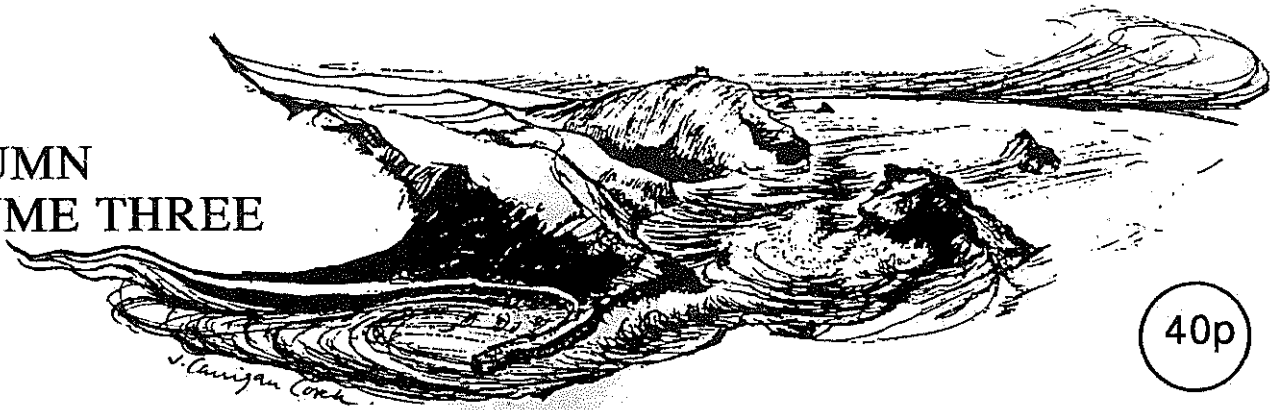


AUTUMN  
VOLUME THREE  
1995



40p

# BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE

## Phew ! What a Scorcher !!

Old Tabloid Headline says it all.

What else can you say about a summer in which even the visitors are praying for rain? (They've got their gardens to face when they get home.)

Not for 220 years has there been such a dry summer in England. North Cornwall is having the time of its life and even the hotel keepers, case-hardened over many a wet and windy summer, have to admit that business is really quite fluid.

Roger Little, at Boscastle Pottery, admits they're having a very good year. Conventional wisdom is that, when the sun shines, everyone goes onto the beach. "This year they seem to spend the first couple of days out there, and then look for other things to do to get out of

the sun. They come in here looking like lobsters, and start buying pots. I have no complaints."

Still on lobsters, Laurence, the fisherman, is not quite so happy. Apparently, lobsters don't like the east wind (often associated with fine weather at this time of year) and they stay very still on the sea-bed. But give them a brisk sou'westerly and they march straight into the pots. Ah well, you can't please everyone.

Meanwhile, Oliver and Gill Smeeth, Boscastle newsagents, are spending all their time filling up the soft drinks cooler. "We just can't keep everything in there," says Oliver. "We even had someone in here who bought a litre of cold Buxton Spring Water to put into his radiator. It had to be the still variety," he reflected, "he drew the line at sparkling." Continued on page 7.



# Colourful Village

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The Blowhole has gained quite a reputation for its photographic montage, depicting many of the major events in our village. Many of you tell us that you keep your copies - in years to come, Blowhole photos will surely become significant archive material.

With this in mind, we are delighted to mark this scorching summer, when the village has rarely looked more colourful, with COLOUR photographs. The first 'Best Kept Gardens' competition, judged in early July, before lawns became parchment-yellow and annuals began to wilt, provided the perfect opportunity to celebrate the beauty which this area offers.

When the extra cost entailed by colour printing was guaranteed by a generous gift (see p. 16) it became possible to make this innovation. We don't promise you colour in every edition, but your support in providing ideas, selling the copies - and buying the odd extra one for your friends and relatives, will ensure that every edition will offer that little something extra!

## Editorial Panel

Philippa Arthan, Yvonne Ayling, Jim Castling, Joan Cork,  
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(The editorial panel reserves the right to accept or reject any material submitted for publication. The views expressed within the paper are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Blowhole team)

Copies of the BLOWHOLE are available by post at a cost of 75p per issue.

Contact Philippa Arthan (01840) 250483

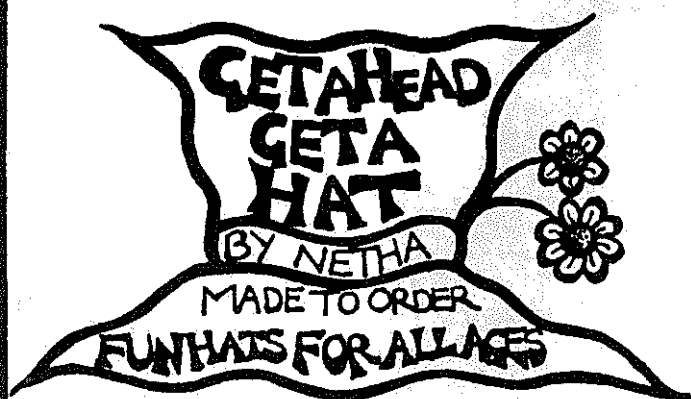
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# Parish Council

## FORRABURY & MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

### FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME

After a site meeting with N.R.A. representatives and extensive discussion, the Council agreed to support the construction of a pipeline along Old Road but stated that they would welcome improvement of the present culvert as soon as possible.

### BOSCASTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Council considered a request from Boscastle School for financial assistance with a school playground project. The Clerk was instructed to request a financial breakdown of the proposed scheme.

### COMMUNITY HOSPITAL - ST. LAWRENCE'S HOSPITAL SITE

The Council supported the N.C.D.C. preference for the St. Lawrence Hospital Site in Bodmin for the new community hospital. The Clerk was to advise N.C.D.C. of its choice of this site rather than an alternative one at Liskeard. Councillors considered that Bodmin is 'a natural centre for North Cornwall'.

### THE HARBOUR AREA

(a) The Council received notification of the intended change to Footpath No. 8 which runs up the northern flagpole site of the harbour.

(b) The sewage pipe which runs alongside the harbour to its outlet at the sea is in need of exterior repair; Council reported this matter to South West Water.

### STREET CLEANING CONTRACT

Concern was expressed about the present arrangements for street cleaning. Although contractors had carried out work, the method used was considered to be unsatisfactory, since dirt picked up by the machine was being blown out of the top of the container in the form of fine dust.

The Clerk further reported that no definite information could be obtained re the funding for a Parish Council street cleaner, due to the imminent

retirement of the environmental officer. Mr. F. Routley undertook to look into the matter. At a subsequent meeting, the Clerk informed Councillors that the matter was to be discussed with a new officer at a future meeting.

### COBWEB CAR PARK

Councillors expressed concern that disabled drivers have to pay to park in the car park opposite the Cobweb Inn. The clerk is to investigate this matter.

It was reported that some controversy had arisen with regard to the moving of the rubbish bin adjoining the car park. Residents' views, as reported to the Council, differed; some were angry and others pleased by the change. Mr. Cragg, of the NCDC, agreed to comply with Council wishes on this matter and the Council voted in favour of a proposal to leave the bin outside the Visitors' Centre.

### SEWERAGE EMBARGO

Councillors considered that sewerage space allocated to planning applications which were agreed before the embargo was in place, and not subsequently taken up, should be available for re-allocation. The Clerk's enquiries established that once a planning application was approved, sewerage space could not be re-allocated even if the property in question was not developed.

### WAR MEMORIAL

A meeting was arranged between Councillor E. Smith and the gardener, Mr. Kenyon, in order to draw up a planting scheme for improvements to the War Memorial garden. The Council requested a planting scheme for more shrubs and shrub roses, and the reduction of the present bedding plant area. Councillor A. Olde agreed to clean the stone and renovate the lettering.

Continued on p. 5


# D. Ferrett

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## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS (cont.)

### THE NATIONAL TRUST

The Council was addressed by Mr. Simon Ford, Countryside Manager of the National Trust, who outlined the Trust's recent work within the Parish and answered questions. There had been some annual weed management at Forrabury, together with hay meadow management. The Look-out was to be re-roofed, rings were to be attached to harbourside mooring posts, coastal paths were to be slated and cobbles were to be used on river banks to protect the grass.

In the Valency Valley, sycamore had been cleared, and a small number of beech and oak trees were to be singled to create more standards and different heights.

Replying to Councillors' questions, Mr. Ford stated that encapsulated notices now indicated the location of keys, so that gates could be opened in emergencies.

It was difficult to solve the problem of providing access for wheelchairs and pushchairs to the path along the Valency Valley. Experience in other places had shown that removable gates tended to be stolen and also allowed horses, bicycles and motorcycles to make unauthorised use of the paths. He would,

however give further thought to improving access for pushchairs and wheelchairs.

Mr. Ford was not in favour of removing a fencing round the grass of the harbour area; all good work in establishing a grass sward might well be lost. It may prove possible to remove some of the fencing sections.

The Trust had a very detailed Woodland Plan for Peter's Wood and other Boscastle woodland. They are managed for nature conservation and landscaping purposes. Oak coppicing in the 1980s had not proved successful, but there may now be some hazel coppicing to encourage moribund hazel stools. Plans also include the removal of sycamore and occasional beech to prevent intrusive invasion from destroying extremely important woodland. YM

### COUNCIL NOTICE

**The Blowhole is asked to remind residents that refuse bins and bags left on the street overnight attract animals which pierce the bags and spread unsightly rubbish.**

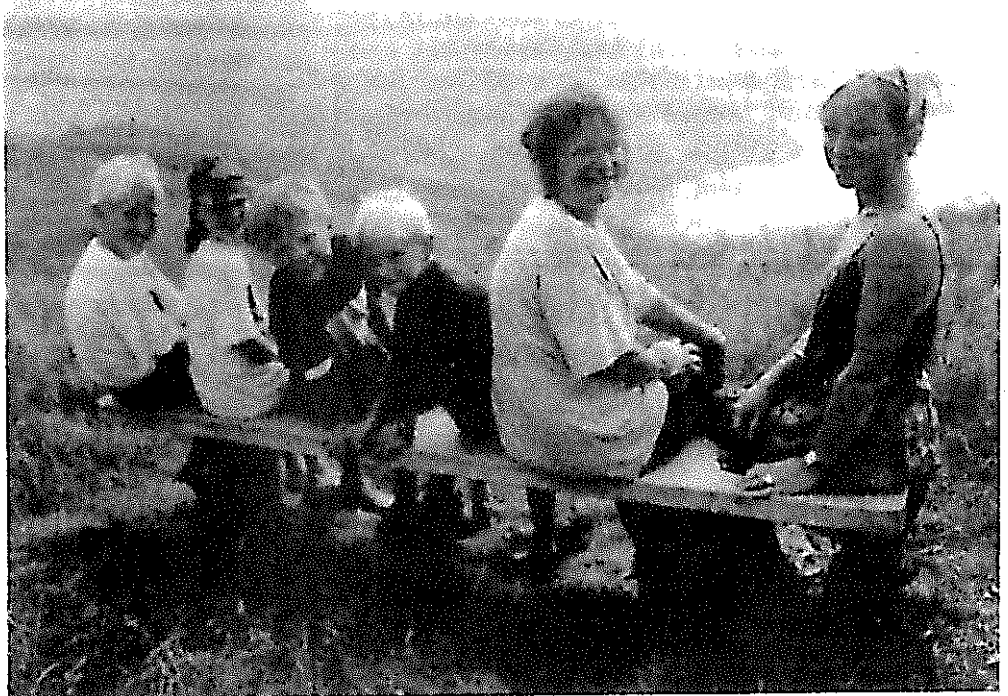
### NEVILLE'S SEAT

Many residents have noticed, and taken advantage of, a new seat from which to sit and admire the sea across Willapark. It is a sturdy bench placed on the headland below the old coastguard's lookout commanding a perfect view of the coast towards Tintagel.

Few readers may yet be aware of its special significance, for it was placed there in remembrance of The Rev. Neville Kirby. Neville and his wife Maggie, together with their children and grandchildren spent many holidays in Boscastle. Like others before them, the Kirbys decided to make Boscastle the home in retirement and they purchased St. Hugh, a cottage situated in the heart of the old village between the Spar shop and the Post Office. When Neville died at the end of last year, the family decided that they wanted a permanent memory of him here in Boscastle, which he loved.

They are delighted that as well as the bench, Forrabury church has been able to have new pew runners. Yet to come, are a red altar frontal and drapings. These gifts were given by his relatives, many friends and colleagues, as a tribute to Neville, who was such an outstanding man.

**Maggie, her daughter and some of her grandchildren enjoy the view from Neville's seat.**



# FAMILIAR FACES IN NEW PLACES



Almost before you could notice the change there were new faces at the Newsagents. Well, new to shop-keeping, perhaps, but Oliver and Gill Smeeth, who have taken over the big shop by the Car Park, are far from new to the district. Oliver's parents came from Crackington and he has lived in Camelford for most of his life. He even went to Sir Jim's, as their three children have, although, as he rather wistfully adds, "when it was Sir James Smith's Grammar School."

Gill was born in Ireland where she qualified as a nurse before chancing the Irish Sea to work as a mid-wife in Scotland. She became a specialist in premature-births (and, no doubt, finds the experience in early deliveries rather relevant in the news agency business). Gill and Oliver met and married in Wales, where they worked for four years before coming home to roost in Camelford.

Well, sorry as we are to lose Geoff, with his lovely curly Birmingham vowels, we welcome Gill and Oliver in their new adventure in retail

business. Until now they have been dairy farmers, with 90 acres on the Camelford Road, just past the cross-roads. Just about the only analogy between the two businesses is the need to get up at unconscionable hours in the morning; at least they'll be used to that. There is however a slight glazing of the eyes as Gill admits to having to get up at 5.15am for 6 days a week, in order to open the shop at 6.00am for the papers.

As they are both quick to point out, the shock of their sudden immersion into running a business has been greatly alleviated by two people who had worked there with Geoff. Arriving almost as early as they do themselves, energetic septuagenarian, Eric Fernley, continues to do the newspaper deliveries. And Carol, who has worked at the shop for four years, has been an invaluable help in running the business.

The Smeeths continue to live in their farmhouse near Camelford, where they have let out their grass to another dairy farmer. During the winter, when the newsagent business will be less brisk, they will iron out some of the seasonality of their business by rearing some stock in their farm buildings.

Meantime, they are learning to live with the unpredictable demands of the great European Public on holiday. But it is not often they cannot help their customers; indeed, they see it as their role in the life of the village to stock the items that other shops do not carry. They especially ask that if there is anything that their customers need, provided there will be some demand for it, they will be willing to carry it in stock.

Oliver and Gill express their gratitude that local people in the village have been very supportive to them in their new role. Needless to say, the Blowhole does not find that too surprising.

It's always good to have nice people working in the village and it's especially nice to have local people running the odd business. Long may the Smeeths thrive as they collect our papers at the crack of dawn.

J.C.

## THE HARBOUR LIGHT

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## Continued from Page 1.

A few steps away in the car park, Beckie David in the Visitor Centre has been struggling with endless enquiries about B & B accomodation. They only know about those people who have advertised at the Centre (£30 a year) or who have entered their business on CALL (free!). Very few have asked to be listed on that so far. B & B houses take note. Heritage Coast make a list of all their advertisers and give it to enquirers.

Glenys Dellow in the Gift Shop Gallery is not so sure that there are more people about, but those there are find it too hot to spend too much time on the beach. "They're just being typically British and moaning about the heat," she says. Norman Webber, watering his plants (before the ban) inadvertently flicked some drops over a passer-by. He apologised profusely, but the lady said, "Please don't apologise, do it again, but all over."

One of the coolest places in the village is the Post Office. "Normally, that means cold and damp", says Kevin Sellars, "but this summer it's a favourite haunt for everyone." Kevin is certain more visitors have visited the upper part of the village since the new signs were erected at the top and bottom of Old Road.

In the Spar Shop, Patrick Sullivan, being a prudent business man, ordered a batch of rain hats at the beginning of the season, not one of which has been sold. Still you can't please everyone. At least sales of ice-cream and soft drinks have been excellent. In the Harbour Light, Trixie Webber wondered what had happened when suddenly everyone rushed out of the shop. It was a light shower of rain and everyone wanted to feel it on their faces.

The pubs are doing their best to satisfy customers. Dave, barman at the Nap, had an order for "Half of lager, a small lager and a small red beer." He is still wondering what they really wanted. At the Welly, Terry had people complaining that the real ale was warm. "What do they expect?" he asks, "Real Ale enthusiasts hate their beer cooled." Proprietor Victor takes a harder view. "If we're not doing well in August, how do you think we're going to do in November?" Shirley Anderson, who waits at table at La Belle Alliance was thrilled to see two stars from 'Casualty' at a table. She was astonished to be asked, "Haven't I see you before somewhere?" The boot, it seemed, was on the other foot. Perhaps her little fling as a schoolgirl in an Edward Woodward film had made a bigger mark than she had realised.

J.C.

**John Massey's appetite  
Is for the musical,  
The unusual and the recondite.  
Boscastle's antiquarian,  
Of pleasing face,  
If an unusually hairy 'un.**



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## Enquire Without

### YOUR ANSWERS

*We are indebted to Mr Roger Pethick for the following answers (see queries in the Summer Edition):*

'Willapark' means literally high field; the name is derived from willy (high) and park (field).

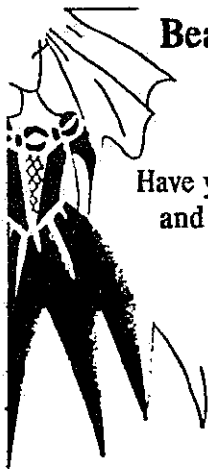
Roger's researches into the Bottreaux shield yielded the following:

The griffin in the top right hand corner of the shield is that of the Bottreaux family (of Boscastle); the symbol in the bottom left hand quarter is that of the Boterell family.

And the frogs? They are almost certainly toads. Roger believes that they derive from Lord Hungerford, whom the last of the Bottreaux line, Elizabeth, apparently married. The records are somewhat sparse, but the following is gleaned from *A Complete Guide to Heraldry* by A.C. Fox-Davies:

"There are but few instances in English armory in which the Toad or Frog is met with. In fact, the only instance which one can recollect is the coat of arms attributed to a family of Botreaux, who are said to have borne: 'Argent, three toads erect sable.' I am confident, however, that this coat of arms, if it ever existed, and if it could be traced to its earliest sources, would be found to be really three buckets of water, a canting allusion to the name. Toads of course are the charges of the mythical arms of Pharamond."

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and daily at 6.00pm, except  
Thursday. Priest: Fr.B. Storey,  
Chy An Pronter, Trewarmett,  
Tintagel (770663)

## RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Quakers meet in Boscastle Methodist Schoolroom on the 4th Sunday of each month at 3.00pm. Also in the John Betjeman Centre, Wadebridge, each Sunday at 10.30am. Everyone welcome.

## THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Rector: The Rev. John Ayling,  
The Rectory, Forrabury, Boscastle  
(250359)

Holy Communion at Forrabury Church each Sunday at 9.00am (except 3rd and 5th Sundays). Family Service 10.15 on 3rd Sun.

The Boscastle Group of Churches includes the 7 local churches. The 'Group Gazette' gives details of services and events.

## BOSCASTLE METHODIST CHURCH

Church Steward: Arthur Olde  
The Glen, Fore St. (Next door to church) (250422).

Services each Sunday at 11.00am and 6.00pm, except 2nd Sunday, 10.30am Family Service.

## HARVEST FESTIVALS

**Methodists:** Sun. 24th September.

11.00am Preacher: Mrs. Grundon. 6.00pm: Rev. Ron Hockley  
Sale of Harvest Goods etc. Mon. 25th at 7.00pm

**C. of E.** Sun. 1st October.

9.00am Forrabury Church. Preacher: The Rev. Giles Fraser.  
Harvest Supper & Auction. 7.00pm Mon. 2nd. in Village Hall.

Also Harvest at Lesnewth 10.15, Trevalga 11.30 on 1st October, and St. Juliot 10.15 and Davidstow 11.30 on 24th September.

### The Rector writes:

The approach of harvest time at the end of a long hot summer reminds us that we have much to be thankful for; and also much to be concerned about. The heat has brought home to us the way we are polluting the very air we breathe, and the drought has reminded us of how precious is a supply of pure water. These are not new concerns. I am reminded of St. Francis' prayer, which seems to me to be touching the concerns that we all ought to share, whatever our beliefs, for they touch us all:

We pray for every living creature;  
With all that is on earth, and for the earth itself,  
With all that lives in the water, and for the water itself,  
With all creatures of the air, and for the air itself,  
With all that is warm life, and with the living fire;  
That we may put away all selfishness and greed,  
And embrace one another in joy and love and peace.

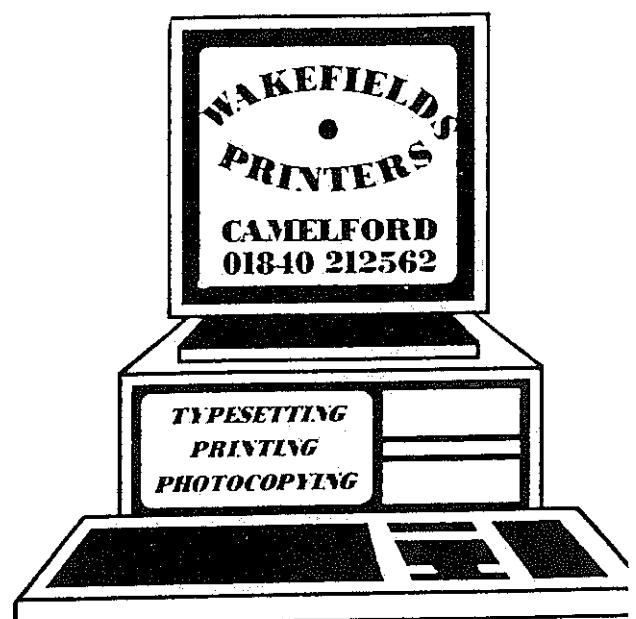
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# Your Letters

## What is it, why Boscastle?



We are visitors from Germany but that doesn't matter. More than ten times we have been in England since 1977. Friends and kollegs of us could not understand this, because England is cold and wet they say. Indeed, in England and Cornwall too there is sometimes a little bit more rain and fog than on other parts of the map. Nevertheless, the secret of return is a

village in North Cornwall, 'discovered' in autumn 1978 on a trip to friends of my parents - they still live near Redruth.

For an overnight stop we leaved the A30 near Launceston to look for a B & B near the coast. By the hedges we have no outlook beside the road and it became darker and darker. Near Davidstow we saw an old garage and some poor houses in the lights of the car, but no men. We turned to Bude, back to Tintagel, back to Bude stopping near a petrol station. A road sign showed us the way to the harbour of Boscastle. Near a little river in direction to the sea we noticed a B & B label on the wall of a house lightened by a lamp like a toplight. Could this be the home of smugglers? We were tired. After ringing a friendly lady said welcome. We have had a good night and a wonderful sunny morning. We looked around, the valley, the village, the river and the harbour, the noise of the gulls and the smell of the sea. From this morning we knew: this is the place to spend our next holidays ... and the next ... and so on.

By the years we met many kind peoples and visited many nice or interesting places in England and Cornwall. But the center point of all journeys has been and will be Boscastle. This region seamed to us like a second home (June and Fred know this). The virus of this 'Cornish wonderlust' is now in our son. We think it is good to have more than only one country to feel well!

Janina, Michael & John Marco Muller  
D-21244 Buchholz

Dear Editor,

Contrary to comments in a previous issue of the "Blowhole", the discussions on the flood relief scheme for the Jordan are still very much alive, or maybe one should say, resurrected.

Firstly, I am very pleased to hear on the grapevine that commonsense has partially prevailed, and that the Parish Council has voted in favour of a flood relief scheme, for which I am eternally grateful. What concerns me and, I am sure, other residents and traders in Old Road, is that they have voted for the pipeline option, which involves closing Old Road from the allotments down to the Mill for five months. Even more worrying is that they will have to close New Road by the bridge as well, whilst digging and laying pipeline across New Road.

However, the alternative option suggested by the N.R.A., and my favourite, is tunnelling through the hill behind the "Welly" and discharging the Jordan further upstream in the Valency behind the main car-park.

Contrary to what has been said by certain parties, the letter from the N.R.A., dated 14th June 1995, states quite specifically, and I quote, "The original scheme required the closure of Old Road for a period of five months, to lay the pipeline and build the inlet structure. It is estimated that the tunnel scheme would take six months to complete, but the construction of the inlet work at the upstream end of the tunnel would still require the closure of Old Road for a period of two months."

I am sure that readers can see that the less disruption of Old Road the better it is for the village, visitors, residents and businessesd.

In conclusion, I publicly thank the Parish Council for voting in favour of the much-need flood relief scheme, but ask them, and you the readers, to reconsider the tunnel option, lessening disruption to vehicular and pedestrian traffic along Old Road.

Yours sincerely,

Victor Tobutt, Wellington Hotel

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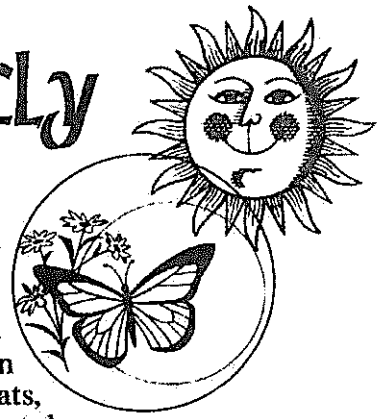
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# madame Butterfly



Joy - pure joy! This is a proper summer, a hot summer, a real summer - well-burnt, half-clad bodies round and about, soaring sales of factors so numerous, and rocketing purchases of alcohol in all its diverse descriptions and strengths, and of course the hose-pipe ban and the possibility of even more drastic water restrictions - back to the ever-popular bath with a friend! Caring and sharing could be our motto this summer! Good hot, long summers bring visitors, not just to our excellent hotels, B & B's and cottages, but also those of the more personal nature, friends and family who stay with you 'en famille'. In my case we also have those so-called 'extra family', no blood ties but those you would adore to be related to if you were given the opportunity to choose. I like visitors. I enjoy spoiling them, get pleasure out of seeing the extra inches appearing round their waistlines; it makes the cooking very satisfying.

Some of our guests bring their dogs. I don't mind, our canine trio like another dog to bark at and chase. My daughter puts her cat into the local cattery when down here, but one dear 'extra family' member regularly brings her hamster with her when she stays. Now Karen's hamster travels in style and has total priority at all times. On a

recent visit from darkest Middlesex, it had the whole of the back seat of the car for its house, an amazing block of flats, all inter-connecting tubes and walkways. (It makes Canary Wharf look like a slum.) All the luggage was squashed into a rodent-free zone on the floor. The hamster spent his week in the lounge ( a dog-free area) and didn't do a lot - but boy, he has a very active night life! If we could only harness his wheel - the energy created might reduce the electricity bill. I like Karen fattening it up for herself for Christmas (Hamster - blue - on the claw)? Well, Karen and her Dad left yesterday after a good couple of hours packing and re-packing the car, with of course hamster in prime position. Karen's parting words: "I might be back at the weekend! By the way, the hamster's called Hooper (Get it H for hamster).

Another thought, has the sun gone to the head of one of our young? I thought that if you streak you had to have an audience, not just Emm!

Madame Butterfly



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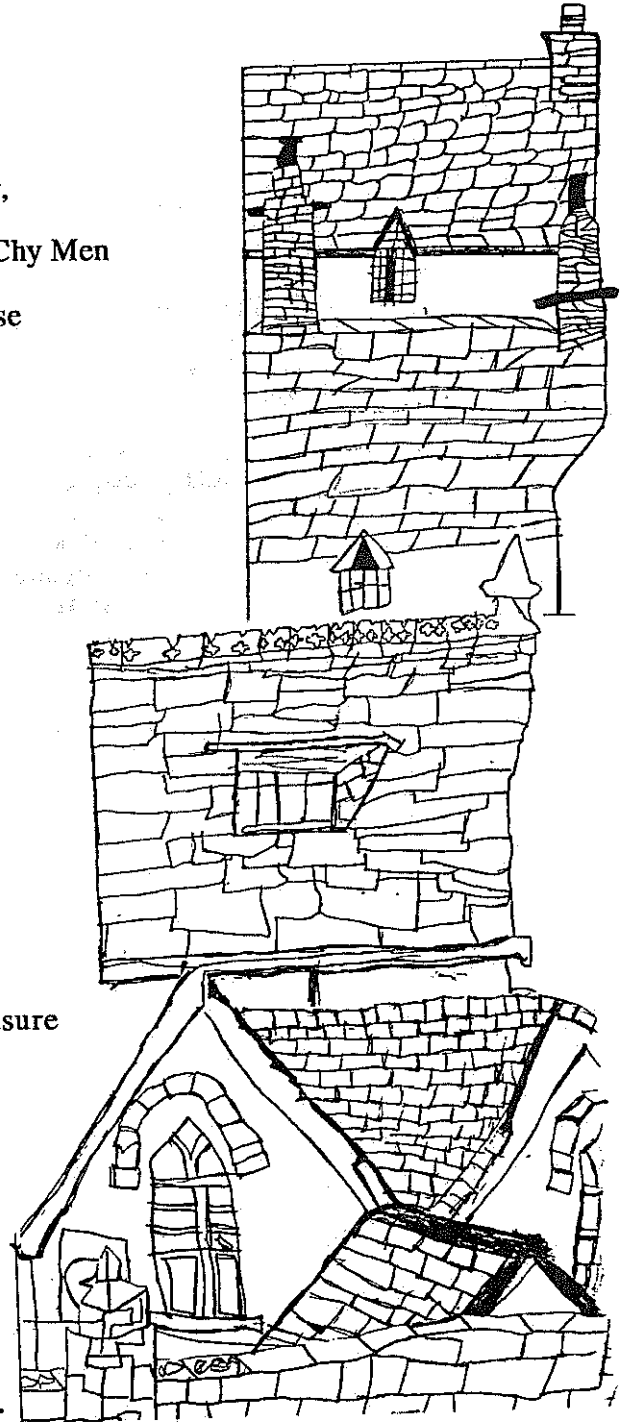


# Boscastle School

The following piece of writing was submitted for the annual RIBA competition. The images were constructed by a group of children, four of whom worked on after school to get the writing completed. The group had studied the difference between John Betjeman's 'Summoned by Bells' and 'Bramble Park' by Charles Causley. We were grateful to Roy Sale for calling into school to speak to us and helping the children understand some of the architectural features with particular reference to roofscapes. Some of the images in the children's writing are quite powerful and are intended to reflect sights and scenes that Kate Snell might view and hear going from school to her home in Forrabury.

## HOMEWARD BOUND TO FORRABURY

As I step out from the whitewood reveal of the school door,  
Different shapes leap at me, out of the air.  
I am faced with the hip and half gable of the Johnson's at Chy Men  
And above it the moulded granite;  
Medieval chimney, with its blackened rocket shaped mortise  
and tenon slate joints.  
Then, the children's scatter run;  
Winding, meandering, past stationery cars,  
Down the cobbled gutter.  
Past the half grindstone doorstep bridge,  
And the hips and half hips of the cottages.  
Roses and valerian peep out over the walls of houses,  
Watching the children jumping, skipping, hopping.  
Cars creep slowly; drivers preoccupied  
By conversations with young passengers  
Whilst avoiding the jungle of the compressed street.  
Under the eaves of Tinkers,  
I walk beneath Rag slate roof and raised slate dormers  
An internet of sailor blue drainpipes and wires.  
I glance to my right where a winding path leads  
To the Bottreaux Castle Site.  
Its wave of green dusting the hillside,  
Sweeping the air, out to the sea over the ridges  
And distant roof tops.  
A cenotaph stands tall and straight  
A memorial to those who died.  
And over the Post Office a velux swings at its owner's pleasure  
Whilst sky lights face their name.  
My glances to the roofscape are interrupted by trees.  
The soul of a fire opens up,  
Pulls with all its strength and smoke jumps  
Onto the blue dance floor of space.  
Into the Chapel which now sells biscuits and toffee  
I clutch a mint aero and walk beneath the tall window  
With its relieving arch, freshly painted white,  
And sparrow flight above to its nest under the eaves.  
I walk the slip way  
Above the three dormers of Tao Cottage,  
By a porch threshold, bearing Sweet William and lettuces.  
Then to Forrabury and home.

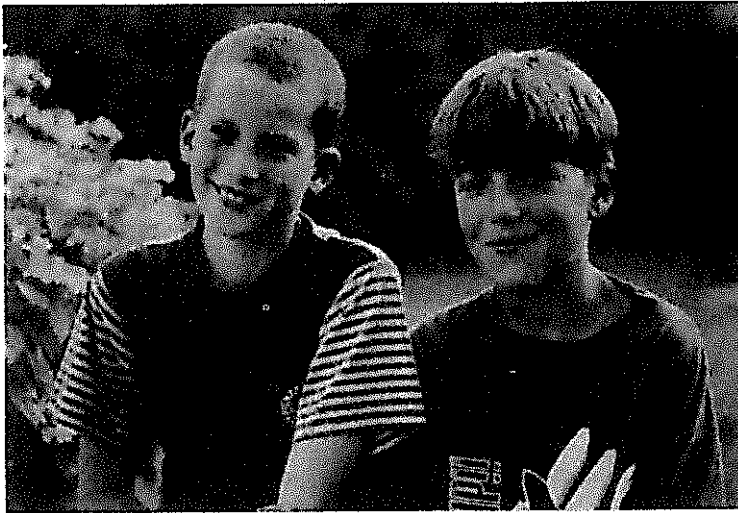


*By Matilda James, Serena Partrick, Ben Gordon & Kate Snell*

*Illustrations by Kieron Sullivan, Stephen Sanders,  
Jimmy Siford, Scott Washer and Danny Bragg*

# Junior Blowhole

Boscastle's New Pre-Teen Read



It was Ross Yates' idea to add the pre-teen dimension to Boscastle's local news coverage. Why don't we have a junior magazine, written by, and aimed at, young people, giving the news that big-daddy Blowhole may not get around to?

Ross (10) talked about his idea to Tony Haslung (11) and, between them, they produced Junior Blowhole which hit the streets a week or so after Blowhole's last issue. James Arthan's mother, Philippa, works on this magazine and she suggested that Ross and Tony should see the Rector, Mr. Ayling, and ask if he would set their efforts up on his computer. Of course, he was pleased to; at the same time, Yvonne Ayling gave a helping hand with the lay-out.

The two lads got some of their friends to contribute stories, each of them getting their own byline under their piece. The Lynton Wordsearch Puzzle was produced by Tamsyn Barnicot. Then Ross and Tony decided that the publication needed some income so they set about raising some advertising from Boscastle's traders. £1 a time (£3 for a large advertisement) seemed a good buy and most of the village's best-known businesses supported the boys' initiative. Particularly helpful was the Post Office, when Mr. Sellars agreed to sell and display Junior Blowhole.

New to the management scene, Ross is already having staff problems, as Tony moves on to Sir James Smith's School at Camelford. But he has recruited Frank Page as his new partner. What happens this time next year, when Ross moves on to Camelford, remains to be seen. But, so far, A for Effort for these bright young people and Blowhole's best wishes for a successful new village enterprise.

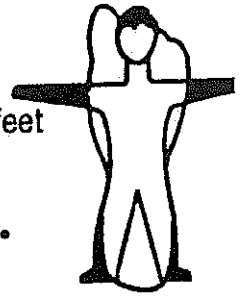
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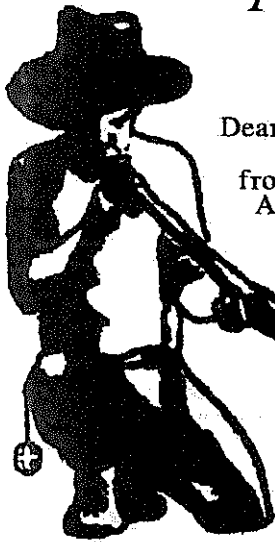
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# A Letter from Lincoln Theological College

*Richard Hancock, who is training for the Priesthood, spent a month working with the Rector in the Boscastle Group of Parishes*



Dear Friends,

I did not know what to expect from a small Cornish country parish. As I drove down from Lincoln I pictured people with ruddy faces and funny accents, in a bleak countryside (as portrayed in Wycliff). I saw myself walking into the village pub and all the talk ceasing, as everybody stopped to eye up this

man with a funny hat and a lump of wood that he blew down. I wondered if everybody would think I was mad. However, as I turned the bend at the top of the hill I was met by the most beautiful sight of a harbour surrounded by very well kept cottages and buildings. It was from this point on that all my illusions of Cornwall were to change.

Within the first few minutes of arrival, my fears of being seen as mad were put to rest as the local baker looked at my mountain bike and said he might have to steal it or at least the frame. "Great", I thought, "they are all as mad as me. I will really fit in here". (The bike was never stolen and I had the pleasure of eating some of the best Cornish pasties I have ever tasted,


supplied by the same baker.)

That first evening I thought about trying a pub - or three - so I walked across to the Wellington. I was greeted by Terry and then later by Victor and discovered that everyone was very welcoming and friendly; nobody stopped talking. In fact, the talking carried on all night. One of the most pleasant things about being in Boscastle is that people take time to talk to each other.

What I saw in Boscastle was a community that really worked together. I was amazed at the effort that went into the V.E. day celebrations, and I got something of the feel of this community spirit at the Strawberry Fayre, where everybody rallied round to help. I was able to see almost for the first time a village of people who did believe in looking out for their neighbours. I have lived and worked in places where people do not even know the name of their next-door neighbours. At college, we are told that it is in cities where real ministry happens. This, I am pleased to say, is rubbish, because in Boscastle it was not just the Rector who ministered to people. Many others in the community took time to care. For me that is what the whole Gospel message is about: Love your neighbours as yourself. This one command that Jesus gave us covers all the others, and it was great to be part of a place, even for a short while, that took this to heart. So thank you all for being so welcoming and ready to share your ideas about life and the church. I think I learnt more theology in the Welly than I did all last year at college.

Yours in Christ,

Richard Hancock.



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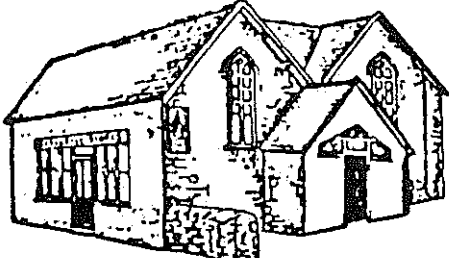
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# A Steady Hand on the Tiller

## JIM CASTLING TAKES A TRIP ON THE PEGANINA

I was surprised to find that I had to book a couple of days in advance for a 1 hour pleasure trip on the 'Peganina'. Of the twelve places, eight were already taken. Clutching the receipt from The Rock Shop for my £8, scribbled on a large paper-bag, I hoped the weather would be propitious in 48 hours' time.

When the time came, Skipper Ken Cave looked every inch a fisherman and handled the "Peganina" with the deftness of a time-serving salt. Perhaps the most striking thing about him, as you submit to his stewardship is his evident delight and enthusiasm in what he is doing.

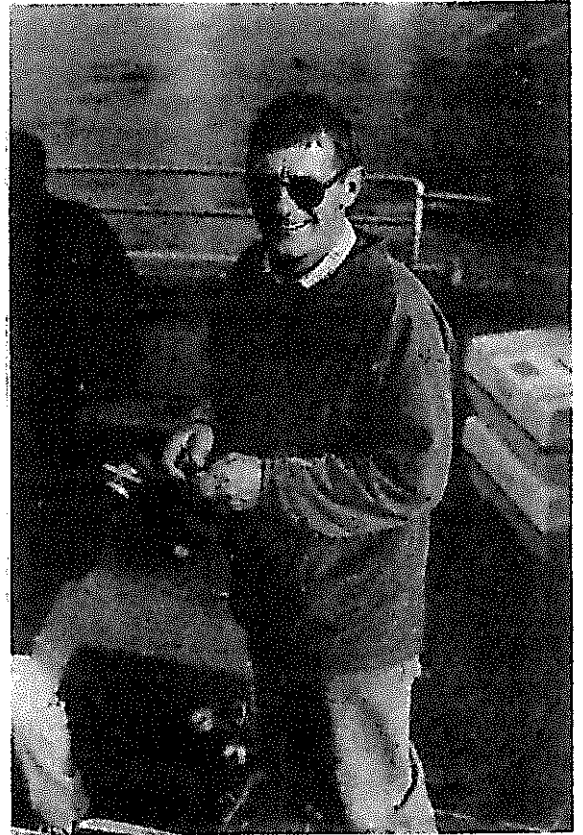
We were not in for the full treatment, I hasten to make clear. This was no four-hour fishing session; our official paper-bag clearly stated an hour's pleasure trip. We were just out to see the birds on a fine summer's evening in June. Mr. Cave (call me Ken) knew where to go to see the puffins and neither Jane nor I had ever seen them before. So, armed with our new binoculars and the long-focus lens optimistically attached to the camera, we sailed off in high anticipation.

We had lived by the harbour for a year and this was the first time we had ventured to leave the village through the celebrated curly harbour entrance. The Peganina is a powerful boat and its comforting thrust soon had us out to the point where you cannot see that there is a harbour. From the outset, Ken made it his chief concern that we should see the clown-masked little birds but one respected his reservations that they were not always just waiting there for we rubber-necks to come by.

The sea, to a hardened fisherman, was probably pretty calm. (Ken admitted that it was 'slightly lumpy'.) To a pair whose experience afloat barely extends outside the Regents Park pond, it was, well, choppy. No it wasn't, it was really quite rough. At any rate, Ken warned us that we should hold on to something as we cleared the harbour entrance. The deck was wet, having been swabbed down following the previous pollock-catching excursion and offering precious little adhesion to my trainers.

Ken has a genuine interest in birds and hardly had we cleared the choppy water than he was able to point out a colony of guillemots in a high cave under Willapark. There must have been fifty or so, standing in packed formation looking as though they were clad in morning-dress (the modern sort in grey, pin-head material). It was already worth being out there.

We skirted Blackapit, viewing it from the business end for a change. Then, as we passed Short Island, there to the seaward side Ken pointed to the place where the puffins nest. You could see the patch of grass, high up in the cliffs, where they congregate and you could clearly see their burrows. But the puffins? Not exactly. There were more nice guillemots; lesser black-backed and herring gulls. But any puffins either had their pretty heads down or were out fishing.



Ken showed me their supper on the boat's echosounder. Clouds, tons and tons of swirling, seething sand-eels perceptible as a yards-deep, pink layer, 15-20 feet below us. Could the puffins be far away? No. There, suddenly, they really were. At least, there was one of them bobbing, casually, on the sea about four feet from the boat. Then there were others flying around us, skirting the boat. You could see the distinctive, painted faces, with that eye-shadowed intelligent gaze they have, not unlike that of Barone Thatcher.

Further and further we ventured, getting a good view of Ladies' Window, an arched, see-through hole in the rocks high above the sea; now past the craggy perpendicular Long Island and finally, past the disappointingly anonymous entrance to the super-Rocky Valley.

By the time I started getting my sea legs, it was time to turn back. Chatting to Ken, he told me he had owned the boat in partnership with Dave Pengelly for five years. Before taking to the sea, he had been a body-maker; that is, he repaired and renovated car bodies. When the recession struck, trade dropped like a brick and he threw in his lot with Dave Pengelly. This means he has a trade at his finger-tips when he can get out of the harbour which, as far as I could see, might be pretty frequently. But taking people out on pleasure trips is what he does well. It is so refreshing to find someone who enjoys pleasing people. Ken Cave is a nice chap; a good companion and a steady hand on the tiller. He deserves to do well.

# BLOOMIN' WONDERFUL

## BEST-KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION

Another 'first' for the village! The 'Best Kept Garden Competition' sponsored by our postmaster, Councillor Kevin Sellars, gave a great deal of pleasure to many residents - and produced some hidden gems. (Turn to the centre pages for a colourful taste of what the winning gardens had in store.)

The competition was judged by Michael Davey, a very experienced horticulturalist, whose own garden at Bossiney is open to the public once a year. His comments, published on this page, will be of interest to all gardeners and may encourage more of us to enter next year - we understand that this is destined to become an annual event.

### THE WINNERS

**Two gardens shared the first prize: the joint winners being Mr. & Mrs. J. Williams of Treyarnon, Paradise Road and Myrna Lester of 8, Pentargon Road.**

When Mr. & Mrs. Williams moved into Paradise Road seven years ago, they inherited 'a garden like a wilderness' so overgrown that there was not even room for their car. It took them over a year to make the house and garden habitable. They began the process of transforming the garden by establishing what was already there - a good tip for all those who inherit a garden when moving house. Their next step was to plan on paper; curved borders in which to grow shrubs, a patio area, vegetable garden and lawns.

Vibrant colours are the major feature of the garden today - multi-coloured border shrubs are complemented by lots of enormous pots of perennials and annuals - vivid red begonias, set off by deep blue lobelia, trailing fuschia, geranium and yellow lysimachia. A beech hedge surrounds a kitchen garden of beans, potatoes, curly kale, lettuce and fruit trees. (Badgers ate all the parsnips this year as well as some of the bedding plants.) The greenhouse and summerhouse, set sideways on to the garden, are so carefully placed that they do not impose on the stunning view of the sea and coast which forms a backdrop to the garden.

\*We are much indebted to the Williams whose generous gift made it possible for us to portray the gardens in colours.

Myrna Lester describes her garden as 'a personal and private pleasure'. Fortunately, when the winning gardens were opened to the public, she shared that pleasure with us.

This too is a garden created from unpromising beginnings; in February 1991, when Myrna moved into Pentargon Road, it was 'an allotment'. Working from 'dawn till dusk' for four months, she transformed it. This is a garden of unexpected pleasures; two wooden storks, sculptured from pine logs point their beaks to the sky, piled stones feature in small beds of 'cottage garden' flowers, a stone table made from a centuries-old millstone, a variety of textures on paths and patio, eye-catching containers, and small apple trees. For this gardener, 'architectural' features

Continued on p. 17

### UNEXPECTED PLEASURE

Michael Davey describes his journey round some of Boscastle's gardens.

Three hours of pleasure, is the best way of describing my journey round sixteen gardens in Boscastle.

The wealth and variety of plants and design were unexpected and delightful. From the exotic and the tender, to the humble and the commonplace, all were at their very best, whether in a formal and manicured setting, or in a wilder and more informal design.

A very big thank you, to all of you who opened your hearts - for a garden is very close to everyone's heart - and entered this inaugural competition, and to Ron Hart, who chauffeured me round the various gardens with cheerful efficiency and good humour on such a hot day.

For those curious about the way the gardens were judged, may I say that each one was judged alone, and on its own merits. They were NOT judged against each other.

Four categories - **Lawn** (or open space if no lawn), **Plants** (care and health as much as variety), **Design**, and **Colour** (blend and sympathy not just vibrancy) were judged and marked individually - then the marks totted up and the scores collated.

Someone had to be a winner, that is the nature of a competition - but in truth all the gardens, and their gardeners, were winners. Everyone has obviously worked so very hard to get them to the very highest standards.

I was delighted to learn that many had been opened, as a group, in aid of the Village Hall Fund.

I do hope that next year many more of you will enter this competition. It is, after all, a bit of fun, as well as a good way to get the garden as you want it early in the year.

So whether your garden is an acre or two, or just a courtyard, remember it has much to delight and interest other folk, especially those of us who love plants. The best way to enjoy a garden is to share it.

M.D.

## BEST KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION (Cont.)

Cont. from page 16.

are of paramount importance, for a garden must 'satisfy the eye from every angle'. The visitor needs to wander around to see how successfully its creator has fulfilled her ambition: whether viewed from the gateway, from the 'woodland' area where anemones grow amongst the bark chippings and stepping stones, from the pathway leading up through blue cornflowers and perennial fuchsia, from a seat on the crazy paving, or from the irregularly-shaped lawn this fairly small area is a tribute to the imagination and artistry of its owner.

### THE RUNNERS UP

The second prize was also shared; Marianne Privett of 13 Pentargon Road shared second prize with Carole Vincent of Half Acre, Mount Pleasant.

The Privett's garden is better-known to most residents; for some years, the 'corner' opposite their house has been admired by pedestrians and drivers alike. Marianne has developed the apparently unpromising piece of rather dry land across the road from their house with a delightful assortment of low-growing shrubs and plants - a colourful and cleverly planted collection of heathers, hebes, prostrate juniper, osteospermum, lavender, hypericum and hydrangea. A lesson to all of us who complain that the wind and salt here make for impossible gardening conditions!

The side garden of their home has also undergone changes this year; Marianne has 'eradicated straight lines', gravelled over two areas of original lawn, curved and deepened the borders, created an island garden, added containers of plants and begun the process of covering an awkward bank with heathers. She describes herself as a 'fair weather gardener' and aims at a low-maintenance garden - but has decided that there is no such thing!

Carole Vincent's Half Acre features a number of gardens within a garden. It is essentially an artist's garden - a painter's garden developed by a sculptor. Having retained parts of the original cottage garden, enhancing them with her own sculptured works, 'architectural' plants and flowering trees and shrubs, at each turn in the path she ensures that another surprise awaits the visitor.

But that is far from the whole story of this garden, for hidden from the drive by a border of tall shrubs, are two more areas in startling contrast to the rest. These more recent gardens are equally colourful, but the lines are clear-cut the colour derived largely from concrete, and the sculptured forms transport the visitor to the Mediterranean. Here is a garden of spherical forms, including linked water features, low walls

of magenta and blue, colourful concrete spheres and tubs softened only by water lilies and low growing perennials. A giant echium towers above the ponds, colourful fish and occasional blue green dragonflies add dashes of colour and the influence of ancient classical forms make this very unusual garden for a corner of Cornwall.

On the sloping bank above the drive, Carole has planted trees and it is already evident that Half Acre will eventually feature a small woodland area of mature trees - yet more contrast.

It is evident from these very different gardens and from the dozen or so others which we entered for the competition that many Boscastle people are garden lovers, which should mean that the gardeners' club will appeal to many residents.

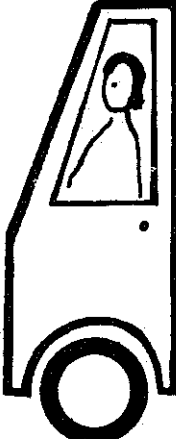
The club is to be launched in September and will give an opportunity to swap cuttings and seeds, learn from other gardeners and generally enjoy 'talking gardens' with other residents. Whether or not we were inspired by the fact that Boscastle was entered into the 'Best Kept Villa Competition', or whether the particularly warm summer encouraged us all, it is certainly true to say that window boxes and tubs throughout the village have been particularly colourful this year. Let's hope that Kevin Sellars' initiative, Ron Harcourt's hard work and Michael Davey's expertise will encourage many residents to become involved with this new village venture. YM



### BOSCASTLE GARDENERS' CLUB

1st Meeting on Wednesday September 20th at 7.30 p.m. at Half Acre, Mount Pleasant, Boscastle. (Subsequently to be held at the Village Hall.)

Michael Davey (Judge of Best Kept Garden Competition) will talk about gardens entered and how he judged them. Followed by informal discussion. All welcome



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STARTS: Wed. 27th Sept.

First - a chance to explore your artistic abilities. This highly-recommended course should appeal to young and old, whether you have experience in drawing and painting, or whether it is something you always meant - and wanted - to do, but didn't.

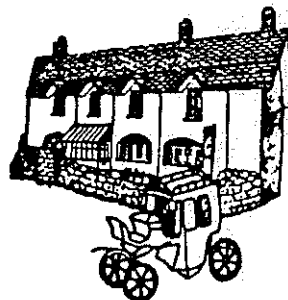
\* Transport is available for those who need a lift to Trevalga Hall. Ring 250359.

Rosalind writes:

In the art workshop there will be the benefit of group energy. It is easier to make a start and to persevere, with the stimulation of working with other people. I hope those people who say, "Well, being good at art is either something you are or are not - and I am not" will come to the workshop. I hope to show that anyone can learn to draw and paint. Just as you would not pick up a musical instrument and expect to know how to play it, so there are techniques to learn in drawing and painting. It is the wanting to do it that is important.

Why should we want to learn to draw and paint? To counter-balance the trend towards fast-food for the eye, the evening spent by the TV! Looking at great painters, learning to see objectively, being confident in self-expression, exploring different techniques and media, enhances our visual awareness, so that we can take enormous joy in the visual world.

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# More Letters

(To the Friends who formed the Committee of the V.E. Day Celebrations)

Thank you all very much for your kindness in arranging the party in the Village Hall.

As one of those who were involved at the time of the 2nd World War, I would like to express appreciation and gratitude for the thoughtfulness which prompted you to make such an effort on our behalf.

A lot of planning and work must have been put into it, as well as the giving of time and effort.

I am sure there are many who, like me, were moved and very grateful.

Thank you indeed!

Mary Hague (1 Valency Row)

*(This letter was one of many received after the Veterans' Party)*

Dear Sir,

I hope your readers - residents and visitors alike - might be interested in reading about a part of Boscastle's history which time seems to have overlooked and which only recently came to light because of the discovery of a long-lost artefact.

People living in and visiting our lovely village who have made the walk up to the Post Office in the Old Village may have noticed a newly appeared cast metal sign on the wall of the house almost opposite The Boscastle Gallery. The sign is about fifteen inches in diameter, painted red, and has raised white lettering on it in both English and Chinese. The English lettering says "CARS STOP HERE IF REQUIRED" and, I am assured, the Chinese characters have a similar meaning!

The sign, when found, was not in good condition because of its age, but has been restored as near to original as possible. Once refurbished, it was erected by a local craftsman in an appropriate place near to where it may once have been. It is an odd sort of sign to see in Cornwall, and we were curious as to its possible origins: we have been surprised by what we were told, and hope your readers will also find it interesting!

Apparently, in days more than a hundred years ago, when Boscastle was a busy working harbour, sailing ships of several hundred tons deadweight came into harbour, ballasted with coal to take on cargoes of slate, and other goods - possibly lime. The story goes that the crews of these ships were often Chinese because they accepted lower wages and, when they came to Boscastle, they tended to lodge in the upper part of the village because it was less expensive. Presumably, when ships' crews of any nationality rested here for a few nights whilst their vessels were in harbour, local people must have found it profitable to run a 'taxi' service from the harbour to the various ale and lodging houses in the old village. Apparently this was operated by a 'Jaunty' car, which is a type of two-wheeled horse-drawn light cart still found in parts of Ireland.

The Boscastle New Road had not been built at that time, so the 'CAR' had to ply up and down the Old Road to pick up passengers. Because many of them were Chinese and could not read English signs in English and Chinese were erected at the places where the Jaunty was able to stop. For safety, it could only pull up on the flat, and on Old Road, the only places the car might stop safely at were at the crossroads near the Bontreux Hotel, and on Dunn Street near the Post Office.

It is believed there were actually three stop-places: one at the top of the village by the crossroads, one where the 'request stop' is now displayed, and one by the harbour. The signs at the top and the harbour would have been compulsory stops, but if those signs exist, they are hidden in darkness! Although the Jaunty car trips would have ceased here over 100 years ago when larger vessels stopped using the harbour and it began to silt up, I would be delighted to hear from anyone who has heard of this 'taxi' service, and who might have operated it; there may even be photographs still in someone's possession, which would be interesting to see.

Yours faithfully,

David W. Barnicot, Ingledene, Dunn Street

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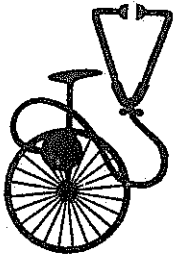
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# Doctor's Corner



“... and ask the doctor to pop in when he's passing ...”

I spent a couple of days in court in Truro last year. That may not come as a surprise to you - I hasten to add that I was only there acting as a medical witness in a case. While sitting in the witness room with a Canadian lady (who had returned to the country to give crucial evidence in the case) the conversation turned to general practice and patient care at nights, weekends and in the home. I happened to mention that I was feeling rather tired that morning because I'd done three home visits during the night. Her response was interesting. “You don't still do house calls do you?” At this point all the other people in the room tuned into our conversation. She continued, “The last house call I remember was for my Gran - and that must be thirty years ago”. The listeners looked suitably puzzled.

One of the court policemen decided to join in. “What do you do if you are ill then?”

“If the surgery isn't open or you don't feel well enough to go there, you go to the emergency room of the hospital and the family doctor sees you there,” was the reply.

The policeman wasn't giving up easily; “But what if you're not feeling well enough to drive or be driven there in your car?”

“You call an ambulance and they take you there,” she replied. It was her turn to look puzzled. I smiled inwardly. They'd discovered an interesting cultural difference that I knew well from five year's work in Canada. The natives couldn't conceive of a system in which doctors didn't call at your house - the visitor couldn't understand one that expected them to.

I've related this story here because I think it illustrates very well the nature of the beast that is the N.H.S. It was for a long time a sacred cow that

could not be touched. Over the last few years a large number of similar animals have been led - squealing loudly and resisting vigorously - to their inevitable slaughter. We're at a crossroads in the N.H.S., in terms of its practices and patient expectations. The latter have been inappropriately and massively raised over a number of years and there just aren't the resources there to meet them all: a comment that is both factual and totally apolitical.

I've persuaded the Blowhole to print here the text of a booklet recently issued by the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Health Authorities. Called *Changes to Emergency G P Services* it contains some thoughts and ideas that may appear surprising, if not revolutionary, to a few people. There's certainly an attempt to improve efficiency in there - and why not? If I make a 20 mile round trip to visit one patient unnecessarily at home when I could at the same time see eight or ten patients in the surgery - I become a very expensive commodity.

I'll put on my optimist's hat and say that we may just be entering a new era where obligations will no longer be one-sided. Doctors, nurses and patients will all have inescapable and equal rights and obligations. The N.H.S. - in the form of those working within it - has itself become the patient. One urgently in need of attention and TLC - the latter being an abbreviation of that un-auditable component of nursing and medical attention everywhere - tender loving care. If we don't pay attention to the health of the N.H.S. it will cease to exist in its present form. It may at present have no major restrictions on benefits and no user fees, but you've witnessed dramatic changes in the arrangement for providing dental care over the last few years. These could well be a template for future general practice - there's food for thought.

Chris Jarvis

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# Changes to Emergency G.P. Services

*This is the text of a leaflet published by the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Health Authority.*

## Why do we need changes?

On 6 February 1995 the Department of Health made some important changes in the working arrangements of family doctors throughout the country. These changes are designed to improve the service that family doctors can offer to their patients, by helping them to cope with more and more demands on their time.

Night visiting by family doctors has always been intended for medical emergencies only, but over the years more and more patients have come to treat it as an extension of the day-time service. The number of night visits every year by family doctors was under three quarters of a million ten years ago, but it is now over two million. In addition, there has been a considerable increase in the number of telephone calls for advice throughout the night.

As a result the family doctor service is close to breaking point. This is particularly true in rural areas like Cornwall, where there are no Deputising Services nor General Practitioners' Co-operatives to take on the burden of night visiting. It is not unusual for a rural GP to work all day, all night and some of the following day, with little or no sleep at all.

The Department of Health has recognised that this is unreasonable and that it can only be damaging to both doctors and their patients. It has therefore changed the rules on night visits, and home visits in general, to make it clear that home visiting at any time is for emergencies only.

## What are the changes ?

The new rules mean that your family doctor now decides:

- whether you need to be seen by a doctor; and if so
- when you should be seen and
- where you should be seen.

On the basis of what you tell your doctor about your medical condition your doctor may decide to give you advice by telephone, or to see you immediately at the surgery or at any other suitable place ( such as a room at your Community Hospital). Usually, however,

you will be asked to attend the next regular surgery. In very exceptional circumstances your doctor may decide to visit you in your own home, or to refer you direct to hospital.

Your family doctor will decide these things on the basis of what you say about your medical condition. In the past, many patients have expected the doctor to take into account their social circumstances, such as child-minding problems or lack of transport, as reasons for a home visit, so it is very important to understand that in future, home visits will be for *medical emergencies only*.

## How do I benefit from these changes ?

These changes are designed to benefit all patients. Seeing patients at the surgery or other suitable premises enables the family doctor to provide a better service:

- The doctor can look at your medical notes, which may contain important information to help to indicate what is wrong.
- There are many tests that the doctor can only do at the surgery or in the hospital.
- The doctor may need to talk to other people about your problem, such as another doctor or the practice nurse.
- Coming to the surgery makes better use of the doctor's time, which means a quicker service for everyone.
- After a night on call, the family doctor does not get the next day off. Tired doctors cannot treat patients as sympathetically as they would wish, and tired doctors are more likely to make mistakes.

Next time you consider telephoning your doctor outside normal surgery hours, please think carefully. Do you really need a doctor's help immediately or can it wait until the next regular surgery?

Remember - **Home Visits are for medical emergencies only.**

*Produced by Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Health Authorities and the Local Medical Committee.  
June 1995*

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Duck Race Day



Playgroup Outing  
Worthyvale Manor

# Boscastle Playgroup News

## A DELIGHTFUL TRIP

Tuesday July 25th dawned fine and sunny for Boscastle Playgroup and Junior Playgroup's outing to Worthyvale Manor, very kindly hosted by Sam Parsons. An excellent turnout of Mums and little ones passed a very pleasant morning in Sam's large, and thankfully shady, garden and the grounds of the Manor. Paddling, swinging, sliding, picnicking, story time, games, 'hunt-the-sweeties' and inspecting various livestock were all happily partaken of, and there are no prizes for guessing which of the afore-mentioned activities was enjoyed equally by some of the grown-ups. Clue: it had nothing to do with swinging, sliding, paddling, picnicking, stories, games or animals!

So thanks again to Sam for the venue, the sweeties, some rather exquisite smoked salmon and trout, and a delicious (and only very slightly alcoholic) punch - these last delights I hasten to add, were 'grown ups only' treats, and very nice too! Whilst on the subject of thanks - well done to Nikki, Lynn and Wanda for all their splendid efforts throughout the last playgroup year.

The Playgroup plans to begin again on Tuesday 5th September in our splendidly refurbished Village Hall. But, do look out for notices in the Post Office in case the re-fit is not completed in time - fingers crossed.

**\* Wonderful changes are in progress in the Village Hall. The new toilets are being built and the kitchen re-furbished, and they will soon be ready for use.**

## Cycle Helmets

- A Reminder -

A recent visitor to the village, himself a keen cyclist, expressed concern about the number of children and young people riding cycles without wearing cycle helmets. Dr. Jarvis, who is not unknown in cycling circles, has already written an article on this subject (Blowhole - Autumn 1993). What price safety?

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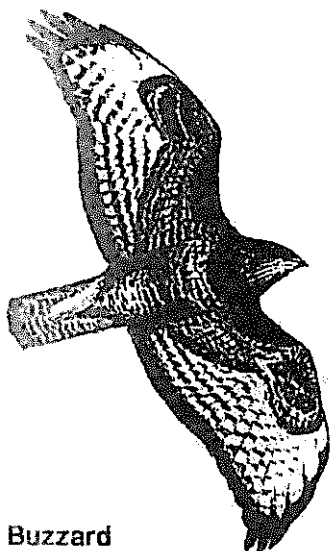
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# One Flew Over . . .



Buzzard

laughing Herring Gulls and shouting Rooks which are even more common. In my 12 year association with Boscastle I have seen about 100 species of birds within a 2-mile radius just by walking around and looking and I have seen or heard over 50 species either in or over my garden near the Post Office. I don't have space to list all of them, but what CAN be seen every day or every year?

Firstly, on or near the ground, the extensive thrush family includes the easily recognised Robin, but not everyone recognises its song with its rippling stream of crystal-clear notes, particularly when it is sung at night near a street-lamp. Some mistake it for a nightingale which is only a rare, non-singing, passage migrant in Cornwall. (Question: What is a migrant: Ans: It is a headache birds get when they travel south for the winter!) The male Blackbird is also unmistakable, but the female is dark brown with a brown beak. The male's song is loud, low and meandering, whereas the Song Thrush (Mavis) with its speckled breast, sings higher up the scale and each phrase is repeated 3 or 4 times "lest you should think it never could recapture that first fine careless rapture". Its bigger relative the Mistle Thrush (Big Mavis) is rarer and the Redwings (Winnards) and Fieldfares are winter visitors from Scandinavia. A Black Redstart, which looks like a dark grey Robin with a shivering orange tail, can be seen every winter near the Riverside hotel and Stonechats are common on the clifftops all year round with their black, white and orange patterns. The Wheatear (from the Old English "White Arse") can also often be seen on the cliffs in the spring.

Apart from the thrush family, there are plenty of Little Brown Jobs (LBJ's) near ground level. The House Sparrow is common wherever human food is served; the tiny Wren scuttles through the bushes and shouts its vibrant song at top volume; the unobtrusive Dunnock (Hedge-Sparrow) has a grey head, thin beak and squeaky but pleasing warbling; and near the coast there are Linnets with their pink chests, Skylarks singing from the sky, Rock Pipits and Meadow Pipits (Titlarks). These are difficult to tell apart, except the darker Rock Pipit is usually on the rocks and says "Tweet", whereas the Meadow Pipit is on grass and says "Tweet, Tweet, Tweet". Close relatives are the

Pied Wagtail (shouting "Chiswick" as it flies over) and Grey Wagtail (which is 50% yellow), both seen all year round but the Yellow Wagtail, which is a summer visitor, is not seen here.

Another large family of LBJ's are the warblers, which are normally summer visitors, but at least two stay all winter. The Chiff Chaff started singing in February this year before its migrating brothers arrived in April and started "Chiff Chiff Chaff" from every Sycamore. The Blackcap (the female has a brown cap) stayed silent till April, but was then vocal in every spinney through the summer. It has a lovely warbling song - the poor man's nightingale. The Chiff Chaff's identical cousin, the summer-visiting Willow Warbler with its descending song, is less common in Boscastle, but can be heard in the neighbourhood. The Whitethroat with its scratchy song is common on the cliffs and the Grasshopper Warbler could be heard "reeling" on Willapark and near Trevalga this spring. An even smaller LBJ is the Goldcrest which loves conifers, but its high-pitched "tweedledee, tweedledee, tweedledee" is difficult to hear if you can't hear bats.

Then there are the Tits, seen on every bird-feeder. This may surprise some of you, but "Tit" actually means small, which is fine for the blue and yellow Blue Tit, the grey and buff Coal Tit with the black head and white nape, and the brownish Marsh Tit with its black crown and Hitler moustache - but it must confuse the larger Great Tit (grey and yellow with black chest stripe and white cheek patches). The Greet Tit gets its own back by confusing us with more than 30 songs and calls. The Long-Tailed Tit is not closely related and looks like a pink and white lollipop when it flies. The tits travel in large parties through the woods in winter together with Goldcrests, Treecreepers which creep upwards and Nuthatches which creep both up and down tree branches.

Well, that lists about 30 species and I haven't even mentioned the crow family, starlings, hawks, seabirds, pigeons, the heron, the dipper, ducks, game birds, waders, owls, swallows and swifts, or finches. Perhaps another time.  
Mike Metcalfe



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# Here & There

## LIBEARTY

The sum of £203.10 was raised by the Sponsored Dog Walk on 9th July for LIBEARTY - the campaign to save and protect all bears from extinction in the wild and cruelty in captivity. Thank you to everyone who took part and all who sponsored us. We mustn't forget the dogs, who were marvellous and thoroughly enjoyed the walk!

Vivien Hircock (Organiser)

## AIR AMBULANCE FUND

The Garden fete at Sunset, Margaret Manning's home, on 17th August raised more than £430 for Cornwall's Air Ambulance. Thanks to all who helped.

## GUIDE DOGS - COFFEE MORNING

Everyone is welcome to the Coffee Morning at Heathdene, Paradise Road, from 10.00am to noon on 4th October.

Bernice Lewis

## BRIGHT-EYED WINNER

On July 1st 1995 Douglas Zach Parsons-Perfili aged nine and a half months, of Seaward Cottage Trevalga, entered the Wadebridge St. John's Ambulance Baby Show. He won 1st Prize in the 6-12 months class and came 3rd in the Bright Eyes class.



## THANK YOU

Barbara Sullivan sends a big 'Thank You' to everyone - for cards, flowers, visits and good wishes - when she had her back operation.

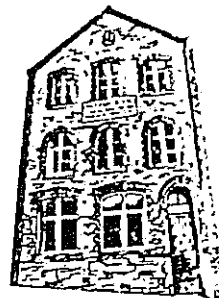
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## Mac's Tracks

Mac.  
J. Gwynn  
1994

### Cinema

Hi! Well what can I say? Being in the middle of a heatwave, it's not quite the weather to visit the cinema. These are the evenings of sitting outside until the final rays of the sun sink below the yardarm, red wine in hand, peace, good friends, good music... summertime and the living is easy. So I have little to report on the cinema scene, although I did feel almost obliged to view 'First Knight' (PG 132 mins), a love triangle at the court of King Arthur, with Richard Gere, Sean Connery, and Julia Ormond. It must have caught me in exactly the right frame of mind, because I thoroughly enjoyed it. Yes, it is predictable, you know the hero is going to win his lady, but you are right there with him, caught up in this fantasy with every stroke of his sword. Pretty good stuff, well worth a watch.

If you do decide to stay in, then one of the funniest films I have ever seen is the 1988 'Trains, Planes and Automobiles' starring John Candy (dec) and Steve Martin. It tells the story of a guy who wants to get home for Thanksgiving, but has several setbacks in his journey. It's very feasible and very, very funny with an excellent twist in the ending, absolutely excellent.

### Music

Turning to music, Paul Brady's CD 'Spirits Colliding' (mentioned in the last Blowhole) has superb tracks - finely crafted songs with lyrics we can all relate to. Brady's concert at the London Palladium was well worth the journey. Such an under-rated performer, he has to be seen (and heard) to be believed. He is a real 'must' each time he comes over from Ireland.

Speaking of Ireland, Van Morrison's recent offering 'Days Like This' is also a definite purchase, beautiful songs. Van is appearing at the Cornwall Coliseum on September 2nd, a performance not to be missed.

### Live

Let me point you in the direction of some coming attractions at the Plymouth Pavilions. Its always worth picking up a program for this venue and the Theatre Royal. Events include the following artists: Joan Armatrading (Sept. 19th), The Everly Brothers (Sept. 21st), The Levellers (Oct. 3rd), The Manfreds (Oct. 12th), Big Country (Oct. 15th), Elkie Brooks (Nov. 8th), Status Quo (Dec. 8th), plus several more with something for everyone.

### Theatre

I'm also a lover of live theatre, especially the smaller Drum Theatre in Plymouth, and attend several performances each year. The highlight recently was the Compass Theatre Company's production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', it was imaginative, inspiring, totally magical and hilarious. Don't miss this if it comes your way. There are several productions to look forward to including: 'Antony and Cleopatra', the world famous 'Evita' and the traditional panto 'Mother Goose'. Wonderful to escape for an evening, to be a child at heart - there is nothing to beat it. Get out there and enjoy your leisure time.

MAC.

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# What's On

## September

- Sat/Sun 2nd & 3rd. Sculpture & Painting Exhibition  
11am - 5pm at Half Acre, Boscastle.
- Wed. 13th Happy Birthday to the Blowhole's Top Salesperson - Ivor Bright at the Nap.
- Wed. 20th Gardening Club - 1st Meeting.  
7.30pm at Half Acre. (see page )
- Sat 23rd Methodists Harvest Supper 7.0pm
- Sun. 24th Harvest Festival, Boscastle Methodists.  
11.00am Preacher Mrs Grundon.  
6.00pm Preacher Rev. Ron Hockley.  
Also C of E. Harvest at St. Juliot 10.15  
and Davidstow 11.30am.
- Mon 25th Methodist's Harvest Sale.
- Wed. 27th Creative Art Workshops start, 7.30-9.30  
Trevalga Village Hall, with  
Ros. Eastman. (Beginners welcome)  
2 Courses of 5 weeks. (See Posters)
- Fri. 29th Coffee Morning in aid of Cancer Relief  
10am-12.00 at Kingsbury Cottage,  
Potters Lane.

## October

- Sun. 1st Harvest Festivals: Forrabury Church 9.00  
Lesnewth 10.15, Trevalga 11.30
- Mon. 2nd Harvest Supper, 7.00pm at Boscastle  
Village Hall. (All Welcome). Auction.
- Wed. 4th Coffee Morning in aid of Guide Dogs.  
10am-12.00 Heathdene, Paradise Rd.
- Sun. 8th Revel at Lesnewth. Songs of Praise  
at 3.00pm. Preacher: Rev. Giles Fraser.
- Sun. 29th Revel at Otterham. H.C. 10.15am
- Mon. 30th Whist Drive 7.30pm Ott & St.J. Hall

## November

- Fri.3rd Forrabury Church Bazaar. 10am-12.00  
Boscastle Village Hall.
- Sun.12th Remembrance Day Service & Parade,  
Forrabury Church 10.50am
- Fri.24th Jumble Sale for Air Ambulance.  
2.00pm Boscastle Village Hall.

## MUSIC AT THE COBWEB

Live Music every Saturday,  
with bar open to midnight.

- Sept. 2nd - Billy Mac. 9th - Kareoke with  
Huncle Eric. 16th - Roger King.  
23rd - Blind Panic. 30th - L.J. Duo.
- Oct. 7th - George Nix. 14th - Essanti.  
21st - Be Sharp. 28th - Sam's Brothers Band
- Nov. 4th - Roger King. 11th - Billy Mac.  
18th - Blind Panic.  
25th Spencer & the KD Band.

## MUSIC AT THE 'WELLY'

Live Music every Friday and  
regular folk sessions each Monday.  
All Welcome

- Sept. Fri. 1st. - 4 on the Floor.  
8th. - Leah's Accoustic Fish.  
15th. - RNLI Charity Night with the Lynch  
Mob.  
22nd. - Be Sharp. Wed. 27th. - The Dolmen
- Oct. Fri. 6th. - STYKI (under new  
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Oct. 20th

Nov. 10th

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# Fishermen's Association

## Harbourmaster's News



Despite the warm weather, which has brought thousands of visitors to the harbour during recent weeks, Fred Siford reports a quiet Summer.

The fourteen moorings have been occupied by local boats, augmented by occasional overnight visitors from other parts of the country. These latter included one regular visiting yacht which sails from Worcester, down the Severn and along the coast. There were few 'incidents'; fortunately Ken Cave was at hand when a local sportsman became stranded out at sea, his boat having developed engine trouble. The Peganina was able to tow his powerless motor boat back into the harbour.

Mackerel are scarce this year. Could it be that hungry seagulls were responsible for the 'natural culling' of the mallard ducks? Approximately 40 of this year's ducklings did not survive, but the twenty or so which remain are sustainable within our small harbour. One of them recently fell victim to a dog, which injured its leg so that it needed treatment from a vet. Hopefully its recovery will be as complete as that of 'Lord Nelson' which suffered a similar fate some time ago.

At the time of going to press, preparations were going ahead for the 'Songs of Praise' at the Harbour on 27th August. This year the Tintagel Orpheus Male Voice Choir was booked to join the St. Gennys Silver Band, and a public address system had been arranged.

### STOP PRESS - HOT NEWS.

Fred was knocked up at 11.15pm by a man whose car had stalled in the face of the advancing tide as he tried to tow his boat out of the water. Fred's own car was penned in by visitors' cars, but fortunately Pam Bond came to the rescue. The hapless sailor then asked Fred to drive his car while he guided the boat onto the slipway. It was only when he put his feet onto the pedals and got his shoes and socks full of water that Fred realised why the car would not start in the first place. An excess of mid-summer refreshment at the Welly may possibly have been the sailor's real problem.

### PHIL WASHER APPEAL

Just a short note re the fund set up in the memory of Phil Washer. Up to date we have raised a total of £1,854.07 thanks to the generosity and thoughtfulness of our local community. A hardwood seat is being made and will be sited on the tract leading up to the Coastguard's hut. Boscastle Parish Council have kindly given permission for the seat to be erected on an existing site. The view from the site is magnificent looking out over the entrance to Boscastle harbour. Hopefully, it will allow some of us some quiet moments of reflection in the years to come. Clearly there will be some money remaining after the seat has been completed, and I will let you know in a future issue what that will be spent on. Thanks again for your generosity. GDG.

A detailed black and white illustration of a large, multi-story stone building with a gabled roof and several windows. A sign above the entrance reads 'Sunnyside'. There are trees and a small boat in the foreground.

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# Collector's Corner

## Advertising for Sale

Some of the most interesting advertising collectables were produced between the two wars. Posters, labels, holiday brochures, magazine inserts and card signs became increasingly sophisticated, but still maintained a kind of innocence that has disappeared with the advent of today's more commercialised advertising world.

Some of the most collected posters are those produced by the railway and shipping companies in the '20's and '30's. Some promoted seaside resorts, while others were advertising a particular rail or sea route, but many were designed by well-known artists and illustrators of the time and are highly desirable today. A poster for the Golden Arrow Pullman published by the Southern Railway Co. in 1931 would cost about £500 today in good condition.

Condition, as always, is the key to value with collectables that are made of paper or cardboard. A torn or otherwise damaged item from this period will still have a value, but it might be £40 rather than £400.

Display packets and tins are also sought after by collectors and can still be found at reasonable prices. Edwardian display cartons such as a Bird's custard powder box will cost around £30 but an Oxo cube tin can still be picked up for about £3. The large chocolate and toffee factories often produced their goods in decorated tins; in fact they still do sometimes, but the older the tin the more valuable it is likely to be. Rust, of course, is the problem here and they really do need to be in good condition. A 'Devon Cream Toffee' printed tin by Radiance Toffee Works, Doncaster, in good condition, will make around £20.

Into the '50's and '60's, a very unusual item of collectable advertising is the petrol pump! The inspiration for these came from America and the A.A. were the first organisation to produce one in England. An Avery Hardoll 359 pump of the early '50's with its distinctive Shell globe will now cost about £800. Most people don't have room for a collection of petrol pumps but collect the advertising globes on their own.

It's quite difficult to predict which current advertising artefacts will become the collector's items of the future, but a friend of mine in the antiques trade told me recently that red Nescafe mugs are beginning to appear on stalls at flea markets. Food for thought, perhaps.

K.C.

With thanks to the Lyle Price Guide to Advertising Antiques by Tony Curtis.

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**AUCTIONS**

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# Coastguard Update

Hi. Since the last Blowhole we have had a busy period, with casualties continuing.

■ On May 3rd at 1716hrs there was a report of flare at Blackapit, Boscastle. We investigated, but with negative results. (A. Darlison, L. Siford attended.)

■ On 5th June 2015hrs a vessel flashing lights off Bossiney was reported. This turned out to be the usual misunderstanding of sunlight reflecting on the vessel's windscreen as it moved, so it was a false alarm with good intent. (M. Reynolds, L. Siford attended.)

■ 15th June 1200hrs. A pre-arranged meeting with the bomb and mine disposal unit to remove a 'live' smoke flare from Rusey beach. Unfortunately the tide had removed it since it was reported. (S. Ainsworth, L. Siford attended.)

■ 16th June at 1900hrs. A yacht off Beeny was reported to be in difficulties. A helicopter from Culdrose, Port Isaac lifeboat and the company also attended. The yacht was found to be safe and well, steaming towards Padstow; another false alarm with good intent (M. Reynolds, S. Ainsworth, S. Williams attended.)

■ 6th July 1639hrs. A gentleman had fallen over the rocks at Castle Cove, Tintagel. We assisted the ambulance crew to transport the casualty from the beach to the ambulance (M. Reynolds, S. Ainsworth, A. Darlison, L. Siford, D. Roots attended.)

■ 13th July 1700hrs. There was a report of a person cut off by the tide in Merlin's cave, Tintagel. We proceeded to the scene, but were recalled en route... the 'missing' person had been located safe and well back at his caravan! (M. Reynolds, S. Ainsworth attended.)

■ 15th July 1800hrs. Report of a man and his dog stuck on the cliff at Hole beach, Tintagel. Due to the precarious position, this turned out to be a helicopter evacuation, and both were landed safe and well. Some film footage taken by the Royal Navy from the helicopter was shown on BBC television. (S. Ainsworth, A. Darlison, L. Siford, S. Williams attended.)

■ 2nd August 2016hrs. Reports received of a speedboat in difficulties off Boscastle Harbour (a flare was fired). The fishing vessel Peganina responded, and towed in the speedboat, which had engine problems. (M. Reynolds, S. Ainsworth, S. Williams, J. Mills, D. Roots attended.)

■ 3rd August 2042hrs. Report of persons cut off by the tide at Strangles Beach. This turned out to be a rather unusual casualty. A family of two adults and three children had their exit from the beach cut off by fire along the surrounding cliffs. We attended alongside the Bude Company and the Lifeboat, two fire appliances from Delabole and a helicopter from Chivenor. The lifeboat recovered all five from the beach, unscathed. It did look rather dramatic in the failing light, with a vast amount of cliff blazing away and all the rescue services working together. (M. Reynolds, S. Ainsworth, A. Darlison, L. Siford, S. Williams, J. Mills, D. Roots attended.)

■ 7th August 2211hrs A youth had attempted to climb the cliff at Crackington Haven and due to the failing light, had become stuck. We attended alongside Bude Company and a helicopter evacuation was carried out. (A. Darlison, L. Siford, S. Williams, J. Mills, D. Roots, R. Alexander attended.)

We welcome into the team Richard Alexander from Bossiney. He has been waiting to join our ranks for some time, and due to his excellent availability we were given permission to increase our company to the regulation eight.

This past couple of months I have also been fortunate (or unfortunate) to represent the Coastguard Service in a live interview on Radio Cornwall, and a television appearance on Spotlight promoting safety on our cliffs and coastline. So, could I just take this opportunity to remind one and all to be careful when visiting the coast. Please don't take risks, don't go too near the cliff edge; be aware of tide times; ask locals for advice on when and where to bathe; keep dogs on a lead and please keep hold of children. Basically, just be aware of the dangers and use your commonsense, you will then be able to return safe and sound and not become another casualty statistic.

Take care on our coastline.

Mac.

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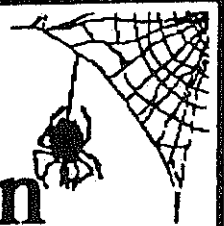
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 of the  
**Wellington Hotel**

## Run, Rabbit, Run

### RABBIT WITH PRUNES

Farmed rabbit is better for this dish (not suitable for the squeamish) even though we do it with young wild rabbit cut into pieces which we soak overnight in milk.

For four people you need 2 1/2lb rabbit cut into joints, 4oz streaky smoked bacon cut into thin strips, 2 small peeled onions, 9oz prunes (stoned but not soaked), 1 spoon Dijon mustard, 1/2 pint dry white wine, a little flour, thyme, butter, Armagnac or Cognac liquid caramel to finish.

Over a low heat, pan fry the rabbit pieces in butter until brown. Remove, then pan fry the bacon and onions, rub the rabbit pieces with mustard then put back in the pan when onions and bacon are golden. Sprinkle with flour, stir, and when golden pour in the wine. Season, add thyme, cover and simmer for about one hour. Then add prunes and the brandy and simmer until the rabbit pieces are tender.

When cooked place the rabbit pieces on a serving dish with the prunes and onions. Pour the caramel in the casserole and mix with the cooking juices. Pour over the rabbit and serve.

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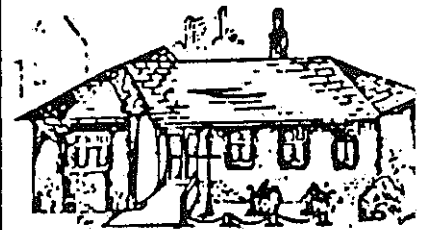
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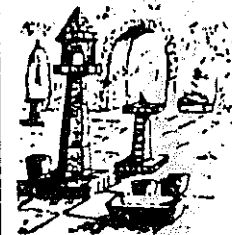


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# TWIN PIERS PUZZLES

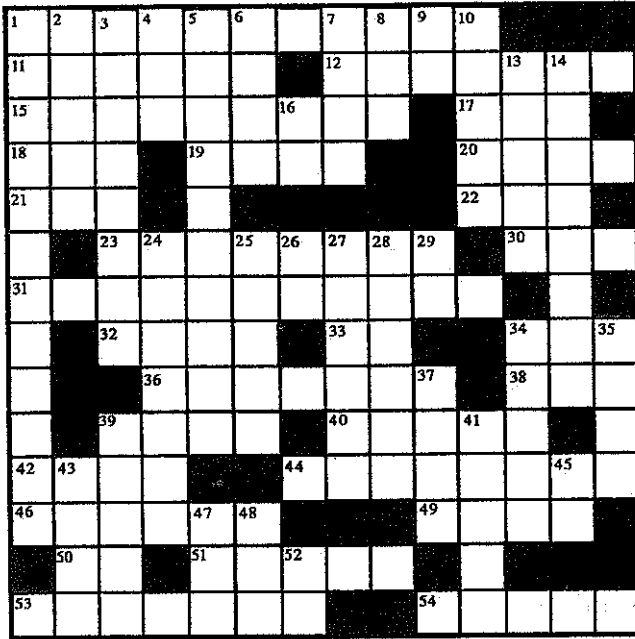
## CROSSWORD CLUES

### ACROSS

1. Fortuity 11. Tapeworm 12. Cephalopod  
 15. Sweet - brier 17. Vase 18. Man's name  
 19. Wire brush 20. Amphibian 21. Vegetable  
 22. Centre 23. Propose 30. Daub 31. Condense  
 32. Greek God 33. Plutonium 34. Meadow  
 36. Polecat 38. Strange 39. Mop 40. Healed  
 42. Oceans 44. Window 46. One or other  
 49. County 50. Concerning 51. Gurkha knife  
 53. Brew 54. Sweet sauce

### DOWN

1. Horse race 2. Bird of prey 3. Dependence  
 4. Woman's name 5. Fool 6. Information  
 7. Pool 8. Frozen water 9. Motor cycle race  
 10. Salad days 13. Disdainful 14. Undiminished  
 16. Iridium 24. Ribbonfish 25. Children  
 26. Letter of Greek alphabet 27. Type of llama  
 28. Sign of the zodiac 29. Extraterrestrial  
 34. Waterproof woollen cloth 35. Mine entrance  
 37. Hike 39. Adam's ale 41. Coarse rock  
 43. Ireland 45. New testament 47. Supplement  
 48. Manage 52. Knight



Calling all Quiz Fans:  
**DON'T FORGET TO RETURN YOUR VILLAGE  
 HALL QUIZ ANSWERS TO THE SPAR SHOP  
 BY 30TH SEPTEMBER!**

#### Summer Puzzle Answers:

**Crossword Answers Across:** 1.Aardvark 8.Probe 12.Rue 13.Iran 14.Dew 15.Akimbo 17.Alice 21.Marsupial  
 23.Brae 24.Floria 26.Spurn 29.Gala 31.Heritage 35.Nag 36.Erse 37.Nostalgia 39.Piedmont 41.CE 42.St  
 43.Hod 44.Oriental 46.Ed 47.Braze 48.Opah 50.Unkempt 52.Te 53.Dent 55.Suchre 58.State  
 59.Amoeba

**Answers Down:** 1.Arab 2.Auk 3.Reimbursed 4.Vibrant 5.Arose 6.Ra 7.Knap 8.Phial 9.Ode 10.Be  
 11.Ewe 16.Married 18.Lift 20.Clog 22.Calais 26.Shepherd 27.Period 28.Agonize 30.Agate 32.Anorak  
 33.Esteem 34.Factotum 38.Leap 40.Morn 45.Lathe 47.Butt 49.Herb

WORK IT OUT: A=6 E=3 M=9 N=7

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## BOSCASTLE SCHOOL SPORT

At the recent Camelford Area Sports held at Tintagel School the following children were successful:-

Andrea Walmisley - First in Y6 Girls' Bean Bag Race

Scott Washer - Second in Open Skipping

Paul Lathom - Second in Y5 Boys' Sprint

Matilda James - Third in Y4 Girls' Sprint

Danny Bragg - Third in Y6 Boys' Sprint.

Congratulations to all those children and in particular to Paul Lathom who went to the Primary Schools' Athletics Championships at Carn Brae and was a finalist in the Y5 Boys' 75 metre sprint. Paul has recently joined Launceston Athletics Club and has competed on several occasions - winning a third place in the 75 metre sprint at the Duchy Minors Competition.

At a recent Fun Run in Launceston Jimmy Siford was the first Boscastle child home in tenth place. Well done all those children who ran.

The Boscastle School Sports Day was held on a hot afternoon and there were many memorable races - in particular the Parents' Shuttle Relay when Mr. Moran managed to somersault and carry straight on running! For the first time in several years Valency were the successful team.



The School team competed in the U12 Football Tournament on Pongo Day. The team of Danny Bragg, Jimmy Siford, Stephen Sanders, Frank Page and Paul Lathom won their group against Southgate and Delabole. In the semi-finals they lost to Otterham after extra time and penalties. All the boys played well and Les Siford (Manager) was pleased with the team's performance.

Janet Lathom

THE

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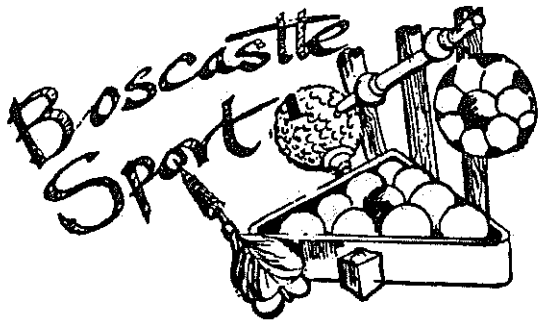
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## RUNNING

Like most other events this summer the running has been hard work in the hot weather. Frank Bridge, Patrick Sullivan & myself took part in the Bude Triathlon on 9th July, with Patrick getting the cool bit by doing the swim, Frank on the bike and myself running. We came 13th out of 21 teams, not too bad for a team of veterans.

On June 25th Janet Lathom, Les Siford and myself ran in the Launceston 10K in very hot conditions on a very hilly course.

I ran in the County 10K at St. Eval on July 30th. I should think it is the only dead flat course in Cornwall and I finished in a time of 46 minutes.

On Sunday 13th August my own race, the Camelford-Roughtor run, saw 60 runners tackle a very tough course with Jamie Israel who used to live in Camelford coming home first. I was disappointed not to be able to run through a knee injury so I worked as an official as did several Boscattle friends whom I would like to thank for their help.

I hope to be running again in about two weeks so we should have some more races to report in the next edition.

Allen Darlison

With Allen away on holiday and Patrick being 'unfit' I was the sole Boscattle runner in the Two Counties Road Race on Sunday 20th August. The day was very hot and and I was really pleased to finish - ten miles was quite long enough on that day!

Janet Lathom

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## BOSCASTLE A.F.C. - MOST SPORTING CLUB

Their boots hardly cold from the final game last season, which had to be played in mid-July the teams are already into their pre-season "friendlies" before the new league fixtures are available.

Following success in the 'Lanson' Cup, reported in the Summer edition of the Blowhole the first team went on to win the Duchy League Divisional Cup.

But the best was still to come! The Duchy League has a Sporting Trophy, and all teams are asked to vote as to their choice for the most sporting team of the year. For the 1994-5 season the trophy has been awarded to Boscattle, to hold for the coming 12 months. Doreen Hancock

Please note: The Blowhole would be pleased to receive reports on different sports, e.g. cricket, snooker, fishing etc  
Phone Janet Lathom Tel: 250471



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