

## 1. The gallery's role in the local economy

1.1 This past year has been one of the most successful in raising financial support for the gallery. We have attracted much income largely from outside the county, which is spent locally to support Cornish artists, craftspeople and businesses. Some of the major successes were:

Tuke (Heritage Lottery Fund and Bonhams)	£60,000
Renovation of Municipal Buildings including stained glass and baby tiles (Heritage Lottery Fund)	£50,000
Darwin 200 celebrations (Heritage Lottery Fund)	£50,000
Frameworks (Esmée Fairbairn Foundation)	£56,820
New Expressions (MLA South West supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England)	£19,000
Arnesby Brown (Tony Banks Memorial Trust)	£5,000
Printing workshops (Little Parc Owles Trust)	£500
The Art Fund's Hugh Stoneman Archive	£30,000
Hemy (MLA/V&A Purchase Grant Fund/Art Fund)	£34,000
Pop art collection & links with Tower Hamlets (News International)	£3,500
Other exhibition sponsorship:	£6,460

**Total:** £307,280

1.2 This funding is for additional specific projects, some of which extend beyond the Town Council's financial year. Funders would not provide this generous financial support if the gallery was not attracting local contributions and support from the Town Council. They do not provide core funding.

1.3 These projects attract much assistance from volunteers, and the gallery also prepares students for the workplace. Volunteer contributions calculated by Heritage Lottery Fund formula for the Tuke show alone came to a total of £54,073.75.

1.4 The gallery's success with the Heritage Lottery Fund is quite exceptional. The *Museums Journal* recently reported that the Heritage Lottery Fund is currently rejecting 85% of applicants with only two out of thirteen museum applicants being successful in the latest round of funding. Former head of the Heritage Lottery Fund, Liz Fogan, has expressed concerns to former culture secretary Tessa Jowell over the amount of HLF money that was being diverted to the Olympics.

1.5 A recent report from South West Tourism revealed that in a year more people go to Art Galleries and Museums than football matches. 76% of people in South West have attended arts events in the last 12 months. Spending in the cultural sector for the South West is £10.9 billion. Falmouth Art Gallery is the Town Council's contribution to this important economy.

#### 1.6 Breakdown of Cultural Spending for the South West

Package trips	£190 million
Accommodation (non package)	£1.4 billion
Travel	£650 million
Cultural Services	£80 million
Eating and drinking	£910 million
Shopping	£530 million

1.7 To ensure that Falmouth and Cornwall attract an important share of this spend there must be a high quality experience for visitors, both in good and bad weather and for all seasons.

## 2. New Expressions

2.1 Falmouth Art Gallery has been awarded £19,000 funding for an exciting new project to celebrate the importance of historical and artist designed frames. The project, *New Expressions*, is funded by MLA South West supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

2.2 The gallery will be organising an exhibition, an innovative community programme as well as closely working with popular Falmouth artist Patrick Woodroffe, whose art is known across Europe. The gallery has commissioned Patrick Woodroffe to create a Surrealist work with an integral frame and assist with talks and workshops.

2.3 There is no museum object that is more neglected than the historical and artist designed frame. Frames are often an integral part of the work but despite this they are sometimes separated, not conserved or not catalogued even though many leading artists leave strict instructions about how work should be framed. Falmouth will be the first gallery in the country to catalogue its frame collection and to work closely with contemporary artists to create new interpretations.

2.4 Patrick's work will then form a major part of the 'Frameworks' project, funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, and including important works by John Opie, Sir Edward Coley Burne-Jones, George Frederick Watts, Charles Napier Hemy, Dame Laura Knight, Ben Nicholson and Sir Peter Blake.

### **3. Accreditation success**

3.1 The gallery has passed with flying colours the new Museums, Libraries and Archives Council's Accreditation Standards. The gallery has been awarded Full Accreditation without conditions having successfully met every one of the stringent targets set. This award demonstrates that the gallery has achieved clearly defined national standards relating to governance and management, user services, visitor facilities and collection management.

### **4. Excellent museum recognition**

4.1 The Museums Association has nationally praised Falmouth Art Gallery for excellence. The *Excellent Museum* recognition was given by Mark Taylor, Director of the Museums Association who visited the gallery during the *Africa Calling* exhibition.

4.2 The Curator would like to thank and congratulate the Town Council and staff at the gallery for their hard work and exceptional customer service. This great honour was celebrated with a small group of our most regular visitors and volunteers.

### **5. *Ancient Landscapes, Pastoral Visions* exhibition**

5.1 This prestigious show with national loans was well received by our visitors. The exhibition was attended by 5,950 visitors with 392 community and educational visits. The visitors' book was full of enthusiastic comments.

5.2 During the course of the exhibition the gallery put on a number of workshops for groups such as Falmouth Stroke Club, University College Falmouth, MENCAP, Falmouth Marine School, Cornwall College, excluded children and local schools.

### **6. BAFM Conference**

6.1 The national conference for the *British Association of Friends of Museums* was this year held in Penzance with Penlee House Gallery & Museum and the Queen's Hotel playing host. Falmouth Art Gallery and the National Maritime Museum Falmouth supported the event and led seminars. The conference was a great success and was attended by 170 delegates from across the UK and Ireland.

## **7. Little Parc Owles Trust**

7.1 The Little Parc Owles Trust has continued their support for the gallery by awarding £500 for artist led print workshops for local A-level students. These will be held in the autumn during the showing of the Art Fund Hugh Stoneman Archive, which will feature works by Sir Terry Frost, Sandra Blow, Kurt Jackson, Eve Arnold, Fay Godwin, Patrick Heron and Dame Barbara Hepworth.

7.2 The award follows a visit by the Trustees to the gallery to view Roy Ray's installation in memory of innocent victims of war and terrorism. The party of trustees included Sir Geoffrey and Lady Carol Holland.

## **8. Celebrating Cornwall's Stained Glass Heritage**

8.1 Visitors can now enjoy seeing in the Municipal Buildings foyer the wonderful spot tiles designed by Falmouth babies and toddlers. The spot tiles, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, are set in delightful framing tiles designed and produced by local ceramicist Linda Styles to complement the 18<sup>th</sup> century tiles opposite. The tiles were enthusiastically approved by Kate McCavan, Conservation Officer at Carrick District Council.

8.2 Journalist Louise Tickle, of *The Guardian*, travelled down to Falmouth to report the project. The baby tiles have attracted considerable attention and praise from local visitors as well.

8.3 The stained glass windows for the foyer and the gallery are now progressing well. The colourful designs by Falcare (MENCAP) and by excluded children are currently being cut and assembled by stained glass craftsman Michael Welch. Visits in the autumn to his studio in Cornwall by Falcare and the excluded children were of great interest and enjoyed by all. Other visits included Truro Cathedral and the Patrick Heron window at Tate St Ives.

8.4 A directory of all important stained glass that can be publicly viewed in Cornwall is shortly to go on the Falmouth Art Gallery website. The gallery would like to thank historical stained glass expert Michael Swift from Truro Cathedral for his invaluable help with this project.

8.5 The project has inspired many groups. The adult special needs classes at Falmouth Marine School have created in the gallery a wonderful design for a large corridor window at their college, which has now been constructed in colourful window film.

## **9. Training**

9.1 Staff and volunteers attended a course entitled *A smashing day of handling and packing* organised by the South West Museums Federation.

9.2 Donna Williams (maternity cover) has also completed the *Basic Fire Extinguisher Training* at RAF Portreath and attended a seminar hosted by Engage entitled *Working with Young People*.

## **10. Loans**

10.1 *Study for The Lady of Shalott* has been loaned internationally to the Groninger Museum, Amsterdam for the exhibition *J. W. Waterhouse - The Modern Pre-raphaelite* 13 December 2008 - 3 May 2009. It will then travel to The Collection, Lincoln for the *Tennyson Transformed* exhibition.

10.2 *A Peasant Girl* by Arthur Melville ARSA (1855 – 1994) has now returned from the National Gallery of Scotland where it featured in the multi-million pound blockbuster exhibition *Impressionism & Scotland*. The gallery was thanked by the Director Michael Clarke for its support of the exhibition, which was a great success and visited by 77,000 people.

## **11. Laura Butcher – LuMEN Placement**

11.1 After completing an eight-week placement at the gallery to gain professional experience Leicester University student Laura Butcher has successfully been appointed by the exhibition design company Metaphor in London. Her new role involves researching and writing museum design proposals.

11.2 Laura wrote to the gallery thanking the staff for their help and said of the placement: *"I'm sure it made all the difference. I also submitted the reference the gallery gave me alongside my CV and I know this contributed to me getting this role, especially the section concerning my writing skills."*

## **12. Visit from Penryn Museum volunteers**

12.1 Falmouth Art Gallery recently hosted an event for volunteers of Penryn Museum. They were given a talk about the *Frameworks, Darwin, Stained Glass* and *New Expressions* projects as well as a 'behind the scenes' tour of the art store and computer catalogue system. It is hoped that their visit will become annual event.

### **13. Improved Signage for Disabled Access**

13.1 The concrete pathway for the lift has now been clearly marked for wheelchair and lift access. This was one of the recommendations made during a quality assessment of the building.

### **14. Darwin 200 catalogue**

14.1 A new catalogue, Darwin 200 – A celebration, has been published by Falmouth Art Gallery with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. It is Volume 9 in a series of publications documenting our collection.

### **15. Exhibitions 2009**

#### ***Frameworks – the project begins*** **Ends 28 March 2009**

There are no museum objects that are more neglected than historical and artist designed frames. Frames are an integral part of the work, but they are often not conserved or catalogued, even though many leading artists left strict instructions about how their work should be framed. Falmouth will be the first public gallery in the country to research, restore, catalogue, publish and exhibit work as a marriage between historical frame and painting. We will also liaise closely with contemporary artists to create new interpretations of the frame.

During the period of this changing exhibition the Surrealist artist, Patrick Woodroffe will study the historical frames in Falmouth's collection and produce his own design as an integral part of a work that will enter the collection. This commission has been funded by MLA South West, supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England. It will kick-start a three year *Frameworks* project, during which the gallery will work with artists, sculptors, photographers, textile artists and illustrators as well as conserving the entire collection of historical frames.

We are being advised throughout the project by the world's leading historical frame experts Paul Mitchell and Lynn Roberts. The conservation of the frames is being generously funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation.

In association with University College Falmouth incorporating Dartington College of Arts

**A season of Darwin 200 Exhibitions funded by the  
Heritage Lottery Fund**

***Voyages of Discovery*  
14 February – 18 April 2009**

The most important journey of the nineteenth century was undertaken by Charles Darwin on *The Beagle* between 1831 and 1836. Darwin sent specimens back to this country via Falmouth and the packet ships. *The Beagle* finally returned to Falmouth on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1836.

This exhibition celebrates Falmouth's role in Darwin's work in new and exciting ways. Included will be automata, digital art, installations and fantastic images of the Galapagos Islands. Also featured will be underwater photographs by award winning Mark Webster to coincide with the launch of his new book *Beneath Cornish Seas*.

Organised in association with Penlee House Gallery & Museum's *Wild Cornwall* exhibition (21 March – 13 June)

Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and University College Falmouth incorporating Dartington College of Arts

***Species*  
25 April – 27 June 2009**

Darwin was the man who had the bassoon played to earthworms and the harmonica to orangutans to observe their reactions. His intriguing research methods will set the tone for this quirky exhibition that will show a range of creatures from the small and scaly to the large and hairy!

Displayed will be work by the Surrealist artist Patrick Woodroffe, who has created new and fantastic species by taking characteristics from distinct families of animals. The exhibition will also feature paintings and photos of Cornwall's rich horticultural heritage.

Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and University College Falmouth incorporating Dartington College of Arts. Part of New Expressions funded by MLA South West, supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

***A Day at the Zoo*  
4 July – 5 September 2009**

This exhibition will feature wonderful images of animals from Newquay Zoo. Paintings, sculpture, photography, automata and film make this a show for all the family.

John Dyer (Darwin 200 painter in residence) will exhibit some of his colourful, popular paintings from feeding the penguins to Darwin's Birthday party. John is well known for his work at Eden and Banrock, Australia. There will be a lively programme of workshops to revolt the squeamish that will be held by zoo expert Mark Norris.

In association with Newquay Zoo and the John Dyer Gallery

Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and University College Falmouth incorporating Dartington College of Arts

***Expressions in man and animals***  
**12 September – 7 November 2009**

Darwin published in 1872 the best seller *Expressions of the Emotions in Man & Animals*. This exhibition uses Darwin's work to examine powerful images of expression. Featured will be a wide range of powerful images from an animal in anger to the more subtle expressions portrayed by leading portrait painters.

The gallery will link with *Antiques Roadshow* expert, Philip Mould OBE to bring to Falmouth historical portraits of national importance – juxtaposed with award winning natural history photography.

Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and University College Falmouth incorporating Dartington College of Arts

***The Masters' Master – The Art Fund Hugh Stoneman Archive***  
**14 November 2009 – 20 February 2010**

Hugh Stoneman (1947 – 2005) was one of the world's most important master printers. In 2008 The Art Fund saved his archive for Falmouth. It celebrates a career spanning three decades in which Hugh worked closely in a unique dialogue with major printers, photographers, sculptors and ceramics including Cornish based artists Sandra Blow, Sir Terry Frost, Patrick Heron, Barbara Hepworth, Kurt Jackson and David Nash.

High's skills were sought out by major artists from all over the world and he worked on unique collaborations with artists from Africa, America, Australia,

Chile, Germany, Hungary, India, Iraq, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Sicily, Spain, Sweden and of course throughout the UK.

In association with the Art Fund, Little Parc Owles Trust, University College Falmouth incorporating Dartington College of Arts