30th Anniversary Year



Jane Hodgson and Judith Haddock man a Stall at the '40s Weekend

Newsletter No. 27 November 2017

A Note from the Editor

Another season for the museum has finished and as we look forward to Christmas and the New Year, it is also time to reflect on the events of the last few months.

Visitor numbers have been down this year, for whatever reason, but there have been more group visits. In terms of income we have taken about the same as last year, thanks to the slight increase in admission charges. The Tourist Information facility has been very successful and the new members of staff, Hannah and Jamie have done a great job.

It has been quite an eventful year in terms of personnel changes. Roger and Carol Webb resigned as Directors in July and Paddy O'Neill also reluctantly resigned, due to poor



health, though he is continuing to chair the Newsletter Committee. Trish Lowis-Smith has joined the Board and at the recent AGM of the Friends she was voted in as the new Chairman, together with a new committee. New Committee members are Roger and Margaret Reed and Ann Houlton, whilst Judy Everitt continues as Membership Secretary. We wish them all well and look forward to supporting the Friends in their future ventures.

The summer has been very busy with the 1940s week-end, the "Music in the Garden" concerts and the Arnhem commemoration. The acquisition of three new awnings has greatly enhanced the staging of outdoor events such as these, making us far less dependent on weather conditions. The museum café has been hugely successful through the summer and we all owe a great debt of gratitude to the willing army of helpers and bakers!

You will see from our report on page 11 that Wendy Radford has died after a long illness. I am sure you would all like to join me in sending our heartfelt condolences to David.

It just remains for me to wish you all the Seasons Greetings and all the very best for the New Year.

Philip Groves

Front Cover

Jane Hodgson and Judith Haddock running one of the stalls in the museum gardens for the 1940s weekend in July.

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The Newsletter Committee

Chairman - Paddy O'Neill Editor- Philip Groves Marjorie Sargeant
To contact the Newsletter Team please write to:-

The Cottage Museum, The Bungalow, Iddesleigh Road, Woodhall Spa, Lincs. LN10 6SH or email phil.delia.groves@btinternet.com

Reg. Charity: 1114268 Reg. Museum:1929

Volunteering at the Museum







Volunteers approach the museum for many reasons and all are welcome. If we are able to satisfy a particular desire then we do our best to accommodate the request, even if it is short term.

During 2017 we have had three specific requests. One came from a French au pair who was not only keen to improve her English (which was already excellent), but to gain some experience in heritage work before embarking on relevant studies back in France. Another approached us with a view to demonstrating a desire to get back into work by showing evidence of voluntary work in an office situation. A third request came from a heritage student who is working towards a Ph.D. and wanted to supplement her work placement in the USA with something local. All three have offered us valuable hours on specific projects.

Sarah worked with the Collections Care team from May. She was shown the procedures for accepting donations, cleaning items, researching to establish a reasonable description, recording on card and on the database new items, and shown the accession register and associated paperwork we complete as an accredited museum. She was also given the opportunity to put on her own display of sporting memorabilia in the temporary exhibition room having researched what is available within the museum's collections. The picture shows her beside the cabinets she set up. She enjoyed working with the team and I thank Tom Johnson, Heather Colebrook, Pauline Kirk and Susan Shearn for making her so welcome.

David and Tracey were both pleased to get involved with the grant-aided project to examine the visual assets database, noting duplication and typographical errors, and shortening the classification scheme to an alpha-numeric system that had already been devised but not implemented. They worked closely with the project lead, director Michael Wighton, and the team members Keith Davis and Ivan Lilley. This important work will enable us to answer queries from researchers with more accuracy in future and ensures our collection of images reflects our acquisitions policy concerned with being connected with Woodhall Spa, Kirkstead, Roughton and Martin Dales or photographers who qualify. Obviously the John Wield glass plate negatives are an important resource to us but his collection does include images not only from this county, but further afield too.

Patricia Duke-Cox

Volunteer Coffee Mornings

A coffee morning is held once a month to enable volunteers from the various teams to meet each other and to meet some of the Directors. It is a great opportunity to exchange ideas and make suggestions, or just have a general chinwag!

The Coffee Morning is held on the first Wednesday of each month, in the Community Room and starts at 10.00 am. Why not give it a try?

Retiring Directors - Paddy O'Neill, Roger and Carol Webb



Paddy O'Neill

Paddy O'Neill first joined the Board of Directors in 2005. He is known to most of our volunteers and Friends as the person who invites them to be Meeters and Greeters in the Cottage Museum and provides all with a calendar of their duties.

Before this became his role, he had been introduced to the Museum and its volunteers by Mrs Amelia Pickering, known to some as Millie, who believed in getting volunteers together on a social basis and working together. This was a forerunner of the Friends. It was a good way to get to know those interested in the Museum. Paddy took over from Doug Waring as volunteer coordinator in 2002, so has earned his retirement after some 15 years.

Paddy also worked on the Newsletter as a representative Director along with Pam Cowlishaw and Phil Groves. This newsletter now goes to all Friends of the Cottage Museum and is a professional

looking record of what has happened and what is going to happen that might interest Friends, Volunteers and our Sponsors. It is heartening to know that Paddy wishes to continue his involvement with the Newsletter group.

Patricia Duke-Cox Chairman



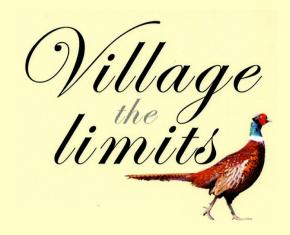
Carol Webb



I do not know how many years Carol and Roger Webb have supported the museum, as I have only been a volunteer for two and a half years. In that time I was actively encouraged and supported by both Roger & Carol, particularly with regard to any enterprise that raised funds for the museum. These two were a very active couple, always devising more ways to raise funds and I was extremely impressed by their combined efforts in so many areas of activity.

They organised Coffee mornings, managed the Friends membership, managed the retail stock and drove forward the marketing and newsletter advertising. They organised the annual memorial lecture, Cutwater Productions events, as well as the running of all the raffle and tombola fund raising events. Every year they arranged the selling and drawing of the Easter egg competition, as well as setting up and running a stall at the annual Woodhall Show. They rounded up volunteers to help with the annual Woodhall Spa 10k Run, which always results in a donation to the museum. Roger was an active members of the photographic archive team, ably assisting Rodger Pickavance and then taking on his role when Rodger moved away. Finally they would take on any other volunteer duties needed to make events run smoothly.

Roger Webb As can be seen they both threw themselves wholeheartedly into their support of the museum and their combined resignation has left a whole lot of jobs to be split between museum volunteers. I can truly state that they made a huge difference to the viability of the museum and that all those who take up the baton in these many and varied areas have a big act to follow.



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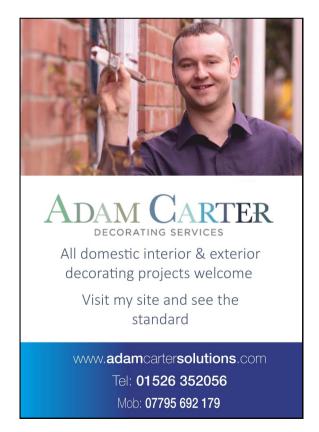
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From the Collection

Just over a 100 years ago in July 1917 a sombre occasion took place in the village. These two views are both of that occasion.

The first view shows a detail of the small funeral cortege of Richard Adolphus Came. He is, of course, famous as the architect who was responsible for putting 'Woodhall' into Woodhall Spa around 1887.

The coffin has been transported through the streets of the village and this view is poignant in that it has just passed his first love, the Royal Hydro Hotel, which he designed and owned. Note the courtesies expressed by the two First World War convalescing soldiers both standing to attention and one saluting.



This view is from near the door to the now demolished St Andrew's Church. It shows the memorial to Richard Adolphus Came surrounded by flowers, so no doubt this photograph by John Wield was taken on the day of the funeral. It is in the form of a sundial with the architect's name and dates inscribed on it together with on the base, Lawrence Binyon's famous "At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them." It is backed by a curved stone seat on scrolled supports. It remains in the churchyard nearly engulfed with vegetation.



Nicholas Duke-Cox



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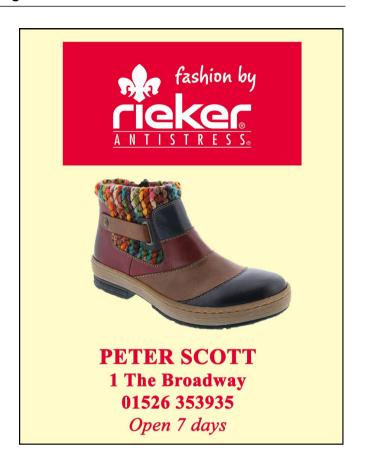
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What Our Visitors are Saying

This time we are extending the scope to cover comments received from Group visits and those received on Facebook and Twitter. As always people have been very complimentary and once again there is a spread of visitors from as far as USA, Australia, France etc.

St. Hugh's School Thank you so much for taking the time to show these young children

such great items first hand. They LOVED the rag rugging activity.

From Facebook It is a lovely small scale museum. If you look carefully you will see lots

of things that your gran had.

Thank you so much for this morning's craft session. My children love

it! Can't wait for the next.

M & D Mulsanne

France

Musee très interressant. Agreáble visite!

D&P Tasmania Fascinating and the personal tour was much appreciated. The

knowledge gained re family history fantastic. Thank you.

G & C Nebraska USA Very interesting.

D&P Alfreston Derby Speechless! Lovely eye opener. Would visit again

P P Worksop Asenath was my Great Aunt, my Grandma's sister. (Rose family)

Philip Wright - Town Mayor of Driffield

Returning down memory lane after 60 years. My relatives lived in Sylvan House, in Sylvan Avenue, now replaced by 2 lovely flats. Found visit to the House Museum and Woodhall extremely interesting.

A,J & F Gloucs. Lovely Museum, and a great spot for a game of Snakes & Ladders on

a rainy afternoon.

J & D Stockport A very intimate look at a local family. A good way to view the history

of the area. We really enjoyed the visit.

Gillian Cheltenham Nostalgia! Lovely to be back in my Grandparents house once again.

Philip Groves

Wendy Radford

The Directors and those current supporters of the Cottage Museum will be saddened to hear of the death of Wendy Radford, wife of the first chairman, David. We send him our condolences and wish him well with his family to support him.

Wendy was supportive from the very beginning when backing from the local populace was sought in 1985/6. Once the bungalow had been purchased with a mortgage backed by a local businessman, the Museum required income to open on weekends and Bank holidays in those first three years before the Tourist Information Centre was housed within it.

Wendy was there at some of the ambitious fund-raising events. An

image of her was printed in Newsletter 25 at the 1987 RAF Coningsby Open Day (although the caption mentioned David, it was in fact Chris Lamberton). As a teacher she had limited time, but as Clerk to the Parish Council she was able to lend her support by asking the Parish Council to put her salary directly in the Museum's accounts. This was an extremely generous show of support that covered many of the early years and was much appreciated.

Patricia Duke-Cox

Annual Memorial Lecture - "The Unknown Warrior"

John Chester's talk will take place on Friday 24th November at The Golf Hotel, beginning at 2.30 pm. John is chairman of the Spalding and South Lincs. Branch of the Western Front Association and spent 26 years in the RAF as an Air Traffic Controller..

His talk will begin with a quick look at some of the other Unknown Soldiers of the Great War, France, Belgium, Italy, Poland, Germany and the USA, telling the stories of their

choosing, burial and memorials.

He will then move on to an in depth look at the British Unknown Warrior - how he was chosen, his return to the UK and his journey to Westminster Abbey for his interment and then on to how it affected ordinary people. The talk ends with a look at events around the Unknown Warrior up to the present day.

Tickets priced at £6.50 can be obtained from the museum or reserved by ringing 01526 352456 and leaving a message.



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150 Club Winners

June

£20 [25] Nicholas Duke-Cox

£15 [122] Steve Morley

£10 [126] Elizabeth Leech

July

£20 [107] Chris & Diana Lee

£15 [19] Judy Carter

£10 [55] Bob Thompson

August

£20 [24] Jane Hodgson

£15 [22] Jo Evison

£10 [78] Jackie Goodall

September

£20 [18] D Hibberd

£15 [86] Mrs Lilley

£10 [83] Pidge Wood

"The Gardens of Petwood" Book is Launched

An important new book by Dr. Nicholas Duke-Cox was launched at the Petwood on Monday 4th September. Attending were people who had pre-ordered the book. Patricia Duke-Cox, Chairman of The Woodhall Spa Cottage Museum and the author's wife welcomed everyone, after which Dr. Duke-Cox thanked everyone for ordering the book, even though they had not seen it! He thanked Emma Brealey, Managing Director of the Petwood, for her tremendous support and also The Cottage Museum for making available their precious collection of archive photographs, which form an important part of the book. He then presented Emma Brealey with a hardback copy of the book and then individually signed copies.



Local author Edward Mayor has his copy signed by Dr. Nicholas Duke-Cox



Visitors to the book launch enjoy some light refreshments

"The Gardens of Petwood" is the result of 4 years intensive research covering the history of the



Emma Brealey
receives her book from
Dr. Duke-Cox

Gardens from their genesis to the current restoration, together with further chapters on the possible origins of the garden ornaments and those that have left Lincolnshire. It is prodigiously illustrated with views never seen before, the vast majority of which have come from the archive of the Cottage Museum. The Chairman of the Association of Garden Trusts has commented, "My view is that the Petwood gardens are nationally significant. The photographs that have come to light add much valuable information to the unique story of the garden and the key Edwardian designers William Goldring and Harold Peto. What is more, these gardens were, and are still, much enjoyed by the local Woodhall Spa community, and, in particular gave great solace and respite to serving

Copies of the book, which would make a superb Christmas present can be purchased from the Museum, the Petwood Hotel and the Bookfayre and are priced at £30.00 for hard-back or £25.00 for the soft-back version.

Marjorie Sargent's new book "Portrait of a Village 1914" priced at £9.00 or the "Why Woodhall Spa?"

DVD now priced at only £7.50 would also make very acceptable Christmas presents and are available through the museum or the Bookfayre.

airmen during WWII".

MANAGING COMMUNITY ROOM BOOKINGS

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Thursday	Closed	6-11pm		
Friday	12-3pm	*6-11pm		
Saturday	12-3pm	*6-11pm		
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*Food served at these times or others by arrangement







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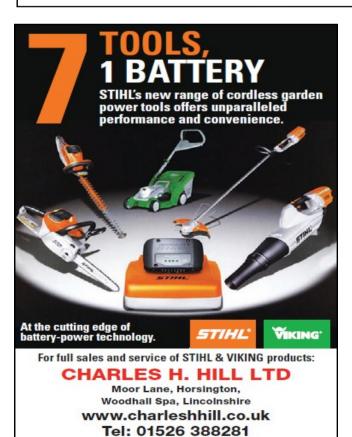
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Summer Events in the Museum Gardens



The Café in full swing for the 40's weekend

The summer season events started in earnest with the 40s Weekend at the end of July. The weekend was hugely successful for the Museum, with plenty of business for the sales on the stalls and visitor attractions and amazing results for the Museum Café. Enormous thanks must go to all those volunteers who worked tirelessly over that busy weekend.



"Churchill" visits the museum

At the end of July and throughout August the Music in the Garden concerts got underway. These proved very popular, with attendances growing each week, culminating with the Bank Holiday weekend when extra chairs had to be brought in to accommodate the large audience. Once again the Museum Café came into its own and raised an impressive total of £1032.











Pictured here are 1) Alan Taylor, who played the Roland Atelier Organ. 2) Mike Warwick with his popular songs across the decades 3) Colin and Gerry who played an afternoon of popular Jazz. 4) Alan Bolt with his brand of Country & Western music and 5) The Lincoln Ukulele Band who played a variety of popular tunes. In addition the Coningsby & Tattershall Strummers and Michael Jackson also contributed to the series of events.

The Summer events in the gardens came to a close on September 9th., with the Arnhem commemoration.

Old soldiers, family and friends attended in addition to a contingent of army cadets. Wreaths were laid and a lone cornet player sounded the last post and reveille. Teas and cakes were available from the courtyard café and gave old friends the opportunity to catch up with each other. A good crowd stood reverently respecting the minute's silence.



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POPPY'S PAGE

Hello everybody! It will soon be Christmas. I expect you are all starting to think about Santa Claus and what presents you would like for Christmas. Marjorie has written an article about Santa Claus for you and we also have a Pantomime Wordsearch. Have a lovely time and I will see you in the New Year.

Bye for now. Poppy

Santa Claus

Hello everyone,

Soon it will be Christmas and we will be writing letters to Santa Claus. I hope we will have behaved well enough to receive presents. People say that children who have been naughty during the year just receive a piece of coal.



Grandma has told us that Santa Claus comes from Saint Nicholas who gave presents hundreds of years ago. I wondered if he had a white beard and wore red clothes trimmed with white fur but Grandma did not know. She read us a poem, written about 100 years ago, called "A Visit from Saint Nicholas" and it said::-

"He had a broad face and a little belly That shook when he laughed Like a bowl full of jelly."

Thomas giggled and I thought it is lucky we have a big chimney! Every year we put sherry and mince pies on the hearth for him, but Papa tells us not to be too generous with the sherry as Santa has to direct Dasher, Dancer, Prancer and his other 5 reindeer through the sky. Papa likes sherry too.

Mama says we should not ask for too much because there are poor children who have much less than us. Thomas took no notice of this and has asked for a clockwork toy, marbles, toy soldiers and uniforms and a new game played on a board, called "Kill Kiel"; it is about sinking German submarines! I'm hoping for a new doll which I have seen in Miss Rose's shop by the railway crossing in the village. She has a beautiful lacy pink dress. Mama knows I would like her and says that if I am very good Santa Claus might bring her for me. I cannot wait to hear Santa's sleigh bells in the sky!

Marjorie Sargeant

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V	L	С	Н	R	0	Α	N	В	L
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J	N	Х	Т	Α	G	Е	Υ	S	С

Pantomime Wordsearch

Can you find the hidden words.

They are horizontal, vertical, diagonal and sometimes backward.

ALADDIN
CINDERELLA
JACK BEANSTALK
MOTHER GOOSE
PETER PAN
PUSS IN BOOTS
DAME
BUTTONS

Puzzle set by Jane Hodgson



The Friends of the Woodhall Spa Cottage Museum

Friends Committee

Chairman: Trish Lowis-Smith

Membership Secretary: Judy Everitt
Committee Members: Margaret Reed
Roger Reed

Ann Houlton

Hello Friends.

Most of you will have received my e-mail of introduction a couple of weeks ago. For those who did not and are reading this for the first time, I come from an IT and Healthcare background, having worked in London for over 30 years. I am Lincolnshire born and bred and very proud of our county, its people and its heritage.

I am very happy to play a small part in helping Woodhall Spa Cottage Museum and work alongside some amazing people. I am full of ideas and, with the help of the Friends Committee, will find new and exciting things for us to do, along with keeping some of our regular annual events.

This month we have our Friends BBQ to look forward to on 31st October (12-2pm). This is a new venture and an idea passed on to us for consideration. We hope you will enjoy this. It will be nice to meet up with those we don't see so often and socialise with those we see regularly.

In November we have a trip to Hull (alongside the WI) and of course our annual Memorial Lecture 'The Unknown Warrior'. I understand that this is a particularly good talk and hope to see a lot of you there. Please contact the Museum if you wish to attend.

We are trying something new this year in December, to complement the wonderful work by the Education Committee, who will be decorating the Museum in a Pantomime theme for Christmas. We are replacing the 'Coffee Morning' normally held in St Peters hall with a Victorian Christmas themed mini-market in the courtyard on 2nd December. There will be several stalls and our popular Tombola. Our café will be open, serving Christmas refreshments. We hope this will start your Christmas Season off well. All that remains is to say a big thank you for your continued support and I look forward to meeting you all in the months to come.

Kind regards

Trish Lowis-Smith

Come and Join Us

The backbone of the Cottage Museum are our volunteers and some of them are putting a lot of hours in and could really do with a hand. Can you help? Do you have a few hours to spare in the month? It does not have to be a massive commitment. There are numerous opportunities with a person to look after the Community Room bookings very much needed.

If you would like to find out more without committing yourself then please call us on

01526 352456



What's On Guide

Annual Memorial Lecture

"THE UNKNOWN WARRIOR"
Talk by John Chester
Golf Hotel 24th Nov. 2017
Starts 2.30 £6.50
Tickets from Museum
or 01526 352456

Museum Victorian Christmas

Open 25th & 26th November and 2nd Dec. 1 – 5 pm The museum will be decorated with a Pantomime theme

"Victorian Christmas Fayre"

2nd December 12 - 4 pm in the Museum Courtyard. Variety of stalls and prizes. Free entry. Refreshments on sale.

Village Christmas Fayre

8th December from 5.30 - 9.00 pm Christmas shopping on the Broadway. Museum will have a stall to include Children's 'lucky dip' tub.

Meal at the Abbey Lodge Inn

24th February at 7.00 pm.
An entertaining evening which includes
'Snail Racing' and a raffle.
The proceeds in aid of the Cottage Museum.

See also www.cottagemuseum.co.uk & www.woodhallspa.org

