

UPCOMING EVENTS

For bookings or more information call 020 8332 1141

MAY

FRIDAY 1st MAY - TUESDAY 1st SEPTEMBER

New Exhibition

'Feeding London: The Forgotten Market Gardens'

Delivered by the Jam Yesterday, Jam Tomorrows Heritage Project. *Free entry*

THURSDAY 7th MAY 7pm

Fundraising Event

Voices from the War: the poetry of WWI

Poet in the city, in partnership with the Museum of Richmond, presents an event commemorating the voices of the First World War. At The Riverside Room, The Old Town Hall, Whittaker Ave, Richmond, TW9 1TP

Tickets cost £7 (£5 concessions) and can be purchased via <http://voicesfromthewar.eventbrite.co.uk> For more information please contact Poet in the City on 0207 014 2812 or info@poetinthe-city.co.uk

SATURDAY 9th MAY 45th consecutive Richmond May Fair

The Museum of Richmond will be running a stall alongside the Richmond Local History Society.

The Green, Richmond. *Free entry*

THURSDAY 14th MAY 5.30pm to 8pm

Museums at Night

Retro Richmond Fashion Night

Join in the fun at our fashion event which explores items from the museums rarely seen costume collection. *Free, no ticket required, open to all ages*

TUESDAY 26th MAY to FRIDAY 29th MAY

10am to 12pm

Half Term Family Workshops

Art and Craft activities inspired by the Feeding London Exhibition.

£4 p/child, booking essential. Be accompanied by adult

JUNE

TUESDAY 9th JUNE 2pm -Museum Talk

Feeding London: the forgotten market gardens of South West London.

A talk about the project that curated the current exhibition. By Verusca Calabria, Heritage Project Manager for the Environment Trust.

Booking essential £2 donation

THURSDAY 18th JUNE 2pm -Museum Talk

The 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo – the local connection.

A talk by Valerie Boyes, local historian and museum trustee
Booking essential £2 donation

JULY

TUESDAY 7th JULY 10.30am to 12pm

The Museum of Richmond and Libraries Poetry Group present a morning of poetry inspired by:

Feeding London Exhibition

With Fiona Pearson. Feel free to bring along your own poem. *Free, no ticket required.*

Email: fpearson@googlemail.com for more details

WEDNESDAY 22nd JULY 5pm to 7.30pm

Film Night

Secrets of Nature 1922-1933 and David Attenborough's Kingdom of Plants 2012

Compare astonishing cinematic technique from early 20th Century one-reel films, made by those at the forefront of nature filmmaking, with the stunning 21st Century footage from Attenborough's Kingdom of Plants.

Free entry, £2 donation recommended.

TUESDAY 28th JULY to FRIDAY 31st JULY

10am to 12pm

Summer Term Family Workshops

Art and Craft activities inspired by the Feeding London Exhibition.

£4 p/child, booking essential. Accompanied by adult

HERITAGE WALKS

As part of the Feeding London exhibition the Environment Trust is running a number of Heritage Walks. Three of these will be starting from the Museum of Richmond. To book your place and find out more details please go to the Environment Trust website <http://environmenttrust.co.uk/whats>

WEDNESDAY 13th MAY 2pm to 3.30pm

Market Garden History of Teddington

TUESDAY 26th MAY 2pm to 3pm

Local area walk with tour of Model Market Garden Museum of Richmond

WEDNESDAY 27th MAY 2pm to 4pm

Market Garden History of Isleworth

WEDNESDAY 24th JUNE 2pm to 4pm

Marble Hill and the Model Market Garden Museum of Richmond,

WEDNESDAY 1st JULY 2pm to 4pm

Twickenham Heritage - Local Market Garden History

TUESDAY 28th JULY 2pm to 3pm

Local area walk with tour of Model Market Garden Museum of Richmond

Please note: more events may be added at a later date, please phone 0208 3321141 or check the website: www.museumofrichmond.co.uk



MUSEUM of RICHMOND

May -
September
2015
Newsletter

THE MUSEUM'S FIRST WORLD WAR PROJECT NEARING COMPLETION

After a fruitful and stimulating year, with many new discoveries about the history of Richmond and some moving stories uncovered by the museum's team of volunteer researchers, including those shared by local residents; the museum's project to commemorate the First World War (made possible through a generous award from the Heritage Lottery Fund) will soon be complete. This has been an exciting project enabling a number of different organisations to work together to offer residents and visitors to the museum and blog a fuller understanding of how Richmond experienced WWI.



One of the great successes of this project has been a community activity by the Alberts residents to investigate how the men from WWI who had lived in their current homes had fared during the conflict (with poppies displayed in the windows to relate details about who had lived and died).

Another success has been the visits by secondary schools taking part in the new museum WWI learning activities created via the project; with Christ's School, Waldegrave and The German School participating so far.

The project will culminate in a celebratory event at the Old Town Hall Riverside Room on Thursday May the 7th, where *Poet in the*

City will organise readings by renowned poets, such as the IWM Poet in Residence, Mario Petrucci. Please see the back page for details on how to book.

The project will leave a strong legacy behind; with new research deposited at Local Studies, an ongoing blog for five years, well developed learning resources for schools (including the recently acquired high-tech tablets), and a new permanent museum display on WWI with many recently donated items and stories from local residents. It is hoped that the temporary exhibition will tour (whether wholly or separated by the some of the main themes) at other local venues over the next four years.

The museum would like to thank the Heritage Lottery Fund for its support.

NEXT EXHIBITION OPENS 1ST MAY

This summer the museum will host an exhibition on the social history of Market Gardens, from May 1st till September 1st. The exhibition is being delivered to the museum by an Environment Trust project called *Jam Yesterday Jam Tomorrow*.

"Feeding London" will relate the largely forgotten history of the development of local market gardens during the nineteenth century and their subsequent demise through the second half of the twentieth century.

Many local families depended on market gardening for their livelihoods and this activity became especially important during the Dig for Victory campaign of WWII.

It is interesting to note that many new local varieties of produce were bred and grown and that these can still be found in local back gardens today.

See the back page for connected events.



Museum of Richmond

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

Tel: 020 8332 1141. E-mail: museumofrichmond@btconnect.com www.museumofrichmond.com
The Museum of Richmond is registered as a charity (Reg. no. 295164) and as a company limited by guarantee (Reg. no. 2048888).

CURATOR: Natascha Wintersinger

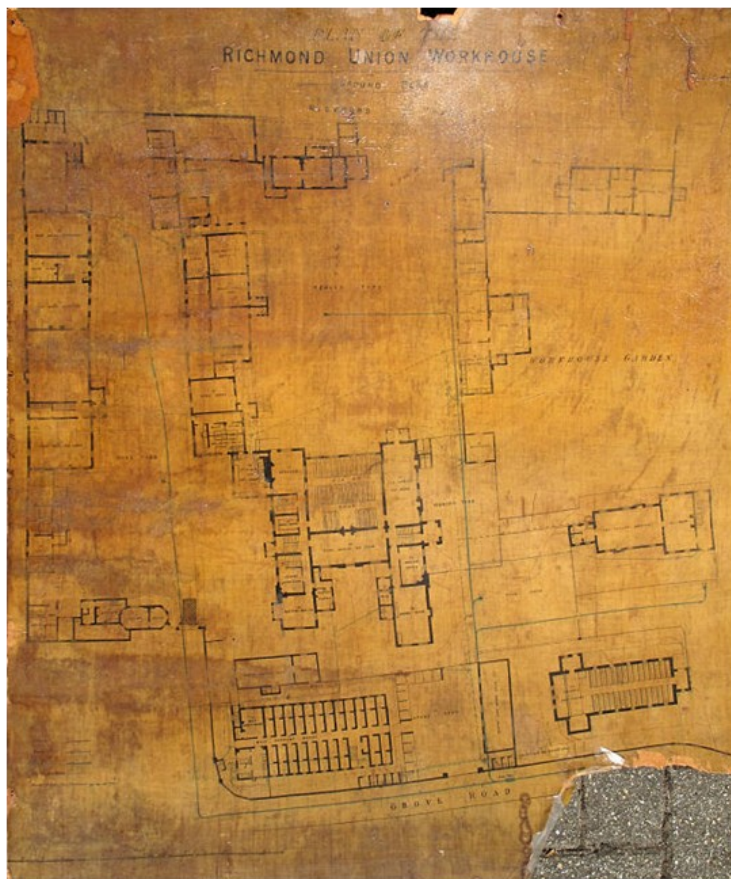
EDUCATION AND AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT

OFFICER: Morag Calderbank

Museums, Libraries and Archives Council Accredited Museum (no. RD 80).

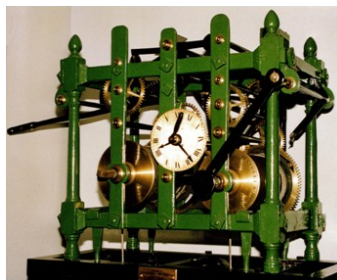
HELP US TO FUNDRAISE TO RESTORE THE WORKHOUSE PLAN

The museum has recently received a fascinating object, kindly donated by Catherine Doyle with assistance from the Cambrian Centre (our thanks to Mary McDonnald for her help to arrange this). The workhouse plan is dated 1886 and is a precious social history document, persevering for posterity the way the lives of the very poor of Richmond were managed in the late nineteenth century. The plan shows, for example, exactly how the workhouse was divided up inside; with families put on separate wards and shockingly, that there was a ward specifically allocated for the Irish. There has already been a considerable amount of local research undertaken on



the workhouse, and this item complements and enhances our knowledge. The plan would also enhance the museum permanent displays, where the workhouse clock is already exhibited. Sadly, this fascinating document of the past is in great need of restoration; originally it was drawn with ink on canvas, but this has since been mounted on board and varnished. The restoration company are confident that the plan can be saved (and then successfully exhibited) through removing the canvas from the board and taking off the layer of varnish.

However, the cost of this procedure is prohibitive for a small museum, such as ourselves. We are therefore appealing to our members and will shortly also put out a public appeal to help raise funds towards this very worthy cause.



If you would like to help save this very important social history item from a steady decline towards illegibility (the fading of the ink, peeling varnish and warped board will only worsen with time) and enable the museum to restore and exhibit the plan within its permanent collection displays; please get in touch with Natascha Wintersinger the Curator.

NEW PATRON FOR THE MUSEUM!

The Museum of Richmond is honoured to announce that Julian, Lord Fellowes of West Stafford, has very kindly agreed to become a Patron of the Museum. He said, in accepting the invitation, "I admire and support the museum and I would like to be a patron very much."

Lord Fellowes has already been a great friend of the Museum, having given talks in 2009 and 2013 in aid of the Museum's renewal appeal. He also lent the Museum the portrait of his paternal great, great, great, great aunt, Georgina Gill, daughter of Admiral Sir Thomas Fellowes, for its exhibition "Living and Dying in Nineteenth Century Richmond". The photograph below shows him with the portrait when he opened the exhibition in March 2013.



PLANS FOR A DIGITISATION PROJECT

Readers of our last issue will have learned of the museum's commitment to increase the accessibility of its collections through up-to-date communication methods, such as the creation of the museum's new larger website. Now that this website is up and running, the museum is keen to progress with the next stage in encouraging local and further afield audiences to explore the wonderful items in its collection, particularly those that are not usually on display. This would be possible through a digitisation project, whereby all items in the collection would be photographed and the images uploaded onto a newly improved database, then made accessible via the museum website.

The museum has recently put in a bid to fund this project, which would have an additional benefit of using teams of locally recruited volunteers. These would be trained and supervised to undertake the photography of the collections items and the inputting of data onto a new museum-specific database. If you are interested in becoming involved in this future project, please get in touch with Natascha.

RETRO RICHMOND FASHION NIGHT

On Thursday May 14th, as part of the Museums at Night Festival, the Museum of Richmond will be staying open late to host 'Retro Richmond Fashion Night'.



From Richmond Adult and Community College, fashion students will use rarely seen costumes from the museum's collection to inspire their own designs, which will be on display in the museum's temporary exhibition space. The local Cancer Research UK Charity Shop will be putting on a fashion show in the Old Town Hall, with vintage and second hand outfits on sale to raise money for Cancer Research UK.

Museum staff will be on hand to show costumes and accessories from the collection. Visitors are encouraged to wear their favourite vintage outfit and have their photographs taken for an online competition. Snacks and drinks will be available, as well as arts and crafts activities for the younger audiences.

Finally, there will also be a screening of fashion feature film documentary 'The September Issue.' Directed and produced by R.J. Cutler, it tells the story of legendary *Vogue* editor in chief Anna Wintour and her team of editors creating the 2007 September issue of *Vogue*. This is the second time the museum has taken part in Museums at Night and we are really thrilled to be collaborating with RACC and Cancer Research UK to make 'Retro Richmond Fashion Night' a community event. Museums at Night is the annual after-hours celebration of arts, culture and heritage when hundreds of museums, galleries, libraries, archives and heritage sites open their doors for special evening events. It is coordinated by Culture24, and takes place during Wednesday 13th to Saturday 16th May www.museumsatnight.org.uk.

'Retro Richmond Fashion Night' is on Thursday May 14th 5.30pm – 8pm at the Museum of Richmond free entry, no need to book and all ages welcome.

APPEAL FOR MORE VOLUNTEERS!

The museum is very keen to increase its core group of regular volunteers who are happy to lend a helping hand in general and willing to assist visitors as they come in. The museum offers lots of training and support, and no special skills or knowledge are required, other than an interest in the local area and an enjoyment of assisting the public with enquiries.

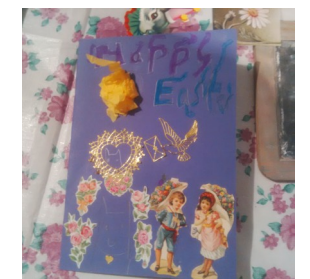
In return, the museum is a lovely place to volunteer with opportunities to learn new things and skills and to meet friendly people. If you would like to discover more about volunteering with the museum - do get in touch with us!

EDUCATION AND FAMILY WORKSHOPS

There have been a variety of educational sessions taking place at the museum so far this year including the Romans, Homes Long Ago, Toys in the Past, and the Tudors.

To complement the WWI exhibition four successful WWI sessions were run in March with Kings House Primary School and the German School. The schools were lucky to have an in-depth introduction to WWI led by historian and Board member Valerie Boyes.

There have been some very creative designs from the attendees of the February and April Arts and Crafts Family Workshops. The February workshops were focussed on creating a WWI memory box, in keeping with the theme of the WWI exhibition. The April workshops were an opportunity to learn about a Victorian Easter and make Victorian Easter cards.



SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISERS

Thank you to all who attended our Anita Anand fundraising talk in February about the fascinating life of Hampton Courts first Indian debutante Sophia Duleep Singh. For those who went, I am sure you will agree the talk was very interesting in particular learning about Sophia's life as a Suffragette.

Thank you again to those who came to Dr David Wilson's fundraising talk from his book 'Johan Zoffany RA and the Sayer family of Richmond.' We had a good turn out for this event, however we would like to apologise to anyone who had difficulties hearing the speaker and we will endeavour to avoid this issue for future talks.