



ARCADIA

The newsletter of Ryde District Heritage Centre

October 2013

Historic Ryde Society Registered Charity Number 1153947!

At the end of September, after some lengthy correspondence, HRS finally achieved full charity status. The number is above. The process of signing up for Gift Aid is currently under way, and it will be in place in due course. Having charity status opens up many new funding avenues, but of course, the bids still have to be written! If anyone is interested in helping with this very time-consuming but vitally important aspect of running the Society, please don't hold back! You'll be welcomed with open arms.

Another fundraising opportunity presents itself with the **localgiving.com** website. There is a pot of money which will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, starting from 10am next Tuesday, October 15. A £10 donation with Gift Aid, would give HRS £21.54. You can make a one-off donation via the website, or sign up to donate monthly for six months. Timing is vital, as the pot of £500,000 will go quickly!

<https://localgiving.com/charity/hrs>

Mystical Mist

Anna Sacchini will give a harp and sitar recital in the Blacksheep Club Lounge on the evening of Sunday, October 13, from 7.30pm. Tickets @ £5 can be obtained from Splash, on 616257. Seating is limited and tickets are selling well, so hurry and book now!

Hopefully some of you will have noticed a fourth photoboard has recently been taken to Appley café, in Ryde. Painted by Lynne, and constructed by Brian, the boards have had a particularly successful season, and have now brought in over £1000 since they were first launched on the general public on the morning of July 1, 2011! This is a great achievement, so many thanks to Lynne and Brian - and the volunteer painters in the Heritage Centre! - who have worked hard on this project. Well done all!



Mystical Mist

An Evening of Music
with
Anna Maria Sacchini
playing
Harp & Sitar

Sunday 13th October
at
**The Blacksheep
Club Lounge**
Union Street, Ryde

7.30pm

Tickets £5 each

Tickets Available from
Splash, Union Street, Ryde
Tel: (01983) 616257

Limited Capacity
Bar open - Raffle with prizes

Raising Funds for Ryde District Heritage Centre

70s and 80s Disco Party!

Dig out those flares and get yourselves along to the Ryde Town Club on the evening of Friday, October 25! Berno Inferno's Disco Roadshow hits town with a vengeance, in aid of Ryde District Heritage Centre. Tickets @ £4 from Splash, on 616257, or on the door.

The Waterside Pool is 40!

On August 24, the Waterside Pool celebrated its 40th birthday! HRS had been approached some time before and asked for help in researching the history of the Canoe Lake and the Esplanade. This material was then taken by the Trust and made into a booklet, which was then presented to Ryde Mayor, Cllr Wayne Whittle. Cllr Whittle has subsequently donated his copy of the booklet to Ryde District Heritage Centre for the archive.



An unexpected event in September took place on the 1st of the month. An urgent call asking whether Historic Ryde Society would be able to open Appley Tower for the afternoon, led to Brian and Diana having an interesting time down at the beach! A record-breaking attempt to create a human dinosaur on the sands by the tower had been arranged by Visit Isle of Wight, who were keen to take some aerial shots from the roof of the tower. Island Echo also sent a reporter along, and over 100 members of the public also took advantage of the tower being open, to climb to the roof to see the lovely view. Our only instructions were: 'If it doesn't have a price, don't sell it!'



September was a busy month which continued with two Astronomical events hosted by HRS in conjunction with James Bissell-Thomas of The Orrery. Ian Ridpath, editor of The Oxford Dictionary of Astronomy, and Norton's Star Atlas, enthralled his audience, over two nights, with 'The Stories of the Stars', and 'The Planets'. Both events were a sell-out, and HRS would like to thank Lesley Ford and Graham Pearce for all their help in organising and advertising these events. At one point, this involved emails being sent to a cruise-ship somewhere off Norway!



The month continued with an evening at Ashey Races, led by Tony Gale. This fascinating talk answered many questions, including why the road to Newport is called 'The Racecourse'! As usual, the event was well attended and people gave generously to the raffle.

For the second year running, HRS took part in the national Heritage Open Days, when we opened the Heritage Centre free of charge. We invited the lacemaking ladies to return, and they proved as popular as they had done last year. Over the course of the three days we were open, nearly 300 people came through the door, and the Ice Well fund was boosted by over £100.



On Friday, September 13, the Centre was closed for a private meeting. IW Council Principal Conservation Officer, Lee Byrne held a meeting of Planning Officers from Hampshire in the Centre. The group had their meeting, which was followed by lunch at Joe's, prior to a tour of the Centre, including the ice well. They were then given a tour of the other buildings in the centre of Ryde which benefited from the Ryde Townscape Heritage Initiative. This is the third time the Centre has been given over to a private group as a meeting venue. If you know of any other group which would like to use the venue, which has tea and coffee making facilities, and a public convenience, please get in touch via the Centre on 01983 717435, during opening hours. The Winter opening times kick in on November 1, when the Centre will be open Tuesday to Thursday, and Saturday.

Ryde Carnival, the oldest carnival in the UK, celebrated its 125th anniversary on Saturday, August 17.



This year, HRS entered with a theme of Mary Poppins. Many thanks to Liz and her merry band for all their hard work. The first carnival in Ryde was held in 1887, to celebrate Queen Victoria's jubilee. The Queen herself attended, which was such a great event, a small band of Ryde residents took it upon themselves to recreate it the following year. The main protagonists were Mr W Gibbs, and Mr Gustav Mullins, names still resonant in Ryde today. The theme that year was Kings and Queens of England, and HRS is delighted to have a photograph of those Kings and Queens on display in the Heritage Centre, courtesy of HRS member and volunteer, Alan Brading.

The next **members' meeting** will be held in Yelf's Hotel on the evening of Wednesday, November 13, when Mark Earp, of Kitbridge Farm, will give an illustrated talk on the history of Ryde. Please encourage as many friends, family and neighbours as possible to come along and learn all about their home town. Then you can invite them all to visit the Heritage Centre and see it for themselves! The talk is free for Historic Ryde Society members, but we do ask for a small donation from visitors who are not members. Please also try and persuade them they could benefit from joining... Thanks!

Membership Update

Dates for the Diary

October 13 - Mystical Mist - harp and sitar recital, Blacksheep Club Lounge. 7.30. Tickets £5 from Splash.

October 25 - 70s and 80s Disco Party. Ryde Town Club. 8 till 12. Tickets £4 from Splash or on the door.

October 31 - Pub quiz Yelf's Hotel 7pm £3 a head. Raffle as usual.

November 13 - Illustrated talk by Mark Earp, on the history of Ryde. Yelf's 7pm. Members free, small donation asked from non- members. Raffle.

November 28 - pub quiz as above.

December 7 - HRS Christmas voucher raffle.

December 7/8 - Santa's Grotto opens in Ryde District Heritage Centre - 11-4.

December 8 - Antique and Collectors' Fair Masonic Hall, John Street. 10.00 to 3pm. Admission 75p.

December 27 - Friday! Pub quiz as above.

HELP!!!!

We're always looking for new volunteers to help man the Heritage Centre, particularly over the winter months, when we need to crack on with work in the extension area. If anyone has a couple of hours to spare, and thinks they might like to help, please get in touch.

Newsletter: Is there anyone out there who would be willing to help with the newsletter? Please get in touch via RDHC - 01983 717435.

HRS is currently looking for volunteers to help with admin tasks. Please contact as above.

Membership now runs on a rolling basis. Members receive free entry to Ryde District Heritage Centre, four talks, four newsletters and 10% discount on Hovertravel. Well worth the money!

As of October 2013, HRS has:
Individual Members - 99
Family Memberships 59
Corporate Memberships - 18
...and 245 followers on Twitter!

If you buy anything online, please consider signing up for **easyfundraising** to raise funds for Historic Ryde Society. Using **easysearch** as a search engine, also generates 0.5p per search. Over £220 has now been raised in this manner at no cost to anyone.

HRS is also nearing the end of the raffle prize supply. All donations will be gratefully received, at Splash, or in the Heritage Centre.

HRS committee: October 2013

Chair: Liz Jones

Vice Chair: Brian Harris

Treasurer: Tony Packer

Secretary: Diana Wood

Members: Alan Brading, Claire Kay, John King, Linda McArdle, Vic Scovell, Ron Watts

Judith Lazell is the Youth/School liaison person.

Linda McArdle is the person who organises group coffee mornings.

If you would like to contact the committee, please email admin@HistoricRydeSociety.com

Historic Ryde Society, creators of the Ryde District Heritage Centre, Royal Victoria Arcade, Union Street, Ryde. PO33 2LQ tel.01983 717435 www.HistoricRydeSociety.com
Reg. Charity 1153947

