THE WEST END LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

WESTENDER

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 2 JUNE 1999 (Free to Members)

WEST END LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

AN APPEAL

We would like to run an audio visual display at the Museum and are in need of a VHS video player and small TV set, if anyone has either surplus to requirement please contact me.
Nigel Wood 01703 471886

Also required for the Museum is a computer printer if anyone has one going begging we will give it a good home.

STOP PRESS

I have just seen the Museum mentioned again on the **Internet** – this time on the excellent, prestigious **Encyclopaedia Titanica** site which mentions our museum and the unveiling of the memorial plaque under **James Jukes** entry.

TEXT
Steven Broomfield/Derek Amey
Tel: 01703 692894 or 575244
PRODUCTION
Nigel.G.Wood
PRODUCTION ADDRESS
40 Hatch Mead
West End
Southampton
SO30 3NE
Telephone: 01703 471886
E-mail: woodng@aol.com

Welcome to what we hope will prove a better way of putting you 'in the picture' than our previous Newsletters and Updates. Not always as regular or as frequent as we had hoped – this new version will be issued every month except August. **PICK UP A COPY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OR AT THE MUSEUM ON SATURDAYS!!**
Free to Members

VISIT TO TOWNHILL PARK HOUSE



"HIGH SOCIETY,OR,HOW THE OTHER HALF LIVED"

Were you able to catch a talk by Ralph Coney a few months ago in which he gave us a fascinating picture of life in a country house retreat between the wars? Ralph had been an instructor at Townhill Park House when it acquired a new lease of life as a training establishment for Merchant Navy Cadets, When he talked to us he was able to use all his skills to show us not just what life had been like at this rather splendid mansion during his time there, but what it must have been like during the houses heyday in the 1920's and 1930's.
So,on a lovely Spring evening in May we were able to follow that up with a visit to the house itself, this time under the expert eye of the Bursar of the Gregg School, the new owners of the House. When the School took over, the extensive gardens had fallen into 'rack and ruin' but, thanks to a great deal of volunteer work, are slowly being hauled back into shape. (Two Special Editions of 'Country Life' published in 1923 featured respectively the House and its Gardens, the Bursar has kindly agreed to the Museum making copies of these – look out for them)
Read all about the house and its history in a brand new book by Ralph just published (we hope to have copies on sale in the Museum shortly) and also find out how you could take part in the work of restoring those splendid gardens.

MUSEUM ON THE MAP

Its all a question of EC and IT! Your Society was recently invited to a Seminar at Eastleigh Tourist Bureau at The Point to hear about a new initiative to put this tourist region (Hamble and Itchen Valley) on an EC funded trial Hi-Tech Information network. Screens placed in Information Bureaux, hotel foyers, airport waiting areas etc., will detail attractions, hotels and travel with bookable things available there and then via the screen. Hopefully, your Museum will be among the attractions listed. In the meantime, we appear in a more traditional

see overleaf

BOOKSTALL

Some of the publications available from the Museum shop:

Tales of Old West End
C Sillence **£3.50**

I Remember,I Remember
Bob Moody **£4.00**

Hatch Grange..a stroll back in time *Pauline Berry* **£6.95**

Townhill Park House
Ralph Coney & Jim Brown **£3.00**

CARNIVAL REMINDER

Don't forget West End Carnival starts on Sunday 20th June through to Saturday 26th June. We will be looking for volunteers for the Museum, Walking Parade and to man the stall on Hatch Grange on Saturday 26th June. We will also be fielding at least the usual TWO teams in the Pub Quiz on Monday 21st. at the Master Builder.**We need Bric a Brac for the stall – phone 01703 471886.**

Right: Your Museum resplendant with newly painted red doors and bunting for the Titanic Memorial unveiling on Saturday 17th April 1999.

continued from overleaf

Form – we are featured in their Newsletter which enjoys a very extensive circulation, and we are also on the brand new full colour mini Tourist Guide to this area. So your Museum is literally on the map, the visitors' attention drawn especially to our *Titanic* connection. High standard publicity at no cost to the Society! (Pick up a copy in the Museum or in Libraries,The Point or elsewhere.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

June 2 SOUTHAMPTON AND ITS LINERS
Ashley K.Watt

July 7 WAR MEMORIALS
Steven Broomfield

REMEMBER THERE IS NO MEETING HELD IN AUGUST

Sept 1 MEMORIES OF OLD BITTERNE
Ian Abrahams



SOCIETY INFORMATION

We are always looking for members to man the Museum on Saturdays between 10am and 4pm – its not arduous or demanding,in fact it can be very interesting meeting people and chatting and just generally 'keeping an eye on things'. The shifts are from 10.00am-12.00midday/12.00midday –2.00pm and 2.00pm-4.00pm – Pauline Berry our Secretary keeps the Roster so if you fancy 'having a go' give Pauline a ring on 01703 462490 or see her at the monthly meeting. **DON'T FORGET THAT ITS YOUR MUSEUM!**

The monthly meetings are held at the Parish Centre, Chapel Road,West End Village, meetings start at 7.30pm – Members entrance is free – Visitors entrance £1.00 per head. **Why not introduce a friend to the Society and bring them along to the next meeting?**

The **West End Local History Museum & Research Centre** at the Old Fire Station on the corner of the High Street and Orchards Way in West End Village is open each Saturday from 10am until 4pm. There's plenty to see, books of photo's, plans, maps, historic documents along with displays about West Ends past and its connections with the famous and plenty of old artifacts to see. **Why not pay us a visit – you might just learn something about where you live or your family!**

WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO SAY FOR YOURSELF?

How about appearing in print? Anything you think might be of interest to other readers of this newsletter – doesn't have to be typed,we will see to that! Contact either Derek Amey or Steven Broomfield on the phone numbers shown overleaf or at the monthly meetings.

THANK YOU TO EASTLEIGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Its thank you again to Eastleigh, this time to the Borough Council, for the kind offer of free standing velcro friendly vertical display panels which will find a ready home in your Museum, this will enable us to put on many more interesting displays from West Ends colourful past. We hope to have a bit of a move around soon at the Museum to better use the space – this will also hopefully improve the "office" area and facilities.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMES TO W.E.L.H.S. MUSEUM?

Hopefully when you read this Newsletter we will be well on the road to having the use of Kodak Imaging System on "floppy disk" up and running at the Museum. The suggestion is that suitable events such as the Carnival, the Millennium celebrations and any suitable archive photo's will be put onto floppy disk and viewed via the Museums computer by the general public – much has to be ironed out but it is a step forward and should prove a useful tool especially with the younger people.