

*April 2014*

## AGM Report 2014

2013 was a year of consolidation for the Trust. The project 'A Civil War Birth' was finished. This project not only involved the completion of the bedroom but also the research and production of display boards; it completes the civil war era displays on the 2nd floor of the House. The Sunday concerts, evening lectures as well as art and craft exhibitions continued to give pleasure, raise money and draw people to the House. The Craft shop experiment was a success and will be tried again in 2014 with a view to making it permanent. The café had a record year with many new visitors discovering the delights of the garden in sunshine. The Caradon Hill Area Heritage Project (CHAHP) came to an end but we retain as a legacy the digital archive of local interest including editions of the Cornish Times up to 1900. All in all there is much of interest in the House to encourage visitors to come in 2014.

Gill Bowman stepped down as a trustee after 5 years. We wish her well and are delighted she will continue to support the Trust's activities when other commitments permit. Rachel Bennett and Victor Briggs were newly elected trustees with the following re-elected:

Bruce Hawken – Chairman  
 Bob Hollingdale – Vice-chairman,  
 Tony Britton – Treasurer,  
 Sue Glencross – Hon. Secretary.  
 Roger Catchpole, John Gliddon, Dave  
 Howard and Tony Wood – trustees.

In a meeting immediately after the AGM the trustees present signed the paperwork agreeing to undertake their duties and voted to co-opt Val Moore as a trustee thus filling all but one of the available positions defined in the Trust constitution.

Financially the Trust had a good year. The overall outflow of funds was mainly due to the completion of projects for which grants (restricted funds) were received. Restricted funds are unspent amounts received for specific projects and monies ring fenced against future known commitments. The improved position in our unrestricted funds will stand us in good stead in a year where we may need substantial funds, even with grants, to solve the problem of water ingress in the south gable. A copy of the full Report and Accounts is held in the office should any member wish to see them.

	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Total Funds</i>
<i>Opening Balances 01-Jan-13</i>	8314	8316	16630
<i>Movement in year</i>	-5534	4500	-1034
<i>Closing Balances</i>	2780	12816	15596

Bruce Hawken  
Chairman

## Lightning Strikes Twice

(or Divine Judgement?)

Another memorable evening was held at the house on Wed. 5th March when Simon Crosbie gave his talk on 'Does Lightning Strike Twice?' This was a very well illustrated explanation of the damage done by the lightning bolt which hit Pillaton church in January 2013 and of the highly skilled work of restoring the church. The lightning blast threw large stones around the tower and through the south aisle roof, but the main damage was done by the huge stones at the base of the pinnacle as these came through the roof of the north aisle. These stones broke the very strong medieval beams and damaged the masonry and arches. All the stones were collected and amazingly rapidly reassembled in the stonemason's yard. The damage to the tower also included a second pinnacle which had been hit and made insecure by the fall of the first. Simon praised the extremely skilled work of the stonemasons and carpenters and glass fitters who worked on the project. He also commented on the skill of the scaffolders who had to provide robust scaffolding around the tower without securing it to the tower. He and his colleague Amanda had devised and then supervised the whole process and the final

pictures of the church showed what a superb job had been done. He then went on to show the damage of the second lightning strike in January 2014 at St Keyne. The work of repair there is now in hand and the picture on the screen in the photo is of the damage to the corner of the tower there.



Everyone present very much enjoyed this very well presented talk and appreciated the commitment and even passion shown by Simon in restoring such a beautiful medieval church, which had suffered such a damaging blow.

Tony Wood



and although the cuccu has not been heard to be singing luhd the magnificent magnolia is leading the way. This tree is not of course in the Stuart House garden, but is a major asset to the scenery. It is also a good friend, it was a major factor in the refusal of planning permission for the first application for development of the old petrol station. Subsequent plans appear to have changed philosophy to complement the surrounding buildings. Let's hope they are soon realised.

## The Stuart House Garden

Leslie Baigent was in the right place at the right time to catch this splendid view:



# The Last Gasp of Caradon Hill Area Heritage Project (?)

## Full day of events to celebrate the achievements of the Caradon Hill Area Heritage Project

Liskeard, and Stuart House particularly, was buzzing with activity on Saturday, 8th March when a series of events and walks took place to mark the end of this great project.



Mayor Sue Pike set things off to a great start on the Parade, and Liskeard Museum hosted the launch of the new History Boxes, which they have developed for use in schools and memory cafes.

The many and varied community groups set up under the CHAHP umbrella exhibited their work in Stuart House. Linkinhome and Pensilva History Groups, Stara and Pensilva Wildlife Groups. Mines and Miners, Caradon Geology, Caradon Archaeology, the Dormouse Group, St Cleer Parish Projects and Cornish Graves together with Caradon Writers group, and a consultation on the new Cornish Archive Kresen Kernow, meant there was something on offer for everyone.



The new electronic guides to sites of interest in the project area, Apps which can be downloaded to your 'phone or tablet from the CHAHP website, were also launched.



A programme of five walks themed on the CHAHP Apps and Caradon Trail throughout the day were very well attended, helped by the glorious Spring sunshine. These covered: a History of Liskeard with Tony Wood, Geology in Liskeard's Buildings with Calum Beeson, Moorswater the Industrial Powerhouse of East Cornwall by Mark Camp,



whilst Mary Westlake and Jill Saunders led walks in the beautiful river valleys surrounding the town.



The Rotary Clubs of Liskeard and Looe and Looe Valley inaugurated the Caradon Trail itself. They organised a cycle challenge, raising money for the Chestnut Appeal for Prostate Cancer, sent on its way by Sherill Murray MP.



The Caradon Hill Area Heritage Project, has now ended, but a legacy partnership formulated by members of the groups and partners associated with the project, including Stuart House Trust, has now been formed, called Caradon Heritage Partnership. Any group, charity etc. who would like to work with the partnership in order to carry on the good work of the Project should contact them via: [caradonhp@outlook.com](mailto:caradonhp@outlook.com)

# Music at Stuart House

## The Two Jonathans Stuart House, Sunday 16th March

Songs from Robert Schumann's song cycle, 'A Poet's Love' (Dichterliebe), delighted the audience at Stuart House last Sunday.



Tony Hazard translated and dramatically read Heinrich Heine's poems before Jonathan Lewsey sang them with his masterful command of rich bass tone, lyrical phrasing and expression.

These songs were an interweaving and equal partnership with Jonathan Delbridge's sensitive and brilliant piano accompaniment. The performance revealed the exquisite musical jewels of each song's exploration of love, longing, romance and parting.



The audience was spellbound listening to Jonathan Delbridge's restrained but haunting performance of Schumann's 'Scenes from Childhood'. Again, each short piece was a sparkling gem showing Schumann's genius for capturing mood and emotion.



Jonathan's ability to interpret the lyricism of this music had us hanging on every note and phrase.

**The next concert** will be on Sunday 18th May at the usual time of 2.30pm and sees the return of Valley Voices, conducted by Elizabeth Saudek. Valley Voices has its home in the Tamar Valley and is a chamber choir, singing mostly a cappella music in a variety of styles and periods including sacred polyphony, madrigals, folk and popular songs. In the past five years they have performed in many venues in East Cornwall and West Devon.

They like to give their audiences a chance to participate, when appropriate, and in this concert you will be invited to help out with one of the songs, Summer is Icumen in. They will sing a varied programme including Bach, sacred works, shanties, madrigals, folk and popular songs. It will clearly be a most entertaining afternoon!



Angela Wunnam.

## Our Project Partners

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& COLIN DAVEY

### Sterts Singers in Concert

Plus songs from our Summer shows  
Annie & Sweeney Todd

**Sterts Studio**  
**Friday 25th April 7.30pm**

Sterts Theatre, Upton Cross, Liskeard PL14 5AZ  
01579 362382/www.sterts.co.uk

**16<sup>TH</sup>  
APRIL**  
**17<sup>TH</sup>  
APRIL**

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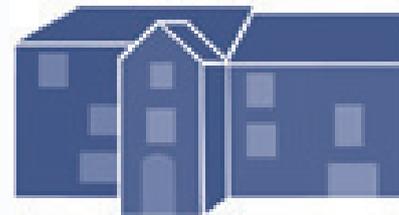
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**Sterts Summer Programme published soon!**

# Diary of Events

## April 2014



Tuesday 1st	<b>Stuart House Craft and Gift Shop opens and will run until Saturday 27th November</b>	
Every Thursday	"Knit n' Knatter". 10.30am – 1.30pm	
Saturday 5th	Bronze Age Craddock Moor', a joint Bo Foaks and Tony Blackman Memorial Walk, with Iain Rowe. 10.00am to 1.00pm, Minions Heritage Centre Car Park SX 262 713.	
Tuesday 1st - Saturday 12th	'Once Upon a Song'. An open art and craft exhibition. Exhibition and Sale inspired by music of any and all genres. Preview on Sunday 30th March Let music inspire you, whether popular, operatic, classical, folk, carols, bluegrass or garage. Let your imagination run wild. Entry forms from the office.	
Tuesday 8th	"Hammer Out Brain Tumour" Cornwall Support Group meets 11.30am – 1.30pm The group is open to anyone who has been affected by a brain tumour, whether a patient, a family member, a friend or a carer. See <a href="http://www.hammerout.co.uk">www.hammerout.co.uk</a>	
Monday 14th	Liskeard Poetry Group meets in the café, 4.00pm – 6.30pm.	
Monday 14th - Thursday 17th	Art Exhibition by users of the ECHO Cornwall Centre <a href="http://www.echocentre.co.uk">www.echocentre.co.uk</a>	
Friday 18th - Monday 21st	<b>House closed for the Easter festivals</b>	
Monday 28th - Friday 9th May	Art Exhibition and Sale by John Batey  'Moorland Moods'	

*The House, Garden and Computer Research Suite are open 09.30 a.m. - 3.30 p.m.,  
The Old Kitchen Café 10.00 a.m till 2.00 p.m., each weekday,  
and until 12.30 p.m. and 12.00 noon respectively on Saturdays.  
The Computer Research Suite may be open at other times on request.*

*The House is open these same times for all events unless otherwise stated above.  
The Office is open every weekday until 2.00 p.m.  
Subject to change depending on the availability of volunteers (could you help?)*