Land Settlement Association Bulletin No 40 (October 2019)

Sidlesham Heritage Trail



The Weald and Downland Living Museum

I would like to thank the staff at The Weald and Downland for staging the exhibition, particularly Julian, the curator, for mounting the display with so much care and understanding and to Lucy, the museum's Cultural Engagement Officer.

I would also like to thank the 15 people who acted as stewards to support the exhibition.

The LSA project has been brought to life by the stories which families of former tenants and staff have shared with me - 45 of whom attended a reception hosted by museum staff on Friday 27th September.

There were 560+ visitors to the exhibition and 54 very supportive comments in the visitors' book. There can be little doubt that the LSA house will be a fantastic addition to the museum's collection. During the exhibition I made contact with the relatives of 4 more 'original' miners: Wilson (No 25), Campbell (No 27), Higgs (No 29?) and Santon (No 34) as well as 6 other LSA tenants & staff.



I have access to the content used in the display and I am now looking for another venue which could host an exhibition to continue telling the LSA story – let me know if you have any suggestions



Visitors' Book Comments

- Many thanks for this glimpse into a working past that has survived in the memories of local friends.
- Many thanks for presenting this excellent exhibition. It is so important to remember this episode of local history.
- Interesting exhibition about an unknown, but important part of 20th century history. Thank you for bringing it to our attention.
- My past brought back to life. Thank you.
- Brought back lots of memories as I worked on the LSA from 1967-83 (John Bull, but no contact details – could be related to Bill 'Bowser' Bull ?)
- It is so important to preserve our heritage. Thank you.
- Absolutely fascinating insight into local history, very well presented. I was not aware of the LSA until my visit. Thank you.
- We started with the Abbotts Ann LSA in 1957. Then moved to Chawston LSA in 1963. Then retired back to Andover. Wonderful 30 years . Thank you.
- I was not aware of the LSA until my visit. Thank you.
- I started on the LSA at Foxash in 1977. Now live in Birdham (contact made)
- Really interesting untold/unknown story.
- Excellent an important part of social history (and government enterprise!) A great project.
- I spent some years selling LSA produce in Borough Market (contact made)
- I had never heard of it before. It's so obviously part of British history. Thank you.
- Brilliant (reception) Lovely to catch up with so many people from the past.
- Very informative. We learned a lot. Excellent guide!
- Very interesting story. An important part of history brought back to life in this wonderful exhibition. Particularly enjoyed the film.
- A forgotten piece of social history. Thank you for bringing it back to life.
- Fascinating exhibition. Lots of memories as I grew up on the Abington LSA in Cambridgeshire.

Thank you for all your continued support and assistance with this project. Contact: Bill Martin billm89@hotmail.com 01243 641154





