



## ARCADIA

### The newsletter of **Ryde District Heritage Centre**

October 2012

**STOP PRESS! Change of date for Open Meeting - from Nov 1 to Oct 24! Disco Fever - Oct 5, Variety Show Oct 13, Open meeting Oct 24 Pub Quiz Oct 25 - a busy month!**

The Start of the Pier Show 2012 marked one year since our opening parade, and the 200th anniversary of the passing of Ryde Pier Act. Historic Ryde Society was delighted to welcome our Patron, Lady Lucinda Lambton, and her husband Sir Peregrine Worsthorne for the celebrations. Lucy and Perry were both amazed at the transformation in the basement over the last year, as the last time they were here, it was an empty, white space! 100 people attended All Saints' Church to listen to Lucy's talk: 'Temples of Convenience - a history of the lavatory'. Despite being unwell, Lucy soldiered on, and the audience were able to mingle afterwards, enjoying champagne, strawberries and cream. The previous evening, another successful pub quiz was held in Yelf's Hotel. The pub quizzes will now take place monthly, and will be held in Yelf's on the last Thursday of the month.



The above photograph shows the Heath-Robinson arrangement of hassocks which thankfully wasn't used in the end! On the left, Lucy chats with HRS members Brian and Ron, and HRS President, Gloria.

### **Grants**

HRS committee is pleased to announce the completion of the Heritage Lottery project. Following a final report and full evaluation of the project from inception, the final 10% of the £49,300 granted in April 2011 was transferred to the Society's bank account in the middle of September.

HRS has also received a grant of £1112 from the Community Development Fund, a National body which has granted a small sum to two Ryde Wards, to be distributed over the next few years.

Anyone wishing to help with future applications will be very welcome!





The photographs show Lucy and Perry looking around the Heritage Centre and chatting with HRS committee Member Alan Brading. The audience at All Saints' Church listen to Lucy's 'Temples of Convenience' talk, and subsequently socialise over a glass of bubbly. HRS Treasurer oversees a book-signing session, as Jeff, Claire and Sandy try to decide which book they'd most like to buy. Lucy and Perry stop off on their way back to the ferry.

### Monthly Pub Quizzes

Following the success of the pub quizzes already held by Historic Ryde Society, the decision has been taken to make these a regular monthly event. These quizzes will be held on the last Thursday of the month at 7pm, in Yelf's Hotel, Union Street, Ryde. £3 a head. Come on your own, or bring a team! The questions are mainly general knowledge, with one round relating to Ryde's history. All the more reason to visit the Heritage Centre and soak up the information held there!



**Volunteers' Soirée** - On August 10, HRS President Gloria Minghella hosted a soirée to thank all the volunteers for giving up their time to ensure Ryde District Heritage Centre can deliver what has been promised. Their help has been invaluable, enabling RDHC to open daily over July and August, and over the Heritage Open Days weekend. Most of the volunteers took the opportunity to bring their family to visit the centre, and many of the volunteers met each other for the first time, as many volunteer on particular days of the week.

Volunteer hours in the centre on our first anniversary totalled 3636, which, at the recognised rate of £11.07 per hour, equates to a monetary value of £40.250. Many hours attending committee meetings, stewarding at events, compiling minutes and grant applications etc., adds further to this total.



## Heritage Open Days 2012

Historic Ryde Society took part in this National event for the first time over the weekend of September 6 to 9, 2012. Nearly 300 visitors (and two dogs) took advantage of the opportunity to come into the Centre to see the changes HRS has made over the past eighteen months. Cowes Heritage, WEA and some ladies from the lace-making group also exhibited. This was an excellent opportunity to spread the word, and some very useful contacts were made over the four days.



A regular sight is shown on the left, as a visitor struggles to make sense of the 1866 Ryde Town Plan. Far left: Maisie tells a young visitor about lace-making and Barbara continues with her border. Cowes Heritage display can be seen in the background.

**Scams and how to avoid them:** seminar to be held in RTC Committee room, Lind Street on Wednesday, October 10, 18:30 - 19:30. Recent victim (and HRS member) Mr Ron Watts, supported by Trading Standards Officer Mrs Susan Hughes, will speak on this matter. Please call Ryde Town Clerk, on 01983 811196/811105 to book a seat, as numbers are limited.

## Dates for the Diary

**October 5** - Disco Fever Balcony - £6 Tickets from Splash and Masquerade, or online - see website.

**October 13** - Variety Show, 7:30pm Garfield Road Methodist Church. Adults £7 Children £5 Tickets from Splash.

**October 24** - The Spy by the Sea - the story of Dorothy O'Grady by Adrian Searle. Yelf's Hotel 7pm Members free, small donation asked from non-members. Raffle.

**October 25** Pub Quiz as above.

**October 31** - Hallowe'en Paranormal investigation - RDHC £10 to include refreshments. **BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

**November 1** - Rock 'n Roll Night - Coburgs - Doors open 7:30 £5 Tickets from Splash, Just Home, Coburgs, or on the door.

**November 21** - House History course by County Archivist Richard Smout. Ryde District Heritage Centre 7pm.

**BOOKING ESSENTIAL November 29** Pub Quiz as above.

**December 2** Antique and Collectors' Fair, Masonic Hall John Street. 75p admission. Raffle and refreshments.

**December 8** Christmas Voucher raffle

## Raffle prize plea

As there are so many events coming up, HRS committee is constantly looking for raffle prizes. If you have anything which you think may be suitable, please bring it into the Heritage Centre. We need prizes suitable for men and women. Many thanks in anticipation.

**Newsletter plea: Is there anyone out there who would be willing to take on the newsletter? Please get in touch via RDHC - 01983 717435.**

Historic Ryde Society, creators of the Ryde District Heritage Centre, Royal Victoria Arcade, Union Street, Ryde. PO33 2LQ tel. 01983 717435 [www.HistoricRydeSociety.com](http://www.HistoricRydeSociety.com)

## Membership Update

Membership runs from February to February. Members receive free entry to Ryde District Heritage Centre, four talks, four newsletters and 10% discount on Hovertravel. Well worth the money!

As of October 2012, HRS has:

Individual Members - 88

Family Memberships - 50

Corporate Memberships - 17

**County Archivist Richard Smout is leading a third House History Workshop on Wednesday, November 21st, in Ryde District Heritage Centre, from 7pm to 9pm. This is a very popular course, and places are limited, so please book early, to avoid disappointment, on 01983 717435.**

HRS committee: October 2012

Chair: Liz Jones

Vice Chair: Brian Harris

Treasurer: Tony Packer

Secretary: Diana Wood

Members: Alan Brading, Sally-Ann Garrett, Wayne Jones, Claire Kay, John King, Gloria Minghella, Linda McArdle, Vic Scovell, Derek Tomlinson

HRS committee has appointed member Judith Lazell as Youth Officer.

If you would like to contact the committee, please email [admin@HistoricRydeSociety.com](mailto:admin@HistoricRydeSociety.com)

