

The Frenchay Tuckett Society
Spring 2017 Newsletter

Registered Charity No. 1066961

www.frenchaymuseumarchives.co.uk

MUSEUM PURCHASE UPDATE

The news is there is still no news.

Our solicitor assures us that he now has a 'land registry compliant' map of the museum site to complete the sale.

However, the South Gloucestershire solicitor says he is still waiting for a definitive map. And so it goes on. We seem to be very near to completing the sale but the matter is out of our hands.

Vintage Vehicle Day 2017

This year our Vintage Vehicle day is on Saturday 15th July, and again it's held in conjunction with the Flower Show. If you are able to help with either preparing for the big day, or being involved helping organise things on the day, please contact Paul Green on 0117 9567020, or Hugh Whatley on 0117 9566378

Scanner Help Needed

We have been given hundreds of historic photograph negatives from the Dursley Gazette and need someone to tell us how to scan them to turn them into positives so that we can see what they are. Can you help? If it needs a specialist scanner could you advise us what to buy?

POSTCARD DONATION

A few weeks ago we received an anonymous donation of postcards of Frenchay. We are grateful for these and would love to know who you are in order to acknowledge the donation.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

*The Frenchay Tuckett Society - Registered
Charity Number 1066961*

In Frenchay Quaker Meeting House,
Beckspool Road on the 11th May at 7.30pm.

- Apologies for absence
- Approval of the minutes of the 2016 AGM
- Trustees' Report
- Treasurer's Report
- To confirm the appointment of Paul Green as a Trustee,
- Election of Officers and Committee for 2017/18
- Appointment of independent financial examiner
- **To consider, and if thought fit to authorize the Trustees to convert the Frenchay Tuckett Society Reg. Charity No. 1066961 into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) at a time of their choosing.** (This will remove financial liabilities from Trustees and it will eliminate having to reassign the lease every time there is a change of Trustee)
- Any Other Business

The current committee comprises; **Chairman** Vacant, **Secretary** Roger Angerson, **Treasurer** Paul Green. Other members are; Nigel Aylett, Margaret Bulmer, Edna Cause, Hugh Whatley, Martin Palmer, Teresa Norton, and Carol Thorne. The trustees of the charity are Roger Angerson, Paul Green, and Carol Thorne.

Following the AGM Roger Angerson will give a talk on Frenchay's Famous Highwayman

Exactly 250 years ago newspapers throughout the country were carrying news of the arrest of the notorious highwayman Edward Higgins, who was living in Frenchay. Judging by the national coverage of his miss-deeds, Higgins was as well known as Dick Turpin, who'd been active twenty years earlier. Newspapers as far away as Aberdeen ran the story. The Leeds Intelligencer of 3rd March 1767 says that he had been arrested in Bristol, and was being held in Gloucester Castle, which was used as a gaol. It says that he was born in Worcestershire, but by the time of his arrest he was living in The Grove, at the bottom of Frenchay Hill. Elliott in his book "Winterbourne, Gloucestershire" says that he came to Frenchay in 1765, and fitted large bolts to the doors to withstand a siege. (Are they still there?) He adopted the name "Hickson" and lived in a splendid manner, keeping hunters, and that he was popular in Clifton Society.

Come to the AGM and find out what happened to him...

ALSO

Frenchay Museum and the wider world –
Alan Freke looks at the national and international links with our museum

Our First Hospital

Dr. Edward Crossman of Whiteshill House, opened Hambrook Hospital 150 years ago this year. The hospital was in a large house near the White Horse pub, and the founding document states that it "*is designed for the accommodation of poor persons suffering from accidents or diseases which cannot be adequately treated at the homes of the patients*". There were 7 doctors on the staff, though only 1 nurse! She was the only salaried person, and she had to live in. Patients had to pay a weekly fee, but sponsors were sought to support those unable to pay. A committee of local worthies, headed by three trustees, oversaw everything.

With the creation of the NHS in 1948, Hambrook Hospital was combined with Frenchay Hospital. In 1951 the decision was taken to close Hambrook Hospital, and in 1952 it became a hostel for student nurses. Student nurses were already housed in Frenchay House and Frenchay Lodge, but Hambrook was for male students – they were keeping them far apart!

Our website

www.frenchaymuseumarchives.co.uk gives access to minute books and some medical records.



Reopening by the Duchess of Beaufort in 1905
after a major extension

Computer Help Needed

Our membership and newsletter mailings use a mixture of Microsoft Word Mail Merge, and Microsoft Excel spreadsheet, which both have to be updated in sync. This system has grown up over the years, and is quite cumbersome. Are you a wizard with computers? Perhaps you could help to rationalise our systems to make life simpler. If you would like to discuss this further please call Alan Freke 0117 9570942 – thank you

Museum Custodians

We always welcome more custodians, so if you are interested in coming along and finding out more, call **Margaret Bulmer on 0117 9569324** for an informal, no obligation, chat. Whether you help once a month, or once a year, you will be welcome. There are many other tasks that need doing, besides manning the museum when it's open. From straightforward cleaning to mounting new displays, there are many jobs waiting. If you feel that you would like to get involved in any way, call **Alan Freke on 0117 9570942** for a no-obligation chat.

Museum News

Visiting Exhibitions

The current visiting exhibition is by the **Dings Crusaders Rugby Club**, who are our newest neighbours. Founded in Bristol 120 years ago, their new home in Frenchay will be the sports facilities currently being constructed on the Bristol Road. Come and see their story.

From July there will be an exhibition to mark the 50th anniversary of the untimely death of **David Fry** at the age of 49. His death signalled the end of his company **Frenchay Products**, which had started in the stables of Riverwood House in 1949. Exhibits are being provided by individuals, and companies like Moulton Bicycles, and Rotork. We even hope to have a Chantal Meteor 200 jukebox which they manufactured, and David's record-breaking hillclimb car *The Freikaiserwagen* is coming to our Vintage Vehicle Day on 15th July. Don't miss it.

Contacts

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