



Petersfield Museum Town Talks 2017

Unless otherwise stated, talks will be held at the Museum, starting at 7.00pm. Tickets are £5 (£4 for Museum members) and are available for purchase on our website. Refreshments will be provided.

People of the Heath

Thursday 20 April 2017

George Anelay, co-Director of the People of the Heath project, will talk about the latest developments from the project, particularly focusing upon the two excavation seasons carried out on Petersfield Heath in 2016. Highlights from these include the discovery of two Bronze Age cremation urns from contrasting styles of barrow, together with the investigation of two enigmatic enclosure monuments.

Please note that this talk takes place at the Rose Room, Petersfield Festival Hall, Heath Road, Petersfield. It is FREE, but registration through the Museum website is essential.

Writing for a living: Edward Thomas' Poetic Prose

Thursday 18 May 2017

Marriage, fatherhood and the need to write in pursuit of a living tumbled in upon Thomas immediately after graduation. Any writing that would generate a payment was a necessity, yet his heartfelt attachment to the landscape of the "South Country" led to his earliest poetic writing. Thomas achieves a muscularity of prose lifted to a form of bliss in the knowledge of transience, truth and beauty. Julia Mayo, through her talk, will take us on a journey through Thomas' poetic prose.

The offspring of her first guilty connection: Austen's Fallen Women & Austen's Foremothers

Thursday 15 June 2017

At the heart of Austen's first novel, *Sense and Sensibility* (1811), lies the tragic story of two Elizas, their lives changed by loveless or adulterous relationships and illegitimate children. In this talk, Dr Kim Simpson, Postdoctoral Fellow at Chawton House Library, considers Austen's treatment of the fallen woman, uncovering a darker eighteenth-century world of adultery, disease, and ostracism, but also a world of female friendships, and a potential source of female power.

Hospitals of the Petersfield Union 1914-1919

Thursday 20 July 2017

Between 1914 and 1919, nearly 5,000 wounded soldiers were nursed back to health in hospitals in Petersfield and the surrounding villages, an area known then as the Petersfield Union. This talk by Bill Gosney is based on his book of the same title and tells the story of the Union, the hospitals and the local people who cared for and supported them during the difficult years of war.

Horses of the Great War

Thursday 17 August 2017

During the First World War, the British Army used more than 1 million horses in north-west Europe alone. This talk by Phoebe Merrick looks at how the horses were acquired and prepared for military service, with reference to Remount Camps in Romsey and Swaythling. This was the last major war in which animals were more important as sources of transport than mechanical devices.

Treasures of the Jewish Museum

Thursday 21 September 2017

The Jewish Museum London tells the fascinating history of the Jews in Britain from the 11th century to the present day. Collections Manager and Curator Dr. Kathrin Pieren, will explore this history through a selection of key items from the collections. Participants will also have an opportunity to engage with objects from the museum's handling collection.

Hampshire Constabulary Society

Thursday 19 October 2017

Hampshire Constabulary History Society has been working to preserve the history and heritage of the force and its constituent forces for over 25 years. They have a large collection of artefacts, documents and photographs that tell the history of the officers, locations and events of the last 175 years. The title and speaker for this talk are to be confirmed, but please keep looking at our website, www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk for more details.

What the Butler Saw

Thursday 16 November 2017

Stedman, Petworth's Georgian butler, shares his experiences and some things that he probably should not have seen! Explore his wine cellar and the eccentricities of Georgian drinking. Discover how completely different dining was in Stedman's day. From promiscuous seating and veils to chamber pots and mouse skin eyebrows – nothing is concealed. Irreverent and highly amusing but true!