

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

17/10/2024

Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery Celebrates Record-Breaking Summer with *Peggy Guggenheim: Petersfield to Palazzo*



Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery proudly announce the success of its summer exhibition, *Peggy Guggenheim: Petersfield to Palazzo*, which drew 8,900 visitors from across the UK and beyond. This record-breaking attendance affirms the Museum and Art Gallery's aim as being a cultural destination, bringing new visitors to Petersfield by unveiling the untold story of Peggy Guggenheim's connection to the local area.

Peggy Guggenheim: Petersfield to Palazzo, which ran from June to October 2024, showcased a selection of 15 artworks and archival material from the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice, prestigious UK collections and the Museum and Art Gallery's own collections. The exhibited art, photography, letters and Fashion and Textile Collection items gave insight into the life and times of Guggenheim.



"We are thrilled by the overwhelming response to *Peggy Guggenheim: Petersfield to Palazzo*," said Dan McWilliam, Director of Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery. "It exceeded all our expectations, and we are proud to have shared the story of Guggenheim's connection to Petersfield with visitors from our local community, across the UK and internationally".

Peggy Guggenheim: Petersfield to Palazzo delved into Peggy Guggenheim's years living at Yew Tree Cottage near Petersfield from 1934-1939. The exhibition explored her life in the English countryside, her time in the vibrant art scenes of London and ultimately Venice, where she cemented her place as one of the art world's most influential figures of the 20th century. Visitors experienced artworks by artists the self-described 'art addict' championed, including Henry Moore, Yves Tanguy, Max Ernst, Jean Arp, Rita Kernn-Larsen and John Tunnard, among others.



"The exhibition brought new life to a previously untold story of Peggy Guggenheim's connection to Hampshire and West Sussex, adding to the cultural richness of our area," said Louise Weller, Head of Collections and Exhibitions at Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery. "It's been a delight to see so many people captivated by her legacy, from those discovering her life for the first time, to those with a deeper knowledge of the modern art world".

This exhibition sparked interest across the region, bringing in visitors from all over the country and beyond. Whether arriving by train, car or on foot, Petersfield welcomed thousands of new visitors, eager to engage with the exhibition, experience the Museum and Art Gallery's summer event programme and explore Petersfield in the footsteps of Peggy Guggenheim.

While *Peggy Guggenheim: Petersfield to Palazzo* has now closed, Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery looks forward to its next chapter. As part of its 25th anniversary celebrations, the Museum and Art Gallery will open *South Downs Open* (22 October 2024-1 February 2025), featuring over 120 artists with nearly 150 artworks on display. The Museum and Art Gallery remains committed to bringing exhibitions reflecting the beauty and artistic heritage of Hampshire and the region to local, national and international visitors.



– Ends –

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Press images for all exhibitions and events are available from Molly Schmidt (Marketing and Communications Officer): communications@petersfieldmuseum.co.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

About Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery

Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery is housed in a rare example of a restored Victorian Justice Heritage site comprising the town's former police station and courthouse. Our collection displays include archaeology, social history, and photography relating to Petersfield and the surrounding area. Art, fashion, poetry, and literature are celebrated through exhibitions of items from the Flora Twort Art Collection and the Fashion and Textiles Collection, alongside a temporary exhibition programme. We are also home to the Edward Thomas Study Centre. Through our exhibitions and events, we believe in creating a cultural space for all, bringing people together and offering everyone the opportunity to enjoy history and the creative arts.

Website: www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk

Instagram: www.instagram.com/petersfieldmuseum

Twitter: www.twitter.com/PfieldMuseum

Facebook: www.facebook.com/petersfieldmuseum

Visiting Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery

Opening Times:

Tuesday to Saturday – 10.00am to 5.00pm (Last entry at 4.00pm).

Admission Prices:

Adults: £8.00 | Young People (5-17): Free | Children Under 5: Free

Concession tickets are available – please visit www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk for more details.

Tickets:

To book admission and event tickets, please visit: www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk

Visiting the Shop

Opening Times

Tuesday to Saturday – 10.00am to 5.00pm.

Open to the public, no museum admission required

Visiting the Coffee Shop

Opening Times

Tuesday to Saturday – 9.30am to 4.00pm.

Open to the public, no museum admission required

Located in the Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery courtyard

Visiting the Edward Thomas Study Centre

Opening Times

Wednesday, Thursday or by appointment – 10.00am to 3.30pm.

Open to the public, no museum admission required

Located in the Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery courtyard