

## Museum Management Committee Report - 24th February 2017

In the Full Council Meeting of 24th January, 2017 the Terms of Reference for the Management of the Liskeard & District Museum were adopted. There was a feeling of relief that this matter has now been resolved and the Museum Management Committee can now concentrate on day to day management of the Museum, the re-accreditation process and planning for future displays for 2018.

Since the last report, two meetings of Management have been held on 11th January and 3rd February. Most of the last two months' meetings have been concerned with the setting up of the new displays, planning the private view and publicity for the re-opening. Over 130 guests attended the event on 11th February and BBC Spotlight was present before the event.

In the first week of opening, visitor numbers increased by 10% over the same period last year and shop sales also increased. Radio Cornwall have also come into the museum for interviews.

### Volunteer matters

Currently volunteers need refreshing as to opening and closing procedures, and there is the ever pressing need for more volunteers of all sorts! Hella is in touch with RIO with a view to finding some of their members who could be interested in helping as volunteers.

Ways to engage more volunteers are being discussed and Jayne proposed an open Day for Volunteers. All to be followed up once pressure of re-opening is removed. However, there are plenty of 'day to day' running procedures to be dealt with which have fallen slightly behind in the past month which now need attention.

### Publicity

A banner is now in place outside the museum, but volunteers believe that one more is needed perhaps in Barras Street. Hella to explore options. Hoping too, to have an upright banner for indoor events and also a leaflet ready by Easter for distribution in Tourist Information Centres and local holiday accommodation premises, such as Looe caravan parks, B&Bs and local businesses.

It was noted that the Museum Facebook, Twitter and Instagram sites are getting many more likes, and that the Museums in Cornwall site is effective. All these methods of social media are free of charge, but it is still felt that leaflets are needed in Cornwall.

### Planned Museum Events - 2017

These are mostly free of charge, but donations always welcomed!

15th February - Children's workshop 'Portraits in Plastic'  
16th February - The Remarkable Daniel Gumb - Talk by Brian Oldham  
24th March - Public Hall - in conjunction with "The Plastic Age" a showing of the film "A Plastic Ocean" to be held.  
25th March - Community Fair stall  
12th April - to be confirmed. "Me and my Favourite Toy" photo opportunity/create a collage  
31st May - Make your own paper bag.  
?30th June - Carnival Week - Brian will conduct an extra walk round town, finishing with special viewing in museum. Brian has already advertised a list of walks and talks throughout the summer, free of charge with optional donations for the museum.  
Summer holidays - Portraits in Plastic"

Also scheduled - but not discussed - Family Heritage Day - 3rd June in the Public Hall, Liskeard. (Organised by SECMF)

### Forward plans for 2018

These will take priority after opening (as early as Easter). The theme will be concerning the health and effect of mining on miners and residents of Liskeard. One option is Tony Piper's offer to loan the Rosedean Surgery Museum collection of instruments for the Henry Rice room!

Phil's toy collection will stay in some form or another, but will be smaller and links will be found with the theme of health and treatment for sickness and Liskeard's social welfare. It was agreed that the main effort will be to re-vitalise the John Rapson Room, again looking at health, professions and influential Liskeard residents.

Ideally teams will be created to deal with specific rooms.

Jayne is in touch with Liskeard School and Community College, with a view to setting up a local history club. She hopes that we can co-ordinate some activities together.

New Audio/sound streams needed for the museum! Considering grants including Small Grant, Big Improvement? However, timing probably too short for 2018.

There is always the need to continue with the basic work of the museum - Modes, accessioning, care and conservation, etc. - must not be overlooked in the eagerness to get new displays up and running!

When asked how things were progressing, Amanda reported that the biggest effort had been in getting locations for objects correct. Work still needed to be done, but currently displays have taken over. Quality of input needs improvement.

Re photo storage, Gordon has been in touch with firm used by Torpoint Archive - but firm no longer selling these. Looking further afield and the question of space was raised if it had to be albums. Research needed to see what other museums do. Gordon will ask Pauline Hubner for advice and look further into this.

The question of whether the TIC or Museum could sell ice cream was raised and it is the view of the Museum Committee that selling Cornish ice cream could enhance the museum's image as a tourist destination. Hella will re-submit a proposal to the C&E Committee.

### Budget

Gordon explained the situation with the current budget and our need to spend the nominated reserves in the region of £15000. Three main areas need to be considered -

- 1) Sound streaming/interactive kiosks,
- 2) Photo Storage/archiving and
- 3) Display cabinets that are fit for purpose - currently we are unable to load from front.

Prioritising important.

### Date of Next Management Meeting

During the pre-opening and half term week, there has not been time to have the usual meetings. There will be a small re-grouping meeting for those who can make it on 1st March.

The next full management meeting will be held on 15th March 2017 at 2.15pm