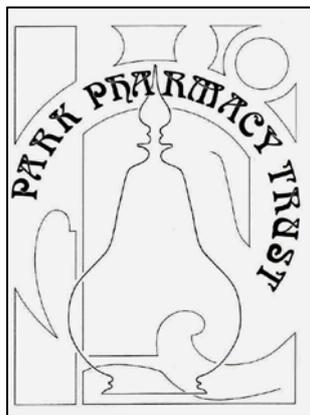


Headquarters
Thorn Park Lodge
Thorn Park
Plymouth, PL3 4TF
Phone: +44 (0)1752 263 501
ParkPharmTrust@btconnect.com



Trust's Office
18 Western College Road
Plymouth, PL4 7AG
Phone evening: 01752 668 769
Phone daytime: 01752 565 676
jan@knightsscientific.com

Mr Park's chemist shop in the Merchant's House Museum, Plymouth, England

- This, the tourist attraction considered by many to be the jewel in the crown of the Merchant's House Museum, was televised to 8 million viewers when Park Pharmacy Trust won the BBC's, *It's My City!* competition in the category of tourism and heritage.
- This is the tourist attraction that was going to be lost forever from Plymouth when at the end of 1983 Mr Armstrong Park was retiring and the contents of his family chemist shop were to be auctioned on 14 January 1984.
- This was the last remaining family pharmacy in Plymouth which represented to the people of Plymouth the last bit of old Plymouth --- the part that **wasn't** destroyed in the blitz.
- This is the chemist shop that the museum had been monitoring for 8 years, but when Mr Park told the museum he was retiring on the last day of 1983, the museum was unable to do anything about it.
- This is the tourist attraction that, with the help of BBC Spotlight, was secured by a loan in order to stop the auction and save the whole collection for the people of Plymouth.
- This was a magnificent demonstration of partnership with all political parties working together with one object only, to save Mr Park's chemist shop.

Background

Park Pharmacy Trust, a registered Educational Charity, has since its inception in 1984 been working closely with Plymouth City Council for the wider benefits of the local community. It has received National recognition for both its innovative approaches to life-long learning and as a tourist attraction for visitors to Plymouth. Its famous C J Park Pharmacy, the last remaining Victorian chemist's shop in Plymouth, established in 1864, has been a major tourist attraction in the Merchant's House Museum where it is manned by trust volunteers. There thousands of visitors can see the pharmacy, try their hand at old fashioned pill-rolling (and earn a certificate of proficiency in the art of pill rolling) and talk to the volunteer stewards on duty. A weekend event held at the Merchant's House Museum ***Pharmacy is Phun***, attracted record numbers of visitors.

The pharmacy was televised Nationally to over 8 million viewers when Park Pharmacy Trust became the joint United Kingdom winner in the Tourism/Heritage category of the BBC's ***"It's My City!"*** competition. And the trust has been recognised on many occasions for its innovative and imaginative work in education and life-long learning. In 1984 Park Pharmacy Trust pioneered recall reminiscence sessions in collaboration with Age Concern Devon and

Plymouth Age Concern. It also runs hands-on practical workshops for primary school children (of which there are currently five). These Children's Industry Workshops have attracted National and International recognition when the chairman and curator of the trust were invited to give a presentation at the Edinburgh Science Festival and a conference in Amsterdam at the first European Week of Scientific Culture. The trust was short-listed for the prestigious Jerwood Award for its workshops. It has also received two grants from the Royal Society of London COPUS (Committee on the Public Understanding of Science) and other grant awarding bodies. It received a commendation for its innovative educational work from the Gulbenkian Trust's Museums and Galleries Awards

Dr Jan Knight
Chairman of Trustees
Tel: +44 (0)1752 565 676
Email: jan@knightscientific.com