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Farewell to Bill

We acknowledge the recent passing of Life Member William Skilton

Working Bee

There is a Working Bee this Saturday and we would love to see you, even just to drop in to say 'Hi'

Queen's Birthday Weekend

This is the weekend after next and the Park has lots of special events happening. This means lots of visitors to the Park and the Printery !

Educational Opportunities

We are getting more and more involved in providing workshops and session for both Primary and Secondary Schools. It is great to use these opportunities to share the wonderful world of printing!

Building developments

Hadleigh Lill, our wonderful builder is steadily getting overdue maintenance completed on the Printery, ready for printing.

New Website

Like the Park, we will have our own new website soon. Watch this space for more information. Coming soon!

William Skilton - Life Member



It is with much sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Life Member William Skilton who passed away on April 21 at Rosewood Rest Home. Many of our current members will not have known Bill and his wife Iris but they were great stalwarts of the Printing Society in earlier times. William was a multi talented person being an excellent tradesman as well as an accomplished musician and author. But it was as a treasurer that William is well remembered within the Society and for which he was honoured with Life Membership. He kept a firm hand on the finances of the Society over many years and the active role he played in the Margaret Hutchings Trust has been a real assistance to the Society. Alongside William was his wife Iris who was Secretary and Membership Secretary for many years - a hard working dedicated team. We would not have the wonderful environment and resources we enjoy today if it were not for the likes of the dedication of William and Iris and many others. Our condolences are extended to William's family.

(thanks to Gavin Tweedy for his help with this article)

Working Bee

As this coming weekend is the last weekend of the month, it is Working Bee time!

Can you donate us an hour of your time?

Or maybe you just have time to call in and say hello? We would still be very happy just to see you at the Printery - anytime from 10:00 - 4:00pm. Come and check out all the latest developments.

Jobs to be done

- * General tidy up / cleaning
- * Machine maintenance
- * Cabinets to shift / displays to set up
- * Machinery and some resources to be shifted
- * Further development in the Bindery area.

So no matter your skills or expertise, there is sure to be something you can help with!

Social time 3:00ish or when the jobs are done!

Queen's Birthday Weekend

This important weekend is only two weekends away. Can you lend us an hour or so of your time on Sunday or Monday?



We always have a good crowd attending the Park over Queen's Birthday Weekend with many people visiting the Printery, as can be seen from a photo from last year.

It is a great time to raise the profile of the Society to visitors, through demonstrating some of the older machinery, spending time chatting to visitors, assisting younger visitors to make notebooks and stencils, etc.

A short perusal of our Guestbook shows how much our efforts to preserve printing equipment and demonstrate the skills from a bygone age are appreciated - by both local and international visitors.

There are always a lot of special activities happening over this weekend with children's craft activities, the Peveril Steam Engine and Vulcan railcar running, and Josh doing Blacksmith's demonstrations, which draws in a lot of younger visitors in particular.

If you would like to lend a hand, even for a short time, which allows others to have a break, please contact Gary Parker 021 047 9621 or Howard Pettigrew 021 353 886.

Educational Opportunities

Last year, at various times, Gary, Russ and Howard worked with groups of students in Primary and Secondary Schools and today, Gary worked with a group from Middleton Grange School, who want more! It is great that we are getting more and more approaches to introduce younger minds to the wonders of printing in a variety of creative and hands on ways. Thanks Gary!