

## **Liskeard & District Museum Report to Communications and Engagement Committee March 2020**

The museum has remained open over the winter period exceeding visitor numbers on the previous year during November, dropping in December but recovering for January & February this year.

We were very happy to receive the Emily Hobhouse letters research display (many thanks to Jayne Buchanan) which has been on display from the end of November to the end of February. Although space was limited, we managed to accommodate the display over winter and it will be displayed at various locations in the future. (It is currently at Stuart House). We had a number of visitors who specifically came to see the exhibition and positive comments including this one.

“We still have poverty in our communities and Emily inspires me to not ignore it and try to help where I can.”

The next exhibition planned will cover the 50's & 60's decades life and events in Liskeard inviting community participation and providing activities around the town. The exhibition will change and develop over a period of two years.

The museum plans an exhibition to reflect on VE and VJ day with participation of students from St Martins School to develop the display.

The museum's contribution to the Heritage Open Days (Liskeard Unlocked) 'Hidden Nature' will be utilising the recently donated and refurbished microscopes from Kernow Microscopical Society to view a hidden microscopical world around us with a 'micro photographs' display from students at Falmouth University.

There has been some success in recruiting additional volunteers following an article in the Cornish Times but it takes a little time to establish roles, training and working patterns. We have also had a couple of volunteers leave including Jayne Buchanan who sits on the Management Group. Election will take place to hopefully replace her. The next Management Meeting will either take place when Jayne is available to attend or in her absence soon to review a proposed Forward Plan.

We are awaiting the formal decision from the Arts Council regarding the museum accreditation but have been advised that we are likely to receive a provisional accreditation awaiting finalisation of the new Forward Plan due this year.