

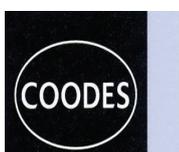
August 2016



The Lookout on the top floor of Stuart House may have been planned for looking out for ne'er-do-wells approaching, but it will never have seen a monster like this before. For more on Stuart House the day the Man Engine visited town, see p.3.

For news of the
Members' Garden Party
Sunday 28th August 3.30pm onwards.
See p.2.

Please note that the deadline
for the September issue of the
Newsletter will be
Sunday 21st August,
as the editor will be away
after that.
Thank you.



Leaflet Sponsored by Coodes

Honorary Solicitors to Stuart House Trust

Sue's News of the Committee Meeting of 18th July

We DO listen to you..... The visually aware will have noticed that very recently we have displayed banners on the railings of the House. Some exhibitors had expressed concern that they felt their event had not received sufficient front-of-house publicity. Whilst there is no way we want to return to the plethora of notices and banners which used to prevail, nonetheless we do feel a compromise can be achieved. In future the Trustees MAY permit professionally made banners to be attached to the railings to publicise a particular event. There can be NO hand-written notices outside or inside the House as a strict signage policy has been followed for some time. Any request for publicity banners MUST be given to the trustees for prior approval. What is and is not acceptable must depend on what other events are being held at the same time. So far as banners are concerned, they must be professionally made and no larger than 4 ft x 1 ½ ft. The main road frontage is looking very attractive and has resulted in many compliments and the trustees are determined not to slip backwards!

We are now on the first rung of the ladder so far as our re-structuring is concerned. Coodes have drafted our new Constitution which will be the subject of my bed-time

reading material for quite a few nights to come! Once I have understood it all myself then it will be circulated to the remainder of the 'steering committee' – Bob, Tony and Victor. Once any concerns and considerations have been ironed out, the full committee of trustees will need to approve it – and then you the members will be brought on board.

Bob has been donning his thinking cap and has some Autumn fund-raising/social events in his mind. All will be revealed later in the year.

John Hesketh, Chair of Liskeard Town Forum, attended our meeting and we have been asked to give our views on how we see the future of the Town Forum. A consolidated response will be sent to John before the deadline for consultation – 7th August. If you wish to participate please visit the Forum website www.liskeardforum.org.uk/

It is with regret that I inform you Jo Hoskin has stood down as a trustee due to her many family and other commitments. Jo will, however, continue to assist the Trust as a volunteer. We wish her well!

Sue Glencross, Hon.Sec.

GARDEN TEA PARTY at STUART HOUSE

Sunday 28th August from 3.30 pm.

Enjoy a proper Cornish Cream Tea together with other tasty delights, with some mystery entertainment and the chance to win the raffle!

Members FREE Others £3

“Book in” with Sioux in the office or with Bob on 07760781087 or bobhollingdale@hotmail.co.uk

No need to bring anything – just yourselves!

The Day the Man Engine Visited Liskeard

Tuesday July 26th was a great day in Liskeard, with the visit of the colossal mechanical Man Engine to the town for his first transformation in Cornwall (see p.1). His journey marks the Tenth Anniversary of the World Mining Heritage Site. If you missed him, you can catch him up on his journey until 6th August, when he arrives down at Geevor.

Stuart House was in the thick of it all, and welcomed many visitors who had never been into the House before, as well as lots of old friends. Volunteers in the café, wonderfully co-ordinated by Sioux, were rushed off their feet right through till 5pm. Thanks especially to Frank and to Kelvin.

The Garden was the scene for two sessions of storytelling and some harp playing, and singing, which manage to avoid the periods of drizzle.



The Jane Room housed an exhibition of pupils' artwork from Dobwalls School, done with the Man Engine Team and focussing on designing a pageant wagon for the occasion.

Many visitors called in to the 'Original Man-Engine' exhibition in the Gallery which the editor mounted, with research help from trustee Dave Howard. Dave also built the simple man-engine model, which delighted many children and really helped many people, young and old, to appreciate how it worked. Many people said they intended to call back during the week. This exhibition linked the Fountain on the Parade, built to honour Michael Loam, 'inventor' of the Man Engine (although this claim is controversial) with the introduction and development of the 'real' man engine – welcomed by 19th-century miners as a much safer, faster and healthier way of getting up and down mineshafts than using ladders.



STOP PRESS
This exhibition is to be continued to August 6th



This month's thoughts from our Garden's Overseer

Most of us want gardens that look good for most of the year and are easy to look



after, so that we don't have to keep watering, staking, trimming, replanting and all that time-consuming work, pleasant though it might be on a sunny summer day when we have a few hours to spare. Most of us, too, expect a garden to delight us with a palette of colour, especially if we're visiting somewhere like Stuart House. However, this is not very easy, and is the reason why nowadays begonias are so greatly favoured (to the exasperation of a certain Mr Monty Don).

Ideally, what one needs is a succession of flowers from early Spring until late Autumn, with some winter flowering shrubs to add sparkle and scent to the short dark days. Herbaceous borders can provide this effect.

In an Elizabethan garden this means

starting with all the usual Spring bulbs, followed in May and June with biennials (sweet williams, foxgloves, Canterbury bells for example). Perennials such as achillea, campanula and phlox take their place in the height of summer, followed by rudbekias, kaffir lilies and Michaelmas daisies or similar in the autumn. The trouble is this is very hard and time-consuming work. These plants often fall over when weighed down by rain, they need a lot of space to flower properly and they start to secretly spread themselves around. Many sorts need annual digging up, splitting and replanting to maintain flower stamina, and it all takes a great deal of time and effort.

This is why so many people prefer bedding plants. These only mean hard work twice a year. Once in the autumn to put in primroses and bulbs for the Spring, with maybe wallflowers and forget-me-nots. And then once in say May to clear the beds and plant ... begonias. In the formal beds at Lanhydrock House this is just what they do. Set within the neatly clipped box hedges, it's always begonias, fibrous and corm types, in summer swathes of dazzling colour. They look after



themselves whatever the weather (they do like moist soils though), suppress weeds, and slugs, snails and caterpillar keep well away. Even the Elizabethan garden at Plymouth Barbican now has begonias within the clipped hedges. Which just goes to show that had these plants been available in the Middle Ages they would probably have been all the rage then, too. At Stuart House, begonias are limited to planters and to the table pots as they cope well if not watered for a little while. Elsewhere, it's the hard-work plants.



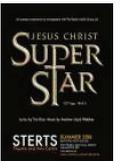
Most of us nowadays have a digital camera of some sort, and these are ideal for taking close-up shots of flowers. No need to worry any more about focussing or getting the exposure right, just aim and point and the results can be spectacular, especially if you choose a dark background and then later twiddle around on a computer, cropping and enhancing colours. The resulting photo can often look better than the real thing,

Topical tip. Now it's August, it's too late to worry about bedding plants and too early to think about Spring. If you have an empty tub, maybe plant an hydrangea, autumn flowering chrysanthemum, or a few sedums (bees love them) for colour – they should be in the garden centres now. If you have them, scatter seeds of foxgloves, aquilegia, lady's mantle, feverfew, yellow welsh poppy, and that prolific Mexican wall-loving erigeron daisy around in poor soil and cracks around the garden. They love these sorts of places and thrive without any human interference. Ideal!

Malcolm Mort

August Events at our partner, Sterts Theatre

STERTS THEATRE Summer at Sterts

<p>The Wizard of Oz Sterts Theatre Company 8th, 13th, 15th, 20th, 24th, 25th & 29th August TICKETS £10/8/6</p>  <p>Follow the yellow brick road with Dorothy and her little dog Toto on a magical journey to the wonderful land of Oz. Packed with your favourite songs and colourful characters, this family show is simply spectacular.</p> <p><small>Sponsored by Puckator</small></p>	<p>Lady Windermere's Fan Sterts Theatre Company 2nd, 22nd & 23rd August at 7.30pm TICKETS £10/8/6</p>  <p>Take a peek at Victorian snobbery and double standards with Oscar Wilde at his most biting and satirical as he examines the morals of the age in this witty play that never fails to amuse and entertain.</p>
<p>Hi-de-Hi Sterts Theatre Company 3rd, 10th, 18th & 27th August at 7.30pm TICKETS £10/8/6</p>  <p>It's time to go back to the 1950s in this stage adaptation of the BBC favourite. Spike, Gladys, Peggy & the Yellowcoats welcome you to Maplin's for an evening of classic comedy.</p>	<p>Jesus Christ Superstar Sterts Theatre Company 6th, 12th, 17th & 30th August at 7.30pm</p>  <p>A global phenomenon that has wowed audiences for over 40 years, this timeless musical set against the backdrop of universally-known events never fails to thrill with its chart-topping songs and emotive story.</p>

Sterts Summer season is on sale now.
www.sterts.co.uk or **01579 362382**
 or Box Office 10am-4pm weekdays.
 Sterts, Upton Cross Liskeard PL14 5AZ
 Café open for all shows. Booking **07866 292414**.

STERTS THEATRE Summer at Sterts

AUGUST DIARY

Aug Mon 01 Reg Meuross 19:30	Aug Mon 01 Reg Meuross 19:30
Aug Tue 02 Lady Windermere's Fan STC 19:30	Aug Tue 02 Lady Windermere's Fan STC 19:30
Aug Wed 03 Hi de Hi STC 19:30	Aug Wed 03 Hi de Hi STC 19:30
Aug Thu 04 Ratburger - Heartbreak Productions 17:00	Aug Thu 04 Ratburger - Heartbreak Productions 17:00
Aug Fri 05 Ruddigore - Ilyria 19:30	Aug Fri 05 Ruddigore - Ilyria 19:30
Aug Sat 06 Jesus Christ Superstar STC 19:30	Aug Sat 06 Jesus Christ Superstar STC 19:30
Aug Mon 08 The Wizard of Oz STC 19:30	Aug Mon 08 The Wizard of Oz STC 19:30
Aug Tue 09 Around the World in 80 days - Boxtree Productions 19:30	Aug Tue 09 Around the World in 80 days - Boxtree Productions 19:30
Aug Wed 10 Hi de Hi STC 19:30	Aug Wed 10 Hi de Hi STC 19:30
Aug Fri 12 Tales from the Trees - Squashbox 14:00	Aug Fri 12 Tales from the Trees - Squashbox 14:00
Aug Fri 12 Jesus Christ Superstar STC 19:30	Aug Fri 12 Jesus Christ Superstar STC 19:30
Aug Sat 13 The Wizard of Oz STC 19:30	Aug Sat 13 The Wizard of Oz STC 19:30
Aug Sun 14 Keltique & Sterts Singers 19:30	Aug Sun 14 Keltique & Sterts Singers 19:30
Aug Mon 15 The Wizard of Oz STC 19:30	Aug Mon 15 The Wizard of Oz STC 19:30
Aug Tue 16 Hamlet - Festival Players 19:30	Aug Tue 16 Hamlet - Festival Players 19:30
Aug Wed 17 Bitey & Bertie's Grand Tour - Anything but Ordinary productions 14:00	Aug Wed 17 Bitey & Bertie's Grand Tour - Anything but Ordinary productions 14:00
Aug Wed 17 Jesus Christ Superstar STC 19:30	Aug Wed 17 Jesus Christ Superstar STC 19:30
Aug Thu 18 Hi de Hi STC 19:30	Aug Thu 18 Hi de Hi STC 19:30
Aug Fri 19 The Buddy Presley Show 19:30	Aug Fri 19 The Buddy Presley Show 19:30
Aug Sat 20 Gallery - Drawn to the Valley Open Studios 11:00	Aug Sat 20 Gallery - Drawn to the Valley Open Studios 11:00
Aug Sat 20 The Wizard of Oz STC 14:00	Aug Sat 20 The Wizard of Oz STC 14:00
Aug Sat 20 The Wizard of Oz STC 19:30	Aug Sat 20 The Wizard of Oz STC 19:30
Aug Mon 22 Lady Windermere's Fan STC 19:30	Aug Mon 22 Lady Windermere's Fan STC 19:30
Aug Tue 23 Lady Windermere's Fan STC 19:30	Aug Tue 23 Lady Windermere's Fan STC 19:30
Aug Wed 24 Smartest Giant in Town - Folsky Theatre 14:00	Aug Wed 24 Smartest Giant in Town - Folsky Theatre 14:00
Aug Wed 24 The Wizard of Oz STC 19:30	Aug Wed 24 The Wizard of Oz STC 19:30
Aug Thu 25 The Wizard of Oz STC 19:30	Aug Thu 25 The Wizard of Oz STC 19:30
Aug Fri 26 Solid Gold Seventies 19:30	Aug Fri 26 Solid Gold Seventies 19:30
Aug Sat 27 Hi de Hi STC 19:30	Aug Sat 27 Hi de Hi STC 19:30
Aug Mon 29 The Wizard of Oz STC 19:30	Aug Mon 29 The Wizard of Oz STC 19:30
Aug Tue 30 Jesus Christ Superstar STC 19:30	Aug Tue 30 Jesus Christ Superstar STC 19:30
Aug Wed 31 Sherlock Holmes - Chapterhouse Theatre Co 19:30	Aug Wed 31 Sherlock Holmes - Chapterhouse Theatre Co 19:30

Sterts Summer season is on sale now.
www.sterts.co.uk or **01579 362382**
 or Box Office 10am-4pm weekdays.
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 Café open for all shows. Booking **07866 292414**.

ART EXHIBITIONS AT STUART HOUSE



COMING IN AUGUST

Behind this door, leading from the Trussed Room on the top floor of Stuart House, lies the Coved Room Art Studio, where our artist in residence, Linda Maynard, holds classes.

The annual exhibition is always a joy.

July's Exhibition of work of the Adult Learners following NCFE Level 3 Creative Craft (Textiles), was superb, and brought many people into the House. Themes included place, costume or jewellery and a free choice. The mobile in the stair well was inspired by Plymouth Aquarium. Lisa Harthill, the tutor, spoke of plans for next year and the joy of our gallery as a hanging space.



CRAFT SHOWS in STUART HOUSE.



There was a particularly high quality and varied selection of goods for sale at Stuart House in the **Grand Arts and Crafts Show** which Nancy and Victor organised from late June to 9th July, which included Carnival Week. They will be running another exhibition starting on Tuesday 30th August and running through until 20th.

Nancy and Victor are again running the Dartmoor Arts and Crafts Show in Princetown Primary School from 11th to 20th August. Many artists and craftspeople show there and in Stuart House too.

Would you like to join a sewing and dressmaking class or have one to one tuition in your own home?



As an experienced seamstress with a detailed knowledge of construction and embellishment I can teach a wide variety of sewing skills and techniques that can be applied to any garment or project.



Whether you fancy making a cushion cover, a dress or if you would simply like encouragement to complete an on-going sewing project I would be able to help.



So if you would be interested in sewing and dressmaking classes here in Stuart House or in your own home please contact Gaby on 01579 349217 mobile - 07502606080 email - gabyhedley1@aol.co.uk Alternatively leave your details on the sheet provided or with Sioux in the office and I will get back to you.



Gaby's classes in Stuart House begin on 6th August. They follow from demand expressed at the recent Stuart House Sewing Bee (which returns at the end of September).

There is still time to join!

MANY THANKS TO OUR WORK EXPERIENCE STUDENT. Stuart House was delighted to welcome Julia, on Year 12 work experience for a week in July. Julia sampled all aspects of paid and voluntary work in the house. This included banking, filing, helping in the busy café and checking the instructions for users of our computers in the Research Hub on the top floor. Julia said how impressed she had been by the amount of voluntary work which keeps the House going – 'a real community service'.

MUSIC at STUART HOUSE

two wonderful recent concerts by young musicians

Ross Morris. Classical Guitar. Sunday 26th June, 2016.



It was a great privilege to be at Ross Morris's classical guitar recital at Stuart House on Sunday 26th June. A nearly-full audience listened and watched in enraptured silence as he made his way through a demanding programme. Already, at the age of 17, he can play a full professional concert repertoire almost flawlessly and with a soul-touching, sensitive, musical interpretation. With his skilful use of space and phrasing, he enables the music's deeper meaning to emerge through the written notes. Ross communicates well with the audience both about the pieces and the composers. Although the classical guitar is an extremely technical instrument, he made it look almost easy to play. He showed his ability to interpret music from the 17th century onwards. He said that Bach is always someone very special for him, and that came across in the

Sarabande and Double from the *Violin Partita No 1 in B minor*. He gave a masterful performance of Sor's *Variations on a theme of Mozart*. It may seem incredible now, but some composers of Sor's time (1778-1839) really felt that the guitar could be a mini orchestra and could even capture the essence of an opera. Listeners to this piece, taken from *The Magic Flute*, can even today be swept into the beauty of this very demanding but beguiling piece. Ross showed himself to be equally at home with contemporary pieces, playing an exciting *Saudade No. 3* by Roland Dyens - which uses every kind of tapping, 'drumming', stroking, plucking with the fingerboard hand, as well as all the normal technique that the guitar is capable of. This will be one of the pieces he will play at the International Youth Competition of the Vienna International Guitar Festival this August. He even managed to find new nuances in Leo Brouwer's *Un Dia de Noviembre*, a piece much-loved by players and audiences alike.

We wish Ross well in his assured future as a classical guitarist. His playing is already extraordinarily stunning and he has yet to move on to Music College for further studies. He is a delightful young man who is totally devoted to music and his instrument and the gigantic number of hours of practice this involves.

Angela Wunnam.



The Stuart House Concert Series resumes on September 11th with the return of the Folk Duo Gareth Lee and Annie Bayliss. Look out for details soon.

Gregory Graves, euphonium. Sunday 17th July 2016.

This was the first of the Menheniot and Liskeard Young Persons' Concerts at Stuart House. Gregory Graves on the euphonium gave a truly uplifting performance to a hot, but very happy audience.



It was exciting to be close up to an instrument that one usually hears and sees only as part of a brass band. The quality of the playing – Gregory plays at local and national level - brought great awareness of the skills of technique : breath control, fingering and embouchure. The pieces chosen demonstrated the versatility of the

instrument – ‘the ‘cello of the brass band’, we were told. Gregory introduced the pieces with enthusiasm, telling us something about the arrangements and renowned performers, and sometimes something personal, which we felt privileged to share.

It was a very well-chosen programme of familiar, but varied tunes, if not familiar on the euphonium – a lovely combination of experience. Gregory began with *Czardas* by Monti, arranged by Wilson. The floor vibrated, and the sound filled the gallery, but in no way oppressively. Then came Elgar’s sweet *Salut d’amor*, Mendelssohn’s ‘*Hear My Prayer*’, Tchaikovsky’s *Ballet Suite from the Nutcracker*, the *Swan* from Saint-Saëns’ *Carnival of the Animals*, the extraordinary fingerwork (for the piano too!) , of *Napoli*, the reflective ‘*The Lost Chord*’ (Sullivan), Rachmaninov’s *Vocalise* and, to finish, JB Arban’s *Carnival of Venice* – gloriously virtuosic with a splendid bass note ending. The encore was gentler – ‘*Softly as I leave you*’.

A glorious concert, and we thank both Gregory and Chris Howarth as the organiser and accompanist. We wish Gregory the very best for his musical future.

Rachel Bennett



Sunday 14th August, 2.30pm. The second concert in the MLYPC series is given by the talented singer **Charlotte Jones**. Performing a programme of songs, mainly from the shows, she demonstrates her range of vocal techniques; as she dramatically interprets the emotions and situations of the characters and story lines. The audience will journey with her on this rollercoaster of a ride. Songs chosen will include old favourites and new numbers, from present day West End and Broadway hits. Sad songs of longing, romantic ballades and humorous ditties are all included. To add yet more variety, Charlotte will be joined by Adam Curtis for a couple of numbers to perform some stunning duets.

Chris Howarth

Diary of Events

August 2016



Tuesday 2nd Tuesday 19 th	Liskeard Writers' Group meet 2 – 4 pm.
Every Thursday	Knit 'n' Knatter meet from 10.30 am. to 1.30 pm. All welcome
Monday 8th	Liskeard Poetry Group meet 4-6 pm.
Saturday 13th	Liskeard Ploughman's Fair. The House is open longer hours
Sunday 14th	Concert in the Gallery. Liskeard and Menheniot Young Persons' Concert Series. Charlotte Jones, singer. 2.30 pm. Tickets £6 from reception, include refreshments and a chance to talk with the performer afterwards (see p.9)
Monday 22 nd to Saturday 27th	Art Exhibition by the Members of the Coved Room Studio (see p.6)
Sunday 28th	Members' Garden Party (see p.2)
Monday 29 th	House shut for Bank Holiday
Tuesday 30 th to 10 th September	Art and Craft Show with Nancy and Victor (see p.7)
Coming in September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sewing Classes begin on 6th (see p.7) • Stuart House Concert Series begins (see p.8) • Painters' Art Exhibition • Sheep to Jumper events, and another Stuart House Sewing Bee. Vintage Sale

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.

Articles, information, notices and photographs for the Stuart House Newsletter to the editor, please (who must reserve the right to edit as necessary), **before Sunday 21st August** for inclusion in the next newsletter. Leave with Sioux in the Office or email to rachelpbennett59@gmail.com