

## **History Working Party Annual Report 2023 – 2024**

Members: Trudy Reynolds and Nick Foster (Parish Councillors); Andy Trudgian and Sue Facey (Charlestown History Group).

Both the Charlestown History Group and the Parish Council continue to promote the appreciation of and information on historic features in the parish for both residents and visitors. Community archive material is available for viewing at the Pattern Hall, Charlestown at certain times and an increasing amount of material can be found digitally on the Charlestown History Group's website; [www.charlestownhistorygroup.com](http://www.charlestownhistorygroup.com)

The Charlestown History Group has held several events to mark the bicentennial of Charles Rashleigh's death. One highlight, in September, was a promenade play based on his life which took place around the harbour and the Battery.

The Parish Council were pleased to make a grant to a local author who has written a book on the lives of the Porthpean men who were killed in the World Wars. It will be available shortly.

The main feature of this year's work has been the completion and installation of the Charlestown Story Information Boards and village trail. Ten QR boards give the visitors more information on key features such as the cask banks, ore floors and clay dry as well as the harbour itself. Initial feedback on the project has been positive with the Charlestown History Group seeing a 25% increase in their website traffic and on average about 15 visits each day to the trail information.

Work has finished on a booklet of walking routes around the parish to encourage visitors and residents to explore Duporth, Porthpean and Trenarren as well as Charlestown. Relevant historic features are highlighted. This will be available, free of charge, shortly.

Anyone with an interest in the history of the parish would be welcome to get involved and join the group.