

Newsletter

July 2018

Our New Neighbour to the South Opens



After all the planning and building work, JD Wetherspoon opened their new pub, "The King Doniert" on Tuesday 19th June. It's early days yet to judge its impact on Stuart House in terms of things like increased footfall, noise in our garden, café custom and shared side access (with wheelie bins

etc.), but it's great to have life on the site again. The south side of Stuart House seems much more open, and can be admired from their roof terrace. The new garden wall is a positive asset, remarked upon by many visitors (see p.2).

(On Tuesday 26th the van was in front for some time – apologies ed.)



Our own 'King Doniert' Exhibition, running in the Jane Room until July 7th, has attracted many people curious about the King whose name the new pub has taken.. The exhibition follows from the March exhibition 'Stuart House and its Next-Door Neighbours', which happened to coincide with JD Wetherspoon releasing (and giving us a copy of) the picture of what the pub was to look like. It seems a long time ago now! More details of the exhibition are on p7.

❖ GDPR and Stuart House Friends ❖

You may well feel that you have had enough of the demands of the new General Data Protection Regulation, but as Hon. Sec. Sue Glencross explains on p.2, we must be compliant.

❖ We ask you please to return the attached form. ❖



Leaflet Sponsored by Coodes
Honorary Solicitors to Stuart House Trust

Hon. Sec. Sue's News

General Data Protection Regulations 2018

I can hear you all sigh as you read this article. Legislation designed to protect us all from unwarranted and unnecessary intrusion into our private lives and intended to give our personal details added protection, creates problems with small organisations such as ourselves, but we have to be seen to comply with the new rules and attempt to overcome those problems. We are not the only ones: I have spoken to colleagues who undertake administration work for churches and other small organisations. They join me in the fast track route to a nervous breakdown!

We will never reveal your personal details unless you specifically authorise us to do so. Some Friends join so that they can enjoy social interaction and maybe organise events; others simply join to support us financially and wish to do nothing other than pay their annual donation and receive a Newsletter. We respect that.

I hope you find the attached pro forma self-explanatory. You can either sign it and return it to us or you can email us setting out your authority. (Remember that there are two authorities which may apply but feel free just to sign the first one).

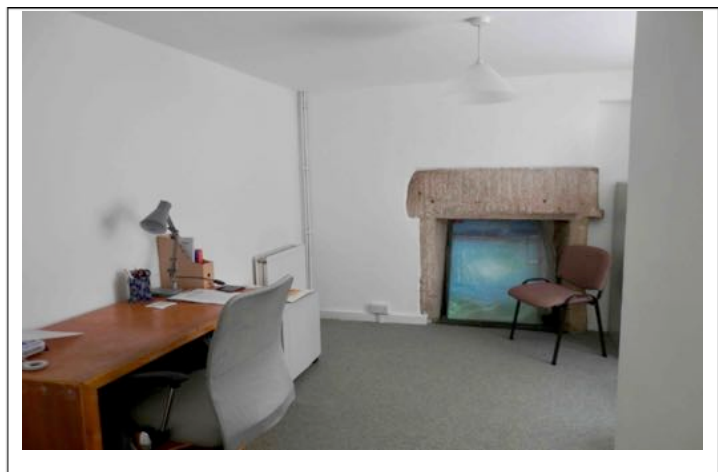
Please bear with us on this – and please respond. As a Friend, Lifetime Friend, or Honorary Friend you will continue to receive the Newsletter.

More interesting news!



Sue Glencross, Hon. Sec.

As I write this, the new garden furniture is due to arrive. At their July meeting the Trustees began to discuss what further tasks need to be undertaken in the garden which will, of course, include the area on our side of the new wall and the area leading from the door from the cross passage to the new emergency exit. The reception area now needs new furniture, and bespoke furniture is being considered. Ideas and quotations will be obtained. The upstairs office is finished apart from the blind which is on order, pictures to go on the wall, and a silk architectural plant/flower display for the fireplace.



We have said farewell to Dawn, who has done stalwart service as cleaner at Stuart House for the past ten years. Most Friends will never have met her, as her time in the House has begun so early: the cafe floor has to dry off before customers come in. We wish Dawn a very happy future, and thank her. We also thank house-manager Sioux, who has been covering the cleaning until we find a replacement.

FRIENDS' NEWS

Monday 18 June 2018 saw one of the four annual informal meetings of Friends and Trustees. We talked through ideas and opinions for an hour or so, then enjoyed the excellent buffet which Victor had prepared.

The atmosphere was wonderfully positive, and the hope is that once some events and activities have been organized and publicized, more Friends will feel willing and able to become even more active and we'll get a feeling of all being a team, working for the good of the House and the joy of our association with it.

Eileen (our Friends' Liaison Friend) and Jac outlined the plans for a Herb Festival (mentioned in the last Newsletter) next summer. It will be wide ranging: plants, food, information, herbal preparations for sale, themed embroidery, talks and more – ideas are welcome.

The Herb Festival has since been booked for 9th to 21st June 2019

Of course, the Friends (with Trustees, who are all, of course, Friends themselves), need co-ordination. Our Chairman Bob is working on this – do contact him, or Eileen, with any offers or ideas! It may be that this role links directly with the trustee body in some way. We will also need Friends to oversee individual projects.

The decoration of the Friends' Room will be one such project - the best way forward is currently under consideration.

The idea of a Café Loyalty Card for Friends was approved and is being followed up. It was also agreed that non-Friends at some events (in-House ones and others) may be offered a coffee/tea voucher to encourage them to come into the House. Organizing this is now underway.

The Newsletter remains the way the Friends communicate agreed proposals and requests for support, and the editor welcomes contributions (*before 25th of the previous month, please! ed.*)

An Events Guide for the coming 12 months (obviously subject to updating) will be made available to Friends.

The next Friends' meeting is Thursday 19th July at 3 pm.

Friends seem to prefer afternoon to evening meetings. All Friends are welcome, and if you cannot come, but have ideas to share, please let Eileen or Bob, via the House, know.



The Stuart House presentation at the South-East Cornwall Museums Forum's **Family History and Heritage Discovery Day on June 2nd**.

Almost 30 different organizations were represented, in Liskeard's Public Hall, and we did lots of useful 'networking', as well as talking to the visitors.

Stuart House is an active member of the SECMF. This, and other museums' groups, are very helpful in sharing news, awareness and understanding.

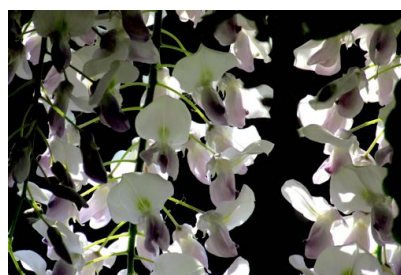
Friends might be interested in taking the 'travelling display' to other events. Please contact the editor if so.

July's Thoughts from our Garden's Overseer.



The Stuart House garden in June suddenly erupted into full colour: poppies, foxgloves, pond lilies (yellow and blue), wisteria (*below*), a mass of geraniums in the lawn beds, and roses galore. This only goes to show that there's no need to worry about variable Spring weather such as we had this year, because by early summer everything catches up. The geraniums (the hardy cranesbill sorts that is) have demonstrated how ultra-

determined they are. One of the plants near the new old-effect wall (*see p.2 ed.*) that was trodden on galore by the builders, covered in cement dust and had bricks stacked on top of it, has reappeared and is growing well. This serves to teach us another gardening lesson: there are plenty of plants we can grow that have no wish to be molly-coddled!



The roses are splendid at the moment (always prune hard in February/ early March). The apricot Duchess of Cornwall blooms in the front garden (right-hand side) are a picture framed through the railings, and always look as if they want to escape.



On the left-hand side the white roses (thanks, Val, for donating those) stood out spectacularly against the dark shadows. In the rear garden, there is a climbing rose planted near the tap trained up and along the wall. This has flowered well, a whitish dog-rose,

so it's the rootstock which has grown up strongly and has been trained! The supposed rootstock shoot was given a chance to fill the gap under the café window, and that's flowered too, showing itself to be the "real" rose, an old fashioned crumpled red type.



Visitors to the garden have asked about the tall, white, "cow-parsley" type plants growing in the border near the shed. These are called Ammi Major and best grown as biennials. Having an old-fashioned look, they suit the garden well.

There are weeds galore in the garden, of course, including the dreaded alkanet, deadnettle, and bindweed: plants that win by being so determined with their tenacious, spreading root systems and vast seed production. There are also those colonising plants, for example the pretty purple toadflax, that seem quite happy growing in the garden gravel paths without any soil at all. We see examples of “no-soil” plants everywhere, and we should owe them a great favour as their purpose is to build up layers of humus to allow barren areas to green over. I’ve mentioned before that there are many attractive plants we can use in our garden for this purpose that will happily flourish in cracks and crevices without any effort from us, and my ever-growing list includes: feverfew, Welsh poppies, Verbena bonariensis (the tall sort) or Verbena illumination (shorter type), bidens, primrose, calendula, Escholtzia, Erigeron karvinskianus (the spreading Mexican daisy), honesty, field marigold, wallflower and foxglove. Just brush or scatter the seeds around. Beware though, teasel works all too well and you’ll soon find it simply everywhere.

The wild goat “pussy” willows that in recent years had graced the Stuart House garden from the old garage site have now been replaced on their new paved Wetherspoons area by a tall manicured potted Pieris. A totally different effect, but not unattractive. I wonder if pieces of the willow roots are still there under the tiling and whether they’ll force their way through? That would be interesting!

Malcolm Mort

More Garden News!

Our Garden Club organizer, Val Moore, tells us that

Garden Week in the Gallery in June was a success. Plants were donated and sold - many thanks to all those who brought and bought them. Thanks too to Nancy for all her supportive organization. We had gardening books, poetry books, restored tools, some lovely photographic and painted cards and much more.

We are beginning to plan the **Herb Festival 2019** with some other interested Friends (see p.3). We are discussing how best to grow herbs again in our garden.

The **Garden Club** itself is a very happy group, and we would welcome others to join our discussions and plans for the future. Please contact Val Moore via the House (or tel. 01579 228518) so that you know what we’ll be talking about! At April’s meeting we focussed on geraniums (ie perennial



cranesbills, not pelargoniums!), and in June we thought about roses.

**Our next meeting
is Monday 23rd
July, 11.30am. to
1.30pm.**

The Past Month's Events at Stuart House



The start of June saw the continuation of the exhibition and sale by **Pat's Art Box and Friends.**

Again we were delighted by the variety of the work by Pat Thuysbaert, together with Richard Jenkins, Alan Kingwell and Suzy Billing-Mountain - from cheerfully populated beach scenes to stormy seascapes, lino-cut cormorants and ethereal sea creatures.

GARDEN WEEK in the Gallery from 11th to 16th of June was a happy success – see p.5 for details and a photo. A lot of money was raised for the House through donations for plants.

David Beer exhibited - and sold - in the week beginning 18th June, and visitors deeply appreciated his work. David exhibits in galleries throughout Cornwall, and he used to run his own gallery in St Ives, before moving to east Cornwall. He explained his two very different techniques: firstly, the figures, drawn in black pastel with layers of acrylic colour built up, and secondly his land and seascapes, which use oils and a palette knife – no brushes at all. David observes outdoors but, because of the changing light, paints indoors, and at a desk rather than an easel.



More Events in the Past Month



The new quarterly Friends' Craft **Shop in the Surgery** was open for the first time in the week beginning 11th. It went quite well, and there were lovely things to buy, but we need to think how to draw more people in to visit. **The Friend-Artist of the Month** in the Surgery in June was **Peter Hooper**, and his extraordinarily detailed drawings of cars, people and other things drew great admiration.

A booking cancellation in the Max Lock Gallery led to Nancy putting on a '**Stuart House Summer Sale**' in the week beginning 25th June - a mixture of crafts and other goods seeking a home, which attracted both browsers and buyers.



Java 5 gave a concert in the Gallery on Sunday 24th. It was the concert postponed from March due to heavy snow and in contrast, it was a gloriously hot day. Singer (and ex-Stuart House Chairman) John Batey (on the right) writes

'Fourteen years after giving their first ever concert at Stuart House, Java 5 were back last Sunday performing to a small but appreciative audience'.

Members of the audience certainly reported their great enjoyment of the programme and the wonderfully rhythmic and spirited delivery.

The **King Doniert Exhibition** organized by the ed. with much input from Jackie Jenkins of the Old Cornwall Society and Dr Oliver Padel, runs until July 7th (see p.1). It explores the limited evidence about the ninth-century King of Cornwall: who he was, the extent of his authority, the stories about his death and the speculation surrounding his stone. Visitors have appreciated the explanations, even though there might still be more questions than answers!



COMING in JULY

Monday 2nd to Saturday 14th July
Max Lock Gallery

ART and CRAFT SALE

organized by Linda Losty

Exhibiting and selling will be by a range of artists and crafters from the local area and further afield.



We are pleased to welcome back the **NORTH HILL ART & CRAFT GROUP**, who write: - 'we are a group of amateur artists with a good selection of work in all mediums. We will also have a selection of cards etc. and this year have local author Madeleine Orrick to share space with us with a selection of her novels for sale. She is also a member of the group. A percentage of all sales are donated to the Stuart House Trust. The group is a really friendly group that meets on alternate Tuesday afternoons at North Hill Village Hall. We always welcome visitors and are always looking for new members. For further details please contact Phyllis Harrison 01579 362970'.

STUART HOUSE

FOOD FAYRE

July 23rd – 28th

organized by Nancy and café-manager and trustee Victor.

Local traders, sampling and buying, demonstrations!

Our own café will also be open as usual.



From Moor to Sea

An Exhibition of landscapes and Seascapes by

Alan Kingwell

July 30th to August 4th

We welcome Alan back to the Max Lock Gallery. He will again be doing demonstrations during the week.

Other events linked to STUART HOUSE in July

The **CRAFT CLUB** meet every Thursday between 12 noon and 3pm.

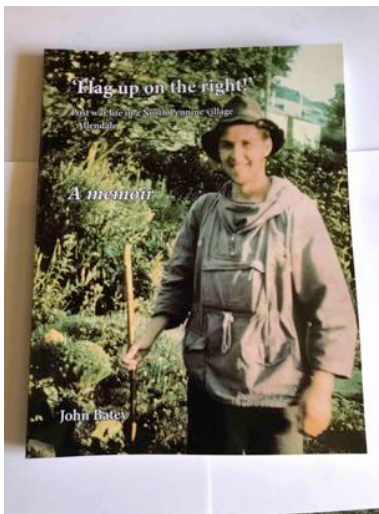
All welcome.

We hope for an update on the Club's activities in the next Newsletter.

A new information board nearing completion to be displayed at the **Pipe Well** in Liskeard mentions the story of early 20th-century maids from Stuart House going to meet their young men at the Pipe Well (the 'Place of Sweethearts') via Stuart House's 'Secret Passage'.

We aim to keep the entrance to the passage under the stairs clear of any clutter, but cannot normally open it to visitors without a steward.

It will be open for the 'Liskeard Unlocked' Heritage Open Days on September 14th-15th. Any Friends willing to steward, please contact the editor.



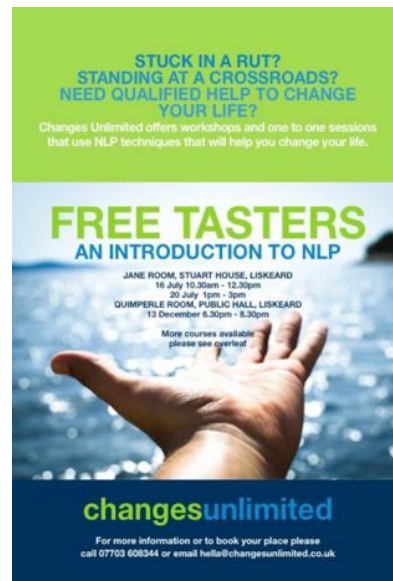
Former Stuart House Chairman

John Batey

has recently had a book published on his upbringing in rural Northumberland and his Cornish links. It is available from Sioux in Reception from Friday 29th June at £5 a copy, with 20 per cent going to Stuart House Funds.

Stuart House Friend Hella Tovar is organizing some NLP (neuro-linguistic programming techniques) workshops, which she will hold in **Stuart House on Monday 16th and Friday 20th June**. There are fliers in the House.

Nancy and Victor are hosting another meeting of the **SEPSIS TRUST** at Stuart House on Thursday 19th July from 6.30pm. until about 8.30pm. Anyone affected in any way by sepsis is most welcome.



Museum volunteer (also Chairman of Liskeard's OCS and Stuart House Friend) Brian Oldham is giving an illustrated talk at 7.30pm in the Long Room, West St., on 5th July 2018: '**Even More Historic Tales Behind Liskeard's Buildings**', using the extensive archive in the Museum in Pike Street. Entry is by donation and includes light refreshments.

Diary of Events

July 2018



Continuing until 7 th	King Doniert Exhibition in the Jane Room (see p.1 & 7)
Monday 2 nd to Saturday 14 th	Art and Craft Sale (see p. 8)
Tuesdays 3 rd & 17 th	Liskeard Writers' Group meet 2 - 4.30 pm
Every Thursday	Craft Club: all welcome 12 noon - 3pm
Monday 9 th	Liskeard Poetry Group meet 4 to 6.30pm
Thursday 12 th	Fake or Fortune – antiques valuation with Richard Hamm of Bearnes, Hampton & Littlewood. 10am to 12 noon
Monday 16 th and Friday 20 th	NLP workshops (see p.9)
Monday 16 th to Saturday 21 st	North Hill Art Group (see p.8)
Thursday 19 th	Friends' Meeting 3pm (see p.3)
Thursday 19 th	Sepsis Trust 6.30pm
Monday 23 rd to Saturday 28 th	Food Fair (see p.8)
Monday 23 rd	Stuart House Garden Club 11.30am to 1.30pm (see p.5)
Monday 30 th to August 4 th	Alan Kingwell Art Exhibition and Sale (see p.8)
Coming in August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pat's Art Box and Friends (6-18th, and 27th - 8th September) • Friends' Craft Sale in the Surgery (TBC) 6th – 11th • Railway Exhibition 20th to 25th

The House, Garden, Old Kitchen Café and Computer Research Suite are open 9.30am – 3.30pm 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.

Reception is usually open every weekday until at least 2pm.

Articles, information, notices and photographs for the Stuart House Newsletter to the editor, please (who must reserve the right to edit as necessary), before 25th of the month for inclusion in the next newsletter. Leave with Sioux in the Office or email to rachelpbennett59@gmail.com