

## Items for Newsletter – February, 2014

It was lovely to see so many of you at the AGM on 25<sup>th</sup> February. I am sure that many of you came to give your best wishes to Jane on her retirement rather than listen to our reports!

Jane has been involved with the Museum for almost 20 years and Chairman of Friends for almost as long! It was Jane who set up the Friends as a fully constituted body which has made the application for grants so much easier. She has been the mainstay of the Museum and without her help we wouldn't be where we are today. It has been great fun working with Jane and it is a great relief to know that she is still going to be 'behind the scenes' pushing us along in the right direction!

We are fortunate in finding such an admirable new Chairman in Jo Coad. Jo and I moved into the village around the same time and have worked together on various committees over the years and it will be great to work with her again. I am sure that she will look after the interests of the Friends and the Museum with great efficiency.

Welcome too, to Keith Birtwhistle, who has taken over as Secretary of the Friends.

It was agreed at the AGM that subscriptions will rise next year. From 1<sup>st</sup> (?) February 2015, the annual subscription will be £10 per household and £5.00 per household for those on the rota. The Life Membership will be £100.

## Remembering 1914

Our plans for the Exhibition this year are going well. Many thanks for contributions already received from Bob Isles, Jean Ayres, Michael Drew and Jim and Sheila Matthews. We have already found details of 120 men who served in the First World War and are still counting! Many of the war records from the First World War were lost in bombing raids in the Second World War and the Imperial War Museum is linking with other museums and groups to set up a data base 'Lives of the Great War' to which we can contribute.

Please come along to our Launch Evening on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 pm in the Museum. We are looking forward to showing you our new technology.

## Modes

The grant we obtained to replace our IT equipment has also paid for an upgrade to our cataloguing system – Modes – and training in its usage. Four of us went on a training day at Woodstock and have come back very bemused but also very excited at what we will be able to do with the new software in future.

## Oxfordshire Museums Council

Museum volunteers are welcome to attend the OMC meetings. This year the following events are planned:

- 11 March at 2.30 pm      General Meeting at Banbury Museum with a talk by Emma Walton, Marketing and Communications Manager for Banbury.
- 22 May at 6.00 pm      Social Networking Meeting at Aston Martin Museum, Drayton St. Leonard.
- 19 June at 2.30 pm      General Meeting at the Museums Waterperry Rural Museum
- 9 September at 6.00 pm      Social Networking at Soldiers of Oxfordshire – new museum at Woodstock.
- 8 October at 2.30 pm      Annual General Meeting at The Oxford Bus Museum at Long Hanborough.

Please let me know if you would like to attend any of these meetings.