

# Finding a new path to local history

**N**AVIGATING History is a fascinating new project looking at local history and personal stories, through a series of exhibitions using art, design, film and even jewellery.

Worthing Library is the setting for three of these specially commissioned projects, which have unearthed several items from the library's archive collection.

Worthing Library is home to the West Sussex Local Studies Collection which holds items and records going back hundreds of years and not normally on public display.

The Lalla Rookh Project is a poetic memorial to a group of Worthing fisherman who drowned trying to save the Lalla Rookh, a ship which sank off the coast on November 25, 1850.

Artist Andrew Hunter has combined personal and local history, with maritime stories and looks at Thomas Moore's poem Lalla Rookh, from which the ship took its name.

This is on display in the local studies section of the library.

Simon Pope was commissioned to produce A Walk from London to Worthing, described as a "feat of endurance and endeavour".

He has used the lending, reference and local studies collection to put together a "treasure hunt" of fact, fiction, stories and narratives about London and Worthing.

You can see it throughout the library, just pick up for a information sheet.

You are invited to join Simon for his "walk" around the library, on October 21, at 5.30pm.

A First Class Ticket for

Worthing, by Mah Rana, is the third project.

The artist has unearthed a part of her family history to create a fictional piece of jewellery left to her by her great, great grandfather's sister in 1901.

It has been described as a "discovery of a personal and local history", and is on display in the local studies area of the library.

Alongside this is an exhibition called Meanings and Attachments (the foyer), which records the connections we have through our jewellery with places and people.

On October 21, Mah Rana will be at the library from noon until 6pm.

You are invited to take a piece of jewellery along to allow Mah to record your memories and stories.

Summing up the projects, curator Deborah Smith said: "A maze

of narratives from the unexpected to the peculiar, the tragic to the wondrous are revealed from stories of ordinary people to those documenting momentous events."

Navigating History is on until November 27.