

3. FHA. MORE HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023. PHOTO OF NATHANIEL FOX OUTSIDE SHOP. 21 FEB 2024

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More 2023 highlights from the Falmouth History Archive ...



Photograph from Peter Fox's family collection taken around 1900, showing Nathaniel Fox outside his shop. Amongst his numerous achievements, Nathaniel Fox was a Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society (RCPS) silver medallist, awarded for his long service to The Poly's exhibition programme.

The FHA was very pleased to acquire:

- documents from the family of Nathaniel Fox, Mayor of Falmouth in 1865, who ran an ironmongery shop 41 Market Street.
- maps and historical archives from Tom Weller, an enthusiastic local historian.
- a digital version of the Gilson postcard collection. Peter Gilson established the forerunner of the Falmouth History Archive at The Poly during the 1980s.

Support for Falmouth University student degree projects including providing images of Kennall Vale for students on the Fine Arts and Textiles course, and a project which explored the topic 'How working in the military affected domestic life in wartime.'

Support for local primary schools with an interest in Falmouth during WWII.

During the year volunteers provided '**Walks and Talks**' where they shared stories from the archives with other organisations including The Dracaena Centre in Falmouth.

Our volunteers were also delighted to be invited to provide historical insights during three South West Coast Path Association (SWCPA) rambles, including in July, a trial 'Wheelchair Ramble' starting from the Pendennis Community Centre.

A range of training opportunities was accessed in 2023 by volunteers and Poly Trustees. This included Kresen Kernow's thought-provoking event to meet the team behind the film: 'To Whom Does This Belong?' A variety of organisations including The Poly attended and considered the issue of exploring Black History in museums, archives, and galleries in Cornwall.

And last ... but certainly not least! **The new computer server** has been successfully installed and is in use, following The Poly's crowdfunding campaign.