

THE BOOK OF HELSTON

Diamond Jubilee Edition

Reg Jenkin & Derek Carter

Helston stands on the River Cober; which was once rich in alluvial tin and provided real wealth to the town, which has existed for over 1000 years. It became a borough in 1201, but was a Royal Manor in the time of Edward the Confessor; at about AD 930. The list of Mayors dates from 1284 and includes many famous names of the area. During the past 50 years a great deal of open space has been taken up by new housing, the population has increased, the nature of work and pleasure has changed, but the 8th of May, by tradition, remains Flora Day. The character of the Furry Dance has been carefully preserved through the centuries and it remains a dignified, yet delightful and happy occasion, which should not to be missed if the opportunity arises.

The book gives a brief introduction to the history of Helston, but essentially celebrates the last one hundred years of the town. Through the inclusion of over 250 photographs, supplemented by detailed captions and a lively text based on Reggie Jenkin's stories of life within the town, this superb book will be an heirloom for anyone living in the borough, or for those with family associations with it.

First published in 2000 and quickly sold out, this new edition of *The Book of Helston*, published to coincide with the Diamond Jubilee, brings the story of the community fully up to date. A new section highlights what has happened since the book was first issued, and new images capture how the Jubilee was celebrated. Much extra housing, for example, has increased the population considerably. A fine multi-purpose building has been built on the site of the old cattle market. This provides a venue for a large Farmers' Market, office accommodation and several rooms for community use. This building, along with the Lakeside Café, Skateboard Park, Children's Playground and 'events square' gives a whole new dimension to the area and is enjoyed by young and old alike.

All this and more features in this unique publication which is a vital record of the history and inhabitants of the ancient parish of Helston, presented in a single volume for all to treasure.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Reg Jenkin is a proud 'Helstonian', born during the Great War. Apart from a short period in London and five years of war service, when he returned with Inger his Norwegian wife, he has lived within the town itself and has meticulously recorded the changes that have taken place over those long years.

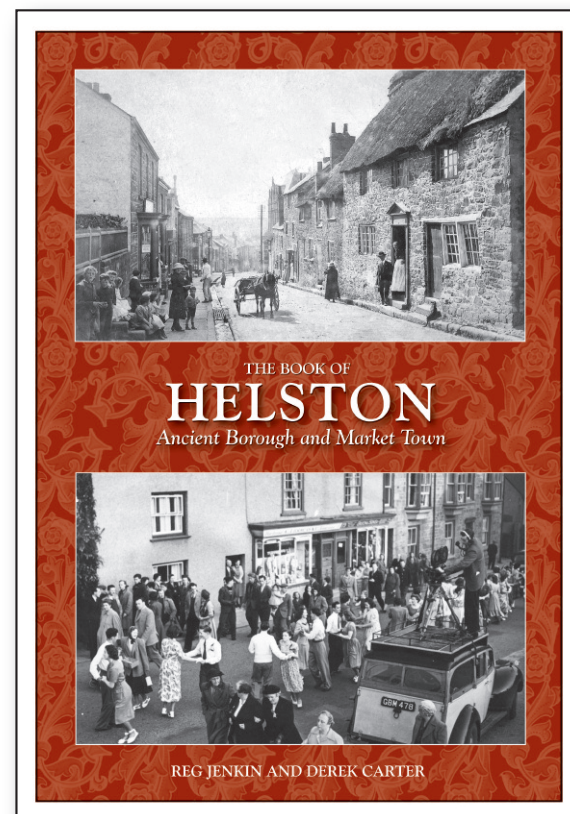
Derek Carter, although a physicist by training, has always been interested in local history. He met his wife, a relation of Reg, whilst at University, which originally brought him to Cornwall. He worked closely with Reg on *The Book of Helston* and has also published a detailed history of Helston Cottage Hospital.

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THE BOOK OF HELSTON



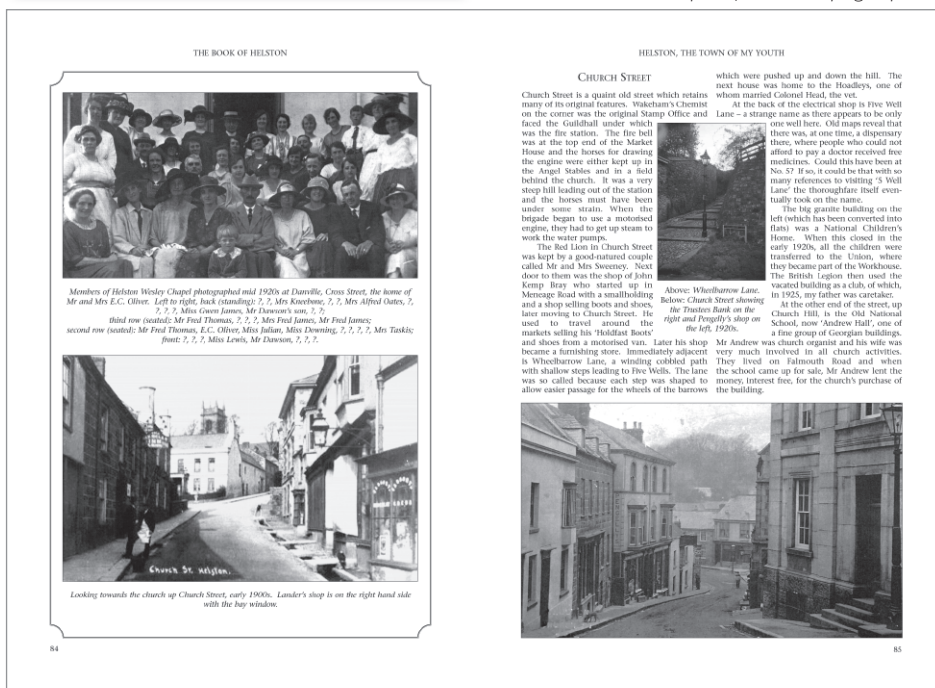
Above: Beating the bounds, 1934.

Top left: Mad Hatter's Tea Party in Meneage Street.

Left: Bowling club members with the Grylls Monument behind, c.1905.



Filming Flora Day at the early-morning dance in Meneage Street, early 1950s.



Farmers driving their sheep to market, c.1930s.