



Celebrating
the 200th
anniversary
of the birth
of John
Passmore
Edwards.

Newsletter No 3
December 2022



Crowdfunder

Our Crowdfunder comes to an end on 20 December. Thanks to those who have contributed and shared. We will not meet our target so will have to reduce our aspirations to meet the resources available. As you will all know, it is not an easy time for raising funds, but what we might lack in funding we shall make up for with enthusiasm.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/passmore-edwards-bicentenary-festival-2023>

We need more Trees

In Cornwall we aim to plant 20 trees, one to represent each of the 20 Passmore Edwards buildings, involving the communities to which they were given. With the support of Cornwall Council we are planting Rowans, a small tree suitable for most conditions and with a life of up to 200 years. Could you supply and plant a tree to represent your Passmore Edwards building? If you do, please let us know.

Kensal Green Cemetery

A date has been set for the event at Kensal Green Cemetery. On Saturday 22 April, the nearest weekend to the date of Edwards death in 1911, flowers and wreaths will be laid at Passmore Edwards grave, to be followed by a tour of the graves of other "celebrities" buried there. Following refreshments there will be talks on the life of Passmore Edwards, the Willesden Cottage Hospital and on the Acton library, both funded by Edwards.

Edwards funeral was attended by many representing the organisations helped by Edwards and we would like to invite those who are now associated with the surviving buildings to join in. If you have not received an invitation but would like to be there please contact me.

Welcome

Passmore Edwards' first gift to Falmouth was a cottage hospital. Unfortunately the site chosen was insufficient to allow for the town's expansion but the building has continued to serve the community; as a maternity hospital, welfare clinic, and for many years as a Day Care Centre run by Age UK. Those who work there love their Passmore Edwards building and many of the older folk who go there have memories of the building's previous uses. We look forward to working with Lucie Downing and her staff as they celebrate the Passmore Edwards Bicentenary.



Contact

The email address we set up specifically for the Bicentenary has been causing difficulties, with many going direct to Trash Folders. Please add bicentenary@thepassmoreedwardslegacy.org.uk to your address book to receive updates and to contact us.

Events

some of the events that we are aware of.

Cornwall based singer songwriter, Will Keating, is to compose a new song about the Passmore Edwards Legacy, which we hope to premiere around 24 March, the date of Passmore Edwards' birth.

Blackwater Village Trust, custodian of the first of the 70 Passmore Edwards buildings, will be installing a plaque on the Institute to recognise the buildings importance during a day of celebrations.

The Biographic Book Group at Dulwich library will be studying Passmore Edwards own autobiography, A Few Footsteps.

Truro Library Quilting Group aim to create a quilt illustrating the twenty Passmore Edwards buildings in Cornwall.

A talk on the Passmore Edwards Legacy at Falmouth Library will be followed by a cream tea - jam first of course.

UEL, who now use the former West Ham Museum building as a student Union Centre celebrate 125 years in 2023. Celebrations will include their link with Passmore Edwards.

Several Old Cornwall Societies and other groups have booked a talk on the Passmore Edwards Legacy.

The former Redruth library building will be reopened as The ladder a new Community Theatre.

The Passmore Edwards Bicentenary Festival is an opportunity for you to promote the amazing things that continue to originate at the surviving Passmore Edwards buildings - the Passmore Edwards Legacy. Please let me know what is on your programme for next year, whether these are specially commissioned or part of your regular programme. bicentenary@thepassmoreedwardslegacy.org.uk

Redruth Library aim to mark the occasion with a book chain from the old library to the new library.

The National Newspaper Archives have already digitised The Echo, the London halfpenny newspaper owned by Passmore Edwards and this is now available to search on their website <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk>

One of the Railway workers who attended the Convalescent Home at Herne Bay, purchased for the Railwaymen's Union by Passmore Edwards, wrote a "Home song" to the tune of John Brown's Body. This has been recorded by local folk singer, Nigel Hobbins, and will be released during an exhibition on the two Herne Bay Passmore Edwards Convalescence Homes, in Herne Bay Museum from January to March next year.

Newlyn Society of Artists' Spring Exhibition will take place from 1st to the 30th of April, 2023, in the Tremeneheere Gallery.

Shallal Dance Theatre are working on a new production on the Passmore Edwards' Legacy for performances next year.

An exhibition is being arranged in September at Kresen Kernow, Cornwall's home for Cornish Archives.

St Ives Archives Group have started work on a display which will be part of St Ives library programme of events during the bicentenary.

The Cornish Buildings Group are looking at a day symposium on Philanthropy in 19C Cornwall and its impact on Cornwall's architecture.



One remarkable man 200 years ago, has continued to make a difference in his community. Passmore Edwards was a Victorian visionary who will continue to have an impact now and for many years to come.

Councillor Linda Taylor. Leader, Cornwall Council.