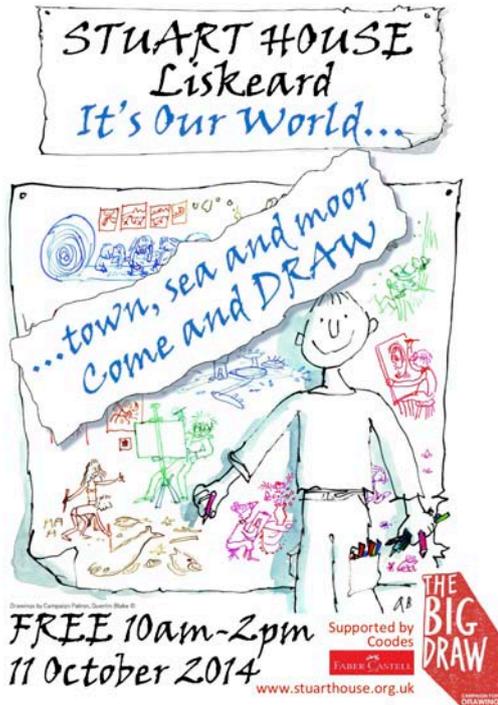


October 2014



THE WORLD'S BIGGEST DRAWING FESTIVAL – JOIN IN AT STUART HOUSE

Everyone is welcome to this free event. Join in the fun at Stuart House and draw a bit of your world.

Everyone, regardless of age and ability, is invited to join the fun of drawing at Stuart House Arts and Heritage Centre in Liskeard. Children are particularly welcome to let their imaginations take flight on this year's theme 'It's Our World'.

Just bring your talent and imagination: we supply the rest! You'll have a choice of drawing materials on paper, from colour to black and white. Grab what you need and get stuck in!

Weather permitting, you can help to create a temporary mural outside the house at street level. Inside the house, the drawing room is equipped with tables and chairs and is accessible up one flight of stairs (there is no lift in this historic house).

So come and draw anything you choose. 'It's Our World' past or present. Whatever inspires you from a butterfly to a dinosaur, from trees to bees, from granite tors to rocky shores. In Cornwall the sky's the limit!

Perry Besterman

VOLUNTEERS to help run this event would be very welcome – please get in touch with Stuart House.



Leaflet Sponsored by Coodes

Honorary Solicitors to Stuart House Trust

From our garden's overseer.....

The garden had felt particularly peaceful and soul-soothing during the warm sunshine of the first few weeks of September. These weather conditions have ideally suited the *Schizostylis conninea* lilies which have added glorious swathes of gentle pink to the garden. These plants, members of the Iris family and native to South Africa, are commonly known as Kaffir lilies. This term is best avoided, however, because although originally a neutral term used by colonialists to describe the different people of South Africa, it might now be regarded as an offensive ethnic insult. (The word is derived from the Arabic term kafir, which originally had the meaning of infidel, "one who conceals the truth".) The word *Schizostylis* has its problems too, as it means "divided style", describing the structure of the slender portion of the carpel that leads to the flower ovary. So perhaps we should use the alternative botanical name, *Hesperantha conninea*. You will need to be aware of these different names if you go to a nursery, as all these descriptions are in use.



These lilies are ideally suited to gardens in the South West, and provide welcome colour over several weeks when summer bedding plants and perennials are coming to an end. They are slow growing bulbous plants that will eventually produce many flower spikes, each bearing up to a dozen flowers, which look particularly glorious when the sun sparkles through the flowers. They

are at home in moisture retentive but well drained soils, in full sun or partial shade, and are hardy down to about -10°C, so if you live in a frost pocket it's best to grow them in large pots which can be taken in during the winter.

At this time of year, seeds abound on the fading flowers of many plant species, and are easy to gather and save. For perennials, try sowing some straight away in a seed tray in a cold frame as many types need the cold of the winter in order to germinate the following spring. I have many already sown, some intended for the Stuart House garden next year!

Stuart House is the only green space right in the middle of town, and which is fully accessible. As such, it's ideally suited to play its part in the Liskeard dementia-friendly initiative, now under way. (For more information see leaflets and posters about town – and *Margaret Hawken's report in this newsletter – ed.*)

By the time of the next newsletter the wheelie bins screen should be in place – the committee agreed the design and the wood has been purchased.

As ever, many thanks to the volunteers who regularly give their time to looking after the garden. There have been many compliments this summer on how good it has looked!

Malcolm Mort

Sue's News of the September 15th Trustees' Meeting

I know that all members are anxiously awaiting news of progress in relation to funding for **the gable end repair project** but although there are many moves afoot, I can give no firm information at present. I am confident, however, that I will be able to give a full report in time for next month's newsletter – so please be patient for a little while longer. The situation continues to take priority at our monthly meetings.

I am pleased to report that again this year Tristram and Perry Besterman are organising **The Big Draw** which will take place on 11th October. We are indeed indebted to them not only for their dedication and support in organising and publicising the event, but also for their financial sponsorship. As in previous years financial sponsorship has also been provided by the Trust's Honorary Solicitors, Coodes who in addition undertook the copying of the posters.

The Trustees were delighted to welcome the suggestion of Eileen Crouch – continually active ex-Chairman of Stuart House – that she give a short series of **evening talks about** the history of the House aimed particularly at new and potential members. There may be other offerings in store too!

Christmas plans have to begin early. Although the Art and Craft Shop (which has been doing better in terms of sales recently), now has to be shut after its long summer opening season, it will open up again 10th – 16th of November for a looking forward to our Christmas event.



If you can't tell whether the front door in the picture above has been repainted yet, it could be that you don't receive this Newsletter electronically – that way, it would be in colour! Ask for details. ed.

Unlike No.10 Downing Street, Stuart House only has one **front door** which I am assured is not bullet-proofed but of simple wooden construction. There are, I am told, many 'No 10' doors and when one begins to look shabby, it is simply replaced with another. Stuart House does not enjoy that luxury! The front door to the House cannot simply be replaced with another door when it needs painting. John Gliddon has now acquired the paint (which we are told is quick-drying and long-lasting!) and the stalwart Victor Briggs has volunteered to undertake the rubbing down and re-painting. It will be good to see the finished product – and hopefully Victor will not have painted himself in 'House' colours! Maybe Victor's wife Nancy should stand by with a bucket or two of paint remover? An alternative to the now popular ice bucket challenge?

Sue Glencross, Hon. Sec.

Kyoko Tadaoka and Adrian Freedman. Sunday 21st September.

On a beautifully sunny September Sunday afternoon the audience at Stuart House was taken on a magical journey to the Far East, to Japan and the island of Okinawa. Kyoko Tadaoka and Adrian Freedman played solos and together as a grand climax.

Kyoko played the sanshin, the traditional Okinawan 'banjo', an instrument with three strings, no frets, and a snakeskin drum, plucked with a plectrum. It was beautifully toned and filled the room with its deep, rhythmic and soulful sounds. She used it to accompany her voice, singing in the traditional Okinawan language. Her voice resonated sonorously as she sang songs of love, nature, contemplation and fiesta. The songs and accompaniment were easy on the western ear and Kyoko invited us to join in with the chorus of one love song. The audience had the amazing experience of singing in Okinawan, a dying language. Perhaps Stuart House, in addition to its many other achievements, may have contributed to the revival of this language! Kyoko said she likes singing in Okinawan as it brings her nearer to her roots on the island. Interestingly, Okinawa is a huge distance from the Japanese mainland and is much nearer to Taiwan and China. Hence there is a strong Chinese influence on the music and instruments, the language and people



Adrian played the shakuhachi, a five-holed bamboo flute and told us how he went to study under a Japanese master for seven years to learn this extraordinary instrument. He first came across it in the 1980's and fell passionately in love with it. However, there was virtually nothing known about it in the west. He obtained some LP records of the flute being played and managed to track the player's address in Japan. A friend translated a letter for him and to his amazement, the master replied and agreed to teach him. So that was the beginning of an incredible seven-year journey through this largely sacred music. Over the course of the seven years he had to learn the thirty five sacred pieces, played in Buddhist monasteries, to aid meditation and the contemplation of silence. To play this flute requires great dedication as it is so difficult for the learner to get any note at all, in the first place. Adrian is now a consummate master and has extraordinary breath control and produces the most magical and beautiful range of notes, harmonics and dynamics.

Many of the sounds reflect the sounds of nature: the wind, water, birds and insects. The shakuhachi is rarely performed to an audience in Japan, being played instead on mountain sides and in monasteries as an aid to meditation.

We were transported to distant and magical places and experienced the expansion of time and a flavour of the deep silence of meditation. At one point there was an explosive and deep roaring of many powerful motorbikes rushing past in the road but failing to drown the pure notes of the shakuhachi. Privately, afterwards, Adrian said that he particularly welcomed their massive and noisy intrusion as he knew that a special kind of silence would follow. Indeed, he looked completely untroubled as he played.

The concert ended with Kyoko and Adrian playing a joyful piece together, a traditional ending to wish joy and peace to the people gathered after any meeting or celebration.



The audience was captivated by the whole performance and there was a tremendous communication between the audience and the players. Many people requested a return performance. They even played an encore, music to dance and sing to and usually played at the end of parties or celebrations. Life expectancy in Okinawa is very high and it is not unusual for centenarians to dance to this music. One 94-

year-old member of our audience did leap up and dance to the music.

Afterwards many people stayed on for tea and refreshments, enjoying the beautiful garden in the September sunshine.

Angela Wunnam, organiser of the Stuart House Concert Series.

**Liskeard Community College Music Department returns for the next
Sunday afternoon concert on 19th October, 2014.**

The students will be performing a programme of solos and small ensembles, incorporating a range of styles from contemporary to jazz and classical. Their abilities are truly outstanding and this is a concert not to be missed. They are a credit to the Music Department and the Community College as a whole. This year they will be facilitated and supported by both joint Heads of the Music Department, Jane Warwick and Judy Whitlock.

The Liskeard Dementia Friendly Alliance and Stuart House

Thursday 18th September saw the launch of the Liskeard Dementia Friendly Alliance in the Public Hall. The aim of the Alliance is to work towards a dementia friendly community in the town.

Many businesses in Liskeard have signed up to helping, where possible, anyone who has a problem with memory loss whilst out and about in town. I was pleased to be representing Stuart House at the event as we are more than happy to be part of the dementia friendly community. I took information about the House in general and more specifically about the café and garden where everyone who visits finds both friendly faces and a place to relax. For those who didn't know our garden, the photo album proved of great interest and will, we

hope, bring more people to enjoy its tranquility.

The Public Hall had a vast array of information from local organisations about services available to anyone with difficulties caused by dementia, which was most helpful. Both businesses and individuals attending will have taken useful and practical information from the day.

The project will be ongoing with other businesses adding their support over time and other events will be held to raise awareness of the issues arising when dementia could become a problem for any of us. We will, through Stuart House, let everyone know when further events are planned.

Margaret Hawken

A MYSTERY SOLVED: a coming exhibition at Stuart House

For many years local people and visitors alike were inquisitive as to the name of the Architect of Liskeard's Masonic Hall, built in the 1870's. There were claims that a Mr John Paul was the architect but nobody could provide evidence for this and there did not appear to be any other buildings in the locality by an architect of this name. Because of the resemblance of many features in the design to Henry Rice's buildings the generally accepted answer was that it probably was a Rice building.

All was to be made clear when, in 2009, Mrs Juliet Jenkin of Redruth, contacted George Vaughan-Ellis to advise him that she was a great-grand daughter of John Paul, architect of Liskeard's Masonic Hall. She advised George that she had inherited many papers from her great-grand father, which included the history of the building. Mrs Jenkin added that she would share this material, and would help in any way she could if an Exhibition was organised locally.

We now have proof of the claim that John Paul was the Architect for the Masonic Hall. The resemblance to Henry Rice's work is because John Paul (a local lad from Morval) had been an Articled Pupil with Rice. Mrs Jenkin has, very graciously, passed copies of her archive material to George, who is preparing the Exhibition ; this material will be passed into the Stuart House files on Henry Rice.

We can promise that visitors will be intrigued by the collected artefacts.

Liskeard Masonic Lodge have collaborated in the preparations for the Exhibition and hope to offer those interested the opportunity of a visit to view the interior of the Hall. Details will be available at the Exhibition for those who would like to join a visiting group. Tony Ball is our co-ordinator with the Lodge.

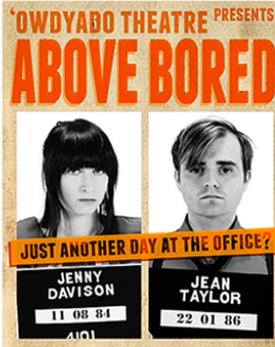
George Vaughan-Ellis

Friday 31st October - **CAMP Theatre**
Surprise Autumn Production

*(it probably will be for some of them too!
watch the website for details much nearer
the time)*

**STERTS
THEATRE**

Autumn 2014@Sterts



Above Bored - 'Owdyado Theatre

A woman has been detained for questioning after her boss is found dead in suspicious circumstances. In a room down the hall, her colleague also awaits an interview. Just routine questions. Just routine. But what if the monotony of routine was responsible for pushing one of them over the edge? When does bored become bored to death? After all, perhaps it's not unusual for employees of an adhesive supply company to feel a little ... stuck. Above Bored is an original psychological drama with a wide streak of dark comedy, written by Charlotte Bister and Daniel Richards (Wrongdoings and Wake-Up Calls at the Stop-Off Motel) and directed by Simon Harvey (Kneehigh o-region). Age recommendation 14+

Saturday 4th October 7.30pm

Tickets £8.00/6.00

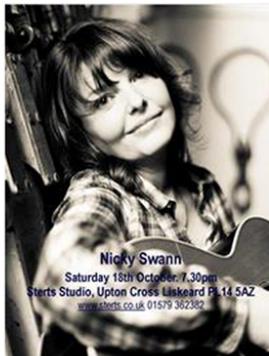
Venue is Upton Cross School Hall

Supper & Song Night

Join us for a delicious two course meal followed by an evening of song from Colin Davey and Jane Warwick.

Friday 10th October 7.00pm
£20.00

Pre booking only. Call Sally on 07866 292414



Nicky Swann

After splitting from her covers duo and long term guitarist Nicky searched for a replacement but was disappointed by those she auditioned. Determined to continue, she decided to take on the role of guitarist herself and quickly expanded her three chord repertoire and was gigging again after six months. She started to write new material and re-launched herself as a singer-songwriter. She has achieved a growing, well respected reputation in such a short space of time, singing from the heart and captivating audiences with her emotionally honest delivery.

Saturday 18th October 7.30pm

Tickets £8.00/6.00

Don't forget, each show night at Sterts you can book a fantastic 2 course meal for just £13.
Call Wendy on 07531 653233 or book on our website.



Remember that Stuart House is part of the dynamic **Caradon Heritage Partnership** which is the legacy group formed from the Caradon Hill Area Heritage Project (CHAP) which concluded earlier this year.

Consult their website at <http://chp.caradon.org.uk> for details of the organization and of all sorts of different local events run by the different member groups.

Diary of Events

October 2014



| | |
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| | Henry Rice Exhibition permanently open in the Rowse Room |
| every Thursday | “Knit n’ Knatter, 10.30am – 1.30pm |
| Monday 29 th September to Saturday 4 th October | Arts and Crafts sale with Nolene Griffiths and friends |
| Monday 6 th to Saturday 11 th | Antique tools sale and bric-a-brac with John Batey and Terri Alcock |
| Saturday 11 th and on to Saturday 18 th | The Big Draw Day (Saturday 11th) then the exhibition on the theme ‘It’s Our World’ |
| Monday 13 th to Saturday 18 th | West Country Embroiderers exhibition and sale of work |
| Sunday 19 th | Concert in the Gallery with Liskeard School and Community College. Tickets from the Office £7.00, includes tea and biscuits |
| Monday 20 th to Saturday 25 th | The Cornwall Collective : a collective who come together to sell art, craft, antiques an eclectic mix of old and new with a feel of the bazaar |
| Monday 20 th to Saturday 1 st November | Liskeard Masonic Hall - an exhibition about the Grade II listed, 1872 building, with a striking polychrome façade, and its renowned architect, John Paul. There will be opportunities for the public to visit the Masonic Hall during this time. |
| Monday 27 th | Charity Table-top sale with Julian Howland |
| Tuesday 28 th | Bipolar support meeting. 1pm – 3pm. Open to anyone affected in any way. |
| Coming in NOVEMBER | Lots more, beginning with |
| | 3 rd – 8 th : craft sale with Gaby Hedley |
| | 3 rd – 8 th : Art exhibition by Rose Gliddon |

The House, Garden, Old Kitchen Café and Computer Research Suite are open 9.30 am – 3.30 pm each weekday and until 12.30 pm (Café 12 noon) on Saturdays.

The House is open at these times for all events unless stated otherwise.

The Office is open every weekday until at least 2 pm.