

Callington Heritage Centre - Newsletter

'M' Day Approaches

'M' Day, or moving day is now set as Friday 14th September. However this is not our final move. The Heritage Centre will not be ready until mid October but now that everything at the Unit is cleaned, paying nearly £400 a month is to be avoided if possible. The idea is to move everything into the far end of the band room section of the chapel, leaving enough room for decorators and electricians to move around the 'heap'. The earliest the project manager would let us back was the 14th, not ideal in Callington as it is just before the Autumn Shows. When the Heritage Centre end is finished the builders will move everything to our end so that carpeting can be finished. This means that we will have no access to the archive for about a month, but it also means that all our wonderful volunteers have a month off!

We need a few volunteers for 'M' day in the afternoon. The Town Council have agreed to the workmen helping us in the morning by moving the four heavy items of furniture. In the afternoon we need just two more vehicles with plenty of space in the back and two or three people at each end to help with loading/unloading all the boxes. Please ring either Lucy or I if you can help. Hopefully it will be a dry day, but with a limited number of vehicles the cars/vans can be reversed into the unit and also up to the chapel doors at the other end.

Obviously everything has to be in a standard sized lidded box that will stack neatly and this is gradually

happening as you can see from the photograph below. There is still a lot to do with listing all the items in the boxes so that they can be stock checked and this will continue once we are back in the chapel. A further task to take on is to rearrange all the boxes of photographs into subjects, to make them much easier to find.

The Lawrence Maker news cuttings have all been accessioned and the college students have made a start at indexing them. However there is a lot more to do, so again volunteers are wanted. This is at-home computer work and is quite absorbing as you have to skim through the articles before you can index them. Do get in touch if you want an absorbing task for winter evenings.

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

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- « Courses & Talks
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The Financial Situation

We are *STILL* awaiting a decision from Caradon District Council about whether we have to pay rates of £125 per month on the Unit at Kelly Bray. I have just phoned again and been told we have nothing to worry about, but we will feel much happier once we have that in writing.

We are fearful we might receive a large electricity bill when we leave the unit as we have paid nothing to date.

Donations have slowed down and we still do not know the full cost of repairs. The damp Victorian books [all 57 of them] have been professionally dried out at a cost of £500. We have not yet had the costs for repairing them and removing as much charring and smoke damage as

possible. We also have not yet had a quotation for repairing the china which is now on its way to Exeter for a quotation, thanks to Kate Johnson..

Our aim is to try to finish the year with the same amount we had in the account at the beginning of the year, with everything replaced, restored and repaired. With the results of one more grant application to come and some prudent housekeeping by Lucy we should make it.

GIFT AID. I am afraid we have only just thought of trying to claim tax on donations. If we are able to do this we may be writing to our donors to ask you to sign a form so that we can claim the tax on your donation.

Geological Expert

We are delighted to say that Bill Mason, who certainly knows his minerals, answered our appeal and has been doing a wonderful job sorting our collection. We have now discarded a heap of rocks he refers to as 'ballast' - at least we won't have to cart those back to the Centre!

At our request Bill is sorting the minerals by the mines, so when everything is finished you can open a draw, see a map and an old picture of the mine with all the minerals found there. Evidentially we have some interesting specimens with some of them being quite rare. Below are just three samples, apologies if you only get this in B&W - it looks good on a computer!



Some of our mineral samples, the one on the left being iron pyrites or 'Fool's Gold'.

Photo Albums

Further to the last article on this subject I am pleased to report that I have been successful in obtaining a grant from the Pilgrim Trust of £1700 to completely cover the cost of the new archival quality photograph albums, scrapbooks and some specialist training on how to get the photographs and cuttings out of the old albums without damaging them. A specialist paper preserver will be coming down on Thursday 13th to give us some training. If anyone would like to attend this session which will probably last from 10.00-16.00hrs please let us know.

Getting the grant does mean that from now on all our albums and scrapbooks will be kept in A1 archival quality storage, along with every other item in the centre that is now in inert, acid free storage.

An appeal: if any of you have any photos in those sticky type albums, please do remove them and put into the old fashioned type with photo corners. They are not perfect, but they are much better than putting them between plastic sheets or in plastic sleeves. Also if you are checking your photographs over do remember to name and date them all.

Spine binders

As everything is being checked and relocated I am photocopying some of the interesting pieces of research work that the CLHG have done in the past. I am then using some of the board we have to make a stiff back cover and binding with a plastic spine binder so that they can go on the research shelves.

But, I cannot get any spine binders [those strips of plastic that slip along one side to hold the pages and board together] that are triangular in shape. I need them to have a flat edge so that I can stick the title on the spine. All the modern ones have a curved edge which is no good. So do you have any or know where I can get them? I can always swap. I'll give you a curved one if you can give me a triangular one!

Cornwall Archives Network

CAN was formed just over a year ago following a meeting hosted by the County Archivist at the CRO in Truro. Invitations were sent to all local archive groups, museums and heritage centres, most staffed entirely by volunteers but including some "professional" organizations like Geevor. The intention is to share experience and knowledge and it is both interesting and helpful to meet others in the "history business".

Meetings are normally held quarterly on the second Monday afternoon of January, April, July and September, this being the day that the main research room at CRO is available as it is closed to the public.

I shall have a problem attending the meetings from September due to increased family commitments with number two granddaughter starting school at Plymouth and I am wondering if any other Heritage Centre supporter would be willing to take over.

Meetings normally start at 2 pm although on some occasions an extra training session in a related subject is offered during the morning. In September the morning subject will be "Disaster and Emergency Planning" which some may feel is, sadly, a little late for Callington! The CRO is in an individual building on the Old County Hall site with parking available, although it is only a short walk from Truro station if you prefer to travel by train from Liskeard. For lunch, Sainsbury's superstore next door provides reasonably price meals of all sorts.

If you feel you could attend these meetings on behalf of Callington Heritage Centre, or wish to know more, please get in touch on (01579) 383482. *Michael Farr*

Chequetts Hall

In the mid 90's many of you contributed to the Chequetts Hall fund, at a time when there was a possibility of this becoming the Museum's home. This scheme never came to fruition so the money, because it was for a specific purpose, has remained untouched.

We would like to use this money specifically to assist with completing the restoration of the archive, but we feel we need the permission of the original donors for this change of purpose. If you donated money to the cause and would be happy [or not] to see it used to restore the archive would you kindly e-mail or drop us a line. Also if you contributed indirectly via fund-raising events we would like to know your thoughts on this one.

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
 Gwen James
 Diana Horner
 Mrs J Staal
 Stephanie NiMhaille
 Rick Lumley
 Karen Gold
 Mrs D Chambers
 Margaret Bailey
 J C Analytical
 Janice Dean
 Edward Astley Jones
 Mr N Helme
 Mr & Mrs. Rickard
 Carol and Bert Knight
 Sheila Lightbody
 Bob Pomroy
 Mrs P B Davies
 V M Chesher
 Janet Barson
 Richard Grylls
 G & C Greenstock
 David Henwood
 Nicola Hays
 Callington Country Market
 Paul White
 Pauline Kennedy
 Members of the South East Cornwall Museums Forum
 Messrs Henderson
 Lynda Harman
 Culvert
 Pearl Meredith
 Margaret Taynton
 Messrs Wills
 Alison Highet

IN-KIND DONATIONS

G B Tool Hire
 Downderry Construction
 St Johns Ambulance
 Weatherheads Shopfitters

COLLECTION BOXES

Library £34.60
 Town Hall £42.60
 Post Office £17.29
 I am afraid the collection box in Hindles was stolen, but we did empty some money from it before this

Callington Heritage Centre
c/o The Town Hall
New Road, CALLINGTON
PL17 7NQ
Phone: 01579 384039 Office
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.***

A Big THANK YOU

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

Courses and Talks of Interest

Collections. Our stewards would find this interesting as there already a few of us going you should be able to get a lift. There is booking form for this course, please contact Lena Richards on 382707 and she will send you the form or pick one up from the Town Hall. The Launceston Local History Group have arranged a talk on 'Early Mining in Cornwall' on the 20th September. This is at the Eagle House Hotel, Launceston from 19.00hrs and costs £4.00. Please book with Carol Bunbury on 01566 782440.

The Phoenix Rises from the Ashes

CALLINGTON HERITAGE CENTRE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Callington Town Hall, 25th Oct. 2007 at 19.00hrs

At 19.00hrs there will be the usual Treasurer's Report, Election of Officers, etc.

19.30hrs

Chairman's Photographic Report

THE FIRE OF 4th MARCH

and the Reclamation, Restoration & Re-organisation.

Refreshments

Published by Lynda Small, Chairman

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! Perhaps you have a son/daughter or grandchild who would allow it to be sent to them, so they could print a copy for you?

Please help us to save money and keep you informed - let us have an e-mail address.

Or if this is not possible, would you be prepared to pay an extra fifty pence a year for three additional issues?

Even after this momentous year, we would like to keep you informed on a more regular basis than our very low subscription currently permits.

Circulation List

This e-mail is being circulated to all persons on e-mail and is available at Unit 20 and the Town Hall for anyone to collect. This update [with earlier issues] will also be posted out to 'Friends' not on e-mail.
