

In 1980 when I became Museum's Officer for the then Kerrier District Council and curator of Helston Museum one of my interests in the town was the ancient kennels. Since that time, I have been concerned about their maintenance, on their journey from Wendron to Helston.

I was delighted to read in the Packet newspaper 29th January 2021, that Helston and Cornwall Councillor Mike Thomas and Helston Town Council's Project officer Martin Searle are organising an exhibition about where the water comes from and how it reaches the town to supply the kennels.

As an ardent supporter of the amazing mechanics of the kennels, I hope that some residents of the town will supply information in the form of memories or photos for the exhibition.

The leats further up the valley date from Medieval times and are thought to have been constructed by the monks to bring water to their place of abode; now the Blue Anchor Inn which was a resting place for fellow monks pilgrimage through to St Michael's Mount, and to make a refreshing brew!

The kennels help rid the town of pollution and act as a cooling agent during hot summer days.

The exhibition first of all will be a virtual display and after the pandemic and restrictions lifted will be shown at Helston Museum and I hope it will be a huge success.

I sincerely hope that the publicity will inject enough interest for a "Friends of the Leats and Kennels" to be formed to give further impetus to their maintenance seeing they are such an important feature to Helston and have Grade 2 listed building status

Martin Matthews

Freeman of Helston