



BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE

No 77 Spring 2012

£1



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As part of the Olympic celebrations every school in Cornwall will receive the flame and pass it to another school before the opening ceremony of the Olympics. Children from Boscastle collected the torch from Otterham and handed it on to Tintagel to continue its journey around the County. See page 24 for more News from School.

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Editorial

Not that long ago the mere mention of a wind farm brought forth cries of protest, petitions were drawn up, action groups formed and planning applications opposed. The Boscastle Blowhole devoted several pages to the subject in the spring of 1994 at a time when sites at Worthyvale and Otterham were under consideration. Many letters from readers were received. Only a few of them in favour of wind farms.

The developer claimed that whilst some found them ugly others found them elegant and beautiful structures and he asked us to consider their purpose. He went on to say that fears of proliferation were unfounded and that there would be no forests of windmills. As far as tourism was concerned he suggested there would be an opportunity to attract visitors to the area and pointed out that the North Cornwall holiday guide

used wind farming in its promotional brochure.

Forrabury and Minster Parish Council at that time put forward a list of objections to the application and voted unanimously against it. The County Council agreed to recommend to the District Council that the application be refused on many grounds.

In the last few years wind turbines have grown both in size and numbers yet

opposition to them seems to have diminished. Whilst we may not have forests of them yet it is difficult to leave the village without seeing them scattered about. The Parish Council has made no comment to recent applications except to express concern about the quantity received. Can it be that people have grown to like them or do they simply feel that there is nothing to be gained by further opposition?

AB

Boscastle Blowhole Team

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

The editorial team are: Philippa Arthan, Arthur Bannister, Heather Colne, Joan Cork, Gloria Quinlan, Ann and Chris Rodda. Your name could be added to the list if you wish to join us!

The next Blowhole will be published in June.

The deadline for copy will be advertised closer to the date.

Items for inclusion can be emailed to boscastleblowhole@yahoo.co.uk

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To celebrate the 82nd birthday of their mum, Pearl Fearnley, Mandy Washer & Odette Rigby-Jones decided to go on a luxurious limo ride followed by a meal at the Napoleon Inn. Pictured above are chauffeur Ron Muffett, Mandy Washer, birthday girl Pearl Fearnly, Jade Nixon, Odette Rigby-Jones & Becky Bonsall.

Juliotter Garden Club

All meetings take place at Otterham Village Hall at 7.30pm except outings to nurseries and the Summer Barbecue.

March 27th: AGM

April 24th: George Kestell ~ Bulbs, not just Tulips and Daffodils.

May 22nd: Alistair Rivers ~ From Packet to Plate.

June 26th: Summer Barbecue

Coffee Morning

A lovely sunny day brought many people to our Annual Coffee Morning at Heathdene, Paradise Road.

£240 was raised for Children's Hospice South West Little Harbour in memory of Adrian Ferrett.

Vivien and Marion wish to thank Bernice and everyone who supported it in any way.

The Editorial Team would like to give a VERY BIG THANK YOU to Tim Ferrett, who has done most of the production of this issue of the Blowhole, stepping in whilst Philippa was off gallivanting in the Antipodes.

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Five Stars for the Riverside

The Riverside has once again been recognised as one of the area's highly regarded accommodation and restaurant providers with its sweep of prestigious awards and ratings this season. Margaret and Peter Templar, who have owned the business for over ten years, said: "Everyone involved in the management and the running of The Riverside is immensely proud of this continuous achievement." They were delighted that Quality in Tourism, England's independent tourist assessment body awarded the business a five star rating award for guest accommodation. The Riverside was also awarded a Silver and a Breakfast award. Silver awards are given to hotels and guest accommodation that provide exceptional quality in all areas but in particular in service and hospitality. The Breakfast award recognises establishments offering guests a quality and choice of breakfast, with service and hospitality that exceeds what would be expected at their star rating. This is the sixth year



that they been graded as a five star establishment.

Over the winter, the award success continued with Cornwall Council awarding their highest food hygiene and safety award. Consequently, The Riverside decided to participate in their CHEFS (Cornwall Healthier Eating and Food Safety) award in recognition of their commitment to offering healthy menu options and using local led sourced foods. Their achievement of a silver CHEFS award enables the business to display the distinctive blue logo which informs customers that they have adopted and maintain a high degree of food safety and standards, provide and promote a selection of local

foods and utilise healthier cooking methods.

On 18th January 2012, The Riverside was honoured in the 2012 TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice Hotel awards as one of the top 25 UK bargain hotels. Now in its tenth year, the Travellers' Choice awards honour the world's best hotels, earning their distinction from those who know them best – real travellers. Unlike any other hotel honours, TripAdvisor



Travellers' Choice winners are based on valuable reviews and opinions from travellers around the world.

Margaret and Peter both remark on how they believe that the standard of the menus and the quality of local food, together with the healthy choices offered to guests 'is second to none'. "Over the years that we have been a part of the business community, we have tried wherever possible to promote trade and commerce within the village. This includes commitment in using local suppliers and offering sustainable employment. We would also like to highlight the dedication of the staff who have enabled us to achieve what we have."

For the coming season, The Riverside has already started to advertise a return of their Steak Night, Ocean Feast and more.

www.hotelriverside.co.uk or telephone 01840 250216.

RY

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

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2012 Photographic Exhibition and Competition

Once again the users of Otterham and St Juliot Hall, Marshgate, are staging a photographic competition to help raise the funds needed to replace the life-expired hall.

Entry into the competition is free, as will be the exhibition, with funds being raised from the sale of a calendar produced from the exhibition entries, a raffle, cream teas and generous backing by Barclays Bank plc who will match the funds raised up to a total of £750. The photographer taking the photograph judged to be the best will be presented with two copies of the 2013 calendar, with one copy being awarded to the taker of the second placed photograph.

An exhibition will be staged on Sunday 23rd September and up to four entries each are

welcomed from anyone, anywhere, subject to some very simple rules. Photographs must be taken within a ten mile radius of the hall (though not from the small part of Devon that falls into that category) which roughly encompasses an area from Bude in the north, Boyton in the east, Bolventor in the south and down the coast almost as far as Port Isaac. Entries can be either digital or prints and should be in 7" x 5" landscape format. Portrait format photographs are not acceptable for the calendar purposes. Full details are on the hall's website:

otterhamandstjuliothall.org
 Entries can be emailed to the website or posted to:

PhotoComp,
 Trenoweth,
 Marshgate,
 Nr Camelford,
 PL32 YN

Photos must arrive by 8th September 2012.

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THAMES
1952 **DIAMOND JUBILEE** 2012
PAGEANT

Torrent confirmed to take part in the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant

The afternoon of Sunday 3rd June will see a thousand boats gather on the river Thames in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. It will be the largest flotilla in modern times on the river with rowing boats, working boats and pleasure vessels of all shapes and sizes beautifully dressed with streamers and Union Jacks, stretching for an estimated twelve and a half miles.

It has proved extremely popular with three boats

applying for every place. The pageant organisers and representatives from the river community were involved in the selection process which included considering safety, fitness-for-purpose and range of vessel type as well as exploring whether the vessel was of historical significance or had an interesting story to tell. At the end of 2011, organisers confirmed to applicants the lucky boats who will take part in this historic event.

Boscastle & Crackington Haven Gig Club is delighted that Torrent has been selected to take part in the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant. The final

crew will be selected by ballot at the club's AGM to be held at the Cobweb in Boscastle on February 24th. Torrent is one of several gigs from Devon, Cornwall and Wales which will be travelling in the flotilla.

Nick Holmes who arranged for the club's entry said "We love taking Torrent to London; since her launch in 2006 she has taken part in the Great River Race on the Thames almost every year, she is the only vessel that has won her class three years in succession. On her last winning run, her rudder pin broke on the start line and she still went on 21 miles with a broken rudder, to beat all comers in her class. The pageant will be the first time we will be in her on the Thames and not racing full on!"

Every vessel will proudly take its place in the flotilla

alongside Her Majesty the Queen and other members of the Royal Family aboard the Royal Barge, The Spirit of Chartwell. It will be a once in a lifetime moment for the rowers on Torrent as part of this glorious moment in our rich royal history.

Torrent was damaged in a shoreline accident at Crackington Haven recently. The gig club have contacted their insurers and to Brian Nobbs who has carried out repairs in the past. They plan to get her back in the water prior to the Royal Jubilee event.

For the time being the crew will be training in the club's other gig, Rival, at Crackington, Boscastle and Port Gavern. The club has active men's and women's teams of all ages. New members are welcome and full details can be found at www.boscastlegigclub.org.uk.



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MP, Dan Rogerson writes:

Since my last article it has been a busy few months in Westminster. Legislation has recently been introduced to the House of Commons to provide for a £50 rebate for water bill payers in Cornwall and other South West Water areas from 2013-14. As a Liberal Democrat, I have long campaigned on getting a fair deal for bill payers in Cornwall after the botched privatisation under the Conservatives in the 1980s left us with the highest water bills in the country, and following 13 years of complacency about the issue under the last Labour government.

Back in January, along with my fellow Cornish Liberal Democrat MPs Andrew George and Stephen Gilbert, I urged the government to make sure this legislation was introduced as soon as

possible, rather than waiting until the next session of Parliament and risking any delays. I also joined a delegation of MPs from Cornwall and Devon to meet the government's Water Minister, Richard Benyon MP, where I called for more to be done to help ease the burden on families. I asked him to consider moving from regional schemes to support those on the lowest incomes, to a national scheme – thereby providing support for those in water poverty wherever they are in the country. I hope government ministers will understand that whilst the £50 rebate is certainly a step in the right direction, there is further to go to fully address the problem.

I have also been joining my Lib Dem colleagues in calling on the Government to go further and faster in cutting taxes for those on middle and low incomes. This was a priority for my party at the last General Election.

Raising the tax threshold for lower earners is the right thing to do, putting money back in the pockets of those who need it the most. In Government, we are on course to deliver this, so that by 2015 no tax

will be payed on the first £10,000 you earn. The income tax threshold was raised by £1,000 to £7,475 in the 2010 Budget, and the Coalition Government will increase it further to £8,105 this year, rising to £10,000 by 2015. This means a basic rate tax payer would save £379 a year, whilst those on low incomes earning under £10,000 won't pay any tax at all. Given how tough times are at the moment, I think we should get there faster.

If we speed up raising the income tax threshold to £10,000 that means people will have more money in their pockets to help with rising fuel and food prices. It would also help with getting people back to work, by making sure that work pays for those on part-time or low income jobs. Despite the economic situation we are facing, it is right that those on lower incomes receive much needed help, whilst tax loopholes for the very rich are closed off.

It has also been busy at home in North Cornwall too. One of the highlights was welcoming my Liberal Democrat colleague, Paul Burstow MP, to our area.

Paul is the government's Minister for Social Care and came to see how the use of assistive technologies known as 'telehealth' and 'telecare' are working in our area. These technologies allow people to monitor health conditions in the comfort of their own home, with information sent electronically to doctors and nurses, so that they only have to travel to a GP or hospital when it is necessary.

Later on that week, Mr Burstow announced an extra £1.7 million in social care funding for Cornwall over the next four years. This extra cash will be used to help people leave hospital earlier and receive better care at home. We all prefer to be out of hospital, receiving care in our own home, and it is important that we do everything we can to ensure people are cared for at home in a safe and familiar environment, with their family and friends close by.

Dan Rogerson MP
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News from the Nap



New Year Fun

Friends from as far as New Zealand joined in the fun at the Napoleons Annual Fancy-dress Cocktail Party on New Year's Eve. So many people made the effort with some amazing costumes (see above).

There was a bevy of beautiful Amy Winehouses, Tina Turner, Princess Fiona, Boy George, Alice Cooper, a 50's glamour puss, a couple of naughty St. Trinians, Betty Boop, Shaun the Sheep (who got so hot the costume was cut off her at around 11.30pm!!) even The Statue of Liberty put in an appearance (to them and all the others who dressed up we would

like to say a BIG thanks, we really appreciate it.

Music was provided by the ever fabulous (better if they would play just 1 Saw Doctors song) JARKA... we love u guys.

We all danced in the New Year to some great tunes and had the best fun.

Landlord & Landlady Ron & Sharon Muffett & all their staff wish all our loyal customers, old & new, a very happy & healthy 2012.

Please keep your eyes on our notice boards & website www.napoleoninn.co.uk for details of some brilliant events planned for 2012.

Napoleon Inn to Hold Mad March Hair Charity Night

On Friday 30th March the Napoleon Inn will be having a MAD MARCH HAIR charity cocktail night. There will be live music from The Bucket Boys. Please come in mad colourful wigs there will be a prize for the craziest.

There will also be a raffle so if anyone has anything they could kindly donate that would be fab. All proceeds will be going to the MY NEW HAIR charity which was set up by celebrity hairdresser Trevor Sorbie, who says "I feel my incredible career to date has led me to this moment, this opportunity to help people and I am so grateful that I have the skills to pull this off. my new hair isn't just about hair, it's psychological medicine for women suffering from hair loss through illness and for many of the women I have seen, it's the missing link in their treatment.

Giving women back their hair – hair that looks natural, attractive and feminine gives them back a little of the confidence to face the world in their

darkest hour. It was my personal experience of helping a family member during cancer treatment that inspired the idea of my new hair"

They provide public advice, and support a national network of independent salons and professionals who provide a wig styling service for people suffering from cancer and medical hair loss. They pledge their commitment to responsible training and provide a caring and respectful service for their clients.

For more details on the My New Hair charity see their website

www.mynewhair.org/



OLD MOBILES WANTED

We are collecting old mobile phones for the charity so drop these & any raffle items into the NAPOLEON INN before March 30th. We greatly appreciate all your help & hope to see you all in your mad march wigs for more details please ring us on 01840 250204.

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Easter Egg Run

Moorlanders Motorcycle Club will be holding their 14th Easter Egg Run on Easter Sunday again this year. Last year's event raised over £4,000 for local children's charities, with around 530 bikers taking part.

The purpose of the Egg Run is to distribute chocolate Easter eggs to people in care on the route of the run and to raise funds for children's charities in Cornwall. The charities are the special needs units of Camelford and Launceston primary schools, Bowden Derra care home, Action for Children and Children's Hospice South West to help raise funds for the development of Little Harbour, their new care home St Austell.

The Egg Run will start at

Davidstow Airfield and take bikers on a well marshalled route of about 100 miles, with a fuel stop half way, visiting charities and ending with an afternoon event. £5 donations to the charities will be collected per bike for taking part, and donations of chocolate eggs are welcomed.

If all goes to plan, the bikers will ride through Boscastle around 11.30am to 12 noon, so please look out for them.

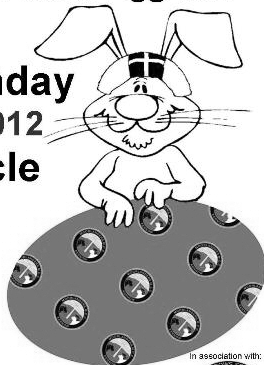
Sponsorship forms are available at the Bottreaux Garage or you can follow links from the club's website.



**Moorlanders MCC
14th Easter Egg Run**

**Easter Sunday
8th April 2012
Motorcycle
Run**

IN AID OF LOCAL
CHILDREN'S CHARITIES



**Meet at Davidstow Airfield
10am on Easter Sunday**



For an undisclosed, fully marshalled route distributing Easter Eggs to local care homes. Chocolate eggs welcomed.

£5 per bike entry fee on the day, which includes a free bar-b-que and music by Stoned Zucchini & the Adrenaline There'll be Awards for Best Bike, Oldest Bike, Furthest Travelled, Prettiest Bike, Best Club Turnout and Best Rat Bike.

For more information phone Richard on 07738892089 or see our website:

www.moorlandersmcc.co.uk

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Cornwall Core Strategy

Over the next twenty years Cornwall's population is expected to reach up to a million, with plans to expand industry and infrastructure to absorb the demands this will place on numbers of houses, schools, hospitals and social care, as well as provision of utilities: power, water and waste disposal. There is anxiety about the impact this will have on agricultural land and green spaces, and the nature of the environment.

In 1961 Cornwall's population was around 360,000 and falling, with young people leaving the County to seek jobs and higher education elsewhere. The prosperity of the 1970s and 1980s reversed this trend, and the present population of 600,000 reflects both much better educational provision and the popularity of the area as a tourist destination and for second home owners. However, this popularity has exacted a price, wage rates are still amongst the lowest in the UK whilst house prices are the highest outside the London conurbation. Traditional industries have all declined, and tourism has proven an unstable substitute, most jobs poorly paid and seasonal, with little prospect of future security,

A minimum of 48,000

new homes will be built, concentrating on the Camborne-Redruth area, the Bodmin area, and new eco-towns in the old clay mining district outside St Austell. Newquay airport will be encouraged to increase numbers of visitors, air routes abroad and services to business travelers.

There are thorny issues surrounding Cornwall's second home owners. Are the multi-millionaire owners of Rock properties an asset or a liability? Would taxing second homes as a business both satisfy our sense of social justice and generate more cash for social housing? Can builders be persuaded to develop derelict industrial sites in Redruth rather than cannibalise gardens in Boscastle?. Profit is where the heart is, naturally, but can co-exist with principle.

The road and rail systems are already often overstretched at peak periods and more traffic will require upgrading of the main trunk roads in and out of the County as well as improvement inside the main population centres. There are obvious limits to how much extra traffic small towns and villages can absorb.

Camelford is expected to increase its present two thousand-odd population by another 3,500 in the next twenty years. It is not clear how all these extra souls will earn a living.

Without seeming negative,

much of the Core Strategy appears to be a wish-list, short on practical detail. The architects of the scheme are well aware that doubling the population cannot take place without additional jobs to support communities. Falling visitor numbers over the past decade, so that even a high profile attraction like the Eden Project is losing money and announcing redundancies, suggests that pumping more money into tourism is as likely to kill the golden goose as fatten it. The alternatives are to persuade government organizations and larger companies to up sticks to Cornwall by offering incentives such as reduced business charges. The attractions of scenery and life style have always been a draw to young professionals and their families. The setting up of the Metereology HQ in Exeter, the DVLA in Swansea and the insurance company Norwich Union in Norfolk are examples of high quality job creation without damage to the environment. Both Plymouth and Exeter universities have been centres of research and development, providing technical and financial services for overseas clients. The banking sector and IT development already constitute one-third of Britain's GDP, unseen but highly profitable. Could Cornwall become the next Silicon Valley?

Those with thoughts can contact Cornwall Council LDF Core Planning Strategy at Circuit House, Truro TR1 1DT or by email cornwall@cornwall.gov.uk and the whole lot is online at www.cornwall.gov.uk/ldf.

Cornwall Strategy Key Diagram

Key

- Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Cornwall boundary
- Town bounding growth figures
- Key strategic priorities
- Smaller towns and villages
- Strategic Transport Network**
- Strategic road network
- Airports
- Heliport
- Ports
- Strategic Public Transport Network**
- Rail network
- Key bus corridors
- Bus branch line
- Ferries
- Key Infrastructure Improvements**
- Royal Cornwall Hospital Improvements
- Cornwall Energy Recovery Centre
- Cornwall Cross Rail
- A10 Temple to Higher Carlslake
- A10 Carland Cross to Chiverton Cross

Focus on developing a green Cornwall, ensuring a emphasis on high quality design, supporting renewable and decentralised energies aiming for energy security, encouraging green industries and more sustainable patterns of transport.

Consider accommodating growth in new eco-communities or extensions to communities in a way that protects the best agricultural land close to towns. Support innovative ways of delivering new infrastructure and affordable housing for local people.

Support growth in our towns and villages that meets needs and helps these places prosper through housing, employment and infrastructure and develop their roles as sustainable service centres for surrounding communities.

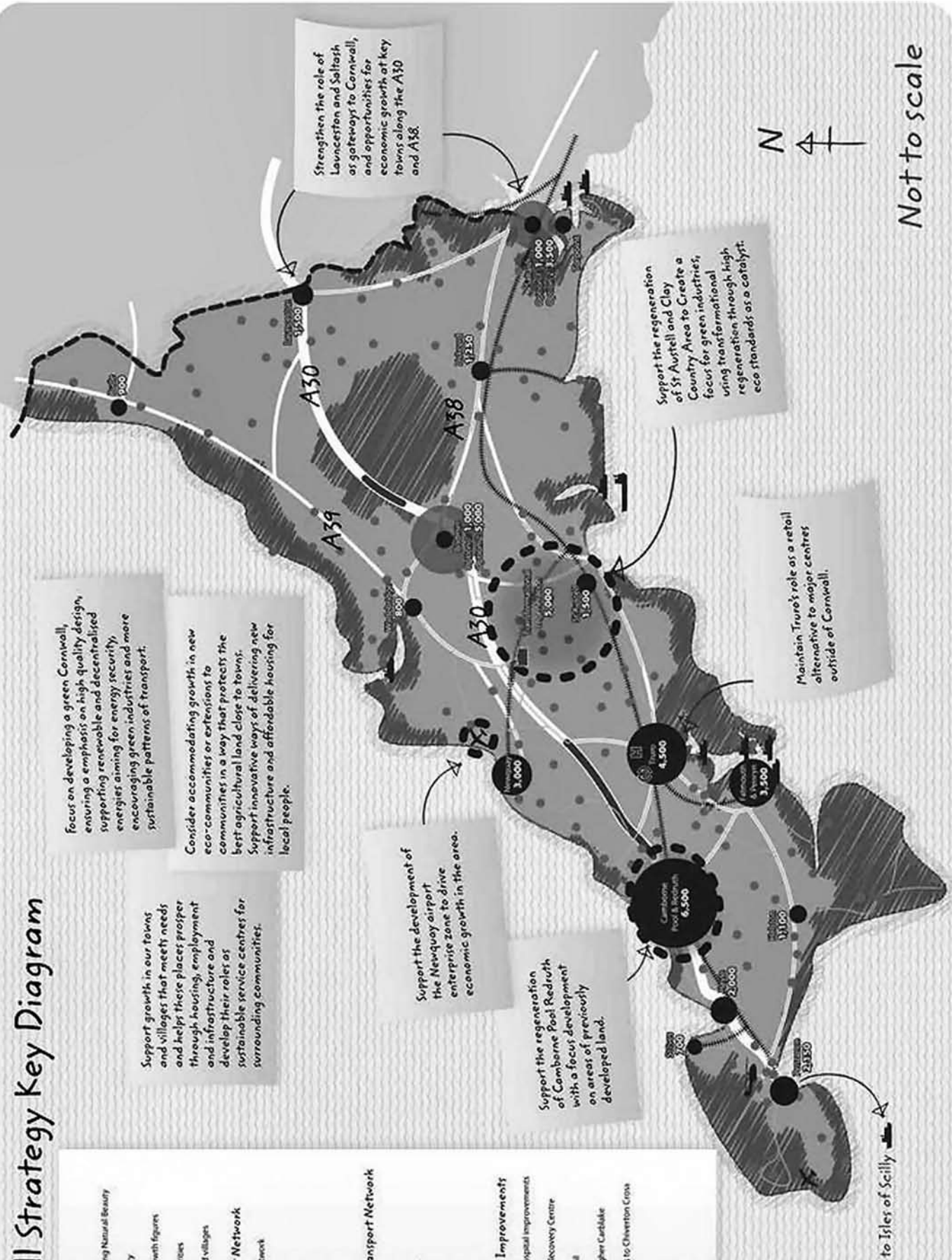
Support the development of the Newquay airport enterprise zone to drive economic growth in the area.

Support the regeneration of Combarne Pool Redruth with a focus development on areas of previously developed land.

Support the regeneration of St Austell and Clay Country Area to Create a focus for green industrial, using transformation through high regeneration through high eco standards as a catalyst.

Maintain Truro's role as a retail alternative to major centres outside of Cornwall.

Strengthen the role of Launceston and Saltash as gateways to Cornwall, and opportunities for economic growth at key towns along the A30 and A38.



Distance is no Deterrent when Cupid's Arrow hits its Mark



and the Great Barrier Reef. The seaside town does, however, 'manage to maintain a relaxed village-like ambience with open-air markets, beautiful beaches and laid back pubs' - sounds just like Boscastle, but with more sun!

With a stopover in Singapore, in time to see Chinese New Year celebrations, John and Jackie flew out to attend the wedding. It was held in one of the oldest and most beautiful buildings in Port Douglas, St Mary by the Sea Church. The chapel is a whitewashed, colonial type, clapboard or weatherboard building, similar to those seen in New England, America. The white interior

When John and Jackie Brown's daughter Lucy, decided several years ago to holiday in North Queensland, Australia, she had no idea that she was about to meet her life's partner. Once there a friend introduced Lucy to Richard Hall saying that whilst she was in Australia, Richard would be happy to escort her around places of interest in Port Douglas and the surrounding area. Having become acquainted and, realising that their relationship was something

special; they spent the next few years flying to and from Australia and Britain, to see each other. Since such journeying could not continue for long, Lucy moved to Australia in 2007. Thus began the first steps to their wedding in Port Douglas, on 28th January this year.

Richard is a qualified diving instructor and, once settled Lucy joined him on the Quicksilver Cruiseboats as a videographer. Apart from ferrying outlying

cruise ship's passengers into Port Douglas harbour, the company operates a catamaran from Port Douglas to the outer reef, the Low Isles and Cairns. They also take up to 300 diving enthusiasts, at a time, out to the reefs off the coast of Queensland. Port Douglas is fortunate to be one of the few places in the world where, lying side by side are two World Heritage Areas - the Daintree Rainforest



St Mary by the Sea

and the glass altar window fills the chapel with light, as it sits close to the sea, amongst swaying palm trees and luscious green shrubs In such a tranquil

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continued from last page

and informal setting, the wedding was set to follow suit, with everyone relaxed and happy. The groom, father of the bride, best man and male guests manfully braved the heat, in black shorts and pristine white shirts, whilst the ladies vied with the colours of the exotic flowers that grow in the surrounding tropical gardens. The bride looked beautiful, of course, wearing a shimmering cream, off the shoulder, sleek fitting dress, the sinuous folds of

which curved around her slim figure.

The newly-weds home is in Cooya Beach, 7 kilometres north of Port Douglas. It is a coastal locality, surrounded by farmland, close to the mouth of the Mossman River and offering many water activities. Living in such a tropical paradise, I am sure they have a happy life ahead of them and send the couple congratulations and best wishes for the future.

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Parish Council News

Forrabury and Minster Parish Council meet in the Village Hall on the second Thursday of each month at 7pm. Members of the public are invited to attend and may address the Council during the first ten minutes of the meeting.

A copy of the agenda is displayed on the Parish Council notice boards and website prior to all meetings. Minutes of previous meetings are displayed once they are approved by the Council.

Forrabury & Minster Parish Council is keen to understand, from the people of the Parish, what's important to the community. Over the next few months Councillors will be asking either directly or through a simple questionnaire for your thoughts, views and ideas on what you think is necessary for the on-going stability of this community. You don't need to wait to be asked, just contact a member of the Council with your thoughts, ideas, or concerns.

Queens Diamond Jubilee – at time of writing F&MPC, are aware of a few events being planned for the celebrations, the following is a brief outline of what may be happening in June. The next **Queen Diamond Jubilee meeting** will be on Thursday 5th April in the Community Centre at 7pm, not 28th March as originally hoped.

Saturday 3rd June: Big Lunch Picnic and sports (not yet organised any volunteers?)

Sunday 4th June: Combined church service (to be confirmed)

The Cobweb will be hosting live coverage of the Thames River Pageant which includes the Boscastle & Crackington Gig and, hopefully, live tracking of the gig and music.

Monday 5th June: Napoleon Inn

hosting Live Music, Hog Roast and Mad Hatters tea party for children. Please note the events listed here are only provisional as they are in the planning stage and are subject to change. Please watch the noticeboards for more details.

Communication - F&MPC is very keen to include as many people as possible in its communications, information is posted in the noticeboards regularly, to compliment the noticeboards the easiest and quickest is email. If you would like to be included in F&MPC's communication emails please email me with your name and address. If you have any other ideas for better communication please let me know.

Adrian Prescott - Parish Clerk
 Lower Meadows House
 Penally Hill
 Boscastle
 PL35 0HF
 01840 210017
 forminpc@lowermeadows.co.uk

Parish Council Contact Info:	
Chair David Ferrett 250414	George Findlay 250428
Fred Hockin 250529	Chris Jarvis 250512
Anthony Brewer 250854	Nanette Little 250291
Pat Day 250436	Chris Rodda 250012
Ian Dawson 250416	Mark Smith 250001

Since Daphne Rogers left the village, the Blowhole no longer has a regular correspondent reporting on Parish Council meetings. Whilst we are delighted that the Clerk, Adrian Prescott sends us updates and news, it would be great if someone was willing to attend meetings as a member of the public and take notes of points of interest.

If you are interested, please contact a member of the Blowhole team in person, by phone or email. Contact details can be found in the information panel on page 2.




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'Shop Till You Drop' Table Top for Cornwall Air Ambulance

February can be a cold and quiet month so a couple of local ladies decided to hold a table top sale in the Village Hall to raise money for the Cornwall Air Ambulance at the same time as ensuring a lovely social outing for locals and visitors.

It was a busy start to the day and, although it quietened down after lunch, the event raised £143.00 for the chosen charity. It was the first of these wintry events and if reaction is positive there may be more. helterBox has been mooted as the next charity to benefit from the 'Shop Till You drop' Day.

Thanks to everyone for their help, especially the tea and coffee maestros, Barb, Nigel, Edna and Jane, advertisement and event co-ordinator Donna Hircock, local liaison officer Viv Hircock, and communicator extraordinaire Arthur Bannister for his omnipresent emails reminding us to attend. It's great to see people getting behind these events.

KG

**YOGA
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Are you suffering from the winter blues and feel a need to stretch and tone those muscles? Come and join us at my yoga classes which are now running at the Community Centre in Fore Street.

I am a fully trained yoga teacher who specialises in Hatha Yoga, which is a standard form of yoga. My emphasis is on improving posture, gaining flexibility and learning different techniques to aid relaxation. Unlike other forms of exercise, we don't run around and get sweaty – this is a slower and deeper form of movement and everyone seems to leave the class quite chilled, as well as invigorated!

I am happy for anyone to turn up and have a go, all you need is a blanket for the final lying down relaxation at the end and a yoga/non slippery mat (I always bring five spare ones along with me just in case).

Come along for some fun and the opportunity to meet new people while exploring this ancient tradition.

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Church and Chapel



From the Methodist Minister Rev A Bryan Ede:

The former Town Councillor of Bideford who caused the National Secular Society to test in the law courts the long held tradition of prayers being shared at the commencement of the principal meetings of Town, District, Borough and County Councils has unwillingly brought the Christian faith and Church to the fore in recent weeks. Many column inches in our national and local newspapers have been used in reporting and

commenting on the issue, as well as prime time on television in news and current affairs programmes.

For me it has reinforced the fact that at heart we live in a Christian Country. I recently saw a statistic that stated that 71% of our population acknowledge that fact. If there was such a thing as our culture having a D.N.A. the Christian faith and the way in which it permeates all levels of our culture would be a prominent feature within it.

At the heart of our Christian teaching and experience are the

events of Easter, which speak to us of love, forgiveness, self-denial, resurrection, eternity, and new beginnings being always possible. In unique ways these things which emanate from our loving, creating God shape us as human beings, and a society.

Easter gives us all an opportunity to ask ourselves what it all means for us. We wish you all a Happy and Blessed Easter.

At Boscastle Methodist Church we shall be sharing in a Service of Meditation and Communion on Good Friday at 2.30p.m., and in Worship at 11a.m. on Easter Day. You will be welcome to share with us.

Our Easter Coffee Morning at the

Methodist Church will be held on Thursday, March 29th from 10.30a.m. Again, a welcome awaits you.

Finally, a date for your diary – Methodist Church Fete in the Church Grounds, Saturday, Jun 30th at 2.30p.m.

From Revd Robert Thewsey:

Dear friends looking back at past articles that I have written I notices that two years ago I was telling you about some recent vandalism that we had had at Forrabury Church. It saddens me greatly to say that this has returned again - with a vengeance over the last few month.



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Contact Details:

Boscastle Methodist Chapel:
 Rev Bryan Ede,
 38 Penmead Road,
 Delabole
 PL33 9AP
 Tel: 01840 214818

Roman Catholic Church:
 Fr Storey
 St Paul's Church,
 Tintagel
 Tel: 01840 770663

Church of England:
 Revd Robert Thewsey
 The Rectory,
 Forrabury,
 Boscastle
 PL35 0DJ
 Tel: 01840 250359

Religious Society of Friends:
 Quakers meet each
 Sunday at 10.30am in the
 John Betjeman Centre,
 Wadebridge

The people at Forrabury Church are rightly proud of the positive comments that they regularly receive in the visitors book about how welcoming the church is, and especially how much they appreciate the tea and coffee, and our thanks go to Carol and Malcolm who make sure each day that this facility is well stocked and clean.

However.....over the last few months, and in particularly the last few weeks of February we have suffered much misuse of these facilities, with wet tea bags being thrown at the pillars in church (which has meant that they have had to be repainted) and also at the screen at the back of church which has had to be cleaned on several occasions.

Tea, coffee, sugar and milk are often deposited at various 'odd' places in the church which makes the church appear to be unloved and neglected when we have visitors. This is far from the truth as the church building is much valued and loved by the worshipping community, and the wider local community as well.

The worst case that we have had was just at the end of Half Term when one evening somebody

decided to brew up in the kettle, melt the milk containers, melt the wax candles from the votive stand and mix them altogether in the font. This is not only a mess to clean up, but is in reality a sacrilegious event as the font is a deeply significant item in the church, as it is where people are welcomed into the family of God into His Church, and it is where generations of villages have been Baptised – Christened in front of their families and friends.

Our plea as a church community to the village is that if people know who is responsible for these attacks then to please speak to either the people concerned, or myself so that we can stop this happening. Also to ask that if you are passing the church building at any time then to pop in to check that all is well.

This is your church building and it is a facility that should be cared for by its local village and community. Please, please help this behaviour to stop.

On a very positive note though the Methodists and Anglicans are holding a special Boscastle Village Mothering Sunday service on 18th March,

11am at Boscastle Chapel, and depending upon when the Blowhole is published, please do come along and remember your own Mum on that Sunday, or if that date has passed, hopefully you enjoyed the event.

There are lots of exciting, and interesting events happening at the moment at Church and if you wish to know what we are doing please do have a look at 'The Seaside Parish' website where you will find an up to date list of all events.

Hopefully you will also have heard that we are experimenting over the next two years being a single parish rather than five separate ones, this new parish will be known as the Parish of Boscastle, but it still retains all its church communities and buildings with the exception of Davidstow who are also experimenting in trying to work on their own

to see if that works for them.

What this means for the local community is really not very different from what we already do. There will be the same number of services, the same church buildings, the same social events – the only difference is the name. So if you see the name 'Boscastle Parish' it actually means the churches of Forrabury and Minster, Trevalga, St Juliot, Otterham, and Lesnewth all joining together to work more closely together, to support one another more and to try and grow our faith more as well.

As the warmer weather comes let us hope for a really great Summer, especially for those in the community who rely on tourism for their living. I wish you all a blessed Spring.

Yours in Christ

Fr Robert

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Harbourmaster's News



This has been a quiet winter down at the harbour with all the boats out save for Scott Washer who risked the groundsea but had few if any days of winter fishing with his boat " Autumn Rose". I know Scott has a new 30 foot boat on order being made by Cygnus and I have seen pictures of the hull when the vessel came out of the moulds but I am not sure if she will be fitted out for use until much later this year.

From time to time I have seen hoards of gulls and gannets feeding half a mile or so off the harbour entrance on shoals of what I assume are sprats or small herring. I do in fact possess a herring net but have not had a chance to use it recently although I gather there have been plenty of herrings down west not least as the dealers have been trying to sell quantities for bait.

I am keen to see if I can catch squid this season and I know that Ian Young tells me he is going to concentrate on lining for cod. So we are now looking forward to spring and getting the pots and gear

ready for next season. In addition I personally am planning a trip to the coast North East Brazil before Easter but by plane rather than by sea.

I was pleased to see that the National Trust kept the café and shop open all through the winter and there have been a few visitors about. Late last year 4 very hardy Welsh surfers took a rib and a jet ski out of the harbour to go surfing on the slab by the Beeny Sisters and the reef off Cam Beak. They did tell me that they would send some photos but sadly these never appeared and so I have attached an icy shot of the harbour.

*Chris Key
Harbour Master*



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Fresh Crabs and Lobsters landed daily in Port Isaac from our own boat 'Mary D' Available cooked, dressed, in a sandwich, boxed to take home or even alive.

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Bouquets for the Boscastle Blowhole

It is always heartening to have your efforts recognised and many of our Subscribers have sent words of praise and encouragement along with their 2012 subscriptions.

- C Robins writes 'Keep up the good work with this interesting and newsy magazine'
- I West thinks we have 'a very interesting Publication' and says 'congratulations to all the Team, who keep it going'
- D Adams and his wife tells us they 'enjoy it so much'; as does J James who 'enjoys the Blowhole very much'
- FJ Freeman writes 'Many thanks for all your hard work'
- LE Walls sends 'congratulation to all the team in their continued success'

PM Hodge tells us she reads the magazine 'avidly'.

This is just a small sample as space precludes mentioning all the comments.

We are fortunate to have such a band of loyal supporters. The cards they send are colourful, interesting and a joy to read, many telling us of their visits to Boscastle and sending 'good wishes for the coming year'. Over the years they have become as friends.

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The Reading Room

The Bookworms have gathered regularly throughout the unusually mild autumn days and have enjoyed sharing their thoughts on the books they have read. They met one evening to view a 'moving picture story', by way of a change, and marvelled at the new-fangled technology. All that had read the book on which it was based agreed that the book was better! The bookworms also so found it very difficult to be together and NOT TALKING!

The bookworms pledged not to let their Christmas preparations prevent them from reading and most bookworms held their resolve. Our reading Room has witnessed some lively discussions so why not peep inside and eavesdrop on them.

'BITTER SWEETS' BY ROOPA FAROOKI

Roopa Farooki was born in Lahore, Pakistan in 1974, to a Pakistani father and Bangladeshi mother, and is the youngest of three sisters. She moved to the UK when she was seven months old, and was brought up in central London.

She read Philosophy, Politics and Economics at New College, Oxford. A full-time writer since 2004, she now lives with her husband, her two young sons, and twin baby girls in south east England and south west France. Roopa's first novel, 'Bitter Sweets' was nominated for the Orange New Writers Award 2007. It explores the effects of deceit across three generations of an unusual family, for whom the truth is, as Oscar Wilde put it, "rarely pure and never simple". By the end of this book it becomes clear that Farooki has been manoeuvring her characters toward a major showdown. She contrives a twist of fate that will drag their hidden lives into the light. Despite its emphasis on deception, dislocation and the loss of love, her book remains a 'light' read!

The bookworms were not particularly enthralled with this book. One thought its infantile style of writing was unattractive. Another found it difficult to hold her attention on it because the writing style seemed distant. There was

no dialogue in the first part of the book, once the dialogue was introduced the characters did become more 'alive' but the names were found to be confusing.

Yet another bookworm commented on being 'put off' by the genre of people living in Western society who decide to write about their ancestral family country like an agony aunt! It was felt that the characters were composites of people she had observed rather than based on her first hand experiences. The book was thought to be 'a bit flat'.

There was a general agreement that the characters were stereotyped and that there were too many bizarre and unbelievable coincidences. The ending seemed especially contrived. None of us felt we would wholeheartedly recommend it as a good read.

We each gave a score out of 10, for two aspects of the novel and an average score resulted as follows:
Storyline: 5.2
Quality of writing: 5.0

'TOO MUCH HAPPINESS' BY ALICE MUNRO

Canadian writer Alice Munro grew up in Wingham, South West Ontario and has written short fiction since 1950. She has won Canada's Governor General's Award for fiction three-times. Her stories focus on human relationships looked at through the lens of daily life. She has often been referred to as "the Canadian Chekhov." Many of Munro's stories are set in Huron County Ontario. Her strong regional focus is one of the features of her fiction and her characters often confront deep-rooted customs and traditions, dealing with love and work, and the failings of both.

Munro has carved a substantial reputation without venturing very far from what she does best; the classic short story of disappointment and epiphany, in the landscape she knows and understands. Too Much Happiness, consisting of 10 stories, was published in August 2009 and it continues to explore her chief preoccupation

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The advertisement features a classic car with a large 'X' on its hood, suggesting a crash or damage. The text is bold and arranged in a structured layout, with the phone number in a large, bold font at the bottom.

The Reading Room continued

– what is it that constitutes a life, and gives it its uniqueness. Munro is said to have stated that she is, “interested not in happy endings but in “meaning... resonance, some strange beauty on the shimmer of the sea”.

The bookworms had very diverse opinions about this collection of short stories. Two of us thought the stories were well written, with clever descriptions. They were well constructed as short stories and it could be seen why Munro had earned her reputation as a writer of this genre. The style was deceptively simple whilst conveying some horrific concepts. The plots were extraordinarily complex and the story was moved on with very few words.

Others found the stories too Canadian, all too eerie, too convoluted and yet very predictable. They thought the people dysfunctional and that you could always sense that something

terrible was going to happen. They disliked the way that Munro left you with a real dilemma in her stories. One bookworm could not read on because she sensed the ending would be too awful.

All the bookworms found the final story, from which the collection took its title, very heavy going. It was too long and they felt it should be renamed ‘Too Much Unhappiness’. Only you can know if this is your sort of book. We hope our varied and opposing comments can help you decide whether it’s worth a try or not.

We each gave a score out of 10, for two aspects of the novel and an average score resulted as follows:

Storyline: 5.0

Quality of writing: 7.5

‘THE PLEASURE SEEKERS’ BY TOSHANI DOSHI

Tishani Doshi is known primarily as a Poet and ‘The Pleasure Seekers’ is her debut novel. Her

inspiration comes from her Gujarati father and Welsh mother. They met in 1960’s Britain and moved to India to be married. Her novel uses the romance between them as the foundation of a meandering family saga. This develops into a story of post-colonialism as Doshi moves to and fro between cultures and generations.

An ambitious time span is covered in this short book, and suddenly Siân and Babo find themselves at their silver wedding anniversary. One bookworm felt that, towards the end of the book, the story was so ‘under developed’ that that section would have been better left out and that particular generation of the family not introduced at all. Their inclusion added nothing to the story. It is difficult to believe Doshi spent eight years writing this book because it is light fiction and the characters seem quite stereotyped. She draws on her knowledge of Indian phrases and colloquialisms but those

bookworms who were not familiar with them found them a little irritating.

It was generally agreed that parts of the book were quite convincing, however, there was also a sense that Doshi had no personal experience of what she was writing about.

The earthquake at the end of the story we found quite bizarre.

This was not a book we would highly recommend but it was alright as a quick read

We each gave a score out of 10, for two aspects of the novel and an average score resulted as follows:

Storyline: 4.8

Quality of writing: 4.5

All the bookworms send you their good wishes for a hail and hearty New Year and may your reading transport you to some wonderful places before we meet again in The Reading Room.

*Yours truly
The Keeper of the Key*

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24 th Mar: Festive Road	12 th May: Mood Indigo
31 st Mar: Johnny & the Blue Light	19 th May: The Harry Peanut Show
7 th Apr: Shellin' Snails	26 th May: Cut the Rug
14 th Apr: Alison's Kitchen	2 nd June: Festive Road
21 st Apr: Blue Slate	9 th June: Atomic 80's
28 th Apr: So Soul	16 th June: Whiskey Thieves
5 th May: Crestas	23 rd June: Blue Slate



DON SHARP IN BOSCASTLE

John Tyerman Williams remembers his friend, Don Sharp, actor, writer and film director, born Hobart, Tasmania 19th April 1921 died Truro, Cornwall 14th December 2011

I first became aware of Don when my late wife and I sat in Harbour Cottage listening to the radio drama "Journey into Space", in which he played the Australian "Mitch", naturally with an impeccable Australian accent. It was a few years later that he turned from a disembodied voice into a physical presence.

I still vividly remember his first visit to Boscastle. Professional work postponed, it was over a year after his marriage to Mary Steele in 1956. Their wedding photograph showed them as one of the handsomest couples we had ever seen. Mary we had known since she was a girl and we had formed a high opinion of her judgement.

So our expectations were high. They were certainly not disappointed. We soon knew that Don would be welcome not just as Mary's husband but as a friend in his own right.

He was an entertaining companion, full of amusing anecdotes and with a dry wit. He further endeared himself to us by his warm enjoyment of Boscastle. He took pleasure in the local walks, not only for their beauty but for the providential way in which they so often lead past the Wellington, Cobweb or Napoleon.

His one reservation was about swimming here. But that was not particular to Boscastle: he said no self-respecting Australian, remembering the warmer seas around his native land, would immerse himself in the inhospitable chilliness of British waters. He was moved to amazement and mocking laughter when Mary and I, fuelled by a Guinnessy mid-day session at the Nap, took a dip in

the harbour when the brightness of the Easter sun contrasted deceptively with the coldness of the water; a coldness that all too quickly conquered the internal warmth of the Guinness! Until he retired aged seventy-one, Don's visits were limited by his work. Mary came more often with their growing family. During the school holidays we got to know their charming and variously talented children. The friendship continued with equal warmth and more frequent meetings with my present wife, Elizabeth.

As these notes are personal memories of Don in Boscastle, they necessarily omit that most important part of his life: his work as a film director. "The Times", "The Guardian" and "The Independent" all contained full obituaries, and Googling also gives much information. I should like to endorse the special praise several of these give to his skill

in extracting maximum tension from incidents and scenes which any lesser director would have made somewhat hackneyed. The last of these that I saw showed Robert Powell hanging desperately on to the moving minute hand of Big Ben in my favourite version of "The Thirty-nine Steps".

After his retirement Don spent much more time in a now enlarged Highwater Cottage. It was there I had my last chat with him, only a few days before his death. Very appropriately, it was largely about cricket. By this time we were about the only friends old enough to exchange memories of watching Don Bradman bat and compare the fast bowling of Ray Lindwall with that of Harold Larwood.

JTW

A note from Mary:

Don died in the Royal Cornwall Hospital after a few months of dignified decline much eased by frequent contact with passing friends and acquaintances who, looking up on their walk along the harbour side, would exchange a cheery wave or call in on the quiet old gentleman sitting in the window. His body lies beside his son, Jonathan, in the deep peace of Minster, his spirit commended to God with joyful co-operation in both Anglican and Roman Catholic tradition. I remain, warmed and comforted by the kindness of friends and neighbours in the haven of Boscastle.

LILIAN ROSE CONNELL

12.5.1920 – 25.11.2011



Lilian and Alfred Connell were married in 1939 and during the Second World War lived in Barnehurst, Kent. They had three daughters but sadly life was interrupted by Alfred's service with the Royal Air Force for five years. After his discharge when the girls were growing up, Lilian decided to resume her secretarial career and (with Alfred's encouragement) began part-time, intending it to be short term only, but somehow it lasted 32 years full time!

When Alfred took early retirement in 1978, Lilian decided to follow suit and they moved to Cornwall and lived in Trethevy and joined the congregation

in Trevalga Church. She enjoyed taking part in all the usual church activities, especially flower arranging and using her skills with crochet, embroidery and knitting to help raise funds at the usual fund raising events.

They eventually moved to Boscastle in 1988 and joined Forrabury Church and continued to help with the usual church events. She was John Ayling's Sacristan for a number of years and, with Alfred, took a great interest in helping to maintain the church with the many volunteers one always finds. Alfred, as you may remember, was also organist for many churches and a DIY man.

Unfortunately, age related problems began to take effect and Lilian was forced to relinquish all duties. She was also unable to continue helping at the village school, which she enjoyed so much, and had great fun with the children.

She was an ardent traditionalist and found it very difficult to adapt to the modern world and the many changes within the church. When it was often said, 'we have to move forward', her usual reply was 'where to' and 'why'?

Most of Lilian's funeral service she pre-planned, being the practical person that she was. Bits of paper pinned to bits of paper, with hymns (For the beauty of the Earth and Immortal, Invisible) and service organised too. Information scribbled down as she thought of it along the way.

Those who knew her know that we wouldn't dare go against her wishes!

Even though she lived far from the family, we managed to see her often and learnt much about her other family in Boscastle.

Last year she celebrated her 90th birthday with her family, an occasion she spoke about fondly. Sadly the next time we were all together were her last few days, but it was a great comfort to us that she knew we were all there at the end.

Those family members who attended the funeral were Daughters Valerie and Geraldine with their sons-in-law Terry and Michael; Grandchildren Laura with partner Stuart; David; Caroline; Timothy; Andrew with their husbands and wives; Great-grandchildren Tifaine; Ryan with partner Harriet and friends Ann and Peter Adams. The family wish to thank all those people who attended the service, it meant a great deal to them, also to say a special thank you to Michael Parsons, who took the service.



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News From School

We have had two bits of good news since the last edition of *The Blowhole*. Firstly we had an Ofsted inspection and are now officially a 'Good' school. (We've known that for years of course!) Part of the reason why we are good is because of the excellent progress all of our children make. Our English and maths results have been significantly above the national average for the past three years and we were ranked 3rd in terms of attainment out of the 234 primary schools in Cornwall last year. The high quality of the children's work was praised. It was noted that 'pupils enjoy their learning, want to do well and try hard to succeed. These positive attitudes mean that pupils are well prepared for their next steps in education.' Our Ofsted report also acknowledged the fact that we place great emphasis on developing children's artistic,

creative and sporting skills and praised the art work on display around the school and the confidence of our children when they spoke in front of their peers.

A judgement of Good can only be given if results for at least the last three years have been above national averages. I am pleased that our achievement has been officially recognised and am particularly pleased that Ofsted recognised examples of outstanding teaching, learning and behaviour during their visit.

We also received a letter of congratulations from Trevor Doughty (Corporate Director of Schools at County Hall) in which he recognised our hard work and the quality of our provision and leadership.

It is hard to believe we are half way through our school year – the weeks go by so quickly and there never seems to be enough hours in the day. As I write this, Classes 2 and 3 are somewhere 'down the valley' creating willow sculptures with Jeff and his National Trust Colleagues. Class 3 have been writing

biographies inspired by Roald Dahls book 'Boy'. They have had great fun recalling their mishaps and adventures and I think their parents have enjoyed looking through their baby photographs again too! James Venning and Lydia Fitchford (Year 6 pupils) have included a couple of extracts for you to read.

The World Record by James Venning

Well it was a few years ago when I was, bored. I had watched plenty of TV; furiously played my drums and ridden my bike till I couldn't move my legs at all then I had a brainwave I thought I could break a world record. So as quick as I could I searched for cushions hard ones, soft ones small ones and big ones all piled up on top of each other. In fact there where so many they where taller than me "finished," I said proudly "now time to break the world record

for youngest boy to jump over one's own height." I prepared for a run up "BANG!" yelled my sister as I set of.

"AGH," I shouted as if I was George from George of the jungle. As I jumped my face hit the cushions and knocked them over leaving my body to follow as my nose went crack soon after my shoulder hit the solid floor breaking my collarbone. That painful feeling lasted for days as my mum just repeated "you'll be alright."

The Pet Gang by Lydia Fitchford

Well, I don't know where to start. I have had so many pets I can't keep count! My first I ever had was our lovely dog Josh. He was black and was as good as gold. I can remember once my family friends came down and Josh (not the dog) would be at our house and the dog would be sitting on the sofa, mum would shout

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to the dog “Josh, get down!” The other josh would think she was talking to him and he’d get down and leave the room with a sad face. Mum would say “Ha-ha, not you Josh, the dog Josh.”

Our happy days were over. Our adorable dog Josh died at the age of 14 in human years, he got cancer. It was so sad to hear he died, I cried for days and nights, mum did too and Sophie and dad.

Our next dog was Barney; we still have the little devil now! He is a breed of staffie. He has black and white splodges with a big black tail. Barney (when he was a puppy) chewed up slippers, ran away, tried to chase our next door neighbour’s cat up a telegraph pole, and eat him, wrecked the house and much, MUCH more. We all love him to bits though and wouldn’t give him up for anything. There was this one time when he was chasing his tail so fast, probably thought he could break the dog world record, imagine, in bright lights THE FASTEST TAIL CHASER IN THE WORLD! Anyway, he was running around the floor like a maniac and

suddenly, it happened he fell flat on his face! He tried to make it look like he did it on purpose so we wouldn’t think he was crazy. We still did though.

Next it was our Guinea pig, pig. No really he was called pig! He used to gnaw on his cage and bite everyones fingers except mine! I can just remember when Conor (my cousin) came round and he was looking at the guinea pig and guess what, Pig tried to eat Conor’s feet! It was so funny, we couldn’t stop laughing. Sadly pig died of old age and an illness that we couldn’t cure. Then the circus act hamster came for a visit on my birthday... He is called Dappy, I named him after a celebrity because the name Dappy is quite wacky and he is too! Once, not that long ago he was in his cage, scoffing his face when he lost balance whist running up the little stairs and did a flip off the top ledge! He lay there in silence, with the food still in his mouth, then got up, and tried it again!

Class 2 have been writing some poems based on George’s Marvellous medicine. (Roald Dahl again!) We wrote recipe/

instruction poems explaining how George made his medicine and then decided if we could apply this style to other situations. Lily Hedge-Evans and Maddie Bird wrote about our Class:

Class Two

Take some progress
And tip it in to a pot.
Whip up some excitement
Then put it in a classroom.

If all goes well,
Sprinkle some mischief in.
Drop in some history,
English, Maths,
Art and Science.
Stir!
Leave for two years.

By Lily Hedge-Evans

Class 2

Boil some brightness
Then sieve out the mischief!
Sprinkle in some generosity.
Whip some intelligence into the mixture.
Chop some support

Add happiness.

Stir for three years,
Pour in the children
And last but not least...
Mix in the teachers!

By Maddie Bird.

Class 2 have also been learning how to use speech marks correctly and telling their reader about a character by showing them what the character says and does. We wrote the story of Lazy Jack which the children thought you might enjoy too! Here is part of Lily Bright’s version.

Once upon a time there lived a lazy boy called Jack. He lived with his mother in a small cottage. Jack’s mother worked hard but did Jack did nothing at all! One day his mother said “you’ll get chucked out of the house if you don’t work for your self”.

One morning Jack went to help a farmer with his

Lily’s story continues on page 26

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News From School

continued from page 25!

animals. When it was tea time Jack went back home with his penny. "Any good stuff happen today then Jack?" asked his mum. "Oh yes!" replied Jack nodding "yes! I got a penny!"

"Where is it dear?"

"I dropped it."

"You stupid boy. You should have put it in your pocket" said his mum.

"I promise so next time" answered Jack.

"Good lad" said his mother "good, good, good".

The next day he went to help the farmer again. He paid him some milk and Jack remembered what his mum said and poured it in his pocket.

"Any exciting things happened today?" asked Jack's mother.

"Yes. I got some milk", he said letting his mother see.

"You stupid boy. You should of put it on your head!"

"I'll do so next time" promised Jack, a bit ashamed.

The following day Jack went to work for a miller. At the end of the day just before tea time he got paid with a tom cat. Just before he took it home he remembered

what his mother had said. He tied it to his head.

"Any fun stuff happened today?" asked his mother serving dinner.

"Yes. I got a tomcat" he said pointing up to his head.

"You stupid boy. You should of tied it on a string and led it along behind you." She was very angry now.

"I'll do so next time" promised Jack.

Next day lazy Jack went to work for a baker. At the end of the day at tea time he got paid with a big roast chicken. Before he did anything he remembered what his mother had said. He tied it on a string.

"Any things happened today?"

"Yes, Yes! Can we have roast chicken for tea?" asked Jack getting off the lead.

"You stupid boy. You should of put it in your knapsack."

"I'll do it next time" promised Jack.

What do you think happened next? Jack had a couple more adventures and ended up very rich despite being so foolish! Any child in class 2 will tell you the answer.

Year 1 and 2 have also been writing their own stories based on "The

Magic Pot'. We have included some of them for you to enjoy!

The Magic Honey Hive by Katy Bright

Once upon a time there was a girl called Becca. She lived with her mother in a cottage. One day she found a bee, he was carrying some shopping bags and then he gave her a magic honey hive. He said "when you are hungry you say cook, cook, cook honey hive but when you have had enough say stop, stop, stop honey hive". So she ran home. "Mum" she said "I have got a magic honey hive and when you are hungry you say cook, cook, cook honey hive and when you have had enough say stop, stop, stop honey hive".

One day she went to her nanny's house but then her mum was hungry so she just needed to have some honey but she forgot

the magic words so the honey went out of the hive on to the table, on to the beds, out the door into the post office, to the harbour and the honey went EVERYWHERE. Then Becca ran back and said "stop, stop, stop honey hive" and it stopped and the whole village had to eat honey for a whole year and they lived happily ever after. The end.

.....

The Magic Chocolate Fountain by Sophie Edwards

One day there was a little boy called James. One day he saw a princess carrying a lot of bags. He asked her if she wanted some help and she said yes. When they got back from shopping she gave him a magic fountain, so he ran home to show his mum.

The next day he went to his gran's house. When he had set off his

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mum was hungry so she said “cook, cook, cook little fountain cook” and then it was filled with chocolate but she forgot the magic words so it went out of the fountain onto the table, down on the floor, up the stairs, past the post office and past the policemen, past the Cobweb and down the lane until there was chocolate EVERYWHERE!

.....
***The Magic Bolognaise Pot
by Tor Ross***

Once upon a time there was a boy called Will and he lived with his mum. One day Will went off on a walk when he saw a wolf with a broken leg. Will ran to help him. Will said “are you okay?” “I am” said the wolf. “I will help you to your den” said Will. “Okay” said the wolf. So Will helped the wolf to his den. The wolf gave Will a pot and said “follow these words cook little pot cook”. Will ran back to his house and showed his mum and said cook little pot cook, then he said stop little pot stop. The pot stopped and Will and his mum had bolognaise.

.....
***The Magic Chocolate Pan
by Ethan Roff-Conway***

Once upon a time there lived a little girl called

Poppy and she lived with her mum. She helped an old lady carry her shopping home and the lady gave her a magic chocolate pan. She ~~ran home and gave~~ her mum the pan and said “cook, cook little pan cook”. Soon it was a pool of chocolate and she said “stop, stop little pan stop”.

One day Poppy went to her nan and her mum wanted some chocolate but she forgot the magic word to stop it cooking and it went on the table, on the chair, on the floor, out the door, down the harbour and into the sea. When Poppy got home she said “stop little pan stop” and they ended up eating chocolate for a year!

.....
***The Magic Spaghetti
Bolognaise Bowl
by Jerrica Morgan***

Once upon a time there lived a little boy called Jamie. One day he helped a wolf because it had a hurt leg and the wolf gave him a bowl and he said “when you are hungry you just say cook little bowl cook and it will cook” and he ran to his house.

Then Jamie went to the park. His mother was hungry and she said “cook little bowl

cook”. Soon the bowl was full but the mother went for a walk and it went onto the table, on a chair, onto the TV, in the dog’s bed, up the stairs and the spaghetti went EVERYWHERE! Suddenly Jamie ran in and said “stop little bowl stop” and the bowl stopped and all the people had to eat spaghetti bolognaise for five months!

Over the last half term our football team have been playing in a local league organised by Jack Procter at St Teath. Our team has been made up of: Luke Hammond, Joshua Bowker, Hayden Chater, Lewis Williams, Timothy Edmonds, Samuel Tasker, James Venning, and James Richardson. We have played home and away matches against all of the other teams (Otterham, St Teath, St Breward and Tintagel) winning all of our matches except one. The other teams have

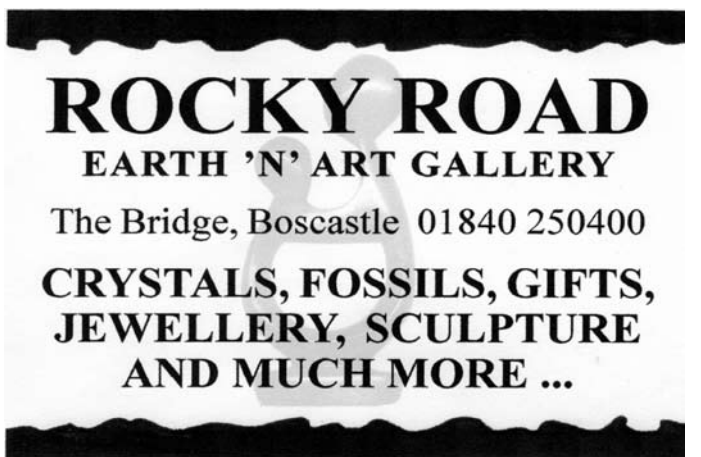
a few more matches to play however we are still top of the table at the moment. We will update you in the next issue!

Staying with the sporting front, we took part in the Cornish Olympic Torch marathon (see photograph on the front cover).

We collected the torch from Otterham and handed it on to Tintagel to continue its journey around Cornwall. We have also just received our ‘Get Set 2012 Olympic plaque having demonstrated to ‘London 2012’ that we are ‘Living the Olympic and Paralympic Values.’ We will all be learning more about the Olympics and Paralympics next term.

I think that is about it from us for this edition. We look forward to sharing more of our news with you next time.

SD



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Travellers Tales continue their Travelling

November: The island of Leros has a feeling of something between Tahiti and Rarotonga and reminds us of some places in India too. With the Cyrillic text and a very foreign language it makes me feel so very much abroad and far away. I love it. Then I hear the Bazouki music, the waves lapping the shore, the guttural deep voices of the locals and I'm on the set of 'Shirley Valentine'.

Most of the Lerians use motorbikes to get around, Mama sits casually side saddle little ones cling on too and a brother or sister bumps along in front on the petrol tank and the driver carries his helmet slung over his elbow not his head. To the Greeks it seems a challenge not to indulge in other EU rulings either and if they smoke, then they smoke, anywhere, the bars, the restaurants even the petrol stations.

Saying that, there is a sense of freedom here that was maybe missing in the Alpujarras, and to an extent France too, maybe, it is the lack of any fiscal policies being enforced. There is a policeman or two here, but



Deborah and Steven under a palm tree in Lakki town

we've only ever seen them out to pick up their lunch. It is not that the island is lawless, just there is less law.

We were lulled into a late summer here and it's been the norm to sit out on deck in the evening and watch the sun dip into the ocean ahead of us, and the eleven hours of sunshine have been heaven. Cycling around the island we explore the villages and back streets of white washed houses with their brilliant blue doors and windows. The Mule still has a job to do here and amble along carrying their loads, reminding me yet again of the Alpujarras. The main meal of the day

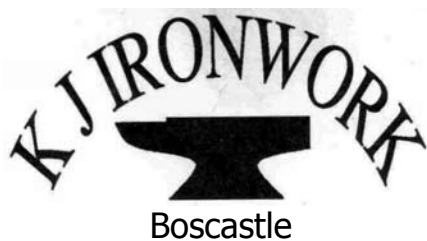
has probably been cooking all morning, smells of unguent, pungent lunch waft out of nearly every little house and soon the streets will be quiet again, then the Mediterranean siesta will halt everything on the island for a couple of hours.

It's warm enough so we eat our picnic on the beach under the Tamarisk tree and watch the fishermen unloading and repairing their nets. Many of these fishingboats have to support more than one family and it's hard to know how they survive when we look at some of the improbably small catches.

December: It is not until mid December that we even have a sense of it being close to Christmas, several islanders have put up token decorations of a plastic fir tree in the window of their home and a smiley Santa on their front door. This is a relatively new phenomenon to the island and seems to be a gesture to the smattering of foreigners that now make this their home.

Some of the businesses have decorated their shop windows and a few trees have gone up in the harbour and the town. It looks pretty, but not over the top. There does not seem to be any panic buying of presents and food but several of the shops, have made special displays of their Christmas produce. In Florance, our local baker, Effi gave us a heavily spiced Chocolate Macaroon "for Christmas" she said. In the Cave, where we buy our wine and Baklava, Mama was handing out delicious chocolates "for Christmas" she said.

In the week before Christmas we promised ourselves that we would go



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Travellers Tales

continued from previous page

back to Dimitri's for our meal out. In lovely sunny weather we cycled up the hill to Pantelli. Dimitri and Tonya run their own restaurant, the food is delicious, the best we've had and they have probably the best view on the island out towards Kalymnos and the Turkish coast beyond and still the restaurant is not full, Dimitri said he was always full, day and night, "but not now, people don't have any money and I worry for my friends".

After yesterday's beautiful warm and sunny day the rain started in severe gusts and we sprang more leaks than we could cope with. The galley, salon and our cabin became sodden. We had to retreat to a rather small wheelhouse floor, and a long night where neither of us could lie down properly. I don't know how more ridiculous this whole situation can get?

A miserable morning started on the floor of the wheelhouse, it's still raining and blowing a gale outside, everything is being used to catch the continuous drip, drip dripping and I'm wondering where the 'Greek Island dream' is. I'm reading 'Eight Men and a Duck' the true story of an improbable voyage by a slowing sinking Totor Reed boat to Easter Island, I couldn't face getting up and confronting our own damp and improbable, but true conditions, there was nothing for it but to stay put. When eventually the rains did stop I moved off

the wheelhouse floor in a crab like movement and the long dry out began. I guess we are either stupid or made of sterner stuff; I like to think the latter is true.

We've been blessed with dry weather today which is thankful as we are cycling in to town to pick up Stephen's surprise birthday present. I have had put by an acoustic guitar which Stephen knows nothing about. The money we can't afford was worth it just to see his face. We then sat in the sunshine drinking latte underneath a palm tree, how's that for end of December. We had our first dinner party on board here; it was for Stephen's birthday. Now there's a challenge if ever, it's like playing at grown ups in a dolls house.

New Year's Eve promised to be lively, we planned to cycle to the Paradisos for a celebration with live Bazouki playing and dancing. However, the heavens threw an almighty storm, then early evening the lightening and thunder cut off the electricity supply to the whole island. With no heat, light or music and down to our last candle we gave up and crept into a cold bed, an hour before midnight - Happy New Year.

January: Christmas for the Greeks starts with a family feast on Christmas Day, then feasting and drinking will continue through until Three Kings which is the more important religious celebration. Across the harbour today we can

hear the Service in the Greek Orthodox Church which will last for a couple of hours followed by the Priest taking to a boat and throwing a crucifix into the sea, then a signal is given and any willing males swim in a race to retrieve the crucifix thus earning the honour to parade through the town carrying the crucifix as the town band and congregation follow on behind. The honour extends to the victor carrying the crucifix around the island and blessing houses and babies.

There has been no Olive picking for us this year, the Olives were picked here on the island back in early November but we have another enjoyable job to do, we are helping friends in their little vineyard in Flabou. They need help preparing and sterilising bottles and an important part of the job is to assess the wines that we will bottle today. The job is done and we have laid down about one hundred bottles of very drinkable white wine.

We had a lovely lunch cooked by the hostess and



Chief bottle washer

It is this time of year that the fishermen paint and repair their boats and a time when the all important Priest is paid handsomely to bless each boat for the coming season. The Priest is paid by way of a donation and there seems to be a rivalry between fishermen as to who paid the most. The Priest or pappas, as they are called is one of the most important and wealthy people on the island, we see him most days in his long flowing robes, his high hat and his uncut hair and beard going about the town and the businesses in turn.

drank one of today's newly bottled wines. The sun feels warm and the surrounding villages are having their own lunch before siesta, Mules are braying to each other across the acres and cocks are crowing as if to get their last words in before settling down to their own siestas. and all seems very peaceful in our little world as we laze in the sun after a sunny morning out among the vines on our production line of sterilising, bottling and tasting.

February: It is day 100 on this boat and it is Valentines Day today. We

continued on page 30

Travellers Tales

continued from page 29

were determined to get out and make a romantic day of it. It's interesting how we hold on to our homeland traditions even when travelling. So we cycled to the centre of the island – Platanos and insisted on eating breakfast out in the square much to the astonishment of the shop keepers. They humoured us and wiped down two sodden chairs and a table then let down the sunshade, because they said "it was going to rain again".



Lent Carnival in Leros

They don't really do romantic here on the island, well not in public anyway and our cosy restaurant for the evening was totally devoid of candles or atmosphere, so we shared a Greek Pizza, a jug of wine and watched the football on the telly with the locals, we tried. The Lerians are supremely religious and most Greeks will follow Lent to the letter. Today is pre-Lent so it seemed right to have

a frivolous little Carnival. It seemed the whole island had turned out to line the harbour front of Lakki. It seems it is a day to celebrate youth; several floats of no particular theme other than craziness and loud music passed by several times in a continuous little circle around the town, children dressed in their favourite themed costumes, sprayed crazy foam and threw streamers into the crowd, and everyone generally makes a lot of noise. The weather was kind and the guys dressed as girls and girls wore crazy coloured wigs. Then the homemade

crackers and little bombs, they actually use dynamite here, are let off bringing an end to the pre-Lent frivolity.

The next day is Clean Monday which marks the beginning of Lent and a meatless diet for the next 40 days. The fish shops were open yesterday, a Sunday, in preparation for the beginning of fasting. The diet is more like an amazing de-tox, for today only fish will be eaten and



Bottling line at St Petros

a special kind of unleavened bread studded with sesame and shaped like a Frisbee is baked, only on this day of the year, and a river of wine is accompanies today's food. Today is also a special day when all the children will fly kites, and most families will be out in the countryside eating their Lenten picnic. Sadly the weather has turned and all the kites will remain at home for another year, it's a one day only pastime.

After this day the diet will consist of very simple fare, with dried pulses providing the bulk of the diet, no meat and no fish. Griggis tells us that at the end of Lent, after the Church service at midnight, everyone goes home to an enormous feast

of every kind of food and drinking into the daylight hours until they can't stand thus the end of Lent.

As I write I've calculated that we left home a mere 477 days ago. We have overstayed our year away and should really be back home in the UK working and settling back into our old routines. I'm not sure either of us knows how to settle again and thankfully, through contacts made along the way, we don't have to. We leave Leros in April and have been offered a chance to run a small business in another country.

So this is not the end of Travellers Tales but the beginning of the next part.

Deborah

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WHAT ABOUT "WHAT ABOUT"?

Some of you may remember, in the days of Revd. Christine Musser, there used to be an informal social gathering [open to all souls] once a month in The Village Hall, in Gunpool Lane. People would come along with food & drink to share whilst they discussed a chosen topic. These topics were selected at random by consensus of the group and they covered all manner of subjects.

Many of us have really missed meeting up with a cross section of people from the local area to have a friendly, meaningful exchange of knowledge and opinions. A small group of us, with the help of Revd. Robert Thewsey, have decided to revive the custom. We propose to hold our first

"WHAT ABOUT" on MONDAY MARCH 12TH in THE VILLAGE HALL, GUNPOOL LANE, starting at 7pm for 7.30pm

We really hope that many of you can come along and join us. Everyone, without exception, will be most welcome. As an opener we have chosen, as a

topic, the query: **"MONEY IS THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL?"**

The event is totally free of charge but we do ask that each person attending brings a plate of savoury food [hot or cold] and/or a bottle of their chosen drink to share with the group. We construct a buffet with the gifts and then take a plate of supper and a drink to a ready laid table where we can chat to other diners as we eat. Later someone, [a different person each time] will open the discussion with a brief word on that evening's topic.

Then it's over to everyone else!

This includes the clearing away and the washing up! There will be no rota so it will be all hands on deck to get the job done quickly and pleasantly.

We aim to meet once a month during the winter months. We do hope this appeals to you and that you will come along. We look forward to sharing the evening with old and new friends. If you want to know more please feel free to ring Sally on 250225.

W.B.

Panto

On behalf of the Village Hall Committee may I please take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported the Boscastle Amateur Dramatics Society's wonderful performances of the "Wizard of Bos" at Christmas. The magnificent sum of £1531.00 was raised and thanks must also go to all the performers, back stage helpers, front of house helpers and everyone who gave so much time & effort in raising these funds.

We look forward to this year's performance with eager anticipation.

Pam Clarke, Treasurer

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

Tintagel Orpheus Male Voice Choir are pleased to be once again hosting and sharing a concert with the Bristol University Madrigal Ensemble in this their 30th Anniversary year.

The concert to be held in Tintagel Methodist Church on **SUNDAY 24TH JUNE AT 7.30PM** is not to be missed - make a note of the date now!

Big Red White & Blue Charity Street Party to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee.

On Monday 4th June at the **NAPOLEON INN**. Everyone is welcome. There will be a Children's Mad Hatter Tea Party with fantastic prizes for the best fancy dress costume. Plenty of traditional family fun & games throughout the day, tombola, raffle, table top sale etc. We will have Live Music throughout the day & into the evening & a delicious Hog Roast. Come in your best red, white & blue outfit. To book a table for the sale & to find out more info on the days happenings, please contact Julie Muffett or Beccy Dallow on 01840 250204, www.napoleoninn.co.uk or through facebook search *nap natterings*. All proceeds from the day will be split between The British Legion & Cornwall Air Ambulance.

BD

THANK YOU!

Eric Burnard would like to say a very big thank you to all his friends in Boscastle and Tintagel that were so thoughtful in sending him presents and cards at Christmas



County Councillor Glenton Brown writes:

Housing is very much on the agenda these days as to housing need availability, location, and the infrastructure to serve the new programme running up to 2030. The plans of building forty eight thousand new homes by that date somewhat concerns me and I doubt if any thing like that figure will be achieved in reality. Perhaps the most pressing issue regards housing is the affordability, and we hear of so many affordable homes for sale, to share own or to rent. I think the experience of most Councillors is the demand for affordable homes to rent but we seem unable to get this message across. There appears to be affordable homes for sale but do not sell and the figures presented to many

parish and town councils for need of affordable homes seem rather difficult to appreciate by the local councillors and population regards the figures claimed.

Still on the subject of housing the cabinet approved on the 27th January to set up a new company "Cornwall housing Ltd to operate in serving the people of Cornwall as a Council owned company, none profit making, and consisting a board of 6 tenants, 6 councillors and 6 independent people to be legally supported and properties to be maintained to a good standard. Cornwall housing as it will be known will also will be managing the ten thousand five hundred council homes, Cornwall home choice, and the choice base letting scheme, and providing for a homeless services and running the gypsy and travelling sites and private sector housing.

Moving on from houses to planning the threat of charges for advice seem to be coming on stream and there are suggested fees ranging from £350.00 plus VAT for advice on a major scheme of residential development of ten or more properties to possibly £100.00 plus VAT for a single dwelling or listed building consent or advice of a smaller nature.

The budget came through without to many surprises this year, and the good news that there will be no increase on Council Tax as far as the Cornwall Councils commitments are concerned, Police and Fire will possibly make a small increase per household. The budget has been set at four hundred and fifty one point seven million for the year 2012/13.

It is encouraging to note seven hundred thousand pounds will be funded for Cornish bursary to support young people into learning post sixteen for next two years, and additional seven million for adult care and support to address the pressures created by increasing numbers of older people and the cost of changes in

preventative and re-enablement services. There is also some provision made for the A30 Temple road improvements.

Local bus services seem to be secure for the next year if not a little further ahead with hardly any cuts in services. The proposed modest 50p concessionary fare has not yet been approved and is under Parliamentary scrutiny at the present time.

Finally I would like to end on an increasingly popular topic the 2012 Olympics and the Olympic Torch travelling through the parishes and towns including the City of Truro. This is of course once in a life time opportunity for many people to actually see the torch at some location in Cornwall. To celebrate this special celebration the Chairman of Cornwall Council is seeking to host a civic event at Truro Cathedral and all 123 members of Cornwall Council are asked to seek nominations. If there are more acceptances than anticipated, then names will be drawn from a hat.

If I can be of any help please contact me on 01840 770302 or gbrown@cornwall.gov.uk



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Have you got your own micro-wave, luv?

Ann Rodda contemplates the delights of a holiday abroad:

Call me naïve, innocent to the point of stupidity, but I had always fondly imagined that the SELF in 'Self-Catering' had more to do with positive, healthy independence, as in 'self-contained' or 'self-starter', rather than the completely negative and selfish self-interest described in 'self-centred' or 'self-satisfied'. A few days in a largely British occupied hotel in the Mediterranean has made me revise my childishly positive view of human nature.

At this point I feel I need to vent my spleen over the ruling that in an aircraft I have personal luggage allowance of twenty kilos. This allowance is EXACTLY the same as the allowance granted to the colossal mountain of flesh in the seat next to me, attempting, not entirely successfully, to contain its bulk within what one would consider to be a reasonably sized seat. The excess weight which the owner has been unable to control is now invading my own personal space like an alien army. I have no difficulty in accepting that someone weighs three times what I do: why shouldn't they? But when I do the sum of my weight plus my suitcase, namely a total of 80 kgs, and I total the likely weight of the mountain next to me and its case, namely 180kgs, something does not sit

happily with my ideas of fairness in terms of what is considered the standard fare. This is exactly the pattern of thought which is guaranteed to get one off on ones holiday in exactly the right positive frame of mind. So, I arrived at the hotel full of positive thoughts. No, I did, really.

Back to the self catering. Imagine the scene at the breakfast trough. People of many sizes and shapes are armed with a variety of bags, containers, pockets are engaged in an activity which in many circumstances would be described as shoplifting. How many of individual packs of butter, jam, marmalade, honey can one mountain consume? Obviously, quite a lot. It is at one of these daily encounters that I overheard the title, 'Have you got your own microwave, luv?' I then became aware of the extent of my own naïve innocence, and my pathetically simplistic assumption that in a hotel dining room one eats a satisfying meal, enough to see one through to the next troughing session back in that same dining room. I was, I now realise, completely unconscious of the existence of an advanced and widespread technique, extremely popular amongst a number of the guests of the establishment. This technique embraces a number of elements and skills. The first skill involves being able to consume unfeasibly large quantities

of all available foods while present in the dining room: three fried eggs, six or so slices of bacon, several sausages, fried potatoes, fried tomatoes, plus a few acres of toast.

Why not have some ham as well? It would be a pity to miss out. Bear in mind that there is a wide choice of cereal available to start with, as well as fruit juice, not to mention the fruit salad to follow. And where would one be without the many cups of tea, coffee, chocolate which are generously provided? This nutritious intake is important to set one up well for activating the second skill, which I mentioned earlier as being a close relative of shoplifting, namely removing from the dining room substantial quantities of consumables in the form of bread, croissants, crisp bread, butter, jam, honey, fruit, ham, cold meat all safely concealed within the bowels of the multiplicity of bags and containers hung about the person.

One can see why they might find their own microwave useful. I just hope I'm not lucky enough to be sitting next to them on the flight home.

But not every aspect of life in this hotel attracts

criticism. Just wait for the bonus experiences of the evening. I have to admit that we were merely spectators of the fine performances we were privileged to witness: we were not sufficiently courageous to participate and bring untold joy to others.

Each evening many varieties of dancing opportunities were there for the taking; ballroom, modern, quickstep, waltz, line dancing, jazz, you name it, it was there. And it was thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by all participants, by the looks of things. All we sarcastic ringside viewers were able to do was slurp our way through some carafes of the local brew and pat ourselves on the back for making smart Alec comments. As most of the residents in this hotel at this time would certainly be described as senior, it is a tribute to their stamina (and probably the diet they consumed in the dining room that morning) that they were able to hoof their way through the evening, continuing long after we weakling wine suppers had retired to our beds. We will start a programme for television called 'Strictly Come Drinking'.

AR

Answers to Crossword:
Across 1 snowdrop 7 thyme 10 win 11 amor 13 eta
14 awesome 16 ergot 18 neat 19 tip 21 ergot 23 dene
24 strâte 26 avenue 27 te 28 gnome 30 four 31 catmint
33 re 34 re 35 ria 36 erica 39 drain 42 ethnic 44 east 46 racy
47 nice 48 och 49 cler 50 clam 51 whydah
Down 1 sweepstake 2 nitrate 3 onager 4 raw 5 omen 6 pose
8 hoe 9 meringue 12 krala 14 atlantean 15 mp 17 oligarchy
19 tenor 20 peer 22 emir 23 deficiency 25 emir 29 Enid
32 tariff 37 reach 38 itchy 40 nail 41 stem 43 inch 45 scam
46 row

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Pete's Peeps at the Past



21 JULY 1865
FOR THE ATLANTIC
CABLE

The "Great Eastern" passed Falmouth about 15 miles off shore on her passage from London. The "Caroline" steamer with the shore end of the Atlantic cable, left this port for Valentia just as the big ship arrived in sight.

21 JULY 1865
E X P L O S I O N
AT TRAGOE
G U N P O W D E R
MILLS

The grinding mill of the Trago Powder Mills, in the parish of St. Veep, blew up. The mill contained 1 ton of powder, no one was in the mill, only 2 men, 80 yards away in the cooper's shop. The report was heard at Liskeard (5 miles away). The mill was worked by Herodsfoot Powder Co..

20 APR 1874
C O R N W A L L ' S
L A R G E S B A R Q U E

A fine barque was launched from the yard of Mr. H.S. Trethowan at Little Falmouth, Flushing. She is the

largest vessel ever built in Cornwall being of 638 tons, 168ft long and 18ft broad. She was named "Charlotte Padbury" by Miss Harris, niece of Capt. C.H. Harris who will command her. She is intended for W. Australian trade and will sail there on June 6th with passengers and general cargo. Her actual tonnage is about 900 tons and she is fitted with a poop 50ft long, eight state rooms for passengers, with two private cabins, bath rooms, offices etc.

17 MAY 1867

EXODUS

During the last 12 months, Cornish miners totalling 7,380 have left the county, 1,155 to America, 670 to Australia & New Zealand, 450 to California, and to Scotland & the N. of England coal & iron mines, 1,090. Many districts felt the loss mainly at Redruth & Camborne, Liskeard & Callington, Lelant & St. Just, and Gwennap, St. Austell, St. Agnes & Perran & others.



National Trust

The Battle of the Balsam

You know it's a sure fire sign of an obsession when you go away on holiday and compare a Himalayan Balsam problem with your own. For the keen eyed observers this plant has become an increasing problem in the Valency valley and in a previous blowhole article I alluded to the fact that it would be great if we could form an army to do battle with this invasive species, well that moment has arrived. On the weekend 19th & 20th May we will be joining forces with SINNG (Students Invasive Non-Native Group) from Newquay College for an intensive Balsam pull in the Valency. However we're aiming high this time, rather than the fire fighting measures we usually

and unsuccessfully try, we thought we'd tackle the problem all the way up the valley, from the harbour all the way up to the ford near Tresparrett. Optimistic, I know but the more of this plant we remove upstream the less there will be downstream in the coming years. What I really need to do is enlist the help of as many as you as possible, if you could give up even an hour or so out of your weekend schedule to pull some balsam that would be great. We won't be alone along with our regular conservation volunteers, the Green Team and SINNG students from Newquay College will be participating for the weekend bringing their youthful exuberance to table. All you need is a pair of wellies, suitable clothing and yourself. Believe me, there's

something strangely therapeutic about pulling balsam....

Jacobstow School

Jacobstow School ventured into the Valency on a chilly February morning to learn more about their curriculum topic 'Plants and us'. The name of the game was to exercise minds and bodies in the cold, so a mix and match trail was set out and with clip boards to hand the pupils looked at plants and trees and their various uses. It was then on to the top meadow where the sun was peeking over the hill and offered some of its warmth. We then looked more closely at trees and ran an exercise that tested pupils listening skills and memories. They were put into groups and designated a species of tree, each group then read out to the whole class 3 facts about that tree. I took the fact cards away from the pupils and read out a statement about a tree, the groups then ran to which tree they thought the statement was about. With a forthcoming shelter build event in mind

we then got the pupils to design and then build a shelter which they thought could be used by members of the public and student groups alike. Elements of all the shelters will be used, though I thought the shelter with a fire exit was particularly health and safety conscious. Finally it was off to the overflow car park for a quick round up and then on to the warmth of the bus.

Building Boxes for Birds and Bees.

You might have heard the dulcet tones of sawing wood and hammer on nails on Friday 17th if you were near the harbour. For once we weren't bodging something; we held an event for national bird box week. People came from as far as Torquay just to partake in the building of boxes for various birds and insects and the ranger team rarely stopped throughout the day making it a great success. Weary kids carried their nest boxes back to the car park and the Ranger team stopped for a well earned cuppa and to nurse sore thumbs and fingers all of which I'm pleased to report are still attached to the correct hands

continued on next page

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National Trust

Valency Shelter.

Finally you may have seen myself and our volunteer group bodging around in the Valency with some cleft Oak. We have started to build what will be for us an outdoor education shelter in the Valency and for members of the public to enjoy when the weather is good. Boscastle primary school will be coming down to help us finish the wall of the shelter and eventually we hope to install a couple of benches in there for all to use. In the meantime it will stick out like a sore thumb for a few months before the elements and nature, like a fine wine, mellow it with age.

Volunteers programme

Apr 3rd Path
Repair in the Tidna.
Meet at Crosstown Car Park, Nr Morwenstow. (SS208 152).

Apr 15th Path
Maintenance at the Strangles. Meet at Strangles car park. (Grid ref: SX135 952)

May 1st
Green wood working workshop in the Valency valley. Meet at Boscastle overflow car

park. (Grid ref: SX100 913)

May 13th Beach
Clean/Invasive seaweed pull/Rockpool Survey. Meet at Northcott mouth car park, Nr Bude. (Grid Ref: SS205 084).

Days start at 10am and finish 4pm (or earlier to suit). All tools and tuition provided. Please bring clothes that can get muddy, stout footwear and food and drink

If events change or are cancelled due to weather, we will endeavour to let everyone know. However feel free to get in touch to check beforehand!

Any questions: 01288 331372 or fred.hutt@nationaltrust.org.uk

Thursday 26th April
Farming for Wildlife Walk
Join the local Ranger team on a fascinating walk around Trust owned land in Boscastle. Discover more about the wildlife friendly farming that can benefit rare plants, bats and butterflies. Part of the Boscastle Walking Week. Booking essential. For more info contact: Jeff Cherrington, 01288 331372, jeff.cherrington@nationaltrust.org.uk

Boscastle Balsam Pull
Come along and help us to clear this invasive plant from the Valency Valley
Sat 19th & Sunday 20th May, 10am til 4pm

News from the Lookout

If truth were told there has been more action on the social scene of late than on the water or even the Coastal Path, although we did have some Canadian visitors who reported seeing a cow go over the cliffs towards Tintagel!

And we have passed the time with an increasing number of German visitors, including one pair who arrived at the Lookout complete with rods and enquired when the tide would be high enough for fishing!

Our Christmas get together was a great success at Trevigue Farm even if the route was a little disconcerting for people more familiar with the A30 and the M5.

However, a new local Coastwatch Christmas Tradition has developed over the last few years. Two of our regular watchkeepers have invited walkers in for a mincepie and something

cheering on Christmas Day afternoon for four out of the last five years,. Now it appears to be an essential post lunch activity for some people, although this year they were joined by visitors from Germany, Austria, Switzerland and New Zealand as well as Boscastle.

One couple have made the trek through their courtship, marriage and recent parenthood and introduced their daughter to family tradition this year.

Don't forget we are always happy to say "Hello" and give you or your guests an idea of the sea state if you call us on 07837610410. We'd be even more delighted if any of you considered joining as Watchkeepers. If you are interested in spending a few hours each month looking out for others, then call our Manager, John Davis on 07791761502.



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VERA BRIGHT

23 Nov 1932 to 9 Jan 2012



First the chapel at Glynn Valley Crematorium, Bodmin, and then the bars at The Cobweb Inn, Boscastle, were overflowing with people who came to pay their respects to Vera Bright, who died, aged 79, after a long illness. A tribute was given by her stepson, Vernon Bright, a poem, written by her daughter, Jane Burnard, was read by Martin Pethick. Two of Vera's favourite songs, Bunch of Thyme and The White Rose were sung by the Boscastle Buoy and Take Note.

Ivor Bright decided that instead of a funeral there would be a celebration of her life, starting at the crematorium and continuing at The Cobweb, "the place where she was happiest", and friends and family gathered to remember the former landlady of the Cobweb (plus a stint at the Napoleon) and to celebrate her life with music, memories and some mirth.

Vera Edith was born on November 23rd 1932, in Edmonton, Middlesex, one of ten

children, with three brothers and six sisters.

Vera married the late Geoff Warwick and they had four children: Ellen, Greg, Keith and Jane.

In 1971 she moved to Cornwall. Here she met and married Ivor Bright and adopted his children, Vernon, Gillian and Adrian.

Vera loved all of her family and always talked about her fifteen grandchildren: Sean, James, George, Amy, Henry, Ian, Graham, Kat, Lucy, Mathew, Jordan, Danielle, Charlotte, Lily and Katy.

In his tribute, Vernon spoke of how Vera had helped to build up the business at the Cobweb, which Ivor had taken over in 1969. Vera also introduced Ivor to the delights of foreign travel and together they took many trips abroad, travelling to places such as America, Denmark and Switzerland; and of course, their beloved apartment in Calpi.

Vera was a positive thinker, ambitious and, together with Ivor, did a lot of work for charity.

She was always willing to help anyone and take them under her wing. With a sympathetic ear, she was a good listener

and could always find the right words to put your mind at rest and guide you forward. "If I were to single out one of Vera's attributes, it would be this that carries my greatest respect. I will miss that Vera" said Vernon.

Vera spent most of her life in the catering trade and built a reputation far and wide for good food at The Cobweb. She made sure the youth of Boscastle were fed when their minds were on other things. As Robin Haddy said, "She was a mother to us all".

Memories of Vera evoke a lady with a big heart, compassion, understanding and a real zest for good fun, laughter and sharing those good times with others. With a great love of singing, she could sing any tune - often in a spontaneous outburst, and she sang with the Allen Valley Singers.

There will be sadness and tears, but through the tears remember the good times, focus on the image and smile for Vera.

Ivor would like to thank all friends and family for their support and for donations to the Parkinson's Society which amounted to £943.80.

Doctor and Mrs Weir move to Leicestershire

Dr Duncan Weir joined the late Dr William Young in the Tintagel & Boscastle practice in 1969. He had previously been in practice in Somerset and replaced Dr Kevin Watson who had moved abroad to work. He, his wife Joan and their young son Donald moved into 'Twillick' on the New Road. This was not only their family home, but also contained the surgery, dispensary and waiting room.

In hindsight it seems amazing that so much was done for so many years from such a small facility. The available space amounted to about one twentieth of the existing surgery and the staff comprised one secretary and a part-time dispenser. Dr Weir remained in full time practice right through to his retirement in 1986. To deal with the increasing workload Dr Jarvis joined the practice as a third partner in 1979 and when Dr Young retired in 1983 Dr Garrod was his replacement.

There was no European Working Time Directive to limit the hours he or other General Practitioners worked then. The

workload was, by modern standards, arduous in the extreme.

For the first ten years in the practice Dr Weir not only did his routine surgeries but also worked alternate nights and weekends, and when Dr Young was away he would be on call for the practice 24 hours a day 7 days a week. There was no Kernowdoc or SERCO out-of-hours service to deal with emergencies and mobile phones had yet to be thought of.

If Dr Weir was out on a call, there was only one answerphone system - and she was called Joan. She would, like all GPs wives at that time, be expected to stay at home whenever he was on duty and take all messages. If really urgent attention was needed she would attempt to contact him via a call to one of many helpful patients situated on the roads he was likely to be travelling on. The conversations went something along the lines of "If you see Dr Weir passing - could you please stop him and get him to call home".

We had both trained at the same Medical School, St Bartholomew's Hospital

in London, albeit many years apart, and had been taught by some of the same consultants. Like many other ex-service men Duncan had commenced his medical studies postwar. I remember having a conversation about our formative influences and how and why we had entered the medical profession. He told me that both he and Joan had been in the Royal Navy during WW2. Joan had been a WREN and he had served as a naval officer on Atlantic convoys. I suspect that his unfailingly calm exterior was derived from surviving these dangerous events and resulted in a desire to alleviate suffering.

Duncan and Joan didn't move away after

his retirement from the practice but continued to live quietly in Boscastle. Eventually they decided that they would be better served living close to their son Donald and his family in Leicestershire. With Donald they supervised the building of a house there and they moved into it in early February.

Very many Blowhole readers and their families will have reason to remember with gratitude Duncan's medical care over many years. I can affirm from personal observation that it was always considered, gentle and highly competent.

I am sure we will all wish Duncan and Joan happiness and fulfilment in their new home.

CJ

The Bottreaux Restaurant

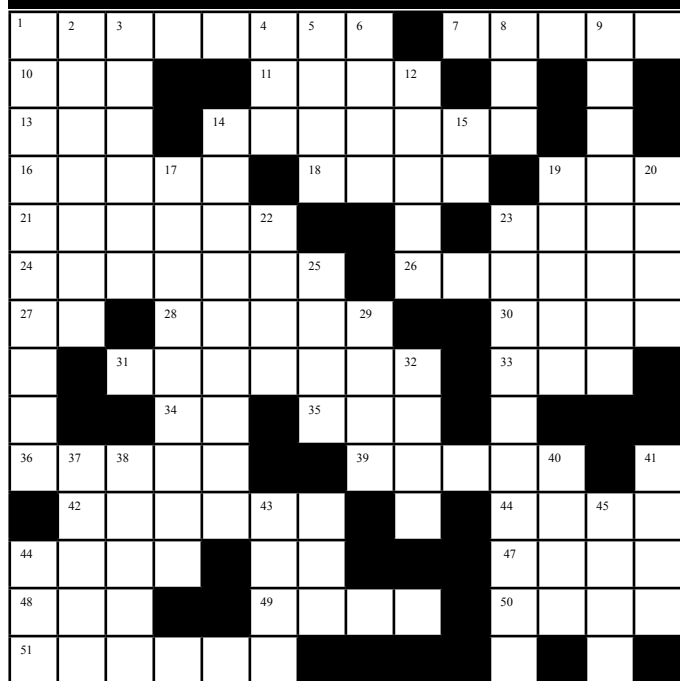
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Moira Hart's Fiendish Crossword



Across

- 1 springflower
- 7 herb
- 10 be victorious
- 11 out of control
- 13 Greek letter
- 14 impressive
- 16 disease of cereals
- 18 type of tide
- 21 Spanish dish
- 23 narrow, wooded valley
- 24 stripe
- 26 retaliate
- 27 7th note of a scale
- 28 legendary creature
- 30 number
- 31 plant
- 33 anger
- 34 regarding
- 35 long narrow inlet
- 36 heather
- 39 deplete
- 42 characteristic of another culture
- 44 cardinal point
- 46 risqué
- 47 French city
- 48 Scottish exclamation
- 49 musical symbol
- 50 edible mollusc
- 51 African weaverbird

Down

- 1 betting system
- 2 salt ester
- 3 wild ass
- 4 uncooked
- 5 portent
- 6 assume an attitude
- 8 garden implement
- 9 beaten egg white & sugar
- 12 Australian marsupial
- 14 extremely strong
- 15 parliamentarian
- 17 government by small groups
- 19 male voice
- 20 nobleman
- 22 minute particle
- 23 lack
- 29 woman's name
- 32 tax
- 37 arrive at
- 38 irritating
- 40 clan
- 41 stop the flow
- 43 unit of length
- 45 a surprise
- 46 quarrel
- 44 hat

answers on page 34

Ruth and Alan Watson welcome you to:

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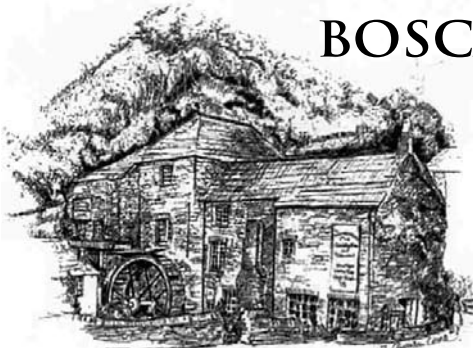
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Dog Fouling

For a number of years Boscastle has been relatively free of dog mess. Our regular dog walkers set a fine example cleaning up immediately after their pets. However in recent months others are leaving our roads and footpaths in a most unpleasant state. Not only is dog mess unpleasant but it is also dangerous. The faeces can contain the roundworm *Toxocara Canis*.

Cornwall Council has introduced a Dog Fouling Order that covers all of Cornwall to ensure all areas of Cornwall have the same levels of enforcement for dog fouling. This order has changed some of the areas that you are required to clean up after your dog.

You are now required to clean up after your dog has fouled (and properly dispose of it) when your dog fouls in any area which the public are entitled to have access to.

Failing to clean up after your dog has fouled will result in a fixed penalty being issued - which is for £80 (reduced to £50 if paid within 10 days) or prosecution where if found guilty you would face a maximum fine of £1000.

Whilst there are only have a limited number of Dog Welfare and Enforcement Officers in Cornwall, there are a number of other officers who are able to issue fixed penalties (many of which are not uniformed officers) as well as most PCSO's - this means that there is a

relatively high chance that you will be caught should you not clear up after your dog has fouled.

It is not an excuse in law that you were not aware of the fact that the dog had fouled - so you can be held responsible even if you did not see the incident, or if it is witnessed whilst the dog is straying.

If you would like to report dog fouling - Cornwall Council will investigate all complaints that are received - although the level of service that they can provide will obviously vary depending upon the quality of information that is provided. For example they would be in a better position to take action should you be able to provide a full description of what happened (including date, time, location, what you witnessed, description of the dog/owner and as much information as possible about the incident - also any information regarding the offender - which could include name/address (if known), vehicle registration number or any other identifying feature. You may be asked to provide a witness statement - although you will be provided with information and help with that, and if the fixed penalty is not paid it is likely that you would be asked to attend court.

It is only with people getting involved and reporting problems in their neighbourhood that the county will be able to solve more problems and take more enforcement action on issues such as dog fouling.

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The Rebel Cinema

When Barry Willis first entered the projection room of the Massive Gaumont Cinema in Worcester in 1959, he never imagined he would be hooked for life. He has worked as a projectionist and been associated with cinemas ever since, owning his first cinema, The Majestic in Bridgnorth, in 1977.

Scroll forward to the present and salute Barry Willis and his family who commute from Brixham in Devon to the Rebel on the doorstep of Boscastle to give us entertainment on the silver screen seven days a week – 2 showings a day, with 4 per day in the school holidays.

The cinema, owned by Barry since 2000, closed in 2007 and reopened again on 12th August 2011. With help from David Williams of WTW who sold them the seating and some of the projection equipment from the Cinedrome in Padstow (which had closed in October two years before), the Rebel is now the state of the art in cinema luxury.

Refurbished with help from his home team, and support from his friends, staff and patrons, Barry installed the 112 seats, insulation, and air-conditioning himself, taking eighteen months to complete. It has an amazing 30 ft screen, SRD DTS sound plus the basic analogue system.

The projection room is a revelation, with its reels of celluloid coiling around the room. A digital projector – with its budget of around fifty thousand pounds – is not on the cards yet. If all goes well, planning is afoot to install a second screen that would permit flexibility for showing more than (the permitted) one film and would enable film society screenings.

Call on Monday evening, or look up on the website for information for screenings for the following Friday. 01288 361442. You can even book on line (www.rebelcinema.co.uk). It's a great night out, and an all round quality experience. Long may it continue...

*That's all folks...
Annabel Yates*



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2 to 5 p.m.

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Safari: £3 per person
Cream Tea: £3 per person



Police Station Moves



Camelford Police Station has moved to new premises on the site of Sir James Smith's School in Dark Lane. Some current staff and some who have worked at the station over the years are pictured above, at the former police station, shortly before the move took place. From left: Special Constable Lynn Crockford, DC Jane Stephens, Julian Mutton, Vicki Parkinson, PCSO Terry Groves, PC Andrew Corrie, PC Colin Gameson, PC Peter Bluett and PC Laurie O'Toole and PCSO Sam Smith.

News of the move came last year after the announcement that Devon and Cornwall Police were faced with having to make savings of £44 million over the next four years as part of the government's Comprehensive Spending

copyright photo courtesy David Flower
Review. The annual running costs for Camelford Police Station was £11,000 whereas it is anticipated the new office will cost £4,000 a year. In addition the force will recoup the revenue from the sale of the police station building and land to the rear.

The new office will not be open to members of the public but the force has assured residents that current staffing levels and the service to the public will be maintained.

Superintendent Julie Whitmarsh said when she announced the news: "I would like to stress that this isn't the case of the police reducing our service to the people of Camelford, but it is purely a logistical move. Our neighbourhood and response teams will be available just as before".



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Saturday 9am-5pm

Sunday 9am-1pm

Boscastle Newsagent

Tel: 01840 250419

Cash machine during business hours

Open daily at 6.00 am

Post Office at Cornish Stores

Phone for opening hours

Tel: 01840 250344

NatWest Bank

The Mobile NatWest bank calls at the harbour carpark on Fridays from 1pm until 1.30pm.

Mobile Library

Tel: 0300 1234111

Calls on alternate Thursdays

Barn Park, Tintagel Road: 11.50 – 12.15

Camelford Library

Town Hall, Market Place

Tel: 01840 212409

Tuesday: 09.30 - 18.30

Thursday: 09.30 - 17.00

Friday: 09.30 - 13.30

Saturday: 10.00 - 13.00

Waste Tip, Bowithick Quarry

Sanding Road, Tintagel

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Open Friday to Monday

April – Sept 9am – 6pm

Oct – March 9am – 4pm

Emergency Services:

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

Police Station: For non-urgent issues: eg to report a crime or criminal damage, to request police advice or attendance, to enquire about lost property, to be connected to a police station, service or department: 101

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

NHS Direct (24 hour helpline): 0845 4647

Hospitals:

Bodmin - East Cornwall 01208 251555

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

Launceston General 01566 765650

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

Stratton 01288 287700

Minor Injuries Unit open 24hrs, seven days a week

Truro -Treliske 01872 250000

Plymouth - Derriford 08451 558155

Dental Helpline: 0845 5000 230

NHS Emergency Dental Appt: 01872 354 385

Boscastle Visitor Centre: 01840 250010

Local Churches:

Church of England 01840 250359

Methodist 01840 214818

Catholic 01840 770663

Harbourmaster: 01840 250200

Parish Council:

website: www.boscastlecornwall.org.uk

Chairman: 01840 250414

Clerk: 01840 210017

email clerk: forminpc@lowermeadows.co.uk

Village Hall Bookings: 01840 211343

Community Centre Bookings: 01840 250442

Cornwall Council: 0300 1234 100

Camelford One Stop Shop: 01840 214200

Environment Agency: 0800 807 060

South West Water: 0800 169 1144

Highways: 0300 1234222

RSPCA: 0300 1234 999

Western Power emergencies: 0800 365 900