

JOHN RAPSON GALLERY REDEVELOPMENT

On Friday, 8th March, we held our first exhibition team meeting to start putting ideas for the Rapson gallery into practice. 6 volunteers are currently involved, each managing their own part of the project. The new exhibition has created a lot of interest already, with the Story of Emily providing match-funding and curating one of the sections. I and one of the volunteers, Shannon, have been busy looking at funding options, including the National Lottery Project Grants. The gallery will close between September and December to allow for roofing works, painting and decorating, and the installation of the new display. The exhibition will launch in January 2026 and will pay tribute to local photographers and... peacemakers. Expect digital and interactive elements, arts installations, oral history and more.

FEBRUARY HALF-TERM AND EASTER

Over February half-term, our visitors enjoyed free activities, such as the Great Teddy Hunt (with prizes) and the Teddy Bear Make & Take. All activities were self-directed, which worked well. During the Easter break, as part of the 'We Are Of This Place' festival, we will be hosting Mazed Tales with their 'Piskey Path' puppetry performance, fully funded by the festival organisers. More puppetry & storytelling-themed activities are being considered, as well as a Young Archaeologists Club workshop for 8-12-year-olds.

MUSEUM REBRANDING

Niall, our Digital Enhancement Volunteer, has produced a prototype of the museum's new logo. The initial feedback gathered from our team of volunteers and colleagues from the Tourist Information Centre has been positive. We have now shared our ideas with the designer Jo Hoskin, who is developing them further. We should be able to present the proposed rebranding to the C & E committee in early April.

LISKEARD UNLOCKED AND CORNWALL 3D SCANNING

With the theme for this year's Heritage Open Days being 'Architecture', we are keen to put a spotlight on Foresters Hall as our contribution to the festival. As we're drawing inspiration for our new logo from Foresters Hall, we will be looking to launch the rebranding in September 2025, as part of Liskeard Unlocked.

Niall has shown incredible generosity by proposing to fund the laser scan of Foresters Hall, in collaboration with the specialist company, Cornwall 3D Scanning. Later this month, they will carry out a detailed engineering-grade survey using a [Leica BLK 360](#) to benefit the Museum's objectives. This proposed survey will not only assist with the upcoming Rapson gallery project but will also provide a comprehensive dataset of both the exterior and interior of Foresters Hall.

VOLUNTEERING TEAM

We currently have 17 volunteers on our books; 9 of whom come in regularly. Our most recent recruit has been Elizabeth (Lizzie), who has taken on our museum's social media and is keen to help us develop our learning offer.

SCHOOLS BOXES & LISKEARD LIBRARY

We are exploring the possibility of having our schools' boxes administered by our colleagues from Liskeard Library. The idea came from our Museum Development Officer, who viewed it as an opportunity to pioneer a new collaborative model between museums and libraries.

There are logistics to navigate, but both parties seem keen to make it happen. Lizzie has been busy reviewing our existing boxes, updating them, and creating new forms of engagement within them, considering special needs and sensory elements. She will reach out to local schools to gain their input on the desired content and prepare 2-3 pilot boxes. Local schools and families with home educated children will be able to access the boxes via the library booking system (hopefully from September 2025). It is our plan to apply for more funding early next year to make the boxes more attractive. We are very excited about this collaboration.