



# BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE

No 56 Winter 2006

£1



## ☆ ALBERT ~ WHAT A STAR! ☆

*see page 10*

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# Editorial - No Parking

Many people were unaware of the memorial plaque in Valency Fields until the photograph appeared in the spring issue of the Blowhole. Since then a lot has been written about it and a great deal of research has been carried out. One of the local newspapers picked up the story and covered it in depth. Whilst many interesting facts have been revealed

it seems unlikely that everyone will be satisfied with the findings. However, what is certain is that part of the field will be turned into a car park.

There are those who will remember the little space, across the road from the Cobweb and the Manor House, with room for just a few cars. They have seen it grow and watched it

go further up the valley where it remained until much of it was washed away two years ago. Part of it will be sacrificed for flood prevention and the current work simply replaces that which has been lost.

Whatever may happen in the future nothing could justify any further encroachment. What is left must remain, as it is, green fields. Recall the

words of that popular song? "...Don't it always seem to go, that you don't know what you got till it's gone. They paved paradise and put up a parkin' lot..."

The editorial team were very disappointed with the quality of the photographs in the Autumn edition. The printers have since acquired new software and this should resolve the problem

## Boscastle Blowhole Editorial Team

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

The team are: Arthur Bannister, Daphne Rogers, Philippa Arthan, Joan Cork, Chris Rodda, Noel Ward and Mary Shepherd.

The next Blowhole will be published in mid September. The deadline for copy is 23rd February. Please ensure that your copy reaches us by then or we may be unable to include it. Thanks

For advertising queries, contact Daphne Rogers 01840 250244

Copies of the Blowhole are available by post at a cost of £1.95 per issue - price increase due to increased postal charges, sorry - phone 01840 250483

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# Here and There

## Car Park

There was no response to the request in the last issue of the Blowhole for comments regarding space for residents in the car park. This was disappointing when considering the rates and concessions other towns and villages enjoy. Our car park is expensive and very profitable for NCDC with no direct benefit for those who live here.

Earlier this year Mary and Don Sharp wrote on the subject setting out a number of interesting proposals that the District Council should consider. Think again and if you have any ideas pass them on to our Parish Clerk, Bob Smith on 01840 250440 or email [formin.parish@virgin.net](mailto:formin.parish@virgin.net)

## Children's Hospice South West

The sum of £300 was raised at the cream tea held at Trefoil Farm, the home of John and Paula Perfli, on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. All proceeds were for the Children's Hospice South West. Thank you to everyone who supported us. *Vivien Hircock*

## Residents' Association

The response to the possible formation of a residents' association was nominally better than for the car park but even so not enough to make any decisions except to close the meeting!

Perhaps some further thoughts next year?

## The World's Biggest Coffee Morning.

Earlier this year Lynn Biddick opened up her home as part of The World's Biggest Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief. As well as coffee Lynn served up hot pasties and biscuits. There were also raffles, books and bric-a-brac as well as a home-made cake and preserves stall.

The event raised the sum of £550 for the fund.

## Local Council Elections. 2007

On Thursday 3 May 2007 voting will take place to elect new District, Town and Parish Councils. There are ten seats on the Forrabury and Minster Parish Council. Like the District Council, those elected will remain in office for four years. Our Council meets once a month with occasional planning meetings in between. However, there is work to be done outside these meetings. Being a councillor is an onerous task not to be taken lightly. It can be time consuming and sometimes frustrating but it can also be very rewarding.

In 2003 there were only ten nominees for the ten seats in Boscastle, which meant they were returned unelected. Let us hope that there is a far better response in 2007

## Harbour Light Café Opens



When Trixie Webster reopened the restored Harbour Light as a cafe she held a preview day and invited locals in to celebrate the occasion. Pictured are Ruth Parsons, Pat & Matt Wood sampling some tasty nibbles.

Copyright photos courtesy David Flower

## Bus shelter

The provision of a bus shelter near the junction of Paradise Road and Tintagel Road is being considered for those travelling towards Tintagel. A notice to this effect was posted on the bus stop at Doctors Corner asking for comments to be made to our Parish Clerk. To date only one passenger has responded and she was very much in favour of the idea. Please contact Bob Smith if you wish to comment. 01840 250440 [formin.parish@virgin.net](mailto:formin.parish@virgin.net)

## Mermaid Centre

Following successful surgery for breast cancer earlier this year I organised a "Light Lunch" of home made soup, mince pies and coffee. Thanks to the wonderful support of friends and neighbours, including kind donations of raffle prizes, the magnificent sum of £355 was raised for the Mermaid Centre.

My special thanks go to Vivian, Carol and Marion for all their help.

*Ann James*



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website: [www.thenaturalhealingclinic.co.uk](http://www.thenaturalhealingclinic.co.uk)

## Parcel Delivery Scam

The Trading Standards Office are trying to make people aware of the following scam:

A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0906 6611911 (a premium rate number).

DO NOT call this number, as this is a mail scam originating from Belize. If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message you will already have been billed £15 for the phone call.

## Yoga Class Starting in January

A new yoga class is starting at Boscastle Community and Recreation Centre. The classes will start on Wed 10th January 2007 and run from 7pm to 8.30pm.

The teacher, Margaret Kirkwood, is new to this area and is a great believer in Yoga as a way of healing and relaxing the mind, body and spirit. Anyone, at any age, can benefit from Yoga.

Margaret has been practicing Yoga for over 30 years and has been teaching for 22 years. She will be teaching a system of Yoga which will help you to learn to relax in a gentle, natural way.

You will learn breathing exercises, which will enable you to feel calm and peaceful and help to ease the stress we often feel. The breathing techniques can also help with respiratory

problems and infections. When you feel more relaxed we will practice Yoga movements, called asanas, which have been developed over thousands of years to cleanse, heal and tone the body. At the end of each class there will be time to lie down to further relax both mind and body.

To enrol and find out more please phone Margaret on 01840 230144.

## Welly Charity Night

The Welly Angels charity night on the 29th September had a theme of Heroes and Villains! We had a great time and managed to give the final push to our money pot and raised in excess of £1400. This money will be donated in the New Year to Marie Curie Cancer Care once the final two girls have done their jumps. Samantha Ferris and Rachel Bird did their jump on the 31st October and lived to tell the tale! SR

## Carn Awn Singers

The Singers performed at a concert for the Visually Impaired Club at St Minver in late November and will be at Trelights Chapel on 11th December.

Carn Awn Singers were invited to sing at the Eden Project at their Children in Need event, (also Eden was the evening base for the BBC in the Southwest). They had a great time and all enjoyed it although there was some competition from Pudsey! However they had an appreciative audience and it was a new and exciting experience. The Team at Eden made them very welcome and made a very generous donation for

their chosen charity, The Children's Hospice (South West).

If you are planning a concert or would like further information about the Singers, please contact Jane Sadleir on 01840 213796

## University Graduates

The following have all graduated from University this year:

James Arthan, Jos Bond, Ian Burnard, Cathy Higgs, Ian Nicholls, Rachael Smith.

Congratulations and best wishes in your future careers.

\*\*\*  
\* **Thank You** \*  
\* To everyone who \*  
\* donated gifts & presents \*  
\* in our Christmas \*  
\* hampers & to all those \*  
\* who sent cards, we wish \*  
\* to express our heartfelt \*  
\* thanks. Your generosity \*  
\* means so much to all \*  
\* of us. \*  
\* **We hope you all have a** \*  
\* **wonderful Christmas.** \*  
\* Many, many thanks \*  
\* *Wanda, Jay, Ian,* \*  
\* *Melody, Faye,* \*  
\* *Daisy & Rose* \*  
\*\*\*



Photo taken outside the Cornish Goodies shop on October 29th 2006. Pictured are some of the staff at the shop which closes for good on Tuesday 31st October.

L to R: Margaret Baker, Pat Gilbey, Glenys Dallow and Chris Goreham. (Missing from the picture was Leah Pethick)

The premises have been purchased by the National Trust, who recently bought the Harbour Cafe and, with the acquisition of Cornish Goodies, they now own the whole of the front of this block. The Trust have submitted plans to convert part of their premises into a shop & café.

Copyright photos courtesy David Flower

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## Boscastle & Crackington Gig Club 1st Annual Awards



*Award winners L to R: Steve Higgins, Hannah Crocker, Trevor Beare, Danielle Beetles, Jess Brown, Lizzie Crocker, Dan Tucker, Steve Fusaro*

On Saturday 14th October the Boscastle & Crackington Haven Gig Club held its 1st ever Awards event at Juliot's Well in Camelford. The event was well supported with over 65 attendees. The evening started with a lovely three course meal followed by the highlight of the evening an 'Oscar' style awards ceremony.

Winners were: Men's Rower of the Year: Steve Higgins; Grunter of the Year: Hannah Crocker; Coxswain of the Year: Trevor Beare; Ladies' Rower of the Year (sponsored by The Cobweb Inn): Danielle Beetles; Most Improved Rower of the Year (sponsored by The Cobweb Inn): Jess Brown; Young Rower of the Year: Lizzie Crocker;

Crab Catcher of the Year: Dan Tucker; Club Person of the Year (sponsored by The Coombe Barton Inn): Steve Fusaro.

The finale was a fantastic musical performance by Max Piper and John Maughan, aka the Boscastle Busker.

With the dark nights well and truly taking effect our winter rowing schedule will be as follows:

Every Sunday:  
 11am, Mens (contact Pete on 01840 230335)  
 12am General Row (contact Seagull on 01840 211582).  
 1pm Ladies (contact Sarah Jones 01840 230097).  
 Location either at Port Gaverne (if it is a low tide or too rough at Boscastle) or Boscastle Harbour (if it

is high tide and calm) - so check your tide tables beforehand. It is always best check to the website [www.boscastleigclub.org.uk](http://www.boscastleigclub.org.uk) for updates.

New clubmembers are always welcome. Also don't forget that every Monday we have Circuit Training with 'Killer' Kelvin, starting at 7pm Crackington Institute, again all are welcome.

### Two AA Rosettes

The AA has awarded the Wellington Hotel & chef Scott Roberts, 2 Rosettes. "Innovation, greater technical skill and more consistency and judgement in combining and balancing ingredients are all needed at this level."

## Questionnaire

A Sustainable Energy Questionnaire was delivered with copies of the Autumn Blowhole, as part of a research project by Jodie West, a PhD student at Exeter University. About 110 completed questionnaires were returned and Jodie held two workshops in late November to discuss issues in greater depth. She has promised to write a summary of some of her findings in a future edition of the Blowhole.

## Boscastle Short Mat Bowls Club

The Bowls Club has again entered the Northern Area Winter League, Division One. So far six games have been played with Boscastle winning two games and losing four. Membership is now up to twenty-one registered players.

We are starting a second bowling session on Friday afternoons at 2.00pm in the Community and Recreation Centre. Any one wishing to give it a try would welcome. For further information please ring Carole Flower on 01840 250558

## FM Radio Reception

Carole Vincent discovered that she can get fm radio reception on 105.8 and suggests others try that wavelength.

## Boscastle Gallery

The Bridge, Boscastle

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*Paintings by local artists*

*A wide selection of prints and cards plus an unusual mix of gifts and gadgets.*



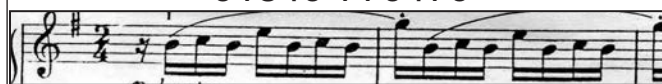
Vacancies exist for adults and children (beginners or advanced) to have

### Piano or Keyboard Lessons

to be taught in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere by a junior school teacher with over 20 years of experience of piano teaching in Cornwall. Parents are welcome to attend the lessons For further details please ring

Peter L Henry BA, LTCL

01840 770470



# Ten Years ago in the Blowhole



## National Award for Sue Wallis

Following nominations from Boscastle residents Sue Wallis was presented with the National Dairyman's Association's Care Award. Just eighteen awards have been made since the scheme was implemented and Sue is only the second woman to be recognised in this way.

*(Sue's father, Fred still goes out on the round although now in his nineties).*

**Barry and Elaine Hedges'** enthusiasm for cooking was fulfilled when they took over the Miller's Pantry in the Old Mill, Barry having worked for the previous owner. Being vegetarians they were aware of the lack of suitable places to eat and

so decided to turn the Pantry vegetarian.

Barry gave us a recipe then and has borrowed one from the WI Book of Cornish Recipes. It is best read out loud.

## Currany 'obbin

Make a stiffish paste with flour and lard and a pinch of salt, not no baking powder. Wet it up with milk if you got, and water if you ab'n got it. Roll it out nice and thin and sprinkle it all over with currans, nice and thick. Then roll it up careful like you would your starch clothes, squeeze home the ends and brish it over with the white of an egg if you want it to shine. Then clap 'em in the ob'n. The children do dearly like it, and as they say currans be full of they new fangled vitamines the doctors be always ordering, they ought to be good for 'em.

If you get tired of currans you can make a figgy wan fer a change.

PS: Figs is just Cornish for raisins.

## Fred Jewell

Fred Jewell, a well-known character who was born in 1910 and spent his whole life in the area, has died. He was featured in the very first edition of the Blowhole when he was able to prove ownership of his employer's heifer.

In November 1940 'Jenny' the heifer was credited in the local press with 'winning' a case between two Boscastle farmers which had been brought to Camelford County Court. One had claimed the other had detained the animal unlawfully. In the course of the hearing, His Honour Judge Scobell Armstrong adjourned the court to a nearby field where Fred Jewell, the cowman, called to the heifer. It immediately came to him, and climbed on his back.

*(The story came to light again when a photograph taken by the late George Ellis, and part of his collection, was donated to the Cornwall Centre in Redruth. It is reproduced here by kind permission of Terry Knight, the principal librarian)*



*Fred Jewell & Jenny the heifer  
photo George Ellis*

## Cornish Goodies

Glenys Dellow, one time proprietor of the gift shops on the bridge and down by the harbour, is now manager of Cornish Goodies the harbourside shop which she once owned. The shop seems to be one of the rare arrangements in which everyone is happy. Long may it remain so.

*(It is now closed to make way for the National Trust shop - see page 4. Let us hope that we will see the "Cornish Goodies' Girls" working again somewhere).*



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## North Cornwall Flood Appeal Update

In September the Chair of the North Cornwall Flood Appeal Trustees, Graham Facks-Martin, replied to a correspondent in the Cornish Guardian to offer up-to-date information on the distribution of the funds received to date. The other six Trustees appointed were: two C of E ministers, the Reverend Christine Musser and Reverend Rob Dickinson, and Methodist minister the Reverend Danny Wheadon, George Findlay who was Chair of the Parish Council at the time of the flood, Janey Comber, NCDC District Councillor, and a retired banker, Harry Sandercock.

£430,000 was raised, and of this £420,000 has been paid out, £370,000 to some 200 individuals and businesses, and the remainder to community projects. The projects that benefited are listed alongside:

Facks-Martin stated that initially the Trustees would not give grants in relation to risks normally covered by insurance, a stance echoed by David Brown, then Chief Executive of NCDC. Every private individual and business that approached the Trustees for assistance has been covered by a rule of confidentiality, and we must assume this stricture was applied fairly and honestly with regard to individual circumstances.

The Trustees have wide-ranging powers. The Deed of Trust allows them virtually absolute

Beneficiary	Use	Amount
Mrs Shute	Community event - Canworthy Water for survivors and helpers	200
St Juliot Parochial Church Council	Resurfacing car park etc	250
Otterham and St Juliot Village Hall Committee	Car park restoration and associated work	1,000
Bosccastle and Crackington Gig Club	To help with new community project and to assist in purchase of new gig	15,000
Trevena/Tintagel WI	Improvements to WI Hall	1,500
Bosccastle Pre-School Playgroup	Update equipment and ongoing support	3,000
Bosccastle Primary School Valley Project	Construction of footbridge, restoration of land adjacent to School as community area	5,000
Crackington Playgroup	Provision of accommodation for storage of equipment	1,750
Tintagel Old School Community Centre	Restoration of Old School Rooms in centre of Tintagel as a community centre	7,000
Per North Cornwall District Council	Restoration of Phase 1 Valency Row	6,000
Poundstock Medieval Guildhouse Renovation Project	Towards restoration of building	5,000
Per North Cornwall District Council	Restoration of Phase 11 Valency Row	3,000
	Total	48,700

discretion in paying out to individuals, businesses, or community projects, whether or not charitable, if they serve community needs. They can use any residual monies to support other charities. They can buy and rent out property, land and equipment, lend and borrow money, invest in business, buy shares or bonds, employ accountants, solicitors and financial advisers and pay the Trustees professional fees for their services. They are not held liable for any losses, unless incurred through negligence or fraud.

So far there have been no published accounts.

In the confusion surrounding the flood various sums of money, large or small, much in cash, were raised to help victims and was handed in to the Trustees or to others on their behalf. Consequently it behoves any person in this responsible position,

to be utterly above board when accounting for the collection and distribution of monies. The unfortunate circumstances surrounding the recent criminal conviction of a director of the Cornwall Air Ambulance Appeal underlines the importance of this principle.

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## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

*Forrabury and Minster Parish Council meet in the Village Hall usually on the last Thursday of each month. Members of the public are invited to attend with public participation at the beginning of the meeting at 7 pm.*

### Harbour works

At the September meeting of the Parish Council representatives from Carillion gave an overview of the schedule of work that was to be carried out during the winter. Concerns were voiced by the public on certain issues and it was acknowledged that there would be disruption, but that this was unavoidable and they hoped to minimise the effect on residents as much as possible. Work on the car park would start in October and parking would be reduced to 120 spaces during the winter months. Between April and September 240 spaces

would be provided by the contractors.

Carillionsaidtheywould produce regular newsletters about progress of the work and these would be posted on the village notice boards. They have also appointed a Liaison Officer, Ken Adams, who would answer any concerns or enquiries about the work in progress. His contact details will be on the notice boards.

### Gateway Building

Despite a petition against the location of the building, the Council approved the planning application for a single storey gateway building to include public toilets, shelter and information area within the car park. It is hoped that this work will be carried out during the winter months.

### South West Water

Graham King told the

November meeting that the Sewage action group had met with Tim Hunt of SWW who is leading the Boscastle project. No decision about the sewage works will be made until the outcome from the Tintagel and Bossiney enquires is known.

### Bus Shelter

This has been discussed but no decision has been reached. The Council would like to hear what members of the public think. (see page 3)

### Playing Field

Negotiations between the Parish Council and the National Trust are complete and the field is now let legally to Forrabury and Minster Parish Council.

### Post Box

At the November meeting it was suggested that the post box by the Leather Shop should be moved to be nearer the new Gateway building. If this were done it would have to be a free standing post box and the present box would simply be painted black to indicate that it was not in use. Most Councillors felt that the post box should be left in its present position.

## Reorganisation of District and County Councils

Glenton Brown, the County Councillor told the November meeting that the Government plan a major reorganisation of all District and County Councils. The change is due in 2008 and it is possible that more power will be given to Parish Councils though it may be necessary for several Parishes to amalgamate. Elections for District and Parish Councils will take place as planned in 2007 but officers may only be in post for one year until the changes come into effect.

### Telephone Box

No decision has been made about the type or final position of the telephone box.

### Parish Plan

A member of the public asked the Council whether they would support initiating a Parish plan. The Chairman said that a representative from the District Council would attend the January Council meeting for preliminary discussions on how to proceed.

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to be in to the Government by the 25<sup>th</sup> January. The potential is quite exciting, but the important thing is to make sure that the structure is right for everyone in Cornwall. It is vital that the rural areas are not disadvantaged, and that services are not focussed on the towns and more urban areas.

The Local Government White Paper is not something that on first glance you might think will be a good read. However it has the potential to drastically change the way that public services are delivered to us all. The Government has offered Cornwall the chance to put in a bid to become a single authority and in so doing offer a more streamlined way of providing services. In theory, this may have the effect of reducing costs, a good thing, and providing better delivery of services, also a good thing. They want to offer Parish and Town Councils the opportunity to take on extra responsibilities if they wish.

If the Government thinks that the bid put in by Cornwall is acceptable, they will let us know by the end of March, and it will then go out to consultation. The time period for this is very short, only until June, and then we will know later in the summer if we are going ahead. I think it is going to have to be very carefully thought out if it is to be of benefit to the residents of our area.

I would like to finish by wishing all the Blowhole readers a peaceful and happy Christmas and New Year, and all the best for 2007.

*Janey Comber*

NCDC for Valency ward  
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jcomber@cornwall.gov.uk

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# Albert Mordue wins TV Supermodel Show

A very unassuming boy was given an early Christmas present of a trip to the Isle of Wight music festival by his sister Tammy. Albert and his brothers, enjoying the weekend there, were walking around, when he was approached by an agent from Select Model Agency and asked if he had thought of being a model. After the initial laughter from the three boys, the answer was a definite NO! He was given a business card and told to think about it. Big Sis returned and insisted he should go for it. What had he to lose?



After five weeks of the reality show and the great support of Boscastle and the rest of Cornwall, Albert was in the final.

No comfy seats that night! Everybody was on the edge! Would he or wouldn't he?

He was told to make the final catwalk his own. He did!!! He was amazing and I was the proudest Mum in the world. He stayed true to himself and definitely shone above the rest – Well done Albert!

*Michelle*

*Albert has won a year's contract with Select, a top model agency. We all wish him every success for the future in whatever he chooses to do.*

On returning home, he decided to go to London and see. The offer to go on Channel Five's 'Make Me a Supermodel' was next.....

After quite a debate with his family, he decided to go for it. This was only two weeks before the programme was due to start! So it was goodbye to all of his family and friends and off on his adventure.

How strange for us to watch the country decide if Albert really was supermodel material. He wasn't allowed any contact with the outside world but at least we could still see him four nights a week.

*Photos taken during filming of 'Make me a Supermodel': right by Jonathan Glynn Smith; above by Wireworks; below left by Marc Baptiste; below & cover, audition shots*



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# COASTGUARDS' REPORT



4/9/06 15:26 Call from Falmouth to Les Siford at work to assist Bude SAR Team with a search for a missing male from the Dizzard and Milllook areas. On scene 16:00: Search teams were deployed on the cliffs & searches done from the Dizzard to Pencarrow Point but nothing found.

The casualty was found 200 to 500yrs inland alive. Returned to station 19:30.

In Attendance L.Siford,G.King, T.Little,D.Roots,D. Williams,A. Williams,D.Stewardson, Bude SAR Team, North Cornwall Rescue Group, Police and police Helicopter, police dogs, Bude ILB

9/9/06 11:02 Call from Falmouth to Les Siford at work. To assist Bude at Morwenstow in an attempt to rescue six sheep over the cliff.

Cliff lines were set up & two men were lowered over the cliff to try and drive the sheep to a gully. It was hoped that we could catch them one at a time and pull them up the cliff but all was in vain. It didn't work out the way we had hoped & it was decided to leave them and hope they would make there own way up. Returned to station 16:00.

In Attendance L.Siford,G.King, D.Williams.

9/9/06 16:15 Les Siford paged by Falmouth. Report of three persons cut off by the tide approx 1 mile north of Hole Beach. Turned out to be false alarm & stood down. Returned to station 17:30.

In Attendance L.Siford,G.King, T.Little, D.Williams, A.Williams,D. Stewardson.

12/10/06 22:31 Group paged by Falmouth to assist Bude with a search for missing person last seen at Crooklets Beach. Searches was made of the areas but nothing found. The missing person (male 75yrs), was eventually found at Wainhouse Corner by police)

Returned to Station 03:07.

In Attendance G.King, D.Williams, A.Williams

23/10/06 12:00 Called by Falmouth to assist Air Ambulance at Castle Beach Tintagel .

Stood down on route. Returned to Station 12:30.

In Attendance L.Siford,G.King, T.Little, D.Williams, A.Williams.

That's all for now please take care on our coastline

*Les Siford, Station Officer*

## Coastguards Upgraded

Over the past few years our local Coastguard have been involved in a number of high profile and important rescues. There are several people who owe their lives to the Boscastle team and we are all extremely proud of them.

Now their efforts and performance have been recognised by HM

Coastguards who are upgrading them to a company of twelve, where previously there were eight.

In the past, when Boscastle Coastguard team was equipped with a breaches buoy and rocket equipment, there was a compliment of around 20 volunteers. Eventually the breaches buoy became redundant and less team members were required in Boscastle. This situation has now been reviewed.

The four extra team members will enable the team to perform rescues more efficiently without having to rely on the flanking stations of Bude and Port Issac for assistance.

Two experienced coastguards have already been recruited and two more are needed. For details see page 41)

The team is looking forward to learning how to use the extra equipment and new techniques required now that they are a full company of twelve. You will see them training on the cliffs or in the harbour area.

Our coastguard team covers the dangerous stretch of coastline between Trebarwith Strand and Crackington Haven. This stretch of coastline will now be just a little bit safer thanks to the new, enlarged Boscastle Coastguard team.

## Lesnewth Official Rain Station

Rainfall totals:	2006	2005
September	63.6 mm	89.7 mm
October	163.2 mm	190.0 mm
November	214.5mm	213.3 mm



**September** was a very warm and sunny month with most of the rainfall during the last three days of the month.

**October** was wonderfully wet with 5 days when there was no recorded rainfall.

In **November**, a fantastic 214.5mm of rain, as a very approximate conversion, this is over 8 inches. This certainly helps to make up for the low rainfall during the summer.

I wait with interest until the December figures are available when the year total will be arrived at. It is always interesting to compare the current year with past year. *Val Gill*



# Church and Chapel



## CHRISTMAS CHEER

There is a rhyme, which says, "Now Christmas comes but once a year and when it comes it brings good cheer".

As I started thinking about the rhyme I began wondering what the word 'cheer' actually meant. In my dictionary 15 column centimetres (6 column inches) are given over to defining the word with examples of its use. One definition is that it is a breed of pheasant in the Himalayas. The meanings to which I could relate as I was thinking of the Christmas Season and the story which is the cause of our celebration included such words as cheerfulness, gladness, joy and the definition – 'A thing which gives joy or gladness; comfort; encouragement.'

As we celebrate on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day we shall be reminding ourselves of the story of the Birth of Jesus, God's only Son, and the announcement of that birth to the Shepherds on a hillside outside of Bethlehem. The story is given to us in our Bibles in St. Luke's Gospel, Chapter 2 where it tells of the Angel's appearance with the announcement that they were bringing good news, which would bring

great joy to all people. The announcement was of course that Jesus had been born in the lowly surroundings of a manger in Bethlehem.

As we give and receive presents in the Season of 'good cheer; we will experience joy, gladness, comfort and encouragement. However, our privilege of giving and receiving, and experiencing 'good cheer' arises from the fact that we are all meant to receive for our everyday living God's gift to us of Jesus who came to teach us about God's way for living our lives, and to be the one who would give his life in Crucifixion to enable us to experience the 'New Life' of the heavenly way. This is the way of living that has an everlasting dimension to it and is fulfilled living. This was the 'Good Cheer' of the first Christmas, which we hopefully not only remember at Christmas but experience everyday.

We wish you a cheerful Christmas and every blessing in 2007.

*Bryan & Sue Ede*

## Rev Chris writes:

Christmas is almost here again- the buying frenzy is well under way and has been for some time. I do get a great kick out of thinking how to surprise members of my family; trying to find something they will really like and will express how much they mean to me.

But many people have said in recent years how out of hand the whole thing has become; large sums spent by people who often can't really afford it, and who then struggle with debt for months afterwards. Has the true message of Christmas been totally forgotten? The message of peace and goodwill that the angels sang about at the birth of Jesus on that first Christmas morn?

There is a change happening in our society I believe. Quite a number of people are turning aside from the total commercialism that Christmas sometimes seems to have become. Instead of the annual feast of pouring money into the coffers of High Street shops, many

are opting for gifts that aim to make the world a better place for those who most need it.

The 'alternative gift' market is now estimated to raise more than £30 million to UK charities.


World Vision launched their alternative gifts catalogue in 2000, which contains gifts such as buying a school kit for £17 for a child in Asia, 10 chickens for a family in Uganda for £17, to an ox and cart for a farmer in Mozambique for £470.

Send a Cow was probably the first such charity, with proceeds going to support livestock and farming projects in sub-Saharan Africa.

Sightsavers concentrate on gifts to help sight such as cataract operations for people in 33 developing countries across Africa and Asia.


Tearcraft have a catalogue of hand crafted gifts made by people in some of the poorest countries.

Cafod has a catalogue that offer a range of gifts to



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***United Church Carol Service  
in the Chapel at 3.00pm on Christmas Eve***



help people in the poorest countries.

Christian Aid offers a range of gifts that fall into 6 categories: agricultural, healthcare, energy, education, water and environment, and emergency

Oxfam offer a range of over 50 different gifts that supports their work in over 46 countries.

Practical Action has a range that helps people in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Good Gifts catalogue was launched in 2003 by the Charities Advisory Board to support numerous charities. Last year's big seller involved turning Kalashnikov rifles in Sierra

Leone into hoes or axe heads.

Such has been the success of these alternative gift options, that there have been many new ones launched recently, so that people can buy a gift appropriate to a particular person.

A family member who is concerned about ecology and the environment? Go to the World Wildlife Fund's alternative gifts website. A horse lover? The Brooke animal hospital has a range of gifts available. Someone concerned about homelessness in this country? Crispud has gifts dedicated to helping the homeless.

If you haven't yet discovered these alternative gifts, there are so many available now that are increasing in popularity, raising much needed funds for the most vulnerable in our world.

Which is actually of course what Christmas is all about; selfless giving, and can help us to remember the greatest gift of all: that God loved us so much that he sent his only Son to live as one of us; that Son whose focus was always on the poor and disadvantaged in the world, both then and now, and the need to bring peace to an embattled world.

A peaceful and joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

*Rev'd. Chris Musser*

## Regular Church & Chapel Service Times

**Methodist Church:**  
Sunday services at 11am

**Forrabury Church, Boscastle:**

1st & 3rd Sunday each month:

10am, Morning Worship.

2nd & 4th Sunday each month:

10am Family Communion.

1st Sunday each month: 'Together@3', Family Service

**St. Juliot Church, Boscastle:**

2nd & 4th Sunday each month:

3pm Holy Communion

3rd Sunday each month: 10am Mattins

**Davidstow Church:**

2nd & 4th Sunday each month:

11.30am Holy Communion

**Lesnewth Church:**

1st & 3rd Sunday each month:

10am Family Holy Communion

2nd Sundays:

9am Said Prayer Book Communion

**Otterham Church:**

1st Sunday each month: 11.30am Holy Communion

3rd Sunday each month: 3pm Holy Communion

4th Sunday Each Month: 11.30am Morning Worship

**Trevalga Church:**

3rd Sunday each month: 11.30am Holy Communion

1st & 2nd Sunday each month: 11.30am Mattins

### Boscastle Group of Churches- Advent and Christmas services:

**Dec. 3rd: 10.30am at Forrabury Church**

Confirmation service. 5 young people are confirming their Christian faith at a special service with Bishop Roy. Everyone welcome.

**Dec. 3rd: 6pm Evensong at Davidstow Church**

**Dec. 10th: 3pm Christingle Service at Minster**

**Dec. 14th: 7.30pm at Forrabury Church.**

Quiet service to remember loved ones at Christmas. Everyone welcome.

**Dec. 20th: 7.30pm Service of Healing and Wholeness at Davidstow Church**

**Dec. 23rd : 4pm Crib service at Lesnewth Church**

~ Everyone welcome, especially children

**CHRISTMAS EVE: 3pm Crib service at Forrabury Church**

Everyone welcome, especially children

**7.30pm Service of Light at Davidstow Church**

**11.30pm Midnight Mass at Forrabury Church**

**11.30pm Midnight Mass at Lesnewth Church.**

**CHRISTMAS DAY: 10am Holy Communion at St. Juliot Church**

**11.30am Holy Communion at Trevalga Church**

**NEW YEAR'S EVE: 10.30am Holy Communion at Otterham Church**

### Contact Details:

**Religious Society of Friends:**

*Quakers meet each Sunday at 10.30am in the John Betjeman Centre, Wadebridge*

**Boscastle Methodist Chapel:**

*Rev Bryan Ede, The Manse Tintagel Tel: 01840 770274*

**Roman Catholic Church:**

*Fr Storey St Paul's Church Tintagel Tel: 01840 770663*

**Church of England:**

*Rev Christine Musser The Rectory Forrabury Boscastle Tel: 01840 250359*

# Welcome to Bryan Ede ~ Methodist Minister



*Sue and Brian Ede*

training for the role in September 1993 on the West Midlands Training Course based at Queen's College in Birmingham. There we shared training experiences with Anglican and United Reform Church colleagues. We came into the Ministerial role from an ecumenical church in Nuneaton, Warwickshire hence we are advocates of shared church activities and can see the potential for the ecumenical approach although it involves give and take on the part of all involved.

We have been privileged to spend all of our years in Ministry in Cornwall. Having come to this side of the Tamar we are quite content to stay. Our first appointment was in the Par/St. Blazey/Tywardreath area of the St. Austell Circuit, from where we moved to Redruth for a five-year appointment. Now we find ourselves serving in what is one of Cornwall's most rural areas in what we know as the Camelford and Tintagel Circuit.

My responsibilities are for the Methodist Churches at Brockhill, Tremail, Tintagel, Bossiney, Delabole and St. Teath as well as Boscastle. In addition my role includes co-ordinating the work of the Circuit, which extends to Camelford, Highertown, Blisland, St. Breward, Treveighan and St. Tudy, as its Superintendent Minister. Life is varied and interesting.

Our family circle includes our two married daughters Sarah and Sharon, their husbands Ian & Tim, and their children Oliver, Phoebe and Jorja. Sarah lives in Exmouth and teaches that area, whilst Sharon lives near Redruth and works in the financial team at the Royal Cornwall Hospital.

We look forward to sharing in aspects of the Community and Church life in Boscastle.

*Bryan Ede*

This article arises from a telephone call from Arthur Bannister, one of the editorial group of the Blowhole, inviting me to write something about myself to go alongside a photograph, which he had acquired.

First of all may I say how impressed I am with the Blowhole magazine. It certainly has a wide range of interesting articles and information. From looking at a few back numbers I have learnt a great deal about the Boscastle community, which gives one a different perspective to the 'Boscastle', which most people see as tourists.

*Copyright photos courtesy David Flower*

For Sue and I it is proving very interesting and enjoyable coming to live and work in the area in which I was born in our ministerial role. We have spent many holidays in North Cornwall, prior to coming to live in other parts of Cornwall some 10 years ago, so Sue is not unfamiliar with the area either.

Sue and I met whilst I was at Culham Teacher Training College near Abingdon in Oxfordshire as we were both involved at the same Church. We were married in her home Church in Maidenhead in Berkshire in 1967.

At College I was fortunate enough to be able to take a course, which gave me a dual qualification for teaching and Youth Work. It was the Youth Work option that I followed as a career prior to offering for the Methodist Ministry in 1991. Because of the promotion options that were open to me to move into Management and advisory posts in Youth and Community work we have experience of living and working in Dorset, Lincolnshire and Warwickshire. My first post in Youth Work was as a Youth Leader in St. Albans in Hertfordshire.

We felt in January 1991 that we should offer for the Methodist Ministry, and entered part-time

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## An Open letter from District Cllr Graham Facks-Martin,

The Leader of Cornwall County Council, in claiming that a single council for Cornwall will save £10m per year, appears to be suggesting that this will somehow help the county council to address its anticipated £15m deficit for the coming financial year.

This is absolute nonsense. Any savings that will arise from local government reorganisation will take years to emerge and the earliest that a new council could take office is in 2009. The current districts, which have addressed their budgetary problems successfully, have put proposals for joint working to the county council which could achieve significant savings for all of us, while retaining the current local government structure. But the county council are dismissing this.

A major reorganisation as envisaged by the county council will in the short term cost a lot of money. Even if the county council does not accept this, the Government does. It calls these costs 'transitional costs'.

Government indicates that these transitional costs must be recouped over a five-year period without any impact on council tax - a tough call if you are facing a £15m deficit. Completely restructuring council services in Cornwall that the district councils currently deliver, amalgamating different ICT systems and re-branding all local services will not come cheap, let alone the costs of any redundancies, other staffing costs and a myriad of other costs.

It would be nice to think that we could have a measured, mature debate in Cornwall based on objective fact and seeking jointly to find the best way forward. Instead it is envisaged that the current system of district councils which has served the county well for 32 years so far is to be demolished, largely on the grounds of unqualified and inaccurate assertions. A well-respected system of local government is to be removed and to be replaced with a single remote authority more than 50 miles away from current residents serving a population of over half a million and a workforce population of well over 10,000. It will not be bureaucratic will it? Of course not!



*Songs of Praise Service at the Harbour*

*Copyright photos courtesy David Flower*

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# Pickwick Papers



I was very sorry to see Cornish Goodies pull down the shutters on the business in the harbour for the last time. I am sure that both locals and visitors alike will greatly miss the variety of "goodies" on offer as well as the camaraderie amongst the jolly staff who worked there. The shop was amongst those who remain open all year round and didn't just cater for the holidaymaker either; I suspect that many of us will soon be putting up Christmas decorations bought from Cornish Goodies, and I certainly regularly bought church candles in bulk, managing to secure a fair few in the closing sale too!

Talking of shops closing what about that new shopping centre just opened at Drake Circus in

Plymouth? I quite enjoy a trip into Plymouth and thought I would just have a walk around the new Mall and get the measure of the place. First impression is one of extreme noise - they build these places high and airy so in effect the whole area acts as a giant echo chamber. Second most weird impression was that I had gone to bed and woken up in my home town in Surrey where the set up is predictably similar - this precinct is so like everywhere else in the country, if not the world, so third impression, well feeling actually, was let me out of here and so I made a hasty departure; but not before consuming a very stale Danish Pastry and a mediocre cup of coffee on the top floor. Not impressed but I guess many will find it ok and of course it will be somewhere to go when it rains.

Most people that I know just do not enjoy the shopping experience - and shopping in supermarkets for food might be convenient but the pitfalls over bargain offers that turn out not to be bargains are many - I once queried why a special offer of two packets of cornflakes neatly taped together actually worked out more expensive than buying the two packets in the usual way: I was told that the computer print-out from head office dictated the price and that was that, common sense never entered the equation at any stage.

### *check till receipt*

I always make a point of checking my till receipt, that is ever since a colleague of mine found that they had been charged for a pair of slippers instead of a tube of toothpaste. You see one slip of the bar code and you could find your bill soaring and please don't make the mistake of complaining too often since at least one major supermarket has a policy option of barring customers if they make more than two complaints! Perhaps like points on your driving licence the complaints are cancelled after a reasonable period of time!!

I hate to talk about the good old days - I really never thought that I would ever be old enough to use that expression - but I can well remember that during rationing you would be registered with a grocer and butcher and you were pretty much tied to that shop where you became known along with your likes and dislikes, aches and pains and anything else that built up a really personal relationship with the shopkeeper. And then, subsequent to rationing the various individual businesses would bend over backwards to keep your custom even taking your order and delivering it (by push bike) free of charge - we school boys often earned extra pocket money that way after school.

I suppose what I am trying to say is that with the small businesses of yester-year your custom was valued and invariably you were served - yes served you didn't just help yourself, wheel it around the store, unpack it onto a conveyor belt and then pack it in bags to take home, all that was done for you and the shopkeeper would often provide you

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## Pickwick Papers *continued*

with a chair whilst you gave your order. Gradually those sorts of establishments have disappeared from our High Streets, unable to meet the competition who are able to buy in vast quantities and often at cut-throat prices. Ask a local beef or milk farmer what he thinks of certain major supermarkets and why his wife refuses to shop there - he will tell you that as he gets poorer the major retailers get richer and there is little he can do about it other than to go out of business. Of course I recognise that supermarkets are extremely convenient with everything under one roof, but for me the whole shopping experience lacks personal service and can be quite a lonely pass time when you come to think about it and

the only communication is at the check-out, where the assistants are trained to greet you warmly but you will never know them or they you, unlike my boyhood when we all knew Mr Green who owned Gunns the Grocer and dear old Rosie in the fish shop and so on. I am sure that such shops still exist, if few and far between, but I do know of at least one which is not too far away - if you are ever in Tavistock pop into Crebers and be waited on in the old fashioned way and see what you think.

And so it was with Cornish Goodies, a pleasure to shop with you ladies. I, along with many others will miss you greatly.



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## My Cornish Adventure...

Hello! My name is Cathy Thomson and I've recently joined the Boscastle/Tintagel surgery team as one of the practice nurses. My husband and I have recently moved to the area following years of regular visits that confirmed our desire to want to put down roots here, and become part of this great community.

My previous post was working as the nursing team leader for a large health centre in Bristol's inner city area, serving a diverse practice population of over 16,000. I was very fortunate there, to be able to develop my clinical skills

and further expertise in a variety of areas including wound management and chronic disease care. However the inner city also brought special challenges including extensive drug and alcohol issues as one element amongst many, combined with the pressures of meeting the health needs of a large group of often disparate elements of the local society. Our care often felt detached and impersonal and at times very frustrating – the inner city lifestyle is not a naturally healthy one! With limited exercise, a lack of fresh air and the stresses of traffic congestion and pollution, some of our patients were aggressive and habitually unwell. After spending 9 years in a daily, hour-long traffic jam on the M32 into the city – I could easily understand it!! The decision to move to this part of the world was, in many ways, prompted by my desire to work more closely with the patients, allowing the time

to get to know people and therefore offer a better level of care. It is important to me to be an integral part of the community itself, rather than simply being a supplier of a service on the periphery. As time goes on, I hope that I will be able to add value to the team, develop an understanding of the people of this area and enjoy the way of life offered by this fantastic location. After spending 7 weeks in Cornwall, the changes are already very obvious, the environment is healthier, the people friendly (I've been able to chat to so many people!) and the scenery soothing to the soul – we consider ourselves very lucky to be here.

One of my key areas of interest is encouraging patients to take an active part in caring for their own health. This could involve providing information on how to manage minor ailments, or preventative measures including at this time of year, the focus on vaccination against the dreaded flu virus! As one of the practice nurses it's good to be able to offer general, practical advice and give people the support they need to manage chronic health issues.

The surgery team have made me very welcome, which has in turn helped me to settle and make the transition from city to country - the experience so far has been incredibly positive! I look forward to meeting more of you all in the future.

*Sue Hair Stylist*



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# DEDICATION OF THE RESTORED DAVIDSTOW CHURCH SOUTH CHANCEL WINDOW

Harvest Thanksgiving was celebrated at Davidstow Parish Church on 1st October, where Bishop Bill was the guest speaker at the Festival Evensong; during the course of the service he dedicated the restoration of the South Chancel window to the memory of Jim Castling a prominent Boscastle resident.

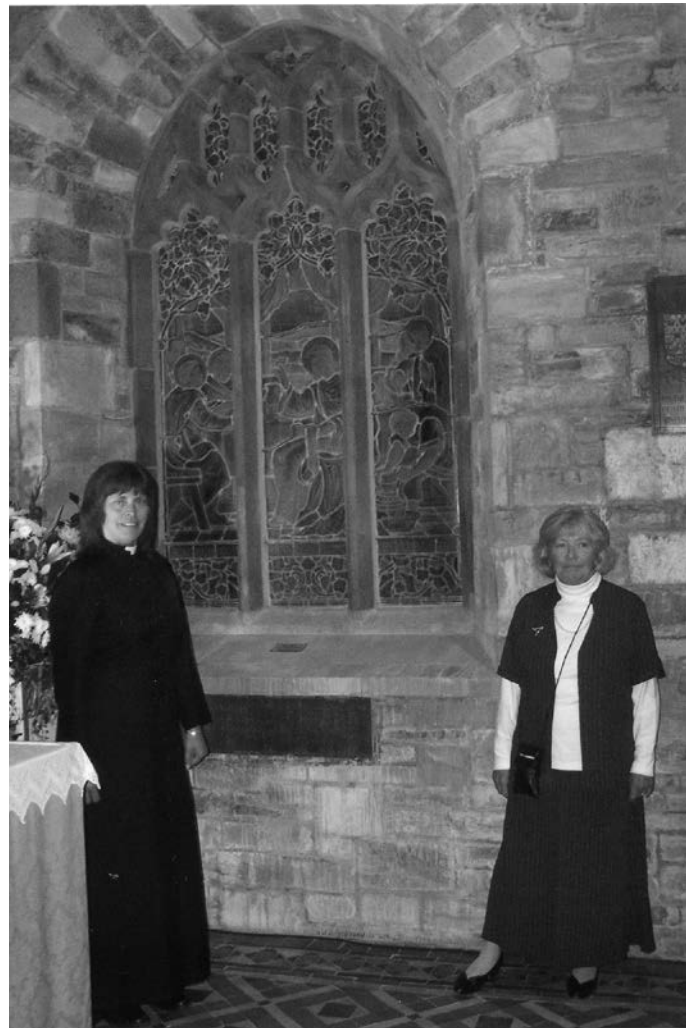
Sadly, Jim died shortly after the flood, part way through the filming of the second television series of "A Seaside Parish". It was whilst fighting cancer that Jim put his book of anecdotes and poems together as a focus for his mind during the period of his greatest suffering. It was a chance remark to his widow Jane about the

state of the windows at Davidstow Church, which prompted her to donate all of the proceeds from the sale of Jim's book to the window restoration fund.

To date, the figure is just a little short of £25,000.

The dedication was carried out in the presence of Jane Castling and a large congregation of friends and well wishers. Mary Sharp, a family friend and Michael Davey, gave Readings. David Lamond, Church Warden, read extracts from "A Seaside Parish" and the Boscastle Group of Churches choir was in attendance with Maria Nicholls the organist.

The evening was rounded off with a hearty Harvest supper.



*Rev Christine Musser and Jane Castling and the restored window*

Copies of "A Seaside Parish" can be purchased or by telephoning 01566 880085 at a cost of £6.50 by post from Jane Castling, or £8 to include postage.

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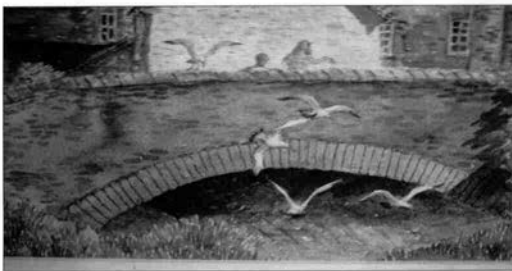
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# Pete's Peeps at the Past

## 8<sup>th</sup> March 1811: A Wreck Cargo for Sale

For sale by auction, at the Golden Lion at Padstow, on the 28<sup>th</sup> MARCH at 11 a.m. about 90 tons of stone barilla (lead ore) now lying in warehouses at Mawgan Porth, near Padstow, and there to be delivered; salvaged from the sloop "JANET", CAPTYULE, wrecked near that place on her voyage from the CANARIES to LONDON.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 1812: The Corinna Packet

On Friday last, the Post-Office announced the re-establishment of packets to CORUNNA, so that we may expect increased facilities in the transmission of intelligence from the H.Q. of our army in Spain. [In 1689, at the beginning of the wars with France, FALMOUTH first became a packet station with the mail service to CORUNNA, N. SPAIN. Before it went overland and was stopped until 1812, when Wellington's final victory in the Peninsular War was imminent.]

## 28<sup>th</sup> March 1817: Miners Plunder a Wreck

The Brig "Mary", of Ilfracombe, Capt. James Bowden, laden with culm was driven onshore at Fassel Geaver cove in the parish of Camborne. On the second evening a party of miners came and cut the ships cable and stole all the beef & biscuit on her, and even some of the seamen's clothes.



## 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 1818: The Borough of Tintagel

There is likely to be a contested election in the ancient borough of Tintagel. The electors, 9 in number, are split into 2 parties each strongly opposed to each other. These candidates, no doubt, will publish addresses, as it is learnt that the mayor and one or two more of the electors are actually able to read; a proof of the extension of information in this enlightened age.

## 6<sup>th</sup> July 1827: A Capital Offence

Henry Randall was indicted for breaking into a house and stealing 2 shirts off John Scantlebury. He used a stick through a broken window to pick the shirts off a table. The Judge said the case came under Mr. Peel's Acts as a capital offence. Randall was sentenced to death.

## 6<sup>th</sup> March 1818: Wrecks at St Minver

Three vessels were wrecked at St. Minver, near Padstow, several of the peasantry visited the area and picked up bacon etc. Two men ventured too far into the sea for a bale of bacon & were drowned. The schooner, sloop & brig were wrecked

near Hell Bay in the Camel estuary. Butter, bacon, lard, pork & beef was washed ashore, another man was drowned trying to secure some food, also leaving a wife and five children to mourn his loss.

## 31<sup>st</sup> May 1822: Accident with a Threshing Machine

A man in the employment of Mr. Stephen Wade of Tintagel, caught his shirt sleeve in a threshing machine, his arm being mangled and in need of amputation, which was skilfully performed by Mr. Avery of Boscastle and Mr. Herring from Camelford. The fellow is likely to do well.

## 220<sup>th</sup> Feb 1835; A Lease of Scilly

Augustus Smith obtained the lease of the Scilly Isles. The Islands had had severe economic distress due to the lack of administration by

the Duchy and bad fishing industry, production of kelp (for soap & glass) and the suppression of smuggling which was lucrative. Smith started agriculture & ship building and built roads & schools. He created the sub-tropical gardens at Tresco, still owned by his family.

## 15<sup>th</sup> May 1840: Minor Offenders

Camelford. Two married women from St. Cleather were sent to Bridewell for 14 days for ill using a sheep which died. Four young men after drinking at Pengell, St. Teath knocked all the gates and stiles down on their way home. Six vagrants were committed by the Rev. S. Chilcott from Boscastle to the treadmill for 1 month. Some of them had organs & white mice which were of no avail, as they had been begging.

Across 1 Christmas 9 pine 12 ocarina 13 Ed 14 nemesis 15 tinted  
17 hot 18 dado 19 Ann 20 touvar 23 yam 25 ermine 27 bit 28 act  
29 navy 32 get 33 tissue 35 hue 37 else 39 am 40 ell 41 afflic  
44 diadem 47 fell 48 is 49 degenerate 50 arena 51 larder  
Down 1 cinchoman 2 roman 3 ice 4 sashimi 5 trio 6 mistletoe 7 an  
8 satsuma 9 pendant 10 need 11 eddo 16 tare 21 or 22 victualer  
24 abys 26 withy 30 atelier 31 village 34 Serena 36 Emil 38 offal  
40 edda 42 feta 43 tier 45 den 46 me

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# THE LANTERN MAKING WORKSHOP



Copyright photos courtesy David Flower

In attendance: Val, Sue, Jane, Daphne, Caroline, Heather, Gloria, Denise, Myrna (ha! ha! ...we know who YOU are!), Ruth, Jill, Moira, Ann, Joan, Ann, Jo and Jenny.

'Would you mind just writing up a little article on the day?' inquired Daphne mildly, without any apparent malevolence, as she passed by with a slightly alarmed glance at the fruits of my

day's labours. Naively, and disadvantaged by a fruitless struggle to master the technique of handling the glue brush, I agreed.

The story begins some days earlier. With only the slightest hint of steel, Jane Castling said, 'You will come to the Witherly Lantern Workshop, darling, won't you, Reg is running it, bring some secateurs, it will be marvellous, lots of us are coming!' How to say no to Jane?

In fact, the day was wonderful. Reg Payn, aka Professor Goodvibes, showed no sign of nerves when confronted with seventeen doughty ladies. He brought us all to heel shortly after nine o'clock, introduced us to the art of creating a structure out of 'withies', thin willow slivers for those of you still following me, and let us make our own design. In some instances, this proved to be a profitable technique: in my own case, sadly, this was not to be. The afternoon introduction to the application of tissue

paper and glue to the frame was child's play to some and brought trauma to others.

Naming no surnames, but you know who you are, Jill and Heather (and others, too!), produced slick, shapely and aesthetically pleasing results. In fact, I am slightly cross to have to announce that most people managed to produce a product recognisable as a lamp, apart from myself, and, I have her permission to say, this, Moira. In fact, had we been placed in order of merit, we would have been joint sixteenth out of seventeen.

The atmosphere of the day was delightful. Reg provided us with all the equipment we needed, and encouraged everyone and provided bright ideas. I would go to another of his workshops for the sheer pleasure and fun, although I fear my future as a lantern maker is not assured. I understand that the finished products may be used during the Christmas festivities. I shall not sign mine.

I notice Daphne finished first. I think she knew something I didn't.

Ann



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# THE ROOKERY ~ and a peek into its accounts

By Anne Knight

In 1819 Richard Martin was the tenant of Parradice. About 1820 Richard Benoke built the present house for himself. Over the ensuing years Paradise House was home to the family of William Cole who served in the Bombay Civil Service.

The house was renamed The Rookery after it was bought by civil engineer Charles Spark in the 1870's. At the turn of the century William Scott moved to the Rookery when he retired from the Wellington Hotel. This type of information is available from the census records. The last census to be released was for 1901 and so information after that date is more difficult to check out. I was very pleased therefore when Chris Rodda phoned me to say he had a small general account book for The Rookery. It covers the years 1934 to 1968 and shows a meticulous record of expenses and receipts for the Perry family, a fascinating insight into the way they kept track of the cost of living and the effect of wartime rationing and price regulation.



*an Austin Seven*

It is difficult to equate modern prices with those of sixty years ago but the family seems to have been moderately well off. They rented the house, much more common then than now. They ran a car and had a telephone in later years. Every trip in the car was itemized and petrol



*The Rookery in the 1920s or 30s*

was bought from Webbers garage usually one gallon at a time for 1s 5d (7 ½ p). A trip to Newquay and Marazion used five gallons at a cost of 7s 1d. Total running costs for 1933 were £20 15s 6d and included tax and insurance of £11 6s 0d. The car, a seven horsepower Austin, was purchased from Truscott's for £145 and was "put up" at Melbourne House.

In 1935 the annual general rate bill was £11 12s 6d a year and the water rate was £1 12s 6d a year! It seems incredibly cheap to me today especially when compared to an annual expenditure on postage stamps that year of £2 7s 0d.

The family read the Daily Mail and The Bristol Press, bought groceries from Sharrocks in Fore Street and

coal and paraffin from Bowerings at Bridge. Mr Perry bought his cigarettes at Knights shop.

The Rookery acreage totalled 1.422 acres with two adjoining fields giving them another 2.525 acres. This was used to produce fruit and vegetables which were sold to provide

quite a substantial income. In 1944 the sale of raspberries, loganberries, rhubarb and grapes brought in £26. 3s 3d. This was despite the Ministry of Food fixing maximum prices for many varieties of soft fruits during the main crop periods to enable jam to be made. It was envisioned in 1943 that the national fruit crop would provide enough for supplies to be available after jam makers had taken all they could use. The maximum price per pound for raspberries was 1s .2 ½ d and for loganberries was 1s1d.

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Eating well during wartime with food shortages and rationing was not always easy and the little account book contains one or two interesting recipes. I quote here a couple of them that I think would still eat well today.

**POTATO SOUP**

Take 1lb potatoes, 2 medium onions, 1 leek, salt and pepper to taste, 1oz of dripping or margarine, 1 ½ pints of stock or water, 1 tablespoon sago and half a pint of milk.

Peel and slice potatoes, onions and leeks. Melt dripping. Add potatoes, onions and leeks. Fry lightly without discolouring for 5 minutes. Add stock or water, salt and pepper. Simmer gently for one hour. Add milk and sago. Simmer until sago is transparent. Serve very hot.

(N.B. I personally would omit the sago. I hate the stuff. It reminds me of school dinners.)

**MARROW CHUTNEY**

Peel and cut 2lb marrow into small squares. Sprinkle with salt and leave overnight. Strain, add 1 ½ pints vinegar, 1lb peeled and cored chopped apples, ½ pound of chopped shallots, half an ounce of bruised ginger, a few chillies and peppercorns. Boil for half an hour. Add half an ounce of turmeric mixed smooth in a little vinegar. Boil hard for 5 minutes stirring all the time. Turn into jars and seal.



*Paradise House 1913 with Old Oil Lamp*

There is also a recipe for shaving paste which is said to be much cheaper than the bought variety. Any gentleman (or lady) who would like to try it can contact me for the recipe.

All these little snippets of life at the beginning of the twentieth century give an insight into the background and day to day life of Olwyn Gwynne Perry and his family and a little look at life in Boscastle during his stay here.

AK

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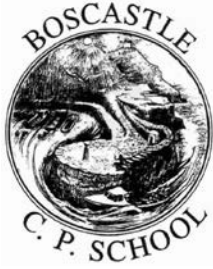


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We have had an action packed start to the new school year. Our youngest children beat all records and went on their first trip of the year on the 14th of September! They visited Truro theatre to watch the Gruffalo, one of their favourite stories. On their return Class 1 drew some wonderful pictures of their own monsters!

The excursion was quickly followed by an.....incursion (!) when we invited the Adventure Challenge company in to work with each class on problem solving and team building activities. Children had to build a free standing arch out of blocks, they also had to transport their team across the hall using a plank and two footballs!

Class 2 have been studying maps this term and, having been in to work with them today, I am amazed and delighted at their knowledge both of how to use maps and of places around the world. The class is currently working in airlines (not groups), with pilots and cabin crew (not monitors) and earning air miles (not team points!) in order to win a treat at the end of term! They have also practiced their map reading skills for real at Roadford Reservoir where they went orienteering for the day!

Not to be left out Class 3 have also been on a trip (You see - school days really are the best days of your life!) Mrs Dunn combined studies of 'Being Healthy' and The Victorians to take the children and their health packed lunches to Morwellham Quay! They visited the mine, dressed as Victorians and visited the school room and made a fantastic piece of rope.



In between visits, Jess Sellers has been busy preparing children for their verse speaking competition at the St Austell Festival, Janet is training a group for the Deli Cross Country Run and we are, trust me, spending a great deal of time on English and maths!

Before I leave you with some children's work, I would like to thank all those who visited us during the Food and Crafts weekend. It was a



real pleasure to be able to invite the whole community into our school. Thank you for your interest and kind comments and for sharing you memories of what it used to be like in the old days!

*Sarah Duffy, Headteacher*

Class 2 were using dialogue to help write a story and this is Eliza Heard's version.

*Green Hill Dodgers*

One sunny day the Green Hill Dodgers were out picking apples in the field. The field was full of apple trees.

"Come on let's get some apples", shouted Jason.

The Green Hill Dodgers were out picking apples for ages, they were fed up.

"I've got an apple - yippee", screamed Tracy.

"I'm getting fed up picking all these apples off the floor", groaned Hamilton.

"I'm gonna climb this tree", yelled Sally.

Sally climbed the tree. Suddenly she fell quick as a slipper right down. Bang! to the ground.

Needle put his hand in his pocket and found some money. He ran as fast as he could to the phone box. He called "Help my sister fell off a tree. She's broken her arm. Hurry we need an ambulance." They got an ambulance and they lifted her into the ambulance.

"I hope you feel better", cried Needle.

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They were in the hospital and they were very very sad.

Sally was on her bed and she had lots of injuries, they looked kind of painful.

"I've got some chocolates for you Sally" Tracy said sadly.

Sally hurt herself very bad and the others were sorry for her.

"What's that on your arm Sally?" Hamilton said softly.

"Sorry it was all my fault you fell off the tree", cried Jason.

"Come on don't make her even worse", said Darren.

"Sally is never gonna come out of hospital", cried Needle.

"My arm is in pain" Sally said quietly.

Several weeks later.

"Sally's back. Hip Hip Hooray" shouted Hamilton.

"Sally's back at last", screamed Needle.

The Green Hill Dodgers were so glad she was back.

"How did you get back so fast?" said Tracy.

They were skipping round and round.

"Cool, you're back" said Jason.

"Come on Sally!"

"I'm coming, hold your horses".

The Green Hill Dodgers learned their lesson. They never climbed apple trees without permission. *EH*

Class 3 have been writing stories on the theme of defeating the monster. The monster is a person's fear and Bryony McCord's story has an interesting twist to it!

This was the final test. It looked quite simple. Matt, the instructor, had told me what to do. Jump each jump and try to land on the platform on the other side. If you have jumped at least 2 out of the 3 jumps I would pass.

There were two accompanies that followed you to make sure you weren't cheating. They said their names were John and James, they both looked tough, with an earring in each ear.

I climbed up the slippery ladder, which led to the first jump. It looked as though it was only just a metre away from the next platform. Carelessly jumping, I glided through the air and landed on the other side. John and James followed.

As I was nearing the next gap, I noticed the final jump. It looked around 40m from the muddy ground, with a sharp looking tree in front of it. I tried to forget about it, stop worrying I said to myself, and concentrated on the task in front of me. Landing on the next platform, I glanced behind me to see John and James jumping. They must of sensed that I was frightened and gave me quick pat on the back.

The final jump was getting closer and closer. My heart thumped. My legs wobbled. I decided to back out on this one. James and John were blocking the way back. "You've got to jump", John reasoned. "But, But, But," I said weakly.

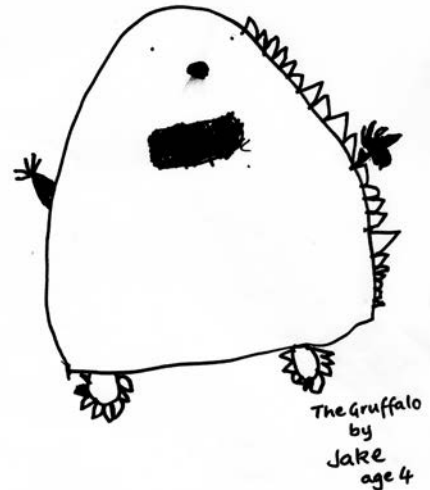
"If you don't jump, we'll have to push you" James replied. I didn't fancy that so I decided to jump.

Hesitation built up. My skin was dripping with fear. I tried making a plan.

Count to 3 then jump. 1.....2.....3.... I tried to edge myself forward, but it didn't happen. Try again. But John butted in "we'll push

you". The words echoed in my head. Ringing like a bell, screeching at me. Not thinking what I was doing I forced myself off the platform. Flying. It felt as if I was flying. The feeling changed. I was falling down, down, down. My chest tightened. My head raced like a million horses. The tree was getting closer, it's branches grabbed at me, cutting my flesh, ripping my skin. Suddenly, it all stopped. There was black. It was cold underneath me. I had missed the safety mat.

"A broken arm, 2 major cuts and a broken finger" the doctor reported. I was in the hospital. Pain surged through me like an electric current. The nurse said I had to stay at the hospital for 2 months, then keep my arm in a sling for 6 weeks, after that i'd be fine. "I hope hospital food's good", I mumbled to myself. *BM*



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# Boscastle Food, Art, and Crafts Festival 2006.

*Secretary of BCTC Chris Searle reports:*

This year the Boscastle Chamber of Trade and Commerce tried to take on board most of last years comments to make this year's festival better than ever and we hope you all agree that it was an improvement.

The festival programme was a huge success and we hope you all had one delivered to your door. Certainly all stall holders wanted the chance to advertise in next year's programme.

On the financial front this year's festival was better for the village with over £1500 going to village organisations. I was also delighted to hear that Anne and Rod Knight who put a lot of effort into Boscastle's history section had people coming forward with items that they had not seen and have had copies donated to Boscastle Archives.

At present we have not had all the invoices in, but the festival cost over £9,000 to stage and we are very grateful to the support of Cornwall Taste of The



*Odette Rigby-Jones with some of her handmade scarves*

*photo Myrna Lester*

West who are very keen to support locally made produce and I thought our 4 local farmers did a great job in promoting local food.

The support from NCDC this year was very welcomed and they again are very keen to support the local economy.

It seems a wasted opportunity that the large Marquee which is 110feet long which is all paid for by the festival is there on the Thursday and Sunday evening and could be used for a fund raising event or a community event. If anyone has any ideas on this please put a proposal forward to the Chamber of Commerce. *Chris Searle*

*Myrna Lester reviews the event:*

Held on the 7th and 8th October, was blessed with fine weather and it is hoped it met visitor's expectations as to content and variety and those of the Chamber of Commerce as to the attendance and financial success, because a lot of

hard work had gone into the planning and staging of the event.

The brochure produced to cover the event was welcome, contained all the necessary information and was well presented. The essential Park and Ride minibuses seemed to have been well used on both days.

I'm sure the Chamber of Commerce will already have received comment and feedback about various aspects of the Festival and, hopefully, they will take on board the need for stick-on admission tickets for next year, along with the option of a 2-day ticket at a reduced cost.

It appeared the marquee offering cooking demonstrations was again



*School Artwork from Class 1*

*photo Myrna Lester*



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## Food, Arts & Craft Festival continued

very popular, as was the food marquee. However, I would question the inclusion of crafts in this space. Personally, I would prefer to see all crafts, which are offered for sale, from whatever source, in one location. It is just a suggestion that local crafts not for sale could, perhaps, be incorporated with the Local History material together with any other "look and see" material? A very limited space appeared to have been allocated to show local artist' work. One artist only had works displayed on a couple of tables in the primary school building yet there are several

painters in the locality, so would it be possible to allocate or provide suitable and adequate space for a proper art exhibition?

Students of Carole Vincent again had some excellent work on display. The photographic exhibition contained some really wonderful works, particularly that of Jan Compton, which were worthy of better presentation. Relevant comments have been passed to the Chamber of Commerce about appointees' effective supervision and sourcing of materials and entries for such events.

For me, the highlight of the whole two-day event was the exhibition of drawings and paintings at the primary school – it was absolutely fantastic and anyone who missed it missed a treat! The school is to be congratulated for encouraging pupils across all years, in such a positive way in the recognition and use of shapes, line, composition and design. It was marvellous stuff! Year 1 had wonderful Birthday



*Jenny Brown with her beautiful quilt*

*photo Myrna Lester*

Balloons and portraits on display and Year 5's work was nothing short of brilliant! Well done to all concerned.

*Myrna Lester*



*Keith Robbins from the Bottreaux demonstrates seafood cooking*

*photo Myrna Lester*



*Inside the Food Marquee*

*photo Myrna Lester*

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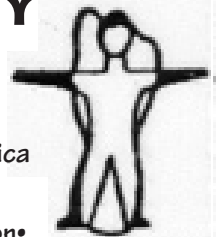
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# Austin 7 1929 Chummy Charity Trip John O' Groats to Lands End

*David Flower describes some of his adventures from his recent trip*

The planning for the trip started in January 2006 - the car did need a lot of attention! Ron Hart joined me for this work which continued right up until the week before our trip.

We travelled up to Scotland in a 4 x 4, whilst 'Bubbles' (the name of the car), was relegated to the indignity of being transported in a small horse box!

Setting off before 4am to meet up with our transport, in a Davidstow lay-by, we eventually arrived in Thurso and received a warm welcome from our hosts for the night.

## *the journey begins*

The next day we drove to John 'O Groats to begin the official journey. It was a very hilly part of the trip but the Austin 7 cruised along at the maximum speed of 38 miles per hour. Suddenly we heard an



*Bubbles with her crew and chums at the end of her 1,003 mile marathon*

awful noise underneath the car and it turned out that the rubber from the prop shaft had disintegrated. Having removed this it was on to the Thistle Hotel at Inverness, our first stop. There was a Rotary District meeting in progress and we had permission to collect for the Rotary Shelter Boxes & Charities. This was the only part of the

trip when it rained! In the evening we attended the Inverness Culloden Rotary Club meeting and I said a few words about our trip.

Next morning we left at 9am to head for Perth, calling in at the Speyside Heather Centre on the journey for a couple of Clootie Dumplings! Another awful noise was heard from underneath the car and Ron removed the rest of the 'Boot' - once again all was OK.

## *sleepover with Mercedes Benz*

No accommodation had been arranged at Perth and I was concerned that the car would have to be left on the street. However, at Inverness one of the Rotarians had arranged for Bubbles to 'sleep' overnight in a Mercedes Benz garage. Doesn't get much better than that for a small Austin 7! Our overnight stay was at the Ramada Hotel, but it was the last room available

and next to an air conditioning system and a flowing river outside the window. VERY noisy - not a restful night!

At Kilmarnock we were welcomed to the home of Rotarian Jim Neal and his wife Isobel. Jim had a couple of Ford Model T cars and was very interested in Bubbles. In the evening we attended the Kilmarnock Rotary Club meeting and again I said a few words on the trip.

We drove through a very busy Carlisle and parked outside Carlisle Cathedral, where the Rotary Club had arranged for us to collect money. The club had also erected a ShelterBox tent and many Rotarians turned up to help collect.


In the evening we all went to a nice restaurant where I managed to have Haggis!

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Having been to separate houses for the overnight stay, Ron & I met up for the next stage to Ormskirk. Whilst waiting, a lady golfer pulled up in her car and said she had an Austin 7 when she was young. Offered to let her sit in the car and she donated a fiver to our cause!

#### *a very near miss*

Bubbles climbed the fearsome Kirkstone Pass with relative ease. However, on a nice downhill stretch of dual carriageway, we reached 38 mph when suddenly a farmer drove straight across from an opening with his tractor & trailer. We were no more than two yards away from him and there was no way we could have stopped. Luckily for us there was a gap to the left of the road & I wrenched the wheel & drove off the carriageway into this space. It was a very near miss and we were extremely lucky!

Driving past Lake Windermere, we took in the spectacular scenic views, and then continued on through the centre of Preston and on to Ormskirk.

Ludlow was next and it was lovely to meet up with my sister Sylvia and her family at a Tesco Supermarket en route. It was, however, a long journey that day - 114 miles.

The following day was a much shorter trip to Stroud - only 53 miles. The exhaust gasket screws had come loose & the car was making a dreadful noise. Luckily a kind 'Quickfit'

manager fixed us up by tightening the bolts, at no cost. So we were on our way again, with exhaust fumes now getting into the car, although it was quieter! We also found that the starter motor had failed and it was now either the starting handle or a push to get the car going.

Arriving in time for the lunch meeting at the Stroud Rotary Club, a splendid 84 year old Rotarian, led us in his 1954 Morris Minor car with speakers blaring, announcing that we were to take Bubbles outside Woolworth's in the City Centre to collect money. Later Ron & I attended a '41 Club' meeting.

#### *many steep, long hills*

The brakes had now deteriorated and Ron had to adjust them before we left to travel to Exeter, stopping at a 'luxury roadside café' for a bacon butty. We tried to start the car by the handle but found because it was warm, so a push was needed and then off we went. The concrete road surface was very noisy and we had a hard, long crawl up Eagle Hill. This final stretch had many steep, long hills.

After a comfortable night, with charming hosts, we left for our final stretch to Lands End, at 7am. The car had been sounding rough for a couple of days & the exhaust fumes were affecting both of us. Just past the Truro turn off we were met by the Chairman of the Cornwall Austin 7 Club, Malcolm Watts, in his own Austin 7. He travelled with us all the way to the

finishing post & Ron & I were photographed at the Finish Line at Lands End.

Another Austin 7 was waiting at Lands End to greet us along with Camelford Rotary President David Mills & his wife Diana.

We were photographed by the Finger Post with Rotary Shelter Boxes and Camelford 68 miles, on its arms.

Our District Governor Graham Hickman had helped us arrange many things on the trip and also sorted out our final collection point at Tesco's in Penzance. He and his wife Diane, joined Ron and Moira, my wife Valerie and myself in Penzance with other members of Camelford Rotary Club, President David & Diana, Rob & Jenny Round, Ivan Lewry and Chris Murray. The Mayor of Camelford, Jenny Finch, & her husband, had kindly motored all the way from Camelford to greet us at Penzance.

The journey was over and I decided that Bubbles would travel back to Tintagel on a trailer. What an incredible experience for both Ron and myself - and, of course, Bubbles. She had travelled 1,003 miles without a breakdown, had consumed petrol at a rate of 50 miles per gallon and drank (leaked) 4 pints of oil. We had met some wonderful people throughout the journey and at no overnight stay did we feel we were being a nuisance. In fact it was quite the contrary. All the Rotarians and their wives welcomed us with open arms. Everyone we met had bent over backwards to help and arrange accommodation for us, in the friendliest way. It certainly showed the best of Rotary fellowship! It is a privilege to belong to such an organisation.

If anyone is interested in joining Rotary then do contact me (01840 770775) and I will give further information.

*David Flower*

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# WHO IS CORNISH?

## *An enquiry into this unique identity*

The official definition of nationality is to have at least one parent who is of that nationality. Others would argue that to be born in place confers that right, others again that a feeling of belonging is sufficient.

The Audit Commission takes the official view that only about one-third of the half million residents of Cornwall can therefore claim to be Cornish, and ethnic minorities of Asian, Chinese and Afro-Caribbean background, cannot. Tough luck on "Manny" Cockle, a highly-regarded painter and decorator, married to a local girl, living near Truro, who just happened to be black. Was there ever a truer Cornishman?

### *flying the Cornish flag*

Governments are notoriously wary of splinter groups, perhaps fearing a nationalistic revolution, which is perhaps why there had been a local authority a knee-jerk reaction to the flying of the Cornish Flag - the flag of St Piran - on March 5th each year. In theory, such an act is a defiance of civil obedience and planning laws.

St Piran, it must be remembered, was booted out of Ireland unceremoniously, flung into rough sea bound to a millstone. Miraculously it floated calmly to Perranzabuloe where Piran alighted, established an oratory, lit a fire and discovered tin smelting (apparently the white on black of his flag derives from the silvery colour of tin against black ash) and lived then either until 26 or 204 (depending on whose account you read).

What incensed the Cornish was the apparent discrimination between the sanctions against flying a Cornish flag - symbol of an ethnic group - and allowing football fans to display the red and white of St George everywhere during the World Cup. Boscastle resident Nicky Nicholls was one of those urged to complain of this apparent injustice to the Housing & Planning Minister, Yvette Cooper, who, fortunately, saw sense and told local authorities to ignore such breaches until the law is amended, hopefully by April next year.

So what is all the

fuss about? After all the Cornish have their own language, rapidly gaining in popularity, an Institute of Studies, Cornish bards, lots of regeneration cash from the EU, and clean bathing water. Do they want the whole thing - road signs in Cornish, their own language TV station, a separate parliament? Is a small population, very largely dependent on income from tourism and central government funding, able to go it alone?

### *highest GDP in country*

The reasons are probably more about trying to retrieve a sense of lost identity. For centuries Cornishmen and women have worked in the most demanding of occupations, mining, farming, fishing, enjoying only a brief prosperity in the 1870s when Camborne's square mile produced the highest GDP in the whole of the country. Since then the decline of traditional industry has stripped away any sense of self-worth. Isolated from the rest of Britain, Cornwall's concerns seem of little interest to central government - "the first to feel the pinch, the last to feel the benefit." The proposed solution to our problems - tourism - is, for many, a sign of cultural defeat, Cornwall's heritage demonstrated only through museums and art galleries, the County increasingly regarded as some sort of picturesque playground for wealthy outsiders.

The Cornish have

traditionally been an awkward lot, resisting the Romans, betting on the wrong side in the Civil War, only ever electing Liberal Democrats. Nearness to the sea, trade with foreigners, literally being on the fringes of civilisation, has always given the Celts - Welsh, Irish, Scots, Cornish - an edge over more settled, tractable inlanders. They also share a Celtic tradition of spreading far and wide. "Wherever there's a mine at the bottom of it you'll find a Cornishman."

They argue they are separate not only by inclination, but nationality. To this end I am hugely indebted to Craig Weatherhill, writing in *Cornish World* (Autumn 2005), who maintains that Cornwall was, and is, a separate kingdom. There were kings of Cornwall from 450 AD onwards, starting from Gurvor, through Tudwal, Cynvor, Constantine, Erbin, and so forth until Huwal signed a treaty with Athelstan in 928 at Egmont Bridge, establishing the border at the east bank of the Tamar.

Come the Norman Conquest and the titular "king" of Cornwall, one Cadoc, was created its first Earl by William. Since then Cornwall has played an independent role as an Earldom and Duchy. Appearing in the famous *Mappa Mundi*, and right up till the 16th century, it was designated separate from England, and as such listed by Henry VIII in his Coronation address.

No record exists of Cornwall's annexation

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## WHO IS CORNISH? continued

to England. Modern archaeology proves that the Cornish and Welsh were descended from a different race native to Britain since the Neolithic period, when a common language came into being, very useful for trading from Spain to the Hebrides, and the forerunner of the Cornish tongue.

The English, by contrast, hail from Germany and the Low Countries, and did not arrive on these shores until the 5th century, and had no contact with the Cornish for the next three hundred years.

The Stannary Parliament existed in medieval times, was briefly revoked by Henry VII in 1497 (again, the Cornish were on the wrong side) then restored, and given additional powers. The Stannary has the power of veto over any statute or Act of Parliament.

Wow, you ask, so why don't we have our own parliament today? Because our separate identity, says Craig Weatherhill, has been ignored by a centralized government. Some things have remained inviolate. The Duke of Cornwall, Prince Charles, has rights and responsibilities unique in Britain - over wrecks, over beaches, over fish and over incursion by officers of the Crown. Meanwhile we have had imposed on us English taxes, laws and customs alien to our heritage. Our only recourse for the right to self-govern comes from challenging London's illegal powers in the European Courts.

How serious is all this? Is it more than just flying a flag? What makes someone Cornish? Do we want a separate parliament like the Scots or Welsh? Write to the Blowhole with your views. *CR*

## Boscastle Youth Hostel Reopens



*Jeff Cherrington National Trust, Linda Masters, Boscastle Youth Hostel Manager, Arthur Bannister Chairperson of Parish Council*

*Copyright photos courtesy David Flower*

Earlier this year Lord Tyler, A YHA Vice President and former MP for North Cornwall led celebrations for the re-opening of YHA Boscastle. The building has been restored and modernised.

The work has cost the National Trust £575,000 with £110,000 coming from the YHA as the result of a fundraising appeal.

The Youth Hostel can now accommodate up to 26 guests.

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# TRAVELLERS' UPDATE

*Deborah & Stephen have left the delights of Paradise Road to spend a year travelling. Here is the second installment of their adventures.*

We have to check into an expensive hotel - that is one that would take a credit card and let us buy some food and drink on the hotel bill until we could get problems of funds sorted out. In an archaic fashion we did eventually manage to get some money from the bank of Venezuela, though each time it took two hours and a lot of coercion.

Venezuela has beautiful countryside and a sunny climate but sadly is another country where we had to watch ourselves all the time. We have changed our flight and leave ten days early. Ahead of us waits a long ferry ride, then a sleepless night in Puerto de la Cruz, again we have arrived during a significant religious festival which means fireworks into the night; it sound like a war zone. A lengthy bus ride of violent movies, then a taxi ride through the city of Caracas in the middle of a political demonstration that is bringing the city to a standstill and threatens our departure from this land.

We whiled away a long night at the airport not wanting to mimic our first night, our stay on 'Hooker Hill' in an ex prison complete with concrete bunks and bars at the windows! Never has Stephen been so determined to leave and arrive somewhere all in one breath.

I stopped Stephen kissing the tarmac when

we touched down at an ungodly hour of the morning in Toronto. We are getting used to the open and disarming friendliness after two months in a totally different culture. We are back in the land of Starbucks with a language that sits familiarly on the ear, and the ability to communicate with anyone and everyone. And we do. We overdose making friends in every Starbucks, on every block of the city.

## *Maid of the Mist*

No visit to Toronto is complete without the trip to Niagara Falls, and we did get very wet on the 'Maid of the Mist' under the falls. We enjoyed a few days of sunshine exploring the city before flying to Calgary. We arrive at 2.00am and spend another few hours sleeping on the airport floor waiting for things to open. I'm feeling more like a gypsy every day. It's snowing and raining all at the same time and we tramp the streets in all the warm clothes we have with us, still freezing cold. We while away time at Calgary zoo, just to catch a glimpse of what is to come in the wild. We have hired a car and head off for two weeks of exploring in the Rockies.

An hour out of Calgary and the roads open out onto big, big plains of grassland. The mountains are now in view and have an early fall of snow dusting the peaks. The colours

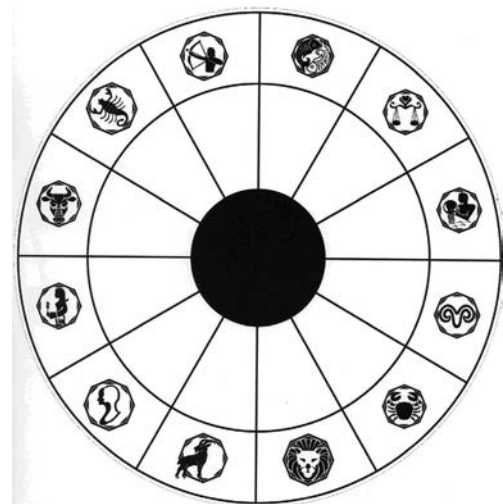
of the trees have turned with an early fall and are a carpet of every yellow and orange imaginable. They are mirrored in pure lakes of Turquoise water. This is big land now. The fields have been harvested and the land is dry and honey coloured. Tall alpines along the way take us higher into the mountains, past more Turquoise lakes. The snow is kissing at the roadside now as we climb higher. To say I'm in heaven would be true.

And so our journey across Canada to Vancouver continues in much the same way. We saw Moose, Black Bear, and Elk. We saw the great trains, more than 100 carriages crossing Canada at a snails pace, weaving through the mountains and across the plains and heard the haunting sound of the constant whistle through

every town in the land. Have you seen the film, 'Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe'? Then you will know what I mean by that haunting sound. We stayed in a log cabin with no electricity or water. Then a Teepee in the middle of a National Park, now deserted of all tourists, except us. It was freezing, but an amazing experience. Stephen played boy scouts after we scavenged for wood. He was in his element building a large fire to keep us warm for the night, and to cook on. We were warned about the local wild bears, and what to do when we see one, then the owners left. No one was around for miles and miles. No light pollution, a clear night, and a million stars shone all night. Heaven but no sleep, it was just toooooo coooooold!

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## TRAVELLERS' UPDATE CONTINUED

Two and a half thousand miles later, we have criss-crossed the amazingly beautiful Rockies, the awe inspiring glaciers, moved into other lands of canyons, the heat of the Okanangan valley, Indian reserves and have arrived in Vancouver. After all this open natural space we can't think of staying in a city. We catch a ferry immediately, and sail out through an intricate web of islands to Vancouver Island. We drive around for another 1500 km exploring South to North, East to West looking for Dolphin and Whales. We think we saw Dolphin, missed the Whales, spotted Racoons around our camp table and smelt the Skunks.

### *Klondyke gold rush*

The weather has been very kind to us and is no exception today when we leave Canada, in brilliant sunshine, by seaplane from Vancouver Island bound for America. We arrive in Seattle. An interesting history has me captivated, completely re-built, while still smouldering, after a devastating fire in 1889. Seattle made its fortune as a provisioning town in late 1890's for the Klondyke gold rush up to the Yukon. We stay a little longer in Seattle as we have managed to blow the budget again and have brought tickets to see the Rolling Stones. It was a blow away concert. Mick Jagger can't be 60 he has more energy than a bottle of lucozade and captivated us all for 3 hours.

Down the west coast Portland came next, with an open and liberal gay scene. The most appealing and attractive city. An overnight train to San Francisco in a shoe box sized compartment. It was an experience to travel the mile long carriages, twisting and winding our way through high mountain passes and along the coast. The haunting sound of the train whistle sat on our ears all night long. We ride on the famous trams up and down impossibly steep streets in San Francisco, just like the films. The famous Golden Gate bridge is hiding in a thick, familiar fog. All night long, in the fog outside of our window, we can hear the sound of foghorns guiding ship's through the estuary and under each bridge into San Francisco harbour. The next morning, the Golden Gate Bridge revealed itself in the sunshine, and rose out of the waters like a Giant theme park ride.

### *drive the Pacific highway*

We hired a car to drive into the Yosemite National Park. The colours of fall arrive later here than in Canada. They have come into their own and rival those of Canada. We head back out to the coastline to drive the Pacific highway which hugs the coast nearly all the way to Los Angeles. We stayed in Hollywood, re-named Latinowood, which was a sad mistake. The costumes on Sunset Boulevard and Hollywood Boulevard rivalled that of Halloween night. The next morning

everything was back to normal, a show of freaky everyday wear.

Crossing the equator again we escape on an overnight flight to French Polynesia. From an amazingly expensive Tahiti, we ferried out to Moorea, a tiny tropical island of lushness. We stayed in a thatch roofed shed on the beach for a few days. Time to chill and leave the cities behind. And that's just what we did, nearly horizontal for 4 days.

Another flight, this time to the Cook Islands, Rarotonga. We flew in on a sunny morning and had the clearest views of a near perfect circular tropical island, covered in palms and trees with a reef that circles the island. It is the perfect picture postcard of an idyllic island in the Pacific Ocean.

Oh I can feel some more horizontal time coming on here. The English and Maori speaking people are the loveliest I have met. Open, generous, kind and the biggest comely smiles of any one.

We are staying in a room with an outside bathroom, a shower under the Tipani trees. My bathroom is a kindergarten to Ghecko's who await me in the middle of the night when I need the loo. But, this is a divine land. We are just enjoying our time right now and not thinking of Christmas.

We are surrounded by Hibiscus, Tipani, Palms and a sunny loveliness. HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Deborah Halliday



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# Letters to the Blowhole

Dos and Shirley Clinch,  
Emerald Beach, NSW  
Australia

The Editor,  
Dear Sir,

About mid-day  
29/9/2006,a touring  
party from Australia, US,  
Canada, South Africa,  
New Zealand disembarked  
from a very precisely and  
correctly parked bus in  
your town parking area.

They were harangued  
by an irate man about 50  
years old with a precisely  
trimmed fourteen day  
hirsute growth from the  
driving seat of a small silver  
Mercedes, who claimed  
the bus was incorrectly  
positioned. (It was not).  
After finding his way  
through the tourists, he  
stopped and backed back  
into them, and then got  
out of his car with a pencil  
and pad, claimed he was a  
local councillor, took the  
number of the bus, and  
further addressed the driver,  
guide, and passengers  
with a tirade of abuse and  
aggression.

Australians are well  
known to instantly bond  
in support of anyone they

think is unfairly being set  
upon. His unfortunate  
approach induced the  
critical moment, and  
four of them immediately  
moved towards him. The  
moment was defused by a  
quick thinking Australian  
wife, who grasped her  
husband's arm, said "No!  
No! No!" and pulled him  
away, thus avoiding the  
inevitable.

It was fortunate.  
Otherwise your quite lovely  
town may have had some  
unfavourable publicity and  
gotten known world wide  
- not for its cleanliness  
or the kind and helpful  
smiling reception from  
the lady in the pottery  
shop, the pleasant morning  
tea just down the street,  
and the other businesses  
there - but because of a  
fracas precipitated by the  
distasteful and intolerant  
outburst of a man in a  
Mercedes who could not  
show a little patience and  
good judgement and a  
welcome to people who  
came, only to enjoy the  
day.

Sincerely yours,

D Clinch

Dear Blowhole

What a splended job the  
Bragg brothers have done  
in keeping the verges and  
grass areas of our village so  
tidy!

So many people have  
commented on this that I  
feel a public 'thank you' is  
in order.

Thank You, Anthony  
and Eddie

from Marion Ferrett

18th November 2006.

Boscastle Blowhole  
Editorial Team,  
Boscastle.

Dear Sirs,

Re: The proposed  
redevelopment of the  
Bottreaux Garage site.

I would like to comment on  
the article in the Boscastle  
Blowhole dated October  
2006.

As architects, designer  
and developers; we are  
used to working with  
members of the public and  
residents in the locality of  
a proposed development.  
It is very much part of our  
philosophy to consult and  
consult again with local  
people. All we ask is that any

proposals we may make are  
heard, studied carefully and  
judged on their merit and  
not on hearsay, innuendo  
or inaccurate information.  
Sadly this is not always the  
case. Some of the comments  
made in the article in your  
magazine in October 2006  
were, in part, inaccurate  
and factually incorrect.

The proposed scheme  
for the Bottreaux Garage  
site was submitted to the  
Planning Authority after  
significant discussion with  
the conservation architect  
and local people. Almost  
everybody we met locally  
was courteous, thanked us  
for spending so much time  
discussing our proposals  
and, where possible,  
for taking note of their  
comments.

There were some very  
significant changes to  
our proposals that came  
directly from comments of  
local people.

Regarding the design,  
we wanted to avoid  
pastiche and introduce a  
more contemporary and  
vibrant feel to what is a  
very beautiful village.

Whilst we did receive



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## Letters continued

support locally for our proposals, we were not met with the degree of support we had hoped for and the application has been refused.

It is our intention to significantly revise the scheme taking note of the more rational comments of local people and as before to continue consultation both with local people and the local Council member for Boscastle, to produce a scheme of merit that takes note of the concerns of local people.

The purpose of this letter is to ask that when people consider our proposals, they make up their own minds and not be lead by inaccurate information.

Yours faithfully,  
N.A. Grodhunce.

*In reponse to the above letter the editorial team would like to make the following comments:*

*Our articles was based on close examination of comments, correspondence and research of a number of Boscastle residents, some of whom have been in communication with NCDC, the Enviroment Agency and Highways Authority for some years.*

*Whilst space prevents us producing in detail all the documentation we use in preparing articles, we make every effort to check our facts and accurately summarise the gist of their arguments.*

*In the article we erroneously stated that Paradise Rd residents would be 'gazing at first floor balconies'; in fact, these were at the rear. The proposed roof ridge height was about 1 metre below the eaves of Sarum and Highpoint, so they would have had a view of the timber-cladded side wall and roof extending across their windows.*

*Mr Grodhunce says the foundations were later reduced, but we have yet to see an altered plan. The row of balconies and staircases would still be visible from Paradise Rd and from the garden at Wildwood.*

*Most trees were cleared well before the flood and the damage was compounded after the flood when the remaining scrub was cleared.*

**DAVID WASHER**

*Building Contractor*

'Penlea', Tintagel Road, Boscastle

Tel: 01840 250635

Mobile: 07967 507457

# Wanted



## Burundi Bears

Burundi Bears are helping FacilitAid to build primary schools in the central African country of Burundi and urgently need helpers to knit more bears.

Burundi, like its neighbour Rwanda, has suffered terrible genocide in recent years. Over 300,000 people were killed and 2 million fled as refugees to surrounding countries such as Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Nelson Mandela helped to negotiate a peace treaty for Burundi. The people are returning home, but now they need help to rebuild their lives.

In 2005, FacilitAid built a school in Gitega - Burundi's second city. The school has six classrooms, toilets and an administration office. It cost £35,000 and is providing education for 576 children.

The current school in Muzye, near Rutana is twice the size as there are over 5,000 children in the area who don't have a school to go to. FacilitAid have funds for the 1<sup>st</sup> six classrooms & the 1<sup>st</sup> toilet block. They still need to raise the funds for the 2<sup>nd</sup> six classrooms, the 2<sup>nd</sup> toilet block & the admin offices.

The gift given for each Burundi Bear will enable them to buy 4 bricks. If you can help, use the pattern shown or contact FacilitAid for more information.

**Thank you for helping to make a difference to children in Burundi!**

## Burundi Bear Pattern

You will need:

Double knitting wool (3 colours) and Size 10 needles  
The finished bear will be approximately 10cm x 10cm (4" x 4")

Cast on 7 stitches

Knit 14 rows

(Repeat above 2 lines for second leg)

Knit 2 rows across both legs (14 stitches)

*Change wool colour*

Cast on 5 stitches at start of next 2 rows

Then knit 8 rows (24 stitches)

Cast off 8 stitches at the start of next 2 rows

*Change wool colour*

Knit 4 rows

Increase 1 stitch each end of next row

Knit 2 rows

Increase 1 stitch each end of next row

Knit 2 rows

Increase 1 stitch each end of next row

Knit 6 rows

Cast off

Repeat the above for other side of the bear.

Sew bear together (inside out), leaving top of head open for stuffing.

Turn and stuff with washable toy filling. Sew up head.

Sew on facial features and add a bow tie.

Please send completed bears to FacilitAid. The cheapest way is to put them in a plastic bag, wrap them in brown paper and mail them 2nd class to:

FacilitAid, PO Box 50,  
Monmouth, NP25 4YB

Tel: 01594 531247

If friends or family would like to 'buy' any bears, we will need to send you a label to tie around the neck of the Burundi Bear.





# THE NATIONAL TRUST

## Flood Defence Scheme begins

October 06 saw the beginning of the construction of the flood defence scheme for Boscastle. The bulk of the work will be carried out over two winters and is due to finish in March 2008. The National Trust has been a key partner in the development of the scheme and continues to work with the Environment Agency and their designers Halcrow to produce the best scheme for the village.

Prior to October there was mitigation work carried out by the contractor Carillion. This included relocating reptiles and some mammals from the site compound area, carrying out bat surveys before trees were removed and saving branches covered in lichens to act a 'seed source' for lichens in the future.

Within the river channel, gravels were removed to prevent fish spawning in them through the winter and fish were relocated. In total 319 fish were saved including trout (both fry and parr), salmon (parr), eel, bullhead, rainbow trout and a flounder.

Various newsletters, noticeboards, letters and emails will be used to update people on the progress being made over the winter.

## Lower Bridge: Development of the Design

Following the exhibition in June 06, showing the 5 options, the stone clad bridge emerged as the preferred option. However when this bridge was designed it became obvious to many, including the Trust, residents and district council planning committee that the bridge would be an inappropriate structure. The bridge would have to span a widened river and have to be so large that it would not 'fit in' with its surroundings; visually it would be a large mass of stone.

It was clear a different design of a 'lighter' construction was needed and this has been guided by the second favoured option from the June exhibition which has a thinner deck with metal uprights on the edges supporting horizontal cables or tubes. The 'design group' which

includes residents, parish council, English Heritage, National Trust and Environment Agency met in November to look at the detail of this design. At the time of writing the next step is to present this design at a public meeting and then to apply for planning permission early in 2007.

## Valency Valley: Management of the Catchment

As well as the flood defence scheme, the Environment Agency and National Trust have been working together to produce a management plan for the Valency Valley. A report will outline the most appropriate management for the river, its banks and trees in various reaches along the valley. It is hoped this will be available early in the New Year and the proposals will be promoted by the Agency with other landowners in the catchment.

Jeff Cherrington  
National Trust, Assistant  
Property Manager  
01288 331372 or  
jeff.cherrington@  
nationaltrust.org.uk

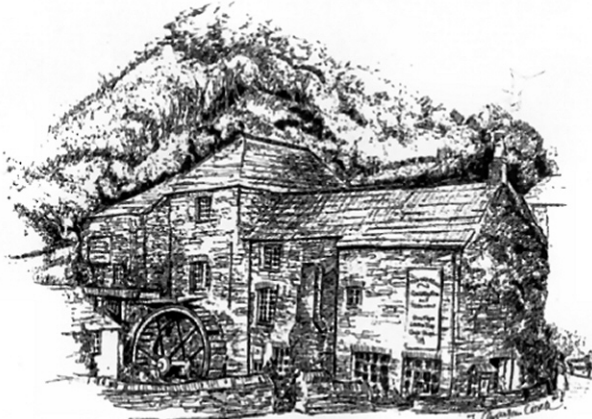


## WI RECIPE

### Dutch Apple Cake

7oz Butter or Margarine  
7oz Sugar  
1 pack vanilla sugar (or ½ tsp cinnamon, 2 teaspoons sugar, ½ tsp vanilla extract)  
pinch salt  
3 eggs  
10oz flour  
3 tsp baking powder  
2-3 tabsp milk  
1 lb cooking apples (rather over than under)  
4 oz icing sugar  
1 tsp lemon juice

Method: Heat oven 175C or 160C fan oven, 340 F, gas mark 3 ½  
Cream butter and sugar, add vanilla sugar (or alternative), salt and eggs, beat until mixture is smooth. Add sifted flour and baking powder then add milk. The mixture should be a smooth dropping consistency. Grease a 9" round baking tin and add mixture. Peel and halve the apples, remove cores. Make a deep incision in the top of each half and lightly press the halves into the mixture (cut side up). Cook for 50 – 60 minutes. Glaze with icing sugar mixed with lemon juice when cake is still hot.



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Boscastle WI meets MCC and the Weather. No, not a wet cricket match, but a month of Music, Craft, Cookery and Climate.

September commenced with the speaker Valerie Thompson, a member of "Friends of the Earth", talking about climate change. Explaining how the build of harmful Carbon Dioxide gas released into the atmosphere by the burning of fossil fuels is causing the earth to warm up, the effect of which is unpredictable weather and dramatic climate change. Her advice to reduce air travel, use energy efficient light bulbs and turn off appliances makes good sense. These actions sadly, will not repair the damage already done, but may help slow down the process.

The sea was also the subject of an Art and Music presentation at Withiel Village Hall by Alison Bevan, Curator of the Penlee Gallery, who showed examples of wonderful Cornish maritime paintings and Richard McGrady's maritime music from the 19th and 20th centuries was an absolute delight.

Art, Craft and Food were again on the agenda when the WI staged a super display of art and craftwork, at the Boscastle Food, Arts and Crafts Festival. The display was greatly admired, receiving very complimentary comments from the visitors. Of course

WI cake is always a big hit and with visitors eating the cupboard bare on Saturday, more needed to be cooked for Sunday. You can't get much fresher than that! Edith's Dutch Apple cake was a particular favourite. (See recipe below).

The October meeting was great fun, almost as good as Ready Steady Cook. Rosemary Slee, a WI member of 40 years demonstrated tasty, spicy, and easy to prepare dishes that could be made easily in a hot wok. The stories she told about her gadgets and some of her family and friends were hilarious, the food wasn't bad either.

Rosemary was again entertaining the audience with her thoughts on "trans fatty acids" when she spoke at the WI Annual Council meeting at The Hall for Cornwall. Stating that a scrape of butter is far better for us than margarine. After the adoption of the annual report the afternoon speaker, The Rt. Hon. Baroness Dene of Thornton-le-Flyde, spoke of her life and times as a "lady of the House of Lords". A Lancashire lass, who now lives in Cornwall, has progressed a long way from the Trade Union days as General Secretary of SOGAT and the newspaper strike in 1985, to become a member of the House of Lords. Local issues are very important to her and she would like to see more women peers. Presenting an intriguing insight into the history and traditions of the House of Lords she said the number of women members has risen from 8% when she was nominated,

to 18% currently. She also commented on the aging profile of the peers. Prompting her to ask the audience how to determine the member's ages? The answer, according to a very reliable source, the child of a friend, is to look in their knickers!!! (Think about it).

Parliament was again mentioned at the group meeting hosted by Marshgate WI. The speaker Bruce Pierdon, a retired metropolitan Police Sergeant, who had been stationed in Westminster, gave a fascinating "behind the scenes" insight into the planning, liaison work and involvement of the police in all the State and Royal events, such as State opening of Parliament, Royal Weddings, State Funerals and the Ceremonies of Remembrance. Everything from burst water main in the Mall, to a broken down bus, require carefully thought out contingency plans. Things we take for granted when we see the Queen in her golden coach. Bruce said the three main threats to such events are terrorism, demonstrations and persons of unsound mind, the latter being the most unpredictable of the three. After winning 1st prize in the floral art competition and four raffle prizes Boscastle will probably be banned next time!!!

Yet more art and culture at the clay craft afternoon held at Trevalga Hall in November. Ros Thomas, an art therapist, invited members to listen and make mental notes, whilst she read an extract from a

Russian Fairy Story about a little girl called Vaselisa. Members were then asked to "take something" from the story and translate it in the form a clay model. Oh dear! Not easy, but once everyone got to grips with the clay, a variety of ideas evolved. The models ranged from a pair of boots, a nasty rat and from a little girl to a whole family enclosed within a box. It was intriguing and unnerving to see how each member had latched onto a different aspect of the story.

Alice Brown asked at November's monthly meeting, "Where would the Church be without music and where would music be without the Church?" Alice, with her exceptional knowledge of music took members on a musical journey, spanning over 4 ½ thousand years. She spoke of composers such as Montiverdi, Purcell, Handel and Bach and played short musical extracts to emphasise their work. No music of the Church would be complete without Hymns, of which there are 950,000 in existence, written by many people and includes such writers as Martin Luther (1524), and John and Charles Wesley. Alice's musical journey ended when she invited members to sing one of the Hymns.

To ladies reading this, who would like to come to our meetings either as a visitor or member, the next meeting will be on 12th December at 2pm in the Village Hall, where Janet Crossman will be making "Arrangements for Christmas".

# MIKE'S NATURE NOTES

NESTBOXES IN GARDENS, WOODLANDS AND FORESTS



Great Tit

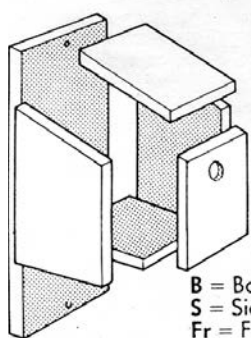
## Why Nestboxes?

Nestboxes have a very important role to play in the conservation of many birds associated with our woodlands and forests. In most woodlands about a third of the breeding species nest in holes, gaining both protection from the elements and concealment from most predators. Historically, in the wildwood, such potential nest sites would have been abundant, provided by the oldest, decaying trees. In many modern woods, particularly plantations, this over-mature element is either missing or considerably depleted. As a consequence, nest holes are often at a premium and the addition of nestboxes to a wood can provide opportunities either for new species to colonise a site or for those already present to increase their populations.

Nestboxes cannot substitute completely for natural sites provided by over-mature trees, but they can act as an important stopgap measure in plantations.

## Materials

Wood is by far the best material for building boxes as it is a good insulator against heat and cold, does not produce condensation and can blend with the site. However, other materials (plastic, metal, papier-mâché etc) have been successfully used. Wood

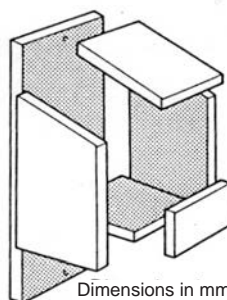


Dimensions in mm

B = Back  
S = Side  
Fr = Front  
Fl = Floor  
R = Roof

## 1 Standard tit box

can be expensive, but with a little ingenuity off-cuts or old pallets, packing cases or floorboards can be obtained cheaply and utilised. Any

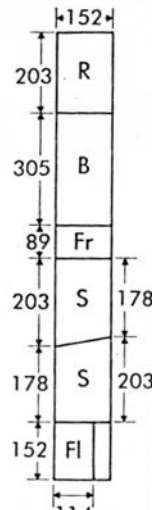


Dimensions in mm

B = Back  
S = Side  
Fr = Front  
Fl = Floor  
R = Roof

## 2 Small open-fronted box

type of wood will do; softwood is easier to work but hardwood lasts longer. Solid boards less than 15 mm thick are liable to warp but exterior grade ply of 6 mm or over should last reasonably well without warping. The dimensions of nestboxes are rarely critical (though minimum internal sizes should not be much less than those stated for individual boxes) and it is often easier to make the box fit the wood rather than vice versa. When assembling the box, nails or screws can be used, but galvanised nails



last longer than wire ones. A good catch to fasten the lid securely is essential. Wood preservatives will help prolong the life of boxes (particularly if built of softwood) but should not be used inside the box because of their toxicity.

## Siting and Fixing

There is no single best method for fixing boxes in position. They may be attached with a batten on the back of the box and nailed, screwed or tied in place. Nails and screws damage trees, and should not be used if the timber has any commercial value. Nylon, copper, aluminium or hardwood pegs can be obtained and will not damage a circular saw blade when a tree is felled and cut up. Boxes can be tied to the tree using plastic coated wire or binding twine. They should be strung loosely and as the tree grows the box can simply be edged up a little. It is possible, particularly with larger

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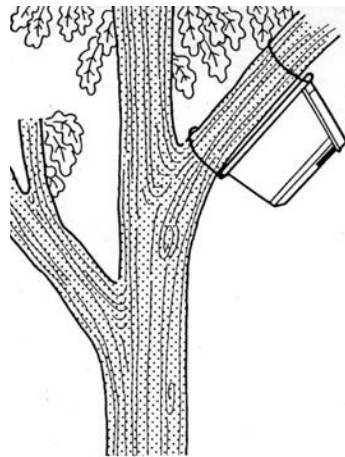
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# NESTBOXES

continued

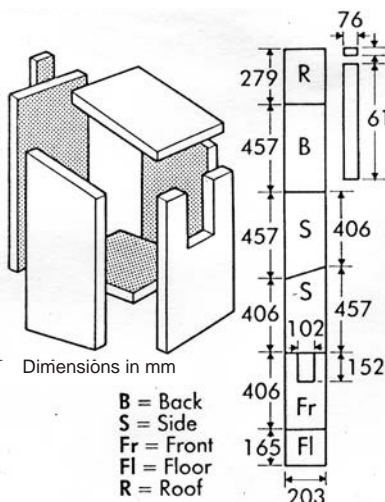
boxes, to wedge them in a forked branch.

In sheltered sites, such as within a woodland, the direction a box faces makes little difference; the angle of the trunk, and keeping the box clear of the route water naturally takes down the tree are more important. In more open sites, the box should face away from the prevailing wind and direct sunlight. A position between north and south-east is usually



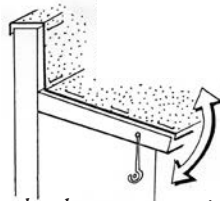
*Type 2 box in position for lesser spotted woodpecker*

results are often obtained from trees on the edge of woods or along rides, or a single outstanding tree such as an oak in a conifer plantation. For most species boxes should be located to allow a convenient open flight-line to the entrance. Perches near the box, or attached to the box front, are unnecessary and indeed undesirable.



### 3 Large open-fronted box

appropriate. Angle smaller boxes slightly forward to provide additional shelter for the entrance hole. Many species seem to prefer boxes at particular heights above the ground, but this is rarely critical and the decision may be governed more by factors such as ease of inspection or possible disturbance. In woods frequented by people the boxes may need to be put higher or at least placed where they are not seen from paths. The tree species on which a box is mounted does not appear to affect the chance of its occupation, but good



*Use a hook or some wire to keep box lids secure. Lids should be hinged using some flexible waterproof material - roofing felt, old rubber inner tube, plastic or similar, cut to size and stapled or tacked on.*



*tree sparrow*

# SSAFA FORCES HELP

SSAFA, the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association was established in 1885 by an officer who appealed for funds to look after the families of soldiers fighting in Africa. Since then it has been helping service and ex-service people and their families.

Today there are over 7,000 trained volunteers working not only in the British Isles but also in many parts of the world where ex-service people have settled.

The scope and scale of the work done is enormous, ranging from helping the elderly widow to the aid of a young family which has got into difficulties. SSAFA can give advice and if we

cannot help we usually know a man who can! Much of the work involves finding grants to help with financial problems and showing people how to help themselves.

Anyone who has earned a day's pay in the Armed Forces, including reservists and the Territorial Army, is entitled to our help for himself or herself and their dependents.

In Cornwall SSAFA Forces Help and the Royal British Legion work very closely together to provide assistance. Our work is strictly confidential. It only needs a phone call and a caseworker will call and discuss the problem with a client. Even if it is only a chat that is needed, we are there to listen. In this area just call 01840 213794

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## A Grumpy Old Man Speaks Out

Advantages of retirement: The garden shed. No commuting. Cheap holidays. The almost supernatural pleasure of not working.

"We've all seen them, on the street corners, many of them smoking, many of them on drugs; they've got no jobs to go to, and once a week we see them queuing for state hand-outs - or pensions, as we call them." (Harry Hill).

"Is not old wine wholesomest, old pippins toothsomest, old wood burns brightest, old linen wash whitest, and old lovers soundest?" (John Webster)

When I was a child you could buy a brand new mini for £499.19.6d or a cottage in Boscastle for £250.

Another bumper crop of A-level results. This year's champion achieved ten straight As. Those with fewer must feel depressed. As any fule kno the more there is of something the less it's worth. Oxford and Cambridge are forced to turn down three quarters

of apparently brilliant applicants, while employers continue to complain that many graduates cannot read and write. The government tells us kids are cleverer and better taught. They point out it was a struggle to climb Everest in 1953, now anyone can. This analogy conveniently ignores the benefits of technology. When five young Brits tried to emulate Scott's doomed exploration of the South Pole recently (BBC2's series Blizzard) with 1911 food and equipment, they found the going equally tough.

I read a profile recently about the chief executives of the The Big Six - the high street's major retailers. Only one completed university. The most successful, Sir Philip Green, now worth £5 billion, left school at sixteen to work on a market stall. Youngsters today seems pretty much as hardworking as we were when young, some devoted swots, many so laid back as to be virtually horizontal.

When I was young I was friendly with a director

of a major pharmaceuticals company. Despite his success he confided he had always cordially disliked his job, but needed to provide for his family. His advice: forget about security and salary, do what you like and are good at, and the rest will follow.

Least desirable topics of conversation: Giving up Smoking. Gordon Brown. Caravans. Diets.

Officially there are now more overweight people in the world than starving. I have an infallible diet scheme. Eat less.

Why is it so difficult to get a decent home-cooked meal at a reasonable price? English restaurants are like British Rail - not much good but then they charge quite a lot. And the mark-up on wine is ridiculous. I don't mind paying the cost of storage, service and the expertise of the sommelier, but twenty quid a bottle for supermarket plonk?

Pet hates: Smugness. "Oh yes we have this dear little cottage in the Dordogne we bought for a song before prices went up." Don't you just want to give them a slap?

And Car parking charges. And speed cameras. There is only answer - a National Obey Speed Limits and Not Go Out month. There would be such a panic as revenues disappeared councils might copy the example of our French cousins who rarely charge for car parking of any kind.

I hope there is a special circle kept in Hell for those who mistreat or exploit animals.

It is never worth arguing with anyone over the age of forty.

Karaoke: those who shouldn't drink listening to those who shouldn't sing.

Flatulent nonsense by the semi-literate. Our local hospital's Health and Safety team informs staff that its role is to "monitor, populate and escalate information to service users", achieving the curious feat of sounding both self-important and trivial at the same time.

More round objects. A nearby Trust "dedicated to the understanding and practice of sustainable and creative living" offers a course on Rainwater Harvesting,

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## Grumpy Old Man continues . . .

“a resource that is free, abundant and delivered to your door.” (Is it? I thought the stuff came down from the sky). For £75 I can be taught its creative uses as irrigation, for washing the car, and oh, for drinking. Wow.

For the young, W H Smith's produces cards for every occasion: birthdays, exams, driving test, engagement, marriage, new home, new job, new baby, promotion. For the old: Happy Retirement and Sympathy For Your Sad Loss.

Whatever happened to families? There is a television in every room, but no dining table.

Let's get things into perspective. In 'A Short History of Nearly Everything', Bill Bryson asks us to imagine our universe as a dining room table piled covered with a black cloth scattered with grains of salt. That's our galaxy, billions of stars and planets. Then multiply that table fifteen hundred times. That's the known universe, which is constantly expanding, the

light from its farthest reaches still travelling towards us.

Humans occupy an infinitesimally small part of that for an infinitesimally short time. No need to worry about who wins Celebrity Big Brother, then.

The problem about living in the 21st century is that we know how little we know - infants standing on the shore of a vast ocean we shall never cross.

Retirement provides an opportunity for doing all those things you should have done - visit the Holy Land, make up with old enemies, grow olives. It's not dark yet, Dylan sings, but it's getting there.

Andrew Marvell To His Coy Mistress. If only he had the time what detailed, exquisite foreplay they'd enjoy. Unfortunately, "The grave's a fine and private place/But none I think do there embrace." But once she succumbs every moment will last a lifetime,

"Thus, though we cannot make our sun

Stand still, yet we will make him run!" CR

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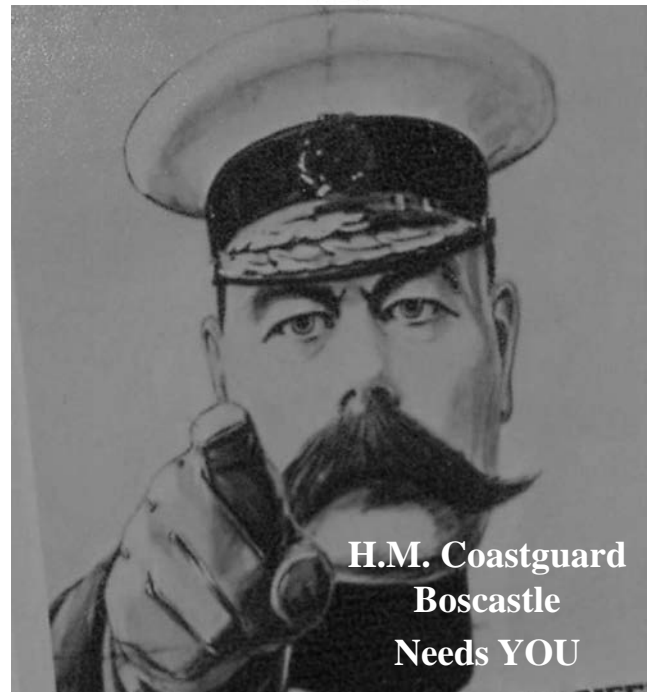
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# Boscastle Visitor Centre

Hopefully by the time you are reading this the new Visitor Centre will be open or be on the point of opening. (We are hoping to open on or about the weekend of the 16th /17th December).

It has been a long slow process, back in October 2004 when I started working out of the portacabin in the car park I never imagined that it would be over 2 years before we would be moving into a new centre. But the wait has been worthwhile.

The building is very different from the last centre in shape and height and so the new information boards have been designed to accommodate these changes. The building itself has an interesting history, so we have incorporated that into one of the information boards. As before there is information on the history, geology and natural history of Boscastle and its surrounding area as well as information on the events of the 16th August 2004 and its aftermath. But rather than spend time here telling you about the centre and what it contains I would like to invite you all to pop in and have a look for yourselves. I, or one of my happy volunteers, will be there and will be delighted to see you.

## Resource Room

I am sure that many of you will have heard that there is also going to be an archive/resources room. This is still in its planning stage as all efforts have had to go initially on getting the main body of the centre up and running. I am planning to start working on the archive / resources room in January so I should have an up date for the spring edition of the Blowhole.

The Visitor Centre will again be able to offer photocopying, fax and internet facilities to the general public. We will continue to issue the District Council's car parking permits and hold the events diary; so please

do give us the dates of any events that you are planning to hold. Nearer to the time of the event we would be delighted to put up a poster to help publicise it. We have the name "Visitor Centre" and we are very different from a Tourist Information Centre. We are here as a conduit to provide information to residents as well as to visitors. If there are any queries or questions you may have relating to the area and its many natural attractions or to the work of the District Council, please do call in and we will do our best to answer them. If we can't we usually know who can.

## Boscastle Village Trail

Many of you will be aware that we have in the past had a Village walking Trail that led people around the village so as to encourage them to discover the whole of Boscastle and not just the bit by the harbour. We ran out of this publication in the summer and so we are now in the process of redoing it. This gives us the opportunity to look at it afresh and replan the route slightly and incorporate information about the flood thus giving the visitor a chance to visualise where it came from and what caused it. (You would be surprised how many still think that it was the sea that caused the flood!). The rest of the leaflet will concentrate on the fascinating history and natural history of Boscastle. The leaflet will be in full colour and should be available in February.

RD

*(The Village Trail project is funded equally between North Cornwall District Council and the European Regional Development Fund to the sum of £15,000)*

## Air Ambulance Charity Shop, Delabole

The Christmas Draw tickets are on sale and the draw will take place just before Christmas.

Sales and donations in during September broke all previous records with an amazing grand total of £2045.73 gross. This includes over £600 in donations and we would like to thank all our customers for their continued support and in particular special thanks to Mrs. M.J. Harper who very generously presented the wonderful amount of £500 which was collected on her 70th birthday. Also a special mention must be made of the young lady who kindly donated the contents of her 'piggy bank'.

October was also an excellent month with a grand total of £1483.94. This included donations of £90 and a special thanks to Mrs. Angela Pooley who raised the sum of £85 at a recent sale.

The team of volunteers in the shop would like to wish their customers a very happy Christmas and every good wish for 2007 and thank them for their continued support throughout the year.

Unfortunately bags of items for the shop are still being left on the doorstep and, as these items are liable to get wet, they usually end up in the refuse bins, so please only bring them into the shop during opening hours, which are posted on the door, but are, of course, subject to the availability of volunteers. Thank you. JS

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## ***Bottreaux Development Plans Refused***

Belsham Court Properties' application to develop the Bottreaux Garage site for fifteen properties suffered a setback when planning permission was refused by NCDC's Planning Committee on 7th November.

The planning meeting took place against a background of controversy, much of which has been covered in previous issues of the Blowhole. At the last moment, Councillors had been hand-delivered a letter objecting to the development on procedural grounds. They had also received a small petition, provided by a Belsham agent, supporting the application.

Malcolm Price, Head of NCDC's Planning Department, in support of the application, stated that South West Water, the Environment Agency and county surveyor had all raised no objections. Despite his smooth appraisal, he was shot down in flames but members of the Planning Committee who unanimously rejected the proposal. Councillor after Councillor voiced their opinion in no uncertain fashion. The site was "not suitable for development and had no respect for the natural environment", was one comment. "It was a conservation area, no thought has been given to relations with buildings in the nearby area" came another. "The design is completely out of keeping. The houses look like beach chalets" added a third.

Janey Comber, NCDC local Councillor, voiced the opinions of many when she condemned the project as being over-developed. She was also unhappy at SWW's dismissive attitude towards sewage problems. "There is a problem," she declared. "There is absolutely no question about it, and I will argue that with SWW in the right and proper place."

Each comment was greeted by subdued but enthusiastic cheers and handclaps from a packed public gallery.

The application was refused on the grounds of over-development of



*A group of happy residents following NCDC's refusal of Belsham Court's application*

*Copyright photos courtesy David Flower*

the site, inappropriate design for the location, and insufficient provision given to the need for affordable homes in the area.

A member for Rock asked why only two flats had been provided as affordable homes as in his area the ratio was one-to-one. While no immediate answer was forthcoming, it transpires that the usual ratio is 35%. Belsham had pleaded that due to "unusual costs" in developing the site it had been previously agreed they should provide only 1.7 dwellings, or two flats. "Why flats?" inquired one Councillor, "everyone else lives in houses."

Nor was the issue of "unusual" costs defined. Several of the protestors are concerned about the amount of behind-the-scenes horse-trading that appears to have taken place with the Planning Department. They are also unhappy that previous decisions by NCDC regarding development of the site have been ignored, and that criteria used to reject similar developments elsewhere have seemingly been reversed in the case of Bottreaux.

Despite SWW's assertions that "there is no sewage capacity issue" it is maintained that no real progress has been made to solve Boscastle's problems with its already over-strained system. It is also alleged that deliberate misinformation has been supplied by departments within the NCDC to the Parish Council.

No doubt Belsham will contest the decision and re-apply for permission with a redesigned scheme. There is an acceptance in the village that the site will be developed at some stage, the question is what is most suited to the area and the community.

Legislation to build on "brownfield sites" derives from the Environmental Protection Act (1990) which promoted the reclamation of industrial sites, contaminated land and redundant buildings to be converted into new housing. Unfortunately this has been widely interpreted to include building on agricultural land, demolition of large houses to build apartment blocks and even build in larger gardens. Seventy per cent of new builds are on greenfield sites, such as a current application to replace two houses alongside the Camel in Wadebridge with 14 apartments.

New builds are more lucrative in attractive areas such as Boscastle. Whether we need more houses of any sort in this area, is questionable. Bottreaux would be more beneficial to the community as a site for either a pre-School playgroup, or wholly affordable housing, or even a return to its former use, tidied up, as workshops, garages and parking.



### **MILLER'S PANTRY**

*At The Old Mill*

*01840 250223*

*Decorative Home*

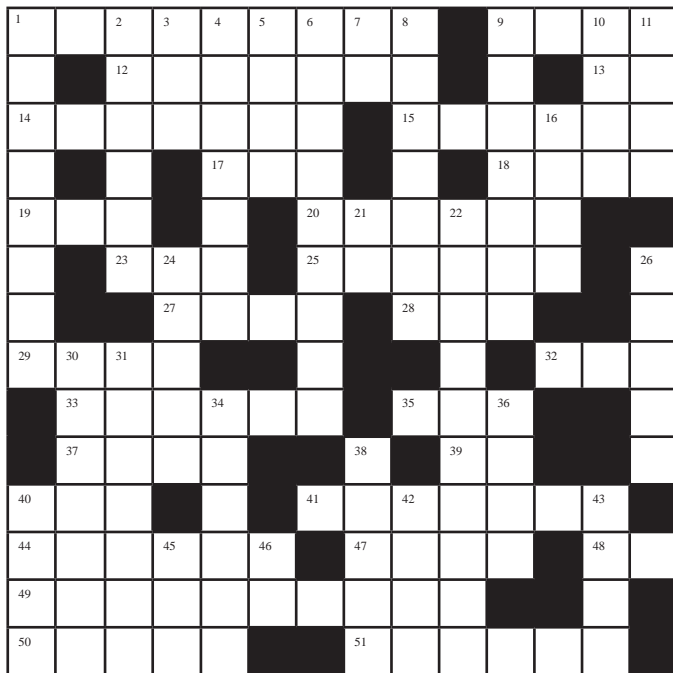
*Accessories &*

*Unusual Gifts*

**Coffee + Light + Teas**

**Lunches**

# Moira Hart's Fiendish Crossword



## Across

- |                       |                       |   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 1 religious festival  | 39 morning            | 11 West Indian plant                    |
| 9 tree                | 41 distress           | 16 vetch                                |
| 12 musical instrument | 44 jewelled headband  | 21 alternatively                        |
| 13 man's name         | 47 high moorland      | 22 supplier of provisions               |
| 14 retribution        | 48 exists             | 24 bottomless chasm                     |
| 15 shaded             | 49 deteriorates       | 26 willow branch                        |
| 17 very warm          | 50 sphere of activity | 30 studio                               |
| 18 lower part of wall | 51 pantry             | 31 group of houses larger than a hamlet |

## Down

- |                         |                    |                   |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 19 woman's name         | 1 spice            | 35 woman's name   |
| 20 colourful fish       | 2 gypsy            | 36 man's name     |
| 23 starchy tuber        | 3 frozen water     | 38 scraps         |
| 25 animal               | 4 dish of raw fish | 40 Icelandic poem |
| 27 mooring post on ship | 5 group of three   | 42 cheese         |
| 28 perform              | 6 parasite plant   | 43 layer          |
| 29 colour               | 7 adjective        | 45 lair           |
| 32 obtain               | 8 fruit            | 46 musical note   |
| 33 absorbant paper      | 9 jewellery        |                   |
| 35 shade or colour      | 10 want            |                   |

Answers on page 20

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## DOES THIS REMIND YOU OF SOMEONE?

A little angelic bundle of joy, held lovingly in mothers arms. Within a few days of being home, this little being has the upper hand, realising, if it yells loud enough and long enough someone will pick him or her up. It's downhill from then on.

The next step is learning to talk, 'dad, dad, dad', lovely, until one day those dreaded swear words, that come from nowhere, become part of their vocabulary. What an embarrassment! Food is also fun, mush on a spoon, shoved in to the ever-open mouth, great. This changes for the worse when child is given control of the spoon (or not). In the ear, up the nose, anywhere except in the mouth. The technique improves with age. Picture the scene, large plastic sheet spread out under high chair, chocolate muffin squigged through fingers into fine crumbs, being shoved into mouth by palm of hand and some being dropped on the floor to the ever awaiting dog. You've got it, cake everywhere!!!

We mustn't forget crawling and toddling, this can be very interesting, especially when mum and

auntie want to go shopping together, leaving offspring with poor grandma. Those angelic little darlings, who, one at a time can be kept amused, suddenly, when there are two, grow horns. Grandma doesn't stand a chance. Whilst one is inspecting the contents of the pedal bin, the other is sampling in the gutter.

Girls on the other hand learn about scissors, they practice being hairdressers or dressmakers. Or so it would seem when they come home from school with a 'long fringe' and a dress that has been 'modified'. At this young age they begin to learn games, think football. Can you remember the first football match? A huge football field and a huddle of 10 boys moving round the pitch all 3 feet away from the ball. They eventually get the hang of it.

Growing older brings even more problems, boys suddenly start to wash and wear smelly body spray, gel their hair and walk as if they have just got of a horse. Whilst girls, well that's a whole new ball game! Fashion, make up, tantrums, door slamming and the words 'It's not fair'

and 'Everyone else has one'. Who is the anonymous 'everyone'? Perhaps we will find out one day.

Having made it through school, its time for college, A levels, university, or work. At this stage offspring is an 'Adult', who knows just about everything there is to know about everything. Mums and dads have no idea and can't possibly understand them. Little do they realise that most of what they do has been done before by those mums and dads, albeit in a slightly different way. But don't let on, they think they are pulling the wool over your eyes. Just so long as they are safe it matters not.

As adults, they are still someone's child and when the credit card bill gets too high, the car comes off the road because they took the bend too fast, or they are vomiting in the loo because they have drunk too much alcohol, they will always be loved by those mums and dads, grandmas and granddads, aunts and uncles. This is because, no matter what, they are special.

Did it remind you of anyone?

MS




Fans of Hunters Moon, the exuberant, silver and black clad Morris side are familiar with their whoops and cries as they clash sticks and dance to traditional and contemporary folk music in the 'Border' style of Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Shropshire.

Filmmakers, Newland Media from Devon began shooting footage of Hunters Moon Morris at Easter 2006 when the dancers returned to Cornwall on their annual tour of Boscastle and the surrounding area. They followed the performers and musicians to festivals and events across the south of England.

Much of the DVD, which features interviews as well as performances, was filmed outside the Museum of Witchcraft. The DVD costs £6.99 including p&tp. Hunters Moon website is [www.huntersmoonmorris.co.uk](http://www.huntersmoonmorris.co.uk)



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# Martin's Sporting Briefs

◆ The villages two ladies darts teams are doing very well so far this season. The Napoleon team is in a comfortable mid-table position, while the Cobweb team is currently in the runner-up spot. Probably due to the improved form of Emma Goreham, who, since relinquishing her "Caravan Club" membership has had more time to practice.

◆ Head grounds man and Parish Councillor, Anthony Brewer, celebrated his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday back in September with a "bash" at his farm. He recently received two letters from the local Police Authority, which he thought were late birthday cards, but in fact they were two speeding fines!!

◆ A costly mistake by stand-in captain Phil Higgs saw Cobweb knocked out of the Sunday morning Cricket K.O. Cup Competition. The usual captain Paul Abbott, who was away on holiday at the time, was apparently "not amused"!!

◆ Robin Haddy celebrated his 40<sup>th</sup> birthday recently and is still commanding a regular place in the Boscastle first team. He also qualifies for the veteran's competition; his first match was against a Rod Stewarts XI, while he was on holiday in London.

◆ Richard Pethick was re-appointed 1<sup>st</sup> team manager following the resignation of Nev Turner. A lot of players have left the club for various reasons, so a period of rebuilding is necessary. The 2<sup>nd</sup> team have installed Ian Nicholls and Sam Washer as the dream management

team. With ones brains and the others good looks it is already proving to be a successful combination.

◆ The now clean-shaven, youthful Julian Findlay has discovered he is a "natural" on the dance floor. His weekly trip to the nightclubs in the area has seen Julian transform into a real Disco King! Apparently his is all set to enter next years "Strictly Come Dancing".

◆ During this years World Cup finals, Antony Biscombe somehow managed to sway two weeks off work due to a knee injury, even though he still managed to walk to his "local" to watch all the England matches. The management duo of Ian Nicholls and Sam Washer plus some mates went over to Germany while the England matches were on to "savour the atmosphere". Whilst local builder Headly Venning went one better, as he went to the World Cup final itself.

◆ Boscastle's cricketers Steve Jose, Aaron Washer and Jason Seldon scooped most of the awards at the recent Tintagel Cricket

dinner and presentation evening, Jason and Aaron both received trophies for player of the year in their respective teams and also for topping the bowling averages, whilst Steve Jose was awarded the cup for "Clubman of the Year". Little Jamie Lawrence, a pupil at Boscastle Primary School, received an award for "Mascot of the Year".

◆ Steve and Cheryl Nicholls had a famous sportsman staying at their guesthouse recently. The WBO Super-middleweight Champion, Joe Calzaghe, came down to Cornwall for a short break and while he was here he gave Steve a hand around the farm.

◆ Local jockey Liam Heard is making great strides in the horseracing world. He rides for Paul Nicholls Stables and recently won the biggest race of his short career. He won the Becher Chase at Aintree on Eurotrek at 25-1.

And finally:-

◆ Stephen Wickett has a new job working for the Boscastle Parish Council. His is the resident telegraph pole inspector, a job he takes very seriously!!!

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**Tel: 01840 250259**

Monday	8.00 - 1.00	2.00 - 5.00
Tuesday	9.00 - 1.00	2.00 - 5.00
Wednesday	9.00 - 1.00	2.00 - 5.00
Thursday	9.00 - 1.00	2.00 - 5.00
Friday	9.00 - 12.30	Closed
Saturday	9.00 - 12.00	Closed
Sunday	Closed all day	

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## Boscastle Newsagent

**Tel: 01840 250419**

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## Mobile Library

**Tel: 01208 812202**

Calls on alternate Thursdays:  
21<sup>st</sup> December  
4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> January  
1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> February  
1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> March

Wellington Hotel: 11.30 – 11.40  
Barn Park, Tintagel Road: 11.45 – 12.05

## Waste Tip, Bowthick Quarry Sanding Road, Tintagel

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## Camelford Library Town Hall, Market Place

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Wednesday	Closed all day
Thursday	10.00 - 5.00
Friday	10.00 - 4.00
Saturday	09.30 - 12.30
Sunday	Closed all day

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

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For non-urgent issues: eg to report a crime or criminal damage, to request police advice or attendance, to enquire about lost property, to be connected to a police station, service or department: 08452 777 444

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**NHS Direct** (24 hour helpline): 0845 4647

## Hospitals:

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Launceston General 01566 765650

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

Stratton 01288 287700

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Truro -Treliske 01872 250000

Plymouth - Derriford 01752 777111

**Dental Helpline:** 0800 371192

**RSPCA:** 08705 555999

**Boscastle Visitor Centre:** 01840 250010

## Local Churches:

Church of England 01840 250359

Methodist 01840 770274

Catholic 01840 770663

**Harbourmaster:** 01840 250453

## Parish Council:

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

clerk: 01840 250440

email clerk: [formin.parish@virgin.net](mailto:formin.parish@virgin.net)

## Village Hall:

Bookings: 01840 250558

Pay phone: 01840 250171

## Community & Recreation Centre:

Bookings: 01840 250442

## Cornwall County Council:

Switchboard: 01872 322000

website: [www.cornwall.gov.uk](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk)

## North Cornwall District Council:

Main Switchboard 01208 893333

website: [www.ncdc.gov.uk](http://www.ncdc.gov.uk)

# CABARET AND SUPPER EVENING



*David Lamond with Delia Hancock, who was celebrating birthday*

If you were lucky enough to get tickets for the Cabaret and Sausage Supper Evening at the Village Hall on Friday 24 or Saturday 25 November, then you were in for a treat. The whole evening was light-hearted, informal, tremendous fun and excellent value for money.

Jane Castling was the design force behind the beautifully decorated tables at which we were served our delicious locally-sourced suppers: sausages from Home Farm, potatoes from Churchtown Farm, Trevalga, plus a choice of pudding! A further addition to the menu was more wine than one should wisely consume. Everyone seemed to like the arrangement of three long tables: perhaps it had something to do with the wine.

I am given to understand that the Power behind the

Theatrical Throne was Myrna Lester, who, as well as performing a stunning 'Second Hand Rose' amongst other things, gathered together the delightful array of talent who performed in the cabaret for our delectation. I also have it on good authority that David Lamond was personally responsible for the delicious Bread and Butter Pudding, which was in rather better shape than his truncheon in the show stopping Gendarmes' song with Peter Chisholm Taylor. Mary Baum brought her usual wry charm to her poetry reading, Roger Toy's major



*enthusiastic reviewer, Ann Rodda with Peter Chiswick*

as ever, David Pinn's 'Mary Ellen' was a highlight and the three love-lorn maidens, Daphne Rogers, Marianne Privett and Myrna Lester, moved the hardest heart with 'Always a Bridesmaid, Never a Bride'. This is only a partial list of the delights: you can only be sorry if you missed it. And what an

and the Group of Churches. The apparently effortless ease of the proceedings owes a debt to the smooth hosts, The Pickwicks, David and Peter. We can only hope that this talented team will agree to treat us to a Cabaret and Supper Evening on a regular basis. I would buy a Season Ticket.



*the diners had a convivial time*

galloped with his expected effervescence, Roger Nicholls' mischievous enthusiasm, even though he 'Only Came Down for the Day', delighted

exceptional accompanist the pianist, Roy Dinshaw is!

The whole evening after expenses raised a superb total of £840 to be divided equally between the Village Hall

The complete team: Cabaret Artistes: Peter Chisholm Taylor, David Lamond, Myrna Lester, Marianne Privett, Daphne Rogers, Mary Baum, David Pinn, Roger Nicholls and Roger Toy. Pianist: Roy Dinshaw with assistant Pauline Kent. Cooks in the kitchen :Angela Pethick and Val Gill. Serving Wenches: Gloria Quinlan and Daphne Rogers. Mistress of the Raffle and Table Designer Extraordinaire: Jane Castling.

*Ann Rodda*

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