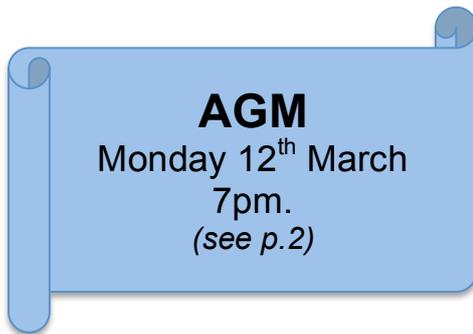
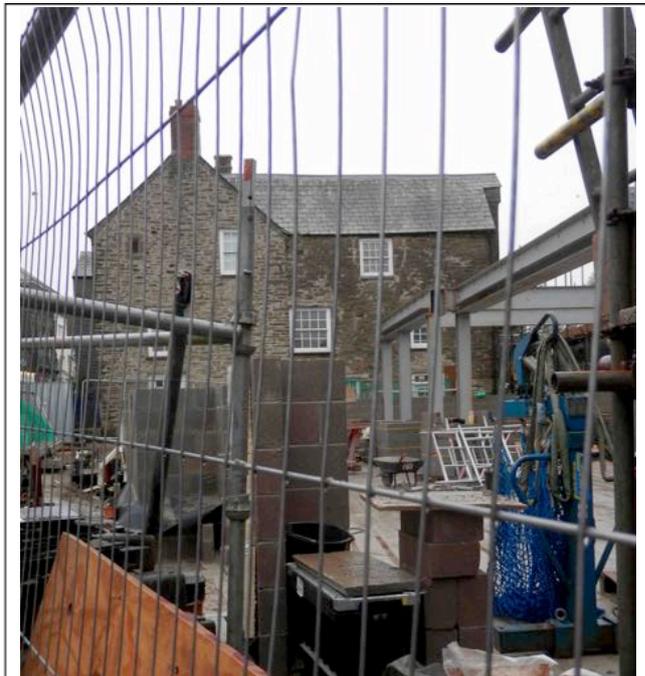
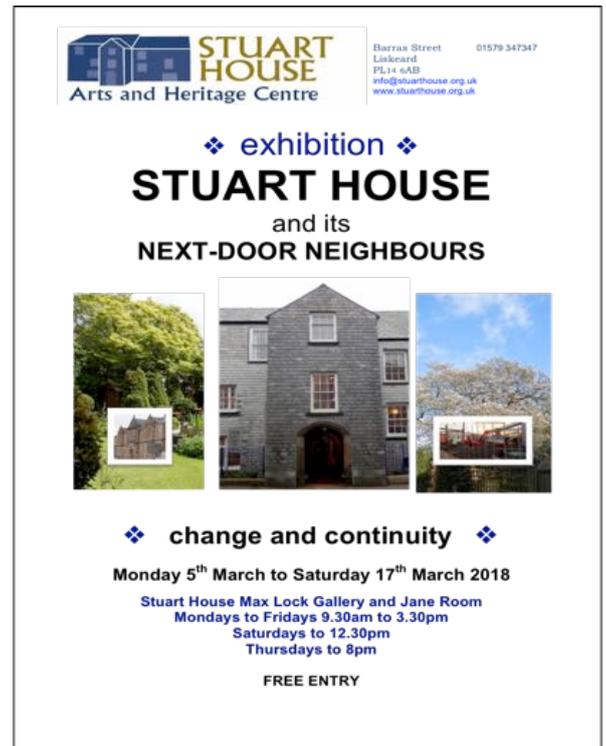


# Newsletter

*March 2018*



Please remember that  
**SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2018**  
are now due  
Thank you!

**STUART HOUSE**  
Arts and Heritage Centre

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❖ exhibition ❖  
**STUART HOUSE**  
and its  
**NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBOURS**



❖ change and continuity ❖  
**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March to Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018**  
Stuart House Max Lock Gallery and Jane Room  
Mondays to Fridays 9.30am to 3.30pm  
Saturdays to 12.30pm  
Thursdays to 8pm  
**FREE ENTRY**

This exhibition should be both a revisiting and a chance to learn more about what has happened in 'the land of Stuart House' through time.  
(see p.7)

Work on our southern neighbour continues. By the time you get this Newsletter, the wall between our garden and the Wetherspoon's site may be under construction.



*Leaflet Sponsored by Coodes*  
*Honorary Solicitors to Stuart House Trust*

## Sue's News

As you are all aware, our informal AGM will be held at 7pm. in the Max Lock Gallery on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March. I do hope many of you will be able to attend. As well as the usual reports from trustees, Eileen, as the 'Voice of the Friends', will be addressing you with a few words. We would invite anyone to speak if they wish and there will of course be an opportunity to ask questions. Whilst we cannot guarantee that we will be able to answer every question on the night – we do promise a response will be forthcoming. The new informal nature of the evening and arrangement of the furniture should lend itself well to discussions.

We would also invite articles for the Newsletter: Although I am sure many of you know our editor Rachel, she will nonetheless make herself known on the night and if you wish to discuss potential articles with her then she will be pleased to hear from you. All articles submitted for the Newsletter – yes even mine! – are subject to editorial intervention and the editor's decision as to what is accepted for publication must be final. Do remember that many new Friends will not be aware of the way the House has been used in the past – if you have a particular memory about a particular event or exhibition of note – then use the Newsletter as a platform to tell everyone about it. Whilst going through a mountain of old paperwork the other day, I was reminded

that our original Newsletter used to be published every three months and was but a shadow of what we have now grown to expect on a monthly basis. It is our only direct means of communication with Friends.

We are always open to ideas – ideas for events; ideas for fund-raising; ideas for whatever! It is important that you understand you are free to contact us on any matter at any time. We are all in this together with a common aim of ensuring that we are able to maintain this House as a valuable community asset and Arts & Heritage Centre.

The trustees continue their quest for a new central heating boiler – several quotations have now been obtained and we can only express shock at the variations in price. We hope shortly to make a decision. In the meantime our old faithful boiler continues to function but is on its last legs, so to speak.

Bob and John are shortly to have a meeting with the site representative of the Wetherspoons' contractors as it is understood that construction will soon commence on the new wall which will divide their site from our garden. It will be good to be totally enclosed again and we hope that any disruption will be over and done with before the summer months.

*Sue Glencross Hon. Sec.*

## INVITATION

to all

FRIENDS and WOULD-BE FRIENDS of STUART HOUSE

to our first **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** as a CIO!

Monday March 12<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 7pm.

with

refreshments, time to ask questions, meet other Friends of Stuart House, and look at the Heritage Exhibition

## Sterts Singers at Stuart House 18<sup>th</sup> February 2018

The 2018 Stuart House Music Programme started with a flourish as the building resounded to the glorious harmonies of **Sterts Singers**. Jane Warwick engaged the audience with delightful introductions to the songs and conducted the thirty accomplished singers with her usual energy and sensitivity. There was clearly a very special relationship between her, the



choir members and the accompanist. The choir had a wide range of dynamics, rhythm and part singing and controlled their volume so that it was never, too loud! The choir members said how

they had enjoyed the acoustic in the Gallery, being able to hear each other perfectly. Gary, the accompanist on the keyboard, improvised complementary and dynamic support to each song. The pieces ranged from traditional folk to music from the shows to old and new pop songs. They were arranged to show different aspects of the choir: some led by soloists, some led by the bass section and some showing the range of accompaniments and harmonies possible.

The uplifting song **Something Inside** had a clear, clean, soprano introduction with the male voices “do-de-doing” and an inner accompaniment. The repeated refrain came together with an ensemble crescendo with rich harmonies supported by a complex arpeggiated accompaniment from Gary. **Hallelujah** by Leonard Cohen had a gentle accompaniment and more “do-de-doings” from the basses flowing over a hymn-like refrain.

A chorus from the musical **Chess** was led by soloist Morgan, who also sings in the Mousehole Male Voice Choir, with whom **Sterts Singers** will be joining at a concert in Mousehole on 8th April. This will be followed by a joint concert at the Sterts Theatre on 1<sup>st</sup> July.

**Blue Moon**, composed in 1934, had a pulsating rhythms with many crisp vocal patterns from various sections of the choir. Brian May from **Queen** composed the song **Let Us Cling Together**, which the choir sang in Japanese, the text being sandwiched with complex harmonies leading to a great crescendo of the Japanese lyrics.

A medley of **Beatles**’ songs clearly demonstrated the choir’s clean tight rhythms, a full rich sound, clear diction and a rounded balance of voice parts. Two folk songs by **Gustav Holst** were led by soprano, Emily, with the humming arrangement and a strong bass line complementing her flowing melody. Angela was the soloist in John Rutter’s **The Cuckoo**, in which interludes from the piano contrasted with the voices. Stephen Knightley’s **Cousin Jack** was a song about mining in Cornwall, and had drama, pace and attack, especially in the refrain “copper, clay, arsenic and tin”.

**Sterts Singers** ended their concert with the Beach Boy’s show stopper **Good Vibrations**. It was a great finale to very fine and memorable performance.



**Java 5** in concert - March 18<sup>th</sup> see p.5

Angela Wunnam, Concert Series Organiser

## March's Thoughts from our Garden's Overseer

The snowdrops in the garden are rather late this year. I had begun to think that they might have been attacked by the dreaded *Botrytis* fungus which can destroy snowdrop bulbs in damp seasons. However, they then appeared in the second half of February, a good two weeks later than normal. Fungal attacks can erupt unexpectedly and be deadly, such as that which suddenly devastated busy lizzies throughout Europe in 2011.



Despite the late arrival of the snowdrops, there are signs aplenty of Spring in the garden. Already a beautiful cream rose has come into flower (photo), and the hardy blue geraniums (never known to suffer from anything) are starting to spread themselves about. Bluebells, mixed with *Schizostylis* are shooting up everywhere in the jewel borders, and clumps of early daffodils and primroses are in bloom. The flower buds on the magnolia tree are very

evident, the very soggy lawn is starting to grow, and the leaves of the *Acanthus mollis* (bear's breeches) are large and vibrant. In bursts of sunshine, the sparrows have reappeared from their homes under the guttering on the library roof, filling the air with their shrill chirruping - a welcome antidote to the banging and clattering coming from the building site next door.



The weeds are at it too, of course, and one sort that never seems to rest, even at the coldest times, is hairy bittercress (photo). This is a member of the Brassica family though sadly it never seems to get



eaten by cabbage white butterfly caterpillars. This determined plant is known to have been used by Anglo-Saxons as it is edible and guaranteed never to let you down in winter, even though, as its name suggests, it tastes bitter. It constantly puts forth its little white flowers and flings copious quantities of very long-lived seed from its exploding pods, forever frustrating gardeners. It grows happily on bare fertile soil or in cracks where there's no soil at all; in full sun or in shady places. It's a native of Eurasia, but has been spread by humans to practically every country. It particularly likes growing in garden centres at the base of shrubs in containers. So if you've not yet got this pest (but you probably have), then scrape away the top couple of inches of soil in any pot you might buy.

*(continued on p 5)*



Apart from the rose stem with the flower on top, all the other rose bushes have now been pruned. If you've not done yours, it really is time. And on the subject of roses, how many people have ever looked closely at the collection of roses they carry round in their pockets? I mean the Crowned Tudor or Heraldic rose carried on the older 20p coins minted between 1982 and 2008. This rose symbolises the ending of the Wars of the Roses when Lancastrian

(red rose) Henry Tudor defeated Yorkist (white rose) King Richard III at Bosworth Field in 1485. Red rose Henry (now VII) then tactically married white rose Elizabeth of York, The two roses were joined together, the reign of the Tudors began, and we continue to celebrate this event in our loose change.

*Malcolm Mort*

**STUART HOUSE GARDEN CLUB**

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March  
11.30am. to 1.30pm.

Malcolm will talk and lead discussions on bonsai and on spring plants

Contact Val Moore for more information on 01579 228518



*Stunning photos from Malcolm again accompany the garden coverage: 20p. coin with Tudor rose, rose in bloom in February, Narcissi and Periwinkle, Bitter Cress, Magnolis tree buds, raindrop on rosehip.*



**OUR NEXT CONCERT  
Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm.  
Java 5**

Java 5, formed in 2004, gave their first ever performance at a Stuart House garden party. Only leader Gerry Hillman and John Batey remain of the original line-up, but they have been joined for some time by Euan Hunter, Peter Maslen and Peter Dukes. Their a cappella singing of popular music has won them much appreciation, and they perform widely, including at the Port Eliot Festival.

**THE MAX LOCK GALLERY in FEBRUARY** has been the setting for mixed sales organised by Nancy. Visitors have been getting used to calling in again after the Christmas break, and interest and sales have been good. We are very grateful to those crafters and other volunteers who help to steward sales.



Running at the start of the month was '**Jewellery, Bags, Scarves and Hats**', and for two weeks in the middle of February a **Book Sale** raised some £120 for the House in donations.

The end of February until 3<sup>rd</sup> March will see another **MIXED CRAFT SALE**



Pupils from Trenode School visited the House. Although their main study area was World War II, we did a lot of comparison with the English Civil War! (ed.)

**ADVANCE NOTICE : Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April**

**Bo Foaks Memorial Walk - Moorswater: from a Place of Pilgrimage to East Cornwall's Industrial Powerhouse.**

Meet at Stuart House at 9.45. A joint walk by Iain Rowe and Brian Oldham in memory of the gentle giant who was a generous supporter of Stuart House and its music programme. For those who don't fancy the walk down Old Road and the climb up Lamellion Hill, meet us at the bottom of Old Road, Moorswater at 10.15. Soup lunch will be available in Stuart House afterwards, which we'll book before setting off. The walk may be muddy!

## EVENTS COMING IN MARCH



The **'Stuart House and its Next Door Neighbours : change and continuity'** exhibition will run from March 5<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>, in the Max Lock Gallery and Jane Room. The history – and future – of the site which was once part of Stuart House Garden will be explored. On the north, land was sold in 1895 for the building of the Library and 2018 will see more change. On the south, the land retained when the House was sold to the Trust in 1988 was already a garage, and after a period of dereliction, is now the site of the new Wetherspoons. In the centre lies our House and garden. There will be a chance to remind ourselves – and maybe learn more – of the history of the House both socially and architecturally, its restoration, and its activities as an Arts and Heritage Centre.

Note the late-night opening until 8pm on Thursdays.

### BRIDGE SCHOOLS ART EXHIBITION

Is due in the Gallery **March 19<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>** but at the time of going to print, we have no more details.

**Pat's Art Box** will return for its first exhibition and sale of 2018 **from March 26<sup>th</sup> to April 6<sup>th</sup>**, and we look forward to more of the uplifting and popular paintings, photographs, prints, and cards etc., including this one inspired by the visit of Charles I in 1644! →



**EASTER CARDS and GIFTS SALE** in the Jane Room March 19<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> and  
**EASTER SHOP** in the Surgery March 24<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>.

### Events of interest to Friends, run by groups that we are associated with in some way

**Old Cornwall Society** : Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm in the Quimperle Room of the Public Hall. **Jackie Jenkins** will give an illustrated talk on 'Liskeard's George (Admiral) Lower, which links the Union Workhouse, John Franklin, Queen Victoria and Presidents of the USA – an untold story!

**Walkers are Welcome – the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Caradon Trail** will be marked by a walk led by Brian Oldham starting at the Heritage Centre Car Park at Minions on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30am. About 6 miles along footpaths, lanes and some moorland. Walking boot or shoes essential!

Do check-out events at **Sterts Theatre and Arts Centre** too!

# Diary of Events

March 2018



Continuing to Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Mixed Crafts in the Gallery
Thursdays 1 <sup>st</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> 27 <sup>th</sup>	Craft Club: all welcome
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> to Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup>	'Stuart House and its Next-Door Neighbours; change and continuity'. Heritage exhibition. Open to 8pm on Thursdays. (see pp.1 & 7)
Tuesdays 6 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup>	Liskeard Writers' Group meet 2 – 4.30 pm.
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Annual General Meeting 7pm (see p.2 )
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Liskeard Poetry Group meet 4-6.30 pm.
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Fake or Fortune – antiques valuation with Richard Hamm of Bearnes, Hampton & Littlewood. 10 am to 12 noon.
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Java Five: concert in the Gallery 2.30 pm. Tickets £7 from reception, include refreshments and a chance to talk with the performers afterwards (see p.5)
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> to Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Bridge Schools Art Exhibition
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> to Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Easter cards and gifts sale in the Jane Room
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> to Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Easter Shop in the Surgery
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> to Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	Pat's Art Box with LinoShed: art exhibition and sale in the Gallery (see p.7)
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Stuart House Garden Club 11.30am to 1.30pm (see p.5)
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Sepsis Support Group Awareness Event, all welcome, 7-8pm. Ask Nancy or Victor for details.
<b>Coming in April</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• House shut on Easter Monday (and Good Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March)</li> <li>• Pat's Art Box</li> <li>• Mixed Crafts</li> <li>• Ilow Splann in concert (Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Bo Foaks Memorial Walk (21<sup>st</sup> – see p.6)</li> <li>• 'Discovering Shakespeare piece by piece' exhibition (23<sup>rd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Furniture and Craft Week with Dave and Wendy Vincent</li> <li>• Royal School of Needlework</li> </ul>
<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> October</b> is the Stuart House Sewing Event. Please bring in donation of fabrics, threads and other sewing notions to Sioux in Reception from now onwards!</p>	

*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. Reception is usually open every weekday until at least 2 pm.*

Articles, information, notices and photographs for the Stuart House Newsletter to the editor, please (who must reserve the right to edit as necessary), before 25<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the next newsletter. Leave with Sioux in the Office or email to [rachelpbennett59@gmail.com](mailto:rachelpbennett59@gmail.com)