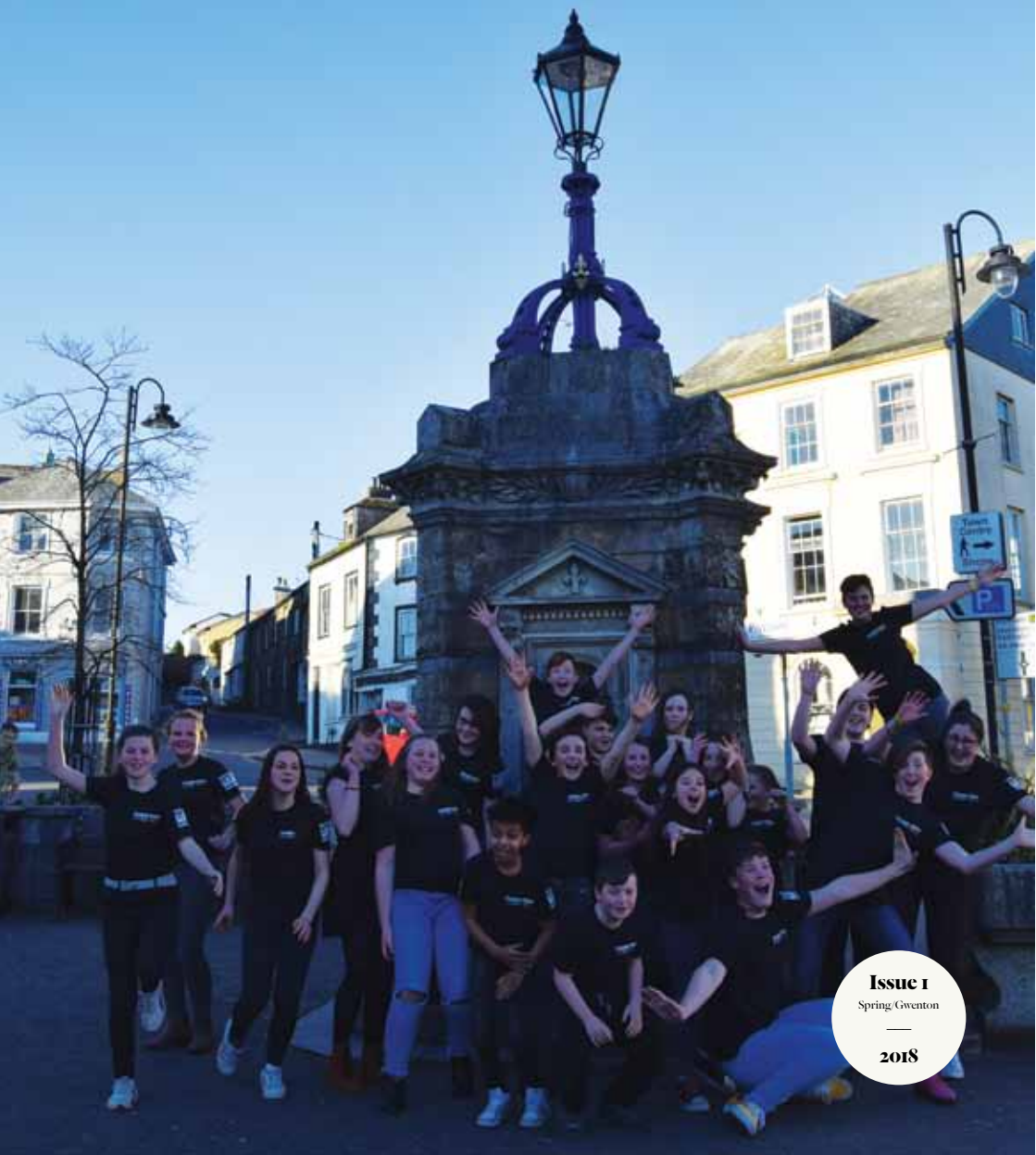


Lyskerry's

The community journal for Liskeard



Issue 1
Spring/Gwenton
—
2018

We want to hear from you

Email us at editor@lyskerrys.co.uk or message us via Facebook – facebook.com/lyskerrys/ Instagram – [lyskerrys](https://www.instagram.com/lyskerrys/) Twitter – [@LyskerrysEditor](https://twitter.com/LyskerrysEditor)

Please get in touch if you want to tell us what you like or don't like about this first edition, if you have a story to tell, a great image to share or if you would like to contribute to Lyskerrys magazine in any way.

There's a chance to learn valuable professional tips at the first Creator Convention community journalism day. Run by local project Hyperzrx, it will take place at Liskerrett Community Centre on Wednesday, April 11. For more details email hyperzrxmedia@gmail.com

Lyskerrys is published by LAMB (Liskeard Arts and Media Body). This edition is edited by Jackie Butler, art directed by 51 Studio and printed by Deltor, Saltash.

Contributors include Zac Leon, Jodie Ronaldson, Malcolm Mort, Rod Sheaff and The Journalisks aka Courtney Smith and Ada-Mae Tasker.

OUR COVER PHOTO by Meg Bryce shows members of Caradon Youth Theatre, Choir and Dance groups in rehearsal for their latest productions. See Whats On pages 20-25.



What is Lamb

Liskeard Arts and Media Body is a community enterprise dedicated to co-creating inspiring and innovative media. We aim to give a voice to everyone in the town and surrounding areas, especially those who are currently under-represented and disengaged.

By offering a platform for young, old and everyone else in between, we hope to be part of the process for regeneration and social change. LAMB partners include members of Liskeard Town Council, Real Ideas Organisation (RIO) and Liskerrett Community Centre.

Welcome to Dynnargh

Welcome to the first edition of Lyskerrys, a quarterly magazine for our community, celebrating all the great things going on in Liskeard, telling the stories of the people who live and work here now, sharing fascinating glimpses of our past, as well as looking ahead to a bright future.

Lyskerrys is the old Cornish name for our ancient market town, a place first mentioned in the Domesday Book in 1086. The Pipe Well in Well Lane (pictured), referred to in old documents as The Well of Lyskiret, is probably the chief reason for the town of Liskeard being built.

Fed by four springs, the well has never been known to run dry. The water was believed to possess miraculous healing powers.

Copper, lead and silver mining brought wealth to the area in the 18th century and there's a rich farming tradition in the surrounding countryside and villages.

Today Liskeard remains a vibrant community with a rich mix of people – some rooted here for generations and others who have chosen to make it their home more recently.

Lyskerrys magazine is for you all. We hope you enjoy it.

Wetherspoon pub to open in May

The King Doniert, the eagerly awaited new Wetherspoon pub in Liskeard town centre, is due to open its doors on May 22. Situated on the former Taylor's Garage site on Barras Street, artist impressions show it will have two storeys, a terrace and a beer garden and expects to employ up to 30 people. The pub's name is inspired by King Doniert's Stone, an ancient monument at St Cleer. Wetherspoon spokesman Eddie Gershon says: "We believe that the pub will prove popular with a wide variety of people and be an asset to the town. Hopefully it will also act as a catalyst for other businesses to invest in the town."



Reimagining the library

A vision of Liskeard's historic Grade II listed library building as a diverse cultural hub is taking shape. The Real Ideas Organisation, a social enterprise committed to driving social change, is proposing a budget of £500,000 to create a reimagined space featuring – in addition to a library service – co-working space, business support and a place to meet, eat and be entertained throughout the day and evening.

Rising precept

Liskeard Town Council raises most of its income to provide local services and take care of the town and its public buildings through a precept which is part of your council tax bill. For the year 2018-19 the precept is increasing by 5.5 per cent to a total of £422,539. This will mean a small rise for households in Liskeard. For example, if you have a Band D property, the proportion of your annual council tax bill that comes to the town council will increase to £139.42 – a rise of £1.29 per year or 2p a week.



Food and family

It may be young Olive's name above the door, but it's her parents who are the driving force behind a Liskeard cafe that's become a magnet for lovers of imaginative food, sumptuous cakes and first-class coffee.

Lee Edwards and his partner Roxy Laker opened Olive & Co at Windsor Place two years ago after moving down from London. He'd had a 20-year career in advertising and she was a bar manager.

Their dream was to create a welcoming and relaxing venue where they could tap into the best of local, seasonal produce and harness Roxy's passion for cooking – especially her own vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free recipes, although they do serve meat dishes too.



“When we first opened people said to us that the folk in Liskeard don’t want ‘nice’ food – they just want pasty and chips. But there definitely are people here who want to drink nice coffee and eat different things,” says Lee.

Slowly, but, surely, the couple have been changing local people’s perception of delicious food. And they are one of only two places in south east Cornwall listed in the latest Independent Coffee Guide.

Some of the most popular dishes are their veggie burgers made with lentils, buckwheat, beans and tahini or the toasted sourdough sandwich with prosciutto, mushroom, spinach and mature cheddar, served with homemade coleslaw.

Gluten-free masala dosas (Indian stuffed pancakes) are returning by popular demand, and new on the spring menu is Roxy’s vegan pad thai, which Lee promises tastes just as good as any traditional meat or seafood version.

“We make everything ourselves in house, except the sourdough bread and some other baked goods which come from The Little Bakehouse in Launceston,” adds Lee.

The cafe seats around 22, with room for another dozen or so in the pretty courtyard garden in summer. There are magazines to read, 1920s jazz on the stereo, a diverse range of art on the walls and a menu that changes regularly.

And it’s not just the customers who are happy. Lee, Roxy and Olive are all big fans of Liskeard and the surrounding area. Olive, who is four in April, attends Trewidland pre-school and spends her Saturdays with Lee’s mum, who has been living at Torpoint for about 15 years.

“We love the town and we have come across a lot of people who are working hard to make things even better here.”

Olive & Co is open Monday to Saturday from 8.45am to 4pm, Monday to Saturday.

Research by The Journalists – Courtney Smith and Ada-Mae Tasker

Sweet Potato, Apple and Pecan Muffins

Here’s one of Olive & Co most popular cake recipes to try at home.

These are a big hit in the cafe. They are both vegan and gluten-free so just about anyone can enjoy one. If you don’t want to make the gluten-free version, then regular plain flour works just as well. We use aquafaba here instead of egg which works brilliantly – just save the bean water from your cans of chickpeas!

Topping

50g coconut oil (melted)
75g plain gluten-free flour
25g light brown sugar
50g oats
30g sunflower seeds
30g sesame seeds
20g pumpkin seeds
1tbsp maple syrup

Muffins

300g plain gluten-free flour
2 tsp gluten-free baking powder
2 tsp ground cinnamon
pinch of salt
12 tbsp aquafaba
160ml sunflower oil
280g caster sugar
2 tsp vanilla essence
300g sweet potato, grated
2 apples, grated
100g pecans, roughly chopped
100g sultanas
50g desiccated coconut

First, make the topping. Combine the melted coconut oil with the maple syrup and then all the dry ingredients. Mix well and set aside for later.

Line a 12-hole muffin tray with paper cases and pre heat your oven to 180 degrees.

Sift together the flour, cinnamon, baking powder and salt. In a large mixing bowl, whisk together the aquafaba, sunflower oil, caster sugar and vanilla. Fold in the grated sweet potato and apples, followed by the pecans, sultanas and coconut. Gently fold in the flour mixture, taking care not to over-mix, then divide the mixture between the muffin cases. Pile a generous amount of topping on each muffin then bake for about 25 minutes or until a skewer inserted comes out clean. And enjoy...



History on the wall

A mural celebrating the lives of welfare campaigner Emily Hobhouse and other significant women from Liskeard's history is set to brighten up the alleyway between Dean Street and Westbourne car park.



And there's a chance for you to get involved – doing research, producing artwork, preparing surfaces or painting the mural itself. Grant funding is being sourced for an artist to work with schools and community groups on a design and then to create the mural. **To find out more, please contact Kath Revell on 01579 340591.**

Remember the Man Engine

The giant Man Engine, Britain's largest mechanical puppet, wowed hundreds of people when it came to Liskeard in 2016. The 11.2m spectacle, created by Golden Tree Productions to celebrate the tenth anniversary of Cornish Mining's World Heritage Site, highlighted the mining heritage of the Caradon area. The new illustrated children's book, *The Man Engine Remembers* (Golden Tree, £9.99), offers more stories of life underground. And if you want to see the Man Engine in action again, he'll be in Lostwithiel on April 2 as part of a UK tour.



A garden of delights

In 1927 Moyclare at Lodge Hill, Liskeard was an open field. Then along came Moira and Louis Reid from the west of Ireland, their car loaded with plants and cuttings from Moira's home. While the builders dug the house foundations, the Reids began the garden, which was their passion for the rest of their lives.

John Betjeman called it 'A perfect piece of England'. "Nature versus nurture" is what Moira's niece and present owner Elizabeth Henslowe thinks when exasperated by her aunt's habit of "cramming them in" as a method of planting.

Moyclare is currently the only garden in Liskeard that is open to visitors on a regular basis. It contains a fascinating collection of trees, shrubs and plants from different parts of the world.

Among the new plant varieties discovered there are the Broom cytisus Moyclare Pink, the large-flowered white *Astrantia* Moira Reid, the variegated form of (*senecio*) *Brachyglottis* Moira Reid and *Camellia x williamsii* Moira Reid, which takes pride of place in the border named after her.

Moyclare opens 2pm-5pm on Sundays, Mondays and Tuesdays, from April to August. Entry is £3.50 for adults, under-16s free. Tea, coffee, home-made cakes are available and there are plants for sale.

For details visit www.moyclare.co.uk or call 01579 343114.

My Liskeard

With Jodie Ronaldson



Q) What's your name, age and occupation?

I'm Jodie Ronaldson, 21. I've recently become self employed and I'm now director/events manager for Hyperznx.

Q) How long have you lived in Liskeard?

I moved here with my family in 2007, after my parents decided to relocate from Hertfordshire. We had spent the previous eight years travelling to Liskeard every summer as we already had family living here.

Q) What keeps you here?

I'd been studying for my GCSEs and A-levels in Liskeard and I suppose its a hub where most of my friends live and it's where I've always worked whether that's in retail, youth work or the job I'm doing now.

Q) What are your favourite elements of the town?

When I think of Liskeard I'm immediately drawn to the Fountain on The Parade, built in honour of Michael Loam, inventor of the original Man Engine. I think it's the focal point of the town; this is what inspired me to create this piece of artwork (pictured right). Liskeard has a vast amount of history, especially from the Victorian era.

Henry Rice was the mastermind behind many of the architecturally pleasing buildings you still see in the town that keep the old school vibe.

Secret Fridays was a project that used to be run by the Real Ideas Organisation (RIO) to help young people develop leadership skills by working with Rogue Theatre, allowing us to set up and run monthly events in the town for the whole community to attend. I think this influenced the creation of Hyperznx (see page 28). To be able to bring back the atmosphere Liskeard used to have as a thriving market town would be amazing!

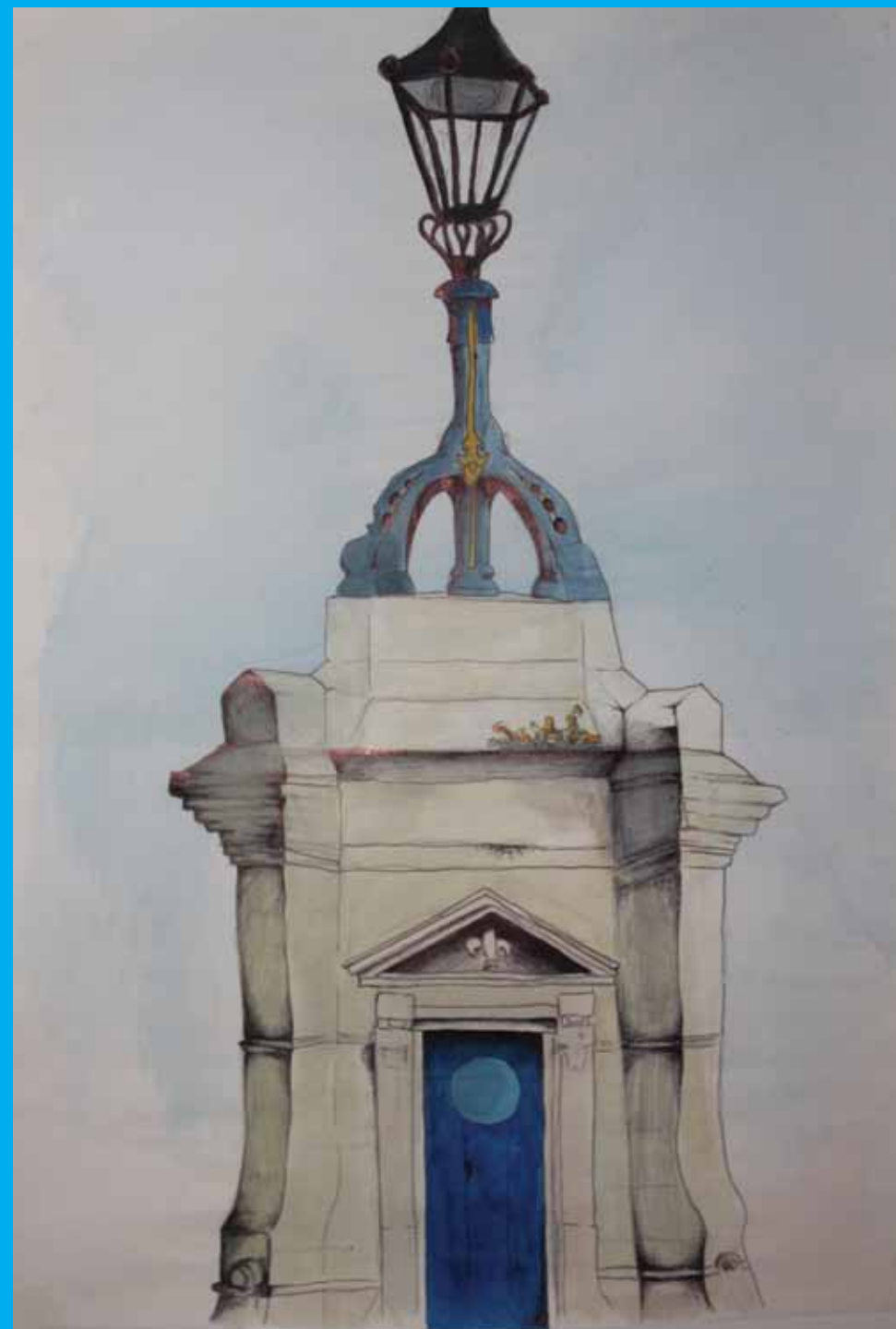
Favourite shop: Painters – I'm obsessed with everything arty.

Eating place: The Fat Frog Cafe – the atmosphere in there is so welcoming.

Event: The Secret Fridays film screening of Labyrinth – I love that they brought it to life by inviting the Owl Sanctuary along.

Activity: Walking the dog.

Relaxing space in town: The Nature Garden next to Liskeard Hillfort Primary School.



Community Gardening

by Malcolm Mort



Ideas are like seeds: some will germinate and take root quickly, whilst others will linger, almost forgotten, before springing into life many years later.

So it was that about twenty years ago, the then recently-formed Town Forum discussed the idea of Liskeard becoming a garden town, in the same way as, for example, Hay-on-Wye has the theme of a book town. After all, many people come to Cornwall to visit its gardens. Therefore why not expand the flower

displays in the town centre to reach out to wider areas, to bring more interest and colour to residential estates, and to reclaim and revitalise neglected areas.

Since that first discussion, these garden thoughts have slowly gathered strength.

No one last summer can have failed to have noticed the glorious cascades of colour throughout the town centre thanks to local groups working together. The beds on The Parade featured cleverly mixed planting of flowers and herbs, including sage, parsley, leaf-beet, chives, fennel and rosemary.

Opportunities now present themselves to local groups. Cormac are welcoming the involvement of volunteers who would like to take responsibility for areas in their neighbourhood. One such group has been formed in Henfordh Grange to look after the areas on the approach road to their estate. Further plans are afoot to redesign a grass area to promote community interaction for those living around.

Community gardening has taken hold worldwide as a way to strengthen local communities and to enhance neighbourliness. Such gardens come in all shapes and sizes, but the common link is that they are run by local people on a voluntary basis for the benefit of those involved and for the wider community. Plants have a positive effect on those who care for

them and bring a sense of calm and beauty to urban settings. They can alter the way people feel about their surroundings and produce a sense of having “pride in my patch”.

In any communal garden, big or small there can be much to consider: the site, the design, choice of plants, who will benefit, watering and feeding tools required, whether permissions are needed, how the efforts of volunteers are coordinated, fund-raising, and so on. Commitment and determination are needed, but the results can be transforming, both to the area and to those involved.



Ideas for similar projects in local areas are gladly welcomed. Your first point of contact is Rebecca Dickson, Community Partnership Officer, Cormac, Higher Trenant

Road, Wadebridge, PL27 6TW, email rdickson@cormacltd.co.uk to discuss your plans and to complete the necessary paperwork before you start. Or if you would like more advice, you can leave a message at Liskeard Town Council offices and a keen local gardener will get back to you to discuss practicalities and provide further inspiration!

Historic society looks to the future

by Zac Leon

The Liskeard Old Cornwall Society is, quite fittingly, the oldest society in the town. It was formed in 1928. According to current president, Brian Oldham, the original group (pictured) included “a tailor, a mine adventurer, a solicitor and a printer.” He adds: “We aim to continue the traditions they established, but I draw a line at the outfits.”

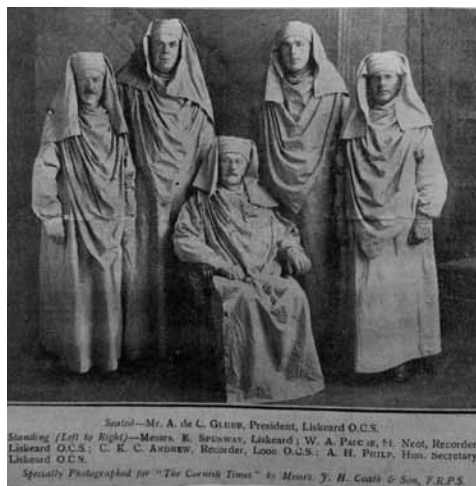
For 90 years, the society has been the secret backbone of the history of the town. Harvest ceremonies, well dressings, midsummer festivals and other traditions that were performed for centuries before by everyday folk have been maintained by the OCS. Old characters and places have been remembered and archived. Old stones and waymarkers have been recovered, holy wells cleaned and restored.

But keeping the old ways alive is becoming harder. New generations have lost interest and a history lecture is hard pressed to compete with on-demand TV.

Liskeard branch, almost entirely “senior” members, is in danger of fading away. At 25, I am the youngest member; the next most youthful is himself.

Previous president Duncan Paul-Matthews was a big presence in the OCS. After retiring for personal issues last year, he left a big space to fill. But successor Brian is undaunted. He has ordered the banner to be put out again at meetings, and for members to begin again the singing of the Cornish anthem Trelawny. Ceremonies and well-cleanings are on the agenda and historical talks, open to the public, have been laid out as far as 2019 at just £2 a pop.

There's now an official Facebook page and its followers are growing. By looking at the past but aspiring to move into the future, there's life in these old bones yet.



Seated—Mr. A. de C. GLENN, President, Liskeard O.C.S.
Standing (Left to Right)—Messrs. E. SPEDWAY, Liskeard; W. A. PACE, F. NEOT, Recorder, Liskeard O.C.S.; C. K. C. ANDREW, Recorder, Looe O.C.S.; A. H. PULP, Hon. Secretary, Liskeard O.C.S.
Specially Photographed for “The Cornish Times” by Messrs. T. H. Gault & Son, F.R.P.S.

Learn Kernewek with Rod Sheaff—

Gwenton/Spring

Three months after Christmas even our worst *kurun spern* is gone and *gwenton* has begun. The winter was *nebes yeyn* with many *hager-awel* too. But now the days are longer. In hedges and fields we begin to see *lili gorawys* and other flowers. Small *enyvales* show themselves. The *ydhyen* start nesting with their loud cries. It's a bit warmer for farmers working in the *lethti* now. Indoors it used to be the custom to clean *an ji* every spring when many people burned coal or wood on open tannow. But in this age of electricity and gas, *nyns yw dhe res* to do that. But this is the time to clean, repair and *pareusi* your accommodation or shop for visitors who come in summer. School continues, but it's not long until the *dy'goel Pask*.

Cornish to English

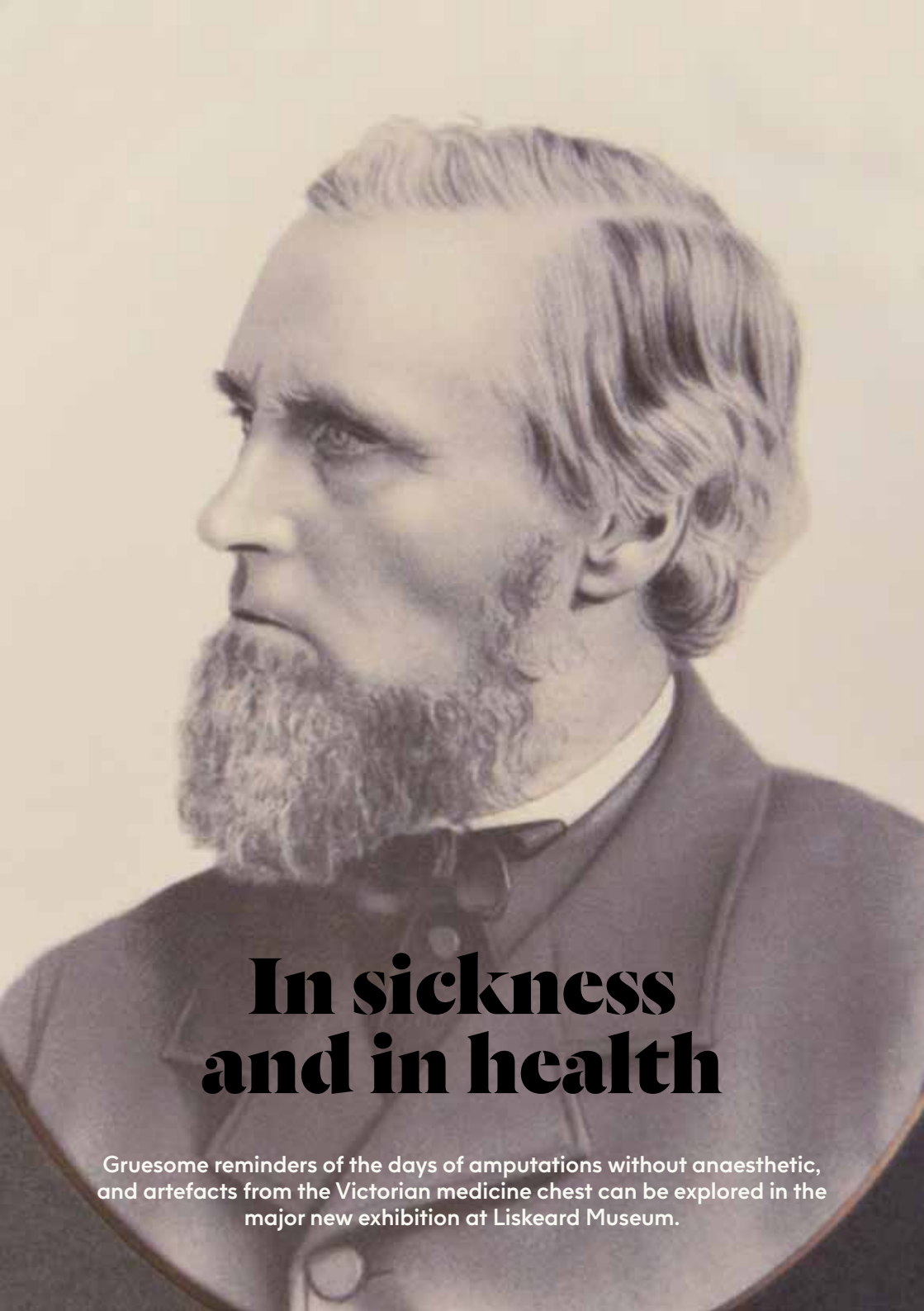
an ji [Say: 'an jee'] – the house (*chi* = house)
dy'goel Pask – Easter holiday.
enyval – animal (*enyvales* = animals)
gwenton – spring (season)
hager-awel – ‘ugly weather’
kurun spern – literally, ‘crown of thorns’ – the Cornish for ‘hangover’
lethti [Say: 'laythtee'] – *leth* (milk) + *ti* (from 'chi', house) = dairy. Origin of the name 'Laity House' in Liskeard.



lili gorawys – ‘Lent lillies’ a Cornish name for daffodils.

nebes yeyn – ‘some cold’. This common local expression comes word-for-word from the Cornish language way of saying this.
nyns yw dhe res [Say: 'Nins yew the pareusi'] – to prepare
tannow – fires (*tan* = a fire)
ydhyen [Say: 'lthin'] – birds

Klassa Kernewek/ Cornish language classes take place Wednesday evenings in Callington. Complete beginners welcome. For details please contact Maureen Pierce: mpiercekernow@btinternet.com.



In sickness and in health

Gruesome reminders of the days of amputations without anaesthetic, and artefacts from the Victorian medicine chest can be explored in the major new exhibition at Liskeard Museum.

In *Sickness and In Health* delves into the town's medical history, including the Rosedean Surgery, built for Dr Andrew Hingston (pictured left) by famous local architect Henry Rice, opened in 1864 and still operating today.

The centrepiece of the show is an original operating table, complete with iron hooks that were used to tie people down during surgery. The "patient" with the badly injured leg (look away now if you're squeamish) was donated by Exeter's Royal Albert Memorial Museum.



Other exhibits include a travelling box of fearful surgical instruments used to remove damaged limbs, fat surgeon's needles for sewing up wounds, electro medical therapy equipment (early electric shock treatment), glass syringes with needles that were sharpened between uses, slides of real tissue samples, medicine and poison bottles and tools for preparation of drugs (which was done in house by local pharmacists or the doctors themselves).

You can learn about the infectious diseases like cholera that were frequently fatal before the advent of antibiotics and the terrible kinds of injury sustained by miners in the local pits.

Many of the artefacts came from Rosedean and are on loan from retired doctor Tony Piper, with additional guidance and exhibits provided by Mr and Mrs PA and DH Woodward.

"Most of all it is about the stories and the people," says museum volunteer Jayne Buchanan. "If anyone has any items of special medical interest or interesting local health stories to tell, please get in touch."

The museum at the Foresters Hall in Pike Street is open Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm and Saturday, 10am to 1pm.

After you've checked out the health exhibition, try out the new augmented reality Zappar feature for your smartphone which brings additional graphics, animation and 3D effects to some of the permanent toy exhibits.



Linkinhorne

One of Cornwall's largest but least known parishes is the subject of a major new community book. Linkinhorne, a mostly rural area on the edge of Bodmin Moor, close to Liskeard, has a fascinating story covering thousands of years of human history.

The project began in January last year when a group of people from the villages of Upton Cross, Rilla Mill, Minions, Plushabridge and Linkinhorne itself got together to discuss a re-search and writing project.

The result is Linkinhorne: The Story Of A Cornish Parish, a 400-page, illustrated book. Reynard March-Willet, who recently left Callington Community College, was commissioned to create some 80 line drawings to illustrate each of the chapters.

Western Morning News journalist Simon Parker, who led the project, stressed that it is a "reading book, accessible to all" and covers a vast range of topics.

"Starting with the very ground we walk on – the geology of the hills, valleys and moors – the story moves from prehistoric times, through the medieval to the Civil War period, the Victorian and industrial era, the 20th century and into the present," said Simon.



Other sections include everything from chapels and churches to the Women's Institute, along with social clubs, the horticultural society, murders, sport, schools, inns, poaching, milling, plus a few notable "characters" from the past. The artistic life of the area takes in Sterts Theatre, poet Frances Bellerby, Caradon Looms, novelist E V Thompson and more.

The book was featured on BBC Radio Four's Making History programme in January. "The book is an accessible and very readable collection of short chapters. Some are de-tailed essays, while others are personal reminiscences. Each is an evocative description of some aspect of life in this diverse and picturesque parish," said Simon.

And, as contributor Peter Sharp put it: "The book includes everything from academic ar-chaecology to exploding trousers – but you'll have to get a copy to read that particular story."

Linkinhorne: The Story Of A Cornish Parish is published by Scryfa at £10. It is available from The Book Shop in Liskeard.

The Solstice Blade

Book review by Zac Leon

Robert Beck's The Solstice Blade is rooted in Liskeard as a setting, but also draws on local legends and folklore. The plot, which takes place over one night in the lead up to Christmas, follows three brothers who purchase a strange-looking knife in a junk shop on Fore Street, then find themselves embroiled in a magical adventure.

Along the way folkloric and fantastic characters are introduced amid an atmosphere of thick, dream-like snow. Some of these characters are friendly. Others, however, are menacing, and the tension creeps up throughout.

The action happens in places that will be easy to imagine for local readers – Fore Street, the Cattle Market, Thorn Park and Bodmin Moor

My main criticism is that the writing is long-winded in places. The most awkward stretch is when the protagonist takes a whole page to resolve to throw a rock at a baddie. But, overall, this is a deep-thinking and imaginative yarn. Reading it served to enrich my feelings about the town, to capture and, in turn, feed into, its character and mythology. I look forward to the sequel.

Copies of the book are available from Liskeard Museum.



What's on Lyskerrys

How often do you hear people say there's nothing going on in Liskeard? Our What's On pages are packed with events and entertainment to enjoy on your doorstep.

And this list is just the tip of the iceberg. As well as concerts, music and comedy nights, drama performances, films, exhibitions, talks, fairs and festivals, there are dozens of clubs and organisations that meet regularly and cater for a fantastic range of interests. For more events visit www.visitliskeard.co.uk/whats-on/

17 MARCH

Hazel O'Connor at Carnglaze Caverns, St Neot. The award-winning singer songwriter will perform her songs from the iconic film Breaking Glass, which recently celebrated its 35th anniversary, plus newer material from this soulful artist. For tickets call 01579 320251.

PANTO FROM OUTER SPACE

6pm, Saturday 31 March at Liskeard Public Hall. Tickets are adults £3, children £2, available on the door. Fun pantomime production from Wham Bam, a drama group for children which meets at the Liskerrett Centre on Fridays in term time. It's run by Nina Hills who believes drama is really important for children and will create a speaking part for every child that wants one.



19-24 MARCH

Easter cards and gifts sale, The Jane Room, Stuart House, Liskeard from 9.30am to 3.30pm (12.30pm on Sunday). Free entry.

18 MARCH

Java Five singers in concert at 2.30pm at Stuart House, Liskeard. Tickets £7 with complimentary refreshments. Visit www.stuarthouse.org.uk

22 MARCH

Storytelling cafe, every third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in Liskeard Public Hall. Spoken word club where oral storytelling, monologues, poetry and anecdotes are shared in a friendly cafe atmosphere. Listeners are welcome and informal tuition given.

24 MARCH

Spring fair at St Martin's Church Hall on Saturday 10am to noon. Stalls, raffle, tombola, cakes, plants, followed by lunches.

Liskeard Community Fair at the Public Hall from 10am to 12.30. For more details see p32.

Charlie Dore, singer songwriter, actress and music producer – best known for the radio hit Pilot of the Airwaves – performs a rare solo show at Sterts, Upton Cross, near Liskeard at 7.30pm, sharing songs from her new album Dark Matter as well as old favourites. Visit www.sterts.co.uk

MARK LITTLE'S FOOL SCHOOL

8pm, Saturday 31 March at the Liskerrett Centre, Liskeard. Tickets are £10 from Liskeard Tourist information centre 01579 349148. Mark Little is sharing his 5-star comedy stage experience in a unique workshop for aspiring laughter makers, organised by the Dobfools Comedy Club, a not-for-profit local group run by Matt Thornhill and Kerry Cassidy. Graduates will perform their "three minutes of schtick" in front of a live Liskeard audience. For details email Dobfools_comedy@outlook.com



24-25 MARCH

Celebrating Bach a weekend of recitals by the 40-strong Liskeard-based East Cornwall Bach Choir. On Saturday there's a guitar recital by David Cotter at 12 noon at the Eliot House Hotel. At 7.30pm at St Neot Church the choir and soloist perform Bach motets and cantatas. On Sunday Jonathan Delbridge will give an organ recital at the church at 5pm.

CARADON YOUTH THEATRE

7pm, Saturday 17 March, **This Is Me** at Liskeard Public Hall. Celebration concert on the theme of identity. April 12-14, **Sister Act** the musical at Liskeard Methodist Church. This is the first full-scale production for the Early Energy Centre in Liskeard where children can learn song, dance, theatre and instrumental skills. "This is not about finding the next West End star, this is about children finding their confidence and their voice. We see a profound change in children who engage with the arts," says co-founder Nic Early.

**31 MARCH**

Northern soul night at the Eliot House Hotel from 6pm to 1am hosted by Liskeard Radio with sets from DJs Kevin Grey, Paul Wallbutton and Martin Stevens.

6 APRIL

Goodbye Christopher Robin film screenings at Liskerrett Centre, Varley Lane, Liskeard at 2.30pm (with subtitles) and 7.30pm. A rare glimpse into the relationship between beloved children's author A A Milne (Domhnall Gleeson) and his son Christopher Robin. **Entry £4, book on 01579 340307.**

7-8 APRIL

Cornwall Garden Society Spring Flower Show at Boconnoc Estate, near Liskeard. Highly respected event attracts nursery and trade exhibitors and visitors from all over the UK. Visit www.cornwallgardensociety.org.uk/spring-flower-show for details.

10 APRIL

The Borgias: the most infamous family in history. Liskeard Arts talk by historical novelist Sarah Dunant assesses the evidence in the light of popular culture. Liskeard Public Hall at 7pm. Visit www.liskeardartsociety.org.uk for details.

14 APRIL

Spring film viewing sessions day from Cinema For All SW and Carn to Cove at Liskerrett Centre, 10am to 6pm. For people already running film clubs or anyone thinking of setting up one. Choose to watch three out of six films. Day includes lunch and refreshments, plus new short films and networking. **Booking essential – contact Claire Marshall on 01209 312500 or email claire@carntocove.org.uk**

15 APRIL

Ilow Splann, Cornish and early music duo afternoon concert at Stuart House, Liskeard at 2.30pm. **Entry £7, including refreshments.**

21 APRIL

Deep Space, part of the Dark Skies: Bright Stars project, working at the cutting edge of media, arts and scientific ideas on space and time. Performance at Sterts Theatre, Upton Cross, near Liskeard at 7.30pm. Featuring groundbreaking musical outfit Michelson Morley, dance artist Lois Taylor, five professional dancers, costume designer Andrea Carr, and film/live visuals practitioner Joanna Mayes. Includes *Music For The Night Sky*, created by local music makers through a partnership between Sounds Vital and Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's Patrick Bailey. **Tickets £8, concessions £6, add two-course meal for £15. Book online at www.sterts.co.uk**

23-28 APRIL

Discovering Shakespeare Piece by Piece, an exhibition of programmes, books and other paraphernalia at Stuart House, Liskeard, Monday to Friday 9.30am to 3.30pm, Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm.

20 APRIL to 12 MAY

Royal School of Needlework exhibition, Stuart House, Liskeard, Monday to Friday 9.30am to 3.30pm, Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm. **Free entry**

SHOW OF HANDS

8pm, Saturday 14 April at Carnglaze Caverns, St Neot, near Liskeard. For tickets, priced £23, call 01579 320251. Award-winning folk and acoustic heroes Steve Knightley and Phil Beer venture underground to deliver songs old and new as part of their intimate *Where We're Bound* duo tour. Special guest is Geoff Lakeman, patriarch of the Lakeman folk clan, who has been showered with praise for his debut solo album *After All these Years*.



1 MAY

Murder on the Orient Express film screenings at Liskerrett Centre, Varley Lane, Liskeard at 2.30pm (with subtitles) and 7.30pm. Kenneth Branagh directed remake of the classic adaptation of Agatha Christie's popular novel with Johnny Depp, Daisy Ridley and Michelle Pfeiffer.
Entry £4, book on 01579 340307.

2 MAY

Liskeard & District Flower Arrangement Society meeting at 7.30pm at Liskeard Methodist Church. An invited demonstrator will entertain with a range of designs, talking through the process and giving lots of tips. All welcome.

8 MAY

Posters of the Belle Epoque, Liskeard Arts talk at 7pm at Liskeard Public Hall. Charles Harris reveals the inspirational work of artist like Manet, Cheret and Toulouse Lautrec which helped to make the poster the world's first effective method of mass communication.
www.liskeardartsociety.org.uk

Duo Villancesca afternoon concert at Stuart House, Liskeard at 2.30pm. Peter Joe Bennett and Ana Estafania on classical guitar and flute.
Entry £7 including refreshments.

PANTA REI DANSETEATER

7.30pm, Friday 11 May at Liskeard Public Hall. For tickets, £10 full, £8 unwaged/child £8, £28 family call 01579 340307 or visit www.carntocove.co.uk or from Liskerrett Community Centre. Promise of Departure is a double bill created by Panta Rei Danseteater and Teater Innlandet from Oslo, Norway, in collaboration with British dance maker Rachel Erdos. A work that explores vulnerability and strength, it seeks the promise of connection and the departure from our comfort zone. Presented by Carn to Cove and Liskerrett Community Centre.

**18 MAY**

Caradon Amateur Geology Group talk at 7.30pm in the Long Room, Liskeard Public Hall. It's open to all who are interested in geology and earth sciences, particularly in Cornwall and the South West. Guests and new members welcome – £3 including refreshments. For details email tinainlooe@gmail.com

20 MAY

Sound Bath Healing at Carnglaze Caverns, St Neot, near Liskeard, with practitioners Olivier and Megan add their sonic tapestries to the energy of the rocks, water and stillness. 3pm, singing by candlelit poolside for a limited group; 5pm journey into a deeper state of consciousness with songs and sounds of the ancestors harnessing the energy of the caverns and woodland.
Visit www.soundbathhealing.com.

1 JUNE

Paddington 2 film screenings at Liskerrett Centre, Varley Lane, Liskeard at 2.30pm (with subtitles) and 7.30pm. Paddington Bear, now happily settled with the Brown family, picks up a series of odd jobs to buy the perfect present for his Aunt Lucy's 100th birthday, only for the gift to be stolen.
Entry £4, book on 01579 340307.

Looking ahead to summer

PORT ELIOT FESTIVAL

26-29 July, Port Eliot Estate, St Germans, near Liskeard. Tickets www.porteliotfestival.com Just ten miles from Liskeard and 12 minutes by train from Liskeard Station, this bohemian family-friendly weekend of arts, music, literature, poetry, food, fashion, laughter and adventure for all ages is the most addictive of Cornwall's summer festivals. Names announced so far include Baxter Dury, Brett Anderson (Suede) Brian Patten, Hollie McNish, Billy Bragg, Gwenno, Kernow King, and chefs Anna Jones, Jack Stein and Russell Norman. And Wildlings Wood is a pocket Port Eliot run by children for children.



Tackling isolation

Hyperzrx is a new social enterprise dedicated to reducing the isolation felt by people from all walks of life in Liskeard and surrounding villages.

Set up by Jodie Ronaldson, John Cowley, Kerry Matthews and Jodie's sister Kelly – all in their early 20s – the aim is to stage a variety of public events and smaller group sessions that are entertaining, inclusive and easily accessible to engage with individuals who feel detached from their local community for whatever reason.

Their chief target groups are adults, young people aged 11 to 17, the elderly and parents with young children, who are struggling to connect with others. "It's about helping people to break out of their comfort zone. Young people, for example, are becoming increasingly isolated because they are in their own little world at home playing on their X-box, rather than meeting friends," they say. "The elderly are the most isolated because they often have physical limitations that stop them going out. We intend to bring events and sessions to their doorstep."

To get the ball rolling, they are launching a month-long Crowdfunder appeal to finance their first event and the first four sessions to be directed at specific groups. Their first event will be an open mic music and comedy night aimed at 11-17-year-olds, with some established Cornish acts and a chance to take to the stage yourself.

To find out more about Hyperzrx visit www.facebook.com/jodie.ronaldson.14 or email hyperzrxad@gmail.com.



Lighting up the imagination

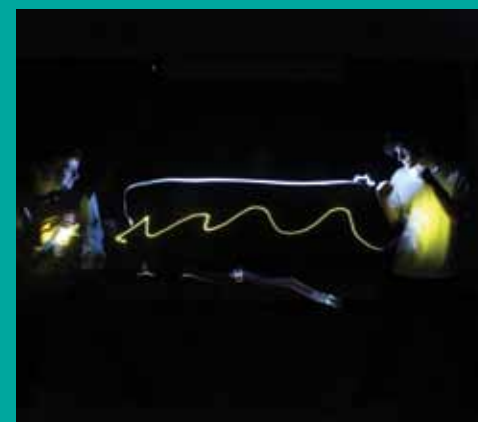
Exciting images, ideas and statements emerged from a recent light drawing workshop held with a group of sixth formers at Liskeard School and Community College.

Hosted by Hyperzrx, the session explored how anyone can, very easily, create light drawings and designs using a mobile phone and relevant shutter speeds on an SLR camera.

The workshop connected with a developing project with the Bridge Academy, run by the Real Ideas Organisation, linking design and messages. Individuals were asked to look at creative ideas with light and their images became more adventurous and playful as the session went on.

Later the young people attached significant single words and longer statements to the images in order to create a jarred message. The aim is for the viewer to be intrigued by both what they are seeing, and the message assigned to it.

The project is ongoing and will be displayed to a wider audience in the near future.



A natural ending

Jessie Carr

When Jessie Carr was developing her skills in basketry, she never expected that she would be weaving coffins out of willow.

The nature loving artist, who works from her woodland studio near Liskeard, had been selling her baskets and botanical illustrations at craft fairs and galleries, for nearly ten years when she was approached with her first rather unusual commission.

Now she is regularly creating unique willow coffins for people who choose an ecological option for internment at the nearby Pentiddy Natural Burials ground at Pensilva.

"It is essential for the materials used to be entirely biodegradable, making willow a very suitable material to use," says Jessie.



Willow is a sustainable crop, easy to propagate, fast-growing and flexible. Much of the willow she uses is grown locally and harvested in the winter when it can be woven "green" before it dries out.



"At first I was not sure how it would feel to make a coffin but I found it to be an honour and a privilege."

Working directly with clients allows Jessie to draw on their personal input to create the finished piece they want.

"Having had losses myself I can relate to the grieving process and understand how important the coffin is as the centrepiece and final resting place of the beloved," she says.

The small burial site is part of the larger ecological project Pentiddy Woods, which was created to encourage people to gain a sense of connection with their environment, their resources, their communities and ultimately themselves.

Ele and Anthony bought the land in 2002 as half bare fields and half "steep inaccessible scrub". It is now a thriving woodland project comprising, in addition to the burial ground, 12 acres of coppice, a green woodworking and basketry workshop, a timber-framed straw bale house run completely independently of mains water, electricity and sewerage, an orchard undergrazed by a small flock of hebridean sheep, a productive vegetable garden managed with help from the family's ducks, a forest garden, a natural swimming pond, a roundhouse for community use and a woodland managed for wildlife and used for forest school activities and bushcraft courses.

For more information on Jessie Carr's coffins visit cornishwillowcoffins.co.uk or email jessiecarr60@yahoo.co.uk.

To find out more about Pentiddy Wood visit pentiddy.co.uk or phone Ele and Anthony on 07765103504 or 01579 363775.

Introducing town's new councillors

Sandra Mitchell (East Ward)

Sixty-year-old Sandra has worked as a customer team member at the Co op in Liskeard for 12 years and is a Co op National Board member. As a Co op Member Pioneer she arranged for the majority of waste food from the Co op to be distributed to local community groups.

She would like to see the Castle Park area improved and is interested in the future development of the cattle market development. "I feel we need to take more interest in our area and work together to keep it clean, safe and tidy," she says. "My passion is to also make sure every person's voice is heard."

A practising Christian, Sandra has six children and six grandchildren.



Julian Smith (North Ward)

Julian and his wife moved to Liskeard last year from Buckinghamshire, where he was chairman of a children's county football team and an active governor at three schools. He worked in the printing and property industries before setting up his own business, but now has more time for community involvement.

His passion is helping young people to develop and flourish. "I want to see strong schools and for the council to support voluntary organisations providing other opportunities for our young people to acquire skills, self-confidence and belief in themselves," says Julian, who enjoys yacht sailing and model railways.

You can contact him about any town council related matters by emailing j.smith@liskeard.gov.uk or call 01579 228612.



A perfect place for your event

Are you looking for a great venue for your wedding or birthday party? An auditorium with a stage to host a concert or show? A hall to use for a commercial fair or conference? A room where you can hold regular classes or club get-togethers? Or maybe you need an occasional meeting place for your business or organisation?

Did you know that Liskeard's Public Hall has a variety of spaces of different sizes and layouts that you can hire at very reasonable rates? And there's free WiFi too.

The Main Hall seats up to 300, is accessible for the disabled and has in-house sound and lighting systems – ideal for larger private and public events. Hire charges start at £71 for a four-hour session and you can add on extras like use of the kitchen, a bar, glasses, and even a grand piano.

For smaller gatherings the Refreshment Room, the Long Room, the New Liskeard Room and Quimperle Room have capacity for 40-60, with some kitchen facilities. For formal meetings, the Council Chamber seats 30. Hire charges for these are £17-18 per session.

To book or to visit contact reception@liskeard.gov.uk or call 01579 345407.





LISKEARD COUNCIL

COME JOIN US AT
THE...

LISKEARD COMMUNITY FAIR!

10AM-12:30PM
LISKEARD PUBLIC HALL
SAT 24TH MARCH

WWW.VISITLISKEARD.CO.UK

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NEW
GROUPS TO
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FOR ALL
AGES

RAISE MONEY
FOR GOOD
CAUSES

PROMOTING
LOCAL GROUPS
AND
CHARITIES

