

## Chairman's Introduction

Welcome to our third newsletter. Much has happened since the last one came out at the end of May. Perhaps the most exciting development was our first Endelienta Residency Week which culminated in an inspiring presentation of visual art, poetry and music centred on a corn field on the nearby Roscarrock estate. The three artists at our inaugural residency certainly caught the spirituality of St Endellion and set the bar very high for future residencies.

While they were in residence, Endelienta held a Launch Event at Trevathan Farm Restaurant where the programme for the 2016 North Cornwall Book Festival and for the forthcoming Endelienta year was unveiled to local business people and our many supporters. It was very reassuring to hear Councillor German, Cornwall Council's cabinet member for the Economy and Culture, Daphne Skinnard of Radio Cornwall, and Tom Scott from Falmouth University all publicly endorsing the importance of Endelienta's work. The evening culminated with Helen Porter's inspiring short song recital in the Church – a wonderful advert for Endelienta's work. The event was focused on securing business sponsors; we have secured some – we need more!

The South West Director of Arts Council England, Phil Gibby, brought Darren Henley, ACE's chief executive, to visit St Endellion in mid-July. They were warmly supportive of our work in fostering the arts and spirituality in North Cornwall and encouraged us to submit our application for significant capital funding to support the Hall Project (in preparation) when the next funding round is announced and also to apply again for revenue funding.

You'll find further reports of all that has taken place across the various strands of our programme in other parts of this newsletter. There has been plenty happening and there is plenty



The work of Endelienta's first three resident artists was viewed and discussed during an informal presentation on June 30th.

more to come – including the North Cornwall Book Festival, 21st to 23rd October. Our average audience numbers are still growing steadily and our first concert of the autumn programme was a sell-out, so we have high hopes for the future.

Endelienta could not work without its volunteers. A big thank you to all those who work so hard to build the arts and spirituality in North Cornwall. If we are to continue to thrive we need more volunteers – please think about joining us; it is deeply rewarding!

*Ian Sandbrook, Endelienta Chairman*

## New websites are instant success

After a review and revamp of the initial Endelienta website, we were able in July to go live on not one but two brand new websites helping us to promote Endelienta and Book Festival events. Both new websites include an online booking system. The websites give clear information about all our activities - concerts, literature events, reflective days, and arts exhibitions - and if you like what you read then reserving your tickets can be done in just a few clicks.

The new websites also give a good overview of what we stand for as an arts charity in North Cornwall, and enable signing up for our mailing list, downloading information such as newsletters, relevant reports, as well as linking easily to the festival websites or even supporting our endeavours with a donation. Why not have a quick look?

**[www.endelienta.org.uk](http://www.endelienta.org.uk)**  
**[www.ncornbookfest.org](http://www.ncornbookfest.org)**



# Event Notes

Highlights of our Summer Season

## Concerts

The Summer Season got underway on 3rd June with a return of the ever-popular K'antu, an ensemble which treads a beguiling pathway between early music, and world folk music. Their programme this time, 'Come Now, a Roundel and a Fairy Song' had been put together to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death and was presented in conjunction with readings of Shakespeare. As always, K'antu's lively performance went down very well at this well-attended event.



Early Music Ensemble K'antu, performing at St Endellion in June. Their concert was presented with Shakespeare readings by Sue Ferguson and Patrick Gale (below).

The Bristol Madrigals, who have been coming to St Endellion for 30 years, visited on 17th June. This talented student ensemble gave us a succession of delights.

A week later, on the 24th June, the Cornish American Song Institute returned for a second year to perform a wide range of 'Songs of Folk and Legend' from around the world. A group of students from America's top music conservatoires come to England for a 3 week course each year which involves time studying at Oxford University and Falmouth University and which culminates in performances in Falmouth and at St Endellion. The students did not disappoint. Their performances were polished and consistently of a very high quality; there were several singers who will clearly go to the very top of their profession.

The Port Isaac Chorale and the Atlantic String Orchestra presented an enjoyable charity concert on 8th July.

On 16th July, the Endelienta Ensemble performed a wonderful concert comprising Schoenberg's Chamber Symphony and Beethoven's 4th Symphony. Adam Hickox, whose father was director of the St Endellion Festivals for almost 40 years, and Rees Webster, who also has family connections to the St Endellion



Festivals, brought an orchestra's-worth of friends from Cambridge and London to stay for the weekend at St Endellion and prepare a concert of the highest possible quality. It was a magical evening.

Two days later, Endelienta was proud to support the Chris Treglown Foundation in presenting 'A Serenade to Music' – a showcase for winners of the Chris Treglown Foundation award. We were treated to another evening of high quality and high octane performance, ranging across opera, musicals and art song – delivered to a capacity audience.

At the end of July and into August, the St Endellion Summer Music Festival provided a treasure trove of concerts – 10 concerts in as many days, not including their performance in Truro Cathedral. See the report elsewhere in this newsletter.

In response to a request from the Carice Choir (named after the daughter of Edward Elgar), who wanted to mount a couple of concerts before spending a week in the recording studio, Endelienta promoted a further concert at the end of August to coincide with the bank holiday weekend. It was a pity that comparatively few people heard one of the finest choirs to have performed at St Endellion in the 4 years since Endelienta started its year-round programme. Their programme, 'Scenery and the Supernatural' focused on songs associated with nature and coast; their rich sound, excellent intonation, and tight ensemble gave their conductor a wonderful instrument with which he was able to take us to spiritual heights and depths we only rarely touch.

## The 58th St Endellion Summer Festival

Once again we were treated to a feast of music, beautifully performed in this most beautiful of settings. It is difficult to single out particular concerts but we must mention Benjamin Britten's *Gloriana* with Susan Bullock showing us why she is regarded as the best in the world in the title role. Mark Padmore, the Festival's musical director gave us a memorable performance of Schubert's *Schwanengesang* song cycle in a late night concert, but his performance of Britten's 'Our Hunting Fathers' was also very special. Other pieces which stood out included Walton's *Cello Concerto*, Berlioz' 'L'enfance du Christ', Dove's

'Who Killed Cock Robin', Elgar's 'Enigma Variations' and a late night concert by the Festival's chairman, Tom Hickox.

Mark Padmore captures the spirit of the St Endellion festivals in the introduction to the 2016 Festival's programme booklet:

*"Each year a small miracle occurs in this magical place and a community forms out of the shared desire to experience music for the sheer joy of it. I believe that what makes this festival so special is that at the heart of it all is an immense spirit of generosity. The inspiring idea that motivates us is that we should create the best Festival we can on the smallest possible budget – therefore the musicians and singers, the stage managers*

*and administrators, the cooks and washers-up all give their services for free. The chorus and orchestra all contribute to the cost of accommodation and the balance is raised from the box office. Ticket prices are kept as low as possible and the aim is to make not a penny profit or loss. Somehow by removing ourselves as far as we can from the world of commerce and the pursuit of success we rediscover reasons why music is so important – it forms bonds, it connects us one to another, it speaks as Beethoven desired "from the heart to the heart". Rather than sharing an expensive bottle of wine in a posh restaurant, St Endellion is like finding a fresh mountain spring on a warm summer's day and taking great gulps of the most delicious drink imaginable."*

## First Residency Artists discover the spirit of Saint Endelienta

One of Endelienta's wishes is to share the unique location and spirit of place of St Endellion. We aim to do this not only by inviting audiences to enjoy our concerts, literature and reflective events and arts exhibitions, but also by supporting promising and talented creatives. The Endelienta residency scheme is one of the ways we want to work on this. It involves the opportunity for a composer, writer and visual artist to come to St Endellion for a week, soak up inspiration from North Cornwall and integrate it in their work.

As reported in our previous newsletter, the first residency opportunity attracted considerable interest, and not just from the UK. After a careful selection process the three selected candidates, composer Ruth Chan, poet Alyson Hallett and visual artist Julia Giles, came to work in the Stone Barn from June 24th until July 1st. During that week they were free to take their own work forward in whichever way they wanted. They also had the opportunity to meet a number of people in the area and enjoy Endelienta events taking place in the same week. On Thursday 30th June they presented to a small audience some examples of what they had been working on. It was wonderful and rewarding to hear and see how all three had taken the spirit of St Endelienta to heart and reported how much it had meant to them to work in this way. The residency opportunities will be offered again next year.

Left: Composer Ruth Chan in conversation with John Cleave and Alyson Hallett's poem on St Endelienta. We are grateful for the support of the Finzi Trust.



Endelienta

(Re-wilding a saint)

I am for the saint's muddled robe, hem frayed and filthy  
 I am for the saint's blistered feet, sun-scorched face, hands cracked and raw from carrying wood in winter  
 I am for the saint's tired bones after a long journey by boat  
 the salt in her hair, fear in her heart  
 I am for the saint's keen eyes searching for a spit of land the lust in her feet when she comes ashore  
 I am for the saint's love of a cow, its milk, warmth, friendship  
 the saint who journeys without knowing where she will go  
 I am for the saint who knows hunger  
 the migrating saint  
 the one who crosses boundaries  
 I am for the saint with blackberry pips in her teeth  
 the saint who leaves her homeland because she has to who knows hardship  
 who drinks from the same stream as a cow  
 I am for the saint with dirt under her nails  
 who cries at night for the things she has lost whose eyes are bloodshot  
 I am for the saint who does a jig with dogs on a full moon night  
 who learns the signatures of plants  
 heals with valerian  
 I am for the saint who asks for her burial plot to be chosen by a yearling cow  
 the saint who sails into death as she sailed into life  
 I am for the saint who lived as a woman and not a saint  
 I am for the flourishing of the ground around her grave  
 I am for Saint Endelienta

Alyson Hallett

*This poem is dedicated with thanks to all the people of St. Endellion and all those who are involved in the Endelienta art and spirituality project.*

# Dates for your Diary...

## Endelienta Concerts

Friday 14 October, 7.30pm, St Endellion Church

### Cornwall Harp Centre Gala Concert

A unique and magical concert of harpists from Cornwall featuring Celtic, Medieval and Classical harps and music.



Friday 21 October, 7.30pm, St Endellion Church

### Amadou Diagne & Group Yakar

Multi-instrumentalist (guitar, percussion, kora) and singer Amadou Diagne from Senegal, West Africa with his UK based band Group Yakar create a unique fusion of styles-Afrobeat to Blues and more.



Saturday 22 October, 8.00pm, St Endellion Church

### Wild Willy Barrett's French Connection: Avant-Garde Mangetout

From a cafe in Paris, via a hooley in Dublin, to a night out in New Orleans with rip-roaring fiddle and banjo – this band does it all!



Saturday 19 November, 7.30pm, St Endellion Church

### The Endelienta Scholars: Faith, Hope, Life, Love - A celebration of spirituality in music

The Endelienta Scholars return to St. Endellion with a programme of beautiful musical reflections - including works by composers such as Byrd, Bruckner, Parry, Stanford, Tavener, Whitacre.



Sunday 4 December, 3pm, St Endellion Church

### The Zoltan Ensemble

Lowri Porter, Nancy Johnson and Rosalind Gladstone are joined by Rose Redgrave and David Chadwick for another wonderful afternoon concert, including Brahms' G major string quintet.



Friday 21 to Sunday 23 October:

### THE NORTH CORNWALL BOOK FESTIVAL

A magical three-day festival of literature, music and workshops in the unique setting of St Endellion on the beautiful North Cornwall coast.

For full details: [www.ncornbookfest.org](http://www.ncornbookfest.org)

## Exhibitions at St Endellion

21-23 October

### Ian Adams, You are the light: a Spiritual Path (Church), Simon Grennan, Creating 'Dispossession'

5 November until 11 December: **Endelienta Open Exhibition** (Open each weekend from 11.30am to 4pm)

## Reflective Days

5 November: **Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream, Seeing More Clearly with the Eyes of Love**, led by Prof. Paul Fiddes

19 November: **Taizé – the history and music**, led by David Foster

2nd Saturday of the Month, 10am-12noon, Stone Barn, St Endellion

### Endelienta Poetry Group

This informal group for those who enjoy reading and writing poetry continues to meet monthly in the Stone Barn at St Endellion. Newcomers are always welcome.



## Volunteers needed

Endelienta is run by volunteers who are passionate to make North Cornwall as attractive for its cultural offer as it is for its landscape. The quality and success of our programme depends on many hours of planning, fundraising, promotion, poster distribution, and hands-on help during concerts, festivals and exhibitions. If you are able to get involved and give some of your time, please contact us.

## For further information about Endelienta, all our events and booking tickets:

website: [www.endelienta.org.uk](http://www.endelienta.org.uk)

email: [info@endelienta.org.uk](mailto:info@endelienta.org.uk)

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