



## Coleridge Memorial Trust

in Ottery St Mary, Devon, UK  
Charity No. 1148199

Patron: The Right Honorable The Lord Coleridge, 5th Baron of Ottery St Mary

Hon Sec: Chris Wakefield, "Melbury", Longdogs Lane, Ottery St Mary, EX11 1HX U.K.

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[www.coleridgememorial.org.uk](http://www.coleridgememorial.org.uk)

### Summary

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- **STC Sculpture**
- **Membership**
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### Deliverance

A weakness of this organisation of late has been shortage of muscle in both human and material resources. The Chairman and Hon Sec, and indeed the entire committee, notwithstanding their mutual amity, have yearned to see some renewal of personnel around the table. In fact this has been a headline policy since 2013, but such is our languor in this matter that we are still gazing at the same faces in consecutive meetings three years later. While in many ways this is a pleasure and a comfort, it also means that our projects have been attended by a lack of urgent progress. While we have remained solvent, our horizons have been kept low by the problems of progressing what is basically an arts project in the face of a cultural climate more atuned to material rather than spiritual sustenance.

You are cordially invited then, to consider the gap of twenty one months since the last News Update as a period of creative procrastination, rather than utter indolence, and to welcome this prodigal return of greater animation. The honours for this resurgence are due almost solely to our Patron, who over recent months, has driven us forward more surely and determinedly than the executive. In particular he has generously provided the wherewithal for a new maquette to presage a sculpture designed to suit the now agreed location in the churchyard. That work will afford a springboard for the next stage of fundraising. Membership of the CMT thus offers more excitement now than it has for some considerable time. You are urged to join, and join in. (see Membership section below)

### STC sculpture

After lengthy discussions, both separately and together, CMT and the Governing body of St Mary 's Church in Ottery have agreed that the sculpture will be sited in the churchyard, and that the location therein is to be near the vicar's door on the immediate east of the south tower. The Chairman and Hon Sec met Nicholas Dimpleby, the Trust's appointed sculptor, for a view of the final location. Members were consulted again on a preference for one of three themes which have been punted around in the Trust (and previously in the 'Project'). These are: - the paring of Coleridge as a child with his father John - a figure now permanently resurrected from history by Professor Jim Mays' astonishing book; - Coleridge as a young man, perhaps about the time of one of his (rare) visits back to Ottery in his twenties; - or Coleridge as a child, the self absorbed boy-wonder, who's only genuinely willing companion was his father (or possibly also his sister Nancy), and who spent his time reading or enacting the stories he read in solo performances in the churchyard. These three options had swirled around us long enough, so we voted

(there's a lot of it about thesedays). You could have voted too, but alas, not all of you are members.

The results gave us a very small majority for the two figures - but as an outcome, it fell far short of the concensus we had hoped for, and which we considered essential for our future progress. The child on his own was not well supported. Some additional notes and suggestions that were sent in by voters, gave us pause to look at the straight voting figures to see if the numerical result was plausibly the best result. It wasn't, and we needed a compromise - some means whereby some of the broader aspects of Coleridge's existence - family and childhood experiences (and a general emphasis on the Ottery references) might be brought into view together with the single figure. This we hoped would achieve some unity of purpose.

Our instructions to Nicholas Dimpleby will therefore point him in this direction. The maquette is awaited with trepidation.

## Membership

Another outcome of our Patron's enthusiasm is a burst in the membership numbers, which now totals 31 - the highest we have ever achieved since the completion of the poetry stones (I think). With the Sculpture project on the move again we will need the support of a broader membership and already the numbers look much healthier. Complacency would be foolish however so a membership application form is included on the last page of this newsletter for those who will want to be included in shaping the Trusts's forward progress. If you want to check your membership status, contact Jo Moorhouse, membership secretary at the email address below, If you are a lapsed member just send name and address with membership fee. The address is Jo Moorhouse, 6, Orchard Close, Ottery St. Mary EX11 1HT, Devon, UK. OR email [jo.moorhouse1@btinternet.com](mailto:jo.moorhouse1@btinternet.com) OR you can use the new PayPal button on the website. (Please let us know if it doesn't work properly)  
[www.coleridgememorial.org.uk](http://www.coleridgememorial.org.uk)

## Website

The website has been transferred to a new and cheaper host, but in appearance you will hardly notice the difference. If you do find any problems, please email me [stcinottery@gmail.com](mailto:stcinottery@gmail.com).

## Meetings

CMT held its regular meetings in October 2014, February 2015, June 2015 (AGM). October 2015 and February 2016. The most recent meeting was the AGM held on 16th June in the Church Rooms in Ottery St Mary. The change of venue from the Old Convent (the Town Council Offices) has been made because the Convent venue now requires an inflated insurance liability for users of the meetings rooms. The calculation was that we were not doing anything dangerous enough to merit upping our liability cover, hence we decamped to the church - a welcome change.

**Chris Wakefield 29/09/16**

# Application for Membership

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## About the Trust

The aim of the Trust is to further the appreciation of Samuel Taylor Coleridge's life and work, especially in his home town, Ottery St Mary.

The Coleridge Memorial Trust was founded (as the Coleridge Memorial Project) in July 2009 It was incorporated in April 2010 and is now a registered charity, number 1148199. We enjoy broad support for our aims from the many admirers of Samuel Taylor Coleridge worldwide. We also work closely with other organisations with a similar interest in the life and work of Coleridge.

## Membership Details

Membership is open to any individual (over the age of 18) or incorporated body interested in furthering the aims of the Trust.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Annual subscription rates:

**£10 per person** (subscriptions run from June 30th)

**£10 per organisation** wishing to affiliate

## Donations

Donations are always welcome, of course. Please indicate what your intentions are for the money sent:

.....Subscription

.....Donation only

.....Subscription and donation

Amount enclosed £..... (cheques only please, payable to Coleridge Memorial Trust)

## Gift Aid

If you wish the CMT to make the most of your subscription or donation by treating it as a Gift Aid donation, please tick below

I am a standard rate tax payer

Amount enclosed £..... (cheques only please payable to Coleridge Memorial Trust)

In order that the CMT can comply with the requirements of the Data Protection Act, I give permission for the information included above to be held in computer files / disks for use by the CMT's authorised officers.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please print and complete this form, then send with your remittance (cheque payable to Coleridge Memorial Project) to:

Jo Moorhouse, 6, Orchard Close, Ottery St. Mary EX11 1HT, Devon, UK.

