

Callington Heritage Centre - Newsletter

Only two months left to clean everything!

Working on the assumption that we may be back into the chapel by the end of August, it is rather frightening to think that there is only two months left to get everything clean.

The chapel is now watertight and the roof is being tiled. The old mezzanine level has been taken down and a new one is under construction. Render has to come off the end wall to try to solve a damp problem we had there and then all the electric wiring removed and new wiring chased into the wall.

We obviously do not want to take any smokey items into a lovely clean redecorated and re-carpetted area. Virtually all the paperwork has now been cleaned with the exception of some of the large maps. We then have to start on all the artefacts which are currently in boxes or on the bottom shelf as in the photograph to the right. As there is a selection of different types of material to clean we may need to contact Helena, our expert conservator.

As before, we still

need more volunteers. Numbers have dropped off due to summer holidays and other commitments and many of our volunteers have indicated they have to 'babysit' grandchildren for August. So if you can spare us a couple of hours a week please phone [numbers on the back cover].

Now that all the paperwork is cleaned it is all being checked off against the catalogue and new locations inserted. David, our archivist, has family commitments at present, so I have started on this. This does mean that any new publications are off the agenda for the rest of the year.

The latest news following the disastrous fire of 4th March 2007

- « The restoration work and how it is progressing
- « The financial situation
- « New publications
- « Work restoring the chapel
- « The Venning Posters



The Financial Situation

We are still uncertain about the financial position. Some kind people don't seem to have cashed cheques we have written. This is a very generous gesture but it would be very helpful if you could let us know that you are not cashing them, then we can put you on the list of donors and we do not have to hold money back.

I have spoken to the District Council about the application for rate relief and they 'think' it will be granted but we won't know for

definite for another fortnight. This will make a difference of £600+

I have had a rough estimate to professionally dry out all our old books that will come to about £700. Once they are dried we can see what repairs are needed. [You may remember these were put in a freezer upon professional advice]. We obviously need them out of the freezers before we move back to the chapel.

GB Tool Hire have kindly not sent us an invoice for the dehumidifiers since April.

Photo Albums & Scrapbooks

Over the years we had acquired many photo albums and scrapbooks that are very interesting. Unfortunately none of these were of archival quality and consequently suffered during the fire. Of course, in retrospect what we should have done when we received these albums was to take everything out very carefully and put in an archival quality album. This is not easy as many albums have sticky pages and these are the very ones that are harmful to photographs and will severely limit their life span. The hitch is that the required albums cost over £60 each and we need about 15 of them with the correct neutral adhesive and photo corners. This totals £1,400. I have now sent in grant applications to two sources for this amount, so fingers crossed. In the future we are going to have to consider asking for a donation towards proper storage when we receive these albums.



If we get the grant it will be a time absorbing project for someone to very carefully remove and re-locate all these items into the new albums - any volunteers?



New donations

As we are becoming far more organised we are now able to receive donations to the museum collection again. These should have a relevance to Callington and the surrounding area. John Trevethick has kindly let me photocopy the diaries and day book of L Trevethick, who during the early half of the

Thank You Clive

Although Clive assures me he has never officially been part of the Heritage Centre management committee he has over the past years contributed a lot of time and effort to the Centre, especially with the presentation of displays. He will now just be concentrating on the Local History Group but we will be liaising over newsletters. Thank you for all your work in the past Clive.

And to Lynda

Lynda Harman is one of the leading lights of the Calstock Archive. She has not only found time to help us out in our crisis but actually walks from Harrowbarrow to our Unit in Kelly Bray nearly every week! A big thank you Lynda, we hope Calstock never has a similar disaster and that we have to reciprocate!

Geology Expert

As you may have seen in the *Callington News*, we need a geological expert to help us identify some of our specimens where the numbers have come off. Do you know of anyone?

20th century worked almost exclusively on Redmoor Mine. If you have anything like this, deeds, wills, old invoices, newspapers [we have a gap between about 1973 and 1985] photographs etc. Please either phone 362139 or take them up to the Town Hall.

Newsletters

Although an old *Callington News* may not be very interesting now, in 50 years time it will provide even more information than the old newspaper cuttings. Below are the issues of the *Callington News* which are missing - can you help by either giving or loaning us an issue to photocopy? Other newsletters which we require are junior and senior school publications, Methodist and parish news, Prim-Raf newsletters and from our adjacent parishes, *Parish Pump* and *Link*. When our last dedicated archivist Julie Johns left the supply of these newsletters dried up and apart from the *Callington News* and the *Link* we have very few beyond 2002. Lists of the missing issues are on the web site - go to the Heritage page and then Newsletters.

www.callington.uk.net

Missing Callington News

1992 August
1993 February
1995 May
1999 January
2002 Sep., Oct., Nov., Dec.
2003 Jan., Feb., March, April, July, Aug., Sep.

The Heritage Centre Trustees would like to offer sincere thanks to all the following who have made donations, some large, some small, but all valued. Without them Callington's Heritage would have been lost.

Cornwall Heritage Trust
Duke of Cornwall's Benevolent Fund
Callington Town Forum
Tamar Valley AONB Service
Rotary
Lions Club
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Diana Horner
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Members of the South East Cornwall Museums Forum
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Pearl Meredith
Margaret Taynton
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Alison Hight

IN-KIND DONATIONS

G B Tool Hire
Downderry Construction
St Johns Ambulance
Weatherheads Shopfitters
Mr and Mrs Jackson, Inez Allen
Ron and Lucy Thomas, Clive Grenfell, Pam and David Barnett

COLLECTION BOXES

Library £34.60
Others not yet emptied, but thanks to all the anonymous people of Callington who have donated. If anyone has been inadvertently omitted from this list please let us know.

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Hours or 01579 362139

E-mail:

heritage@callington.uk.net or
lynda@research2004.fslife.co.uk

*Volunteering to help?
Please phone the numbers
above or ring Lucy on
01579 350018.*

Email addresses wanted

I am sure we have more 'Friends' who have e-mails that I have not got. If you know of anyone can you please tell them to e-mail me. Obviously we can save money by e-mailing news to people and you have the advantage that it is more frequent and in colour too!

Circulation List

This e-mail is being circulated to all Committee Members, Volunteers, transcribers, people who have kindly donated to the Appeal, Friends of the Centre and stewards who are on e-mail. If you know of someone who is not on e-mail can you please print off a copy for them.

A Big THANK YOU

To everyone who has helped us so far, whether it is your time, publications, donations or becoming a 'Friend'

www.callington.uk.net/heritage

Lawrence Maker News Cuttings

The disaster has given us a wonderful opportunity to stock take and reorganise everything. The 'Lawrence Maker' news cuttings have come out of the dark depths of the store room and it has been decided that these should be more readily available on the ground floor. These newspaper cuttings, all about Callington, date from the first world war and with additional work by the Local History Group go right up the present day, although we appear to have a gap between about 1972 and 1985. They are a fascinating history of the town- so fascinating that work on them is slow! At present the originals are being cleaned, individually catalogued and checked against the photocopies that were stored elsewhere. The next mammoth task is to index all the articles and with about 500 pages of cuttings with an average of 8 articles per page that is a lot of work. We are hoping some Community College students can help us but again we are looking for volunteers. This is a job that can be done at

home, all you need is a computer and have some knowledge of Microsoft Excel. Once this is done you will be able to search by name, or groups or events, so putting in 'Town Band', 'Scouts', 'allotments' or your surname or road name should bring up all references to it for the last ninety years - certainly very worthwhile, but we do need help- there is so much to do at present.



Published by Lynda Small, Chairman