

*September 2017*

## **Hundreds Visit the Old Cornwall Society's 'Memories of Liskeard' Exhibition.**



This wonderful exhibition, which ran from 14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> August, attracted at least 364 visitors, with many people making more than one visit. It made over £131 in donations. Lots of local people came in, including some who had not been to Stuart House before. Not only the photographs, plans, posters and memories, but also the scrap-books of newspaper cuttings fascinated visitors, who poured over them sometimes

for an hour or more.

The 24 pages of comments in the Visitors' Book expressed the tremendous appreciation of the exhibition and the words 'wonderful', 'fantastic', 'great' and 'amazing' occur many times. Extracts include 'it was perfect', 'so well put together', 'keeping Cornish history alive', 'I left feeling very educated', 'lots I didn't know', 'a walk back in time', 'people knew their stuff' and 'fascinating to see our lovely town in days gone by'.

We thank Paula and Jackie who spent hours finding, sorting, labelling and mounting the display material and who, with Paul too, welcomed and talked with visitors throughout the week. Thanks also to the week's OCS stewards Heather, Ruth and Brenda.

Remember that the Old Cornwall Society's Room on the top floor of Stuart House is open each Wednesday morning, that it will be open specially for some of the 'Liskeard Unlocked' days (see p.9) and here is a regular programme of talks and other events (see p.11).

*For more photographs, see p.7,*



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

## **A Message from Sue Glencross, Hon. Sec. about The Friends of Stuart House**

I am pleased to present the Constitution (see p.3) for The Friends of Stuart House. I have discussed this document at a meeting which I had with Eileen Crouch and it was put forward to the Trustees who agreed it should be adopted at the first meeting of the CIO. The main objective is to ensure transparency vis a vis the Trustees and Friends with regular meetings.

I must make it plain, however, that anyone who feels they have something to say must feel free to make an approach to the Trustees at any time. It is not necessary to wait for one of those meetings.

As I have said before, once we have re-structured as a CIO 'Members' will become 'Friends' and what is currently membership will automatically transfer over. Those of you who pay your subscription by direct debit need not make any new arrangements with your Bank as the Trust's Bank details will remain the same irrespective of the fact that we will be given a new Registered Charity Number.

*Readers may remember that Sue spoke about Eileen as the 'Voice of Friends' at the EGM in March, and she wrote about the plans in the Newsletter in April (ed.)*

### **A reminder of who the Trustees are:**

- Bob Hollingdale (Chair)
- Sue Glencross (Hon. Sec.)
- Tony Britton (Treasurer)
- Victor Briggs (Vice Chair)
- John Gliddon
- Dave Howard
- Val Moore
- Rachel Bennett

**Messages can be left in the House for any/all Trustee(s).**



**We regret that the planned MEDIEVAL FEAST on 16<sup>th</sup> September has been CANCELLED.**

The organisers simply did not have enough expressions of interest to proceed, and will get in touch with those who did buy tickets or make enquiries.

**Kenneth Harding**, friend of Stuart House, died on 25<sup>th</sup> June aged 96. Eileen Crouch attended his funeral service and represented Stuart House. The retiring collection and other donations made were for the Stuart House Trust, and we are very grateful for this, and intend to use them for a specific purpose which will mark Kenneth's deep interest in historical buildings.

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September at 11am, a service at St. Cleer Church to inter the ashes of George Vaughan-Ellis**

George left his body to medical science, and that wish has been carried out. The formal Thanksgiving Service having been held last October, this will be a joyful occasion, chosen by his family to be on his birthday, as he is laid to rest beside Hazel. If you wish to attend this short service, after which there will be refreshments and an opportunity to chat, please let Eileen Crouch know in order to advise numbers. 01579 344264

# THE FRIENDS OF STUART HOUSE CONSTITUTION

## 1. Name

The organisation will be known as 'The Friends of Stuart House' ('The Friends')

## 2. Aims and Objectives

The objects of The Friends are

- (i) To support Stuart House CIO Registered No. [ ] ('the Trust') with the preservation and maintenance for the public benefit the property known as Stuart House, Liskeard ('the House')
- (ii) To meet with the Trustees of Stuart House Trust ('the Trustees') four times each year so that there can be a mutual sharing of views on the day to day running of the House
- (iii) To help with the raising of funds to achieve the ongoing objectives of the Trust
- (iv) To meet socially from time to time; and
- (v) To actively promote the continuance of the House as an Arts & Heritage Centre.

## 3. Membership

Membership of The Friends is open to anyone who has an interest in the House and its activities and who wishes to contribute to its future. There shall be varying classes of Friends as determined by the Trustees from time to time

## 4. Annual Subscriptions

The Annual Subscription will be set by the Trustees and confirmed each year at their Annual General Meeting at which The Friends will be entitled to attend

## 5. Structure

The Friends will operate under the structure of the Trust and will have representation at Trustees' meetings through their own appointed representative or via a trustee of the Trust designated for that purpose. Decisions made by the Trustees shall be binding on The Friends

## 6. Finances

The Friends will be accountable to the Treasurer of the Trust ('the Treasurer') for any fundraising activities and shall deliver to the Treasurer a full account in respect of moneys raised which are to be handed either to the Treasurer or the House Manager for banking

## 7. Adoption

This Constitution was adopted by the Trustees at its meeting held on

[ ]

## This Month's Thoughts from our Garden's Overseer



At this time of year we find much advice in the newspapers on how to fill those gaps in the border. In the Stuart House garden, *Crocsmia*, Japanese anemones and *Schizostylis* provide colour throughout September, but a good addition, and greatly praised in those garden articles, would be *Sedum spectabile*. This has almost succulent leaves and is covered in dense heads of red or pink flowers in autumn which bees, butterflies and pollinating insects absolutely love. They are hardy, drought

resistant, fairly snail resistant and reliable, only needing assistance in times of heavy rain to help prevent them flopping over. They are very easy to propagate, we are told – a three or four inch cutting from a non-flowering shoot usually roots quite easily. So if anyone has such plants and is willing to donate a few cuttings they would be very gratefully received – please let Sioux in the office know and one of the gardening volunteers will be in touch.

Another plant that is an excellent insect attractor is the common buddleia, *Buddleja davidii*, the butterfly bush. This year the straggly bush from the old garage site next door has made a highly determined effort to sprawl over the fence, creating a splendid attractive canopy, almost a little den, sheltering the nearby outdoor tables and suffusing the area with its delicate honey-like scent. The individual flower



racemes are quite beautiful, but produce vast quantities of fine seeds that must float around everywhere, effortlessly appearing in small cracks in paths and walls especially on derelict sites and along railway tracks. *Buddleja* is named after 18<sup>th</sup> century botanist Rev Adam Buddle, whilst *davidii* is named after the French missionary and explorer Father Armand David who brought this plant to Europe in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The common purple sort is regarded as an invasive species in many countries, but for garden use there are many other species to choose from, as well as almost 200 cultivars (variants) and hybrids of *davidii*, many of which are sterile and which have a more manageable habit. They don't mind being pruned right to the ground, always reliably returning.

Another profuse self-seeder present in the garden and which is highly attractive to wildlife is *Linaria purpurea*, the purple toadflax (some people wrongly refer to it as purple loosestrife). Its habit well suits our garden, it is snail resistant, and it falls into that category of "once you have it you'll always pleasantly have it".



Earlier this year I mentioned the many new varieties of calendula that have come on to the market and which I thought would be suited to our garden to provide colour for most of the year. (Calendulas are so named as they are encouraged to flower in each month of the calendar, not minding day length.) But alas, the lesson is again learned not to take too literally the hype of the seed companies, because most of the dwarf types (presumably heavily inbred) readily fell foul of the dreaded powdery mildew. The semi-dwarf types Calypso and Candyman did better, whilst the taller Princess

is consistently excellent. To maintain flowering, Calendulas need to be rigorously dead-

headed. Another reason I thought these plants would suit the garden is that they are said to be snail and slug resistant, but sad to say many of those planted at Stuart House were quickly massacred. The annual white mallows (Lavatera) thankfully have been left completely alone, and the shrubby perennial Lavatera "Barnsley" planted in the front garden has been gloriously covered in pink blooms for a good two months with very little attention. It's widely available and highly recommended!



Malcolm Mort

*The photographs of the Japanese Anemone, the view under the buddleia, the extraordinary reflections in the curved mirror and the rose (below) are by Malcolm, and the view of some of our wonderful garden volunteers at work, spied from the King's Room window, is by the ed.*

## GARDEN CLUB NEWS

Val Moore reports that the Garden Club is going well. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September, between 11am. and 1pm. Please contact Val on 01579 228518 with enquiries about the Club.

Val thanks all those who have brought in, and bought, plants. Sales – and interest – are growing!



## SEPSIS AWARENESS DAY

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September. Drop in between 10am. and 5pm.

Refreshments provided in the Garden and Café.

**ALL WELCOME. Free, although donations are welcome**

Volunteer and Gallery co-ordinator Nancy Briggs, who has suffered twice from this life-threatening infection complication, is holding this event, with her husband, trustee Victor, to raise awareness of the dangers and growing incidence of sepsis.

## **EVENTS IN THE GALLERY IN AUGUST**

The Summer Holiday month saw a lovely variety of events in The Gallery and rest of the House

**MUSIC and TOYS** with John Moses (on the right in the photo) ran from July 31<sup>st</sup> to August 5<sup>th</sup>. Many visitors - of all ages - called in and were enchanted by the collection of old toys on show (some for sale), and by the musical instruments which John had made. The plucked and bowed psalteries, harps, dulcimers and a lyre, were demonstrated by John and tried out by visitors. It was fascinating to hear him talk with such knowledge and enthusiasm about their history, use, manufacture and sound. The wind instruments were not to be tried out, understandably, but John demonstrated them and explained how they were made. Fascinating!



**JOURNEYS : an exhibition of art and craft from Cornwall Adult Education Students** ran from August 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>. There was beautiful material from students on Levels 2 and 3 of Textile, Print, Art and Photography courses, and it was again enlightening to see and read about the preparative process towards the finished result in the work-books and to have it explained by the tutors and others. Again (as we see) the exhibition attracted visitors of all ages!



## MORE EVENTS IN AUGUST

**Pat's Art Box with LinoShed** returned to the Gallery for a week from 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> August. At the time of going to press it was going very well again, and



comments in the Visitors' Book reflect the sheer pleasure that the work brings to locals and holiday-makers alike. Mia has been in

attendance again, and can be spotted in many of Pat's beach scenes, including this one of Looe Island. Pat's Art Box will be in our Gallery again in mid-October.



**Discover Liskeard's Doors** began on 21<sup>st</sup> August and continues until 2<sup>nd</sup> September, when it moves to the Methodist Church (too much demand for rooms in Stuart House!) until the 'Liskeard Unlocked' Heritage Open Days (see p.8). Visitors



seem to be enjoying testing their powers of observation and using the clues to help them identify the lovely variety of doors in our town. The ed. found it fun to put together too!

In the lead-up to the 'Liskeard Unlocked' Heritage Open Days



### DISCOVER Liskeard's DOORS

an exhibition of photographs  
*come and test your observation, knowledge and appreciation*



**STUART HOUSE**  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August to Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September  
9.30 am to 3.30pm (12.30pm on Saturday)

**LISKEARD METHODIST CHURCH**  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September to Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September  
mornings, extended hours some days.

**'Memories of Liskeard':** the exhibition by the Old Cornwall Society, ran from 14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> August with over 364 visitors! (see p.1)



## EVENTS COMING TO STUART HOUSE IN SEPTEMBER

The planned Stuart House Sewing Bee will not now take place this September, but look out for details of an exciting event with workshops next year.

### “RUINS”

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September in the Gallery and Jane Room



This promises to be an exciting and ‘different’ exhibition, which we are looking forward to hosting.

Duncan Rice is an artist and landscape designer who lives on the edge of northern Dartmoor. In recent years he has been seeking out the relics of Cornwall’s tins and copper mining industry as subject matter. He feels that ‘ruin’ is a state of flux as building returns to the landscape, and recognises that restoration and consolidation work alters the character of what remains and ‘monumentalises’ them. His work is mixed media – combination of charcoal, pastel, gouache and water colour. All works were made on location. Giclee prints of the originals are available in different sizes.

Graham Warren has been photographing since boyhood and although beginning in a more technical way became more experimental. His

black and white images are produced from film exposed in a pin-hole camera and hand printed on silver based multi-grade art paper, although the colour photographs use more modern technology. He too is fascinated by Cornish mine remains, sensing their unique atmosphere and almost cathedral-like structure.



### 50p BOOK SALE

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September

Due to an unexpected vacancy in the Gallery, our Gallery coordinator Nancy has once again stepped in herself to organise a Book Sale to raise money for the House.



### LISKEARD CAMERA CLUB

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September

No details are available at the time of going to press, but we are very pleased to be able to host this exhibition, which should be inspiring and exciting.

## MORE EVENTS COMING IN SEPTEMBER

### **'LISKEARD UNLOCKED' : Heritage Open Days Friday 8<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 10am. to 3pm.**

As the 'Discover Liskeard's Doors' exhibition shows, Liskeard is again joining the national 'Heritage Open Days'.

The idea is that some buildings or parts of buildings not usually open to the public are open (free!), or that buildings which are usually open will provide an 'extra', such as a guide. There are leaflets in the House as well as around the town (and also on the Council's 'Visit Liskeard' website) with lots more details of the buildings and times of opening – look for the 'doors' imagery!



← Stuart House will open access to its 'Secret Passage', and there will be a guide to tell visitors something about the House (*any more volunteer guides please contact the ed.!*)

The Old Cornwall Society based in the Tre-carrell Room on the top floor of the House will be open for much of the time. →

There is an OCS lecture in the Long Room (Public Hall) at 2.30pm on the Friday: Miss Carol Vivian on 'Sir Richard Carew – 16<sup>th</sup> century Gentleman'.



The café and the rest of the House will stay open on Saturday afternoon.

### **SUMMER CRAFTS EXHIBITION Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August to Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

A range of crafters displaying their creations, with some actually at work in the Gallery (note that this is open on Bank Holiday Monday)

#### **Idea for a Crafters' Club**

One of these craftspeople. Carol Keogh, who will be demonstrating decoupage, block printing, rug making, beadwork and patchwork at the exhibition, is interested in setting up a Crafters' Club based in Stuart House, meeting on a weekly basis for 2-3 hours on an afternoon. If you are interested, please contact her on 0758 5920126 or call in to the exhibition and speak to her there.

# ST MATTHEW'S FAIR DAY

## Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September

Stuart House will be open all day.

The photography exhibition will be in the Gallery and there will be sales in the shop and outside the House too!

**The Sealed Knot Civil War Re-Enactment Society** will again be in our garden, demonstrating use of weaponry, cooking and crafts. Interesting and fun – if occasionally very loud!



There will be a **fun drawing event** in the Jane Room. Do call in – bring family (it's an all-age event!) and friends - and let your inspiration and imagination flow on the theme of 'fair' – whatever the word or idea means to you!

Encouragement is available, and all materials are free.

The artwork will be on display in the Jane Room for the following week.

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
Drop in between 10am and 3pm

**on St Matthew's Fair Day  
at Stuart House**  
(while Sealed Knot are in the Garden)

**COME  
and  
DRAW  
'FAIR'**

All ages, all skills, all welcome  
Drop in and draw your ideas of 'FAIR'  
All materials supplied free  
Exhibition the following week.

## MORE NEWS OF EVENTS LINKED WITH STUART HOUSE

### The Liskeard Poets meet monthly in Stuart House

Their new volume 'Out of the Box' will soon be on sale in the House, alongside their previous publications. The book launch and poetry reading was held in the Public Hall as it could not be held in the House, but any fears that the poets would rattle around with half a dozen visitors proved groundless as there were well over forty supporters.

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### The Old Cornwall Society's programme of talks is referred to on p.1.

Readers might be interested in the following talks to be held this year, all at 2.30pm in the Long Room of the Public Hall.

Date	Title	Speaker
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	Sir Richard Carew – 16 <sup>th</sup> Century Gentleman	Miss Carol Vivian
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	(AGM) Cornwall's Lighthouses	Alan & Ann Cox
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	The Lighter Side of the First World War	Di Lawer

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## Events at our partner, Sterts Theatre

**WHAT'S ON Autumn**

Enlightenment with Wayne McHugh

The Story of Mary Bryant

Cheshire Cats - Tavonions Theatre Company

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Upton Cross, Liskeard PL14 5AZ

Twitter, Facebook, Instagram icons

**WHAT'S ON Autumn**

See website for full show details

16th Sep 7.30pm	An Evening of Enlightenment - Wayne McHugh	£15/12	ST SE
7th Oct 7.30pm	The Story of Mary Bryant	£10/8	SS T
21st Oct 7.30pm	Jonathan Delbridge	£10/8	SS M
27th OR 28th Oct 7.30pm	Sterts Youth Company Showcase	TBC	SS
29th Oct 7.30pm	A View from the Edge. Owdyado Theatre.	£10/8	VH T
9th Nov 7.30pm	Cheshire Cats - Tavonions Theatre Company	£10	SS T
18th Nov	Sterts/British Horse Society Winter Ball	£50	L E
25th Nov 7.30pm	One Act Plays Winners Night	£10/8	SS T
26th Nov 10-4	Christmas Craft Fair	FREE ENTRY	F
1st Dec 7.30pm	Chris Newman & Marie ni Chataasaigh	£10/8	SS M
21st Dec 7.00pm	Singers Candlelit Christmas Concert	£8 Adult £6 Child	ST F

**ST** Sterts Theatre      **SE** Spiritual Evening  
**SS** Sterts Studio      **M** Music      **F** Family  
**VH** Upton Cross Village Hall      **T** Theatre  
**L** Lanhydrock      **E** Entertainment

# Diary of Events

## September 2017



Continuing to Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Discovering Liskeard's Doors – exhibition of photographs in the lead-up to Liskeard Unlocked (see p.7) then moving to the Methodist Church
Continuing until Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Summer Crafts Exhibition
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> to Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup>	'Ruins' – exhibition of paintings and photographs (see p.8)
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Liskeard Writers' Group meet 2 – 4 pm.
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> and Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup>	'Liskeard Unlocked' – Heritage Open Days. Stuart House's Secret Passage is open, also the Old Cornwall Society Room (see p,9)
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Liskeard Poetry Group meet 4-6 pm.
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> to Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	50p Book Sale, raising money for Stuart House (see p,8)
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Sepsis Awareness Raising Day – all welcome (see p.5)
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> to Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Liskeard Camera Club (see p.8)
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup>	St Matthew's Fair Day in Liskeard (see p.10) Sealed Knot in the Garden Come and Draw for all event in the Jane Room (see p.10)
<b>Coming in October</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exhibition from 'Come and Draw' (Sept 30<sup>th</sup> – Oct 7<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Autumn Craft Show (2<sup>nd</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Fake or Fortune: Antiques Valuation (Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> 10am to noon)</li> <li>• Liskeard School Musicians (Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm)</li> <li>• Pat's Art Box (16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>)</li> <li>• West Country Embroiderers (23<sup>rd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>)</li> <li>• Ilow Splann in concert (Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm)</li> <li>• Alan Kingwell Art Exhibition and Sale (30<sup>th</sup> to Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul>

*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 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)