

8. Liskeard & District Museum

Report to Communications and Engagement Committee June 2021

The museum has been open to the public following Covid Lockdown since 17th May 2021.

The office and research space is now situated in the top room (now called Jeanne Rees Room). The Mining and Geology exhibition is the now Daniel Gumb Room on the first floor. This room has scope to include a virtual reality space once covid restrictions are relaxed and the public gain confidence.

The museum staff & volunteers thank the Town Council for supporting this move. The new layout is working both for the public and volunteers working in the museum.

The museum has secured a grant from Cultivator towards the purchase of film and photography equipment to capture quality images of the collection artefacts which will enable us to produce on-line exhibitions and 3D tour films starting with the industrial landscape on the moors which will be available on-line and eventually in the museum as virtual reality. We are advertising for volunteers interested in digital photography and film and inviting expressions of interest from professionals to provide training and support for the projects. We are in the process of applying for an Arts Council grant to finance this.

We have launched a new website as a platform for the digital exhibitions and tours which also has a search facility for the whole collection.

Covid safe procedures are in place at the museum including handwashing, surface sanitizing, one-way systems and mask wearing in the public areas. Some interactive displays have been removed. This will be reviewed following announcements about further reductions in Covid restrictions.

Although some volunteers have not returned, we have recruited three new volunteers with more in the pipeline. We now have three graduate volunteers gaining experience and knowledge for their future careers in heritage.

Visitor numbers have been fluctuating and lower than usual for the time of year.