

COMBE MARTIN MUSEUM

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER



From Shirley, Chair of Trustees

We thought we would be able to ease off a little in September after our very hectic July and August, but we have been really busy for the whole month with many visitors still around. A lot of people have been round the museum as well as visiting the tourist information point and shop. It is good to get feedback from our visitors, and everyone always seems to enjoy their visit. Our visitors book makes interesting reading!



Our main event for the month was our Harvest themed evening, when Jill Sidebottom gave us a very personal account of her life growing up on a farm and particularly during the harvest season. It was interesting to hear how different things were then compared to all the farm machinery used nowadays. After a delightful mid-evening break when we enjoyed a mug of cider and a mini ploughmans, Jenny gave us some fascinating facts on the making of corn dollies and smocking. Many of the guests went

down to have a look at the harvest smock which was acquired this year, and some took away a smocking beginners kit which Jenny had put together. Thank you to both ladies for making the evening so interesting. We had a full house and could have sold more tickets, which shows how important it is to book your tickets in advance to avoid disappointment!

Coffee mornings were busy as ever, and as you will see below Jan is organising another **Macmillan Cancer Support morning on October 6th**. It was so successful last year and it would be good if we could have a full house again this year. Please could we have donations for the raffle and perhaps some cakes or biscuits as well for such a great cause.



The October evening event on 23rd should be another really interesting event when we welcome the Ilfracombe Harbourmaster to give us a talk. Tickets are already selling fast, so do REMEMBER to book your tickets as numbers are limited.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

COFFEE MORNINGS 11 am – 12.30pm – TUESDAYS 6th & 20th October and 3rd & 17th November. The meeting on **TUESDAY 6TH OCTOBER** WILL BE HELD IN AID OF **MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT** so do please make it a special one and let's have another full house as we usually do for this event. #



FRIDAY 23rd OCTOBER at 7.30 pm. This should be a special evening as we have been lucky enough to have the Ilfracombe Harbourmaster, Capt. Georgina Carlo-Paat to give us an illustrated talk on her life working on the sea both before and whilst working at Ilfracombe. Tickets £7 to include wine and nibbles.



ADVANCE NOTICE: THURSDAY 12th NOVEMBER at 2.30pm. Our first afternoon meeting of the autumn and we look forward to welcoming local artist Rob Shubert who will talk about his life and work and show us how he goes about planning his drawings. Tickets £5 to include tea and cakes.



BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL FOR BOTH THESE EVENTS and can be made either at the Museum during opening hours, by telephone or email (see below)

As always, thank you to all our volunteers who have helped make this such a successful summer season. We have had quite a lot of rota-changing because of illness, operations, holidays, visitors arriving etc., and our special thanks go to those who have stood in for others, sometimes at very short notice.

We look forward to seeing you at our events in October.

Shirley

Unfortunately, this will be the last newsletter I will be editing, at least for the time being. I have been hit by what seems to be now referred to as a 'double whammy'. Microsoft has decided to cease to support Publisher which is the programme I have always used and am really familiar with. At the same time, my macular degeneration in one eye has changed from dry to wet and, although I can still see, everything is massively distorted in that eye and I can only use one eye when dealing with print. You can probably imagine how difficult it is to try to learn a new programme in this state, especially when the background is black!

I started the newsletter soon after the new museum opened, when I became volunteer coordinator, close to twenty years ago now, I guess. I have always loved the museum, working in it and getting to know all the wonderful volunteers, through good times and crises, and I would not now be stopping if I had any alternative.

Two things to add—can anyone else take this over so that we don't have a crisis? And a big thank you to all who have helped and contributed over the years. We have done so well, haven't we?

Hilary

Website: Combemartinmuseum.org

Email: combemartinmuseum@googlemail.com

We are on Facebook too – Combe Martin Museum and Information Point

