

## The People and the Palace

**Exhibition**  
**Thursday 29th October to Saturday 9th January 2010**



The People and the Palace is a fascinating exhibition about the people of Kingston and Hampton Court Palace in the Tudor era; all human life is here - from butchers to bell ringers, moss collectors to martyrs, criminals to queens.

As Hampton Court Palace commemorates 500 years since Henry VIII's accession to the throne, Kingston Museum takes a look at how local people experienced daily life in Tudor times. The lavish years of King Henry's reign could not have been so spectacular without a steady supply of food, clothing, animals and people from Kingston and the surrounding villages. In this exhibition we will reveal the reality of everyday life in Tudor Kingston, and the part the Palace played, and still plays, in the lives of ordinary Kingstonians.

### Touch, See and Smell

Using original Tudor documents and objects the stories of Kingston's inhabitants are brought to life. Find out about the horrors of the Scold's Bridle and the delights of Tudor food, smell the many scents of Kingston's Market Place and discover why our Tudor horse has such a long face.

The exhibition will be accompanied by an exciting programme of events and activities for all ages, as well as brand new, curriculum-linked school sessions for Key Stages 1, 2 & 3.

## Repacking Muybridge

The Museum employed our Caroline Cornish to work with Curator Peta, to repack some of the rare and beautiful Zoopraxiscope discs from the Muybridge collection. Bespoke boxes were purchased along with acid free museum standard foam, which Peta and Caroline painstakingly cut to shape, so that the discs would fit snugly and safely into their new storage. Plans are underway to repack the remaining discs next year. Muybridge would be proud!



*Exhibition Talk*  
*30th September 7.00pm*  
*Tickets £4*  
*Treasures of the Embroiderers' Guild by Lynn Szygenda: Deputy Director & Senior*

*Curator of the Embroiderers' Guild*

*Exhibition*  
*Kingston Camera Club,*  
*10th October to*  
*17th October 2009*

*Exhibition*  
*The People and the*  
*Palace, 29th October*  
*2009 to 9th January 2010*

*Hallowe'en Talk*  
*29th October 7.00pm*  
*Investigating the Ghosts*  
*of Hampton Court Palace*  
*By Ian Franklin, State*  
*Apartment Warlder*

# Summer of Fun

**Hundreds of visitors made their way to the Museum during the summer holidays to experience *Medieval Machines*. The exhibition was hugely popular, with one afternoon seeing visitor figures reach over 200.**



Activities have included a very memorable sword fighting workshop with Richard Brighton of *Swordplay*, a fascinating afternoon with the Royal Armouries and a full suit of armour, some slightly less violent medieval dancing and the massively fun ‘health & safety’ nightmare of Marshmallow Catapults!

Having been awarded a Public Engagement Grant from the Institute of Physics, we were able to invite dads and children from the Kingston Fathers Group to take part in a two-day trebuchet-building project. Under the watchful eye of Tolu Olajide from the Smallpeice Trust, three families drilled, sawed and hammered together. Once their siege engines were ready they attempted to destroy each other’s cardboard castles by carefully experimenting with different sizes and weights of projectiles and by varying the counterweight of their trebuchets.

Through some pre and post activity evaluation we ascertained that all participants enjoyed themselves and everyone learned something new about physics and engineering. One Dad said ‘I’m leaving with a huge sense of achievement’, and a son said ‘It was cool working as a family, I wouldn’t have done it on my own’. This was a great project that brought a new audience into the Museum. Working in different ways with a range of organisations means that Kingston Museum can broaden its appeal and provide fun, inspiration and new experiences to the widest audience possible.



## More Storage, New Look

During the annual summer closure of the Local History Room, Jill and Emma generally work on a small part of the collections to enable more to be accessible to the public. This year they are tackling the entire archive as mobile shelving is installed!! (see photographs of work in progress opposite).

Mobile shelving will increase storage capacity enabling us to hold all the Borough archives together on one separate site for the first time in the Borough’s history. ‘This is vital for the continuing care of the collections and visitor accessibility’, said Emma.

The Local History Room has also undergoing change, re-opening on Monday 21st September with a new look! A big thank you to volunteers, Mick, Ray and Judy and archivist Jill for helping Emma with the heavy lifting.



Ray and Mick offering willing hands!

# East Meets West



**What happens when you get five young people together, take them to the British Film Institute (BFI), give them some video cameras and ask them to make a film about Kingston that is going to be part of a major exhibition at the London Transport Museum (LTM)?**

We found out during *East Meets West*. This is a film project that has brought together young people from opposite sides of London, Kingston in the West and Redbridge in the East, to create films based on their experience of suburbia. In October the London Transport Museum will open *Suburbia*, a major exhibition looking at how transport has shaped the suburbs and celebrating suburban lifestyle, architecture, design and popular culture through a series of unique displays.

Our young people, five girls from Tolworth High School, The Hollyfield School and Coombe Girls School, worked on their film with staff of the BFI. As well as thinking about the message of the film and how to convey this, they learned how to use the camera and set up shots, how to interview using open questions and how to edit film and voice-over.

The girls created a really fantastic film of which they are, quite rightly, very proud. As well as forming a significant element of a major exhibition, the films will also be accessioned into both museum collections as documents of what life is like for young people in 2009.

Enthusiasm was so high for the project that the young people will continue to work with both museums, they will be creating and marketing events for young people at Kingston Museum and LTM in the Autumn. *Suburbia* opens on 15th October at the London Transport Museum.



Before and after in the archive store. Mobile shelving will provide much needed space

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*Please ring us on 020 8547 6460 if you are disabled and require assistance or a parking space at the museum.*

*Parking is available at North Kingston Centre. For assistance ring 020 8547 6738.*

*If you are unable to read this document because of disability or language, we can assist you. Please contact the Council helpline on 020 8547 5757 or ask someone to call on your behalf.*

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## NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS

### Heritage Open Days

The Friends were delighted to have been involved with the annual popular Heritage Open Days again this year on the weekend of 12th & 13th September, in particular, providing a rota for the Undercroft and old bridge remains in the basement of the John Lewis Store. A new leaflet on the monuments, sponsored by John Lewis and put together by representatives of the Friends, the Tour Guides and the Kingston upon Thames Society, is now available from the Museum and Local History Room.



When the Undercroft or cellar of an important medieval building was excavated in the 1980s it was lifted by giant crane and put into storage ready to be reinstated into the basement of the John Lewis Store that was being constructed on the site. This rare photograph shows the lifting which was undertaken by Pynfolds Ltd, a specialist contractor.

### Friends' Lectures

**Tuesday 22nd September 2009 at 7 for 7.30pm**

*The Story of Hillcroft College: Past, Present and Future* by Vina Owen of Hillcroft College

### Kingston upon Thames ARCHAEOLOGICAL Society Programme of talks

**7th October**

*Royal Kingston's Archives* by archivist Jill Lamb

All KUTAS meetings are held at 7.30 for 8pm in the Mayo Hall (ground floor) of the United Reformed Church at the corner of Union Street and Eden Street. Talks are free but donations of £1.50 welcomed.