

Violet Pinwill, Woodcarver

130th Anniversary Talk by Grant Elliott

First & Last, Ermington - 7.30pm
Monday 20th January 2020

2020 marks the 130th anniversary of the beginning of Violet Pinwill's woodcarving career. There is a renewed academic and artistic interest in this remarkable woman and her body of work. Alongside Harry Hems and Herbert Reed, Violet Pinwill was a major force in woodcarving in Victorian Devon. Based in Ermington, and then in Plymouth, she and her sisters, carried out work across Devon and also deep into Cornwall.

Her success is all the more remarkable given the status of women in Victorian society, as well as the fact that she was located somewhat remotely away from the Diocese, which is based in Exeter Cathedral.

St Peter & St Paul, Ermington has a body of Violet Pinwill's work, stretching across the whole of her working life. Born in 1874, her first woodcarving in the church dates back to 1890 when she was just 17 years old. Her final piece of woodcarving in the church is the Second World War memorial plaque, after 1945, carved when she was 71 years old.

The talk will begin with a history of the church from its Anglo Saxon beginnings up to its restoration in the Victorian era when Violet Pinwill arrived on the scene. We shall then move on to Violet Pinwill's body of work within the church, which spans a period of 55 years of her woodcarving career.

Please come along and spend an enjoyable evening socialising with friends in the warmth of the First & Last Bistro to celebrate Violet Pinwill and to find out more about her wonderful wood carvings that we have here in Ermington.



Tickets Priced at £2.50 per person
Available from the First & Last Bistro.
Tel: 01548 830671, Email: thefirstandlastbistro@yahoo.com

All proceeds to go
towards the church bell
frame restoration project