

BLAKE NEWS

Craft Fair

East Huntspill Village Hall
Church Road, East Huntspill, TA9 3PQ
Saturday 20 May 2017

10am to 3pm

A selection of items
from

Local Crafts People
Refreshments & Raffle

Free Parking

Entry – Adults 50p children free

BLAKE MUSEUM

AN EXHIBITION
**SEDGEMOOR
STITCHERS**



Art Needlework

Tuesday 23 May – Saturday 24 June, 2017

10.00 am – 4.00pm

Last entry 3.00pm

Summer 2017



SUPERACT PRESENT

2017

BRIDGWATER BLAKE GARDENS MUSIC FESTIVAL



**Sponsored by Bridgwater
Town Council**



SUNDAYS 2-4PM

9 July – Weston Brass
16 July – Westerly Show Band
23 July – Taunton Concert Brass
30 July – Burtle Silver Band
6 August – Wincanton Silver Band
13 August – Wells City Band
20 August – Clevedon Brass
27 August – Stoke-sub-Hamdon Band

Programme of Talks 2017

- 13 June – Roger Evans
Tales of Old Bridgwater
- 11 July – John Dando
Privies – A walk up the Garden Path
- 12 September – David Hawkings
Transportation to Australia
- 10 October – **AGM**
- 14 November – Ashley Jones
The British Honours System

NOTE

All talks will be held in the Blake Museum, starting at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated. Any variation to the programme will be announced on the News page of the Friends' web site, www.blakemuseumfriends.org.uk, and if possible will be published in the *Bridgwater Mercury*.

THIS YEAR'S EXHIBITIONS

- 18 April – 20 May – More photographs from the Museum's collection – this will feature the newly-digitised Douglas Allen material 1954-1960
- 13 May – 24 June – Sedgemoor Stitchers
- 27 June – 29 July – Battle of Sedgemoor
- August 1 – 2 September --WW1 Commemoration – continued for 1917
- 5 – 30 September – Bridgwater Photographic Society
- 3 – 28 October – Baptist Art Group

Personnel changes

Tony Woolrich will reach his 80th birthday at the end of 2018, so we are undertaking an exercise in succession planning to ensure few problems when he retires. Esther Checketts left in the middle of last year, so we are looking for two new members of the Curatorial team. It involves administration work as well as expertise in heritage and museum work. If you are interested please have a word with Tony or Mike.

Shut-down work – Continued

New stands have been provided for the Gaol bells. These have hidden wheels so the bells can be easily moved, if required.

A stand is shortly to be proved for the bell of HMS Blake, which was donated to the Museum by St Mary's Church.

New donations to the Museum

We have been given an extensive collection of photographs of West Country shipping. They are mostly from the past 50 years, and, as well as Bridgwater, Dunball and Combwich, include Watchet, Exmouth, Tynemouth, and Falmouth. When we have sorted the images out and listed them we will pass the non-local material to other museums.

We have also been given a wall-clock, presented to Mr Harry Burge, late Verger at St Mary's on the occasion of his silver wedding in 1925. The gift was from the Vicar and congregation.

Digitisation

Equipment has been purchased to allow the digitisation of large-format images of up to A2 size (16.6in x 23.4in ; 42cm x 59.4cm). This will allow us to readily digitise bigger paintings, maps and newspaper pages. This has only been possible before with a hand-held camera, and with usually indifferent results.

Trifold leaflets

A stand has been purchased for the display of the trifold history leaflets. It will go in the Bridgwater Room and will hold around 30 different titles.

New Chairs

30 new chairs have been purchased for the meeting room. They are lighter than the 50 heavy ones they replace which have gone to the Town Hall. A curtain will be provided for the alcove where they are stored

Help in the Museum Garden

We are seeking additional Volunteers who can help in the Museum garden. Please speak to Rob, Mike or Tony.

COFFEE MORNINGS IN AID OF FOBM FUNDS LAST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH 10.30-12 NOON Next one 25 May

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Websites:

Friends: www.blakemuseumfriends.org.uk

Museum: www.bridgwatermuseum.org.uk

Resources: www.bridgwatermuseum.info