



SANDWICH GUILDHALL PROJECT NEWS

Welcome to the third edition of the Guildhall Project Newsletter!

In this edition: • New project officer and funding application update
• The Guildhall Museum • The Sandwich Festival

HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND APPLICATION

Mrs Madylene Outen, has joined the Guildhall Project Team on a part time six month contract as Heritage Development Officer. Amongst other jobs Mady will primarily develop the areas of the project to form part of the Stage 1 "Guildhall" Heritage Lottery Fund bid, working with Project Officers from Dover District Council.

As the Guildhall is in good condition, is not a building considered to be 'at risk' and does not require extensive refurbishment, the Heritage Lottery Fund are most interested in seeing how the building and artefacts can be used to support the community, to reach more people and a to attract a greater variety of visitors. Ensuring works to the building increase accessibility, protect our Heritage, and that we develop a strong outreach programme of Heritage Activities are definitely our strong points. Mady has been exploring options for the Guildhall which include:

- Expansion of the Museum
- A Gallery
- Improving the Archives
- Building tours
- Heritage outreach activities
- Conservation and display of artefacts

Contact has been made with local groups and schools, and partnerships are being formed. Input from the local community is vital, and their ideas will shape the project. If you would like to be involved, please contact Mady via the Town Council.

As a result of feedback received during consultation carried out earlier in the year by Hannah Batley with current building users, Mady has been working on the creation of a number of potential options for how the building could work better for its users. Consultants have been appointed to carry out a building condition survey and Business Plan which will both support this area of the project.

Timescales for the submission of a funding application to the Heritage Lottery Fund are to be agreed by the Funder; but Sandwich Town Council Officers and Dover District Council Officers are working together to prepare a draft application for discussion with the HLF by the end of September; with an application to be made by the end of the year. The whole application process can take up to 18 months.



Kitchener Camp Visit: Visitors with author Clare Ungerson and Museum and Archives staff.

MUSEUM UPDATE

Since its opening in May the Museum and its volunteers have been busy inviting visitors through its doors. In May and June, the museum had 2,750 visitors and hosted group visits.

On Wednesday 21st June the Sandwich 1st Brownies were given a tour of the museum, made their very own Magna Cartas and handled real museum objects including a roman jug and Victorian era spectacles. The Brownies said their visit was a "Fun packed evening full of activities and learning"

On Sunday 16th July the museum welcomed descendants of the Jewish Refugees who came to Sandwich during 1939 to flee Nazi persecution in Germany. The visit was organised by Stephen Nelken and local author Clare Ungerson whose book 'Four Thousand Lives: the rescue of German Jewish men to Britain, 1939' covers the history of the event. The visitors came to the museum for a tour and to see a slideshow of photographs from the Kitchener Camp from the archives collection. They brought their own documents and photos to be scanned and added to the collection, which will form part of a special exhibition in early 2018.

On Sunday 23rd July, the Facebook group Nostalgic Sandwich and Surrounding Villages started off their day of festivities with a trip to the museum organised by one of the museum volunteers Carole Philpott.

Entry to the museum is free. If you would like to book a group visit to the museum please contact curator@sandwichtowncouncil.gov.uk for further information.



SANDWICH FESTIVAL AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND

During the Sandwich Festival on August Bank Holiday weekend, the museum will be hosting a special exhibition commemorating the 800th Anniversary of the Battle of Sandwich which took place on 24th August 1217. As well as the exhibition there will be storytelling by local Storyteller Tony Cooper, children's activities and an animation made by Royal Holloway College telling the story of the Battle of Sandwich; there will also be an opportunity to discuss and share your views about the Guildhall project. For more information visit the museum website: www.sandwichguildhallmuseum.co.uk

Over Sandwich Festival weekend there is an array of free events and activities taking place throughout Sandwich, including:

Lecture: Battle of Sandwich 1217

The Guildhall - Wednesday 23rd August 2017 at 7pm

Special exhibition 1217 Battle of Sandwich

Guildhall Museum - Thursday 24th-Monday 28th August 2017 from 10am-4pm

Story telling: The Battle of Sandwich

Guildhall Museum - Saturday 26th - Monday 28th August 2017 at 10am and 2pm

Tours of Sandwich

Guides from the Sandwich Local History Society - Meet Guildhall Forecourt - Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th August 2017 at 2pm

Medieval experience

Re-enactors, medieval music and dancing – Quay Green Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th August 2017 from 10am – 5pm

Community Showcase Day

Local clubs, groups and societies will be present all day – Town Centre - Sunday 26th August 2017 from 11am – 4pm

Battle of Sandwich Procession

From the Quay to the Town Centre - Sunday 26th August 2017 from 3pm

For more information on these and all the other fantastic events and activities taking place in Sandwich visit: www.sandwichevents.org.uk



Sandwich Guildhall Project News

is produced by Dover District Council and edited by Community Development Officer Hannah Batley. If you are interested in or would like to receive regular updates regarding volunteering, consultations or information about the Guildhall project please contact us at

community@dover.gov.uk or sign up to **Keep me posted** via www.dover.gov.uk.



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