



## We do stuff that moves people

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### PROFILE

Golden Tree Productions is a Community Interest Company (CIC), masterminding projects that celebrate Cornish culture, heritage, and language.

*We do stuff that moves people.*

We construct giant mechanical puppets, devise theatre, create film, produce events, tell stories, uncover hidden history, deliver training, generate online resources, write books, construct exhibitions, develop educational materials, develop partnerships, advise policymakers, repair Cornish hedges and build labyrinths...amongst other activities.

We work in collaboration with audiences that are currently under-engaged in heritage and arts, particularly those that are disadvantaged. We do this by designing cultural, educational and environmental solutions intended to make a meaningful and lasting difference to these communities.

Our vision is to be global trailblazers in Cornish culture. For every project we work on we guarantee:

- i) authentic Cornish provenance,
- ii) genuine contemporary relevance
- iii) highest artistic quality.



## PROJECTS

### 2019-2023 | Kerdroya: The Cornish Landscape Labyrinth

Kerdroya will be a major piece of permanent public art – a 56m diameter classical labyrinth built entirely of Cornish hedging at Colliford Lake on Bodmin Moor. Commissioned to celebrate 60 years of the Cornwall Area of Outstanding National Beauty and raise awareness of the significance of Cornish hedges. Funded by Cornwall Council, Cornwall AONB, Arts Council England, National Lottery Heritage Fund, Feast and Cornwall Heritage Trust.



**1,500**  
participants

### 2021-2022 | Hellfire Kernow: Setting the Spark

Hellfire Kernow was a project with three Cornish cultural starting points; the *plen an gwari*, medieval liturgical drama and the sport of Hurling to Goal. We staged the first Hellfire Kernow event in May 2022, reviving an ancient Cornish sport with community engagement workshops and a tournament. Funded by an Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grant and Redruth Unlimited, funded through Historic England.



**72%**  
audience  
members  
identified  
as Cornish

### 2017-2022 | Go Cornish

We developed the Go Cornish website of resources and a programme of interactive Go Cornish events that took place in schools, pubs and community spaces across. This work was followed by the launch of the Go Cornish for Primary Schools programme, giving every child growing up in Cornwall the opportunity to learn something of the Cornish language. Awarded the 'Cornish Language Learning and Communication Fund' by Cornwall Council.



**4,000**  
pupils  
engaged  
so far...

### 2015-2022 | Plen an Gwari

In 2015 we worked with a host of experts and volunteers to locate 'lost' *plen an gwari* sites whilst engaging local communities and raising awareness of this aspect of Cornish heritage, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. In 2022 we produced an R&D report, commissioned by The Towns Vitality Fund and managed by Redruth Town Council, exploring the possible construction of a *plen an gwari* in Redruth, with potential to become an important community hub.



**3,000**  
community  
participants

### 2019 | The TickBox Bus

Commissioned by Cornwall Council and the Framework Convention of the Protection of National Minorities, The Tick Box Bus was created to lobby for a Cornish tick box in the 2021 census in a thought-provoking and entertaining way.



**4,600**  
people  
engaged,  
**94%**  
in support of a  
Cornish tickbox



## 2015-2018 | The Man Engine

Commissioned by the Cornwall Mining World Heritage Site as the centerpiece of their 2016 'Tinth' anniversary programme, The Man Engine (largest mechanical puppet ever constructed in Britain) was a multi-faceted cultural heritage project. Awarded the 'Best Arts Project 2016' by The National Lottery. Based on the audience figures, the economic impact of the Man Engine tour is calculated at £2,973,060.



**250,000**  
people  
witnessed  
The Man  
Engine  
on tour

## 2016 | Tosta

We devised a programme of activities over a period of ten months culminating in a Cornish language 'Pop-Up Festival Village'. This was Cornwall's contribution to the 'TOSTA: Cultural Cargo' project, which was part of Donostia/ San Sebastian's designation as European Capital of Culture in 2016. Funded by Cornwall Council and Donostia/San Sebastian.



**19,400**  
people  
engaged,  
across all  
festivals in  
participating  
countries

## 2014 | Gogmagog

Gogmagog was a reworking of the ancient Cornish creation myth, and was a contemporary recreation of the medieval Cornish 'Plen an Gwari' experience. Funded by Arts Council England, Visit Cornwall and Real Ideas Organisation.



**2,000**  
audience  
members

## 2014 | Any Resemblance

We worked in collaboration with ACT, Le Groupe Ouest (leading digital media development agency in Finisterre) and the Cornwall Chamber of Commerce to produce a series of twenty films, shortlisted for the Celtic Media Festival 'Factual Series' Award, exploring Cornish and Breton business leadership - supported with European Interreg Funding.



**250,000**  
film viewers

## 2012 | Kernocopia

Kernocopia was Cornwall's official submission to the 2012 Cultural Olympiad. We commissioned a team of artists to work with community groups and bring 25 Cornish sporting stories to life. Funded by Cornwall Council, CDC, Eden Project and Feast.



**140,000**  
people saw  
the vessel in  
procession

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- Plen an Gwari: The Playing Places of Cornwall, Will Coleman (1st edition 2015, 2nd edition 2021)
- Billy and the Man Engine, Will Coleman (2020)
- The Man Engine Remembers, Will Coleman (2018)
- Brave Tales series, Will Coleman (1st edition 2004, 2nd edition 2014)
- More Tales from Porth series, Will Coleman (2011)
- Tales from Porth series by Will Coleman(2007)

## **TESTIMONIALS**

“Golden Tree is a dynamic team that is constantly finding new ways to reach a wider audience, and have high quality standards in the cultural products that they deliver.”

-Mark Trevethan, Cornwall Council

### **The Man Engine**

“The Man Engine has more than achieved its aims, and has delivered excellent value for money for the CWHS, HLF and ACE funders.”

- Deborah Boden, CMWHS

“The Man Engine was a unique heritage experience which was both exciting and educational, and which will set the bar for subsequent heritage engagement initiatives.”

- Stuart Griffin, Swansea University.

### **Go Cornish**

“The resources are great help to teachers and staff with any level of Cornish language knowledge. They play a key role in introducing children to the language, whilst giving them knowledge of local history and their Cornish heritage. Perhaps most importantly – the children love it!”

- Mr Stephens, Coads Green Primary School

“The Go Cornish campaign is helping to position the language as a modern, forward-looking aspect of Cornwall’s distinctiveness. Golden Tree are a trusted and valued partner in building the revival of the Cornish language & in showcasing Cornwall’s creativity. They bring energy & imagination to this work.”

-Mark Trevethan, Cornwall Council

“Go Cornish supports our development of the broader curriculum and our aspiration that every child growing up in Cornwall has the opportunity to learn something of the Cornish language. Most importantly, the resources make learning fun!”

-Kate Evan-Hughes, Director of Education at Cornwall Council

### **Kerdroya**

“The main Kerdroya site is in the parish of St Neot in East Cornwall – a place that experiences high levels of rural deprivation & very little cultural provision. Our creative sector is a huge cultural & economic asset, and Kerdroya is exactly the sort of project, rooted in place and identity, that Cornwall Council is keen to support.”

- Bob Egerton, Cabinet Member for Culture, Economy and Planning, Cornwall Council

“The Kerdroya project is an inspired piece of conservation that combines art, craft and the natural world – as the Cornish hedges themselves do. They are one of Cornwall’s great unsung wonders, and they are in need of attention. After a day jigsawing stones out on the cliff with a master hedger, I’m going home to try and repair my own.”

-Philip Marsden, Author