



# Friends of the Windsor & Royal Borough Museum

Registered Charity No 1115540

## **NEWSLETTER 93**

**Winter 2019**



The Band of the Household Cavalry passing the Guildhall.

Find out more about them at our meeting on 5th December.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT.**

The Committee is settling down to it's new tasks and looking forward to a successful year.

It was heartening to see a better attendance at Brigitte's talk at the last meeting and I hope that the trend will continue. Certainly the calibre of speakers would merit it. Peter Storer from the Household Cavalry Museum is our next guest and will be talking about the history of the Regiment and having heard Peter on several occasions I can guarantee an interesting time. Hopefully he will also be bringing some kit for us to play with!

Sadly I have to report that we have had no feedback from my request in the last newsletter. I know that I keep harping on about it, but your opinions do matter to us and are a very important part of the successful running of the Friends. We largely rely on a handful of regular contributors but, of course, are always happy to accept articles, poems, questions, etc. for inclusion.

On Saturday 16th November the Christmas Lights Switch-on event will take place at the Corn Market between 4.00pm and 6.00pm. The Friends are manning the refreshment stall so any help you can give will be appreciated, either in helping to serve our customers on the stall for a little while, or by doing some baking (cakes or savory). This is an important source of income for us so please don't leave it just the committee. Contact a committee member if you can spare a little time. Thank you.

Finally, as this is the last newsletter before Christmas may I, on behalf of the entire Committee, wish you all a very happy Christmas and an even happier New Year.

Don't forget that our Christmas cards are on sale at the Museum and local libraries!

Len

**PLEASE NOTE:- IF YOU HAVE NOT RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION THIS WILL BE THE LAST NEWSLETTER THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE.**

## What's in a Name?

A member of the Tollemache family of Hanby Hall in Lincolnshire was Headmaster of the Imperial Services College from 1935 to 1941. He was the son of Rev. Ralph Tollemache-Tollemache and his second wife Dora Cleopatra Maria Lorenza, the daughter of Ignatio Antonio de Orellana y Revest, a colonel in the Spanish Army, and if nothing else, he deserves to be remembered for his name which was:

Lyonulph Cospatrick Bruce Berkeley Jermyn Tullibardine Petersham de Orellana Dysart Plantagnet Tollemache-Tollemache (1892-1960)

He had three brothers and six sisters, namely:

Lyulph Ywallo Odin Nestor Egbert Lyonel Toedmag Hugh Erchenwyne Saxon Esa Cromwell Orma Neville Dysart Tollemache-Tollemache (1876-1961)

Leo Quintus Tollemache-Tollemache de Orellana Plantagenet Tollemache-Tollemache (1879-1914)

Leone Sextus Denys Oswolf Fraudati Filius Tollemache-Tollemache de Orellana Plantagenet Tollemache-Tollemache (1844-1917)

Dora Viola, died 1874, probably in infancy.

Mabel Ethel Helmingham Huntingtower Beatrice Blazonberrie Evangeline Vise de Orellana Plantagenet Saxon Toedmag Tollemache-Tollemache (1872-1955). (Both she and her husband died on the same day).

Lyonesse Mathilde Dora Ida Agnes Ernestine Curson Paulet Wilbraham Joyce Eugenie Bentley Saxon Dysart Plantagenet Tollemache-Tollemache (1874-1944).

Lyona Decima Veronica Esyth Undine Cyssa Hylda Rowena Viola Adele Thyra Ursula Ysabel Blanche Lelias Dysart Plantagenet Tollemache-Tollemache (1878-1962)

Lyonella Fredegunda Cuthberga Ethelswytha Ideth Ysabel Grace Monica de Orellana Plantagenet Tollemache-Tollemache (1882-1952)

Lyonetta Edith Regina Valentine Myra Polwarth Avelina Phillipa Violantha de Orellana Plantagenet Tollemache-Tollemache (1887-1951)

If you think I've made all this up, just look in Burkes Peerage!

Leslie Grout

## **Museum News—November 2019**

### **Attempted Assassination Of Queen Victoria**

Museum, Arts & Local Studies Officer, Becky Tabrar has been working over the last few months with the Citizens800 team at Royal Holloway, University of London to produce a mini documentary. The short film explores the attempted assassination of Queen Victoria by Roderick Maclean, which took place outside Windsor & Eton Central Station on 2nd March 1882.

This sent shockwaves through the local community in Windsor. Many people were outraged that anyone would try to harm their Queen in their town. An angry mob assembled just outside the Guildhall as Maclean was tried in the Council Chamber on 3rd March. The dock that Maclean stood in was made overnight by a local carpenter and is a key object on display at the museum.

This is a local story with national significance. Many residents would have indeed had their own stories about that day but nationally this trial led to a change in the law for the prosecution of people with mental health issues across Britain. It raises questions about how disposable citizens' rights were in the 19th century dependent on the will and convenience of leaders. Moreover, Maclean's life story that led to him being in Windsor on that day is characteristic of the precarious Victorian period. It is an example of how endemic poverty was at the time and the devastating consequences that the stigma of mental health caused for individuals and families.

The film, which stars Becky herself, was launched by the Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Gary Muir earlier this month and will be available for visitors to view in the museum and online.

We would like to thank Citizens800 for funding this film and wish the team success for the project. If you would like to learn more about this exciting project, please visit [www.citizens800.org](http://www.citizens800.org)



## **Forthcoming events:**

### **Victorian Tree Decorations**

Saturday 16th November 2019: 3pm to 5.30pm

Come and see a bauble that once adorned Queen Victoria's Christmas tree and make a decoration of your own to take home. Refreshments will be available courtesy of the Friends of the Museum on the Corn Market. This is a free drop-in activity aimed at ages 4-11, but donations are welcome.



### **Victoria & Albert in Windsor: Talks by Louisa Knight**

25th November 2019 2pm and 7pm

Come and hear more about Queen Victoria and Prince Albert's life in Windsor, within the splendour of Windsor Guildhall. Enjoy the opportunity to see Victorian objects from the collection and visit our exhibition 'Victoria & Albert in Windsor'. Tickets are £2 and can be booked from: <https://tickets.windsor.gov.uk/sales/art-and-events/victoria-albert-in-windsor>



### **Windsor and Eton Living Advent Calendar**

Thursday 12 December 2019: 6.15pm

24 local businesses in the Royal Borough provide live entertainment every evening from 1 to 24 December. The museum will be opening our doors on 12 December at 6.15pm for a surprise event. We hope you will come and support us.

## BRITAIN'S LAST 'OPE.

The Windsor Boys School once had a unit of army cadets as part of the national Combined Cadet Force, or CCF. Normally, one had the option of joining at the beginning of the second year, but as father was not only working as a caretaker at the school, but happened to be the unit's Company Sergeant Major, I didn't have any choice; I joined! Not only that but I was expected to be 150% correct in dress and attitude. Well I generally managed the first but, sadly, not the latter! I was demoted and promoted so many times that my battledress jacket had to be replaced due to damage to the sleeves by the frequency of removing and sewing on of stripes!

We paraded on Monday afternoons on the playground, (no lessons!), but this meant that we had to wear itchy battledress and army boots for the day. The parades were usually taken by Dad as CSM and we were treated like regular soldiers. The normal procedure before we launched into a lot of marching about and stamping of boots, was for him to carefully inspect each of us, (especially me), then march to the front, glare at us and say, "Britain's last 'ope. Gawd 'elp us!"

Occasionally we went on camps at various locations or, best of all, went to Combermere barracks, usually on a Sunday morning, to live fire rifles on their indoor range or Bren light machine guns on the outdoor range in the Park. Who these days would let a 14-year-old live-fire a Bren gun?! I was proud when I was awarded a marksman badge for both and even went up a notch in dad's expectations!

Two of the camps we attended really stand out in my memory for different reasons:-

One Monday afternoon father informed the troops that we were going to be inspected by members of the Ghurkas who, for the first time, were mounting guard at the Castle. Everyone was excited as we all knew of these men and their fierce reputation. After a very friendly chat following the inspection by two officers they suggested that we might like to partake in a small night exercise with them in the military area of the Park. The idea was that we would set up a camp in a wooded area, set up a deep perimeter guard and stop the Ghurkas taking the camp. So, a couple of weeks later, a dark, wet and cold night found our gallant band lying in defence of our camp. We started at about midnight but by 4.30am nothing had happened. Being

thoroughly soaked and miserable it was decided that the Ghurkas were not coming so we gave up and returned to camp. As we approached the smell of frying bacon greeted us and to our total astonishment there were about twenty Ghurkas cooking breakfast and brewing tea! They had passed right through our lines without us seeing or hearing a thing!

After an excellent breakfast, all served up by the Ghurkas, accompanied by a great deal of laughter and back-slapping we decided to reverse the game and try to capture their camp. Needless to say we were all captured without getting anywhere near our objective. Since then I have had the greatest respect and regard for these lovely people

The second incident also involved a camp and food but in a rather different way. Each year we held a weekend camp specifically for new recruits. This normally consisted of basic camping, cooking, map reading and anything else that we could think of! All this mayhem was ruled over by my father who liked to remind everyone that they were supposed to be soldiers and therefore “Act like one!”

On the Saturday of this particular camp he decided that we should have a 'proper pudding' with dinner and delved into his army regulation cookbook, (Delia, eat your heart out!), and selected jam rolypoly. Then in true military style shouted to the assembly, “Who can play the piano?” Of course one poor naïve soul put his hand up. “Good, you're making the pudding then.”

“But I can't cook, sir!”

“Well here's your chance to learn lad. Here's the instructions, just follow them!”

With that the poor boy was left to his own devices. Sometime later dad enquired how things were going as he eyed a great cauldron of undefined content. “It says I need a pudding cloth to cover it while it cooks and I can't find one!”

“Well you're in the army son so you have to improvise,” replied father helpfully. “Have you got a vest?”

“Yes sir.”

“Use that then.”

“But I'm wearing it!” he wailed.

PTO

“O.K. take it off and use it.”

So the vest was duly removed and tied over the pudding. The fire was lit and cooking commenced. Several hours later it was still cooking. Then, as we watched, the lid on the cauldron slowly began to rise and then fell off to reveal an insipid white mass covered with the vest, by now stretched taut, slowly oozing itself up and out of the pot. Then, like something from Quatermass, it crept down the outside of the cauldron, over the fire which it immediately extinguished and continued its slow and seemingly unstoppable progress across the ground towards the fascinated spectators. Finally, the mess ceased its travels and some brave soul poked it with a stick to ensure that all life was extinguished. Father retrieved the vest which by now would have fitted an Action Man figure but little else.

“What's my mum going to say?” asked the would-be chef.

“Tell her you did it for Queen and Country. She'll be proud of you!”

We dug a large hole and buried the white monster with full military honours.

Len.

### **Pat Furzer**

With great sadness we have to report the passing of museum volunteer Pat Furzer after enduring illness for some time. Pat was always a willing helper especially with our children's activities. With her husband, Tony, she was also heavily involved in the British Airways charity 'Starlight' sending seriously ill children on holiday to Disneyland. Locally Pat and Tony were well known for many years as Father Christmas and his Little Helper at the Squires Garden Centre on Maidenhead Rd. Our deepest sympathy goes to husband Tony and the family.



## **What's going on upstairs?**

Windsor Theatre Guild is presenting

**"After the Dance"**

by Terence Rattigan

in the Council Chamber upstairs on

19th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd November  
starting at 8 pm

The Theatre Guild is also presenting it at the Castle  
Hotel across the road on 20th November 2019

Buy tickets (£14) at:

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/wtg](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wtg) OR

0333 666 3366

(9am-7pm Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm Sat)

An amateur production by arrangement with  
Nick Hern Books. Reg Charity #1060883

concessions apply Tuesday & Thursday

directed by Adrian Tang

**[www.windsortheatreguild.co.uk](http://www.windsortheatreguild.co.uk)**

Rose and Crown, Tring; or at Messrs. Grover and Smith's.  
July 4th, 1823.

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*And Preserving and Beautifying the Teeth and Gums.*

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Sold wholesale, retail, and for exportation, by the sole Proprietors, A. ROWLAND and SON, No. 20, Hatton Garden, London; Knight and Dredge, Booksellers, and Alder, Perfumer, Windsor; and most Perfumers and Medicine Venders.

—None are genuine without the signature,

“A. ROWLAND and SON.”

Windsor Express 4th July 1823

## **Dates for your Diary**

16th November 2019 3.00pm-5.30pm Victorian Tree  
Decorations mainly for 4-11 year-olds

16th November 2019 Switch on of the Christmas lights.  
Just like it was last year, the Friends refreshment stall will  
be available 4pm to 6pm. **Can you help? If so, contact a  
member of the committee.**

19,21,22,23 November Windsor Theatre Guild's 'After the  
Dance' upstairs in the Chamber (and 20th at the Castle  
Hotel)

25th November 2019 2pm and 7pm Talks by Louisa  
Knight on Victoria and Albert in Windsor.

5th December 2019 Friends Talk by Peter Storer on the  
Household Cavalry at the Community Room in Dedworth  
Library at 7.30pm

12th December 2020 Windsor and Eton Living Calendar.  
The door will be open at 6.15pm

27th February 2020 'The Windsor Carriages' - Friends  
Talk by Rebecca Seear 7.30pm at Dedworth Library

23rd April 2020. Friends Talk by Richard Snailham 'Camel  
trekking in North Kenya.' Dedworth Library at 7.30pm

**Friends Next Meeting:  
5th December 2019**

## **History of the Household Cavalry**

**A talk by Peter Storer,  
Curator of the Household Cavalry Museum, Windsor  
At the Community Room,  
Dedworth Library,  
Smith's Lane Windsor  
7.30pm**

**This Newsletter is published by  
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