, diaries, letters etc which tell us something about the town in wartime
- To discover more about those who appear on the Roll of Honour, both civilians and Richmond men in the services
- To help set up a website for the project

If you would like to get involved please get in touch with Simon Fowler, 254A Kew Road, Richmond TW9 3EG, 020 8940 6884, thesimonfowler@gmail.com

# Do you Remember the 1948 Olympics in Richmond?

The Museum would like to hear your memories of the last Olympics in Richmond, or see any souvenirs relating to the Games, for a forthcoming display. If you think you can help, please contact us on 020 8332 1141 or at <u>museumofrichmond@btconnect.com</u>

The Museum of Richmond is registered as a charity (Reg. no. 295164) and as a company limited by guarantee (Reg. no. 2048888). Museums, Libraries and Archives Council Accredited Museum (no. RD 80).