



Guide Lines

The *Occasional* Newsletter
of the
Winchester Area Tourist Guides Association

Issue of May 2017

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Item: 1	Title: Newsletter Submissions
Date: 17 May 17	Contributor: Editorial/Compilation Team

Welcome to this, the second Newsletter of the new age. Somewhat later than had been hoped, as a result of a scarcity of material. Please send contributions, particularly items of interest and curiosities to: watganewsletter@gmail.com where the compilation team can pick it up. If it's format that's holding you back don't worry – plain text is good, we'll deal with it. Special thanks to Francesca for her Article about the City Museum.

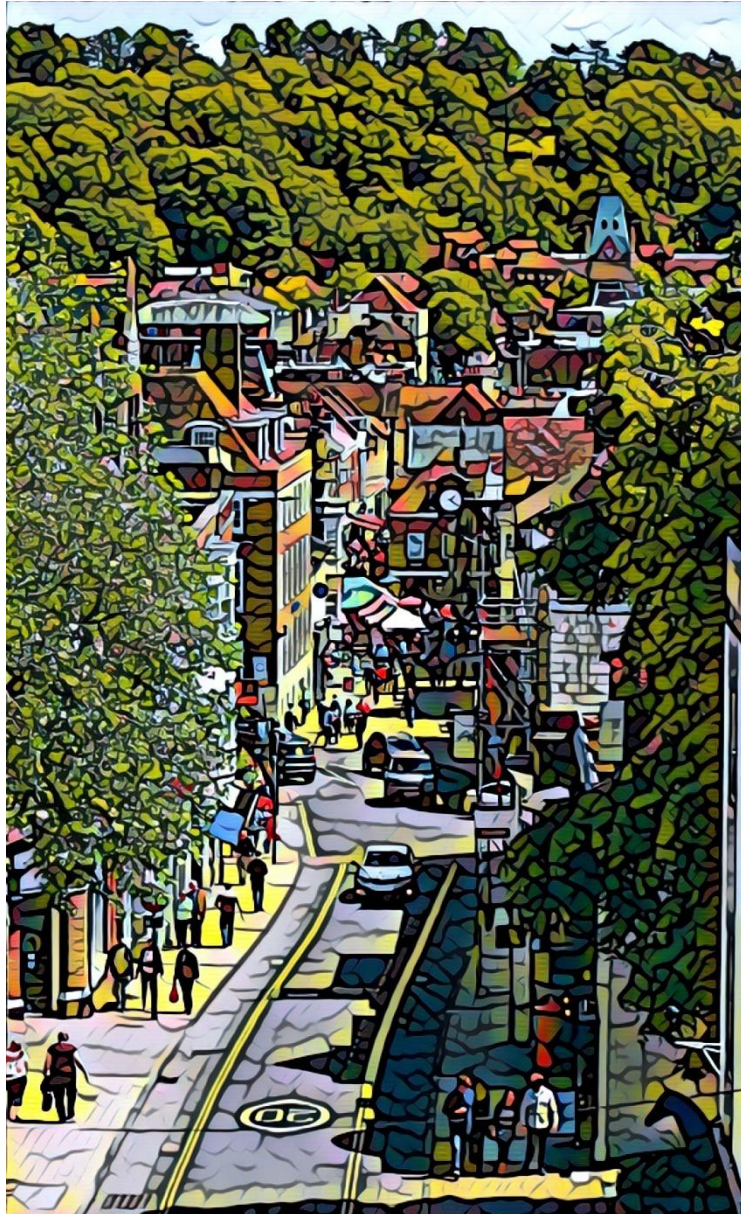
Item: 2	Title: Poster Pictures
Date: 1 May17	Contributor: Judith Hoskins

Could anyone doing a special tour please let Judith know what they would like pictured on their poster? Judith is happy to take the photo, but it would really help to let her know

what the picture should be of. Preferably something that is of particular relevance to the tour - a TVP at one of the stops perhaps. Thank you.

Item: 3	Title: The View from the Westgate
Date: 5 April 17	Contributor: Pauline Shier

Pauline sent in this very artistic view from the Westgate roof top. It feels very Summery indeed and well worth sharing. Thank you Pauline



Item: 4	Title: Winchester City Museum Re-opening
Date: 10 May 17	Contributor: Francesca Zazzara

Winchester City Museum has re-opened its doors to the public last April 14th, after a few months of closure.

A soft launch to begin with, followed by a series of family friendly events: Punch and Judy show, a Victorian Cart of Curiosities and a Hampshire Fare produce tasting day are amongst the major events that took place at City Museum lately.

Whilst no major changes have affected the top two galleries - Venta Belgarum and Wintanchester, the ground floor instead has been completely remodelled. A new exhibition is now on display in the ground floor gallery and, as many of you already know, the central feature is the impressive model of Victorian Winchester done by Roger Brown.

Roger Brown was a County Planning Officer for Hampshire County Council in the 1970s - 80s. He first trained as an architect and then as a Town Planner. His lifelong work had a great impact in shaping Winchester's townscape. In 1987, following his retirement from the council and with a real vision and love for the city's heritage, Mr Brown started working at his project of making an immense and impressive scale model of central Winchester as it was in Victorian times. The model is based on the first Ordnance Survey Map of the city from 1870, and it took Roger nine years to complete –a labour of love!

It measures over 4.5 metres across and it is made up of 20 component parts. The gentle hills of Winchester are built in expanded polystyrene, and the buildings of plastic sheet. To make sure that details of the buildings and streets were as accurate as possible, Roger used as reference photographs taken about the same time as the Ordnance Survey map was produced, as well as photos taken by his grandfather during a trip to Winchester in the late 1800s.

Since its completion in 1996, the model has been on temporary displays at various locations in and around Winchester, including the Great Hall, Intech and Guildhall. This is the first time it has been given a long-term home.

Before being installed in the City Museum, the model has undergone extensive restoration by the conservation team of Hampshire Cultural Trust. It is enclosed within glass panels; a video presentation brings it to life and transports the spectators back in time to the city's Victorian streets; interactive tablets provide further information about the model, the buildings and the people who worked and lived in them.

The rest of the ground floor exhibition complements the story of Winchester told by the model. On display objects associated with Jane Austen, the great King Alfred, and everyday Winchester's traders such as Hunt the Chemist, Foster and Cobb the tobacconists, William Chalkley, taxidermist and first honorary curator of the museum, and Dicky Frost, a silversmith and one of Britain's greatest ever amateur cyclists of the early 1900s.

Last but not least, we are now able to welcome all visitors to all the museum’s galleries thanks to the improvements made to the lift.

Do come and have a look at the remodelled Winchester City Museum, and do not forget to spread the word amongst other colleagues and tourists of course.

For more information about the model please visit:

<https://www.hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk/RogerBrownModel>

Francesca

Item: 5	Title: British Guild of Tourist Guides Benevolent Fund
Date: 3 Apr 17	Contributor: Clare Dixon

Elizabeth Eastwood has asked that I draw your attention to the Benevolent Fund.

At the recent UK committee we discussed the Benevolent Fund. Please see attached a letter which Elizabeth circulated last year; it sets out the details of the Benevolent Fund as a reminder. It is still correct except for the link to the Guild website does not work, but details can also be found the Institute website which is

<http://www.itg.org.uk/news-events/tourism-industry-news/bgtg-benevolent-fund/>



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Item: 6	Title: Run, Hide, Tell
Date: 1 May 17	Contributor: Clare Dixon

All, Colin Cook has sent me a useful link for the National Police Chiefs Council about how to stay safe in a firearms and weapons attack. There are guidelines and also a video to watch.

<http://www.npcc.police.uk/NPCCBusinessAreas/WeaponAttacksStaySafe.aspx>

Item: 7	Title: Women in Winchester Walks
Date: 17 May 17	Contributor: Vanessa Silcock

A number of guides have spent many hours putting together exciting one off walks for the Women in Winchester theme this summer. We would like to encourage you to submit an article for the newsletter after you have done your walk. Maybe this could be a summary of the walk, or just an interesting fact you discovered whilst researching it. We leave it up to

you. The titles of the walks have been fascinating and I am sure any snippets would be great. Feel free to submit a photo if you have one too!

Item: 8	Title: Report from the Attractions Partnership Meeting
Date: 17 May 17	Contributor: Clare Dixon

I attend the Partnership meetings on your behalf and try to fly the flag for the Tourist Guides. The meetings are an opportunity for those running visitor ‘attractions’ in the Winchester area – eg the Cathedral, Winchester College, Hospital of St Cross, Jane Austen House Museum, Chawton Library, Marwell Zoo, Watercress Line, Fort Nelson etc - to share news and ideas. They are always worth attending, and we are very grateful to WCC Tourism Dept for letting us take part.

A few titbits of news from a meeting today (17th May) are:

- There is now a more extensive Jane Austen display in the Cathedral, next to her grave, which includes eg the register with the entry for her death. A book of memories will be added from next week in which visitors can record their thoughts and feelings about JA.
- The new £10 note, with the portrait of JA on it, is being launched in the Cathedral on 18th July
- The new Kings and Scribes exhibition and associated works in the Cathedral South Transept are unlikely to be completed before late 2018 or early 2019
- The Military Museums have now launched their joint ticket, which gives a discount over buying separate tickets for the 3 paying museums. The ticket is valid for 6 months and can be bought from the Green Jackets museum.
- In the summer, the Green Jackets museum will also be joining the JA bandwagon with an exhibition about Jane Austen’s military connections
- There are plans at Winchester College to open up more areas for their in-house tours in the future eg the Fellows Library and Science School. Watch this space.

Finally, Tourism South East have just launched their Beautiful South Awards for 2017. These acknowledge outstanding contributions across the South East in areas such as best café, hotel, visitor attraction, restaurant etc. This year there is a new category for the best guided tour! Should we be entering something ourselves, or do you know of a tour which deserves to be nominated? The criteria read:

NEW CATEGORY Guided Tour (on water or land) of the Year To enter this award your tourism businesses should be able to demonstrate that they have gone the extra mile to deliver an outstanding and innovative guided tour and must offer visitors an exceptional standard of service and a memorable tour.

The tour must be open to the public and could be led by paid staff or volunteers on land or water eg walking, river, sea, bicycle, bus tours.

More details on their website at:

<http://www.beautifulsouthwards.co.uk/page/7/which-categories.htm>

Item: 9	Title: Diary Dates
Date: 17 May 17	Contributor: Clare Dixon

Practice walks

Many of those leading Themed tours this summer have already done their practice run through, but there are a few still coming up. Do support them if you can. The walk leaders have done a lot of research from which we can all learn:

- Sat 3rd June, 11am, Remarkable Victorian Women. Vanessa Silcock
- Tues 27th June, 11am, Public Art. Steve Heath
- Mon 3rd July, 10.30am, Medieval Jewish Winchester. Erica Wheeler

Meeting on each occasion at the TIC. Please let the leader know you are coming.

Other CPD

- Tues 27th June, 2pm, Monkish Misconduct tour at Hyde Abbey with Cathedral guide, Anna Withers (please let Clare know if you would like to come)
- Friday 21st July, visit to Westminster Abbey and tour of Parliament (contact Vanessa Silcock)

WATGA dates

- Tuesday 6th June, 3pm, WATGA Summer General Meeting, Alresford (details soon)
- Friday 14th July, evening, WATGA Summer Walk and Supper (contact Patrick Craze)
- Monday 25th September, 7pm, WATGA Annual General Meeting, Guildhall, Winchester

WATGA takes no responsibility for the accuracy of the information in this Newsletter. Please contact individual contributors with any queries.

Send contributions to: watganewsletter@gmail.com in editable format (Plain text or Word please)
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