



# BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE

No 103 Autumn 2018

£1



*photo Audley Jarvis*

*The Boscastle Everest Cycling Challenge: Mount Everest, in the Himalayas is, at 8,848 metres, Earth's highest mountain above sea level. Daniel Benford and his team surpassed this height, cycling 160 miles on a hot August day. For the full story see inside, page 10*

## Also inside:

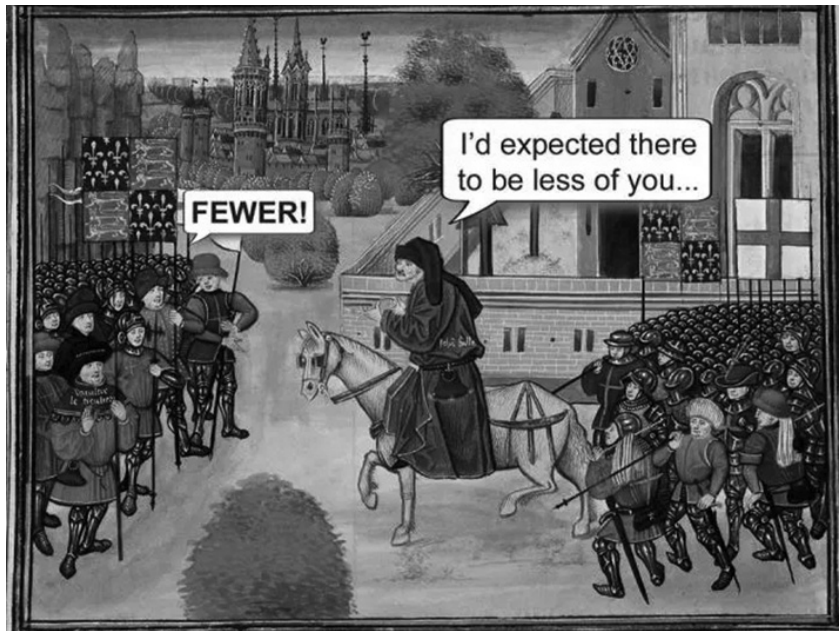
2019 London Marathon Runner page 8    Boscastle Community Minibus page 12 and 18

Crossword page 13    Minster Community Fellowship page 24    National Trust page 38

# Editorial

The sun is still shining as I finish compiling this edition of the Blowhole. I hope it continues to make regular appearances throughout the upcoming months as sunlight gladdens the heart and soul in a way that damp and drizzly weather fails to do. Clocks go back on 28<sup>th</sup> October this year.

The cartoon pictured to the right has been on my desktop for ages and never fails to make me smile (I know, I am easily amused) so, in the absence of the writer's muse, I thought I'd share it with all readers of the Blowhole.



## Boscastle Blowhole Team

The editorial team reserves the right to accept, reject or edit any material submitted for publication. The views expressed in the magazine are those of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the team.

The editorial team include: Philippa Arthan, Arthur Bannister, Heather Colne, Audley Jarvis, Gloria Quinlan, Ann and Chris Rodda, Steve Simmonds, Sue Viner.

**The next Blowhole will be published in December, deadline for copy 28<sup>th</sup> Nov.**

**Items for inclusion can be emailed to [boscastleblowhole@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boscastleblowhole@yahoo.co.uk)**

Copies of the Blowhole are available by post at a cost of £3 per issue or £12 for the year.

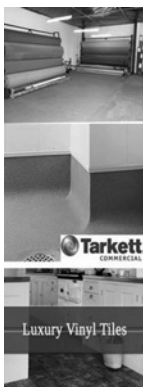
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**THURSDAY 20<sup>th</sup>  
DECEMBER 2018**

**The Best Christmas Party Ever** event is back this year!

If you are a pensioner and live in the parish you have the opportunity of going to a **great** free Christmas lunch at the Cobweb Inn.

Think there is no such thing as a free lunch? Well that's true because you will have to sing for it!

Christmas carols from midday followed by a fantastic traditional Christmas lunch served by volunteers.

Tickets will be available from the 1st of December from Joan Kinsman, Adrian or Tracy Bright and Uncle Paul.

Space is limited so don't delay.

Should anyone wish to donate a prize for a free raffle on the day please see Uncle Paul at Boscastle Rocks, The Bridge, Boscastle.

Many thanks to Adrian and Tracy for their support once again.

Make Thursday 20th December 2018 a day to remember..... it will be fantastic!



Are you hacked off with being house-bound now that the Autumn advances?

Are your Thursday mornings chore-bound or chair-bound?

Then why not pop out and come to the 'Popin'

We are open on Thursday mornings from 10am to 12pm at the Village Hall .

Come and enjoy coffee, cake and conversation with fellow 'Popiners'.

We have been open for nearly a year and are going from strength to strength.

There may be 'a welcome in the hillside' but you'll get a bigger welcome at

**The 'POPIN'**



*The Parish Council is happy to report a large fallen tree has now been removed from a neighbouring garden and will be cut up and distributed, any remaining timber to be stacked as a wild life habitat.*

expensive and when the Parish Council had the chance to get two for free, just paying for the transport costs, it was too good to miss. But that has meant the shelters have been lying around while the legal process of transferring ownership of the site for the base has dragged on.

That side of things has finally been completed and the Parish Council are now the owners of the land. A local builder has been engaged to put in the concrete base, setting the legs of the shelter into the base so it is secure. Once up, the larger shelter will be cleaned and polished. The smaller of the two bus shelters has been sold to St Teath Parish Council and will soon be removed from the site.

The shelter will become the new official stop, replacing the current one on the corner of Doctors' Hill. The sooner the better as construction vehicles parking around the entrance to the new house have made the stop even more dangerous and led to buses failing to stop, leaving passengers stranded.

**Chuckle Corner - Wotsit Mean?**

- Myth = female moth
- Aperitif = set of dentures
- Lackadaisical = bicycle for one
- Smirk = it's a Mercedes
- Celery = like a cellar
- Fiasco = bad wall-painting
- Hullabaloo = how to greet a bear
- Bumblng = jewellery for buttocks
- Politician = painting of MP by famous Italian artist
- Defence = de long wooden structure in de garden

ML

**Bus Shelter Update**

The new bus shelter on Tintagel Road will soon be up and ready for use. It's been a long wait and although it was good to see the arrival of the new shelters several months ago, they have been an eyesore ever since. Bus shelters can be very

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One of the Blowhole team asked: Can we get a more sensible sign for the motorhome part of the car park? At the moment, there's nothing forbidding overnight stays so long as they don't fall asleep! I imagine this is unenforceable.

Other local car parks specify e.g., 'No Motorhome parking between the hours of 10:30pm and 8:30am'.

**FMPC are on the case: Overnight Parking**

Concern has been expressed at the apparent number of motorhomes and campers staying overnight in the Cobweb

car park. There have been complaints of rubbish and even human waste tipped in the surrounding woodlands and signs of overnight camping in the Valency valley.

The Parish Clerk has written to Ken Pollmouter, the County's Car Parking Operations Manager asking for advice. In reply he has offered to revise the conditions of next year's Parking Place Order to prohibit that type of vehicle between the hours of 2300 and 0800.

Book tickets online at [www.endelienta.org.uk](http://www.endelienta.org.uk), phone 07787944935, or from the Wadebridge Bookshop. Accompanied under 16s free to most events

**Upcoming Events at St Endellion**

**Thursday 4 to Sunday 7 October: The 6th North Cornwall Book Festival**

A weekend of talks, readings and workshops from some of the country's leading writers including Anne Enright, Joanna Trollope, Patrick Gale and Nina Stibbe, preceded by two days of events for young readers. Café, bar, bookshop, exhibitions and concerts. Tickets from £6. Book online at [www.ncornbookfest.org](http://www.ncornbookfest.org) or phone 07787 944935

**Thursday 4 October 7.30pm: Uprooted – Liberated Words**

Liberated Words screen a series of short poetry films from their Home from Home project exploring the effects of war in the Middle East, the refugee crisis, and interpretations of home, interspersed with poetry readings. £6

**Friday 5 October 7.30pm: Kit & McConnel**

An evening of unbridled cabaret from ferociously witty Kit Hesketh-Harvey (formerly of Kit and the Widow) and pianistic sparring partner James McConnel. No foible of modern life will go unmocked. Contains adult material. £12

**Saturday 6 October 7.30pm: India Electric Co.**

Sometimes folk, sometimes not. The band use traditional instruments in contemporary styles to explore diverse themes from Eastern Europe, Irish traditions and urban alienation. They wowed audiences at Glastonbury – now it's our turn. £10

**Friday 2 November 7.30pm: Baka Beyond**

The Afro-Celtic dance band celebrate 25 years of groundbreaking music. The band uses the rhythms of the Baka people of the Cameroon rain forest to fuse their Celtic and African roots. A highly infectious and joyous celebration. £12. Standing event.

**Friday 16 November 7.30pm: Dale Storr – The Sounds of New Orleans**

A musical journey showcasing the legendary piano players of New Orleans. Breathtaking piano playing and singing accompanied by encyclopaedic storytelling. £10

**Sunday 9 December 3pm: Blackweir Brass**

This outstanding young Brass quartet from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama thrilled us on their first visit almost 2 years ago. The programme includes works from Britten, Ewald and Tchaikovsky as well as some pieces on a festive theme. £8

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## Green Light for Highway Safety Improvements

Cornwall Council has agreed to support the Parish Council's proposals for road safety improvements to Doctors Corner, New Road and Penally Hill as well as improving safety around the entrance to the surgery.

Plans were agreed in principle in 2014 but have been waiting for approval of funding. Camelford Community Network have now agreed to fund a new Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for the area and pay an additional £10,000 for its implementation.

Camelford Community Network covers 17 Parish Councils across the Camelford area. They have been allocated £200,000 by Cornwall Council to spend on highway improvements over a 4 year period. The Network Panel have agreed that the Boscastle improvements should go to the top of the list. Also approved were speed restrictions at Otterham Station and at a later stage off street parking in Delabole and traffic light control through the village.

It is expected Boscastle's TRO, giving formal notice of the detailed changes, will be ready for public consultation by this Christmas with implementation of the work commencing by Easter next year.

More good news is that the troublesome stretch of the Camelford Road through the tight bend under the trees will be resurfaced within the next few weeks, removing the ruts on the corner which currently make travelling a challenge for those on 2 wheels.

## Pathways Of Desire: Castle Mound Update

For the first time in a dozen years the public will be able to enjoy the pleasures of the Lower Jordan Valley.

Old pathways have re-opened delightful and intriguing trails through the woods.

A Tree Survey recently carried out emphasized the importance of retaining native species and encouraging wild life, so while it was recognised that access is important, there is no intention to



create artificial park land so the wooded portions will be allowed to thrive naturally.

Two paths now lead down from the Castle Mound. The original direct route has been cleared and widened, with an alternative more gently sloping approach continuing alongside the River Jordan.

The old Drovers' Road has been reinstated, running upwards towards Dunn Street to complete a circular walk around the Mound.

A third path leads to

the Jordan Stream and intended new footbridge which will connect both sides of the Valley. The generosity of a local donor has meant full cost of this project has already been met.

As work in the Valley progresses there will opportunities for local people to take part in its development, for visitors and children to explore, observe wildlife, enjoy a picnic or just take in the scenery, including the giant Gunnera, now almost a Jurassic feature of the area.

SS

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## Congratulations to Jericha Perry-Darlison



It takes time and a great deal of effort to achieve your goals and Jericha had to overcome more than the usual obstacles in order to achieve her 2.1 LLB Law Degree from Essex University.

In my experience school days are **not** the happiest days of your life. School is the first place where you are labelled - clever, stupid, quick to learn or a slow learner. Labelling is something that goes on through your life and can affect you in many ways. Jericha's school days were not the easiest, due to her

being considered a slow learner and therefore not academic. I can empathise with Jericha's time at school (due to my Father's military service I went to four secondary schools in five years). Although given encouragement by some of her teachers, Jericha's potential was not recognised nor was her difficulty in keeping up with the studies identified - dyslexia. However, she persevered and when Jericha left school she obtained a place in Truro College, a step in her determination to achieve

her aim - gaining a Law Degree. However, her problem did not affect her determination to study law at university, it just meant that to achieve it would take longer time and greater hard work.

Having gained the necessary grades at Truro college, all five universities, to which she applied, offered her a place. On 13<sup>th</sup> August 2015 Jericha chose Essex University to take a three-year LLB Law degree. At Essex University her problem with dyslexia was given proper recognition and much more help. With advancing technology computers play a large part in achieving support for the dyslexic person.

It is never easy leaving the familiarity of home and friends and trying to find your place in new surroundings. Although in her early twenties she was a 'mature student', amongst much younger students, who had come straight from school. We older people may think all

youngsters would 'speak the same language' but Jericha was to find that this was not so. Nevertheless, if things seemed rocky at first, her determination saw her through. She was never dissuaded from her dream, despite missing family and friends in Cornwall.

At university Jericha enrolled in the compulsory subjects required, along with optional modules such as Animal Welfare, Wildlife Law and Cybercrime. She also volunteered in the University's Law Clinic, where those who cannot afford a solicitor can seek legal advice from Law students.

Jericha has a strong work ethic and has always searched out work to ensure she is financially independent. Her next step is to take the Legal Practice course which will allow her to follow her dreams of becoming a solicitor in the West Country.

Well done, Jericha and good luck in the future.

GQ



**Have your say; voice your ideas or concerns.**

*For more information on joining or to see what Boscastle has to offer, see our website*

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*Membership fee is £25 per year and is open to all businesses within the PL35 postcode area.*

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## We Are (Not) Listening

Cornwall Council states that they “take the comments of the Parish Council very seriously in all cases and highly value (their) input and local knowledge”. This is encouraging for all of us in the community who may have believed most of our local democracy had been centralised in Truro, with a ‘Truro centric’ view of the County. So, how well do their actions match up to those fine words?

Most planning decisions are made by Cornwall Council planning officers with only the exceptional applications being put before a committee of elected Cornwall Councillors for them to decide. The elected members are bound to act in accordance with the national and local planning policies and procedures but may weigh up these factors differently to the salaried planning officers using their local knowledge.

So, what role for the parish council? Parish Councils are notified by Cornwall Council of all planning applications received in their parish.

The Parish Councils are invited to give their view on each application, but it’s Cornwall Council that decides whether or not to grant permission. If the Parish strongly disagrees with the planning officers’ view, there is a protocol which allows the Parish to have the decision made by the elected members and for a member of the Parish Council to address the meeting.

Recently, Boscastle (Forrabury & Minster) Parish Council felt very strongly an application should be refused, but the officers backed approval. The application was for a new dwelling right up to a neighbour’s boundary, taking their light and bringing the disturbances of general occupation right to the edge of their garden and house. The parish took the view this wasn’t good for either property. The owners of the building plot had plenty more land to move the site of their proposed new dwelling further away from the neighbour. Cornwall Council gave the Parish Council the option to speak on the

application at a planning committee meeting. The Parish accepted the offer and delegated one of their members to represent them and to prepare the case for the planning committee meeting.

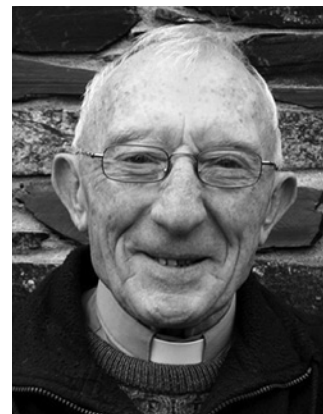
Several days later, Cornwall Council withdrew their offer without reference to the Parish and granted permission without waiting to hear the Parish case. The Parish Council were notified some time later. The Parish Council sent a strongly worded letter of complaint to the planning department and Cornwall Council’s Development Management Group Leader replied. He said that Cornwall Council really values the parish council’s views but couldn’t see any reason not to give permission. He also said that Cornwall Council has properly considered the parish council’s objections... without waiting to hear them.

SS

ML

FATHER BRYAN STOREY

8 May 1933 - 26 July 2018



Father Bryan was ordained in 1960 and became priest in charge of the Canons Regular of the Lateran Mission in Tintagel in 1973, where he remained priest until his final illness.

### **Oil-ordering Group**

Next deadline for ordering is before the end of September for a delivery in the first week of October. Are you new to the village? Moved into a property with oil-fired central heating? Members of the group are guaranteed a reduction of 2p per litre off every order. For any further information, please ring Myrna Lester on 01840 250520.



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# London Marathon 2019

After watching the London Marathon, I felt inspired by the stories, so much so, that I said to my mum, "I'm going to take part in the London Marathon next year." My mum's reaction, "Are you dear?" I went online and selected six charities that probably do not receive much publicity.

A few weeks later, a ping on my email was an acceptance from St John's Ambulance – I could not believe it! Oh wow!



music gatherings and even at our own Boscastle Duck Race Day!

Money is always necessary to provide funds to train volunteers in skills to save lives. to keep an ambulance on the road and the never ending need to

pounding the pavements and clocking up the miles!

The Cobweb Inn have kindly offered to be the venue for Pig Racing on the 17<sup>th</sup> November, which promises to be a very enjoyable evening, with the host being Mr Peter Old of Mid-Cornwall Brokers. All the proceeds will be going towards my fund raising. We would love to see you there!

The Napoleon Inn have kindly offered to hold a quiz night on the 20<sup>th</sup> February.

## Letter to the Editor of Boscastle Blowhole

30<sup>th</sup> August 2018

Dear Blowhole Team,  
Care of the wonders of the internet, we recently came across the Autumn 2007 edition (No. 59) of the Boscastle Blowhole in which there was an Article entitled "Memories of Caroline Henderson" written by their son Tim.

I am writing to ask whether any of your readers might be able to help us get in touch with Caroline's husband Donald or their (now adult) children Tim or Jill Henderson.

I first got to know the Hendersons in the early 70s when I visited a Norwegian friend of mine (Magni Haug) who was working on Condolden Farm. In the following years – the 70s and early 80s – I would periodically drive down from London to stay with the family.

Both Magni & I would love to re-establish contact with the family, as we both have very fond memories of Condolden Farm and the family's warmth, kindness and hospitality.

If anyone has a relevant postal address, email address or phone number it would be greatly appreciated.

*Yours sincerely,  
Peter Hale  
Cheltenham,  
Gloucestershire*

*If you can help, the Blowhole can either forward any information to Peter or provide you with his contact details.*



St John Ambulance Brigade was established in England in 1877 and since then has expanded all over the world.

The volunteers provide so much: they give first aid training in their communities, keeping people safe at events and working alongside the NHS in 999 calls. They are always campaigning to raise awareness of first aid by educating the public.

They can be seen at many sporting events,

replace equipment.

Many community events could not be held without the attendance of St John's Ambulance.

### **Fundraising**

If you would like to donate to this worthwhile cause, I have a just giving page (*see below*) or please see me in person. Any amount would be gratefully appreciated to encourage me when in pain from

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Alice-Perry4](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Alice-Perry4)

Look out for updates.

I am truly blessed to live in such a supportive village, so if you see me jogging past, please give me a shout!

I would also like to thank everyone who has sponsored me so far.

I will be posting regular training updates and news of fundraising events in the next edition of The Blowhole.

*Alice Perry*



## Bottreaux Surgeries Patient Participation Group

The new Business Manager, Danielle Kirby, now settled in at the surgery with lots of enthusiasm and ideas. She is available 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs weekdays. e mail danielle.kirby2@nhs.net. Gradual refurbishment of waiting area planned. Signs, disabled facilities, sanitiser gel relocation etc. Policies, schedule of work & possibility of employing a 'handy man'. Infection control update, work towards paper free system – patient bar codes for blood tests etc.

**Leg Club:** Logistical & staffing problems at present. Wadebridge & Bodmin planned. One in North possibly in future but no location yet.

**Surgery website:** is receiving an ongoing upgrade. PPG contacts to be put on plus link to Facebook page 'Patients of Bottreaux Surgery Patient Participation Group (PPG) Patient Access site – still a few problems. No box for patient messages?

**Member discussion & queries:** A suggestion that PPG funds could be used to facilitate surgery updates. Further discussion

required

**Parking:** Shortage of car park space is still causing problems especially with illegal parking.

Other Parking close by being looked at for surgery staff.

Two members of the PPG chatted to patients in waiting room – a good response.

Flu clinics confirmed as 17 October Boscastle, 31 October Crackington & 21 November Tintagel. Patients to contact surgery to book attendance.

Practice area map to go onto website.

### Contacts for the PPG:

John Wakelin john.wakelin@supalife.com

Judy Wrigley nandwidgley@hotmail.com

Arthur Bannister arthurbannister@hotmail.com

Lesley Cooke (Crackington) Lesley.cooke2@btinternet.com

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# Boscastle Everest Cycling Challenge

On a hot summer's day at the beginning of August, a group of local cyclists gathered outside the Wellington Hotel in pursuit of a common goal: to ride their bikes to the equivalent height of

**BB: What was the inspiration behind your challenge? How did you come up with the idea?**

DB: "I've wanted to do something like this for many years, however my

health hasn't allowed me. Despite the fact that it's a punishing climb with steep gradients you can actually find a good cycling rhythm in places."

**How did you prepare for the challenge?**

In the 4-6 weeks prior to

**Name:** Daniel Benford  
**Age:** 21  
**From:** Originally from Reading, Berkshire  
**Lives:** Warbstow

circuits). When it comes to training I find it's not so much about quantity, but more about the quality of the riding. That said, I usually ride between 5-6 days a week, taking one day off in order to rest and recover. Little and often, basically.

**How did you find the roads? Did they help or hinder you in any way?**

"The surfaces were fine until we descended under the trees each time, where the road surface isn't great. Towards the end of the challenge my feet had gone numb and my backside was hurting so much I could feel every road bump going through my body, especially my feet – they were not happy! Although on the last climb, and with the end in sight, I didn't mind so much."



Mount Everest, which at 8,848 metres is the highest mountain in the world. To achieve this feat their plan was to ride their bikes from their starting point outside the Welly all the way up to the large Boscastle sign at the 'Five Ways' junction just beyond Tredorne Farm. From here they would descend back down to the Welly to begin the climb again. How many times did they end up riding this tortuous route, how long did it take them and what inspired them to come up with such a crazy idea in the first place? Boscastle Blowhole caught up with the organiser and chief participant, Daniel Benford, to find out more.

health hasn't allowed me. This summer though, I thought I'd give it a go in memory of my grandfather, David Benford, who sadly passed away in 2013."

**What charity did you choose and why?**

"I rode in aid of the British Lung foundation. The reason for this is that my late grandfather suffered from a lung condition called pulmonary fibrosis."

**What made you decide on Boscastle as the location for your challenge?**

"I chose Boscastle as I'm familiar with the climb in and out of the village from my training rides.

the challenge I rode many 10-mile time trials and criterium races (which are essentially races around town centres and closed



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# Out and About on the Minibus

What a gift the new Boscastle Community Minibus is to the village. I wish to thank all those involved in obtaining the bus for the village and those who are organising the trips - **Many, Many Thanks.** We villagers without transport, now have the opportunity to have a day out - what a treat!

So far there have been, amongst others, trips to Ikea, Trago and Heligan. I went on the Heligan day out. The bus left at 10.00am, picking up the trippers from points nearest to

and, after a necessary coffee break, we headed for the flower borders. Many have a label with the name of the plant attached, which is very helpful for amateur gardeners as well as gardening enthusiasts. They had obviously been watering the flower beds, since the borders were awash with colour (no pun intended). The day passed quickly and we were all glad not to have to drive home (except Lee, of course). It was a much quieter drive home than it had been going! Was that snoring I heard?

The next trip for me was to



*happy plantspeople visiting the Lost Gardens of Heligan*

their homes. (Although the driver was quite prepared to pick us up from our homes) Our driver was Lee Burrows, a comparatively new resident and very experienced driver. There was a holiday feel amongst the passengers, many of which *were* drivers but were happy to enjoy the views instead of concentrating on the road ahead. It had been some years since I last visited Heligan so I was interested to see the changes to the gardens and how they were coping with the long dry days of the month of July.

Arriving at Heligan and depending on our interests, we soon split into groups. The map, provided by the Gardens, was easy to follow

Rosemoor, the Royal Horticultural Society garden. The journey takes about an hour and a half, but it was well worth it. There was a bonus to the visit, since a special event of flower and plant nurseries from all over the country were displaying their wares. I could give you a tour of the Queen Mother's Rose Garden, the Herb, Potager and Cottage Garden and the Fruit Field but space will not allow it. Suffice to say that we all enjoyed the outing and many of us went home with plants - rare and familiar.

*GQ*

*See page 18 for dates of upcoming trips. The minibus has a facebook page: - look for boscastleminibus*



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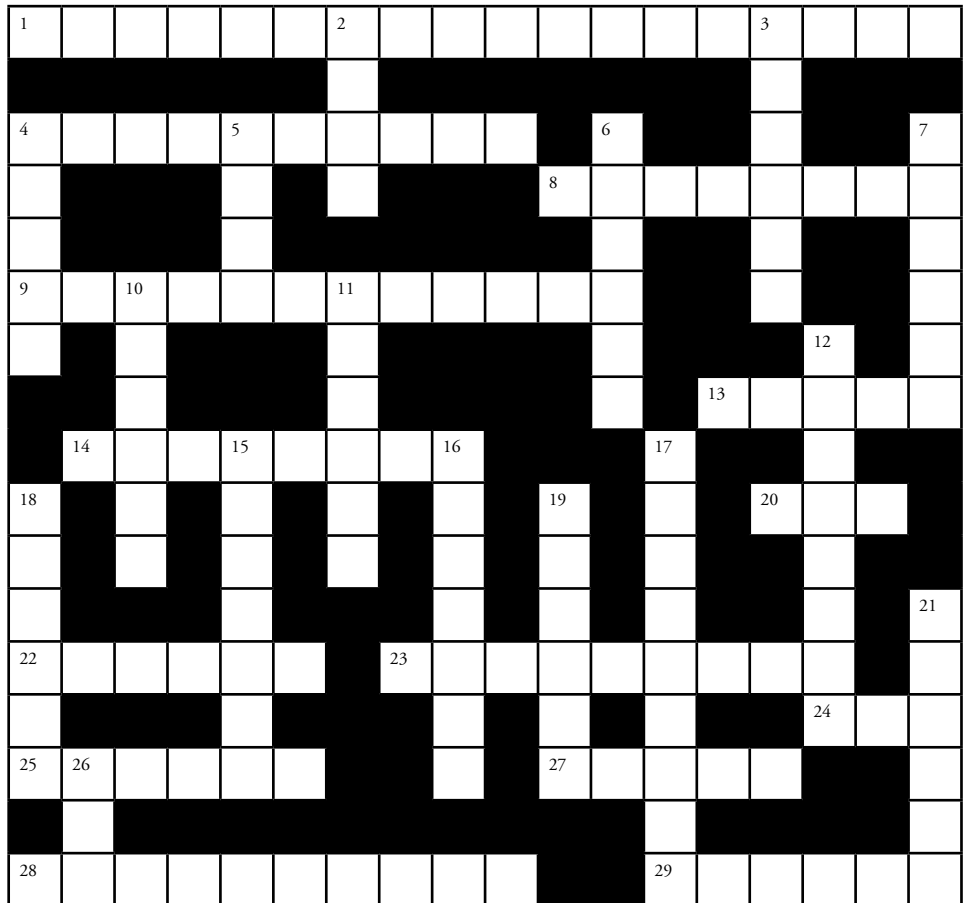


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# Steve's Autumnal Crossword



**Across**

- 1 Season of 4a and...Poem by John Keats (6, 12)
- 4 Christian festival for accounts to be settled (10)
- 8 Less of this in days (8)
- 9 USA holiday for free turkey (12)
- 13 Hedgerow fruit reportedly moves less quickly (5)
- 14 Place to encourage huskies making fungus (8)
- 20 see 26d
- 22 Military sounding man at heart (6)
- 23 A new hello confused pagan festival (9)
- 24 Spirited drink with 13a
- 25 see 26d
- 27 Old paper torn up comes to sticky end without assistant (5)
- 28 Dark flyer swaps bird for Halle for fruit from hedgerows (10)
- 29 Do pirates do this in winter? (6)

**Down**

- 2 Season in the USA for trip (4)
- 3 3 Darkness round table without special K (6)

**4 See 10d**

- 5 Run wild, but alright after the morning (4)
- 6 Sound instruction to move financial statement (6)
- 7 Goes from trees (6)
- 10 & 4d Autism must not initially develop in seasonal fog (6,5)
- 11 Dark convenience in grand military yacht initially (6)
- 12 Looking for food to get older (8)
- 15 Starve with hospital mixing up gathering (7)
- 16 Go off at grime mess (7)
- 17 Combustion is the answer to mark celebration (9)
- 18 The bonfire guy (6)
- 19 Two soft notes amongst beers for cider ingredient (6)
- 21 Sound defeat for the nut (6)
- 26, 25a & 20a Mixed up Stalin as lady for Christian festival (3, 6,3)

*Answers on page 27*

# BOB SMITH

6 October 1938 - 2 May 2018



Bob was born in 1938 in "The Cedars", his grandfather's home in Ebley, Stroud. The eldest of Anne and Tom's three boys, he attended Stroud Boys Technical School, then becoming an apprentice at an engineering firm.

He was proud of his 'O' level in Woodwork (his family teased him mercilessly about that), and later his HNC in Mechanical Engineering, which led to his working at Walls Ice Cream in Gloucester.

Bob loved any form of transport, motorbikes, cars and gliders especially. He started gliding at Aston Down, eventually becoming an instructor, helping many others to take to the air.

After Bob and Pam married in 1969 they moved to their first

home on the outskirts of Gloucester. Whilst still working for Walls, by now as Packaging Manager, he was 'head-hunted' by Jeffery's Ice Cream factory and sunny Cornwall beckoned.

In April 1978 Bob and Pam moved to Boscastle. Ben was born in 1981, followed by Rachel in 1985. Gliding was replaced by powered flight out at Bodmin.

Bob often flew over the house, 'wagging' his wings to any of the family waving to him from the ground.

The last stage of Bob's career was spent in Calne, Wiltshire. Eight years were spent on a weekly committee from Cornwall, and he decided to take early retirement on New Year's Eve, 1999.

He spent a lot of his

aircraft, particularly Spitfires.

Bob was pleased to accept the post of Clerk to the Boscastle Parish Council which he served for eight years, his busiest time there being in the months following the flood of 2004. Prince Charles visited immediately after and Bob met him. It was a personal highlight and Bob mentioned it for some time afterwards.

He was always friendly and interested in talking to people, especially if you'd changed your job or bought a new car.

His family and friends miss him greatly and hope he is still studying the cloud formations somewhere.



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Isaiah 58:8

# The War Memorials Trust

The purpose of the War Memorials Trust is perfectly summed up by the phrase 'Lest We Forget'. Reliable estimates suggest that there are more than 100,000 war memorials all over the UK. They were and continue to be erected by communities for communities as a focus for their grief, because the bodies of many who died were not repatriated or were missing, with no known grave. They stand in towns, villages and cities as a poignant tribute to the fallen, but maintaining them is a costly business.

While many war memorials are treasured and looked after, as is the case in Boscastle, others have been neglected, suffering the effects of ageing, weathering or vandalism. It is thought that as many as 10,000 UK war memorials may be in a poor or very bad condition and as such are at risk of being irreparably damaged or lost forever.

The War Memorials

Trust was set up as a national charity in 1997 to support the preservation of these memorials, as well as raising awareness of the history that they represent. The majority of them were built in the 1930s to commemorate the hundreds of thousands killed in the First World War. The Trust is the only organisation which works solely for to protect and conserve each and every war memorial in the UK. It does this by providing free information and advice to anyone and offering financial assistance through grant schemes for repair and conservation.

As we approach 100 years since the end of the First World War. Or Great War as it was known at the time, the Trust are rebooting a major fundraising effort which it launched in 2015 as the Centenary Campaign. It has an overall target of £201,811.11p by 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018, which represents

the date of the end of the centenary reversed. So far over £151,000 has been raised and so now it is seeking new members, or simply supporters who make donations, to enable it to continue with its vital work into the future.

However, as a charity, one of the objectives of the Trust is to build a greater understanding of the importance of war memorials. In this case it believes it is all about engaging young people. So it has developed a youth focused learning programme aimed at schools and youth groups. This is run by a dedicated learning officer in order to teach young people key ideas about war memorials with separate lesson plans designed for primary and secondary schools. These focus on different topics, such as what war memorials are, why they are important, researching the names on memorial and their design. The learning officer is available to provide visits to schools to raise awareness of the meaning of Remembrance Day and, for example, to

help children with an art project to design their own memorial.

The Trust aims to educate the next generation of war memorial custodians by helping them to understand the purpose and content of memorials. It wants the younger generation to see their local war memorial as an integral and important part of their own history and heritage, so that they continue to preserve them.

I believe it would be helpful to look ahead to the centenary of the Second World War as a reminder that Remembrance should continue forever and a day. I shall be long gone by the time we get to 2039, let alone 2045, but I should like to think that you and our children and grandchildren, will be continuing to reflect that our war memorials were put up to remember brave men and women who risked all so that we might live in freedom. They were our people and deserve to be remembered with pride by their families and by their country.

*Spike Yeoman*

For more information go to [www.warmemorials.org](http://www.warmemorials.org) or telephone 020 7834 0200 / 0300 123 0754

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# The Reading Room

The extremes of weather we have been experiencing underline the fact that, in life, change is inevitable. As I walk to The Reading Room today I ponder on the various ways people cope with change. Of course, not all change is bad and not all change is good but one thing is certain. At some points in our lives, we all have to learn to deal with change. Literature provides us with a way in which we can glimpse how others have dealt with change. It can help prepare us for what we have to face in our own lives.

We invite you to step into The Reading Room with us and hear our thoughts on the books we have recently been reading.

## *The Dust That Falls From Dreams*

by Louis De Bernieres

Louis H.P. De Bernieres-Smart was born near Woolwich in London in 1954 and he grew up in Surrey. He attended Manchester University and later a London University. For several years he taught English in Colombia but then he began to write full time. His experiences in Colombia influenced his writing and were the basis for his 'Latin American trilogy'. The first novel in this trilogy was 'The War of Don Emanuel's Nether Parts' (1990), the second 'Senor Vivo and The Coca Lord' (1991) and the third was 'The Troublesome Offspring of Cardinal Guzman' (1992). In 1994

his book 'Captain Correlli's Mandolin' brought him international fame and became his third book to win The Commonwealth Writer's Prize.

He now lives in Norfolk and as well as writing, he is an avid musician. He plays the flute, the mandolin and the guitar.

The Dust That Falls From Dreams was published in 2015. In his acknowledgements he thanks his friend, musician and songwriter Ralph McTell for letting have his words 'I'm writing with my finger in the dust that falls from dreams' in return for a simple bribe of a pint in a Great Yarmouth pub! An interesting footnote about the title.

Some bookworms found this book rather too long and wordy but most were glad they had read it. The novel was well researched historically and gave an insight into life during World War 1. There were many enjoyable, interesting and often harrowing historical references. The book delivered humour and beautiful descriptions. All the bookworms felt it was well written. One bookworm liked the way the author used a variety of voices, third and first person. He used letters, diaries, poems, songs and even entries from the autograph book of a World War 1 nurse. Other bookworms found the pace of the book was a bit slow

at times and the ending lacked real impact.

Overall it was a book we would recommend.

## *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman

Fredrick Backman grew up in Sweden. He is a Swedish columnist, blogger and writer. His work has been published in more than twenty-five languages and in over forty countries. He lives just outside Stockholm with his wife and two children. He is in his mid-thirties.

A Man Called Gove was Backman's debut novel and interestingly, when he first sent out his manuscript, he got tepid responses. Most publishers ignored him and several turned it down. This carried on for several months and he almost got disheartened. However four years later it had been published and had sold more than two million copies. It became a bestseller and in 2015 it was made into a film starring Tom Hanks. It became

Sweden's most popular literary export since Stig Larsen's thriller 'The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo'.

The story is about a

grumpy widower who finds his solitary world turned upside down when a boisterous young family move in next-door.

The Bookworms agreed that it took a while to get into this book. It was a very different book. One criticism was that the author painted a picture of a fifty nine year old who sounded more like a seventy nine year old! The plot weaving and the pace were good. It had you swinging from one emotion to another and you were drawn into the lives of the characters. Each character has a story to tell. Even though this book is a translation, the humour has been well preserved.

Some bookworms also felt that some of the characters were overly stereotypical and others were not necessary for the plot.

Some bookworms also felt the general feel of the book changed towards the end and the coherence of the story struggle a bit then.

All of us felt it was worth reading and it gave a good message about getting to know people before you judge them. You never know what someone has





## *The Reading Room*

gone through in the past.

Somehow we forgot to give scores for this book!

### *Cartes Postales From Greece*

by Victoria Hislop

Victoria was born in Bromley, Kent in 1959. She read English at St. Hilda's Oxford, where she met her future husband Ian Hislop who is now Editor of Private Eye magazine.

They have two children and live, in Kent, in a five hundred year old house made mostly of wattle and daub! She worked in publishing, in P.R. and in journalism before becoming a novelist.

Her favourite way of relaxing is singing with her karaoke machine! Her worst extravagance is four hours of one to one tuition each week of Greek lessons! She refers to it as her addiction.

She won newcomer of the year at the 2007 Bristol Book Awards.

You may recall the bookworms reviewing some of her other books.

In 'Cartes Postales' her

fictional character makes a journey around Greece and falls in love with the Peloponnese. To enable herself to write about him, she went travelling herself. She headed westward from Athens to the southern part of mainland Greece.

Writing in 'The Mail on Sunday' she says:

"I began in autumn, with plenty of energy to sightsee (this is the perfect season, with the sea staying warm enough to swim until mid-November) and my travels soon shaped the route that my character Anthony would take and inspired the stories he would tell.

"I went where tourists throng as well as to places where they don't tend to hang around for long. Sometimes I found myself where they don't go at all, occasionally because of my terrible map-reading. Mistakes sometimes led to happy discoveries.

"For example, crossing mountains on a rough track because I had missed a turning led to the most spectacular views of pine forests and waterfalls I would have otherwise have missed."

By the time you have finished this book you will have fallen in love with Greece, the islands, sundrenched Olive Groves and fishing villages. You will be ready to book a flight. One bookworm had recently had the pleasure of hearing Victoria Hislop speak. She said she spoke clearly and fluently and felt it was reflected in her books. She portrays the Greek culture and superstitions. This book is less of a novel and more of a collection of short stories. The descriptions transported you to Greece and the individual stories portrayed the Greek way of life, superstitions and it's history.

However there was some criticism. Some bookworms felt it was not as stimulating as her previous books. There was no wonderful story to draw you in. There were no rounded character portrayals. It failed to engage you because there were too many short stories and towards the end they became boring. Some bookworms felt it was disjointed and the ending was far too co-incidental to be believable.

One bookworm knows Greece well and said he felt it was not in the Greek nature to open up as she describes. They are a reserved race.

In their Book Club Richard and Judy observe that you can dip in and out of this book without losing the thread. Each chapter essentially encompasses a Greek Fable or even a Myth. The tales are like mini-legends, warning of the price that must ultimately be paid for the sins of greed, lust and dishonesty.

Victoria Hislop has visited Greece many times a year since falling in love with it in 1976. Possibly the only way for you to decide about this book is to read it for yourself and plan a visit! Not having yet visited Greece, I cannot wait to go!

Happy reading until we meet again

*Yours Truly*  
*The Keeper of the Key*



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## BOSCASTLE COMMUNITY MINIBUS

The Boscastle community minibus arrived at the end of May, with the launch party taking place on 1<sup>st</sup> June. The Cobweb kindly hosted a launch party providing a buffet for the members of the community who came out to support us. We were treated to entertainment in the form of singing by the talented Starmakers, the Boscastle Buoys and North Coast Harmony. Many thanks to these groups for their support!

The minibus is currently organised by a small group of volunteers who willingly give up their time for the community. Projects such as this would not operate without them so a massive thanks to all who have volunteered. We have a group of residents who have volunteered to drive, Tim Claridge who checks and maintains the bus, myself who mans the phone with additional support from Ross Yates and members of the Boscastle Community Interest Company. If anyone would like to help out and volunteer to drive

or organise a trip please call 07506 944622. Please note that drivers must be between 25 and 69 years of age, with a B1/D1 car licence of at least two years

We put together a list of initial excursions which sent the minibus out and about around Cornwall (and Devon!) with community trips to Ikea Exeter, The Lost Gardens of Heligan and Trago Mills. The trips were well received and a schedule of further excursions have been planned between now and Christmas:

- SEPTEMBER:**  
Tues 25<sup>th</sup> Trecice (NT Manor) (Bus £3.50, entry £10)
- OCTOBER**  
Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Powderham Castle Food Festival (Bus £3.50, entry £9)  
Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> Davidstow Airfield & Cornwall at War Museum (Bus donations, entry £6/OAP £5)  
Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Wadebridge & Trelawney Garden Centre (£2)
- NOVEMBER**  
Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Pencarrow Christmas Craft Fair (£1.50)

Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Exeter Christmas Market (£2.50)

**DECEMBER**  
Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> Padstow Christmas Lights & Market (£2)

Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> Truro Christmas Market (£2.50)

Some of the excursions are based on minimum numbers, due to distance or group rates negotiated with the destination venue. It really is a use it or lose it community service, so give Claire a call on **07506 944622** and book yourself onto a trip!

Alongside running community excursions the minibus is also available to hire privately. A number of Boscastle residents and community groups have made use of our bus. The mini bus was first hired by a local business taking its staff out for the evening. The Starmakers were one of our first local groups to make use of the minibus, enabling them to all travel together to entertain the crowds with delightful voices. Otterham & St Breward Schools made use of the bus for their end

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## Boscastle Community Minibus

of year enrichment activities, including taking a group of children to a climbing wall. The Boscastle Buoys have made good use of the bus including travelling to Delabole Carnival and Padstow to entertain the crowds.

North Coast Harmony travelled minibus style for their 'Pop Up Tour' which saw them delight and entertain visitors and residents in Camelford, Boscastle, Trebarwith and Tintagel. (See page 37 for Mel's article on their Pop Up Tour).

We have also had the bus out on hire for a week with a local resident taking a group of young people on a camping trip and it's even been to Newton Abbot races!

If you wish to hire the minibus for a private group please call Claire on 07506 944622. Rates are £25 half day and £40 for a full day, excluding fuel.

### Monday Villager Hopper

We plan to start the Monday Village Hopper service from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. This will be a ring and ride service, so please call to book a lift. We are very grateful to Fred Hockin who has volunteered to drive the minibus on a Monday. Fred will begin pick-ups around the village at 10am. He can drop you off at the Surgery and Bottreaux Garage should you need to stop, before heading down to the main carpark where you can access the shops and services within the village before returning you home. There will be no set charge for the hopper service, but will kindly ask for a small donation to put towards the cost of fuel etc.

For more information and updates on the minibus, please see the village noticeboards. Additionally we can text you updates, excursions and information. Simply text your name to Claire on 07506 944622.

## IT'S A SAILOR'S LIFE FOR SUE

I am not always on holiday, I promise, but having just returned from a wonderful week on the Isles of Scilly I came up with the idea of writing, not about the islands, though they are very special, but about the Scillonian!

You either love it or hate it, depending on your own personal experience, but it is an inexhaustible topic of conversation among people you meet, either going to or coming from the islands, or even those who have never been but have heard all the tales.

This poor boat has an evil reputation, thanks to its very shallow draught, and for those who have experienced it at its worst I have every sympathy, having had one such crossing last year. (Given that this was my only negative experience in what is now a total of eight return trips, I consider myself to be one of the fortunate ones!)

By the end of that particular crossing the vessel resembled a refugee boat: bodies everywhere, bent over railings, slumped against walls or prone on the floor clutching sick bags (yes, people do actually turn green!) and don't mention the toilets! Those passengers who looked most sorry for themselves vowed never to do it again and as soon as land was reached rushed to book their trip home on the plane or helicopter.

I do not fly so there is no option but to go by boat. However, I prefer to dwell on the positives: no tedious check-in and waiting, worrying if your flight will be cancelled due to fog or adverse weather conditions: the Scillonian sets sail in all weathers.

It's so much cheaper by the Scillonian, and no need to worry about your baggage allowance, unless of course you like to take the kitchen sink with you.

You arrive on the island of St Mary's just in time for a leisurely *al fresco* lunch at Juliet's Garden, sipping a chilled glass of Pinot Grigio as you gaze out over the sea towards Bishop's Rock. You can then have a relaxing afternoon stroll before returning to your accommodation where your luggage will be waiting to

be unpacked, having been transported from the Scillonian to your room for a minimal fee. When the time comes to take your leave of the islands, because the Scillonian doesn't sail till half-past four, you have almost an extra day's holiday.

And last, but not least, for those who, like me, are of a nervous disposition and can't stand heights, the boat is perfect and at least if something happens I do have the chance to swim for it if the lifeboat fails!!!

The crossing from Penzance to St. Mary's takes about 2hrs 45mins. It follows the coast all the way down to Land's End and then makes its way across the open sea to the islands. Have your camera & binoculars at the ready for pictures of Mousehole and the Minack theatre as you go past. Dolphins are often sighted and there is a particular thrill as the islands themselves draw near, and the red and white stripes of the Daymark on St Martin's come into view.

Most people stay up on deck if it's fine and there are always parties of school children on board who never seem to mind the conditions but charge around happily, eating and drinking to their hearts' content.

You can read, buy a cuppa (or something stronger if you prefer), eat and just stroll around or sit and have a snooze: it's a good way of starting a holiday.

I can just hear you saying, though: what about when it's not warm and sunny and flat calm?! Well, there are always sea sick pills, or the extra-strong ginger biscuits the café sells. Best not to eat a fried breakfast (a lesson learned the hard way by certain members of the Boscastle Group Choir in days gone by). Keep looking at the horizon, that's what I was told, and if the worst comes to the worst, just keep saying to yourself: it's less than three hours!

Joking apart, it is a lovely way to view the islands for the first time, so if you've never tried it give it a whirl; and if you've suffered a bad time before, don't give up, try once more. (Then again, there's always flying!!)

Sue Viner







No. 19  
AUTUMN  
1997



**BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE**

**Golden Celebration**  
Bosccastle Couples' Anniversary Garden Party

This is a special year for you and for us and we are sorry that you cannot be at Buckingham Palace on 15th July to celebrate our Golden Wedding. We hope that you have a very happy anniversary, and send our best wishes and congratulations to you both.

Five well-known Bosccastle couples, who each celebrate their golden wedding anniversary this year, received their personal greeting from the Queen and Prince Philip, another 'Golden Couple'. They were entertained in grand style at Trebarnis Lodge recently by the Lord Lieutenant.


Such a wonderful occasion

Any disappointment at missing the much publicised Palace party was soon alleviated by another special invitation. Mr. Michael Latham, Cornwall's Deputy Lieutenant, and Mrs. Latham, invited the couples to a Garden Party in the presence of the Lord Lieutenant. This occasion was blessed with perfect weather - and as one guest remarked, 'It was such a wonderful occasion, and so grand, it couldn't have been better by the Palace tea.'

Continued on page 3

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No. 23  
AUTUMN  
1998



**BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE**

**SALAD DAYS**

**MUSIC**

**DANCE**

**FLOWERS**

**AND BIRDS**


Some unexpected guests appeared at the Castings' lawn last month. Unexpected, but not unwelcome. The Cornish Air Ambulance had responded to a call from Riverside House, where a guest was having a birthday celebration. Unfortunately this was not occasion when the patient did not need to be transported to hospital.

The pilot and paramedic had time to enjoy some refreshment while Jim and some delighted holiday makers shared a perfect photo opportunity.

A welcome cup of coffee and apple cake

CONTENTS: Parish Council 6 Church and Chapel 22 What's On 38 Useful No. 40

No. 27  
AUTUMN  
1999



**BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE**

**Drop in - Any Time**


Some unexpected guests appeared at the Castings' lawn last month. Unexpected, but not unwelcome. The Cornish Air Ambulance had responded to a call from Riverside House, where a guest was having a birthday celebration. Unfortunately this was not occasion when the patient did not need to be transported to hospital.

The pilot and paramedic had time to enjoy some refreshment while Jim and some delighted holiday makers shared a perfect photo opportunity.

A welcome cup of coffee and apple cake

CONTENTS: Parish Council 6 Church and Chapel 22 What's On 38 Useful No. 40

No. 31  
AUTUMN  
2000



**BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE**

**Bosccastle's Champion Footballer**

Bosccastle School footballer, Jay Barnett, scored a goal for the Cup winning South West Youth Squad in Holland last month, at Europe's leading, International Youth Tournament.

His big moment came in front of a crowd of more than 5,000 people, at the conclusion of the 25-nation tournament. Jay scored the first goal to help his team beat the Dutch home team 3 - 1 and win the Hartlen Cup.


Jay is just one of a number of outstanding local young athletes in the village.

Find out more on page 43.

CONTENTS:

- Old Friends Retire - p 6 and 14
- New Faces Appear - p 30 and 35
- Recreation Centre Rising - p 25
- Fish Biting - p 32
- Parish Concourse - p 10 and 11
- National Trust - p 28
- Songs of Praise - p 26
- Harvest Festival - p 20
- and
- Challenging Quiz - p 24

No 91 Autumn 2015



**BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE**

Team "TARD" (Phil and Bob Hudson and Barry Selzer) take their self from the water having won their part's fight. More photos and news from school on page 18.


Also inside: Signage page 6. Mount Community Fellowship page 10. Kids' Journal page 12. Cougars' News page 19. Parish Council page 22. Crossword page 29.

2004  
A lot of flood stories...

2007  
The Old Forge has reopened. Formerly the National Trust shop it is now a gallery and studio run by Helen Settingington and Andy Humphries.

2008  
Graham King stood down as Deputy Station Officer of Bosccastle Coastguards and Dan Roots is now the new DSO.

No 99 Autumn 2017



**BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE**

Artist and gardener, Carole Vincent takes a break from her busy schedule and relaxes in her garden as Megan Pilemont.

See page 13 for more news about her garden and upcoming art exhibitions.

Also inside: Cougars page 7. Parish Council page 9. Chamber of Trade & Commerce page 14. News from School page 24. Beer and Music Festival page 31. North Cornwall Harmony page 39.

No. 35  
AUTUMN  
2001



**BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE**

**Village Raises Spirits - and Funds**

Bosccastle has been at its best this Summer, making a spirited recovery from the gloom of a wet winter, closed footpaths and anxious times for businesses.


The sun has shone, visitors have come and Bosccastle has given them a wonderful time. Visitors' Books abound with appreciative comments, many writers promise 'We'll come again'.

In unique Bosccastle style, hundreds of people have been involved in a large number of traditional - and newer - pursuits, whilst raising many thousands of pounds for local and other charities.

Music, Dancing, Fetes and Fayres - the Blowhole attempts to record and celebrate them within these pages.

CONTENTS: Folk Music 22, 23 Duck Race 28 Songs of Praise 8 Strawberry Fayre 26, 27

No 95 Autumn 2016



**BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE**

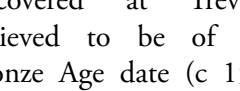
Bosccastle School sang on an amazing version of Alice in Wonderland towards the end of the Summer term. Pictured above are: Connor, Sebastian, Tobias, Sophie, Jerrisa and Jake. More photos and news from school on page 24.

Also inside: Full Page page 4. National Trust page 12. Crossword page 15. Table Tennis Club page 17. Harbourside's News page 22.

2009  
[During the excavations for the new sewage treatment works] A cist grave cemetery was identified at Forrabury, which is believed to be a mixed pagan and Christian cemetery with at least 18 graves, likely to date from the 6th to 8th centuries AD. A roundhouse was later discovered at Trelvalga. Believed to be of later Bronze Age date (c 1500-1000 BC), this type of building is unique to the South West and is a first in this part of Cornwall.

2010  
Work on the exciting development of Top School to provide a new home for Bosccastle PreSchool Playgroup is almost finished.

No 47 Autumn 2004




**BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE**

Rescue Helicopter Bosccastle Bridge 17.54pm 16th August

CONTENTS: Bosccastle Regeneration page 6. Church and Chapel page 12. Parish Council News page 16. Useful Information page 27. Doctor's Corner page 31. Cougars' Report page 38.

No 99 Autumn 2002




**BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE**

Everyone's Happy When the Sun Comes Out!

August Bank Holiday, Seven Churches Fete, The Sun Shines and Bosccastle is Teeming with Visitors

CONTENTS: Flower Power 4, 5. Songs of Praise & Church Tower Appeal 6. Bosccastle Harbour Piers 10. Harvest Festival of Bosccastle 12. 14. Bosccastle School - New Openings 15. New Local Market Square 16. Football 20. Junior Journal 23. Mystery of the Manor 27. Corn Country Rally 28. Bosccastle Bazaar 32. Strawberry Fayre 38. Letters 41. Local Arts Scene 44. On Duty in the Lockout 48.

No 55 Autumn 2006




**BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE**

Wanda Larrett & Liz Gregory Book Signing  
Full story and Book Reviews on page 24

CONTENTS INCLUDE: Parish Council Report page 8. Will Shop page 16. Doctor page 18. National Trust page 23. School page 23. Pickwick Paper page 26. Pet's Page page 31. Travelers' Tale page 32. Letters page 34. Natures Notes page 38. Cougars page 44.

No 51 Autumn 2005




**BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE**

SEE NO EVIL, HEAR NO EVIL, SPEAK NO EVIL!  
Ron Hancock, Sam Hancock and Bill Pettick enjoy the summer sun.

CONTENTS include: Secret tunnel p 12. Cougars' Award p 17. Gig Club p 20. Autumn Wildlife p 30. Crossword p 39. Sport p 42.

No 43 Autumn 2003



**BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE**

A Strong Tradition Still Going Strong  
Bosccastle Auxiliary Coast Guard Company

CONTENTS: View of the Village 3. A Fine Village Tradition 8. Church and Chapel 10. English for Richard James 12. Secretary's Good News 14. Boat Crewmen 15. New Local Market Square 16. Football 20. Junior Journal 23. Mystery of the Manor 27. Corn Country Rally 28. Bosccastle Bazaar 32. Strawberry Fayre 38. Letters 41. Local Arts Scene 44. On Duty in the Lockout 48.

No 49 Autumn 2004



**BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE**

Rescue Helicopter Bosccastle Bridge 17.54pm 16th August

CONTENTS: Bosccastle Regeneration page 6. Church and Chapel page 12. Parish Council News page 16. Useful Information page 27. Doctor's Corner page 31. Cougars' Report page 38.

## News from the Lookout



Things were certainly a lot brighter this summer than many we have had of late. However, if you'll excuse the tortuous link, so was the Lookout.

The last few months have seen our storm battered home restored to glory with a spanking new coat or three of paint, the more obvious dents and scratches obscured and the whole building gleaming in the welcome sunlight.

Quite an achievement for the decorators as it is not the most convenient place to work if you have to carry ladders and paint from Forrabury.

There's a new look inside as well.

[www.nci.org.uk/boscastle](http://www.nci.org.uk/boscastle)

For many years we have had to cope with an uneven floor, the original builders having no idea that people would want to trundle a heavy pair of binoculars mounted on a wheeled tripod from one side to another. Now we have a smooth new floor that makes waltzing with the said binoculars an action of elegance and beauty. It has even cured the ferocious draught from the air-brick under the north window which could lower the inside temperature by several degrees in a morning.

Thanks to the new floor, we have all been asked to consider bringing a change of footwear when the weather and resident beasts conspire to turn the approaches into a swamp. Good housekeeping comes to Willapark!

Once again we shared a stand at the Royal Cornwall Show with other Cornish stations and will be sending a representative to man the NCI stand at the Southampton Boat Show.

A reminder to any of you with a VHF radio on your boats that we have our

own dedicated Channel 65 if you have any queries about current weather or tides as well as our normal lines 01840250965 and 07837610410.

We are delighted to say that our new volunteers are keeping our trainers busy and to welcome the first of them as an Assistant Watchkeeper. His training place has already been taken by another newcomer.

Although we managed to man more evening Watches this summer, we are still at least ten short of our ideal complement and so, once again we would be delighted if anyone would like to join us. Remember, you don't have to walk up to the Lookout from the Harbour, we only have to walk from Forrabury so it's not as hard as it looks. And we are always happy to welcome volunteers as fund raisers to keep the station going. It costs us around £8,000 to run the station and we have to find all of that ourselves.

So if you, or any one you know, would be interested in spending a few hours each month looking out for others, then call our Manager, Chris Evans on 01566 781449.

## Juliotter Garden Club

The Garden Club meet in the Otterham Hall on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. Meetings are always fun, whether there is a guest speaker or a garden-themed get-together with mulled wine and snacks. Members receive four newsletters a year as well as monthly emails to keep in touch with all that's happening, plus discounts at several local nurseries as well as club bulk buys from seed catalogues, and an annual plant sale. Club membership fee is currently £15 a year. New faces are always sure of a warm welcome whether as a guest to test the waters or as a new member.

Autumn dates:

22nd September –Charity Quiz - 7.30pm

25th September – Share supper, plant swap, and tomato tasting

23rd October – Duana Pearson – Keep Calm and Speak Latin

27th November – Charlie Pridham – Height in the Garden

For further information: telephone Pat Thorne 01840 261237 or email [pat@tregrylls.co.uk](mailto:pat@tregrylls.co.uk)



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## PAT'S VEGETARIAN GRAVY

Back in the day (as the current saying goes) I ran a wholefood shop and café. I started the café because people were always asking me how to cook the various ingredients I sold and one of the most frequently asked questions was "How do you make a vegetarian gravy?". There's no excuse to endure a dry nut roast when vegetable gravy is so easy to rustle up. Unlike meat-based gravies, vegetarian versions take barely any time at all. Contrary to popular thought, they can be full of flavour, both from a good stock, or some clever enhancements: lemon and mustard, or mushroom paste, perhaps. It's important to think about the gravy in the context of the dish. Vegetarian haggis, for example, works well with a simple gravy like the recipe below. But a quick and simple dinner like veggie sausage and mash will benefit enormously from a delicious onion or mushroom gravy. By the way, if you're catering for the vegetarian in your family this year, this gravy recipe makes the perfect complement to a full

vegetarian Christmas meal.

### Ingredients

An onion, roughly chopped  
 A carrot, roughly chopped  
 A celery stick, roughly chopped  
 Two or three cloves garlic smashed  
 1 sprig of thyme  
 Half a litre vegetable stock (I recommend Marigold vegetable bullion)  
 A generous tbsp of flour

### Method

Heat a large pan with a tablespoon of oil. Fry the vegetables very gently until golden brown all over, this could take 20 minutes. Add the garlic, thyme and flour. Cook for a further 2 minutes then cover with vegetable stock. Season with salt and pepper and bring to the boil. Cook for 30 minutes then strain through a fine sieve.

### Variations

Don't restrict yourself to light-coloured vegetarian gravies either. Caramelising shallots, and then pouring over either red wine or Port with a splash of balsamic vinegar, before thinning with vegetable stock makes a devastatingly good sauce. Delicious with mushroom and polenta, and other autumn or winter flavours.

PT

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# Minster Community Fellowship

## *The Windows Project*

Work on replacing the windows began last year in response to the damage being caused to the structure of the building by the ironwork (“ferramenta”) on the outside of the windows. The glass is being replaced with a clear conservation glass from Poland. The work is being done by local stained glass expert, Arthur Bradley, and has been funded largely by donations, with additional funds from the MCF and the PCC. We are hugely grateful to our donors for allowing this work to happen.

The project has moved on well in recent months with the windows on both the north and south side of the church virtually completed. The work has been challenging at times, as the old window panels had to be cut out of very strong mortar. Added to this, the granite surrounds

are by no means square and level, requiring a lot of patient “fettling” by Arthur to get them to fit.

Thankfully, most of the stonework has proved to be in reasonable condition, though damaged here and there by the rusting ferramenta. So far, only one major repair has been needed where one of the mullions on the north side had lost about a third of its depth. This will be shortly refaced by Alex Piper, a local stonemason.

With each new window that goes in, the church gets brighter and brighter. It was a particular delight in April to view the flowering magnolia all the way through the church from the other side!

In anticipation of the completion of the project, Reverend Heather has “booked a bishop” for Saint Materiana’s Day next year which is on the 9<sup>th</sup> April. Bishop Chris, the Bishop of St Germans, will



*Minster – new window on south side*

lead a service of dedication and celebration of the new windows, starting at 6pm. This will be preceded at 4pm by a pilgrimage from the harbour, where St Materiana would have landed, up to the church.

We were reminded recently how truly fortunate we are to have Arthur working on the Minster windows by the announcement that he had been awarded a Special Commendation for his work on the Old Cathedral School in Truro by the Cornish Buildings Group. This came after a visit to the school in March by the Prince of Wales who was apparently very complimentary about the quality of the glass work.

### *Dangerous trees....*

Thanks go to a thoughtful tree expert who, on a visit to Minster, noticed that the 100ft lime tree next to the path down to the church had developed a split down its

main trunk. A local tree surgeon confirmed that while the split didn’t seem particularly new, it was potentially dangerous and recommended removing some limbs from the tree to ease the load on the trunk. Given that Minster is A Site of Special Scientific Interest owing to its large colony of Greater Horseshoe bats, as well as Lesser Horseshoes, Pipistrelles and a solitary Natterers, we had to ensure that no bats were disturbed by the work and are particularly grateful to Paul McNie, the bat expert licensed by English Nature, for his time and expertise.

Paul was there on the day that Dan Bray from Special Branch tree surgeons hauled himself 50 feet into the air to make a close inspection of any cavities that might have contained bats. Once the all clear had been given, Dan and his assistant carefully removed the branches, skilfully lowering them

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## M C F

away from the gravestones directly below.

It was a long day for the tree “fellas” but they worked with great precision and sensitivity – you had to look hard to see that the tree had just undergone major surgery.

### *MCF Events*

We held a Raffle at the Tarquin’s Gin Evening at Boscastle Farmshop on 24th May which was a Gin-tastic evening with Rory of Tarquin’s sharing his knowledge and passion for their Gin. 70 people attended and enjoyed a tremendous amount of different flavours of Tarquin’s gin and generous Farmshop Tapas. Many thanks to Boscastle Farmshop for hosting the raffle on our behalf.

The MCF has held two fund-raising concerts at Minster this year. On 2<sup>nd</sup> June, Chris Bannister returned for the third time to entertain us again with his ever popular renderings



*Ben Nicholls performs at Minster.*

of the songs of John Denver, together with some of his own works. As in previous visits, the evening was a huge success and it was great to recognise faces familiar from his previous concerts.

More recently, on a wet and windy August evening, many hardy souls braved the elements for an evening of music and song with Ben Nicholls and friends. A Boscastle boy (and Buoy!), Ben’s popularity assured him a good turnout, and it was wonderful to see a packed church, with standing room only at the

back. Ben entertained us with a great mix of old favourites and modern pop rock. His set was perfect for the Minster, from the beautifully melodic ‘Blackbird’ to his final number ‘Country Roads’, the John Denver crowd-pleaser, via a sprinkling of reggae, new wave, blues, and folk in between. The acoustics added a memorable poignancy to the ballads, especially the touching ‘Fingertips’.

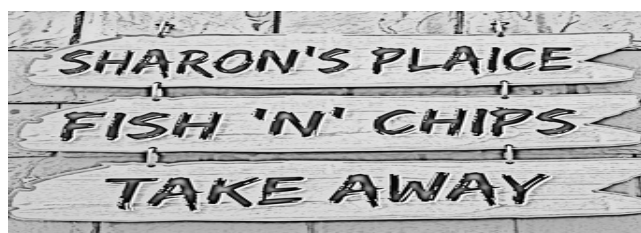
During the first set Ben was joined by another Cornish talent, Callum

Flew, who delighted us with Sinatra classics and the soulful ‘Ain’t no sunshine’. After the break, members of the ever-popular Boscastle Buoy took to the stage with Cornish folk songs. The final friend, Roger Nicholls (Ben’s equally talented Dad), accompanied Ben on piano for some haunting ballads. Was a mischievous Nicholls spirit responsible for the power cuts during ‘Streets of London’? Ben’s final set evoked exuberant audience participation and a well-deserved standing ovation. Our thanks to Ben and all his friends; we wish him all the best at Uni and look forward to seeing him back in Boscastle soon.

Our thanks also to everyone who supported these events, especially Robin Haddy for the use of his fields as car park and being on stand-by to tow folks out again! Altogether, these events have raised a nearly £3200 to support Minster.

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## News from the Museum of Witchcraft and Magic

After a little over four years at the Museum of Witchcraft and Magic, Judith and Peter Hewitt, the Museum Manager and Collections Researcher are moving on. Their time at the Museum has been successful with new displays, exhibitions, increased visitor numbers and memorable events but they felt the time was right to go to pastures new.

Judith has been appointed Museum Manager at the Devil's Porridge Museum near Greta Green. This recently built Museum explores the contribution made by women on the Home Front in World War One (it is built on the site of what was then the largest munitions factory in the world).

Peter has achieved the role of Curator of Mining Culture at the Woodhorn Museum near Ashington. This Museum is famous for its wonderful collection of primitive or naïve art created by the Pitman Painters.

Judith said, "We are sad to leave Boscastle but we are leaving with lots more than we arrived with including lots of happy memories, friends, a dog and a baby! We wish the village and the Museum every success in the future."

*Chris Key*



We have seen the most settled and warmest summer in decades and I saw sea temperatures rising through June and July peaking out at sea around 18 to 19 degrees centigrade and much warmer in the inner and outer harbour. There were certainly days when the instruments in the boat were indicating up to 22 degrees. So although not quite the Cote d'Azur it was as close as we get. This meant lots

of swimming and general enjoyment. The only two working boats in the harbour were mine Rene and the Anderson's with Three Jays. There were several smaller pleasure craft and I know Michael Parsons had many trips up to the Beeny Sisters.

Mackerel were hard to find in the early summer but we have seen more in August. Crabs for some reason were very few. The lobster catch remained

stable and this made up for the crab shortage. Ian Young came in with several good catches of Sea Bream. All year we were prohibited from taking bass as part of the Marine Management conservation drive which I thought was a little too restrictive particularly as I was being told by divers that they had seen shoals and shoals all the way from here to Boscastle to Crackington.

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## Judge Jeffries is in our midst!



Over the last few weeks I've been chatting with friends on various subjects (as you do) and one that came up was *'what would be your secret fantasy? If you had the chance, and could get away with it what would you most like to do?'*

Although generally we like to think of ourselves as decent, upright citizens, the popularity of crime novels and horror films suggests perhaps a darker side. So, who would dare to reveal an inner fantasy? Well, I went in feet first and stated that I've often fantasised about being a judge; not any old judge but a High Court judge at the Old Bailey. I've always loved reading about court cases, especially past ones. I can just picture myself in all the regalia, everyone bowing and scraping to me, the judge's long wig, the flowing robes, the robes and wigs of the lesser mortals around me, the paraphernalia, jargon and drama of the courtroom... and everyone looking to me for my judgement!

Encouraged by my indiscretion, some of my friends ventured into this 'truth or dare' game. 'You know' said one, 'I have always wondered what it would be like to

go shoplifting, not to cause anyone harm, but to experience the thrill of wondering if I could get away with it.' Another said 'it's uniforms for me, I fantasise about men in uniform, the strength and authority... especially firemen.' As an ex nurse I can vouch for the power a uniform gives you.

Well, I think I must have opened a Pandora's Box. What weird friends I have! All I want to do is pronounce sentence on the prisoner in the dock and maybe do that thing with the black square of cloth... nothing weird in that, surely? Hmm...maybe not!

Got me thinking though. Do any of you out there have a secret fantasy, and are you brave or idiotic enough like me to come out and say it?

*SV with help from SS*

### Crossword Answers:

#### Across:

1 mellow fruitfulness, 4 michaelmas, 8 sunshine, 9 thanksgiving, 13 sloes, 14 mushroom, 20 day, 22 kernel, 23 halloween, 25 saints, 27 syrup, 28 blackberry, 29 shiver

#### Down:

2 fall, 3 nights, 4 mists, 5 amok, 6 budget, 7 leaves, 10 autumn, 11 gloomy, 12 foraging, 15 harvest, 16 migrate, 17 fireworks, 18 fawkes, 19 apples, 21 conker, 26 all



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## Another 'Room with a View'

What do you see when you look out of your window?

From my window I see two walkers sitting in a distant field, possibly admiring the view and enjoying the sunshine. Further away I see a friend's house, its windows twinkling in the sun. Due to the long sunny, rain-free days of July the landscape has taken on the mellow hues of Autumn - despite a few days of pelting rain and drizzling mist (the start of the school holidays!). I am reminded that Summer is slipping away. There are no towering banks of cloud that filled the sky a few days ago, making me think of summer desserts, topped with whipped cream. As this recollection leads me down memory lane, I think of another scene from late summer that will stay in my memory forever.

I am standing by the window of my first home on the edge of town - I'm a young mother with my first-born. Holding my daughter in my arms, together we look out at the tranquil scene of the world she will

come to know. Opposite is a five-barred gate leading into a field, with a willow-lined stream running through it. A horse quietly crops the grass and sometimes drinks from the stream, where pike and other fish swim. Suddenly, the horse looks up. There is a flurry of commotion in the street. MG car workers are flooding out of the factory along the road. The road is taken over by them. They jostle for position on their bicycles. Some of them give us a wave as they hurry home for lunch. Within a few minutes it is as if they had never been and the scene is quiet again.

However, before I turn away, into view comes a 'Gentleman of the Road'. He is wearing a long dark, military style coat, which on this sunny day is unusual. To add to the puzzling scene, he is pushing an overloaded pram, the contents of which are heaped up and covered with, what appears to be, an old raincoat. Hunched over the laden pram with its wobbly wheels, he moves slowly along the road,

heading out of town and into the countryside. As I watch him go by, wondering at the journey he is making, he stops, leaves the pram in the road and retraces his steps. Despite not knowing him I am concerned for his pram and its contents. Will someone steal them or damage them?

But before my worries can increase, he has returned with an identical pram. This too is heaped up and covered over. Once he has reached the first pram he leaves the second one in its place, collects the first one and continues his journey along the road. He soon disappears from view only to return a few minutes later to collect the second pram. What can be so precious in the prams that he makes the journey twice? How far has he come and where is he going? I never found an answer to the many questions he posed, but the following year there he was again - two prams, double journey, coming from who knows where and going to - well only he knew. That second time was the last I saw of him. Probably because *my* life had moved on, with the birth of my second daughter and less time to spend looking out of the window.

It has set me thinking, however - would I be prepared to walk double the distance in order to keep the paraphernalia of my life? What do I consider 'essential' and would two prams be enough? Well, Dear Reader, how many prams would you need for the essentials in your life?

To be continued...

GQ

## Autumn at The Old Bank, Camelford:

### **Mondays**

Photography Group, Zumba Gold, Games Night, Spanish

### **Tuesdays**

FREE Healthy Weight programme, Stop Smoking Clinic

Step One's Work Routes, Life Drawing

### **Wednesdays**

Tate St Ives-affiliated Look Group, River Moor Coven, Diabetic Eye Screening 10th & 17th Oct, Into Film Festival 7 November

### **Thursdays**

Camelford Walkers, Lip Reading, Youth Café, Diabetic Eye Screening 11th & 18th Oct, Into Film Festival 8 November

### **Fridays**

Book Club, Diabetic Eye Screening 12th & 19th Oct

### **Saturdays**

Second Saturday Film: children's matinee 14.00 & adults 19.00

Open Mic night 4th Sat 19.30 monthly

Save the Children Fund-raising talk: Sunday 14 October

Nos Lowen, 21st October 19.00-22.00

an evening of Cornish music & dance with

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|  <b>Rainfall totals measured in Boscastle</b> <br>SX 09697 90138 |                 |                  |                  |
|--|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
|  | June 2018       | July 2018        | Aug 2018         |
| Number of days with no rainfall  | 18              | 20               | 6                |
| Max rainfall on one day in mm  | 6.4             | 24.0             | 27.6             |
| Date on which max fell   | 8 <sup>th</sup> | 28 <sup>th</sup> | 11 <sup>th</sup> |
| Monthly total rainfall in mm   | 21.0            | 40.40            | 84.4             |
| Total rainfall for same month in 2017  | 120.8           | 117.6            | 95.6             |
| Total rainfall for same month in 2008  | 59.2            | 228.0            | 193.0            |



# TAKING TO THE SKIES



Bodmin Airfield was developed by Trago Mills businessman Mike Robertson and set up in 1978 as the Bodmin Flying Club.

Even though a “Bodmin Boy” I had barely heard of the place until a few weeks ago when I decided as a birthday treat to take myself and Ann up into the skies.

The experience, someone warned, was like driving a Ford Escort in rough seas. The actual bumpy takeoff from a grass runway with the roaring engine at full thrust concentrates the mind. It’s quite windy today, remarked our septuagenarian pilot. Thank you, I had noticed. Where were the parachutes? Actually, no room, while I was not actually sitting in his lap the relationship was intimate. One more updraught and we would have had to get married.

However, once the initial heaving subsided (just for a few moments I thought I might disgrace myself) we began to enjoy the panorama of North Cornwall at two thousand feet and 120mph. Vistas of sea and surf, toy tractors and tiny farmers, tucked

away cottages and lakes, an appreciation of the sheer neatness of farmsteads, countryside and woodlands and finally, the impressive slate cavern of Delabole, all made it a worthwhile experience.

I glanced over my shoulder at dear Ann, expecting a mask of pure terror, instead she was smiling seraphically.

The Flying Club has a proper control tower, comfortable lounge and bar plus lovely lady wot serves lunches. The members are all jolly, friendly exBiggles enthusiasts of a certain age. The term boys’ toys come to mind when they get to the subject of the forthcoming Tiger Moths weekend bonanza. Our Cessna was a modern light aircraft, even so pretty basic, but these guys are absurdly keen to go aloft in Edwardian box kites powered by lawn mower engines.

They will teach you to fly, you can buy a share in an aircraft, and offer a variety of trips aloft. Contact details on the website, <http://bodminairfield.com>.

Good fun, to be recommended.

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## Bridge House Under New Ownership

The Blowhole welcomes the new owners of Bridge House Bed & Breakfast and Tearooms to the village. Louise and Richard Smith and their 5 year old daughter Molly have taken over this historic building from Tracey and Simon who have moved out of Boscastle. Between them, Louise and Richard have many years' experience in the B&B and catering trades, having been self employed for many years prior to making their move to the North Cornish Coast.

Louise's family have always owned hospitality-based businesses, B&Bs, café, pubs and holiday lodge businesses, with Louise involved heavily in all of them whilst having her own career in management. Along with a removal company that Richard started over 20 years ago in the Midlands, Louise and Richard owned a small canal side café on the Worcestershire canal network.

Bridge House was originally part of Hollowell House, a warehouse built early in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Those familiar with Bridge House will have noticed the smart new signs. Menus and staff uniforms are all in matching blue and white. Internally, an additional third guest bedroom has been brought into use, redecorated with a Cornish coastal theme. The other two letting bedrooms along with the tea rooms, which have already started their transformation with period pieces of furniture and Cornish artwork. The menu has changed somewhat, with the introduction of paninis and whitebait, with their aspiration for the establishment to become more traditional tea room and less fried food.

Louise Smith says "We have very touched by the warm welcome we have been given by local people and traders in Boscastle. We as a family,



are committed to making a positive contribution to area, with our daughter Molly in school in Boscastle and to providing a quality experience for all our customers. We will provide an extremely warm welcome along with fresh, tasty food, value for money friendly service, so please give us a try. We will be introducing

a local loyalty card that offers local customers a discount, and hope to see lot of our new neighbours through the Autumn and Winter season, where we will be still trading but in a reduced capacity to the summer months – check out our facebook page for updates"

Richard says "we will be

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## Bridge House

*continued*

joining the local Chamber of Trade and look forward to working with other businesses in the area for the benefit of the local community. We have moved to Boscastle to build a life as well as a business, and are very excited to be able to live and work in such a beautiful building with its heritage and in such a fabulous place as Boscastle."

Molly, who had her 5<sup>th</sup> birthday over the summer says "I just love our village and am so excited to start my new school. I love living by the sea at our new café hotel!"

Louise and Richard also have 2 dogs, Toffee and Hector, and have loved starting to get to know the many walks on their doorstep – the Autumn and Winter months will hopefully provide them with lots of opportunities to explore the local area and to try more of the local eateries and pubs themselves, bringing in the new year with new friends they have already begun to make and looking ahead to a very successful and exciting 2019 season.

## PAT'S GARDENING COLUMN

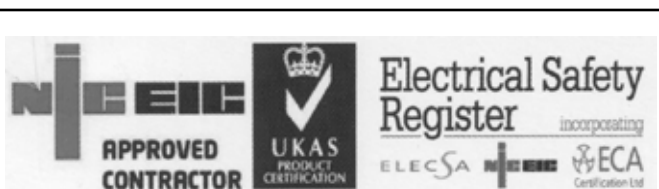
Well talk about flaming June and barbecue nights on the beach in July, but if this summer has been too fiercely hot and dry for some, 2018 was a good year in my garden nonetheless. After a hard and snowy February and early March there were no late frosts and spring seemed to happen overnight. And although everything really was a tad later than other years, including all my spring sowing, everything caught up in the end, just as I predicted. Certainly, I've never had such amazing success with my germination rate and with the warmth of the soil it seemed as if everything I put in the ground grew in enthusiastic profusion. Indeed, it was the first year ever that I have managed to grow such great bunches of basil, parsley and coriander that I have been able to make jars and jars of pesto and fresh green coriander chutney to go with my curries. And the summer annuals have been stunning, especially Cosmos Dazzler which has been covered in rich carmine flowers and shot up to about five or six

feet so had to be staked to keep it upright. And don't let's forget Cornflower Blue Boy which produced generous sprays of startling blue flowers. As the famous gardener Christopher Lloyd used to say, a good blue is the rarest colour in the garden. And in my view all the more welcome for that, especially teamed with the startling orange flowers of Californian poppy. But perhaps the most gratifyingly successful show was the brilliant display of Zinnias from half a dozen plants I rescued from Bodmin Herb nursery. Owner Mark Lawlor puts out plants in need of some TLC free to anyone who will take them home and nurse them back to health. Mostly all they need is a good drink fortified with a capful of liquid seaweed and away they go. And these six plants have flowered their brilliant socks off for months. I shall certainly be checking out the rejects section again next year.

Well, the garden may well be settling into its autumn/winter plumage, but that just gives you the chance to get on with all sorts of essential maintenance jobs. So, do them well before the weather turns nasty, and the surprises you'll get next spring will all be pleasant ones. Come on now, you didn't think autumn was the time to kick back and put your feet up, did you? When the autumn leaves stoop falling, I suppose I ought to get out the step ladder and clear out the

gutters not just of dead leaves but also lumps of moss which gather (rather attractively I think) on the slate roof – and which occasionally break off and block the gutters. But I'm not going to – or at least not whilst I have a hulking great grandson only too keen to come and help. And I'm going to keep him on hand to help with cleaning the garden tools and storing them away in the shed instead of leaving them out all winter in the cold and wet to get rusty like I usually do. But perhaps the nicest job at this time of the year is to plant your spring flowering bulbs. I always buy a few dozen more native daffodils to go in the wild flower meadow; eventually they will expand to create the most glorious and hopeful display. Crocuses are supposed to gradually increase in number to make a companion display with the daffodils but mine always seem to mysteriously disappear, probably mice I guess. I've grown masses of wallflowers from seed this year and now is also the time to move these strong little plants to their flowering places – I've chosen the rich velvety red of wallflower Fire King. And later in the autumn in will go the tulips. But all that is still to come. For now, let's just enjoy the season in all its glory and cross our fingers for a few crisp bright days to enjoy what Keats called the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness.

*Pat Thorne*



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**Boscastle WI**

**Royal Cornwall Show**

Having in previous years obtained third, then second place in the WI Royal Cornwall Shop Cup Competition, we were determined this year to go one better and achieve a first.

The theme this year was A Picnic on the Beach, and who better to create the masterpiece than those with lots of experience in doing so in previous years, invigorated by input from new members with fresh and innovative ideas.

Mary Shepherd, Mary Bedwell, Helen Hunt, Julie Potter and Celia Lloyd came up with an amazing creation and we WON.

Mary Bedwell's cheese straws, which were a vital component of our entry, also brought her

first prize in the catering competition. Those cheese straws were to die for: crisp, light and melt in the mouth! Mary Shepherd accepted the cup on our behalf on the Thursday, alas not presented by the Prince of Wales, but you can't have everything.

We are all so proud of all the effort put into it by our experts. What will they come up with next year?!!

Four of our members, also, went down to the show on Friday and worked either stewarding or serving cups of tea in the W.I. tent. There was still time to have a good look round all the stalls and witness the Grand Parade of the livestock.

Our meeting in June was held at Tintagel Brewery and, needless to say, some of our men folk were eager to tag along.

We were invited into where the beer is produced and shown a film on how it came into being and the process involved in making it.

It is based in a redundant milking parlour at the highest farmhouse above sea level in Cornwall and has been brewing since 2009. It uses fresh and pure spring water as part of the brewing process, English malts, hops and wet yeast.

We were invited to taste samples from each stage in the process but only a few were brave enough to try.

Following the film, we were given the opportunity to ask questions before heading off to their café for lunch where some of the beers brewed on the premises were savoured.

Our speaker in July was the Rev. Heather Aston's father, Arthur. The talk was down as The Late, Great Frank Sinatra but turned out to be Fred Astaire instead.

Not a problem, as Arthur proved to be an excellent speaker: hopefully he will return on another occasion to give us that talk about Frank Sinatra.

Fred Astaire had a fascinating life. Born Frederick on May 10<sup>th</sup> 1899, he was an American dancer, singer, actor, choreographer and television presenter. He is widely regarded as one of

the most influential dancers in the history of film and television musicals.

He started his career at a very early age, in a partnership with his sister which led one critic to write dismissively that he had no talent whatsoever. How wrong can you be!

His stage and subsequent film and television careers spanned a total of 76 years, during which he starred in more than 10 Broadway and London musicals, made 31 films, 4 television specials, and issued numerous recordings. As a dancer, he is best remembered for his sense of rhythm, his perfectionism, and as the dancing partner and on-screen romantic interest of Ginger Rogers, with whom he co-starred in a series of ten Hollywood musicals. This was amply demonstrated in the clips of some of his dancing shown us by Arthur.

In August we had our summer outing, this time to Cotehele, where an enjoyable day was spent by all who went.

We shall resume as normal in September refreshed and ready for the downhill stretch to

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Christmas! You would be most welcome to come and try us out. There is always time for a cuppa and biscuits following the meeting and a chance to chat and meet old friends and make new ones. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month in the Village Hall at 2.00 p.m.

Last but certainly not least, our own Helen Hunt really starred at the recent Camelford Show, winning numerous prizes so huge congratulations to her.

**Marshgate WI**

The beauty of stained glass, which gives so many old churches their magic and brings history, faith and art into stone buildings, was brought to Otterham & St Juliot Hall by Alan Endicott at the July meeting of Marshgate WI.

Alan spends a lot of time swaying on tall ladders and scaffolding – “Fortunately I’m not that bothered by heights,” he said – because his job is restoring and creating stained glass for

churches and other clients.

From angel- and saint-inspired antique church windows to stunning modern artwork, Alan has brightened the environments in many places with his work. He is the man who gets the call when vandals smash a priceless church window, or when someone wants a gorgeous piece of coloured glass artwork for their home or garden.

Alan showed the members how the pieces are created, using the glass, sometimes overpainted, and specially manufactured lead comes, which have channels to take the glass on either side and are soldered together on completion. Members had a chance to see fine details in the pieces, laid on a lightbox.

A life on the ocean wave...is under threat from over-use of plastics worldwide, as whales choke to death on carrier bags, turtles inhale drinking straws and micro-plastic particles outnumber plankton. But help is at hand to fight for watery wildlife, as Jules Agate from the Marine Conservation Society told members of



Marshgate WI when she arrived at their August meeting in Otterham hall. Using glowing slides – some a little upsetting as they illustrated the harm caused to marine life – Jules explained how menaces like plastic bottles, wet wipes and even cotton bud stalks can cause mayhem, illustrating her talk on the society’s work with slides.

The MCS was formed in the 1970s by concerned scientists and divers who had observed the damage being done by various

forms of pollution and over-fishing, but the story has changed locally as climate change has brought more exotic creatures close to our shores – and close to the damaging plastic pollution. (Left: Jules with Tallulah the Turtle, who goes with her to meet possible supporters, and is very popular with children. Tallulah is so realistic that a marine turtle called Friday at the National Marine Aquarium at Plymouth fell in love with her!)

After Jules’s talk members admired a big silver trophy the institute had won at Camelford Show the day before with a co-operative exhibit inspired by the countryside, a triumph which comes on top of our recent Second Place win at the Royal Cornwall Show.

Remember to check our website at [www.marshgatewi.org.uk](http://www.marshgatewi.org.uk) especially the messageboard page, and meet us on Facebook.

*Wendy Trevennor  
Secretary*

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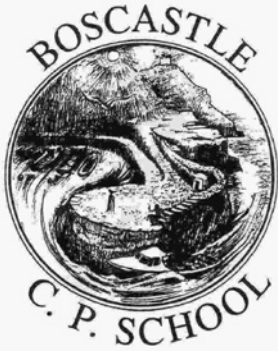
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As always for this edition, I am writing this sitting at my kitchen table whilst enjoying the summer break. This year I am also watching what I am sure is the entire local population of sparrows munch their way through their daily tube of feed. They do let the occasional Goldfinch have a quick snack. I am a new addition to the bird watching brigade having been bought a feeding station for my birthday by my bird watching obsessed sister. With one eye on the feeder and the other trying to answer the questions on The Chase this news could take quite a while to compose.

One benefit of the long summer break is that we can complete maintenance work on the school. This year we have decorated and replaced the flooring in the Class 1. This hasn't been decorated since it was built so was well overdue. We



have installed a laminate floor which is much better suited to the needs of 5 and 6 year olds and will also be much easier to keep clean. The room looks fresh and bright and with Mrs Hart and Ms Oxenbury starting their first complete year of their job share it feels like a new launch of our Early Years department!

Our last half of term started with sports day. This is probably the wrong thing to say, however we have been lucky with the weather every year since we brought sports day forward in our calendar. This year proved no exception ..... just! I have tried to develop a sports day that keeps everyone involved and where everything every pupil does counts to the overall result. We start with traditional sprints and then move to a series of relays involving throwing, jumping and running based around athletic skills. All the relays have a target e.g. most bean bags collected, most circuits completed and these are added together to find the winning team. The basics of the afternoon remain more or less the same however I do like to change one or two relays each year. Reflecting on this year I

decided we need a triple jump for next year – so I am planning something that includes hopping, skipping and jumping for next year. You will notice that I have not yet told you which team won. This is because despite the fact that I have just returned our shield engraved, I can't remember! I know the split loyalties that have been caused when we have inadvertently placed children in a different team to that which their parents

to us, they work well in teams, they are happy, fun and willing to have a go at everything' the instructors thoroughly enjoyed working with us too.

And so to our end of year School Play. This was always going to be an interesting year. Ms Oxenbury is our expert and usually starts working on the play in her after school Musical Theatre Club. This enables us to complete much of the work for the main characters (Year 6 pupils)



were in so I am reluctant to name a team! I will try and remember to update you in the next letter!

Fast on the heels of sports day came the residential trip for the children in Years 3,4,5 and 6. This year they completed the Dartmoor challenge which involved a trek across Dartmoor including a river crossing, camp followed by canoeing and raft building. Their visit also coincided with the start of the very hot weather so I think the river crossing and water activities were especially popular. The children all thoroughly enjoyed themselves and from the feedback I received: 'the children listen

without taking too much time out of the curriculum. However, Ms Oxenbury was on maternity leave and was returning part time at the beginning of June leaving us a short time frame. To find a school where four teachers can manage to produce a school show in which they have all had to direct rehearsals at some point during the week and not fall out in any way is quite unusual but that is exactly what happened. It is also a huge credit to our children that they managed to cope with working with different teachers leading rehearsals, a fast moving, humorous script full of repartee and learning 12 songs off by heart. I am sure I have said



We finished as always with our end of year assembly where we bade farewell to our Year 6 pupils and in some cases to families who have been with us for a number of years. Interestingly, I am writing this on the day that the GCSE results are announced and it is always a day when I wonder how 'our' pupils got on. I will be able to catch up with a few when we get back in the next week. To any past pupils out there however old, if you do have a little time it would be lovely to hear what you are doing; you will always belong primarily to Boscastle!

this before but after so many years in teaching and being used to the high standards achieved by our children I am not easily impressed however the two Dragon Days performances were fantastic. The standard of singing, acting, characterisation, solos and the clarity of the children's speech in particular were of a standard across the whole school that I have not seen before. Brilliant!



Despite the fact I haven't mentioned it – academic work does continue during the last half term! I've attached a couple of pieces of writing for you to read (*see next page*) along with various photographs of our activities.



Well I seem to have typed through The Chase, The News and Spotlight (and missed the weather forecast!) so I think I'd better make tea or there will be complaints!

I am looking forward to the start of the new academic year on September 4<sup>th</sup> – even after all these years it is still exciting. There can't be many jobs where you feel you have a new start every year: another good reason to be a teacher!

*Best wishes  
Sarah Duffy*



## Something Fishy

Between the sea and the sky, in a minute, dimly-lit building a petite, young woman sat on an unsteady, light pink chair. There were lengthy, wide lights dangling from tiny, thin pieces of string attached to the plain roof. The windows were as dusty as an attic that ~~was~~ nobody had visited for years; you could just make out the word 'laundret' through the ancient glass. The floor and walls were a black and white checked pattern.

Silently, the girl <sup>started</sup> sat her black and white magazine. She was wearing a very colourful, striped top and had short, ~~is~~ brown hair, that had been carefully put up in a pony tail. The girl wore tight, blue jeans and had a beautiful, grand bracelet on her wrist. She had large, brown eyes and tiny, pink lips.

Dreamily, she ~~start~~ peered into the washing machine. Without warning, several yellow and orange sock-fish glided past the glass. ~~She~~ Cautionously, the girl glanced around her to check nobody was watching her. Carefully, she opened the minute door. She ~~sneakily~~, she squeezed through the door and swam towards the ~~to~~ help forest, that appeared to be made out of money. There were many groups of fish that were all different colours. There was a large octopus made from a top and several turtles made from hats.

Oblivious, the girl swam quickly towards a yellow, glowing fish; trying to catch it. All of a sudden, a large object came swimming towards her... "Help," she screamed. The creature enormous shadow loomed over her. She scrambled to escape in

time; faster, faster and faster still, the creature swam towards her. It was a shark! The shark <sup>was</sup> made from gigantic jeans. Its ~~was~~ white, pointed teeth surrounded its cavernous mouth. Its eyes were coal about to be put on a fire. It chased and chased her and did not give up. It was gaining on her. She leapt out of the washing machine and the shark followed her. Luckily, as they left the washing machine the jeans turned into regular jeans. She was shaking. She touched the jeans; all of a sudden another large shark walked in and so politely said, "I think those are mine." The girl sat down and began to read her book once more.



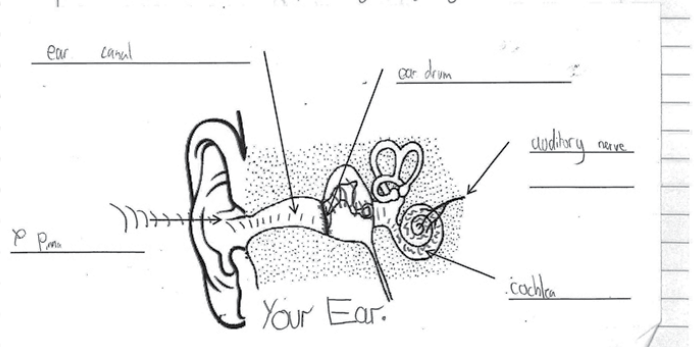
Friday 9th March 2018

## How do we hear Sound?

Have you ever wondered how you hear sound? Why your words make sense to other people? Well now you can stop wondering because in this one piece of text I can answer both of those questions, also I can give you some extra information on sound and how you hear it.

### Extra-ordinary Ears

Your ears have a brilliant mechanism when it comes to converting sound and I am here to explain it to you no matter how complicated it may seem. It remains to be said that there is vital to every human's survival. Here is a ~~diagram~~ diagram of your ear.



The soundwaves travel through the Pinna and into the ear canal where it keeps going and causes the ear drum to reverberate, where the ossicles (classic ear bones) amplify the sound and send it to the Cochlea (a spiral bone) that converts the soundwaves into electrical pulses, which are then carried to the auditory nerve which connects

your ear to your brain so that the electrical pulses can travel from one to the other.

### Super Sound and how it travels.

Sound needs a Solid, liquid, or gas to travel through because all of those are mediums <sup>but they are made of molecules</sup> (the circles are molecules) and because sound bounces off molecules, can you guess, which medium sound would travel through faster? Solid, Liquid, Gas. If you guessed solid then you're correctly guessed. It was solid because the ~~more~~ molecules were closer together, so that the sound can travel through them faster.

### Perfect pitch and what it is

Pitch is differentiated by whether the object generating the noise is vibrating quickly or slowly. If it is vibrating with speed it will create a high pitched sound, but if vibrating with less haste will create a low noise. Also to change pitch you can make objects more dense and smaller, for a higher pitch but if you want a low pitch you get the exact opposite spread out and big.

### To Conclude.

Sound is alot more than meets the ear and no-one knows for truly what it is, but we do know a little about how the ear translates sound. It has been a brilliant experience to teach you all I know about sound and I hope we do this again sometime.

### Glossary

Medium: an object comprised of molecules.



# North Coast Harmony



Wanting to spread a little musical love in our communities, on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August North Coast Harmony donned our smart new uniforms and Disco Beads, boarded the new Boscastle Community Minibus, and embarked on a whistle-stop 'Pop up tour' – 3 of our favourite songs sung at 5 locations. Starting at Camelford's Enfield Park Bandstand, we sang to the first of our appreciative audiences before hopping back on to the 'tour bus' to continue at Boscastle Farm Shop, Things Gift Shop,

and Trebarwith Strand, before finishing with Tintagel for carnival night. After returning the bus, our last stop was, of course, The Nap for a well earned drink! The afternoon was a roaring success, we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, and following some really positive feedback (and a fair few comments expressing disappointment at having missed us), we did it all over again on 18<sup>th</sup> August. We're hoping to be out and about singing in Boscastle again very soon – keep an

eye out for us! different, and many of us had never done anything like this before joining, but what we all have in common is a love and appreciation of music, a willingness to work at being the best we can be, and a commitment to supporting each other in that aim through friendship and teamwork. We also laugh, a lot!

We're always looking for women to join us, so why not give it a go? All the

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skills you need to learn to sing you'll gain each week in a supportive and friendly environment, with likeminded women. There is some homework; just learning songs with recordings we provide, and practicing techniques that you've been taught with the group. You'll be provided with all the resources you need, but you don't need to be able to read sheet music, or have done anything like this before. The only requirements are that you're 16 or over, love to sing and are willing to work at finding and developing your 'best voice'.

North Coast Harmony meets on Tuesday evenings in Boscastle. If you're interested in joining us, or want to know more, please get in touch, see contact details below.

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01840 250216 [www.riversideboscastle.co.uk](http://www.riversideboscastle.co.uk)

# National Trust

The winds are back after an exceptional summer. We have enjoyed the sun, warm evenings and watching the butterflies and bees buzz around but now it feels like a change is happening as the wind picks up and there is a slight chill in the air! Time to sit down with the blowhole and read about what has been happening with the National Trust...

see a Peacock glide past and then rest on the path to warm itself up and stare at you with its distinctive false eyes.

The Meadow brown is Britain's most common butterfly, it loves the warm summer days flitting through the meadows. There are also plenty of whites (small, large and green veined) using the



*Silver washed fritillary*

It zooms past, in a flash of orange, then plays around in the bracken and bramble looking for nectar. When they are feeding you can get a glimpse of their vivid orange wings decorated with black spots.

of patches of long grass, and plant-bee friendly plants but please try to limit the use of insecticides and chemicals.

This summer we have also used a survey technique that will assess at the state of two meadows in the Valency valley. It is a simple survey called a 'Rapid Assessment Survey' (RAS) which takes in to consideration the important positive indicator plant species (species which don't dominate and which we want to keep) such as, meadow cranesbill and yellow rattle. We are also able to determine the species which will have a negative impact on the environment (dominant/invasive). We are looking to improve the number of different plants which, in turn will have a positive impact on the insect communities within the valley. Hopefully the

In addition to our butterfly survey we have also started to monitor the bumble bees in the valley. It has been well documented in the media that bees are in real trouble. We are doing our bit to see how we can improve our habitat to encourage bees and other insects. This year we have done our annual hay cut to improve conditions for wildflowers to flourish. In addition to this we have left a strip around the edge for insects to find sources of nectar well into the autumn. You too can do your bit by leaving a wild area in your garden, ideally comprising



*Peacock*

It's been a brilliant year for butterflies, and the survey we do every week in Valency Valley. So far we have counted over 350 butterflies comprising of 19 different species. If you walk up the valley on a sunny day you would expect to see at least 10-15 different species. You may

footpath for navigating up and down the valley, but hard to identify which particular species unless they stop on a bramble bush for some nectar.

A favourite has got to be the stunning Silver washed fritillary which is the biggest and fastest butterfly we are likely to see in Boscastle.

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difference will be noticeable in the next few years so keep an eye on the valley in the spring/summer.

### Upcoming Events::

**Fri 28 Sept 5.30-9pm & Sat 29 Sept 4-9.30pm**

### **Cruel and Curious V: The Sea**

A curious collection of artwork comes together for this 'pop up' event, hosted by the National Trust at Stowe Barton and curated by Hickory Nines to interpret 'the Cruel and Curious Sea'.

Artwork is available to purchase. Bar and food available

Meet at Stowe Barton Farm, Kilkhampton, Bude. EX23 9JW

### **Sun 18 Nov 10am – 4pm Scrub bashing at Beeny Cliff, Boscastle.**

Keeping the scrub at bay at Beeny cliff.

Meet at layby near Boscastle farm shop (GR: SX 109 918) PL35 0HH

### **Tues 4 Dec 10am – 4pm Scrub bashing- Hillsborough, Boscastle.**

We will be cutting back encroaching scrub on the coast path at Hillsborough, Boscastle.

Meet at layby near Boscastle farm shop (GR: SX 109 918) PL35 0HH

Everyone is welcome, you don't need any experience.

We'll show you how to use the tools, so you can help us with the jobs.

Everything you need is provided, just wear clothes that can get dirty, stout footwear and bring lunch and a flask.

Please contact me for more information -

Jenny Herbert 01288 331372 jennifer.herbert@nationaltrust.org.uk

## **Cornwall ~ Foodie Central?**

Cornwall has become the gustatory centre of the UK. Advertisers have run out of superlatives describing the mouth-watering delicacies served by the growing numbers of brilliant young chefs setting up in exciting new venues across the County.

The success of the Olivers and the Ramsays have shown there are plenty of discerning foodies willing to shell out £100 a head on signature dishes. It is also possible (restaurant startups are three times as likely to fail as other businesses) to go spectacularly wrong.

I was once briefly (fortunately not financially) acquainted with a friend of a friend who launched a tapas joint in Bude. He intended to recreate the Brighton scene to attract a beau monde clientele. The money went on ambience leaving little for actual food. Went bust, owing fifty grand, in six months.

It is a joy at dinner parties to recount horror stories of dreadful meals, ghastly décor and truculent staff. My

particular bleat is chefs who need their beauty sleep by 8.30pm. I was once told I could order a main course but it was too late for a pudding.

Conversely I admired the chutzpa of Posh Dave in Port Isaac, a legend in rudeness and eccentricity. Strangely, his tiny restaurant opposite the quay was always crowded. One evening wife and I edged in and timidly inquired of a couple if we could share their table. Noting their obvious reluctance, Posh Dave brutally intervened - either my friends can sit here or you're on your bike.

Worst ever?

A "grub club" Thai curry evening. Chicken smeared in some sort of glaze, with coleslaw. Nothing wrong with coleslaw but not a renowned Asian delicacy. Half way through the evening there was an altercation between owners and the hired chef who flounced out. Any hint of an apology for this travesty? Not a chance.

Basic advice: if you

can't do something properly, like cook, don't start it as a business.

And oh, the French evening. On the wettest night of the year in a ramshackle wooden shed which dripped so badly our plates of onion soup filled up faster than we could slurp.

I blame the French, who openly despise their customers. Their staff have poncey titles like *maitre d'* or *sommelier* and on the *a la carte* menu "extras" include *pommes de terre frites*. Chips, as extras, for heavens' sake. Their weird strictures have infiltrated here, lunch 12-2, eat by 8 or starve and that glory of British cuisine, a full English, denied after eleven.

Or a friend's birthday treat at a respected hostelry. When she inquired of said host if they could hope to be fed before their next anniversary, "If you think you can do it any faster, come in here and help with the washing up."

Yes there are many fine restaurants in Cornwall. We have eaten in them. After squandering our children's inheritance at a certain eatery in Padstein we calculated it would have been cheaper to cross the channel and enjoy a *fruits de mer* in country of origin. Yes, France again, apologies.

CR



*Meadow brown*

# Opening Hours and Useful Numbers

## Camelford Library and Council One Stop Shop

Town Hall, Market Place  
Tel: 01840 212409

Tues: 9.30am - 5pm Thurs: 9.30am - 1.30pm  
Sat: 10am - 1pm

## Bottreaux Filling Station

*For fuel and grocery shopping*

Tel: 01840 250108

Monday - Friday 8am-6pm,  
Saturday 9am-5pm

## NatWest Bank

The Mobile NatWest bank calls at the main  
carpark on Fridays, from 1.45pm until 2.45pm

## Boscastle Spar

Tel: 01840 250419

Cash machine during business hours  
Post Office facilities  
Shop open daily at 6am

## Cornish Stores

Phone for opening hours

Tel: 01840 250344

## Mobile Library

0800 032 2345 or 01872 272702

Visits every fourth Friday:

Due at Boscastle, Paradise Road 10.20 - 10.40

Tintagel- King Arthur's carpark 10.55 - 11.15

5<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov, 30<sup>th</sup> Nov

## Waste Tip, Bowthick Quarry

Sanding Road, Tintagel

Tel: 01840 770778

Open Friday to Monday: 9am – 4pm

Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Year's Day

## Emergency Services:

Coastguard, Fire, Police, Ambulance: **Dial 999**

**Police Station:** For non-urgent issues: 101

**Doctors' Surgery** and out-of-hours emergency  
doctor: 01840 250209

**NHS Advice** : If you are feeling unwell and need a telephone  
health assessment, please call free of charge: 111

## Local Hospitals:

Bodmin - East Cornwall 01208 251300

Minor Injuries Unit 8 am – 10 pm, seven days a week

X-Ray department Monday to Friday 9am until 4.45pm.

Launceston Community 01566 761000

Minor Injuries Unit open 8 am - 8pm, seven days a week

X-Ray department Mon to Fri 8.30am - 5pm, Sun 9am-5pm

Stratton Community 01288 320101

Minor Injuries Unit open 24hrs, seven days a week

X-Ray department Monday to Friday 9am until 4pm

**NHS Emergency Dental Appt:** 01872 354 375

## Boscastle National Trust & Visitor Centre:

01840 250010 or 01840 250353

## Local Churches:

Church of England 01840 250359

Methodist 01840 214818

Catholic 01840 770663

**Harbourmaster:** 01840 250200

## Parish Council:

Chairman: 01840 250529

Clerk: 01840 230609 email: forminpc@gmail.com

**Community Centre Bookings:** 01840 250442

**British Divers Marine Life Rescue** to report concerns  
about any marine animals: 01825 765546

**RSPCA:** 0300 1234 999

**Cornwall Council One Stop Shop:** 0300 1234 111

**Environment Agency:** 0800 807 060

**Floodline:** 0345 988 1188

**South West Water emergency:** 0344 346 2020

**SWW leak reporting** 0800 230 0561

**Highways:** 0300 1234 222

**Western Power emergencies:** 0800 365 900

**Village Hall Bookings:** Jo Kent: 01840 250879

**Village website:** [www.boscastlecornwall.org.uk](http://www.boscastlecornwall.org.uk)