

VOLUME TWO
WINTER
1994



30p

BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE

C.A.L.L. to Boscastle

Community Service offered to village

A comprehensive information service, designed specifically to make up-to-date information accessible in rural areas, may soon be available in Boscastle.

The Cornwall Advice Line Link (C.A.L.L.) will provide information about doctors, support groups, halls for hire, sports centres, dentists, statutory and volunteer agencies, councils and councillors, post offices, schools, playgroups, tourist information, transport schemes - and much, much more.

At a recent Parish Council meeting Mrs Susan Pearce, the project manager, outlined the scheme - which is sponsored by the Rural Development Commission, the Department of National Heritage and other public and charitable bodies. Councillors learnt that computerised data bases are to be sited initially in 21 rural sites, spread across the six District authorities in Cornwall. Boscastle has been pin-pointed as one of these. Councillor Kevin Sellars was authorised to liaise with C.A.L.L. staff to consider the feasibility of the plan.

Details of the scheme are still being considered, but the likelihood is that the service will be installed in the Visitor Centre as early as mid-January. Residents will be able to avail themselves of 17,000 items of information, which are updated each month.

C.A.L.L. is now looking for volunteers who would be interested in acting as intermediaries between potential users and the computer. If you are a 'carer' involved with those who may need the service, you can help. If you are a person who would like to gain new skills, you can help. (No experience of computers is necessary.) If you do have experience with computers, you too could help. If you would like to know more about the service or to offer help, call C.A.L.L. on 0872558.

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to you all from the Blowhole Team.

We would like to thank all our advertisers for their support and all our contributors for their continuing interest in Boscastle's own community newspaper. We hope we have provided something for all our readers, and wish you all - and the Blowhole - every success for 1995.

Editorial Panel

Philippa Arthan, Yvonne Ayling, Sue Bowen, Joan Cork,
Anne Hillerman, Janet Lathom, Mac Reynolds, Guy Taylor, Ruth Turner (Advertising)

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(The editorial panel reserves the right to accept or reject any material submitted for publication. The views expressed within the paper are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Blowhole team)

Copies of the BLOWHOLE are available by post at a cost of 75p per issue.
Contact Philippa Arthan (0840) 250483

The LEATHER SHOP

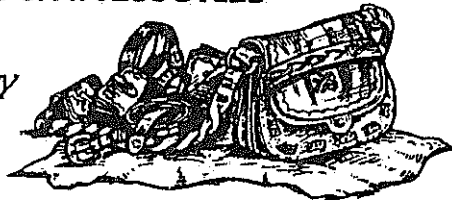
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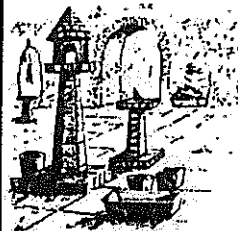
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PARADISE PROLONGED

The long-running saga of Vista Properties' attempts to get permission to build on the totally unsuitable and sensitive site in Paradise Road opposite Paradise House continues. The last issue of the Blowhole reported that consideration by the N.C.D.C. of an application for five suburban-style houses on the site had been delayed by local protests about the accuracy and nature of the plans.

Since then, Vista withdrew their application and submitted a new one for a development of four houses (one fewer than the previous application) with some of the gross errors corrected. The placing of the houses is some improvement on earlier proposals, but as before almost all the trees on the property would be felled and the properties to the north still badly overlooked.

Numerous new protests were submitted and the NCDC Planning Committee met on the 14th November. At the meeting there was a dramatic moment when it was announced that Vista Properties, expecting a refusal of the application by the Committee, had lodged an appeal to the Department of the Environment against a decision which had not even then been taken! The committee then swiftly turned the application down.

So now the matter depends once more upon the Inspectorate of the DOE, and yet again further protests from the Parish Council and Boscastle residents are called for. What is at issue is the potential destruction of what the NCDC officials agree is an important 'green haven' simply because of a bad decision years ago - also admitted publicly by the NCDC staff - to allow outline planning permission.

MT

FORRABURY & MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

To the Editor
Dear Editor,

At the last Council meeting a request from the National Trust was read to the Councillors asking if the Council would support the Trust in stopping litter blowing into the river in the Harbour Area, by asking all residents of this area to secure rubbish awaiting collection.

The Council have instructed me to write to the Blowhole newspaper and ask if you would insert in the next edition a request to readers to ensure that rubbish is made secure before collection, thereby making the 1995 season more attractive to tourists in this area and lessening complaints received by the Trust and the Council about an untidy and neglected Harbour Area of Boscastle.

Yours sincerely,

R. Hart, Clerk

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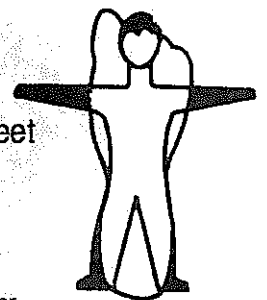
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Parish Council

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

During recent meetings, Forrabury and Minster Parish Council has considered several matters related to Boscastle's physical environment.

Flood Alleviation Scheme. A letter from the National Rivers Authority requested information with regard to areas liable to flooding. The Council instructed the Clerk to write giving all known information about 'historical flooding areas' in Boscastle. This information will be used as part of the NRA Flood Alleviation Scheme.

Diversion of Harbourside Footpath. The Council considered details of the planned diversion of Footpath No.8 situated on the northern side of the harbour. No objection was raised.

Tree Warden. Councillor G. Findlay, a new member of the Council, agreed to accept the position of 'Tree Warden'. *

Sycamore and Ash Trees. A letter from two residents drew the attention of councillors to the problems associated with large and numerous sycamore and ash trees. It was felt that the numbers of these trees and the size of specific trees, should be reduced, particularly when they afforded a nuisance to neighbouring properties. The newly-appointed Tree Warden was requested to liaise with the County Council and Mr. C. David of the Heritage Trust, in an attempt to find a practical solution to this problem.

Obscured Lighting. Mr. A. Olde reported that street lights in Old Road were obscured by trees. The Clerk was instructed to report to the Lighting Division of the Highways department, drawing attention also to lights near May Cottage and Mount Pleasant which remained on for 24hrs. each day.

Street Cleaning. The Council expressed dissatisfaction at the state of village roads which tended to be littered with leaves and other debris. The Clerk was instructed to obtain details of regulations regarding either employment of a cleaner or putting out tenders for street cleaning. This matter will be considered at a later meeting.

Hedge Trimming. It was reported that some hedges in Boscastle are still not being trimmed. Councillors reported several properties to the Clerk who will advise owners of regulations in force.

Valency field. The Chairman and Clerk met with the National Trust Warden and the contractor to discuss maintenance of the field. Next year's grass cutting tender was deemed adequate. The National Trust undertook to do other work on hedges, river banks and boundaries. A farmer who clears top fields agreed to cut the field this Autumn at half normal cost.

Cornish Buildings Award Scheme. The Council proposed that the Visitor Centre be put forward for recognition from the Cornish Buildings 1994 Award Scheme.

Action Requested, Help Given. Mrs. J. Swanso waited months for a replacement light on the road outside her home, Treforda Water. Once again the Clerk forwarded her complaint and was assured that the lighting was 'imminent'.

Mrs. A. Stewart reported flooding opposite the culvert in Gunpool Lane. The Clerk reported this to the Highways Department and action was taken.

Mr. R. Lloyd reported the neglected state of the grass triangle section at the junction of New Rd. and Forrabury Hill. After his third report, passed on to 'Highways' the area was cleared.

Plans Opposed. The Council voted against revised plans to erect Wind Turbines on the Worthyval Manor/Waterpit Down Site, and also against amended plans for development in Paradise Road.

Other Matters:

Parking Problems. The Council considered two letters concerning the parking of delivery vehicles outside the Spar Shop. One letter was from Mr. I. McKee of Pillar House, complaining of noise, damage to neighbouring properties, danger to children and animals and his own parking problem. The second letter was from Mr. & Mrs. Sullivan, the owners of the Spar Shop, requesting help from the Council in solving this problem and suggesting a solution, which they believed would lessen obstruction in this area. After lengthy discussion the Council instructed the Clerk to write to the Highway Dept. requesting that a sign be erected at the top of the slip road stating 'No Entry except for access to Goods Vehicles'. This should encourage drivers to back down the slip road off New Road to park and deliver, and not to drive down Fore St./Dunn St. in order not to break the law.

Grants. The Council approved grants to the Samaritans (£10), the Senior Citizens' Christmas Party (£20) and the Village Hall Restoration Fund (£1,000).

Car Park Advertising. The Council received notice that the licence fee for the noticeboard sited in the Cobweb Car Park would be increased by 50% to £1,500 a year.

Council Meetings. In future, 'plans to be discussed will be considered during the early part of the meetings, to enable members of the public with an interest in specific plans to leave the meeting early if they wish to do so. The Council is also to consider holding future meetings in the Village Hall.

* For more about the role of tree wardens, see p.13

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

from Boscastle School



Christmas Gifts

I would like to give you,
A box of suns,
A tree with fingers on, and wings,
A map of children,
A train made of stars or of air,
A journey to the Planet of Eyes,
A model of the time before the planet goes.

By Rebecca Taylor, Peter Burnard, Vonnice Hampshire and Rebecca Smyth.

Boxes

I would like to give a box of sparkling fireflies
to light up your room at night,
A box of music
that would play on and on and on,
A box full of special clouds
surrounded in sunlight,
A box with a collection of words
that would only make sense to you,
Or maybe you would prefer a box
of tiny crumbled flowers
shading a flicker of light trapped for all eternity.

Trees and Maps

I would like to give you a glowing tree,
spreading over the entire world,
A tree from the middle of paradise
with happiness growing high on its branches,
Or maybe you would prefer a tree
that carries the sense of fear,
Which suddenly pushes back its iron bars
and escapes with springy footsteps.
I would like to give you a map of blackness
to guide you through space,
A map of every star
so that you could wish upon them each night,
A map of nowhere in sight,
a mystery to unravel,
Or maybe you would prefer a map of the future,
one that would show you the way to the end
of time.

Trains and Journeys

I would like to give you a train with directions
but not driver or guard,
A train that could leave its rails and fly like a bird,
A train made of soft glass to glisten in the mid-day sun,
Or maybe you would prefer a special train to ride
on to the end of your life.
I would like to give you a journey through someone's mind,
A journey to my heart,
Or would you prefer a one way ticket on a journey
to a place where no man has ever gone.

Models and Flowers

I would like to give you a model of thoughts from
all over the world,
A model of a light open sky just before it melts
away into darkness,
A model of the smallest grain of corn from a
forbidden island,
Or maybe you would prefer a model of everything
that has passed.
I would like to give you a flower with scent that
would spread across the world,
A flower of both beauty and ugliness, but with
truth on every petal,
A flower of sadness to keep you from being foolish,
Or would you prefer the flower of life which only
grows on one day each century?

Ladders and Guns

I would like to give you a ladder,
which you could climb to find the future,
If I could, I would give you Jacob's Ladder,
to walk up and find heaven,
I would like to give you a gun to shoot hope and
kindness around the world,
A gun to kill all evil,
If I could, I would fill the world with guns
that were unable to kill anyone.

Spades

I would like to give you a spade to dig for
happiness,
A spade from the loneliest garden shed,
A spade made from the wind to dig for the first
sunlight in the morning,
If I could, I would like to give you the spade that
dug the soil to make the Earth.

A Risk

I would like to offer you a risk as a gift,
Would you risk your love, give it away to
someone,
Or would you dare to jump into the future?

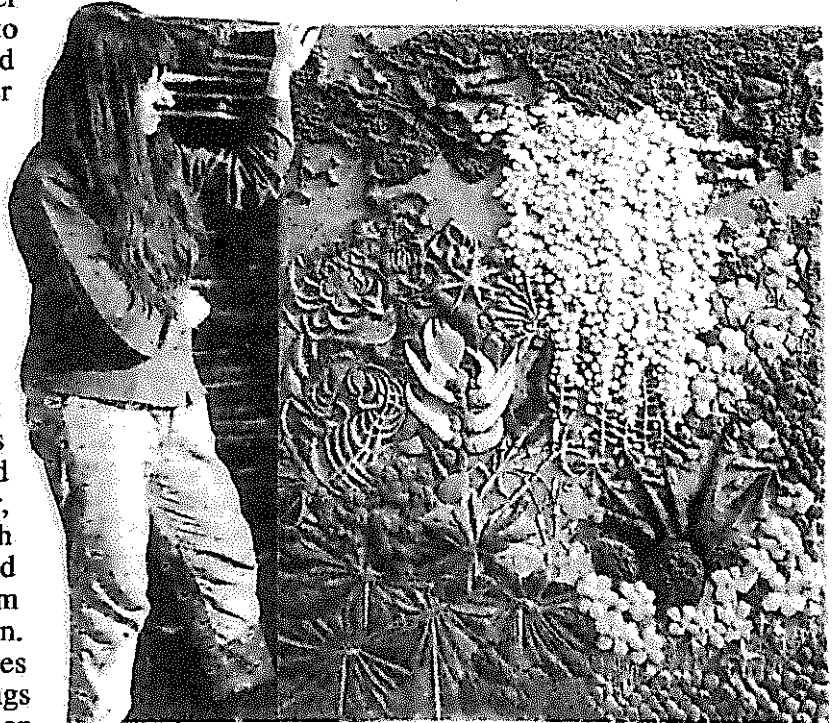
By Charlotte Bunney, Kate Snell, Serena Partrick,
Paul Lathom, Andrea Walmisley, Karthryn Kehoe
and Matilda James.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

One of Boscastle's outstanding artists, Sue Miller, of the Old Coach House, has once again had her talents recognised; one of her sand paintings has been on exhibition in the Plymouth Museum.

From March to November, Sue Miller puts on her waitress's hat and gets down to the business of feeding, looking after and helping her guests who come from all over the world to enjoy their holidays.

On her afternoons off, she may well be found amid the smell of frangipani, and in a very cluttered studio full of many different items ranging from plaster moulds, for her large bowls, broken windscreens covered in colourful resin or egg boxes piled up ready to be turned into a sand painting of desert architecture. She also has objects scattered around which she collected a long time ago, like a large anchor, coloured wire machinery from British Telecom, driftwood and brass taps bought from the local auction. These are sculptures waiting in the wings to be created when the idea comes to her.



From November to March, when the guests have gone, there is more time for Sue to concentrate on her art and try to get her work exhibited. Apart from being in the Plymouth Museum, she has some of her bowls on show in a gallery in Fowey and has ideas of how to expand her market.

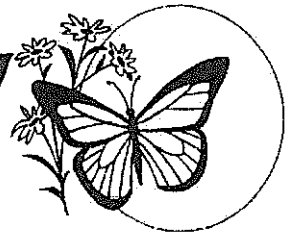
Next year she hopes to go to the Gambia on an artists' exchange holiday. Sue's work has been influenced by Africa, where she worked for two and a half years in Ghana in the 70s. She was making visual aids and using puppet shows, flannelgraphs and photographs, to teach about nutrition and health around the villages. She has illustrated several books on the subject and made sheets of colourful figures on flannel, to be cut out and used in various stories. She is hoping that many new ideas will be born from this trip.

Sue likes to use many different materials to get her ideas across. For instance, resin, metal, found objects, clay, paint, sand, plaster and photography. Although her success as an artist has been gradual, considering she exhibited metal sculptures in the Royal Academy Summer Exhibitions in the 70s, she still has a great enthusiasm for her art and a hope for the future.

Each year, out of season, Sue is one of the organisers of a Life drawing group. Artists meet in the Wellington Hotel restaurant on Sundays from 11.30 to 2.30pm. There is no teacher on this day. If you are interested, please ring Sue on 250398.



madam Butterfly



WHAT A LOT OF LOTTERY

Over the past few weeks the 'hype' has been continuous; the sparkling, beaming ads on T.V., pages in our newspapers and even our own first draw card, dearly tucked into the instructions delivered to our homes.

We at work decided on a syndicate (thanks Jackie - look, I can spell it now). All ten of us at a £1 each - must give us a better chance? All our numbers were chosen with skill that most definitely comes from well-hardened gamblers. You know the sort of thing; nan's birthday, the day the cat had kittens, your age (if you are young!), the date your husband or wife walked out - nice simple things, but very, very skilled. I used my abbreviated football numbers (family birthdays) and very generously gave No. 14 to a co-punter as it was over - let it be known we are a very caring, sharing syndicate.

We have a neat plastic box for the documents and so far our 'financial director' had made the first hazardous journey to Valley Truckle, alone, without an armed guard, most assuredly not overwhelmed by the amount of cash being carried, or the responsibility that has fallen on her shoulders. I will not reveal her name to maintain total security. She is taking all this in her stride and we are delighted that she is just carrying on as normal. WHAT A GIRL!!!

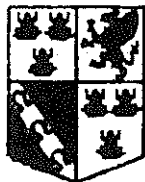
There has obviously been the consideration of 'what we would do with the winnings' should/if/and when we 'roll the big one' (or whatever the correct expression is). I think I can report that it wouldn't change our lives! WHO'S KIDDING WHO?

A few bank managers would be delighted, all of us would have a special one-off Christmas and then have much pleasure deciding on our own priorities for the future.

It's quite amazing how the imagination gets on the band wagon. All this brain exercise for £1 outlay each - it's astonishing. We are, if the truth is known, far more alert and eager than our norm, so don't worry, Victor and Solange.

Lottery day was slightly marred by the surprise (flash) flood exercise carried out in A FLAT. This flood, without the aid of sea, river or weather, just a Bendix washing machine, did not affect our anticipation of the draw, NUMERO UNO. At times, it looked like a job for the inshore lifeboat but we battled on without Daniel, his overalls and boots! Didn't have to call Mac, as it was more water, less cliffs. In spite of our aching limbs and being blown dry by what can be described as the biggest heater in the world, we all rallied for the first LOTTERY DRAW.

Oh yes - WE DID WIN - just a tenner. (But that was a warm up). It pays for next week. Yes we are all still at work - we said it wouldn't change our lives.



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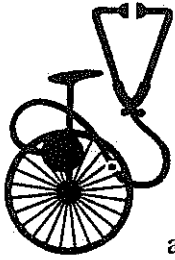
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You may remember that I wrote about alcohol in the Autumn edition of the 'Blowhole' and said that I would return to the subject again. As promised, I'm back with general advice on just what levels of alcohol intake are considered safe. It is clearly impossible to be absolutely 100% correct as to what levels of intake are safe for any specific individual and there has also been some controversy over the last year as to what constitute safe levels for men and for women. There is one school of thought which states that the current recommended guidelines are set far too low. It won't surprise you to discover that there is another which feels they are set too high - heads they win, tails you lose!

Just about every system for assessing alcohol intake works in terms of units of alcohol, so perhaps the first thing I should do is to clarify what constitutes a unit. In general terms, this means that each volume contains roughly the same amount of alcohol so one unit equals half a pint of ordinary beer, lager or cider or a single measure of spirits. Don't forget that when I say a single measure, I mean the measure as delivered by the optic in the pub, and not the generous measure poured for yourself at home. Also containing one unit is a standard glass of wine - again, a caveat here about huge glasses at home. One unit also equals a small glass of sherry - not a schooner - or a small measure of Vermouth or aperitif. It will be obvious that if you start creating exotic cocktails with even more ornate names of the American variety, you are producing drinks of considerably more than one unit's alcohol content. It's also worth remembering that some of the more potent lagers of the special brew type contain up to three times the amount of alcohol in the lower strength lagers. A fact that is best verified by the trail of havoc wrought by a minority of football supporters.

Down to the nitty gritty. For men, it is generally accepted that 21 units per week, spread through the week with 2-3 days free of all alcohol will be safe. In the same way, up to 14 units per week, again, spread through the week with 2-3 days free of all alcohol is generally safe for women. There will be those individuals who will be unable to break down alcohol at these levels. Having said that these are the 'safe' upper limits it is not unreasonable to ask - just what is too much? For men this is 36 units or more in a week and for women, 22 units or more in a week. I'm not saying that everyone who drinks in excess of these safe units of alcohol will inevitably develop either mental or physical problems as a result of

this intake, we're talking statistics here. What I am saying is that a significant percentage of people are liable to develop problems eventually.

There are certain times when it is advised that women do not drink alcohol and certainly during pregnancy or when planning pregnancy, it is recommended that you avoid heavy or frequent alcohol intake and the same advice applies during breast feeding. If you want to know a little more about alcohol and its effects than I've had space to lay down in these two brief articles, might I suggest that you ask for a copy of the booklet 'That's the Limit' which is available at our surgeries. This is produced by the Health Education Authority and gives a very good overview of the safe and sensible use of alcohol. If you are one of those unfortunates who have actually got into problems with their consumption of alcohol, it also contains the addresses of groups such as AA and for the family of those with the problem, Al Anon. CAN



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The Village Hall



THE HARBOURSIDE FAIR - More than £450 raised for the hall.

IMPROVED AND IMPROVING

Work goes on apace - the new ceiling is up and looking good and the vital electrical work has been installed, making the hall much warmer and brighter. Peter Fanshawe has worked hard on organising our funding and planning, with our patient Architect, Roy Sale. It is quite a complicated business to juggle the money as it comes in, with the practicalities of the Development Plan, in order to disrupt the use of the Hall as little as possible.

Negotiations with the N.C.D.C. have resulted in an Accommodation Account which ensures our funds will not be unnecessarily depleted by having to pay V.A.T.

The Parish Council has greatly helped by promising a grant of £1000 for the next financial year, having given us £1900 this year. Applications to the County Council and the Rural Development

Council are in hand, and the N.C.D.C. has again agreed to grant us £3,500 next year.

With the co-operation of Boscastle School we are in process of acquiring modular staging which can be used in a variety of ways. Aa very important asset indeed, and we would like to thank Neil Young for his help in this.

Our Notice Board will soon be erected on the corner of Gunpool Lane and Old Road to keep everyone posted as to progress, and to advertise events taking place in the hall.

MOST IMPORTANT! WE WISH TO THANK EVERY ONE OF YOU who has so generously given donations, your valuable time, and practical help with cleaning and maintenance - we hope you all kindly continue to do so, as it is our intention to get the hall internal paint work completed in time to enjoy our Christmas-tide events in a brighter environment.

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BOSCASTLE'S MANOR HOUSE and its owners

Your correspondent from New Zealand, Allan L. Gable, writing in the Summer (vol. two) issue of The Blowhole, misleads your readers in his third paragraph discussing the boundary between Forrabury and Minster. The main error he makes is in his reference to "the Olde Manor on Paradise Road". There has never been a manor house there. I suspect that he was misled when reading the map attached to the Abstract of Title of the 1947 Sale held for the Executors of George Bellamy. The small scale and lack of precision of that estate map disguised much of the detail on it, as the agents possibly intended. Our family arrived to live in Boscastle, at Paradise, which we purchased in February 1953. That is our main qualification for offering this contribution to the Blowhole.

The property which my wife and I bought had long been known as "The Rookery", but the rooks had left it, so a new name was needed. When the house was built in 1820 its first owners had named it Paradise, so we reverted to that name.

The last Lord Bottreaux was killed in the Battle of St. Albans in 1467. Through his daughter's marriage the manor went to the earl of Huntingdon, and was sold by his descendants in 1575 to Sir John Hender. It was Sir John Hender who built his Manor House at Bottreaux. He bought the Manor and its land from the descendants of Sir Robert Hungerford when the old castle fell into ruins. Hender was one of the rising band of "legal eagles" entrusted by Queen Elizabeth I to promote her policy of even-handed tolerance between the religions - protestant and catholic alike - to provide a breathing space for

England to prepare for meeting the expected Spanish Armada which King Philip of Spain was planning to send. Hender was the Queen's paymaster for strengthening the English defence works, which included rebuilding Boscastle harbour, completed in 1594. It is no coincidence that Hender's new manor house and the new outer jetty of the harbour drew stone from the same source.

Hender's close friend was Lord Robartes of Lanhydrock and these two men were regarded as the financial wizards of their time, in England at least; but their opposition to Scottish courtiers' plans for using English resources to promote projects north of the border, brought them into conflict with King James. Hender therefore decided to retire from the political field and devote his time to church affairs.

The Manor remained the property of this family in Stuart and Georgian times, through more Cottons, then Amys and Phillipses, until insanity afflicted an elderly Miss Amy, and the property started to fall into disrepair. At that time, the law required the appointment of guardians forming a Court of Protection for certified insane persons, to administer their financial and legal affairs. A Launceston Lawyer, Jonathon Phillips, who was a member of the Amy family, was appointed, with Rebecca Amy as joint guardian in 1814. Much pressure was being brought on them for the estate's affairs to be finalised quickly, because delay was holding up progress on building the New Road from the harbour, which was to cut through the Paradise area.

The settlement then reached gave Rebecca the land on which Paradise was to be built, plus two paddocks of

grazing land, while Phillips was given a similar acreage in Minster parish. Other land was sold to clear up the Cotton and Amy properties.

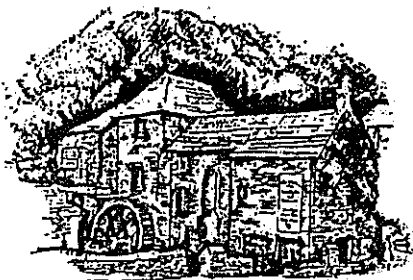
In 1818 Rebecca Benoke (nee Amy) gave birth to a new heir to the Estate, Cotton Amy Benoke of whom little is known except that he died in 1851. In 1844, however, T.R. Avery (the Boscastle ship owner and owner of Penally) had foreclosed on the mortgage he previously granted to Paradise. He purchased the rest of the Manor, which he then bequeathed to his niece, Ann Avery Helyer. At her death it was sold to an investor named Leschallas, whose office in a house at the harbour entrance became known afterwards as the Manor House because tenants paid their rents there. The last traditionally minded Lord of the Manor was George Bellamy who bought the property and that title died in 1914. When his widow sold it all in 1947, sitting tenants were enabled to purchase their houses and farms.

Postscript:

Reverting to Mr. Gable's mention of the Jordan stream; in April 1963, three months of very hard frost was ended by so rapid a thaw that neither branch of the Jordan could contain the flood that swept through, filling every conduit with rubble and cascading down every stairway, to flood every cellar of the Wellington and every house on the way. The same flood completely eroded the farm track giving access to the Tubbs Ground fields above Paradise, providing with the opportunity to landscape the garden afresh. Subsequently South West Water constructed the reservoir and roadway to the top of Gibbs Lane thus overcoming most of the surface water drainage problems formerly so worrying to the residents of Boscastle. I have been intrigued, however, to observe that numbers of the recently built houses stand on sites where I can recall springs in spate. Caveat Empto.
Norman Hick

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BOSCASTLE VISITOR CENTRE

Writing in a mild November it is perhaps not too surprising that there are still quite a few visitors around. Although the centre is now operating its winter opening times, that is 10.30am to 1.30pm Monday to Friday and 11.00am - 3.00pm Saturday and Sunday, our records show an average of 50 people coming into the centre each day. We had always intended to keep the Centre open for as long as we possibly could, and I am delighted that the response from our enthusiastic volunteers is such that we can achieve that objective.

The 100,000th visitor arrived in the Centre at the beginning of October, John (and Kathy) Richards from Swansea. We are now at 110,000, which again illustrates how popular the Centre is.

The Forrabury and Minster Council have entered the Visitor Centre building into a

competition run by the Cornish Buildings Group. This group is particularly interested in new buildings of good design and conversions of old buildings which retain their integrity. I feel that the Centre certainly is worthy of consideration because of the way it fits in with the local area, due to the use of local materials.

We hope that the use of the Centre by local people will develop. You will read elsewhere in the Blowhole about CALL and its possible location in the Centre. But we would also be delighted to display any posters for local groups who want to advertise particular events. Just pop in and leave the poster and we will ensure it is displayed to its best advantage. CD

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Falling for Trees



Here I am, well into my seventh decade, and, suddenly, I find myself something of a tree buff. It's rather frightening, really, because people think I know a lot more about trees than I do. And it's all because of this title I carry: "Tree Warden". Of course, it only applies in St. Kew where the Parish Council are sufficiently undemanding to accept my scant qualifications.

There are about 90 tree wardens in Cornwall; getting on for 4,000 in the UK. The movement started after the gales of 1990. What with the havoc wrought by Dutch Elm disease in the mid-seventies, then the 1987 hurricane in the south-east, more damage had been done to Britain's trees in a decade and a half than in the previous century.

The many and various British tree interest groups formed the Tree Council and set up a nationwide network of volunteers to try to do something about revitalising the tree population. I read about the local vacancy in the St Kew Parish Newsletter and I thought it might be a way of putting something back into the community which had welcomed me so warmly in the war as an evacuee.

I tentatively asked an old friend on the Parish Council if it was a role I might fulfil and he promised to check with the CCC. Next thing I knew, I had a letter from the County Planning Department saying, "Dear Tree Warden. . . Congratulations on your appointment. . ."

My only previous experience of tree management was at my golf club, planting trees after elm disease had wiped out half the mature trees on the course. Once we had their replacements in the ground, our main role was to wait and watch for a hundred years, while they grew. (First lesson: it is impossible to "replace trees". When they're gone, they're gone; you can only indulge current sentiments by affecting to do *something* to mark their loss, even if the ultimate effect will have no relevance to the original intention.)

As it turned out, far and away our most important contribution was to *stop* people from planting trees all over the place. Next thing you would know, it would be jungle rather than parkland. (Second lesson: if you want to be able to see and enjoy trees, don't surround them with other trees. Remember the adage,

about not seeing the wood?) The key strategy was to plant trees in groups, or rides, to match existing spinneys and preserve the vistas.

I remain Tree Warden of St Kew and I shall continue to edit 'Kernel', my newsletter for Cornwall's tree wardens. I cannot presume, after a few months, to have any relevant comments or opinions about our (albeit, beautiful) new treescape in Boscastle. There can hardly be any more majestic an overture to a village than the beech-wood lining the Camelford road, down the hill into Boscastle. There are one or two Scots Pines in there, too. And out to the right, below Home Farm, there is another striking beech spinney with its wind-swept profile leaning away from the sou'westerlies. And there, too, a lofty Scots Pine crowns the otherwise, even outline.

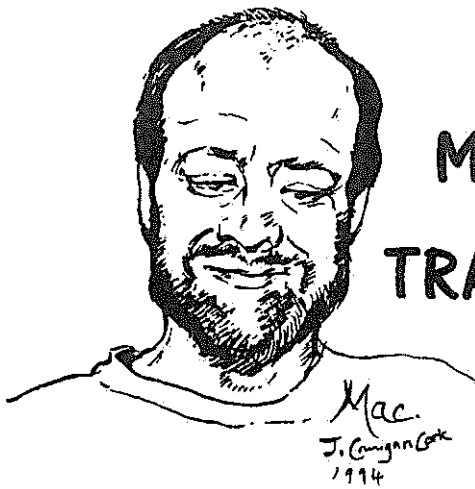
Both these groups of trees already seem to me to be inseparable elements of the village prospect; almost as much, in their way, as the Wellington or Profile Rock.

Now, as winter comes down, trees bereft of their leaves will become more difficult to identify and my explorations will have to wait for the spring. Several people have asked if I have seen the "Bell Tree" and I came across it by accident returning from the Valency Valley - Minster walk. It is a splendid old lime tree and very much part of the village lore. I understand that picnics of several people take place up there, resting on the epicormic shoots which form a human nest. (A pleasure of which I may now be too inflexible to avail myself.)

Not far from the bell tree is another curiosity which caught my eye: what I think is a black poplar which had fallen over and continued to grow. It appears to have layered where it touches the ground and must surely serve as a 'virtually real' dinosaur or Loch Ness monster for imaginative children.

All this and the Valency and Jordan Valleys wait to be explored. Let us hope, as spring comes in next year, that we shall be spared the freezing, salty wind that stopped the earlier sprouting trees in their tracks at Easter this year. The horse chestnuts at the top of New Road never recovered this summer. But trees are strong survivors; I doubt if they were caused lasting damage.

Jim Castling



MAC'S TRACKS

Hi! Well, the trip to Earls Court back in October to see 'Pink Floyd' in concert was worth far more than any effort involved; the show just short of three hours of pure (mega loud) Floyd! Complemented by so many goings-on - explosions, fireworks, aircraft roaring overhead, inflatable warthogs - and a light/laser show second to none. All in all, absolutely spectacular! Unless I get a chance to see them again, I doubt if I will ever see anything remotely to compare! I'll say no more, but continue with ...

FILMS ON CIRCUIT

TRUE LIES (15) (140 mins.) Arnold Schwarzenegger. Jamie Lee Curtis. (Comedy/Thriller). Typical American Special Agent/Super Hero tale, explosive action, some excellent effects, some very over the top! Entertaining, but has no soul whatsoever. I came away empty.

WHEN A MAN LOVES A WOMAN (15) (117 mins.) A Romantic Drama with Andy Garcia and Meg Ryan in the story of a perfect marriage, which goes disastrously wrong when one partner falls foul of alcohol. Superb acting from the children, predictable ending, but well worth a watch.

THE MASK (PG) (101 mins.) Effects-packed comic fantasy with Jim Carrey as a bumbling nice guy turned super hero. This film suffered mega hype due to its special effects. Deservedly so, but I found myself unable to warm to the main character. A miss as far as I'm concerned.

FOREST GUMP (12) (142 mins.) Tom Hanks, Sally Field in this touching comedy drama, which follows the story of Gump in his innocent progress through a great tide of real events. It took me until Gump had experienced Vietnam (half way through the film) to become interested in his character and indeed the film. I enjoyed it, but with reservations. (For those of you who like 60's music, there is a 32 track soundtrack available). With winter upon us, when there is nothing to tempt you at your local cinema, then it's time to light the fire, sink back into your arm chair, and clasp that video remote control ...

RECOMMENDED VIDEOS:

THE CRYING GAME If you missed this on TV recently, don't hesitate to hire it! It's a perverse moral tale, preaching the oldest of lessons, that love conquers all. The subject matter may be controversial in more ways than one, but this gem of a film deals with each perfectly. It's believable, gripping, nicely balanced - and keeps going right to the end!

A PERFECT WORLD Kevin Costner and Clint Eastwood, as two tough men on different sides

of the law. This unusual suspense drama has Kevin Costner playing the ambiguous role of a man who has done wrong but whose intentions are good. Well worth a watch.

RECOMMENDED ALBUMS

As there is little to inspire at the moment, I'm drawing from my own collection. A very underestimated and perhaps little-known artist is 'Paul Brady' hailing from Co. Tyrone, Ireland. He has produced half a dozen or so superb albums since 1981. In the same genre as Eric Clapton, or Chris Rea, his songs are moving and eloquent, heartfelt sentiments sung with an inner passion. Choosing one particular album is difficult (they are all excellent) but his 1987 "primitive dance" comes to mind as a representation of his individual style. It contains one of his perhaps more widely known songs, which was covered by 'Tina Turner' - 'Paradise is Here'. His most recent album 'Trick or Treat' contains ten tracks of sensitive, contemporary rock, leaning towards the mellow side - ideal for that 'evening in'.

Finally for those of you about to buy blank tapes (Christmas presents maybe?) here is a guide to which to use with what equipment:

FERRIC Good general purpose tape for everyday use, suitable for all types of players, especially portables. Produces consistent reliable and repeatable results. Ideal for budget recording.

SUPER FERRIC Better quality tape for general use, giving clearer results than Ferric. Use with all types of general purpose machines including budget midi systems, hi-fi separates and in-car equipment. Provides the best results for machines without chrome facility.

CHROME For the best results use with machines with chrome facility (most modern systems have a CR02 switch.) Crisp, faithful reproduction; use with more sophisticated midi systems and HI-FI separates; very good for digital sound recordings from CD.

SUPER CHROME Only use if your machine has a chrome facility. Excellent for quality recordings from digital sources such as CD. Reduces background hiss to produce clear and crisp recordings. Ideal for all high quality HI-FI and midi systems.

METAL Superior audio tape for the highest quality reproduction. Use with high quality stereo systems for professional results. Excellent for quality recordings from digital sources such as CD.

And there we have it - until spring. Take time to relax and enjoy your leisure time.

MAC

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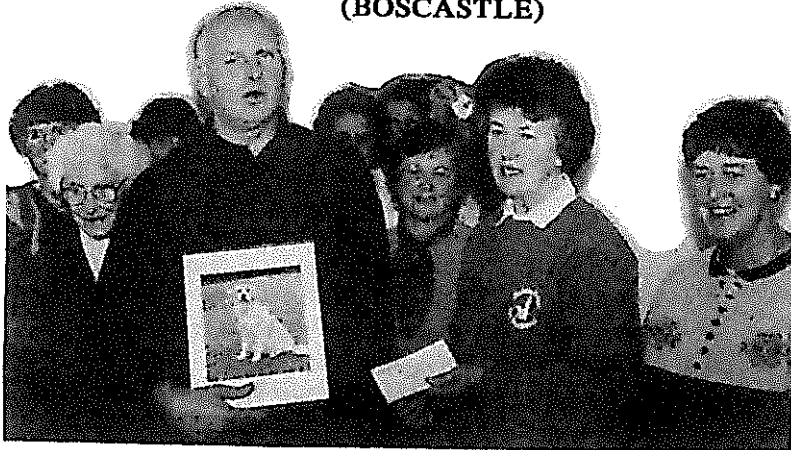
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HERE & THERE



GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND ASSOCIATION (BOSCASTLE)



Voluntary Organiser Bernice Lewis presented a cheque for £1,000 to Peter Frost, S.W. Region Fund Raising Manager and received in gratitude a picture of Guide Dog 'Tara' (Sponsorship name Paradise) during a Coffee Morning held at the home of Bernice and John Lewis, Heathdene, Paradise Road, where a further £194 was raised towards sponsoring another Guide Dog.

Any organisation in the North Cornwall area wishing a speaker to attend one of their meetings to tell them more about the Association and the training of the Guide Dogs, please phone Boscastle 250217.

Many thanks to everyone who has helped to raise the first £1,000.

HARVEST AUCTION

The Cobweb held their annual Harvest Auction in October. Once again the tables were laden with a tempting array of bottles, cakes, cream, cabbages, giant pasties, pies, preserves, etc., as well as sacks of potatoes, corn, coal, even a can of oil.

John Linington was in fine voice as auctioneer, surprising at least one person, who thought he was scratching his ear and ended up with enough pasties to last the week.

Nicki Penfound was a determined raffle ticket seller. Jan Chapman kept a meticulous record of all the transactions. A grand total of £900 was raised for village charities. £300 was given to the Village Hall Restoration Fund, £200 to the Men's Club, £150 each to Playgroup and Youth Club and £100 for Church Funds. Congratulations and thanks to everyone who donated produce and supported on the night, but especial thanks to Adrian, John, Belinda, Ivor, Vera and all the staff who hosted the seasonal celebration.

OVER 50'S CLUB

Nearly the end of another year for the club. We've enjoyed trips to Tavistock, Dartmoor, Truro and Exeter, and are now looking forward to our December meeting with a Christmas shopping trip to Exeter.

Mr. & Mrs. Mee of Bottreaux Hotel are again giving a Christmas Lunch to 25 local senior citizens with Roger Ferrett kindly offering his services to ferry those who can't walk. I'm sure everyone will have an enjoyable time.

The Over 50's Christmas Dinner is at Cobweb on the 9th January with Adrian and John providing a taxis to bring those who are unable to make it on foot.

We have had one meeting in the village hall since the new ceilings were put up and we all agreed even this first step was a great improvement. We are looking forward to 1995 with the hope that we will attract new members, so remember - we meet on the first Monday in the month 2-4 p.m.

Joan Weekes - Secretary

THE LOST GARDENS OF HELIGAN

The name sounds magical and indeed it is a wondrous place. Prehistoric conifers, trees, ferns and other exotic plants, bridged ways through a giant bamboo jungle, hidden lakes and a crystal grotto - just some of the delights explored at Heligan, near Mevagissey by a group from Boscastle recently. Even the damp, autumn weather did not detract from the fascinating guided tour led by one of the original team who began restoring the gardens in 1990. The gardens were lost for more than seventy years, becoming totally overgrown and are now being authentically restored as a working museum of nineteenth century horticulture, including a magnificent complex of walled gardens with peach, pineapple and banana houses. Boscastle WEA are hoping to organise a return trip to the lost gardens next spring, when the huge magnolias and rhododendrons should be a magnificent sight. The facilities are excellent, including a warm cafe and covered picnic/information area. Many thanks to The Rev. John Ayling for driving the minibus and everyone who helped to make the visit an unforgettable experience for all.



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Farming Fun

Sheep are born with one major desire. To escape. On 'Guy Fawkes' day we put in the rams to our flock, having previously separated the ewes into three groups in three separate fields. One field of older ewes for our young and inexperienced ram, in the hope that the experienced older girls would know what it was all about. Another field of young ewes for the older ram, again in expectation that the old fellow would know what to do, and a field of wethers (last year's castrated male lambs), along with last year's ewe lambs who we feel are not yet ready to be mated. Call it anthropomorphism if you will, but the grin on the face of the older ram was clearly evident as we strapped him into the leather harness with the dye block affixed to the front of his chest. He was introduced to his harem and within an hour three ewes were marked with green blobs on their backs, clear evidence that he had been active.

The young ram was not happy at being strapped into what, admittedly, does look like an instrument more at home in the den of a confirmed sado-masochist. However, his delight at being introduced to his flock of ladies was again quite evident. The point of all this is to demonstrate my theory above. Within a day, despite high powered electric fencing, the flock had migrated from one field to the other with the result that they are now so mixed up, and determined to stay so, that we have decided to let nature take its course. Sheep, it appears, like humans, have fancies for particular partners; the nice looking ones (from a sheep's point of view) are the ones to be mated first. By the time our rams get around to the less attractive ladies, they are so spent that there is a grave danger that the less attractive ones are quite likely to remain barren, or to have to wait so long for the ram to recharge his batteries that they lamb late in the year and possibly unexpectedly.

No doubt many people have dreams of what to do when the man from ERNIE comes to present them with

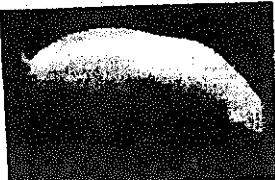
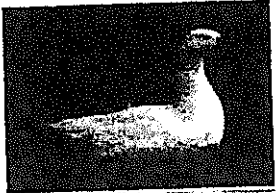
a million pound cheque. My favourite day dream is for a couple of miles of stock-proof fencing, if there is such a thing in this high tech age. Pigs are just as bad. We recently had three extra sties built to accommodate our new arrivals. Having built a concrete apron out front, the winter rains caught us before we could construct a retaining wall around the concrete 'pig patio'. So, being clever (we thought) we put up a temporary portable electric fence. Lovely job we thought - but didn't reckon on the self-evident intelligence of the "Your smarter than average Pig". All summer they have had the run of a couple of acres, plus the rough around the lakes. Led by Boar "Kip" (usually that is all he does do), they took exception to being confined and a mass break out was planned. Kip, at some 220 lbs, snorted derisively at the puny electric cable and just barged through it, with barely a squeak at the umpteen kilovolts it carried. Out we go armed with a brush handle to tease them back. After I had measured my length a couple of time in the wet and somewhat muddy field. Ted and I were successful. Re-erect the fence, no problem. Turn back to the house for a well earned cuppa and they are out again. Ah well, such is life.

Having put a bale of straw into Kip's room, sow Matilda decides she is being left out. Craftily waiting until all the others are at their evening meal of mill and pig nuts, she sneaks into Kip's room to emerge moments later with a huge mouth full of straw. After repeating the exercise some four or five times, she is satisfied and goes to shove the others away from what she rightfully considers as her 'late tea'. Kip, now with full belly, wanders into his room, only to come out almost immediately with a puzzled look on his face, clearly in need of a phone to report the theft of 'desirable amount of bedding straw'. Who say animals are dumb?
S

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Harbourmaster's News



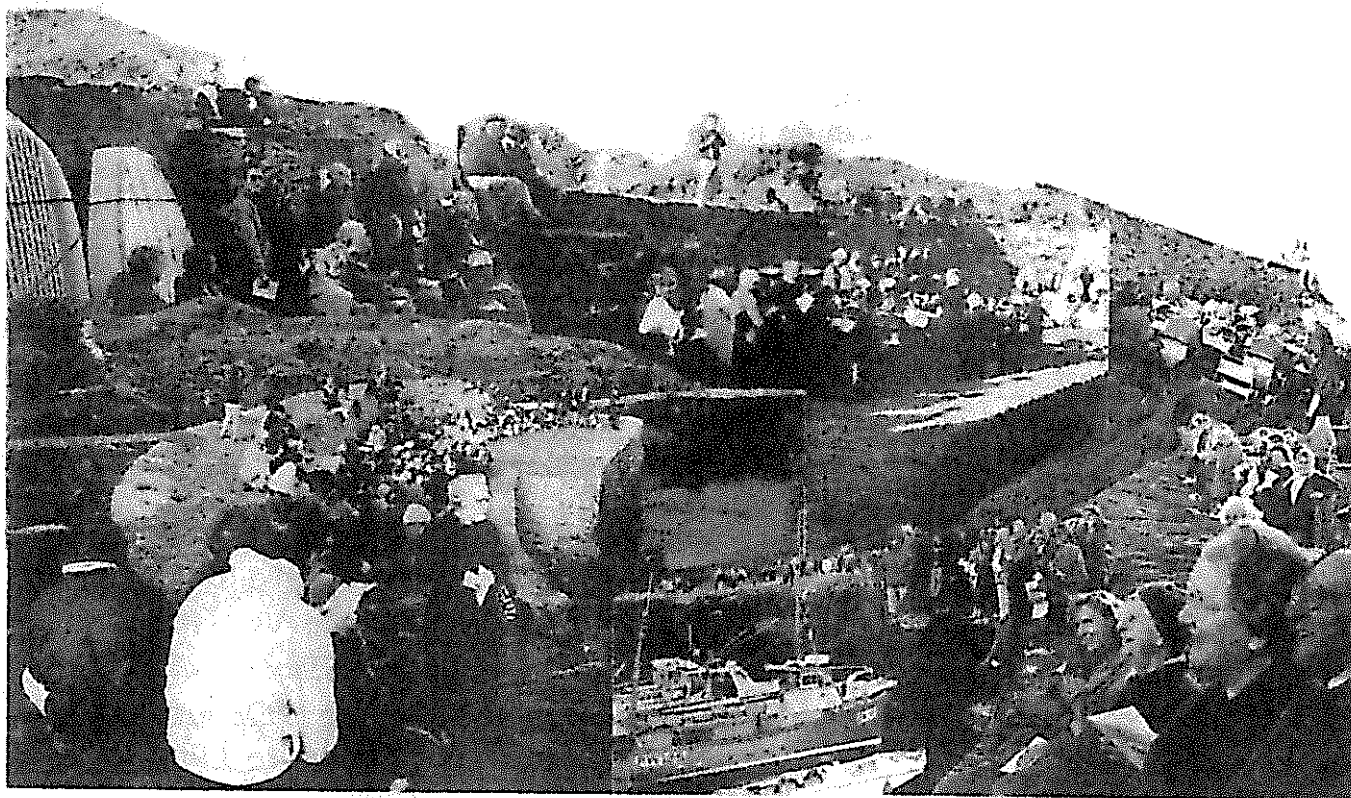
Some very important residents of the harbour - the ducks - are feeling the effects of impending winter; just when the weather is driving them to sheltered areas on the banks, most of visitors have gone, harbourside businesses closed - and food is less easy to come by. Sifords are still boiling up their potato skins, saving their scraps and tossing out bread. And I recently witness to the charming sight of a cerwell-known resident surrounded by about a dozen mallards and that attention-seeking 'farmy' duck. Perhaps more of us could remember to do this winter? A word of warning however: piles of 'scraps' tossed on the banks in the absence of these hungry waders could make the river banks look rather unpleasant!

Another casualty of inclement conditions in early September was this baby seal, washed up, motherless and very distressed. Les Siford and Jane Castling came to the rescue and cared for it until the R.S.P.C.A. took it to Exeter for treatment. It had suffered lacerations, consumed some oil and apparently expressed its dismay with loud, woeful barks.

Recent heavy rains caused the river to rise about two feet, but fortunately there has been no flooding as all but two of the boats have now gone to their winter mooring, and the harbour will probably be denuded of boats by the time we go to print.

The bollards have proved successful in preventing unauthorised access to the moorings. However, on Sunday evening of August Bank Holiday a great many people crowded through to attend the first-ever Song Praise Service on the jetty. The tide was out, and there was a fair breeze, but St. Genny's Band was in fine fettle, having the wall to the upper level of the jetty behind them as a splendid sounding board. Many residents and a great many visitors crowded the jetty, the banks and the surrounding rocks. Thanks to Fred Siford and other members of the Fisherman's Association who organised the service, this was another much appreciated 'first' for Boscastle. The band's expenses were paid from the collection, and donations of £20 were sent to the Lifeboat Association and the Village Hall Fund. Both the Rector, who conducted the service, and the fisherman assure us that this will become an annual event.

In the meantime, don't forget the ducks!



YOUTH CLUB CRISIS

Boscastle young people appeal to adults for help in establishing a much-needed Youth Club.

What is required? A venue, financial resources, keen youngsters - and adults who will support the venture. Boscastle has the first three of these - a Village Hall, presently being developed, money raised within the village, and young people who need, and want a good club. The last ingredient - supportive adult involvement is at present missing.

As recorded by young people, on this page, efforts have recently been made to solve a problem which has developed in recent years. Lacking support from the general community, the present generation of young people have had the help of one leader, who has struggled to provide an opportunity for them to meet. It has been a downhill struggle.

Now, the affairs of the Youth Club have reached crisis point. Lacking a committee (including a treasurer) and parents or other adults who will give some of their time, expertise and encouragement, the club is not viable - or legal. Here is the classic 'Catch 22' situation; help could be forthcoming from outside - advice, support, training, additional financial resources can all be sought. There are organisations concerned with the young, whose help would be forthcoming - if there was a Youth Club Committee, if there was a Youth Club, full stop. No properly constituted Youth Club - no help. It is as simple as that.

The present situation is that money given and raised in the past (including a generous contribution from the Cobweb Charity Auction proceeds) is to be lodged in an account held in trust by the Clerk of the Parish Council, Ron Hart. This money will be held in a High Interest Account until such time as a Youth Club exists again.

Will you help? Will you give active support? If you are willing even to meet others and talk through the problem, please phone Ron Hart (250222). He will put you in touch with others who show concern.

APPEAL FROM YOUNG PEOPLE

To the Blowhole,

On Friday last there was a meeting in the Village Hall concerning the fate of the Youth Club. Heidi and myself attended hoping the response to the letter sent to the Youth Club Members' parents would be great, but we were sadly disappointed to find that out of the seven people who went, only one was a parent of members of the Youth Club.

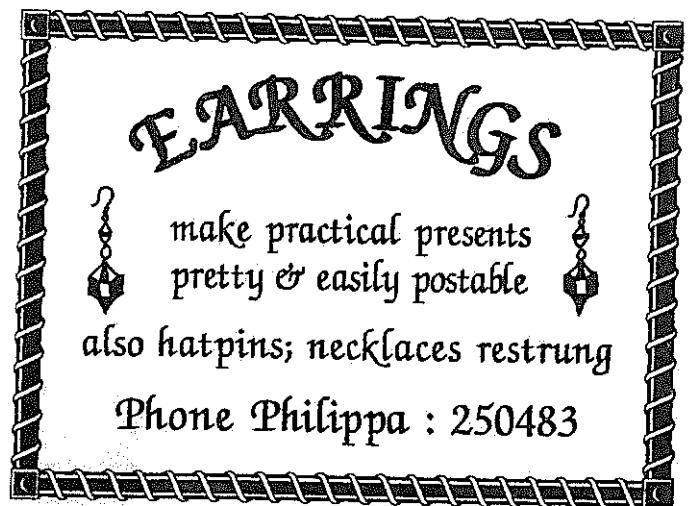
As a result, no committee could be formed, which will mean the closure of the Youth Club, which at present is the only thing we can do in Boscastle which will keep us off the streets, especially as winter is here and the evenings are drawing in.

We are concerned that there are many people in the village who are quick to show interest when something does go wrong, such as vandalism, but they won't show interest by giving us an hour of their time to come to a meeting, which could prevent things such as accidents on the roads etc. happening in the future, as a result of the young people having no where to go.

On a happier note, we would like to thank the few people who came and gave their support, and also the couple of people who sent letters of apology for not being there. Their support was much appreciated but we would mainly like to thank Mrs. Pam Bond for all the work she has done and is continuing to do to try and keep the Youth Club alive.

Yours sincerely,

Naomi Johnson & Heidi Zackey

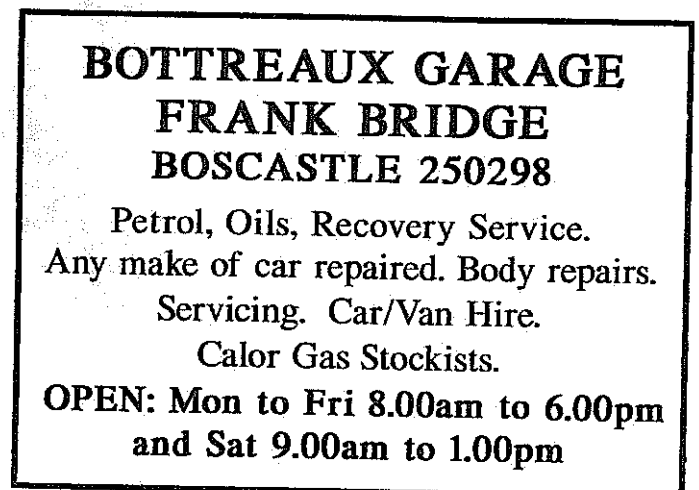


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YOUNG VIEW

Youth Club

Speaking on behalf of many of the younger generation, we do like Boscastle. It's true that the village is pretty and has character like few other places around; but it has to be said that we do find it a bit boring. I know that we are at an awkward age and it seems as though we are unhappy with everything. This is partly true, but we just want to have something to do - something better than just watching 'telly'.

In the summer time it is good; even the youngest of children are allowed out until quite late because of the long hours of daylight. Now, however, as it is winter, parents want their children to be home before it is dark, which means returning home by 5.00pm. This is unfair as we, have no time to go out and do things, nowhere to go and meet our friends.

Although there are three pubs, many of us are not allowed to go to these and therefore have nowhere to go. Nobody's parents want hordes of children trooping in and out as they please, so we are a bit stuck really.

So what can we do? As many readers will remember, last year we had a Youth Club. This was a good place for us all to go but suddenly it got slacker and slacker and this year it doesn't exist at all. This is not fair. It is true that in the past the Youth Club has not been treated with respect. Children did occasionally run riot and were difficult to handle by the one supportive leader. With enough determination and co-operation this could be changed.

There may have been a temporary lack of enthusiasm, but I'm sure that if we tried to organise fun, interesting things to do and places to visit, many more of us would attend.

I'm sure that like me, other kids are willing to negotiate. If a meeting was held where we, the children, could all go to put our ideas forward, surely we could come up with some situation where we could all be happy? A set time and age group could be agreed upon and we could go on from there.

We desperately need cheerful, outgoing, generous easy-to-talk-to, willing and enthusiastic people to be leaders or committee members. If anyone is interested and thinks that they could do it, please for our sake, let us know. It would mean so much to us. I'm sure that with enough co-operation from both the children and the adults we could get a reliable and better, more exciting youth club set up to keep us happy and off the streets.

Thank you.

Laura Barne



TAXI

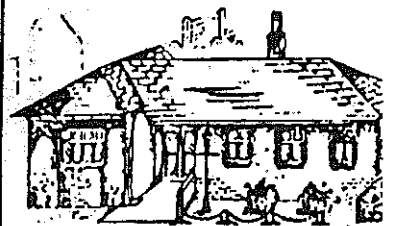
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Rector: The Rev. John Ayling,
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Boscastle (250359)
Holy Communion at
Forrabury Church each
Sunday at 9.00am (except 3rd
and 5th Sundays).
Family Service 10.15 on 3rd Sun.

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

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

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

CHRISTMAS SERVICES in Boscastle

Christingle Service
Sun. 4th Dec. at 3.00pm,
at Minster Church.

United Carol Service
Sun. 18th Dec. at 6.00pm,
at Boscastle Methodist Church

Christmas Eve
'Midnight' Eucharist by
Candlelight
at Forrabury & Lesnewth
Churches at 11.30pm.

Christmas Day
9.00am Boscastle Methodist
Church
R.C. Mass 10.00am at Tintagel
C of E. Holy Communion:
10.15am St. Juliot Church
(1662 Service)
11.00am Trevalga Church.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Paul's Church, Tintagel.
Masses: Sunday at 10.00am,
daily at 6.00pm, except
Thursday.
RCIA meetings for those
interested in the Catholic faith
are held at Wynglos, Forrabury,
at 7.30pm every Monday
evening. Contact Mrs. C.
Langthorne (250578)

BOSCASTLE METHODIST CHURCH

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

Services each Sunday at
11.00am and 6.00pm, except
2nd Sunday, 9.30am Family
Service.

See Methodist Church News
on next page.

From the Rector:

The Christingle Service at Minster Church has become an established part of our Church life - it is now the biggest service of the year, and a time when we see many children crowding into the church to take part in this lovely ceremony.

Christmas is a time to think about our children - and we have been doing just that at Forrabury church. Parents are concerned that their children should receive the very best things in life, and that must surely include things spiritual as well as material. We have been concerned that the Church worship at Forrabury - a Holy Communion Service at 9.00am - is not by any means ideal for children, or indeed for many parents, if they are not confirmed.

Thus on the 3rd Sunday of each month, beginning on 18th December as a pre-Christmas service, we are starting a Family Service at 10.15am. I hope that many parents and children will respond to this opportunity. As the national poster campaign will proclaim: 'Make room for God this Christmas'. There is no better way of finding that quality of life which Christmas reminds us can, and should, be ours.
May all your Christmases be blessed.

John Ayling

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Methodist Church News

GUILD MEETINGS

The fortnightly Guild Meetings, which are open to anyone, are now well underway.

On October 1st, William Philp showed slides about ministers from overseas who came to work in Britain. A Bring and Buy and collection was taken for the Methodist Church Overseas Division.

The following meeting, on November 15th, was taken by the Week St. Mary Circuit Superintendent Minister, the Reverend Roger Green, who told us how he came to be a Christian in his 30's (only 7 years ago) after a family crisis.

The next meeting is on Tuesday December 6th when Brian Parkman will be showing a video. We then have Carol Singing on Tuesday December 20th. These meetings are informal and held at 7.30 p.m. in the school room at the back of the Chapel.

AUTUMN BAZAAR

The Autumn Bazaar gave us a chance to buy some Christmas gifts, stock up the larder and even to treat ourselves to a bunch of chrysanthemums! It was a busy hour with a lot of discussion as to the weight of a delicious fruit cake or the birthday of the attractively dressed doll. The weight of the cake was just over 3 lbs - nearest guess being made by Iris Olde. March 25th was the date chosen by Violet Biddick.

Many thanks to all who supported this successful event.

COLLECTION

The locally organised House to House Collections in October for NCH Action for Children raised £172.36. The collectors were Vi Honey, Arthur Olde, Edna Edwards, May Greenwood, Cynthia Taylor, Delia Hancock, Vivienne Hircock, Joan Seldon and Joanna Pethick (for Trevalga). Thanks to them and all of you who contributed.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Boscastle Branch of the Royal British Legion formed at Mount Pleasant and marched behind the Genny's Silver Band to the Methodist Church. A two minute silence was followed by the Service Remembrance led by Brian Parkman. The Reverend John Ayling read the prayers and Peter Hanco Secretary, read the lesson.

The Parade then marched to the War Memorial. Fred Siford laid the British Legion wreath in memory of the Boscastle people who had died in the 1st and 2nd World Wars. The service ended with the singing of the National Anthem.

(SEE PHOTO THIS PAGE)

VILLAGE CAROL SERVICE

We look forward to welcoming you all to our Village Carol Service which this year will be at the Chapel (in Fore Street) at 6.00 p.m. on Sunday December 18th. Also all are welcome to join us on December 25th at 9.00 a.m. in our short Christmas Day Communion Service which will be taken by the Reverend Randall Barlow of Camelford.

DATES:

Tues Dec 6th	Guild Meeting	7.30 p.m.
Sun Dec 18th	Village Carol Service	6.00 p.m.
Tues Dec 20th	Guild Carol Singing	7.30 p.m.
Thurs Dec 22nd	Street Carol Singing	
Sun Dec 25th	Service	9.00 a.m.
Tues Jan 3rd	Guild Party	7.30 p.m.

We will remember them



What's On

At the Welly:

Informal Folk Sessions continue throughout the winter on Monday evenings - bar open until 12 p.m. Entertainment on most Fridays with Off the Cuff, The Doolally Tappers and other live bands.

At the Nap:

The St. Dennis Singers are making a welcome reappearance on December 17th, when the rafters will ring with the lovely harmonies of these three fine singers. Don't forget to tie some tinsel to your best sou'wester for the Annual Fancy Hats Competition on Boxing Day.

At the Cobweb:

The St. Genny's Band and Choir will be playing and singing carols on December 22nd. The line-up for the regular Saturday night music, when the bar is open until 12 p.m., includes: Married with Children, L.J. Duo, K.D. Band, Essanti, with George Nix on Christmas Eve, and Roger King and Black Velvet to serenade you into 1995.

DATES

December

- Sun. 4th 3.00pm Christingle Service at Minster Church (including items by Boscastle School)
- Sun. 11th 3.00pm Concert by the Kessenyanas: 'A Celebration of Music' at St. Juliot's Church.
- Tues. 13th 2.00pm W.I. Village Hall. Speaker: Mr. P. Ascot on "Murder on Roughtor".
- Thurs. 15th 7.30pm Carol Service, Otterham Church, followed by mince pies at Churchtown Farm.
- Sat 17th St. Dennis Singers, Nap 9.00pm
- Sun.18th 10.15am new Family Service at Forrabury Church
6.00pm United Carol Service, Boscastle Methodist Church
- Mon. 19th 7.30pm Carols & mulled wine: Trevalga Village Hall.
- Tues. 20th 7.30pm Methodist Guild - Carol Singing.
- Thurs 22nd St. Genny's Band & choir, carols round the village, start 7.0pm at Langfords, ending at The Cobweb
- Fri. 23rd 7.30pm Carol Service, Davidstow Church.
- Sat. 24th 11.30pm Midnight Eucharist, Forrabury Church and at Lesnewth Church
- Sun. 25th **HAPPY CHRISTMAS**
(See Church & Chapel page for Services)
- Mon. 26th - Fancy Hat Competition, Napoleon

January 1995

- Sun. 1st **HAPPY NEW YEAR**
- Tues. 3rd 7.30pm Methodist guild Party.
- Tues 10th 2.00pm W.I., Village Hall : Slides on Guide Dogs for the Deaf.
- Sat. 14th Penzance Peripatetic Planetarium. Village Hall 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m. - see page 23

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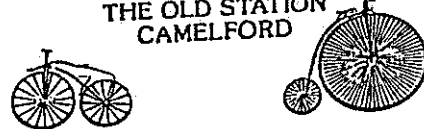
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BOSCASTLE W.E.A.



During the Autumn, the WEA has arranged classes on Christmas Crafts and Tap Dancing. Both attracted enthusiastic support, with an average of 10 people dancing every Thursday, and some original hand-crafted cards and decorations should be adorning quite a few village households this Christmas. All being well, the Tap Dancing will continue in the New Year. Look out for posters or phone the tutor, Barbara Windsor on 250679 for further details - newcomers are invited to join.

Even if you have nowhere to go - you can still look fantastic while sweeping the floor! or feeding the children



Penzance Peripatetic Planetarium

Due to popular demand, the Penzance Peripatetic Planetarium is making a return visit to Boscastle. To those of you who missed the P.P.P. when it's owner/builder Mr. Richard Knox filled the hall in June, I can only tell you to make a note of the date - January 14th 1995 - and to treat yourself to a spot of stargazing indoors.

The Planetarium is an inflatable dome which will just fit into the big room of the hall. You enter through a fabric airlock - large enough to hold several adults at once - and then into the dome. Inside you are seated around the edge on chairs or cushions - we plan to limit the number of places per showing to 25, to afford a little more leg room than last time. Next, Mr. Knox dims the light and switches on a twinkling sphere which projects the night sky on the hemisphere overhead. You reorientate yourself with the help of some landmarks - perhaps more familiar to the people of Penwith than us, but never mind since soon the "sun" will set and the parade of heavenly lights begin. The projector is capable of displaying stars visible in a wide band of latitudes and Mr. Knox has a large selection of slides of nebulae and galaxies. His presentation is clear and he will try to answer any astronomical queries you might have. Each showing lasts approximately 1 to 1 1/2 hours and is not recommended for very young children or claustrophobics - everyone else phone 250483 to book a place.

Carpentry

Another class for the aspiring artisan is a series of six sessions on 'Carpentry for Beginners', to be held at the Roy Sale. You will learn about tools, choosing and using them and which ones you really need. You will make a bench hook (apparently it's an essential piece of equipment) and then use this whilst constructing your own chosen piece.

Trees

To find out more about the raw material for carpentry, come to a talk about the 'Tree of Boscastle', to be given by Jim Castling, Tree Ward for St. Kew Parish, who has written a piece elsewhere about the Blowhole. The talk will be in the Village Hall on a date to be arranged. Once again, look out for posters.

Other Courses

A class entitled 'The History of Art' will be run by Henry Israel, and classes are planned on 'Cornish Culture and Language' and 'Cornish Dance', due to start next year.

To follow on from the Planetarium visit, Henry Goulden will be holding a short series of Practical Astronomy classes, concentrating on observation and recognition of the constellations visible from Boscastle. He will show slides to aid identification, and clear evenings will be spent outside star spotting. The dates are to be confirmed.

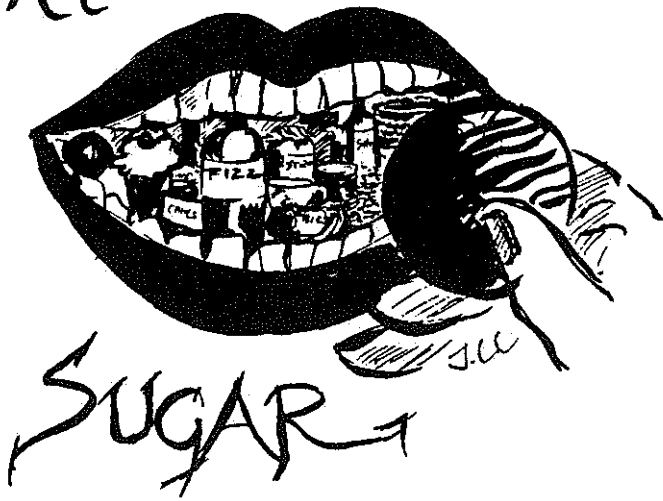
The Clothes Course

We are lucky in having many talented people in the village. One recent arrival is Mrs Wendy Wood, a graduate of the Royal College of Arts in London. She will run 'The Clothes Course' on Thursday evenings from 11th January. The first six-week course will teach you to copy a skirt block in your size. This can be used over and over again to make patterns for pleated, flared, gathered or gored skirts that fit perfectly every time. You can make as many different skirt patterns as you like, to make up at home, or make one pattern, cut out your fabric and make your first skirt in class. Other courses can follow: bodices, blouses, casual tops; next, how about a ballgown? The sky is the limit!



STOP THE ROT

Hi



THE SUGAR IN OUR DIETS

We all know that too much sugar is bad for our teeth (not to mention our waistlines). A little understanding as to why this happens, and some dietary know-how can help to make the sugar in your diet less damaging for your teeth (but not necessarily your waistline).

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE EAT SUGAR?

The bacteria in plaque, which occurs naturally on your teeth, convert sugar to acid. It is this acid which is so damaging. Acid dissolves the hard, outer surface of your teeth (the enamel). This begins the process of tooth decay!

While nature seems to have played a cruel trick by surrounding us with bacteria, it also provides part of the solution in the form of saliva.

The good news. Saliva produced when we eat and chew does help to neutralise acid in our mouths and to reverse its harmful effects.

The bad news. Bacteria are fast efficient workers; they start to produce acid within two minutes of meeting any sugar. Although our saliva tries hard, it takes a good 30 minutes before it begins to neutralise this acid.

This is why it is not only the quantity of sugar consumed, but the frequency with which you eat it, that is so important. Remember each time you supply those bacteria with sugar, your teeth have to endure an acid attack.

HOW CAN WE LIMIT THIS DAMAGE?

A sugar-free diet is just a bit impracticable, but we can look more carefully at how we deal with the sugar in our diet and help our natural defences. Here are a few things to consider:

REMEMBER

1. **REDUCE THE AMOUNT AND FREQUENCY OF SUGAR-CONTAINING FOOD AND DRINK.** The more times sugar enters the mouth the greater the likelihood of decay.

2. **LIMIT YOUR INTAKE OF SUGARY FOODS TO MEAL TIMES AND AVOID EATING THEM THROUGHOUT THE DAY.**
3. **SUGAR PROVIDES WHAT DIETICIANS CALL 'EMPTY CALORIES'; THAT IS, CALORIES BUT NO OTHER NUTRIENTS.**

WAYS TO CUT DOWN ON SUGAR

1. **TAKE TEA OR COFFEE WITHOUT SUGAR OR USE SUGAR SUBSTITUTES.**
2. **WHEN CHOOSING SOFT DRINKS OR MIXERS USE THE DIET VARIETY.** Keep the frequency of these to a minimum, as even low calorie varieties are acidic and can damage the teeth.
3. **CUT DOWN ON SPREADS SUCH AS JAM AND MARMALADES.** Sugar in a sticky form stays in your mouth longer and is potentially more harmful than non-sticky forms.
4. **AVOID SWEETS, CHOCOLATE, TOFFEES AND OTHER SNACKS WHICH CONTAIN LOTS OF SUGAR.** Try to have sugar-free snacks.
5. **EAT FEWER CAKES, BISCUITS AND SWEET PASTRIES.**
6. **USE TINNED FRUIT IN NATURAL JUICES RATHER THAN SYRUP.**
7. **ASK FOR SUGAR-FREE MEDICINES FOR YOUR CHILDREN.** A vast number of liquid medicines contain large amounts of sugar.
8. **LOOK CAREFULLY AT FOOD LABELS FOR SUGAR CONTENT.** You may be surprised!

If all of this has left you wondering what on earth to give your children for snacks, don't despair. Our **SNACK ATTACK** ideas on the next page will help you. A comprehensive list of the sugar content of most common foods is available from Dentists' surgeries

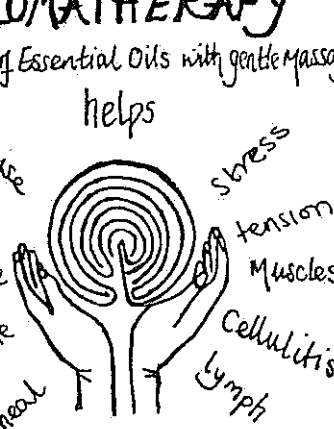
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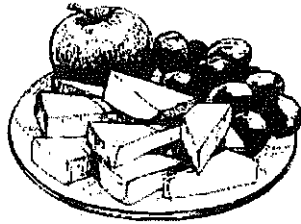


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SNACK ATTACK



Why not use this list to make tastier, healthier choices?

SUPER SNACKS

Try to choose these to eat most of the time. They are very low in sugar and also low in fat.

- Fresh Fruit e.g apples, bananas, oranges, plums, pears etc.
- Raw Vegetables e.g. carrots, celery, tomatoes etc.
- Bread, bread rolls, bread sticks, sandwiches (with savoury fillings), toast.
- Plain Biscuits, e.g. Rich Tea, Marie, crackers, crispbreads, Twiglets, plain popcorn.
- Reduced Fat cheese portions e.g. Dairylea Triangles.

SO-SO SNACKS

These can contain high amounts of fat or concentrated amounts of natural sugar. Try not to eat these too often between meals.

- Peanuts*, Nuts* and raisins, Trail mix*, Bombay Mix*, Crisps, Wotsits, Chipsticks, Monster Munchies, Wheat Crunchies, Tortilla chips, Low fat crisps, Mini cheddars, Hula-Hoops, sweetened popcorn.
- Biscuits e.g. Digestives, Hobnobs, Mini Hobnobs.
- Jordans cereal bar, plain or fruit scones, cheese scones, teacakes, crumpets and muffins.
- Cheese portions.
- Grapes, dried fruit e.g. raisins, dried apricots, tropical fruit mix.
- Reduced sugar sweets and chocolates e.g. Cool Mints, Lo-bars.

SILLY SNACKS

These can contain large amounts of sugar. Save them to eat at meals rather than between meals.

- Sweets e.g. jellies, pastilles, fruit gums, liquorice, chews, boiled sweets, mints.
- Chocolate e.g. milk chocolate, filled chocolate bars, chocolate eggs.
- Tracker bars, Cluster bars, Harvest Crunch, chewy bars.
- Cakes e.g. Mini chocolate rolls, doughnuts, chocolate biscuits, fairy cakes, flapjacks, gateaux, sweet biscuits.

*Not suitable for children under 5 years old.

GOOD LUCK.

Janice L. Tarrant



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Collector's Corner

The field of ephemera is a difficult one to define, so I turned to the Oxford English Dictionary for help. The O.E.D. states that it is the plural of ephemeron, and a thing (especially a printed item) of short lived interest or usefulness.

These items, as stated in the definition, are usually paper or cardboard, ranging from bus tickets to theatre programmes, and were designed to be thrown away. In most cases they were, which makes those that remain very desirable.

The Victorians and Edwardians often put together scrapbooks of ephemeral items including postcards, birthday and valentine cards, dance cards etc. It was also possible to buy 'scraps', brightly coloured pictures on a variety of subjects, guaranteed to appeal to children, mostly made of thin card. The pictures were then cut out and pasted into a scrapbook. Needless to say these are now highly collectable.

Advertising posters are now very popular with collectors. Any subject matter from Bird's Custard Powder to Kiwi Boot Polish, but they do need to be in good condition. Especially sought after these days are the posters advertising seaside holidays which were printed in the 20's and 30's, particularly those made for the railway companies. A London shop specialising in posters was recently asking £1,300 for an L.N.E.R. excursion poster advertising the east coast resorts.

All forms of shipping ephemera are much sought after; menus, tickets, posters, dance programmes, matchbooks etc. A poster advertising the ill-fated Titanic was recently found lining a drawer in an old chest. It subsequently realised several thousand pounds at auction.

The most unusual form of ephemera that I have heard about recently are bubble gum wrappers of the 1960's, preferably with the gum still inside. So the next time that you are emptying your children's pockets, prior to washing their clothes, just check the sweet wrappers - they could be the collectable ephemera of the future!

K.C.

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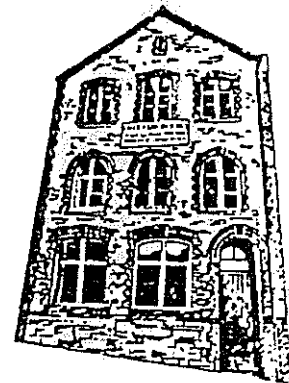
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ART GALLERY

Have you seen what is happening at the **BOSCASTLE GALLERY?**

Under the new management of Bridget Pentecost it has become a unique show case for the very cream of North Cornwall's professional artists, many of them internationally acclaimed award winners.

Of course Nicholas St John Rosse, now a member of the St. Ives Society of Artists, is well represented. He trained in Florence under Pietro Annigoni and has exhibited in many major galleries, including the Royal Academy. His unmistakable portraits and seascapes are highly collectable.

Raymund Rogers, who is Royal Academy trained and who frequently shows in exhibitions by contemporary British artists. The work of John M. Burns, the internationally famous cartoonist, will be familiar to anyone who remembers 'Jane' in the Daily Mirror, enjoyed Marvel Comics or is a fan of Judge Dredd.

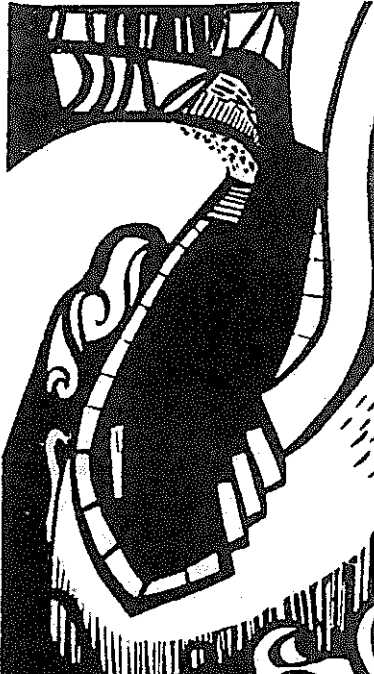
Steve 'Thor' Johanneson's delicate sea and landscapes are much sought after, but if you really can't afford an original painting, why not buy some of his Christmas cards? Other original cards are also available in distinctive designs by Brian Hanscomb and Sara Miles. Sara also has some printed fabrics on display.

A member of the New English Arts Club, Bob Brown is well known in contemporary art circles. He frequently visits and paints the coastal landscape around Boscastle - a subject matter rich in inspiration for him.

For those who prefer their art to be three-dimensional, there is some very striking pottery by the highly acclaimed Roger Michell whose technique and use of colours is so distinctive that some of his pieces are exhibited at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

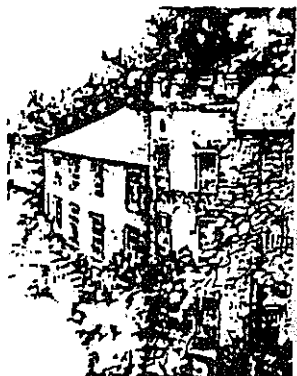
Steel, granite and stained glass all find their place in this tiny gallery alongside a growing collection of some of the best original paintings to be found in the area.

There will be special monthly exhibitions featuring a variety of artists. The first, the **GRAND OPENING EXHIBITION** will take place on the 23rd and 24th November from 7.30 p.m. Everybody is welcome. It could be your chance to find that very special Christmas present.



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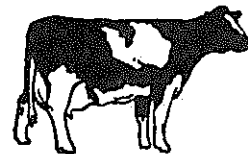
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In the Autumn edition of the Blowhole we published an article by COLIN FROHLICK. Many readers contacted Colin and his wife Linda, in what he describes as 'an amazing response'. In this second article, he shares more of his experience.

Hiding in the Shadows

When I was a child, I used to think that I would live forever. Now I am 52 and have cancer, and my feelings of omnipotence have suddenly disappeared.

Now I have begun to feel a new beginning. A powerful new force has been reawakened out of the ruins of my life. Since my illness, I have re-discovered long forgotten thoughts and feelings I used to have when I was young.

It was as if my body was crying out for me to be silent and still, but because I refused to respond to its pleading, I now believe that I thus became ill. I had denied for so long the creative side of my nature that it rose up and rebelled against me, my feet of clay crumbled beneath me. Now from my metaphorical position, seeing everything horizontal upon the ground, I have the advantage of a new perspective, superimposed upon the old.

My life has been so full of meaningless pursuits, that needed rationality on their side to provide them with a justification for existing. They blinded me so that I could not see the illusion that they had become. I was so busy that I had no time for the real fulfilment of my life. This in a sense, is the common ailment of the modern man and woman. It has become part of the mechanism for our survival, in an overtly mechanistic and spiritually bankrupt society. Old values have been ruthlessly turned upside down and inside out, by treachery and hypocrisy, created out of a desperate need to survive in an unfair and uncaring world.

Cancer has so brutally but mercifully opened my eyes and broken the spell that had for so long enslaved me. Our lives appear to be so short when measured against that of eternity, and yet, as the philosopher Seneca once observed: "Life, if thou knowest how to use it, is long enough." For some, lives have been so short, and yet they have had such a powerful impact upon humanity, that they have appeared like jewels in the sand of time. Yet other lives have been so long and without meaning, that

they have come and gone in the blinking of the eye of eternity, without any meaningful trace of their existence being left behind in that same unending stretch of sand.

Now I feel that my life has been given new meaning and a new direction. I know not where it will lead, I only know that I will never resist its calling again. Time for me has no meaning or value any more. For it is like a dream that seems to last for an eternity, but in reality, takes only a few seconds to reveal itself to the dreamer.

Suddenly we wake up one day, to realise that our lives seem to have no purpose, no meaning or direction. We begin to feel that life has passed us by, but it is really us who have passed life by. It is we who have wasted the years, not the years that have wasted us. The wonder of it all is that no matter how late the hour, we can still rekindle the fire that once burned so brightly within us, when we were young. Each one of us has the capacity to resurrect our lives, no matter how empty or terminal our lives may seem at the time.

Re-birth is not just another trendy word, it is a reality that exists within each of us. For we are inspirational beings who have the power to re-affirm ourselves again and again. It is only when we come face to face with the demons that live within us all, when we acknowledge their existence and confront them, but refuse to be intimidated by them, that we are able to find the courage to banish them from our lives forever. Then, and only then, can we begin to be free.

Now is the moment for our lives to have new meaning. For most of us live in the shadows, for most of our lives. The shadows are not real, only the light that causes them to exist is real. When we emerge from out of the shadows, we begin to be illuminated by the light. Then we are able to see things as they really are, and not as they appeared to be, when we were hiding in the shadows. CF

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Coastguard Update



Hi! I'm pleased to report another quiet period since the last Blowhole; thankfully only two call-outs, neither serious.

The first on September 4th at 1600 hrs: I was paged at work, with the report of a person cut off by the tide in Merlin's Cave, Castle Cove, Tintagel. Stan Williams, Les Siford and Daniel Roots proceeded. On scene, they were assisted by the Port Isaac Company. The search necessitated lowering a cliff man to complete a thorough

investigation. Port Isaac Lifeboat was also on scene. During the proceedings, the Police discovered that the supposed casualty was actually safe and well back in his caravan!

On the 8th September in the evening we exercised alongside the Bude Company, covering all aspects of cliff recovery (in the dark!).

The 8th October brought the second call-out at 15.54. I received a report of two persons in difficulty in the water at Bossiney. I proceeded, along with Steve Ainsworth. On arrival at the scene we were informed by the original informant that they had been assisted out of the sea by some surfers. We made sure by talking to the people involved and watched them making their way home, shaken but safe!

October 13th found us trail at Bude again . . . alongside flank company. Du September, October November we have (as always) continued to carry out regular familiarisation/public relations patrols, each auxiliary giving time as and when possible.

Which brings me to report the loss of one of our Company - Purslow, due to work/health commitments has resigned. I had an excellent day's availability, so he will be missed. I will take the opportunity to thank him for his commitment over the past year and a half. We are awaiting the outcome of our year review, so at the time of writing I am uncertain as to whether we will be permitted to recruit, or just have our numbers reduced by natural wastage.

Take care on our coastline.

Mac Reyno

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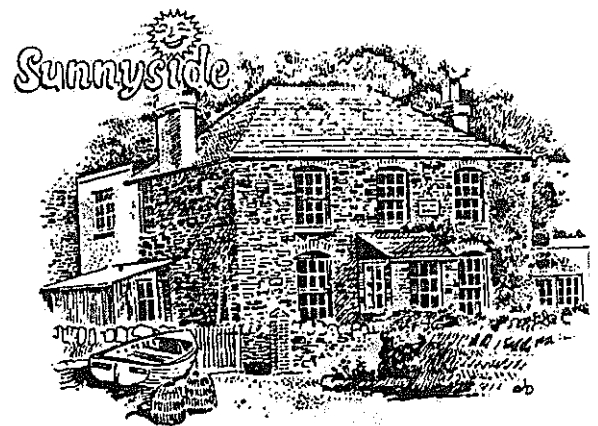
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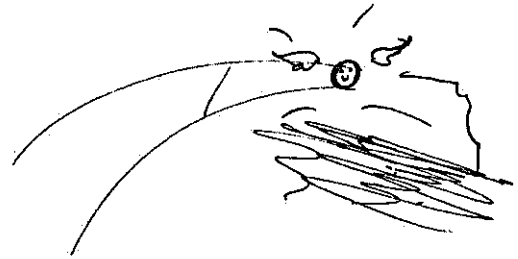
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The Alternative Doctor's Column



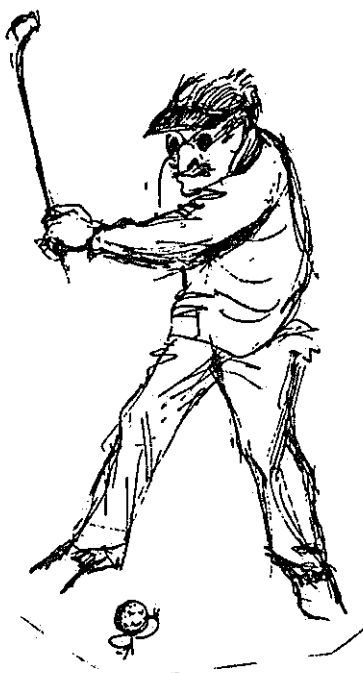
Many people forget that medicine is both an art as well as a science and this is perhaps where alternative medicine has its place. In this issue I would like to deal with relaxation which is defined in the English Dictionary as rest or refreshment. Specifically my interest is in relaxation techniques through sporting activities and perhaps I should have entitled this article "Relaxation and Golf".



There has been a sudden flourish of interest in golf recently and many golf tales are being told in the hotels, inns, and pubs of Boscastle. None of them are true but when did that ever matter? For those of you who are uninitiated, golf is a game played by 'grown ups' in groups of two, three or even four. Players go out in any sort of weather and try and hit a very small ball with a club a long way. Golf has its own peculiar language. Phrases such as 'well out, birdie put, fore, semi-rough, etc.' and other more expletive but less printable expressions can be heard across the golf course. Businessmen who usually would not be seen in anything less than a collar and tie dress up in brightly coloured garish shirts and chequered trousers (which clash with the shirt) and shoes with silly frilly bits on the top.

Relaxation and golf is all about swinging the club. Take Bob McKee, perhaps the oldest swinger in town. His swing finishes with a swish and a verbal tirade at anyone standing within ten paces. The dentists, of which there are an excess in Boscastle (and they all play golf - why is that?), have their own peculiarities. Paul Tarrant's swing is smooth and long as you would expect from someone nearly seven foot tall. Phil Higgs (Boscastle's answer to Jimmy Saville) has a swing that's fixed. But it doesn't matter as he has already told the ball where to go. Another professional, Paul Abbott, whose other interests include sewing, shopping, and ironing, has an 'in to out' swing. That's

another way of saying he mishits the ball. Victor Tobutt's problem however, is not so much in swinging the club as seeing the ball. Another well-known swinger John Blunt, an artist of one sort or another and sometimes known to blow his own trumpet, has an 'out to in' swing; but he's always been like that! Lastly, it's not always necessary to swing the club to relax at golf. Paul Saffhill often throws his clubs for miles with the appropriate desired effect.



I hope you find this short article useful in helping you relax. In a future issue I will try and cover another form of relaxation, namely "Boating and Fishing". This will be an everyday tale of ordinary folk living and working in a Cornish fishing village. But that is another story.
GDG.



Roundabout

More Support for Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Margaret Manning and her helpers were delighted (and astonished) to have raised £474.64 at the Coffee Morning on 23rd November. Another demonstration of the generosity of local people, organisers and supporters alike.

More recognition for Raymond

Raymund Rogers' 'Portrait of Charlotte' together with two other paintings - 'French Landscape' and 'French Still Life' are presently being exhibited at The Mall Galleries in London. The prestigious 'New English Arts Club' each year selects some work from non-members; on this occasion, of the twelve hundred or so works submitted, about 150 works were chosen - including three from our talented Boscastle artist. Some of Raymund's work is presently being exhibited in three other galleries across the country from the Merrifield in Hampstead to the Albany in Cardiff. Fortunately, we don't have to travel beyond our own Boscastle Gallery to admire this work.

Breakwater Books

Karen Coulthard has long been interested in children's books and has collected them since her own schooldays. She recently decided to try and turn a hobby into a business and has now launched Breakwater Books, buying and selling children's books and Annuals. We wish her every success in her new venture (and if you would like to turn old children's books into cash, ask Karen's advice).

Harvest Auction (2)

The Boscastle Group of Parishes Harvest Auction raised £401, from which a cheque of £200 was sent to Christian Aid. The Auction was preceded by the annual Harvest Supper, thanks to all who contributed in any way.

Forrabury Church Tower.

The latest news from the church is that the interior of the tower has been stripped of the rotten wood and plaster, and is now drying out. We are waiting for the workmen to come and make good the original revealed stonework.

From an Australian Correspondent . . .

Professor John Pearn, who has the Chair of Child Health at the University of Queensland writes "I was absolutely thrilled to receive... splendid copies of the 'Boscastle Blowhole'. It is absolutely wonderful to have these very precious volumes".

(from a letter to Fred Siford)

A CELEBRATION OF MUSIC

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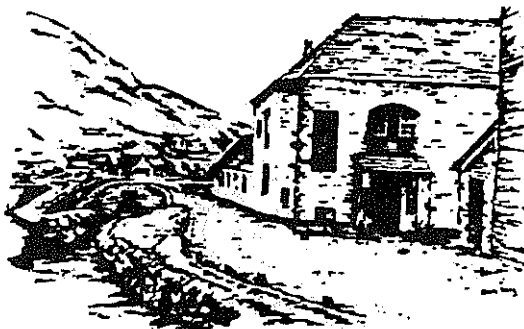
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Invitations

COME SINGING



Come singing carols with St. Genny's Silver Band around the village on Thursday December 22nd. Meet Langfords Meadow at 7.00 p.m. Mince Pies, coffee and tea afterwards at the Cobweb Inn. Mince pies would be appreciated to the Cobweb Inn. Thank you.

CAMELFORD AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

It may be wet and wintery outside but "June is bustin' out all over" in Camelford Liberal Club on Monday evenings as Camelford Amateur Operatic Society rehearse for their Spring production of 'Carousel'.

'June...etc.' is just one of the many well-known songs in this popular Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, which is to be staged at Sir James Smith's School on April 26th to 29th.

There are three of us from Boscastle in the cast and we are enthusiastic about the way the show is already taking shape. Daphne Rogers, Sandra McConnell and I are thoroughly enjoying rehearsals. We have two or three new soloists completing an excellent line-up of principals and the men's section has been strengthened.

I know many people from Boscastle come to see the CAOS shows every year and we think "Carousel" is going to be better than ever, so as soon as you get your new diary at Christmas please be sure to make a note of those dates!

Marianne Privett

CALLING ALL KNITTERS

If you knit, and have spare wool, why not take it along to an Oxfam Shop? Or better still, get knitting for those who live in desert regions where the night-time temperatures drop below freezing. As you sit beside your warm fire or radiator this winter, you could help to save the life of a malnourished and impoverished child in Rwanda, Tanzania, Vietnam, Uganda or Eastern Europe.

Oxfam would welcome knitted blankets or tops. For more information or a knitting pattern, contact Betty Bloye (Tel: 250514).

CLIC JUMBLE SALE

The Annual Jumble Sale in aid of CLIC and the Children's Hospice, South West will be held in the Village Hall in January. Date to be arranged. Please watch posters for details.

ENQUIRE WITHOUT

Can anyone tell me which colour helicopter belongs to which service? Yes, I do recognise the red air ambulance (for which, three cheers). I presume the vast grey ones are military and suspect that the yellow ones could be SWEB... or are they white? Lately a red and grey one spent a day circling the village. Anyone know why?

Another question - who transmits what from the mast at Tich Barrow, and does it affect all radio frequencies? I've noticed Radio 4 screeching and droning when I've driven past, but have not yet tested the effect on other wave bands.

If you can answer these posers, or have a query of your own, please contact the Blowhole's "Enquire Without" column.





Cook Spot



I must admit to having a less than sweet tooth. Even as a child I can remember preferring marmite sandwiches to sweets, and Christmas was always more exciting because of the turkey rather than the puds and pies. I also admit to a lack of planning in getting the mincemeat ready sufficiently early. So, when I came across this recipe it was a Godsend. It can be made (except for soaking the fruit) in an instant, is not too sweet, and there is less chance of chronic indigestion afterwards. It is a little runnier than the normal mincemeat, so it is probably better to serve in large blind-baked pies rather than the traditional individual sort (the the addition of a few white breadcrumbs would firm it up if your preference is for tradition).

Instant Mincemeat

10 ozs Raisins
10 fl ozs dry sherry/tawny port
1 large orange
10 ozs dessert apples
4 fl ozs lemon juice
4 ozs sugar
1 tsp salt
1 tsp cinnamon
1/2 tsp mace
1/4 tsp ground cloves
1/4 tsp fresh grated nutmeg
1/2 tsp minced fresh ginger (use the the garlic press!)
OR 1/4 tsp dried ginger
4 ozs butter

Soak raisins in sherry or brandy for minimum of 30 minutes, or preferably overnight. Remove zest and seeds from orange and chop finely. Peel and core the apples, chop finely and toss with the orange in a large bowl. Mix in all the remaining ingredients except the butter, which should be melted and added to the mixture right at the last minute. If making large pies put the butterless mixture in first and then pour the melted butter over.



I have often found the most difficult item of the Christmas Dinner is the starter. After all, the rest of the meal has long been determined by tradition, the only choices being whether to have goose or turkey, or if one should serve the Christmas pud and mince pies with cream AND custard.


There is also the time factor involved. I always something that can be prepared two or three day advance, and can be served in seconds. Here, then, little idea of mine for the Christmas starter which fits those criteria, and is not TOO expensive.

Smoked Salmon Roulade

1/2 lb smoked salmon
1 pack Boursin cheese (or equivalent)
Equal quantity of any cream cheese (I recommend Boursin cotta, but do strain through muslin first)
Dill weed or fennel
Black pepper (ideally, fresh ground)

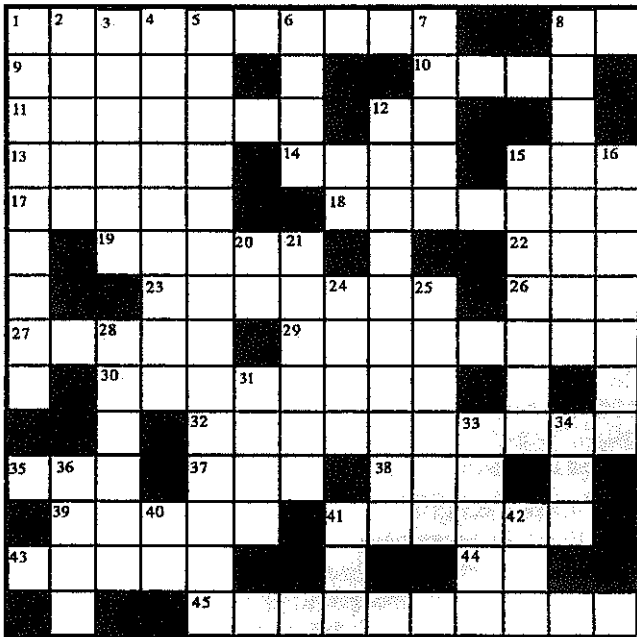
Sprinkle the dill/fennel and pepper onto a sheet of greaseproof paper, to roughly cover the area of a standard roll tin. Over this, in the same area, lay the slices of smoked salmon ensuring the whole area is covered. Press the salmon down quite firmly so that the herbs underneath adhere to the fish. Whisk the two cheeses together until slightly fluffy (this is best done if the cheeses are at room temperature). Now spread the cheese mixture on the salmon, leaving about an inch border at either end. Fold one of the borders over onto the cheese, and, using the greaseproof paper to assist you, gently roll into a roulade. The border of salmon on the other end should seal onto itself. Finally wrap the roulade in the greaseproof paper and an outer covering of foil. Chill well. Serve in thin slices (use a VERY sharp knife) accompanied with watercress and triangles of brown bread and butter.

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TWIN PIERS PUZZLES



CROSSWORD:

ACROSS

1. Ornamental 8. Preposition 9. Era 10. Girl's Name 11. Animation 12. Motoring Association (Abbrev) 13. Astringent 14. Essence 15. Diagram 17. Decorated Column 18. Abdomen 19. Pseudonym 22. Intelligence Agency 23. Narrow strip of Land 26. Forbid 27. Antiseptic/Disinfectant 29. Unguent 30. Large Snake 32. City of Central England 35. Blade 37. Ruler of Hades 38. Corporal/Sergeant (abbrev) 39. Pile of Stones 41. Bureau 43. Indian Tent 44. Depart 45. Greatly Worried

DOWN

1. Portico 2. Period of Time 3. Australian Shrub 4. Large Number 5. Fowl 6. Flavour 7. Muse of Poetry 8. Inhabitant of Thrace 12. Amazing 15. Shakespearean Character 16. Ghost 20. Located 21. Tendrils 24. Fresh 25. Posture 28. Persian Governor 31. Money 33. Medals (slang) 34. Some 36. Experts 40. That is (abbrev) 41. Small River Island 42. Lettuce

THINK IT OUT

1. A lady has 10 pets. Each is either a cat or a dog. She feeds them a total of 56 biscuits. Each dog gets 6 biscuits and each cat gets 5. How many cats and how many dogs has she?
2. A bottle of wine costs ten pounds. The wine is worth nine pounds more than the bottle. How much is the bottle worth?
3. At the Christmas Dance there were 100 people. At least one person present was a man. Of the couples dancing, at least one of each couple was a woman. How many men and how many women were at the dance?

AUTUMN PUZZLE ANSWERS:

CROSSWORD - ACROSS: 1.Spectral 8.Splay 13.Tearoom 14.Oolite 15. Urgency 16.Even 17.Leek 18.Scone 20.Deed 22.Ice 23.Ride 15.IQ 26.Edit 27.Ma 29.Nun 31.Gap 32.Sudan 35.Gael 36.Boding 37.Sly 38.Prominence 40.Peas 41.Nil 42.Illicit 45.Peep 47.Lei 48.Ally 50.Arras 51.Flan 52.Earnest 53.Sty 54.Asp
 DOWN: 1.Studding Sail 2.Per 3.Eagle 4.Creed 5.Tone 6.Rocking 7.Amy 8.So 9.Plentitude 10.Lived 11.Ate 12.Yen 14.Orc 18.Seep 19.Orison 21.Equal 24.Emancipate 28.Angel 30.Ney 32.Apostles 34.Dinners 36.Bin 38.Pecan 39.Rail 40.Pi 43.Left 44.Lily 45.Pang 46.Ere 49.Yap
 BOGGLED BOXES: 1. Lost in space 2.Double Take 3.Head above water 4.Low Frequency

BOSCASTLE POTTERY



Nanette, Tim and Roger Irving Little

More Sport

DARTS RESULTS

The Napoleon team are still supporting the rest of the teams in the league!

Cobweb B beat Napoleon 11-9, lost to Horshoe and Wellington. Cobweb A lost to Country Club, beat Cornishman and Coombe Barton.

Adrian Bright and Ron Hancock beat Butch Adams and Terry Hoskins at Darts for a bottle of whisky!

LADIES DARTS

The Cobweb team are running in the top half of the section.

POOL

"NAP" beat Cobweb yet again at pool - 5-4! Nap team still unbeaten in both leagues. Coaching lessons at Nap on Sunday mornings!

Cobweb B beat Masons and lost to Nap. Cobweb C beat Rising Sun (5-4), Workman's, Delabole (6-3), Cricketers (5-4) and St. Breward (5-4).

On the Tuesday Pool League Cobweb B beat Coombe Barton 9-2, Crooklets 8-3, Horseshoe B (9-2) and Wainhouse (8-3).

SEEN OUTSIDE COBWEB


Three mysterious figures abseiling down wall. Explanations of this extraordinary phenomena would be welcomed. Answers to the Blowhole please.

* See also 'The Alternative Doctor's Column' p.30

BOSCASTLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM RESULTS

On October 5th Boscastle played Altarnun C.P. School. Good football played by both teams. Boscastle went two goals up in the first half, goals coming from Scott Washer and Frank Page. Altarnun came back in the second half scoring two goals. Scott Washer was sin-binned for five minutes in the second half for slip of the tongue! Good result at 2-2.

On 3rd November the team went to Camelford for a Primary School Cup Match against Otterham C.P. Boscastle took control of the game at the start. Good football from the defence with the ball being passed around which soon found the back of the net. The goal coming from Frank Page having been started from the midfield by Jimmy Siford. There were two new players in the squad - James Arthan and Ben Gordon who both played very well as did the rest of the team. Just before half time Frank Page scored his second goal from at least 20 yards. The half time score was 2-1. In the second half Boscastle did everything but score. Otterham scored two more goals to win 3-2. However well played Ian Burnard, playing in goal for the first time, and for the first time Boscastle did not deserve to lose the match - very unlucky. Well played boys. Les Sifo



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Fun Factor: 10	Setting: 10	FACTOR
Welcome: 10	Facilities: 10	10

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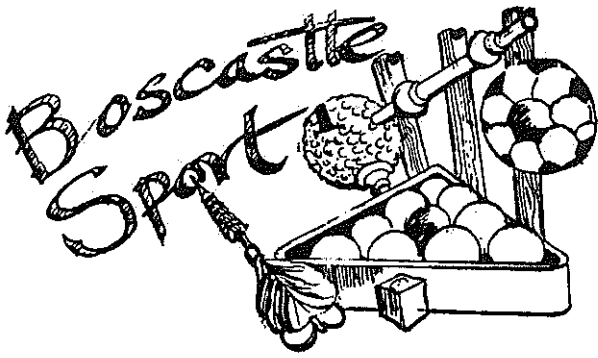
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ROGER FERRETT

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RUNNING SCENE

Well, another road running season has come to an end with only a couple of races not being run in ideal conditions this year. I ran enough races in Cornwall's Grand-Prix Series to qualify for the final Mob Match at Falmouth on 13th November. I also competed in a couple of other races in which Pat from the Spar Shop and Janet Lathom, our marathon girl, took part. Janet tells me she has applied for the London Marathon again for 1995 - 'Good Luck'.

Other locals were a bit thin on the ground. Scotty seems to have a bit of a blood pressure problem and Higgys has promised to make more comebacks than Frank Sinatra has given farewell concerts, the only difference being that the latter did show up.

Allen Darlinson

P.S. It has been nice to see some youngsters on the running scene this summer (e.g. Danny Bragg, Paul Lathom, Sam Washer, Tony Haslung). Keep it up!

LET'S HAVE A CUP OF TAI-CHI

So, here I am sipping my tea and reflecting on how many times a day it's possible to escape from simply 'being' and how easy it is to allow the mercurial mind to slither, rock and roll in all directions. It's time to pause and focus from the heart again - that deep constant rhythm is the dance of opposites at the core of Tai-chi meditation in movement.

If you're interested in exploring the relaxing pre-Christmas benefits of Tai-Chi, there will be a workshop on Saturday 10th December at Trevalga Village Hall from 10 a.m.-12.30 p.m. The cost is £5.00 - limited places, so please book immediately. Contact Jeanne Hampshire on 0840-770622

COBWEB V WELLINGTON

Have you ever noticed how, despite all the b laid plans, some days never quite go according to t script? Such a day was Sunday 25th October 1994. A stared into the bathroom mirror at a pair of sligh puffy eyes I contemplated the day ahead. I look down and the toothpaste had slipped off the end of t brush disappearing down the plughole. Looki around, all the trade samples were squeezed beyo recognition. Descending the stairs in search of fre supplies, I noted that the dog had torn my best g socks into a million pieces. I gave up on the toothpa search (having flossed and brushed with water). It v when the toast landed jam side down that I knew th the unmentionable could happen on such a day. wondered - was I really going to have to say "Thank y John and Victor, well done. Congratulations?" (AND SO, HOW WAS I GOING TO SAY IT WITH AT LEA. SOME SINCERITY?)

Defeat came at 7.18p.m. when despite all i attempts at reorganising the scoring system, t Wellington were DECLARED WINNERS OF TI MATCH. Victor beamed and after numerous attem the Wellington had won the TROPHY. Now I alw advise forward planning and I can only say that I did mislay the shield on purpose. So it was then, tha didn't have to present John with the prize but he c get his own back by kissing me in the pub ON TI MOUTH (when he knows I only allow him to do it the 14th tee and NEVER on the LIPS!).

I suppose I must be gracious and tell you all th we did have the best player on the day, Ian You. Thank you to all who took part (some 35 includi spectators) and a special thank you to Wendy, Joan and Tracey for their sterling work on the drinks troll

FOOTBALL

The first team seems intent on throwing away t chance of winning the league by not being able to p out their best team against their main title rivals. Be a wedding, a trip to Butlins or golf; whenever we e playing the most important fixtures we seem to be least 4-5 players short. Poor Martin is MAZED! (t still manages a smile after the final whistle). Come you boys.

Steve 'Barbecue' Dray has had a memorable st to the season having already exceeded his high number of goals in a season, despite missing from t penalty spot. I am glad to report that I have now be retired again by my wife, being in her words, 'too f too slow and too stupid to play any longer.' I must fi her a Saturday job.

Phil Hig

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