

1. Visit by Her Majesty The Queen to Tate St Ives

- 1.1 Director Louise Connell was invited as a guest of Tate St Ives to meet Her Majesty The Queen during her recent visit to Cornwall. Louise was introduced to Her Majesty and HRH the Duke of Edinburgh at an official reception in the Tate Gallery.

2. Grant funding – the *For Cornwall* Partnership Projects

- 2.1 As reported in the last report, the *For Cornwall* Partnership, comprising Falmouth Art Gallery, Penlee House Museum and Art Gallery, The National Maritime Museum Cornwall, the Royal Cornwall Museum and Porthcurno Telegraph Museum, received a Strategic Support Grant from Arts Council England.
- 2.2 The grant funding will be used to support 16 separate projects across the partners in 2013/14. The projects in which staff from Falmouth Art Gallery are involved include: the creation of a Maritime Subject Specialist network (SSN) to promote the understanding of maritime collections in Cornwall; a feasibility study towards developing a digital Culture Card for visitors to Cornwall; digitisation of collections, including images; Cultural Tourism; Online Retail; Low Energy Lighting; Supporters' Schemes; Collections Mapping to improve our understanding of Cornwall's museum collections; and the appointment of an Arts Award Officer by the Museums Development Team to support delivery of the new Arts Award for schools in the partner organisations.
- 2.3 The projects are all designed to achieve the strategic priorities for museums in Cornwall as outline in the current Cornwall Museums Strategy.
- 2.4 Assistant Curator Alex Hooper attended the first meeting of the Collections Mapping team at Royal Cornwall Museum.
- 2.5 Collections Manager Natalie Rigby and Access and Interpretation Manager Charlotte Davis attended a 'sandpit' event for the Culture Card at the AIR building at Falmouth University alongside delegates from the wider creative and cultural community. This meeting aimed to capture their ideas about new technology and innovation for the feasibility study.
- 2.6 Lighting expert Trevor Baker visited the gallery and is preparing a report with his recommendations how to reduce energy costs across the gallery and art stores.

- 2.7 Louise Connell attended a meeting about developing the art gallery's online retail offer. The art gallery is now selling a selection of its catalogues on the Amazon website and is planning to launch its own online shop to the website by September. The *For Cornwall* partnership is exploring ways of offering a selection of products on the Cornwall Museums Group Website.
- 2.8 A stunning two-minute 'digital postcard' film designed to promote Falmouth Art Gallery has been filmed by Sound View Media. It will be officially launched by Visit Cornwall in February next year, to maximise its impact for the 2014 tourist season.
- 2.9 The first newsletter to Falmouth Art Gallery Supporters was sent out in May. There are around 40 supporters currently signed up to the scheme, which offers exclusive tours and gallery talks, including behind-the-scenes visits, and discounts in the gallery shop.

3. HLF Killigrew Project

- 3.1 The HLF-funded Killigrew Project continues with *Talwyn's Tales* workshops, led by freelance gallery educator Glyn Winchester.
- 3.2 The tour features Talwyn, a scullery maid dressed in authentic 17th century costume, who works for the Killigrews of Arwenack House.
- 3.3 Talwyn leads entertaining and informative tours of places of historical interest around Falmouth, telling tales of the Killigrews and life in the 1600s. Groups so far have included three from Falmouth Primary School, a group from Constantine School, a Russian language group, as well as a general audience.
- 3.4 *Talwyn's Tales* are complemented by schools' workshops in the gallery, *Moving and Making*, led by Charlotte Davis, exploring poetry, creative writing and maps.
- 3.5 Dance group Shallal 2 led a dance workshop inspired by Anne Killigrew's painting *Venus attired by the Graces*, followed by a public performance in the art gallery, as part of the art gallery's half-term activities.

4. Holiday family workshops: 'Fal River Festival Frolics' 25 – 31 May

- 4.1 A series of fun family drop-in workshops were organised at the gallery over the May half-term holiday.
- 4.2 All activities are linked to the current exhibition and included knitting fishing nets in *Gone crabbing*; marbling techniques in *Let's go marbles*; and the *Oodles of doodles* cartoon workshop with Beano cartoonist Nick Brennan.

4.3 The *Story Republicans* also dropped into the gallery for an informal singing and story-telling performance.

4.4 A total of 150 adults and 86 children attended the workshops over the course of the week.

5. Sea Shanty Festival – Saturday 15 May

5.1 As part of this year's Sea Shanty Festival, the art gallery was filled with music and song from Marlborough School children, followed by a video presentation of *Many a Mickle* accompanied by beautiful harmony singing by *Silver Darlings*. The *Falmouth Fish* singers concluded a lively and musical afternoon.

6. Education

6.1 The art gallery has welcomed groups from Trevisker School, Falmouth Primary School, Constantine School, King Charles School, Home educated, Murdock and Trevithick Centre, Dementia Friendly Falmouth, Fal care, Sketch Club, Look Group, Baby paint and Little fingers.

6.2 Louise Connell was invited by the Kimberley Park Residents' Association to the launch of the Kimberley Park Automata Project on 18 May. Louise saw for the first time the stunning results of the schools automata workshops held at the art gallery last year. Three amazing large-scale interactive automata by Rob Hicks, Keith Newstead and Paul Spooner were unveiled by Geoffrey Evans, Town Mayor of Falmouth on a lovely sunny day, attended by hundreds of children and their families. The gallery also lent three of its own automata artworks for the afternoon.

6.3 Two local art groups took part in funded workshops involving artist and printmaker Naomi Frears. Supported by Little Parc Owles Trust, Constantine Art Society and Falmouth Art Society each took part in a day-long printing workshop with Naomi at the art gallery.

6.4 Charlotte Davis worked with Dementia Friendly Falmouth on the Memory Tree Project with artist Tony Johns. The Memory Tree embroidered banner was displayed at NMMC as part of Dementia Awareness Day.

7. Talks and tours

7.1 Director Louise Connell gave a talk at the Arts and Heritage Conference at London's Olympia for Kids in Museums, titled *Family friendly Falmouth*.

7.2 Louise was also invited by Falmouth WI to give a talk on *Artists of the Fal River*, which was well-received.

- 7.3 Louise gave gallery talks to Huntingdon NADFAS, Brightwater Holidays, the Wayfarers Group and the Art Fund Glamorgan.
- 7.4 Two Cemetery Tours for the general public, led by Glyn Winchester, have been scheduled for Saturday 6 July and Saturday 17 August, at 3pm. Numbers are limited to a maximum of 15, and places on the tours can be reserved by calling Falmouth Art Gallery.

8. Publications

- 8.1 Louise Connell wrote an article for the June/July edition of *My Cornwall* magazine, p.79 on the oil painting *Venus attired by the Graces* by Anne Killigrew.
- 8.2 Louise also wrote the introduction to Beside the Wave gallery's *Cornish Light* catalogue.

9. Training

- 9.1 Louise Connell attended a three-day First Aid course organised by the British Red Cross in Truro.
- 9.2 Charlotte Davis, Glyn Winchester and Louise Connell attended a session of the Dementia Awareness Conference at the National Maritime Museum Cornwall.
- 9.3 Louise Connell attended a half-day workshop on *Inclusive Creative Practice – Introduction to inclusion* at Tremough.

10. Visits

- 10.1 The grandson of the great maritime painter Charles Napier Hemy RA RWS (1841 – 1917) paid the gallery a visit and was shown around the gallery and art stores by Louise Connell and Alex Hooper. Canadian John Hemy viewed paintings by his grandfather and the famous portrait by John Singer Sargent, as well as watercolours by his great-aunt (Charles Napier Hemy's sister-in-law) Winifred Freeman (1866-1961).
- 10.2 John Hemy enjoyed his visit a great deal and was very impressed by the collection and the high standards of collections care and storage that the art gallery offers. He wrote, "*Thank you for the time and attention you gave to Valerie and myself last month. It was good to see Charles in his rightful place. I was impressed with the care you have taken with the Winifred Freemans*".
- 10.3 Director and head of Department for Victorian and British Impressionist paintings at Christie's London, Brandon Lindbergh paid a visit to Falmouth Art Gallery and was shown around the gallery and art stores by Louise Connell.

11. Cruise ship visits

- 11.1 The visits by cruise ship passengers have brought a whole new international audience into the art gallery! The Ambassadors are doing an excellent job in bringing cruise ship visitors to The Moor and directing them to the art gallery. Volunteer Glyn Winchester, in her historic Talwyn costume (see item 3, above), has been stationed on The Moor giving directions to the art gallery.
- 11.2 The *Emerald Princess* and the *Caribbean Princess*, which visited on 7 June and 10 June respectively, boosted visitor numbers on those days by 148% compared with the same two days in 2012.
- 11.3 The *How to find Falmouth Art Gallery* map produced by the art gallery for cruise ship passengers, with artist Nick Brennan, has been very successful and is now being re-printed.

12. Collections

- 12.1 Since Natalie Rigby returned from Maternity Leave in September, excellent progress has been made on the art gallery catalogue. The art collection is available to view online on the art gallery website at <http://www.falmouthartgallery.com/Collection/Artists>
- 12.1 99.7% of the collection has received copyright clearance, enabling more pictures to be enjoyed on the website, in marketing and gallery publications.

13. Loans

- 13.1 Two works from the Falmouth Art Gallery collection have been lent to Penlee House Gallery & Museum for their exhibition, *Poems, plays and fairy tales*, which opened on 15 June and runs until 7 September.
- 13.2 The works are *Innocence*, 1904 by Thomas Cooper Gotch (1854 – 1931) and *Man in a ruff*, 1903 by Hereward Hayes Tresidder (1883 – 1950).
- 13.3 *The bombing of the British Chancellor, 10 July 1943* by Charles Pears (1873 – 1958) has been lent to the National Maritime Museum Cornwall for their *Battle of the Atlantic* exhibition, until 13 September.

14. Exhibitions

- 14.1 The recent exhibition, *Cedric Morris & Christopher Wood: A forgotten friendship* closed on 22 June.

- 14.2 The exhibition attracted very high visitor figures, with visitor numbers for the month of May up 55% on last year (2012: 3116 visits/ 2013: 4338 visits). In total, the exhibition was visited by 7,214 people, of which 968 were educational.
- 14.3 The new exhibition, *Making faces*, runs from 29 June to 14 September. The show is a lively mix of work from the Falmouth Art Gallery collection, alongside a selection of loaned work by South West artists.
- 14.4 *Making faces* explores the many ways in which artists have captured the uniqueness, beauty and strangeness of faces. Whether wide-eyed and innocent, solemn or smiley, faces have fascinated artists, who often used portraiture to experiment with different techniques, styles and materials.
- 14.5 With an array of works by Eve Arnold, Robert Bradford, Peter Blake, John Bratby, Eileen Cooper, Bianca Cork, Lee Miller, Thomas Gainsborough, Ben Nicholson, Man Ray, George Romney, John Singer Sargent, Henry Scott Tuke and Gavin Turk, among others, all eyes will be on you in the art gallery this summer!
- 14.6 Alongside *Making faces*, the art gallery is also holding an exhibition in the Permanent Gallery called *Cornish Light*, which runs from 27 June to 10 September. *Cornish Light* features 11 works on loan from Beside the Wave Gallery by contemporary artists which have been specially commissioned for this exhibition. Showing alongside them are 14 historic works from the Falmouth Art Gallery collection, including paintings by Martina Thomas, Henry Scott Tuke, William Ayerst Ingram, Ralph Todd and JT Richardson.
- 14.7 Nalders Solicitors continue to support the art gallery with free use of their shop window on Arwenack Street. Art gallery volunteer Lee Parkin has built new display boards for the window so the displays of children's artwork now look better than ever!
- 14.8 And finally, the displays of art in the community gallery spaces (on the stairs and balcony and in the lift entrance on the ground floor) are regularly changed to reflect the range of workshops offered by the art gallery to families and community groups. The current display of *Rag rugs* was inspired by the fantastic patterned jumpers in the *A forgotten friendship* exhibition.