

Tom
Brown's
School
Museum
UFFINGTON



A Message from Chair of The Friends - Jo Coad

2019 Season



Another season of open weekends at the museum has come and gone! It has been another busy summer with over 850 visitors from as far afield as Australia, South Africa, Sweden and Nigeria. The exhibition this year 'Uffington 50 years ago' also attracted visitors from the village and we would like to thank those that loaned items to the exhibition. Special thanks must also go to the band of rota members who ensure that the museum is opened every weekend to welcome our visitors. The Friends are now organising the annual Christmas event and work is underway with the Curator on the new exhibition for 2020.



Christmas Event

Sunday 15th December

This years' Christmas event will be held in the museum on

Sunday 15th December between 12pm and 2pm

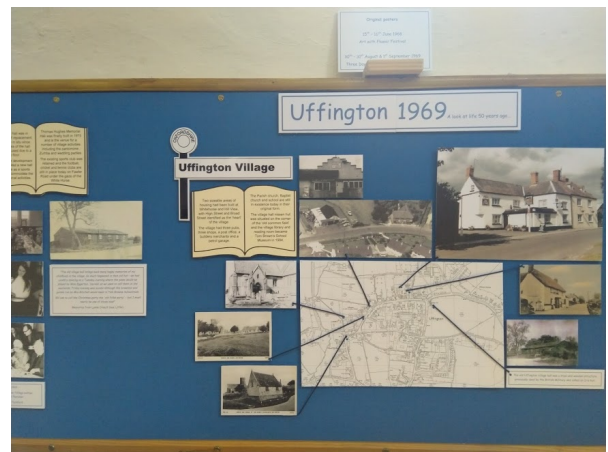
The event will coincide with the Uffington Farmers and Christmas Market so why not combine the two for some last minute shopping followed by a catch up over a drink and nibbles. We will have a table at the market selling newly published books by John Betjeman and David Miles, stocking fillers and the very popular White Horse jewellery.



Curator's Report from Karen Pilcher Uffington Museum Trust

Over 850 people visited the museum this season to see the exhibition 'Uffington 1969'. This included a number of 'out of hours' visits from groups such as Wiltshire Family History Society, Hanney History Group and a tour of the White Horse for twenty children visiting from Sweden. Together with attendance at various local markets and the White Horse Show, sales and donations have continued to increase. Uffington Museum Trust is responsible for the day to day running of the museum, so whilst Friends subscriptions go towards Friends activities, the Trust is reliant on sales and donations to cover the annual costs.

A free way of supporting the Trust is to register for easyfundraising. For anyone who shops online, a percentage of what you spend is donated to the charity at no extra cost to you. We only have two active supporters who between them have raised over £100 and it has cost them nothing. To register, search easyfundraising and choose Uffington Museum Trust as your chosen charity. <https://>



Dates for your diary in 2020...

The Friends will be organising the following events in the New Year:

*Friday 13th March –a talk by Dr Huw Davies who studied early modern military history. Entitled “Wellington, Military Intelligence and the Road to Waterloo.

*A talk by Peter Leach from Wyvern Historical & Detecting Society. Date to be confirmed.



2020 exhibition & photo competition

Tom Brown's School Museum Photographic competition



Valuing Our Environment

Our new exhibition for 2020 will focus on the environment and we are looking for your photographs to display in the museum.

They can be taken within a 3 mile radius of Uffington and show anything from the wildlife, flora and fauna or our countryside. Be as creative as you can and look for the things that spoil our environment as well as those that enhance it.

They can be photos you've already taken or new photos taken before the closing date of **Friday 17th January 2020.**

E-mail your entry to uffingtonmuseum@gmail.com with your name, age if under 18, where the photograph was taken and a short description.

A £50 cash prize will be awarded in the under 18 and over 18 category and winners will be notified by Friday 31st January 2020. We hope to display as many of the photos in the museum during the 2020 season.

Thank you and good luck!

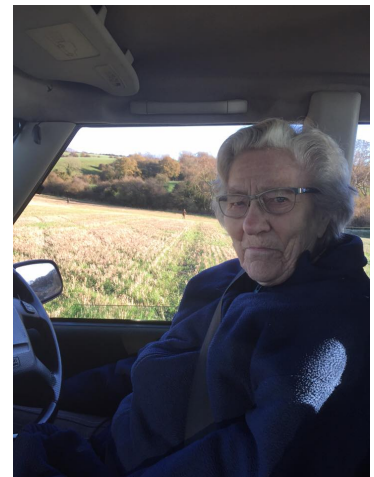
Farewell to long standing supporters of the museum

This year we have sadly said goodbye to two long standing stalwarts of the museum who were both actively involved in village life.

Joan Little Joan was the wife of John Little and they were both instrumental in setting up Tom Brown's Museum in 1984, creating the 'little gem' that we all value so much today. Joan was Secretary of the White Horse Show for a number of years, a fantastic supporter with John of the work of the museum and involved in numerous community projects. We were delighted to host a visit from Joan's family in July and very grateful for the generous donation to the Trust. Lynne Creech (nee Little), John and Joan's daughter, features in a number of articles that we hold in our archives, from showing her Old English Sheepdog Rupert in 1978 to helping out at the Christmas party in 1969. In appreciation of the support of the Little family, we will be planting a rose 'Little Gem' in the museum garden in the spring.



Marcella Seymour Marcella spent all but two years of her long life in Uffington. She lived at the Wharf along Fernham Road before moving to run Britchcombe Farm. We have some lovely oral recordings of Marcella in the museum where she talks about different aspects of farming in the shadow of the White Horse and of taking the sheep and cattle to market. She was taught by John Betjeman to speak the 'Berkshire way' and recently featured on the Village of the Year programme for Channel 4 reciting 'The Berkshire Pig'. She was a great supporter of the museum and again we hold a number of articles and photographs, showcasing her life in Uffington.



Friends of Tom Browns School Museum - Committee Members

Josephine Coad - Chair

John Davis - Treasurer

Stephen Cowlam - Secretary

John Henville

Keith Birtwhistle

Lucy Dillistone

Ruth Harris