



The Alderney Society Newsletter



Spring 2006

Museum Re-opening

Saturday 8th April 2006 sees the opening of the Museum for the summer season. We desperately need a few more Custodians to fill the rota. If you can spare a couple of hours once a fortnight to maintain the opening hours please contact Lorna Chalmers on 01481-822336. Currently a number of the display cases are being re-arranged and if there is anyone out there who has some talent in graphic design please get in touch.



Improving the townscape, re-laid flagstones and bollards outside the Museum.

Land Use Plan up for Discussion!

The significance of the Land Use Plan on the economy, development and future prosperity of Alderney cannot be ignored as all economic and social activity on the Island must comply with the Land Use Plan and its interpretation by the States. Equally the preservation of wildlife, historic buildings and townscape, social heritage, and archaeology are also influenced by the Plan.

The current Plan is due to expire in July 2006 and the States presented proposed changes to the Plan on Wednesday 1st March 2006 at the Island Hall. The proposals can be viewed at the Planning Office and Members are urged to consider the changes, prior to the Planning Inquiry, the date of which has yet to be announced. Over the past year there has been much public discussion

on issues such as Fort Tourgis, land for housing, recreational facilities while the future of the airport is now a hot topic. YOUR VIEWS ON THE LAND USE PLAN ARE IMPORTANT, HAVE YOUR SAY.



Fort Tourgis

What do you think of the protection given to our built heritage?

HOW TIME FLIES WHEN YOU ARE ENJOYING YOURSELVES!

The Society was formed in the autumn of 1965 and the Constitution was adopted on the 19th May 1966. To celebrate our 40th birthday in 2006 an exhibition featuring the town and rural areas of the Island in the 1960's is planned for Saturday 29th April. So mark this date in your diary and come along to the Museum between 10-12am for a celebratory drink. New (2006) Custodian recruits will receive a bottle of wine!

New Faces for the Society!

During the winter the Council have successfully found a replacement for the task of Museum Administrator. Peter Arnold has been carrying out this job for many years but having given 2006 as his 'retirement date' the Council welcome on-board Don Oakden. Peter will be around to smooth the transition period and no doubt his bicy-

cle will be propped up against the back door for some time to come.

Also new on the scene is Donald Hughes who has taken on the vacant role of Honorary Secretary. Donald and Robin Whicker are the guides on the popular "Town Walks" which take place on Wednesdays starting at 2.30pm at the Tourism Information Centre.



The Town Walk includes a visit to the Anne French Room within the restored Island Hall in Connaught Square.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Society entitles members to free entry to the Museum, lectures and exhibitions. If you are interested in Alderney history, archaeology, military history, flora and fauna, maritime history, heritage and much more why not join the Society and meet like-minded people.

Annual Subscription:

Adult £10

Family £15

Application forms will be available at the Museum from the 8th April.

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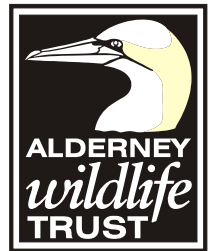


The Watermill

'The wheel will turn in 2006'. That is the aim of our hardworking volunteers who have cleared all the silt from the wheel sump and fitted temporary spokes to the wheel. A massive new timber shaft is ready to be fitted when the wheel is jacked-up, hopefully within the next couple of months. August this year will mark the 10th anniversary of starting work on the renovation of the watermill complex. The States are also working in the area of the old Bonne Terre reservoir to form a siltation pond.

MUSEUM MERCHANDISE

This season the Wildlife Trust has kindly provided a display case in the Visitor Centre to promote the Museum and display some of our brochures and merchandise. A further display window will soon appear in the High Street. Ann and Patrice Brousse will be coordinating the sale of goods; if you can help please get in touch.



Maritime Research Section

The Maritime Research Section meet on the second Thursday of every OTHER month. If you would like to talk about any Alderney/Maritime related work let Eve Tetley know on 822320 or evetetley@hotmail.com.

January's meeting covered careening and Alderney's pivotal position in Van Tromp's patrolling of the Channel looking for the Spanish Armada of 1634 which exercised culminated in "The Battle of the Downs".