

COUNTDOWN TO GOSPORT HODs 2016 Newsletter 22 - February 2016

Please note change of telephone number – our new contact number is: **07531 001003**

Expression of Interest

Event Organisers, if you have not already done so, please fill in and return the attached Expression of Interest form and return to us as soon as possible, you can also print a copy of the form by following this link: <http://www.gosportheritage.co.uk/get-involved/organiser-area/>

National News

Organiser Fairs – reserve your FREE place

New to Heritage Open Days? Or in need of some inspiration? Book your free place on one of the national Fairs this April - a pick and mix day of different skills sessions delivered by sector professionals and fellow organisers. This is your annual chance to chat, catch up and gain inspiration. Topics will include advice on marketing, volunteering, interpretation and much more. To read more and reserve your FREE place by 31 March 2016 go to:

<http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/press/news/organiser-fairs-2016-book-your-free-place>

Gosport Website

It may interest you to know that we have over 500 people per day visiting our website, the majority of whom live outside the UK. To make the website interesting for people who can't attend events in September, we have developed a 'Features' page, full of heritage stories relating to Gosport. If you have a story or any information about your event/site please let us know and we can add it to the 'Features' page.

You can now print any forms you may need for your events from our website. Go to the 'Get Involved' tab, then click 'Organiser Area' in the drop down selection.

Vote for John Bevan of the Diving Museum

Voting is still taking place to find Visit England's Tourism Superstar and GHODs volunteer Dr John Bevan, who runs The Diving Museum, is one of the 11 people shortlisted. Votes can be cast via the The Mirror's website until February 28th - <http://www.mirror.co.uk/.../vote-now-your-visitengland-touris...>

Gosport HODs Social Meets

We want to meet more of the wonderful volunteers who make everything happen for HODs, so we are planning a monthly social meet up at interesting old pubs around Gosport. These will be 'drop by if you can' events, giving people a chance to put names to faces and chat through anything they want, whether HODs related or not, over a drink and a packet of crisps!

The first social will be...

Tuesday **1st March** between 7pm-9pm at The Fighting Cocks in Clayhall Road, PO12 2AJ
(Look for the pink H on our table)

More dates (probably the first Tuesday of each month) and venues to follow.

Dates for the diary:

- 1 March – Social Meet Up 7-9pm
- 8 March – Registration opens nationally
- 24 March - **AGM** at the Discovery Centre 5pm-6.30pm (arrive from 4.30)

- April – Organiser fairs in London, Birmingham & Durham
- 1 May – Early bird registration deadline nationally
- 24 May (tbc) – Gosport Event Organiser Workshop
- Mid-June – Event listings start going up on Gosport website
- Mid-July – Event listings start going up on national web directory
- 1 August – Final registration deadline nationally
- **8-11 September – the big event!**
- 1 October – deadline to return evaluation to feed in to the national report.

Kind regards from your
Gosport Heritage Open Days Management Team 😊