

Exhibitions and Events

Do come in and see the **Marianne North exhibition**, it is a wonderful display. Produced as part of a Heritage Lottery funded project by Creative Force, Hastings Local History Group and Sacred Heart School, it is the most colourful display I think we have ever had in the History House. There is an accompanying book of the project at Sacred Heart School and some of the children's artwork is also on display. This will remain up into the new year.

We are very grateful to Marilyn Saklatvala who has produced two excellent exhibitions this year for us. **Hastings: Hotbed of Women's Emancipation** was much enjoyed during August and September.

In October extracts from the Dover reproduction of the **Bayeux Tapestry** will take its place with the full illustrations running on the screen.

In November the second of Marilyn's exhibitions **Remembrance – How We Bury Our Heroes** will go up. This explores how Hastings set up a dedicated area at the cemetery and the various memorials as well as telling some of the stories of those buried there.

We had a query recently from Blandford Forum regarding Thomas Bernard Victor Melmoth who is buried in Hastings Cemetery. Mr Lovell who had been researching this man whose mother lived in Dorset sent us what information he had discovered.

T.B.V.Melmoth was born in 1897 in Bromley as B. T. V. H. Cavell. He is recorded as a stableman when he attested in August 1914. He served at Gallipoli and then in France, was sent home in 1916 suffering from bronchitis and then was returned to France. He was wounded in 1918 and diagnosed with TB. He died at Fairlight Sanatorium [what is now Barrington House next to Aldi in Ore] in November 1918. Why the change of name you might ask?

His father Albert Bernard Cavell sailed to Melbourne as a miner in 1914. He joined the 2nd Tunnelling Coy. of the Australian Imperial Force and landed in Marseille in 1916 and he was killed in action on New Years day 1917 and buried in France. Whether Thomas ever saw him again we will never know.

In 1911 Victor, still a Cavell, was living with an aunt and maternal grandmother but his mother had moved to Dorset and was living with a Tom Melmoth whose name she took. I have great admiration for researchers like Mr Lovell and Marilyn who can tease out such complicated relationships.

All our exhibitions may be borrowed so if you have a space to fill in a hall or community centre please make enquiries with us.



Winter Programme

Talks and events at Hastings History House

Saturday 10th November 5pm Come and experience "**Apparitions**" - recreating lost landmarks using art and technology with Luciana Hail. Tickets £3 refreshments available.

Saturday 1st December – join us for our seasonal celebration with Ian Porter showing some of Glen Veness's films of Hastings, always popular in Old Town Week. Mulled Wine and Mince pies included in the ticket price of £5 members, £6 non members.

Thursday 10th January from 11am 'Where is this?' can you help us identify some of the places in our postcard collection? Tea and coffee available.



You may have seen the new sign outside the Fishermen's Museum, many thanks to a friend of the Museum for this.