



Celebrate 2017 with us

A date for your diary

As another year draws to a close we would like to thank all the Friends and visitors who have supported the museum during 2017. We had over 1,200 people to our special 400 year anniversary exhibition and some lovely feedback from visitors from across the world!

A couple of unexpected visitors have been a squirrel who decided he would like to make the old schoolroom his home for the winter and a black cat who wandered in and out during the season – they have not been added to the visitor numbers!

On Friday 15th December we will be opening the museum again between 6pm and 9pm. With wine and mince pies and juice and sweets for the children we would like to formally thank everyone and to let you know about next year's exhibition. Everyone is welcome, so please drop in, we would love to see you. If you cannot join us then we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy and Prosperous 2018.



Update on the old schoolroom repairs

Most of you will have noticed the black tarpaulin skirt which now adorns the south side of the old schoolroom. The building work is on hold until the monies can be raised to cover the cost of repairs to all the walls and fundraising is well underway. The Parish Council has been successful with two initial grant applications and with donations from a number of Friends and local residents the total raised so far is close to £20,000. Rupert Lycett-Green has donated books written by John Betjeman to help towards the cost and Rose & Dave Holborow from Uffington Stores have agreed a collections jar on the shop counter. If anyone would still like to donate there are a number of options:

- Cheques payable to Uffington Parish Council posted to the Clerk or handed in to Uffington Stores
- Direct transfer to the Parish Council bank account – details available from parishcouncil@uffington.net
- Via Justgiving - justgiving.com/crowdfunding/tombrownsschoolmuseum



Further grant applications will be submitted once listed building consent has been obtained and the Parish Council is extremely grateful to everyone who has contributed so far.

Tom Brown's School Museum attains Arts Council Accreditation



We are delighted to report that on the 5th October Full Accreditation status was awarded by Arts Council England for a further three years. This is a great accolade for the museum and we are all delighted. The Accreditation sets the standard for the way that museums are run and administered so this is the formal seal of approval that what we are doing is right!

Unsung Heroes in Dung

In October we welcomed over 40 Friends and guests to a fabulous talk given by Sally Ann Spence from Oxford University Museum of Natural History. The topic was dung beetles and Sally hosted an informative and very entertaining evening which included drinks and nibbles – not quite 'I'm a Celebrity' but some very crunchy critters supplied and enjoyed – by some!



Current Activity

We would like to thank the group of Friends who joined us to help with the autumn clean of the museum in November – more hands definitely made lighter work and cobwebs and dirt were swept away. A note for your diaries that we will need help again for the spring clean in March

Over the coming weeks we will be replacing the existing box files which hold our research and Betjeman correspondence. Thanks to a grant from South East

Museums which has covered the purchase of 120 files the contents will be rescued from the mouldy boxes and relabelled. We will also be planning for the 2018 exhibition which will commemorate 100 years of the end of the First World War.

We continue to meet every Tuesday between 10am and 12pm at the museum. If you can spare a couple of hours even if once a month then we would love to see you. You do not need any specialist knowledge just an enthusiasm for safeguarding our local history.

Friends of Tom Brown's School Museum Committee Members

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Secretary - position vacant	
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