

WITHIEL

WITHIEL HALL

Coffee Morning (and Cake)



SATURDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 10am – 12 midday

Withiel Hall PL30 5NN

ALL WELCOME – free entry !!

**There will be a Trash & Treasure and Cake stalls, if you would like to
bring along some items**

All donations to Withiel Toddler Group

NEWS AND VIEWS

FEBRUARY 2024

The Parish Church of St Clement, Withiel
The United Benefice of St Wenn and Withiel
withielchurch@gmail.com

Acting Priest in Charge

Revd Cannon Chris McQuillen-Wright
 Office: Rachel Craze vicar@towanblystra.org 07903 326294

Church Wardens

Mrs E A Jarrett, The Mowhay, Withiel, PL30 5NN 01208 832872
 Mr S J Coy, Dipper Bridge, Ruthernbridge, PL30 5LU 01208 831906

Secretary

Mr S J Coy, Dipper Bridge, Ruthernbridge, PL30 5LU 01208 831906

Treasurer

Vacant

February 2024

Sunday 28th January 2024	11. 15 am	Morning Prayer on Sunday CW Page 30 taken by Don McQuillen-Wright
Sunday 4th February 2024	11. 15 am	Communion Order One CW Page 167 taken by Revd Canon Chris McQuillen-Wright
Sunday 11th February 2024	11. 15 am	Morning Prayer on Sunday CW Page 30 taken by Allan Coode
Wednesday 14th February 2024		No Service at Withiel
Sunday 18th February 2024	11. 15 am	Morning Prayer on Sunday CW Page 30 taken by Julie Barnecutt
Sunday 25th February 2024	11. 15 am	Morning Prayer on Sunday. CW Page 30 CW Page 167 taken by Don McQuillen-Wright
Sunday 3rd March 2024	11. 15 am	Morning Prayer on Sunday CW Page 30 taken by Julie Barnecutt

Dates for Your Diary

Tuesday 13th Feb 6 pm
 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party in the Church Room. Details Joyce 01208 831464

Flowers

February S. Thomas

March C. Malone April A. Davey

From the Rectory

The Churchwardens started a debate on making the our church yards “Living Churchyards” at the Harvest Festival Service held on Sunday October 1st 2023. For as long as anyone can remember Tony Liddicoat kept the churchyards in excellent order, in his own time and without reimbursement for materials. We were very grateful to him and this is but one of the many activities that he was involved with in the Village that we will miss even more now he has gone.

Last year, Withiel Parish Council, taking account of the service the Churchyards provides to the Parish and not just the Church, paid for six grass cuts, and will do so again in 2024. However, there is more to running a churchyard than cutting the grass.

After discussion with parishioners and the wider community Withiel PCC proposes to make formal proposals that will make the churchyard a living churchyard. The project will begin through increasing floral diversity and encouraging increased insect diversity and abundance. This will be achieved through both altered management of the churchyard and through the planting of 400 native wildflower plug plants. These plants are selected to maximise use by indigenous insects and therefore increasing numbers of insectivores also. They will be allowed to flower and go to seed.

The plants will be grown locally but planted as a community activity. Likewise hedgehog houses and insect hotels will be made locally and installed during a community event. The aim is to increase use of the churchyard by both people and wildlife.

Our aim is for this project to be the beginning of an evolving, community led initiative to enliven this community space for people and wildlife over many years.

This has yet to be agreed by the PCC, but we intend to apply for a Grant from the St Breock Wind Farm Community Fund 2024 round to help cover the cost.

Simon and Betty

Congratulations!

Will Biddick and wife Harriet were delighted to welcome Oliver Rupert Penno into the world on 21st December 2023, weighing 8lbs 4ozs – a brother for Archie.

WITHIEL WI MEETING

It was good to meet again after the Christmas and New Year break and our first speaker of the year was member Angie Richardson who for over 20 years has owned a cottage in Brittany. We were treated to a very entertaining account of the process including finding a property, purchasing and renovating. Angie explained how the legal procedure is very different to how things work at home in the UK. We were given three photograph albums to look at with pictures from the beginning right through renovation to the beautiful retreat she and her husband, Keith, have today. The work involved in both the cottage and the garden has been an enormous task made easier by having visiting friends and family as well as neighbours all pitching in to help.

Since Brexit things have become a lot more difficult regarding travel and the length of time anyone can spend in France. Also having passports and vaccinations for pets can be very expensive and all paperwork is scrutinised at Border Control, Angie told of someone who was turned away because even though the paperwork was in order it wasn't stapled together!

We were given some hilarious accounts of getting to grips with the French language and how a mobile phone app will translate from one language to another though when a person attempts to the language the French can be most helpful and obliging. Everyone present really enjoyed Angie's talk and there were lots of questions asked at the end.

Competition: A drawing of a Frenchman or the Eiffel Tower
1st Angie Richardson 2nd Heather De Boer 3rd Liz Capp

Flower of the month
1st Margaret Fryett 2nd Rosanna Marks joint 3rd Barbara Varcoe & Angie Richardson

Our next meeting will be on Friday 2nd February in Withiel Village Hall at 7.15pm when our speaker will be Ben Jobs an ex police dog handler, if you would like to come along ladies you will be made most welcome.

Erica



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Withiel Village Hall Social Group – Proposed Event Calendar 2024

Saturday 3rd February – Tea and a chat 10 – 12am

Saturday 24th February – Bingo – 7pm

Saturday 2nd March – Tea and a chat 10 – 12am

Saturday 16th March – Quiz – 7pm

Saturday 13th April – Craft Fayre 10am – 2pm

Saturday 25th May – Bingo – 7pm

Saturday 26th October – Bingo – 7pm

Withiel St. Johns Ambulance 1993

Back row left to right

G. Pedlar D. Carter A. Liddicoat J. Bird J. Warren C. Andrew L. Burrows T. Williams
 C. Martyn J. Osborne J. Pedlar S. Couch T. Liddicoat G. Scott M. Liddicoat M. Liddicoat
 Rev. W. B. Steward ...?.... Princess Chula W. Beare Sir Rowland Mr. Pender T. Hawken
 H. Williams V. Liddicoat N. Burrows R. Rouse

Withiel St. Johns Football Team

D. Whiting B. Beare P. Udy J. Warren D. Carter T. Liddicoat
 P. Andrews J. Ellis C. Andrews G. Pedlar G. Varcoe

Joyce's Photographs centre page

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STRIDING OUT

Leaving home in the dark is fine at certain times of the year when it doesn't require getting out of bed at some ungodly hour and still being able to watch the sun coming up. I was at Holywell Bay recently just before the sun came over the top of the hill and before all the dog walkers came to fill the beach and the dog poo bins!

The freshness of the day and the colours of the sky were beautiful as were the plumes of white where the waves crashed into the base of the cliffs, another named storm had passed through the previous day creating a very rough sea.

We walked along the coast path skirting Penhale camp with all its the old barracks looking shabby and neglected, broken windows as well as weeds and brambles adding to the desolate appearance. Chain link fencing and razor wire surrounds the actual camp and there has been a battle between the authorities and property developers to get planning to build holiday homes which, in my opinion, would ruin the whole area.

Walking around the headland at Ligger Point we were walking straight into the wind causing Eddie to wear his ears flat against his head and me to lean forward to be able to keep the momentum going. Once around the point it became a little easier as we headed for Perranporth, the long beach stretching away with only one other couple and a dog enjoying the bracing air. There was never any danger of falling off the cliff even though the path passes close to the edge because the wind would keep even the most unsure walker well on the track. Eventually we came down onto the beach where I could let Eddie off the lead and he could put his foot down and accelerate along the sand doing his canine version of loop the loop. There were countless cuttlefish scattered along the sand not to mention bits of plastic and net washed in on the last tide.

I walked along the beach and then climbed up a track through the dunes to pick up another path that comes behind the whole length, and running parallel to, the beach but following the red and white markers that are the boundary of the military zone. Passing through a broken handgate turn left and follow the well worn path inland where the view of the expansive sand dunes took me by surprise, I hadn't realised they were so vast and cover well over 2600 acres. There were a lot of hawthorn trees laden with masses of red berries which provide winter long feeding for birds and I was delighted to hear a skylark singing even though it was November. In the spring-time the whole dunes area is renowned for the cowslips that grow in abundance here.

Slightly to the right of the path stands a large concrete cross to indicate the proximity of St Piran's oratory and once you climb up the mound to the cross it is easy to see. The ancient chapel is now in ruins and has at various times been covered in sand although in 1910 an ugly concrete 'shed' was built around it to prevent it being swallowed by blowing sands again but by 1980 it was lost once more only to be excavated yet again in 2014. Walking a little further a tall granite cross is seen and close by are the remains of the ruined St Piran's church. Each spring on St Piran's day, 5th March, hundreds of people along with druids make a pilgrimage across the dunes to take part in a service at the ancient holy site.

Walking away and bearing slightly right handed the footpath is marked with occasional painted white stones which will bring you out to the council road where we turned left and walked through the hamlet of Mount with the spire of Cubert church on the skyline across the valley before dropping downhill to the main entrance into Penhale Camp.

The gates are locked but there is a footpath sign just to the right which goes through a field gate and out across the edge of the commons keeping fairly close to a deep and fast flowing stream. It is an easy path to follow but I wouldn't say it was well used other than in the summer when there are more people around and not so much standing water everywhere. A wooden marker post takes you into the willow trees and comes to a strong wooden bridge across the river and into a well enclosed and ancient lane which emerges at Trebiskan, bear left into another lane which will now take the walker across two fields before passing behind Ellenglaze. Coming out onto a dead end road turn left for a short way and at a turning place pick up the footpath on the right which follows the river, passing through a holiday park and this will bring you out into the village of Holywell where this walk started.

Erica

Withiel Short Mat Bowls Club

FREE TASTER SESSIONS

If you would like to try your hand come along, no age limit, no equipment necessary, Wednesday afternoons 2.00—5.00 and Thursday evening 7.00—10.00

Withiel village hall

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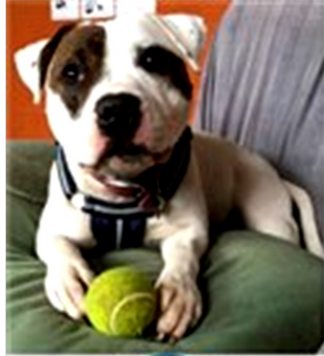


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Withiel Parish Council January 3rd 2024 Report

Apologies were received from Councillors Martin Davies, Ms. Amelia Lake and Ed Piper. There were no members of the public attending the meeting.

Cornwall Councillor Mrs. Jenny Cruse wished everyone a Happy New Year. She reiterated that Councillors and members of the public must report blocked drains or ditches which might lead to flooding in the parish via the Cornwall Council Highways link in the Withiel Parish Council minutes or agenda, as heavy rainfall has continued to cause problems everywhere. She says that Cormac respond very well when advised of issues. The cutback on the annual maintenance budget means that a lot of drains remain blocked. Councillors discussed asking a representative from Cormac to visit the parish and have a look at the various sites prone to flooding but were advised that Cormac were overwhelmed with problems at the moment. She said she had been very disappointed at the decision to allow 84 hectares of good farming land to be turned into a solar farm. She feels that we should all be supporting our local growers because this is the most environmentally sound way of producing and distributing food. Cornwall Councillor Mrs. Jenny Cruse raised the matter of salt bins and asked if Withiel had any. Members of the Parish Council explained that the Parish Council had historically decided against them as it was not clear who would be responsible for correct spreading and, in spite of the obvious need on the steep hills leading to the area, no one could take responsibility for the salt with impunity. This leads to an absurd situation as no one dares to spread the salt!

Councillor Ms. Janet Shearer said she had been in touch with Cormac to request an update on progress regarding the defective stiles at Brooklands and below Bosneives. The sites have been inspected and Cormac will try and assist with the cost of upgrading the access to this footpath if possible within the constraints of the relevant budget. Legally the landowner is responsible for maintaining access where livestock is involved, but where the original stiles are no longer acceptable, Cormac may financially contribute to the upgrade.

The National Grid proposes to refurbish and improve the 43CG circuit to three phase from Tremore to Borleasevath, which all councillors approved of. An objection was maintained to PA23/08612 - the formation of an annexe to replace an existing garage - with comments in line with discussion at the December meeting. It was established that this site is in the parish of Lanivet, but Withiel Parish Council was consulted as it lies on the boundary between Withiel and Lanivet. The objection is detailed within the minutes of the last meeting.

The monthly expenditure totalled £354.96 for the Clerk's salary, tax and bank charges.

The application process for Voltaise Solar funding and other funds managed by the Parish Council will be discussed at the next meeting and suitable organisations will soon be able to apply. Please get in touch with the Clerk (clerk@withielparishcouncil.org.uk) if you would like information about money which might help a local project get off the ground.

The Chairman, who was unable to attend the meeting, sent a report on a planning training session he had taken part in and says he feels that it is important to highlight planning breaches to the Enforcement Team at Cornwall Council in order to uphold the rules and would like to encourage all residents to do this whenever possible.

The date of the next meeting will be February 7th at 7pm in the Village Hall and, as always, all are very welcome.

ST WENN GARDEN CLUB

Here is our programme for the coming months. All are welcome to attend and you don't need to know anything about gardening to come along. Subscriptions are £7 for the year (paid in full in October) or £2 per session to pay as you go.

5th February – Kate Dibble – All About Compost

4th March – Cornwall Bee Society

8th April – TBC

We meet on the first Monday of the month from 7.30-9.00p.m. in St Wenn WI Hall. Refreshments are provided. We welcome any donations for the raffle and for the cuttings table.

Please get in touch if you have any questions.

Sharron Lobb

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Magazine article for Withiel

The New Year is upon us, Christmas is over, snowdrops are peeping through, and it is time to embrace 2024 and whatever it may bring. New resolutions will be made, and many will involve cutting back on maybe the chocolates, wine or perhaps resolve to exercise more. Over Christmas I spent time talking to my 92-year-old -mother-in-law: - she reminisced about the war years, and something that struck me was that rationing lasted for many years after the war and food shortage was even greater than during the war. Working on the land and feeding the country was essential.... which brings me on to my own concerns for the future of Cornwall. I was very disappointed to hear of the 84 hectares of good farming land to be turned to a solar farm in mid Cornwall. Quite apart from the visual impact which will be with us for 40 years the loss of best and most versatile farmland is something I cannot feel comfortable with. Here in the south of England we have already housed 50% of the UK solar panels and here in the UK we have cut our emissions by 47% the highest amount in the whole of Europe. In other words, we are doing our part. I agree that we need to harness our solar power, but the solar farms can be positioned in more appropriate places. We do not know what is round the corner and to me we should be conserving our farmland and supporting our farmers. Importing exotic and previously unknown fruit and vegetable from all round the world may be an enjoyable thing but we should be looking to producing and supporting what we can do locally, this is evidently much more valuable for our environment. And we should make conserving our green spaces, our valuable farmland, and National Landscapes priority. In my ward we are so blessed to be living close or in one of our most iconic AONBs (now named National Landscapes). New planning considerations 'actively seek to further the purpose of conserving and ENHANCING the natural beauty of the National Landscape. I will continue to work for these fundamental requirements to be upheld.

At Full Council I asked if the uplift of 3.4 million for potholes could be used in a more flexible way to improve maintenance and to deal with some specific flooding problems. Receiving extra funds should enable more general works to be done. We unanimously supported a motion to Defend Democracy as many Councillors have been on the receiving end of abusive behaviour. This is not a problem unique to Cornwall and it does mean that there is a reluctance of women, young people, and some minorities to come forward to stand. Help is needed to monitor where Councillors are getting harassed and intimidated and a process in place to deal with the situation. I have been very lucky and have only found my residents supportive and encouraging and I have personally been so grateful for all the help I have received. It is a pleasure to work with residents and my Parish Councillors who give so generously of their time to keep our communities safe and looked after.

Best wishes for the New Year and may we all work together to keep Cornwall the beautiful and peaceful place we can all enjoy.

Cllr.jennifer.cruse@cornwall.gov.uk

07710219465



WITHIEL VILLAGE HALL

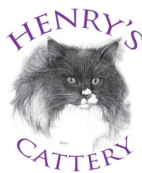
Saturday 24th February

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Photos courtesy Joyce Rundle

Tony

I would like to share some memories of my life in the village with Tony.....

Tony was the eldest of eleven children. He had seven sisters and three brothers. We all went to school together and joined in the village activities, enjoying many events like the Withiel Carnival. Tony enjoyed football, whist drives, bell ringing, darts and bowls. From the age of nine to eighteen Tony worked for my father on the farm in the village. They both shared a love of football and Bernard, my father, would take Tony to football matches that they enjoyed together. At the age of eighteen Tony joined the RAF

Playing whist with his family, in the church room and village hall, from a young age Tony was always keen to welcome people to the village and encourage them to get together and join in. We both attended St. John's Ambulance classes run by Bill Breare who was in the ambulance service. We learned to march as well as the first aid and medical training, taking exams and earning certificates. Tony would go on night calls with Bill to help with sickness and accidents.

Among many other lads Tony learned to ring the bells, at first there were about twenty to thirty ringers and they took part in contests from a young age. He also judged ringing competitions. Tony took over as "Captain of the Tower" from my father later in life. He organised bell ringing trips all over Cornwall and Devon, often with well over fifty people. They were very popular and enjoyed by all. Sadly it was only Tony and myself who were ringing from the latter group.

He was in the darts team at Lanivet for many years. Tony was always friendly, sociable and good fun. He built the bus shelter that we have at the top of the village today and was on the Parish Council for many years. When the village hall was built, Tony, along with his wife Catherine were the caretakers, they also ran the post office. They took hall booking, sold raffle tickets and were guaranteed to be seen at every event. He was a founding member of Withiel SMBC and the club treasurer.

He was church sexton for many years and was diligent in taking care of church property. Until recent years he cut the grass in the churchyard and cemetery. At the annual duck race, in aid of the church, he would help to set up and support, again selling raffle tickets. He was treasurer of the PCC and always wanted to help in any way he could.

Deservedly, for his years of dedication he was awarded the Freedom of the Parish the highest honour that the parish council can bestow. I don't think anybody could have done more for the village. Tony will be missed by many— and certainly by Withiel village itself.

Life time friend Joyce.

ST WENN GARDENING CLUB

How lovely to see so many of you at our January meeting despite the dreadfully cold weather. Our speaker was Jim Stephens: enthusiast and expert on all things 'Camellia'. Jim worked at Duchy Cornwall Nursery for many years and is now a volunteer for the National Collection of Camellias at Mount Edgcumbe where they have the largest collection of Camellias in Cornwall. Jim acknowledged that there was so much to talk about that he would never fit it in to 45 minutes but he introduced us to a small sample of the 800 varieties of Camellia that there are, and explained that there of over 1700 plants at Mount Edgcumbe. There are some lovely varieties such as Mystique, Showgirl, Flowergirl, Dainty, Twilight, Spring Festival and Bob Hope! Jim showed us how to transfer a Camellia from a pot to the ground, or from one place to another, how to prune them and how to propagate (although this is a bit tricky). If you want to learn more about Jim's work with Camellias, he has a very informative website called www.jimscamellias.com

Our next meeting is on Monday 5th February at 7.30pm in St Wenn WI Hall where we will be learning 'All About Compost' with Kate Dibble. All are welcome, and it is just £2 per meeting (unless you have paid the annual subscription). Free tea, coffee and biscuits are provided and we welcome donations for the raffle and the cuttings table.

Sharron Lobb
Chairman of St Wenn Gardening Club.

Save the Dates

8th March

Carntocove at St Wenna's Church PL30 5PS

7:30 start 6:30pm for booked Tapas, Bar

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23rd March

Trevera Male Voice choir at St Wenna's Church PL30 5PS

Start 6:30pm Bar

Recently sang at the Hall for Cornwall.