

# Friends of the Willis Museum Newsletter, September 2011



*Sue Tapliss poses with museum staff and the painting presented to her by the Friends at her leaving party on July 27, photo by Richard Garfield, courtesy of Basingstoke Gazette.*

**The Friends' Association was founded in 1978 to promote, support and improve the Willis Museum. Meetings are held at the museum on the third Thursday of each month except August with other events as notified. Registered charity no 280406**

**Annual membership £10 Visitor for one evening £2 [www.friendsofwillis.hampshire.org.uk](http://www.friendsofwillis.hampshire.org.uk)**

*Your committee: Derek Anthony (Chairman), Ian Williams (Vice-Chairman), Maurice Dyer (Treasurer), Bill Fergie (Outside events), Briony Hollands (Minutes secretary), John Hollands (Publicity), Jenny Stevens (Curator), Cathy Williams (Programme Secretary).*

*This newsletter was edited by Derek Anthony and John Hollands.*

Contact us c/o the museum or by email at [enquiries@friendsofwillis.hampshire.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@friendsofwillis.hampshire.org.uk)

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**Chairman's Jottings,  
by Derek Anthony**

First of all, my thanks go to everyone who contributed so handsomely to a leaving present for Sue Tapliss, our Curator for the past 10 years, when she retired at the end of June.

On Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June, at a cream tea organised by the Museum staff we were able to present Sue with a cheque for £100 and a beautiful painting of the Museum specially commissioned for us by Marian Spencer of the Museum staff from local artist, Gerry Toms.

My thanks also go to all those members who have already renewed their membership. I do hope that as many existing members as possible will feel that they want to go on supporting the Museum and will renew before the deadline on 1<sup>st</sup> October.

On 1<sup>st</sup> July we welcomed Jenny Stevens who succeeds Sue Tapliss as Curator of the Willis Museum. Elsewhere in the newsletter is a message of greeting from Jenny to all of the Friends.

As everyone is very well aware we live in a time of uncertainty and change and that applies as much to the Museum Service as to anywhere else. In July Hampshire County Council published its "Arts and Museum Service Strategic Review, Phase 2 and Draft Strategic Plan, 2012-16" - available to read on the

County Council website.

At the time of writing (mid-August) your committee had submitted a written response to this Strategic Review and Draft Strategic Plan and attended a meeting with Janet Owen, Head of the Museum Service, to discuss the Review and Draft Strategic Plan. A further meeting is scheduled for later in the year when more details of the Strategic Plan have been published and the possible effects on the Willis Museum become clearer.

All Friends are invited to the 2011 Annual General Meeting which will take place at 7.30 pm on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October in the Willis Museum. At that meeting you will be asked to vote on a proposed change to the Constitution to make it clear that all members of the committee are also trustees of The Friends of the Willis Museum. This has been the case ever since the Friends became a charity but has never been stated in the constitution. The new sentence to be added to section 4 of the constitution reads as follows: -

"The officers and members of the committee shall be *"ipso facto"* the trustees of the Association."

At the same time you will be asked to vote for the officers and committee members who you would like to run The Friends for the next 12 months. Nominations for the officers and committee members are always welcome.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank

all of those Friends who work so hard to make each monthly meeting a success, to thank all members of the committee for their support and to the staff of the Museum who are always so obliging and helpful. I do hope that you agree with me that, this year, we have enjoyed some excellent talks and a first class visit. Finally I am pleased report that rapid progress is being made towards finalising the 2012 programme which will be published in December.

**YOUR newsletter,**  
**by the editors**

We hope you enjoy *reading* this newsletter, but have you ever thought of *writing* for it as well? What could you write about? Well, what about an article on some aspect of local history of which you have special knowledge, or indeed about any past experiences, whether local or not, that you think would interest other Friends, or *any* historical subject in which you have a special interest? Accounts of visits to other museums or places of historic interest would be most welcome. Please help us to broaden the list of people who write articles for the newsletter beyond the handful of regular contributors.

If you cannot write a whole article, how about writing a letter? You could tell us what you think of the latest special exhibitions at the Willis, or about the permanent exhibitions, or indeed any aspect of the Willis Museum and the way it is run. *Suggestions* as well as comments will be particularly welcome. Tell us what you think of the Friends' Talks' Programme, and the speakers, about the newsletter, our website or indeed any matter to do with the Friends' Association and how it is organised. Again, your *suggestions* will be especially appreciated. . How can we do things better?

Here's something we'd like you to tell us about if you are a long-standing member. An article published in "Museums in Britain" 1997 describes the creation of the then new "Time Tunnel" exhibition. It refers to "focus groups drawn from the local community" set up by the Susan Fisher Group to provide feedback to enable Design Consultant Alan Williams to "design a

gallery that would reflect local opinion on such matters as the physical layout of the gallery, its historical content, and the interpretative processes used." Have you any recollections of being involved with these focus groups?

We the editors would like to have at least one article that is not by a regular contributor to put into next issue, plus a page or more of your letters and comments. So please start putting pen to paper, or fingers to keyboard, and make it a newsletter *by* the Friends as well as *for* them. Write to The Friends' Newsletter, Willis Museum, Market Place, Basingstoke RG21 7QD, or email the editors on enquiries@friendsofwillis.hampshire.org.

**Basingstoke Military Volunteers,**  
**by Ian Williams**

It is widely believed that Volunteer units were only raised in this country in the 1790's or 1800's but there were auxiliary or volunteer units as far back as Saxon Times, and there was a resurgence of recruiting in 1859.

During the Napoleonic Wars, from 1793, there was a fear of invasion by the French, so many towns and counties formed militia or yeomanry units.

Basingstoke was no exception, and in 1803 raised two companies of volunteers, commanded by Captain John Riddout and Lieutenant Charles May.

In the event, there was only one attempted landing by the French, in Pembrokeshire, and the Pembroke yeomanry assisted in dealing with this.

A number of volunteer units were used to deal with civil unrest. In fact John May's father Charles was involved in one. There were agricultural riots in Hampshire, and the Basingstoke yeomanry was sent to deal with them. There is an alleged story about Charles. Whilst attending one of these riots, Charles' manservant approached the leader of the rioters and said "Do you know who that is there? It is Charles May." The leader of the mob said in reply "If we carry on we will get no beer", and they all left peaceably.





These local militias only existed for a short period of time as many were disbanded after the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. In fact, the Basingstoke Militia was disbanded in 1814. Many of the mounted volunteer units, or yeomanry as they became called, continued even up to quite recently. Some infantry units continued too, usually as rifle or shooting clubs. The Duke of Wellington was

head of the army, and even after Waterloo he gave continuous warnings about the danger of allowing the country to be ill prepared for Home Defence.

In 1852, Sir James Napier published a pamphlet on 'The Defence of England by the Corps of Volunteers and Militia'. Further, during the Crimea War, 1853-56, the public was made aware of the poor state of the country's armed forces by William Russell, a Times journalist, and there was a wave of patriotic feeling. Public opinion compelled the government of the day to take steps to increase the forces for defence in case of an invasion.

A War Office circular dated 25<sup>th</sup> May 1859, stated the involvement of small bodies or company's and should consist of: - 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 1 Ensign, and 100 men of all ranks to be the maximum.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> June 1859, Mr.R.S. Herbert, the Mayor of Basingstoke, placed an advert in the Hampshire Chronicle calling for a meeting in the Town Hall to consider the subject of raising a Volunteer Battalion

for Basingstoke. This meeting took place on the 29<sup>th</sup> June. Present

were: - The Mayor, W.W. Beach MP, W.L. Chute, Rev. J. Blatch, G. Lamb and J. May.

It was agreed at this meeting that it was desirable to form a Rifle Corps and Division of Basingstoke on the principle laid down by the Government. There were a few teething troubles, including where to site a Rifle Range. It was not until the 31<sup>st</sup> July 1860 that difficulties were overcome, and acceptance of the Corps was issued by the War Office.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> August 1860, Captain T. Harvey was gazetted as captain of the Company. On August 30<sup>th</sup> they first paraded in their grey uniforms at the Town Hall, and 67 men were sworn in. Thus the 18<sup>th</sup> Hants Rifle (Basingstoke) Volunteer Battalion came into existence.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> April 1861, by kind invitation of Mr. And Mrs. Chute, the battalion marched to the Vyne, where it was presented with a new drum donated by Mrs. Chute.

1862 was not a good year for the volunteers. The 18<sup>th</sup> Basingstoke failed to appear at an inspection on the 19<sup>th</sup> November, and then refused to attend another parade. This led to friction between the H.Q. Staff at Winchester and the Captain of the Basingstoke Corps. I will not go into all the politics, except to say the Basingstoke Corps were disciplined which lead to further friction, resulting in the Lord Lieutenant announcing the disbandment of the 18<sup>th</sup> Basingstoke on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 1864.

During 1866 and 1869 the Lord Lieutenant was approached on the subject of reforming the Basingstoke Corps, with little success.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> May 1875 sanction was received for the formation of another Basingstoke Corps, on condition from the War Office that none of those who had been in the disbanded group in 1864 should be enrolled again. Under these conditions the renamed 25<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Basingstoke) Rifle Volunteers was formed, captained by John May

In 1877 the grey uniforms were replaced with the more widely known scarlet tunics.

The Battalion went from strength to strength, and by 1878 had 3 Officers, 6 Sergeants, 1 Bugler and 58 Rank and file, who attended all the annual training

camps and inspections.

In 1880 the Carsewell reforms changed the structure of the British Army, did away with purchase of commissions, and bettered the welfare of the common soldier.

These changes affected the Volunteer units. The 25<sup>th</sup> Battalion was re-designated K Company 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Hampshire Rifle Volunteers, still under the captaincy of John May. On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July 1883, the foundation stone was laid by John May for Basingstoke's K Company Drill Hall that he paid for, at the top of Sarum Hill.

In 1885 K Company entered the age of technology. It was issued with 2 horse drawn wagons.

It should be noted that men from K Company volunteered and served in the South African War 1899 to 1901.

The Basingstoke volunteers stayed as K Company and in the late 1890's even had a Cyclist troop. In 1908 the British Army underwent another reform under Lord Haldane, and the men of K Company were absorbed into the newly formed Territorial Army.

My main source of this information was the archive of the Hants and Berks Gazette, so this account is by no means complete. I would be very pleased to receive further information from readers. The photograph depicts a volunteer in the uniform of the 1860s.

### **The Basingstoke employment scene in 1911,** **part one: jobs for men,** **by John Hollands**

Last year I wrote a piece for you about families and housing in Basingstoke in 1911, using information from a report on the 1911 census for the county of Hampshire; we have photocopies of parts of this in the Resources Room (filed at C16). In our present census year of 2011, and now that personal information in the 1911 census is in the public domain, I thought you might like to be taken back to this report a second time for what it can tell us about employment in Basingstoke one hundred years ago.

All the information in the report is presented in the form of statistical tables, so I shall be taking my census information from tables 22 and 24.

Table 24, entitled "Grouped occupations of males

aged 10 years and upward", gives details of how they were employed in the 23 census areas into which Hampshire and the Isle of Wight were divided. The "Municipal Borough of Basingstoke" was one of these 23 areas. There were 35 "grouped occupations", such as "Defence of the country", to quote one example.

Table 22 breaks these "grouped occupations" down into individual jobs; so, using the same example, "Defence of the country" is broken down into six "jobs", officers of the army, the Royal Navy, and the marines, and men of these three services. This table also covers the employment of women, single, married and widowed. The numbers of men and of women doing each job are given (in "Defence of the realm" the number of women employed is actually zero), but only in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight as a whole, and not in the districts.

I shall therefore be using Table 24 to create a league table of jobs for men and boys in Basingstoke, starting with the "grouped occupation" that employed the most down to the ones that employed the least, and referring to table 22 for more details of the types of job that fall into these groups. (I hope to write about the employment of women, and of children aged 10 to 14 in a separate future article). I shall also be making some comparisons between Basingstoke and the other districts, to show how relatively important the town was in the economy of Hampshire as a whole.

Other sources, principally Kelly's Directory for 1907 and Munday's Directory for 1907-8, (the closest in date of which we have copies in the Resources Room), are referred to for information about whom the men doing these various jobs were likely to have been working for.

It may be well to remember that the census recorded all the people spending a particular night in Basingstoke. Some of these people must have been visitors to the town who were employed elsewhere, whilst even in 1911 there must have been commuters and others living in Basingstoke but not working there. There would also have been some Basingstoke residents who were absent from the town on census day, and therefore recorded elsewhere. You are probably aware that recent research has shown that one of these was the well-known John May; he spent each census day with a lady living elsewhere (to whom

he may have been secretly married). One cannot therefore get a completely accurate picture of the job scene in Basingstoke from the census report, but it should nevertheless give us as close an approximation as we are likely to be able to get.

Turning now to table 24 we learn that there were 4271 males in the town altogether, of whom 3600 were in work, the rest being “unoccupied or retired”. (Table 22 explains that those in the “unoccupied” category included schoolboys, students and men of private means).

It probably won't surprise you that the largest group of males, 489 or approximately 13.5% <sup>1</sup>of the total male work force, was employed in “general engineering and machine making”. No doubt the well remembered Thornycrofts, and Wallis and Steevens, and maybe also Dawsons, the gas apparatus manufacturers accounted for most of this number. Only two other Hampshire census districts had a higher percentage of the male population so employed; these were Eastleigh and Bishopstoke with some 26%, mainly on account of the locomotive and carriage works that the London and South Western Railway had set up there, (having first considered Basingstoke as a possible location), and Itchen with some 18%, a ship building location. Whilst this “grouped occupation” was very important to the Basingstoke economy, the quoted figure suggests that it was not really dominant; in fact the details that follow suggest that the local economy was quite diverse.

In second place came “building and works of construction” accounting for 409, or about 11.5% of the male work force. The town was expanding steadily and seven building firms with addresses in Basingstoke were listed in Munday's 1907-1908 Directory, including the well-known Mussellwhites.

Third came the 379 (about 10.5 %) employed in “food, tobacco, drink and lodgings”. Table 22 indicates that this category includes men working in food shops, and of course tobacconists (seven of the latter in the town in 1907), as well as in breweries and public houses. Basingstoke's involvement with the drinks trade had probably decreased somewhat since

the time of the Salvation Army Riots, but John May and Co's Brewery was of course still going strong, The number of public houses had declined from the 51 (one for every 49 males in the population), referred to in a deposition made by Thomas Burberry in the late nineteenth century, (which you can see in the Resources Room), but Munday's 1907-8 Directory still lists 35 of them in the town. All in all this “grouped occupation” was one of the largest, percentage wise, among the 23 districts but not the largest. Alton, another brewing centre, led the field with about 17% so employed.

Next comes the 289 (about 8%) employed in the “conveyance of men, goods and messages on railways”, reminding us that railways were still the dominant means of transport in 1911 and that Basingstoke was – and still is – an important railway junction. Percentage-wise the town was second only to Eastleigh and Bishopstoke where 18.5% of the male population was involved with running the railway in addition to the large number employed in the locomotive and carriage works. Since then of course road transport, railway closures, mechanisation and changing social habits must all have substantially reduced these percentages. . Table 22 tells us that 1081 railway porters were at work in Hampshire in 1911. When did you last see a railway porter to help carry your luggage?

Two groups tie for fifth place, each employing 208 males, (about 5.75%). One is “agriculture on farms, woods and gardens”, a reminder that Basingstoke still owed much of its importance to being the centre of an agricultural district. I looked for farms within the municipal boundary on an Ordnance Survey map of 1912, and for references to farms in the 1907 Kelly's, and found all these: Eastrop Farm, Merton Farm, Oakridge Farm, South Ham Farm, West Ham Farm, Jay's Farm, Viables Farm and Down Grange. In addition, Gustav Schroeder and Thomas Edney both ran market gardens in Winchester Road, and Henry Davidson was a bee farmer there. Farming was of course, a much less mechanised and more labour intensive occupation than it is today.

There were also 208 male tailors, (and even more women tailors), reminding us of the importance to the local economy of Burberry's, John Mares, and

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<sup>1</sup> The percentages in this article are mine. There are no percentages in Table 24

Gerrish, Ames and Simkins, as well as several small tailoring businesses. No other Hampshire census districts had such a high percentage of men engaged in this work, the next highest being Winchester, where, there was, I believe, a second Burberry factory. There some 3% of the male work force was engaged in tailoring.

Seventh in our league table came the “conveyance of men, goods and messages on roads”, providing employment for 169 men (about 4.5%). Table 22 indicates that the largest sub group within this category was of “carmen”, carters and carriers”, (5765 in the county as a whole). Kelly’s 1907 directory lists 26 local villages, Basingstoke’s hinterland, to which there were regular carrier services from the town, each starting from a public house. The next largest sub-group consisted of “horse keepers, grooms and stablemen” (1250 in the county) followed by nearly as many coach (“not domestic”) and cab drivers (1198 in the county). Motor vehicles were beginning to make a big impact by 1911, but horse transport had yet to lose its dominance of the roads. There were now 364 “motor car drivers (non-domestic)” and motor cab drivers in Hampshire.

In eighth place came 155 males whose occupations were unspecified and fell into an “all other” category. In ninth place came 140 men employed as “builders of cycles, coaches and other vehicles”. As well as John Joice’s well known Hampshire Carriage Works in Winchester Street, Munday’s 1907 directory refers to Dench Bros of Brook Street, - “carriages of every description built to order” - and to no less than eight businesses described as cycle makers, including Webbers, later to become much better known for selling and maintaining cars. The presence of the cycle makers reminds us that towns were much more self-sufficient in 1911 than they are now. You would hardly expect to buy a bicycle in Basingstoke today that had been made in the town (or probably even in this country!)

Tenth came 127 “commercial and business clerks” closely followed in eleventh place by 126 males whose occupations were listed as “professional occupations and their subordinate services”. Table 22 indicates that this was a broad category embracing the church, law, medicine, teaching, “literary, scientific and political

occupations”, engineers and surveyors, art, music and drama, and exhibitions and games. It would be good to have a more detailed break down of this category as it applied specifically to Basingstoke, but this is not available from the report. . Kelly’s and Munday’s directories offer some guidance however. Places of worship listed with their attendant clergy and ministers in the 1907 Kelly’s are St Michael’s, All Saints (served by the clergy of St Michael’s), the Holy Ghost Catholic Church, London Street Congregational Church, the Countess of Huntingdon’s Chapel in Wote Street, the Primitive Methodist Chapel in Sarum Hill and the Wesleyan Chapel in Church Street. Munday’s Directory for 1907-1908 lists six solicitors’ firms practising in the town including the old established Lamb, Brooks, Sherwood and Bullock at 21 Winchester Street, now Lamb Brooks. A trawl through Kelly’s 1907 directory netted the names of seven doctors, three vets and two dentists. Male teachers were employed at Queen Mary’s School, and at elementary schools in Church Street, Brook Street, and Southern Road.

I find it rather difficult to specify where the 124 men who came into the 12<sup>th</sup> category “messengers, porters and watchmen” were employed; perhaps some delivered goods for local businesses. It is easier to account for the 120 whose jobs were to do with wood, furniture, fittings and decorations. There were four cabinet making firms in the town, of which the biggest seem to have been J Moody and Son of 17 London Street, and Poulter and Hunt, also of London Street. The charmingly named Little Dustpan was among the shops selling furnishings.

The “grouped occupations” that each employed less than 100 of the male work force were as follows (table continues on the next page):

Domestic outdoor service	92
Merchants, agents, accountants, banking	85
General or local government	75
Drapers, linen drapers, mercers, dealers in dress	71
General labourers, factory labourers, (undefined)	65
Boot, shoe, slipper, patten makers	38
Domestic indoor and other service	34
Printers and lithographers	27

Iron, steel manufacture, tools, dies, arms, misc. metal trades	23
Dock labourers, wharf labourers, etc	20
Other workers in dress	20
Defence of the country	19
Electrical apparatus	17
Precious metals, jewels, watches, instruments, games	17
Chemicals, explosives, oil and grease	17
Skins, leather, saddlery and harness	16
Brick, plain tile, terra cotta makers	11
Others in conveyance of men, goods and messages	3
Conveyance on seas, rivers and canals	1
Working in and about and in the products of mines and quarries	1
Textile manufacturers	1

Table 22 tells us that “domestic outdoor service” included men working as coachmen, chauffeurs, and gamekeepers, for domestic employers, and in much larger numbers as gardeners. Against the 92 so employed note the modest 35 employed in indoor domestic service. This compared with 468 Basingstoke women employed in this way; in large establishments such as television’s *Downton Abbey*, and probably also Hackwood Park and The Vyne, there may have been a good many male indoor servants, but the many middle class households with one servant would almost invariably have employed a woman.

Further down the scale the 38 engaged in the making of footwear are worthy of note. Milwards was already established in the town, and so too was the Bavis Company of Wote Street that made boots for Scott’s Antarctic Expedition (whilst Burberrys’ made clothing).

The numbers working in banking, insurance, accountancy and especially general and local government, in each case just over 2% seem very modest by today’s standards, especially as table 22 denotes that the latter category included policemen and post office workers, as well as local government officers and civil servants. General and local

government intruded much less into the lives of ordinary people in 1911 than it does in today’s welfare state. Even in the county town of Winchester the number so employed only amounted to about 4%.

Like those employed in indoor domestic service, the number of Basingstoke men engaged in the “defence of the realm” (army, navy, marines) seems surprisingly low, about half of one per cent. However the number with a permanent address in Basingstoke could well have been much higher and have included serving personnel stationed elsewhere in the country, at sea or serving overseas. The “Defence of the realm” group was by far the largest grouped occupation in Aldershot, 12,694 or about 70% of the total male work force, (no doubt mostly army personnel), whilst the 30% or so in Portsmouth (in actual numbers 23,252, no doubt mostly navy and marines) was also very high; both figures probably included some from Basingstoke.

We can identify one of the seventeen who worked in jewels and watches, our museum’s founder George Willis. Probably the number engaged in work of this kind remained pretty static over the years, whereas the seventeen males who worked with electrical apparatus were surely set to grow. Two years after this census, the Borough’s own generating plant came on stream.

And what of those occupations that could account for only one worker each? I am inclined to think that the textile worker and the mine or quarry worker were visitors to the town, but I am intrigued by the one man employed on the “conveyance of goods by sea, river or canal”: this could have been a merchant seaman home on shore leave, but could it perhaps have been Basingstoke’s very last canal barge man, who brought that final load of moulding sand for Wallis and Stevens to the Basingstoke Wharf in 1910, maybe now working for A J Harmsworth at Ash the limit for commercial barge traffic thereafter? Perhaps someone researching family history with the help of the 1911 census will stumble on the answer.

Indeed should this article ever help to fill in the background to someone’s family history research, perhaps, reader, yours, the effort of writing it will have been doubly worthwhile.





### **A message from our New Curator**

Jenny Stevens, our new curator has emailed this message to all Friends: -

“I am very much looking forward to the challenge of taking over as Curator of the

Willis alongside Andover Museum and Aldershot Military Museum. I’m a Hampshire Hog, having grown up in Gosport down in the far south of the county. However, I have enjoyed the challenge over the last 6 years of getting to know the north west of the county and hope to learn more about the rest of “the North”. I look forward to meeting the Friends over the coming months and hope to attend a number of evening lectures.”

### **What’s on at the Willis, Sept-Dec, 2011**

#### **Now until October 8: Sickert to Shaw:**

*100 years of prints, drawings and watercolours from Southampton City Art Gallery. Features a wealth of British “greats” including Stanley Spencer, Bridget Riley and Howard Hodgkin. Sainsbury Gallery*

#### **September 17 to October 18: Photographers of distinction:**

*A Basingstoke Camera Club Exhibition highlighting local achievers of Royal Photographic Society Distinctions. Community Gallery*

#### **September 20, 6.30 pm for 7 pm: Guided tour of the Sickert to Shaw Exhibition**

*with Tim Craven, Leading Curatorial Officer at Southampton City Art Gallery.*

**£5 charge. PRE-BOOKING ESSENTIAL 01256 465902**

#### **October 15 to December 24:**

##### **The forgotten emperor:**

*Stunning Roman artefacts help to tell the story of Carausius and an epic battle in third century Hampshire. Sainsbury Gallery*

##### **October 15 to November 5: Philip Yates: Panorama**

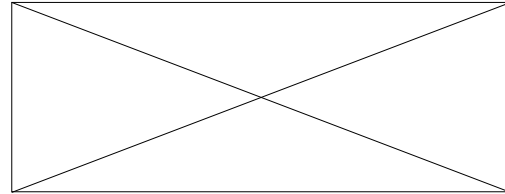
*An exhibition of this artist’s abstract, expressionist landscapes, using a variety of media in an unconventional way. Community Gallery*

##### **October 20 at 7.30 pm.: Friends’ AGM followed by short talks by members. Archaeology Gallery**

**October 22-29: Half term: The Romans are coming!**  
*Roman themed family activities. £1 per person, no booking required*

##### **November 12 to December 3: Town and Cityscape** *A Basingstoke Art Club Exhibition. Community Gallery*

**November 17 at 7.30 pm Friends’ Talk: The bank note makers: the history of Portals,** by our own member, Dave Stone.



*Dave who has worked for De La Rue for 25 years outlines the history of the Portals, paper makers for almost 300 years. Archaeology Gallery*

##### **December 15 at 7.30 pm: Friends’ Christmas party, and “Christmases remembered”, by Barbara Applin.**

*Our own member, historian Barbara Applin will provide illustrations and quotations and invite YOU to share your memories and ideas. Archaeology Gallery.*

# THE FRIENDS OF THE WILLIS MUSEUM

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TO BE HELD AT THE WILLIS MUSEUM ON THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER, AT 7.30 pm

### AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Chairman's opening remarks
3. Minutes of the 2009 AGM
4. Matters arising
5. Chairman's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Election of Officers and Committee
8. Appointment of Accounts Examiners
9. Proposed change to the constitution: -

Addition to **Paragraph 4:** -

The officers and members of the committee shall be "*ipso facto*" the trustees of the Association.

10. Any other business