



The Newlyn Archive Review 2016

2016 will be remembered as the last full year that the archive opened on Friday mornings in the Mount's Bay room at Trinity Centre. We have welcomed our visitors to this small room (it seats only eight people) once a week since the Archive opened.

We are much beholden to the generosity of the Centre in providing the room free of charge since 2010, the first six years of the archive's existence.

In 2017, we will be moving the Archive to the Admiralty Boathouse, 23 The Strand, Newlyn. This space has been made available to us by the Newlyn Harbour Commissioners. It is a fine historic building in the middle of Newlyn that was built in 1900 as a boathouse for the Coastguard and since 1925 has been Newlyn Post Office. In 2016, we celebrated our future occupation by opening it for the Newlyn Fish Festival.

Despite this move, we will continue to hold our regular Open Days at Trinity Centre. In 2016, we held four Open Days at Trinity which are described in this Review. Each of the four open days was unique, showing recently acquired photographs and material as well as material already held.

We also have a selection of display files on the theme of the exhibition on show at each Open Day to demonstrate how much more we have in the archive than can go into the displays. At each Open Day, we try to show material from all three of our main archive collections, which cover Newlyn, Lamorna, and West Cornwall Art.

In 2016, we counted a record 715 visitors (young and old) at the Open Days!

Right: A visitor at an Open Day is engrossed in the display material.



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The Great Storms Saturday February 13, 2016

272 people attended this one-day event which was the most popular Open Day we have ever held.

The Exhibition depicted the great storms that have hit Newlyn starting with the great storm of October 1880. Most tragic was the loss of the Mousehole fishing boat PZ 26 Jane, which went down outside Penzance harbour. The crew of six men and a boy were drowned in full sight of their wives and children.

Another poignant image was Barron's Newsagents in the Strand with water up to its doorway during the great Ash Wednesday storm of 1962

Left: A young visitor to the Exhibition

Building Newlyn Harbour Saturday April 9, 2016

172 visitors came to this Open Day which covered the growth of Newlyn Harbour from the election of its first harbour commissioners in 1884.

Following the building of the South and North Piers, was the erection of two fish markets in 1908 and 1988, and then the Mary Williams Pier.

These changes happened despite the Newlyn Riots in 1896 when charge of the harbour was taken away from the commissioners.

Right: Visitors included bards, Douglas Williams (a recent harbour commissioner) And John Cecil Jenkin.



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Right: committee member Linda Holmes talks to visitors at the Exhibition

To-Ing and Fro-Ing Saturday July 16 2016

141 people enjoyed the third Open Day which included pictures of horse drawn carts, wagonettes, and old motor cars at Lamorna and Newlyn.



Films shown included the amazing transporter called the *Dreckly Express* that travelled underground in a tunnel to take goods to the top of St Michael's Mount.



Marazion Carnival Sunday July 31, 2016

In July, we engaged in a one-off event when we participated in Marazion Annual Carnival. It was a beautifully sunny day and there was a steady flow of visitors.

Left: Deputy archivist, Brian Newton waiting for the first rush of visitors.

They Came, They Stayed and they Left 30/10 & 1/11 2016

130 people came to this 2-day event which was about people who came to West Cornwall for a time, often contributed a great deal, then left. The extra day was arranged for the Lamorna Society. Mousehole Archive had a table

On Friday evening, archivist Pam Lomax gave a talk about Henry Scott Tuke who came first to Newlyn, then decided to move to Falmouth. The £3 entry fee at the door raised £93 pounds for the Archive.

Right: Tamsin Daniel at the Mousehole Archive Table



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Left: Helen Burnham, Ann Pilcher and Ruth Simpson are regular helpers at all the Open Days

By the end of 2016, the number of Archive Friends had increased to 324.

Friends elect the committee but many of them also contribute to the archive by finding and cataloguing new material,

and helping to run the Open Days. Their £5 annual subscription is the Archive's only regular income.

Right: Andrew Gordon and Denny Harvey look at the old newspapers during an Open Day

The committee manage the day-to-day work of the archive and at the end of 2016 we were sorry to say goodbye to our very popular secretary Amanda Thompson, and to committee member Andrew Gordon. It was also Denny Harvey's last year looking after our archive films. The films shown at the Open Days in 2016 are evidence of the great job he has done in developing this side of the archive.



As usual we have relied on the generosity of our sponsors. In 2016, we were most grateful to secure funds totalling £1000. These came from the Newlyn Harbour Commissioners (£500), Penzance Town Council (£300) and the Cornwall Council Community Chest Scheme (£200).

Our fund-raising activities at the Open Days were also productive, including the popular raffle (the brain child of committee member Tom Lodge), the sale of archive-published books, a second-hand book sale (master-minded by David Tredinnick) and a poster sale. Adding donations to these funds, the archive raised almost £700 in 2016.

Do look at the website <http://newlynarchive.org.uk/>

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