

President Priscilla Hull

Fairlynch Trustees

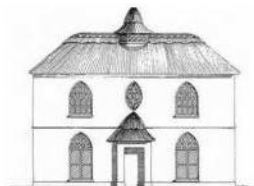
Chairman	Roger Sherriff	rogerfairlynch@gmail.com
Secretary	Iris Cooper	01395 445273
Treasurer	Jim Milverton	01395 445945
	Margaret Brett	01395 443769
	Brian Pepperrell	01404 891132
	Glenn Sismore-Hunt	01395 446452

General Committee

Secretary	Iris Cooper
Local History	Margaret Brett & Brian Pepperrell
Stewards' Committee	Henriette Feltham
St Peter's School Governor	Jeremy Robinson
Friends' Membership Secretary	Alexis Zane
Education	Amanda Murrell
Publicity & Newsletter Editor	Michael Downes 01395 446407 E: mr.downes@gmail.com
Costume	Joy Gawne
Linhay, costume storage	Iris Ansell
Lace	Margaret Williams
Environment Room	Burnham Arlidge E: burnhamarlidge@hotmail.com
Garden	Ann Hurt & Sylvia Merkel
Researcher	Ron Dobrée Email: dobree@globalnet.co.uk
Art	Angie Harlock

Please note that although a special interest is shown everyone on the General Committee is there to further the best interests of Fairlynch as a whole. If you would like to be involved in helping to run Fairlynch, or can suggest somebody who can, please let us know.

FAIRLYNCH
Museum and Arts Centre
Budleigh Salterton
Patron: Lord Clinton



NEWSLETTER
SPRING 2013

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Email: admin@fairlynchmuseum.co.uk
www.devonmuseums.net/fairlynch

Registered Charity No: 306636

Notes from the Chairman

After over 10 years as Fairlynch Trustees Margaret Brett and Iris Cooper will be standing down at the Museum's AGM in May. They cannot be praised too highly for their outstanding commitment, dedication and hard work. The two years they served as joint Chair of the Trustees is worthy of particular praise, filling the vacuum left following the departure of the previous Chair. Fortunately they will both continue to be involved with Museum life.

Consequently the museum is looking for new Trustees, so if you are interested, the article below will give you some idea about what is involved.

Fairlynch Trustees What they do and why we need your help

Fairlynch Museum is a charity which exists for the benefit of the residents and visitors to Budleigh Salterton and of the residents of the Lower Otter valley.

However as a charity we could not fulfil this role without the Trustees. Over the years a small group of Trustees have worked hard to help the Museum achieve its objectives. But we need help not only by having more volunteers but also new Trustees. I thought this Spring edition of the newsletter would be an ideal opportunity for me to appeal for this help before the start of hopefully another busy year, with the Museum opening for the new season on Good Friday 29 March.

Many of you may not be familiar with what our group actually does, so outlined below are some of the roles and responsibilities that being a Trustee entails in the hope that you might consider becoming involved.

Firstly the Trustees, like all those involved with Fairlynch, are volunteers. So, sadly, being a Trustee is unpaid. The Trustees have the ultimate responsibility for running the Charity (Fairlynch Museum), for its property, finances and its volunteers. The Trustees

help plan the strategic future of the charity and its work and they act to ensure its accountability to its beneficiaries, to the Charity Commissioners and the public in general. They have ultimate responsibility for directing the affairs of the Charity and ensuring it is solvent, well run and delivers the outcomes and objectives for the benefit of the public for which it has been established.

This is just a synopsis of the role of the Trustees. If you would like more information the Charity Commissioners website goes into it in far more detail. This may look quite daunting at first but actually it is not excessively onerous. On average the Trustees meet once a month for a couple of hours but then may devote more time to carrying out the actions agreed at the meeting.

This year the Trustees have initiated a great deal of work which has been carried out by either the Trustees themselves or by museum volunteers. Following receipt of the very generous legacy from Tony Colmer the Trustees implemented free admission to the Museum, they commissioned a new donations box, commissioned a survey into the external renovation and redecoration of the Museum and appointed a building firm to carry out the work and with the invaluable help of Rob Merkel who ensured that the work was completed satisfactorily. The Museum shop has been redesigned and we have received consultancy advice on merchandising. The Trustees have attended regular meetings of the East Devon Museums Group to ensure that Fairlynch adheres to best practice in line with other local museums. In consultation with Miss Gawne a Stewards' committee has been set up which will represent the interests of Fairlynch stewards.

During the coming year the Trustees will be looking to redecorate the interior of the Museum, complete the mandatory Accreditation process as required by the Arts Council and improve the interpretative and information boards throughout the Museum. We will also be looking to set up a group to improve museum fundraising.

Being a Trustee means you can make a difference and be at the heart of ensuring that Fairlynch is a museum we can continue to be proud of.

More recent news

£180 was raised for three separate causes including Fairlynch at the talk on 'Outdoor Survival' given by Sidmouth-based adventurer Dave Pearce on 15 October 2012. Friends of Fairlynch joined members of both the Otter Valley Association and Active Budleigh. Further cooperation with the OVA is planned. "We will continue to hold joint talks on topics which will appeal to both our memberships," said OVA's Acting Chairman Nicky Daniel.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held on 20 May in the Peter Hall at 7.00 pm. Any items to be included must be notified in writing by post or email to the Chairman by 20 April. The Trustees are recommending changes to simplify and modernise the Constitution. They will be seeking the necessary approval for these changes at the AGM. A copy of the revised Constitution will be available in the Budleigh Salterton Library and in Fairlynch during opening hours. After the formal business has been completed there will be an opportunity to socialise over a glass or two of refreshments.

2013 Exhibitions in addition to 'Sea, Salt and Sponges'

The following displays will delight our visitors: The Costumes team will present 'An Edwardian Musical Evening' and 'A Victorian Dressmaker's Workshop', with a box of clothes to try on. Local History: a photographic display showing vanished buildings of Budleigh Salterton and their modern replacements. The Dolls' House will be on show with an exhibition of miniatures. Lace: The Display will be renewed and will include the Honiton Alphabet. Finally, the garden will be even more splendid than usual (after all that rain).

Membership Secretary

Alexis Zane has decided to stand down as Membership Secretary to pursue other interests. Grateful thanks are due to her for the professionalism she has brought to this position and for the efficient manner in which she has performed the role. Our Chairman Roger Sherriff would be delighted to hear from anyone interested in taking on this important post. Tel: 01395 442357 or email rogerfairlynch@gmail.com



More news: Burnham Arlidge, a 24-year-old student of archaeology at Exeter University, is taking on the job of re-designing the Environment Room. Now living in Somerset, Burnham is a former professional tennis player intent on a career in museum curatorship. "I'm really looking forward to the project!" he says. "I'm sure it'll be a most useful experience — my Head of department thinks it's a great idea."

Facelift for Fairlynch

Painters and carpenters have been hard at work at the Museum over the last few months on an extensive restoration programme which will see that Fairlynch looks its best for visitors in time for re-opening.

Right: CCG Craftsman Dave restoring one of Fairlynch's much-prized eye-catching windows



The contract was awarded to Torquay-based company CCG Decorators for all external painting works which included all pre-painting repairs. The family-run firm of decorators has been working with expert carpenters to restore all sash windows and doors. They have used a resin repair care system to repair all joinery works.

Some internal decoration work has also been undertaken. "We are extremely pleased with the results," said Chairman Roger Sherriff, speaking for the Trustees. "We chose CCG Decorators because of their excellent reputation, especially because of their reliability and their experience in dealing with period landmark buildings like Fairlynch." It was felt that the Museum's windows are very much part of the charm of the building and that they should complement its age. "We all agreed that they should not be covered up with boarding or venetian blinds," said Roger.

Rob Merkel has taken over responsibility for the Smugglers' Cellar. He is working with local designer Neil Rogers with the aim of making it an even more interesting feature of the Museum.

Sea, Salt and Sponges

The Museum's 2013 exhibition has a maritime theme: the history of local fishing and salt-making, marine conservation, paintings by local artists inspired by the area's beautiful coastal scenery... but especially the life of Henry Carter FRS (1813-95), born 200 years ago in Budleigh Salterton. Here are some facts about him:



- Admired by Charles Darwin for his "wonderful" description of the sex-life of algae
- Was the first to describe creepy-crawly amoeboid organisms such as *Acanthocystis turfacea*, *Euglypha compressa*, *Pontigulasia compressa* and *Diffflugia urceolata* that he found in drains and bog-water in the Budleigh area during the 1860s
- Shared the honour of having a fungus — *Chionophye carteri* — named after him along with the illustrator of *Gray's Anatomy*
- Awarded the Royal Society's Royal Medal in 1872
- Has a species of gecko named after him
- At least 27 different species of sponge are named after him
- The Arabian Frankincense tree is named after him
- Reorganised the British Museum's sponge collection at his home in Budleigh Salterton
- The first naturalist to describe the development of the Venus flower basket sponge — pictured right — chosen as one of the Top Ten most prized animals on Earth by Sir David Attenborough in November 2012
- May have inspired Lawrence of Arabia's interest in the Middle East and Arab tribespeople
- Was one of the first of the Anglo-Indian former army officers to settle in Budleigh Salterton, people who were characterised — in the words of the East Devon novelist R.F. Delderfield — by their "hard, blue eyes, fierce moustaches, and mahogany faces"
- Is the only native-born East Devon scientist and Fellow of the Royal Society to end his days in his homeland
- Honoured with a blue plaque on the wall of his home in Budleigh Salterton, now known as Umbrella Cottage.



Pub quizzes Fairlynch

Buying a house? Involved in commerce? It can often be fascinating to



discover the former occupants of your new home or how a venture started. The new landlord of Knowle village's local is the latest business in the area seeking to find out more about the history of the building and its previous tenants. Going back to its original name is all part of Jeff White's keenness to explore the archives of this country pub and restaurant that for many years was known as The Dog and Donkey. "The pub started off as The Britannia back in Victorian times so we thought it was only right to respect its heritage and discover a bit more of its past," says Jeff, pictured above with partner Kate Knight and her daughter Aisha who prepare quality food in the kitchen.

And that's where Fairlynch Museum comes in with its excellent local history records. The museum is always ready to help people interested in finding out about old-established Budleigh businesses. It has been a Devon Record Office service point since 2007 and the archives have useful items like local registers, the 1842 Tithe map and a whole cabinet of books on various aspects of old Budleigh.

Jeff is looking forward to restoring The Britannia as Knowle's local while providing restaurant meals that are quite a bit more ambitious than your average pub's. The building has been refurbished to a high standard while not taking away any of its atmosphere. "We are really passionate about providing honestly good Devon food with excellent customer service," says Kate. "All our food is locally sourced and we're finding that our customers appreciate dishes that are a bit out of the ordinary." There is a wine list to suit most palates and the bar serves a fine range of real ales.

Bookings for lunch and dinner at The Britannia are advisable.
Tel: 01395 445710 Email: thebritannia@btinternet.com

Speaking up for the Stewards

Would you like to play a larger part in safeguarding one of Budleigh Salterton's treasures? Come and join the enthusiastic team of stewards who are also one of Fairlynch Museum's big attractions. A brand new Committee has been formed in order to streamline the organisation of the stewarding. We thought it was a good idea to introduce the members of the Committee to the readers of the Newsletter, and here they are:



Henriette Feltham has helped at the Museum since moving to Budleigh in 2002. Meeting and chatting to visitors is what she most enjoys about stewarding; she can remember the excitement of a family from Canada who had come to see the model ship in the Museum built by their grandfather. Henriette herself is most impressed by the files in the Local History Room with their amazingly wide-ranging information on Budleigh Salterton and the surrounding area.

Ann Hack, a Fairlynch volunteer for 25 years, has documented the collections, ran the shop and also worked in the Linhay, costumes being her favourite item at Fairlynch. A memorable moment was when she met Sir Richard Rodney Bennett. "He enjoyed looking at photographs in the Local History Room with Joy Gawne and came to an event we were holding in the garden at Fairlynch."



Bernard Hadley has lived in Budleigh for only two years, but had an aunt who was a steward when Fairlynch first opened in 1967. As a steward himself he likes being able to contribute to a museum of so much interest and so much at the heart of the town; the paintings of Joyce Dennys are his favourite items on display. Genealogy and local history are his hobbies along with music, gardening, tennis and walking.



Eileen Milne has been a steward for three years. Funny things can happen at Fairlynch, she says. "Walking into the Antarctic Exhibition and finding a head on the floor, with goggle eyes staring up at me. Somehow it had fallen off the model. It took ages to put back in place." She does lots of walking, has finished an OU course, and now, having discovered that she has no sense of rhythm for tap-dancing, is trying Art.

Bernadette Hughes has helped at Fairlynch for four years. She enjoys helping visitors to discover all that it has to offer. With an interest in local history, she felt that the recent Antarctic Exhibition really brought to life the hardships endured and the courage shown by these early explorers, and how much they achieved without the benefit of today's technology. She likes gardening, the theatre and supporting local events.



David Waddington has particularly appreciated the chocolate biscuit and coffee during his 21 years as a steward. The Local History Room is a favourite area, but he especially admires the polyphon and thinks that Fairlynch needs more such exhibits that visitors can react with. Skittles, bees and chickens, the Church, sea and river fishing and his 1959 MGA are among his special interests.

Catrine Waller has been a steward at Fairlynch for only two years in spite of having lived in Budleigh since 1976. But she makes up for it with enthusiasm, a quality that she believes is vital for the Museum. She enjoys Local History, but finds all aspects of Fairlynch interesting, especially interacting with the visitors. "Cooking, entertaining, travelling and people" are among my passions she says. She also loves reading, walking the dog and playing gentle golf.



For information on becoming a steward please phone 01395 446597.

Obituaries

Two important figures from the Arts world with strong connections to the Budleigh area passed away last year

Sir Richard Rodney Bennett (1936-2012)

As President of the Budleigh Jazz Festival Sir Richard was a well known figure to many local residents. For more than 20 years he lived at various houses in Budleigh until the family moved to Boucher Road in 1945. His childhood was not especially happy according to Anthony Meredith's much praised magistral biography, and moving to London as a student at the Royal Academy of Music was a refreshing change. However he retained his affection for Budleigh, which, as he said in later life "I still love and won't have a word said against." Earning a living as a composer from the age of 19 he had a dazzling career, writing award-winning screen music, operas, choral works and symphonies all of which secured for him an international reputation for versatility. In 1998 he was knighted for services to music.



Above: A photo of the young Richard, right, with his family in the garden of Lace Acre, in Boucher Road



Francis Kelly (1927-2012), artist, author and athlete was born in Minnesota. He served with the U.S. Navy until 1948 when he entered the Art Centre School in Los Angeles, studying in Paris in 1951/52, and then the Universities of Hawaii and California. With a Fulbright grant, he came in 1955 to the Central School in London where he decided to live. He had strong links with the Budleigh area, visiting whenever possible: our gentle countryside has greatly inspired much of his work. Exhibitions of his work have been held at 24 British galleries. He was called on by the Italian Art and Archives Fund to restore flood damaged art in Florence and has published two books, *Art Restoration* and *The Studio and the Artist*. Above is his depiction of Hayes Barton, described as "a delightful countryside" etching by the Brook Gallery which sells his work. See <http://www.brookgallery.co.uk/> for details.

Diary 2013

MONDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2.30 PM Peter Hall

The Marine Treasures of Lyme Bay: a talk by Dominic Flint, Sustainable Fisheries Officer, Devon Wildlife Trust.

A proportion of the monies raised from this talk will go to the Trust.

MONDAY 4 MARCH 10.00 am

Fairlynych Stewards' Meeting, at Fairlynych.

MONDAY 18 MARCH 7.30 PM Peter Hall

World Events and the Weather: a talk by Nick Ricketts

Do you have a favourite subject or a hobby that you would like to talk about to an appreciative audience? Phone Michael on 01395 446407.

WEDNESDAY 27 MARCH 6.00 pm

Friends of Fairlynych are invited to partake in wine and nibbles at the Museum to view the new shop and this year's exhibition 'Sea, Salt and Sponges.' Numbers are limited. Please let us know by Sunday 17 March if you would like to attend, by phone 01395 446407 or by email: mr.downes@gmail.com

FRIDAY 29 MARCH 2.00 pm

Fairlynych re-opens, including Easter Saturday.

FRIDAY 10 MAY 7.00 PM Peter Hall

Fairlynych Museum and Arts Centre Annual General Meeting.

SATURDAY 30 MAY

Deadline for copy for summer newsletter. Would you like to contribute?

Do you have an email address? If so, and you are not already receiving online communications from Fairlynych, you may like to make sure that you are up to the minute with Museum news. Simply email the Editor via mr.downes@gmail.com and we will see that you are kept informed. This newsletter is now on the website at www.devonmuseums.net/fairlynych If you would prefer to receive future newsletters online rather than hard copy, please let the Editor know.

FRIENDS OF FAIRLYNCH

Budleigh Salterton Arts Centre and Museum

Opened in 1967, Fairlynch Art Centre and Museum is an educational charity administered by Trustees. In 1968 the FRIENDS OF FAIRLYNCH was formed to support the development of the Museum and be a fundraising arm of the Registered Charity. Charity No 306636. The minimum annual subscription is £10.00 per person. Membership entitles the holder to reduced fees for the Winter Talks.

I/ We wish to join the Friends of Fairlynch and enclose the sum of £ _____ as my/our subscription
OR a completed Bankers's Order. Please see below.

Your full name	
CAPITALS _____	
please _____	
Address _____	

Post Code _____	Tel _____
Email: _____	

BANKER'S ORDER

Name of YOUR Bank in CAPITALS:	BANK
Address of Your Bank:	

Account Name:.....	
Sort Code:	Account No to be debited:.....

Please pay to the National Westminster Bank plc, 60, High Street, Budleigh Salterton, EX9 6LP (sort code 52-10-26)
For the credit of: The Friends of Fairlynch (Museum) A/C No 07609361
The sum of £ _____ on the _____ day of _____ 20 _____ and thereafter a like sum on 1st February ANNUALLY until cancelled by me in writing.

SIGNATURE DATE.....

GIFT AID

If you are a UK tax payer Friends of Fairlynch can claim Gift aid on your subscription but it requires your signature.

GIFT AID DECLARATION

I am a UK taxpayer. Please reclaim the tax on all my donations to the Friends of Fairlynch and any I make in the future until I notify you otherwise.

SIGNATURE..... DATE.....

When completed kindly return this form to: The Treasurer, Friends of Fairlynch, Fairlynch Museum, 27, Fore Street, Budleigh Salterton, EX9 6NP. Please DO NOT send to your bank.

