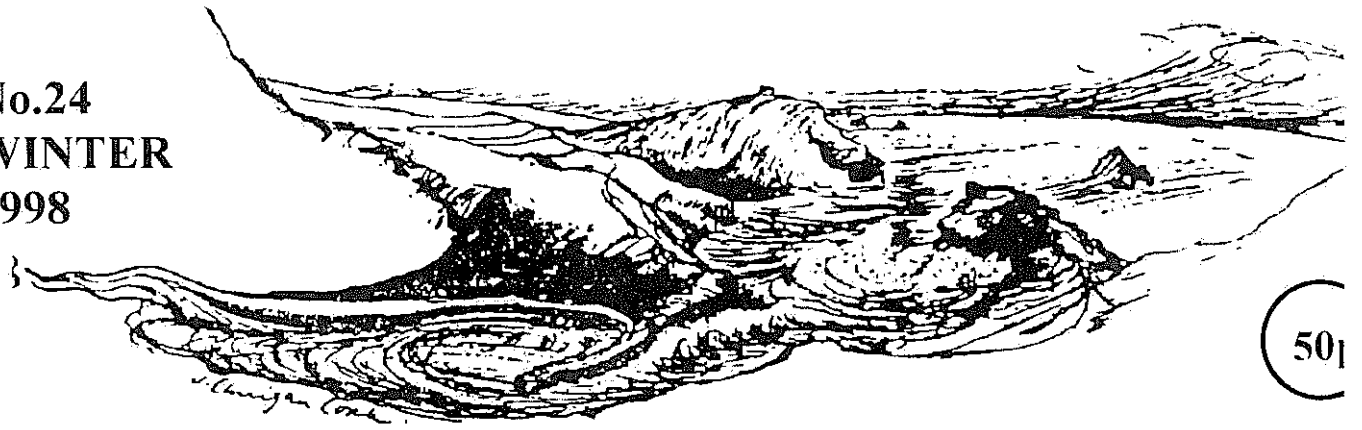


No.24
WINTER
1998



50p

BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE



**NOW
& THEN**

SURPRISE

50 Years of Bellingring

See Page 5.

BOSCASTLE VILLAGE HALL INFORMATION PACK

A new information pack giving details for the village hall accommodation, facilities and hire charges is now available from the hall manager Louise Brakes, 11 Clover Lane Close, Boscastle (01840-250126)

The hall is divided by folding doors to form one large and one small hall. The halls may be hired together or separately and all charges include the use of tables and chairs, the kitchen with its equipment (unless previously booked), the cost of lighting (excluding stage lighting) and heating. No hall equipment is available for hire off the premises.

There are three hire periods each day:

Morning	9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
Afternoon	2.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.
Evening	6.30 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.

An extension to the evening period is available if required.

Hire charges range from a modest £4.00 for a single period in the small hall to a maximum of £50.00 using both halls for a whole day including an evening extension.

Equipment includes chairs, tables, kitchen facilities, crockery, glasses and cutlery. Also available is a piano, easel, slide projector and screen.

As well as a demountable stage and up to date stage lighting. A number of these items attract an additional hiring charge.

There are toilets which include facilities for disabled persons as well as nappy changing equipment.

A public pay phone is located adjacent to the toilets.

Hirers' attention is drawn to the standard conditions of hire included in the hire agreement. This includes such matters as safety regulations, damage, licences and the sale of intoxicating liquor.

Editorial Panel: Philippa Arthan (Distribution), Arthur Bannister (Advertising), Yvonne Ayling, Jim Castling, Joan Cork, Karen Coulthard, Janet Lathom, Mac Reynolds. Communications may be addressed to: The Blowhole, c/o Boscastle Post Office, PL35 OAA

(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 £1 per issue.

Contact Philippa Arthan (01840) 250483

Copy Deadline for the Spring Blowhole is 17th February

Photographs: J. Castling, John Kessel and others. Artwork and Photo-montage: J Cork
Special thanks to Michael Parsons, Carol Leckenby, Graham King and The Harbour Restaurant for assistance.

Venn Down Lakes Trout Fishery

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and ask for Frank or Tim

Five Generations!

Pictured here are five generations of a local family: Great-great-grandmother - Mrs Mary Hicks, aged 95, a resident at Eirenikon. Tintagel is holding the newest member of the family. Master James Robert Bosley, born on 22nd October. Also enjoying the occasion are Great-grandmother - Mrs Vi Biddick. Granddad - Mr Malcolm Biddick and proud Mum - Mrs Diane Bosley.



Festive Fare at the Cobweb Inn

Served both in the Bar and
Restaurant from Fri. 18th Dec. 98

STARTERS:

*Homemade Leek & Potato Soup
Homemade Chicken Pate
Turban of Plaice
Melons and Grapes in Port*

MAIN COURSES:

*Roast Turkey, Stuffing & Cranberry Sauce
Roast Local Beef, Yorkshire Pudding &
Horseradish Sauce
Both served with Roast Potatoes &
Fresh Local Vegetables
Local Lemon Sole with Fresh Local
Vegetables or Salad
Homemade Mushroom & Nut Roast*

SWEETS:

*Christmas Pudding with Clotted Cream
Homemade Mince Pies & Cream
Homemade Sherry Trifle
Homemade Profiteroles & Chocolate Sauce
Coffe & Mints*

All for £9.50 per head

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL
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*The Restaurant will be open Christmas
week and New Year's week but
NOT Christmas Day or Boxing Day*

Music for December in the Bar

Sat. 12th Dec. - GRAHAM HICKS
Sat. 19th Dec. - SAM'S BROTHER'S BAND
Sun. 20th Dec. - FOUR SING RHUBARD
Christmas Singalong
Christmas Eve - STRUNG OUT
New Year's Eve - ONE WAY STREET

THE COBWEB, BOSCASTLE 250278

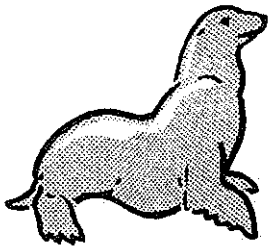
*A Very Happy Christmas and
New Year from Adrian, Ivor,
Vera and Staff*

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*
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* upper part of this
* beautiful harbour
* village, with
* spectacular views of
* coast and countryside.
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VERY REASONABLE RATES



Harbourmaster's News ANOTHER SEAL RESCUE

Early morning in early October and youth hostellers report a baby seal stranded in the harbour and in great distress. Fred Siford and his willing helpers are well-versed in the procedures by now and a call soon brought Sue Clinton (no relation to Bill) from the R.S.P.C.A. She decided that the seal should be taken to

the sanctuary at Gweek. With the help of Graham King and others, the shocked creature was soon rescued. Fred extends his thanks to Helen of the Y.H.A. and others involved in the rescue. Harbourside properties escaped major damage during the October storms, but one of the ducks decided to inflict a little of its own. Apparently blown off course during high winds, the mallard was catapulted right through an upstairs window of the Harbour Restaurant. Chris and Christine Morgan, who have recently given the restaurant a face lift, were left with broken glass and a bloody bedroom carpet. The duck, once removed to Fred's lawn, soon fluttered off back to the river, leaving the Morgans to continue serving customers at their popular carvery.

News of the death of the Everest explorer, Lord Hunt, reminded the Sifords of the occasion on which he stayed at Sunnyside. Fred and June have happy memories of his visit and particularly remember that he was a little absent-minded. After he had enjoyed a meal at The Cobweb, he asked Fred to return the menu, which he had inadvertently taken with him.

As for the 1998 season, Fred reports that it is 'best forgotten'. Only the Peganina remains at the moorings; other boat owners have had limited opportunities to enjoy them this year.

The most successful evening at the harbour was the occasion of the Songs of Praise Service: Boscastle Fishermen's Association and the RNLI extend their thanks to the Rev. John Ayling and wish him a speedy recovery from recent illness.

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goodness of
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Lesnewth Church Revel

Lesnewth Church Revel was to be held shortly after the Harvest Festival Celebrations. It was decided to make a change and have an afternoon service of Sankey Hymn singing followed by the traditional refreshments.

Early in September, Alan Carveth, the Master of bells at Truro Cathedral happened to make one of his regular and welcome visits to the practice evening. When told in confidence that Basil Jose and Ronald Hancock had been ringing at Lesnewth for fifty years, his immediate reaction was " They must have certificates, leave it to me! When shall we present them?" The Revel service was suggested and Alan readily agreed to come with other ringers and said he would ask Mr. Henry Trewin, president of Truro Guild of Ringers, to present the Certificates. As 1998 is the 50th anniversary of the treble bell being added to the ring of five bells, it seemed we had plenty to celebrate on October 18th!

The Church was well filled, the sun was shining, Maria Nicholls was at the organ and Lay reader Micheal Parsons led the service, giving us an interesting history of Ira Sankey and his music. Basil and Ron were surprised to see ringers from Truro and Kilkhampton and even more surprised to be presented with Framed Certificates for their long and loyal service to the Tower. In addition to the usual refreshments Mrs Vaierie Gill had made and iced a large cake which was decorated with two gold bells complete with ropes. The singing went on into the refreshment time and everyone really enjoyed it all. Weeks later people were still saying how much they had enjoyed it!





Basil Jose and Ronald Hancock

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 SCANIA TRANSPORT TRUST PRESERVATION AWARDS**

Correspondence

Dear Panel,

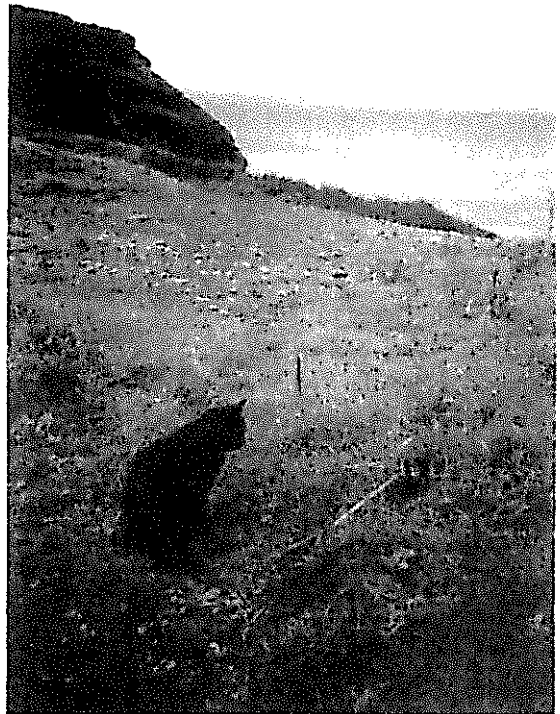
Enclosed is a photo of a lovely cat we have seen on the footpath between Boscastle and Trevalga. It has been there many years and looks well fed and cared for. It is very friendly and loves a cuddle but never follows you - just sits on the wall or stile. We would love to know if anybody owns it, or where they live, as the nearest house/farm seems a long way inland.

We come to Boscastle usually twice a year and rarely miss seeing it.

Could you please make some enquiries for us?

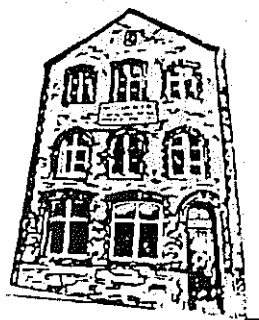
Yours sincerely,

Margaret & John Bullock
4, Chestnut Avenue, Chorley Wood.



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Merry
Christmas
Happy New Year
FROM SUE

The Ramblers FESTIVAL OF WINTER WALKS

26 December 1998-1 January 1999

Everyone is warmly invited by the Ramblers' Association to join one or more of the 380 walks organised by Ramblers' Groups all over England, Scotland and Wales.

The 124,000 member Ramblers' Association is Britain's largest organisation campaigning for walkers. It fights to protect the countryside and to make it easier for the public to enjoy.

Most walks are between four and seven miles and those that are longer are often arranged in a figure of

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Album 'Ancient Voices' available

eight so people can stay for either the whole or half the day. It is advisable to take food and drink, or ring the contact to find out if there will be a pub stop. It would also be wise to have warm, waterproof clothing and stout footwear.

In the list below, the walks appear in county or regional unitary authority order. There will be an experienced Ramblers' leader for each walk. Walks marked with 'D' indicate that dogs on leads are welcome, on the walks only. CP; indicates that the meeting place will be a car park.

- Holywell Bay** 27th December 10.30am NT CP, 8mils 01637 875199
- Godolphin** 27th December 10am, garage parking village or Gwedna Woods 7mils
- Polzeath** 28th December 1.30pm, CP 4mils 01208 73489
- Constantine** 28th December 1.30pm village CP 4.5mils
- Gorran Churchtown** 1st January 10.30am 6mils 01726 842101
- Gweek** 1st January 10.30am Bridge at Nr Helstone, 10mils 01326 34073



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Proprietors: Peter & Margaret Templar

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Or enjoy our Cream Tea with homemade scones.

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WAKEFIELDS PRINTERS

would like to wish all their 'Blowhole' readers a Happy and Peaceful Yuletide and a very successful 1999

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CAMELFORD
212562**



Joy Cheeseman, a Boscastle resident, is market controller for an exciting new Cornish venture

Lostwithiel Local Produce

Why did we need funding? Why Lostwithiel? And what is it? The three questions most commonly asked. Traceability is the 90's buzz word when it comes to food and so computers come into their own here. Me - I'm still the pen and ink variety but Cliff does all the records of who sold what and at which market.

Unlike Devon where Farmers Markets are being set up by District Councils, Cornwall has to fight for itself and the China Clay Area LEADER project backed our scheme and we haven't looked back. Hence the Lostwithiel setting as it is within their area.

At a Local Produce Market, local producers sell local produce to local people. The chap or lady facing you across the counter reared the sheep, baked the cake, grew the vegetables and made the crafts. What is more, the sausage is filled with Cornish pork, the ice-cream and cheese are made with Cornish milk, the meat is all slaughtered at a small Cornish abattoir. The farmers wife these days is quite a reformed character. She blends bath oils in the kitchen, nurtures plants and cuttings in the greenhouse and cuts pumpkins into saleable size pieces complete with recipe. She can butcher meat, pack it neatly and smile sweetly as she tells the customer how to cook those old fashioned joints like brisket of beef or neck of lamb.

Beautifully made crafts have appeared, with many crafts people working away on the spinning wheel, demonstrating pyrography and painting. Cakes, jams and grandma's green tomato chutney are also much in demand. Vegetables are in short supply at the moment, but in the spring the new crops will start again and the growers will already have a market they can depend upon. And bedding plants, cut flowers and all the old cottage perennials - well some of them.

And as we watch we see the jobs of many of the stall holders being made secure as turnover increases. A new job is created as someone discovers a talent he doesn't know he had and the customers are buying all he can produce.

Nothing produced is sold cheaply, that would be the quickest way to destroy the local economy. Some local shopkeepers are working with us, others are reporting more people in the town. Certainly our carrier bags are seen in all sorts of places.

Come and see us. Parking is free, entry is free and the Community Centre will serve you tea or coffee, a roll or a Lostwithiel baked Cornish pasty.

Joy Cheeseman

For more information, phone Joy on 250586



ORGANIC PRODUCE IN-A-BOX SERVICE

A group of young farmers from the Holsworthy area are providing an organic produce in-a-box service. The boxes are in three sizes costing £5, £7.50 & £10. The more expensive boxes contain more of the same vegetables. Each participant in the scheme pays a £2 deposit for three boxes. Bags of fruit and larger quantities of potatoes than that in the boxes are also available. The cost of the produce is paid one week in advance. If there are ten plus participants from a particular area, the produce can be delivered to an organiser in that area. If someone is willing to receive all the boxes of produce from Holsworthy and to collect the empty boxes and money from participants, they will receive their box of produce free of charge.

For further details and order forms please ring Moyra on 01409 221417 or Jemima & Dave on 01288 381216.

from satisfied customer,
Tony Herr, of Crackington Haven.

Japanese Knotweed

Japanese knotweed, or *Fallopia japonica* as the scientists would have us call it, has become a growing problem, if you'll excuse the pun, throughout Cornwall.

Introduced in the nineteenth century as an ornamental plant by enthusiastic Victorian plant collectors, Japanese knotweed has now escaped from its original garden confines and become established widely in the British countryside.

What's the problem?

In Cornwall it has become a particular nuisance as it seems to thrive on the mild, damp climate, growing particularly well on roadside verges, derelict land and alongside water courses.

The reason for its exponential spread is that all parts of the plant can give rise to a new growth, even pieces as small as 1cm will become a new plant. It tends to become established where people have dumped garden rubbish, containing pieces of the plant, in the countryside and as it grows well on stream banks, when pieces fall in the water and are carried downstream, new plants grow where they have lodged.

The main problem with Japanese knotweed is that it displaces the native flora and can cause structural damage to buildings and roads. The shoots of the plant are incredibly persistent in growing in or through man-made materials.

What's the solution?

There is no easy solution to removing Japanese knotweed from the countryside. Firstly we must stop its spread. It is an offence under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act to cause Japanese knotweed to be spread and the Environment Protection Act 1990 requires safe disposal of contaminated soil by burying to a depth of at least 5 metres.

Where it has become established, trying to get rid of it can be a nightmare. The persistence of the plant is such that even the most dedicated attack is unlikely to kill it off. However, regular cutting or pulling will, after a number of years, eventually weaken the plant and kill it off. But you have to cut the plant by hand as the use of a flail or strimmer will only spread pieces further afield, and remember it only takes a piece the size of your small fingernail to start a new plant going.

The most effective way to tackle to job is probably to spray. People have been undertaking research to demonstrate the best sprays and techniques and the most promising seems to be to use a glyphosate based herbicide such as Roundup. The

most effective technique seems to be to cut early the summer and then spray in late summer after the new growth has become established.

What's been done in North Cornwall?

The Service, together with the National Trust, has targeted Rocky Valley as an experimental site - see if it is possible to eradicate the plant entirely. Rocky Valley is a small, discrete location where there is a particular problem but where the landowners have been willing to allow the experiment to be undertaken and monitored. The method used here was very labour intensive but seems to be quite effective. It involved the injection of Glyphosate, at a higher than normal concentration, into each stem of the plant. The work was undertaken during September and the results will begin to show in the early part of next summer. We will report the success, or otherwise of the work in a future edition of this newsletter.

Available information.

The County Council, working with a range of other environmental bodies have produced a leaflet describing the Japanese Knotweed problem and the various do's and don't's. If you'd like a copy please let us know.

Charlie David



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MACMILLAN CANCER RELIEF

The sum of £325 was raised at The Coffee Morning held on Friday 2nd October at Lyn Biddick's home. All proceeds were for Macmillan Cancer Relief. Grateful thanks to everyone who supported this annual event and also to Lyn Biddick for holding the event at her house.

Vivien Hircock
(Boscastle Organiser)

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND ASSOCIATION

On the 28th October a very successful Coffee Morning was held at Heathdene, when £230.44 was raised for the Guide Dogs. Many thanks to my helpers and to all who supported me once again. I have now been able to sponsor my fifth dog's basic training and his sponsorship name is 'Jordan'.

Thank you - Bernice Lewis

JUMBLE SALE

The annual jumble sale in memory of Adrian Ferrett for C.L.I.C. and The Children's Hospice will be held sometime in January in the Village Hall. Date to be arranged. Look out for posters.

Vivien Hircock

MISSING since Friday evening 2nd October: Ginger Female Shorthaired cat, 18 months old - some white on face - quite nervous.

Any information please to: Vivien & Mike Hircock
Tel. 01840-250315

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Tuesday	- -	- -
Wednesday	- -	5.00 - 8.00
Thursday	- -	5.00 - 8.00
Friday	- -	5.00 - Late
Saturday	12.00 - 2.00	5.00 - Late
Sunday	- -	5.00 - 7.00

A Coast-Guard Saved



Clean the brushes, seal the paint tin,
Need a painter? Siford aint in.
Just postpone your decoration
Today's reserved for celebration.

Coil the ropes and park the Rover
For the moment rescue's over.
Stow the syren, belay maroons
For now we're talking Honeymoons

Close the dartboard scrap the chalks
Today's the day the parson talks
Just keep Leslie out of trouble
So he can finish on his double. Football's
cancelled; clear the pitch
Les and Wendy've made the hitch
Two great players in their prime
Ref's denied them extra time.

Fire the starter clear the track
Sprinting's off 'til Les gets back
Though wedded life and joy intense
May dull his taste for field events.

So just ignore dissenting creatures.
(And distressful signs on Les's features)
There's no bond more cool and trendy
Than Les's union with Wendy.

Boscastle Football Club

On Thursday 26th November a Coffee Morning was held at Hunter's Moon, the home of Mr & Mrs W Pethick. The event raised £190 for Boscastle F.C. funds. Thanks to everyone who helped and supported.



COASTGUARD UP-DATE

Hi! In the autumn Blowhole we left off our casualties at August 11th - never a moments peace!

August 18th Report of an injured girl (8 years old) at Trebarwith. Ambulance on scene requested assistance. On arrival assistance was no longer required. In attendance, M Reynolds (paged at work), R Alexander, G King D Williams

September 6th

This must have been one of the largest and most documented rescues in Boscastle patch for years. I was on holiday!! This was the night of drama for Nick Leeds and son James, not to mention Port Isaac Lifeboat and all the other rescue services involved - Police, ambulance, Coastguard teams from Bude and Port Isaac. A superb testimony to so many different teams working together as one and all towards a happy ending. The complete Boscastle company attended apart from yours truly!

September 7th

The aftermath of the night before, the recovery of the Port Isaac Lifeboat from the cave at Bossiney.

In attendance; L Siford, A Darlison, R Alexander, G King, D Williams.

September 19th

Investigate report of Campers on Cambeak. Campers were observed visually, but were unable to be reached or contacted.

In attendance ; R Alexander, S Mills.

October 4th

Sheep over cliff at Bossiney. Also in attendance were the RSPCA who deemed that due to the length of time the sheep had been stuck in its present position, the distress it was in and its overall condition it would be more humane to shoot it where it was. This was carried out with great efficiency. In attendance ; M Reynolds, L Siford, D Roots, R Alexander, J Mills, D Williams, G King.

October 25th

Report of an injured male at the lookout tower Boscastle. He proved to require no assistance. In attendance , L Siford , G King

That thankfully is it for this period.

A happy note to end on - Congratulations to Les and Wendy on the occasion of their marriage on November 5th at Bossiney. I had the great honour of being Best man and a good time was had by all. take this opportunity of again wishing them both a long and happy future together.

Until the next Blowhole ... take care on our Coastline Mac

SMITH & SMITH

ALL ASPECTS OF GARDENING, LANDSCAPING

AND FENCING

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Tuesday	- -	- -
Wednesday	- -	5.00 - 9.00
Thursday	12.00 - 2.00	5.00 - 9.00
Friday	12.00 - 2.00	5.00 - 9.30
Saturday	12.00 - 2.00	5.00 - 9.30
Sunday	- -	6.00 - 8.30

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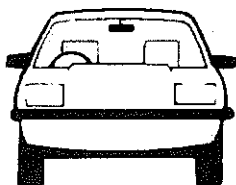
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Puss-cat fancier, that's not all:
Sound in outlook, straight in talk
It's Auntie Joanie Carrigan Cork

MULLED WINE

A recipe by Kaz.L

1 Bottle of red wine	1/2 pint of water
1/2 pint of orange juice	3 Tbs. caster sugar
2 Cinnamon sticks	1 tsp. ground coriander
1 tsp. whole cloves	1/4 pint brandy

Place all of the ingredients apart from the brandy in a saucepan and heat to just below boiling point. Add the brandy. Strain through a sieve into warm glasses.

All of the ingredients for this recipe are available at Londis Boscastle Stores, Dunn St.

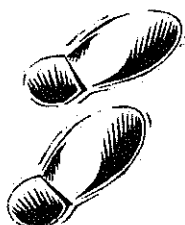


Look after your Feet

Advice from Mrs Lynn Oliver, Chiropodist

Feet are one of the most overlooked parts of the body.

We all seem to have time to see to our teeth, hair and eyes but feet usually only when they hurt. When you think they have to support us for 99,9% of our life we treat them quite poorly.



The foot is made up of 26 bones, 19 muscles and about 30 joints. They are the foundation supporting our body-weight, giving us movement and acting as shock absorbers. Yet we abuse them in footwear and usually neglect them until they hurt.

The right footwear is very important to keep feet healthy. Shoes should always be long enough to give toes space, wide enough so they do not squeeze the feet in from the sides. It is sometimes better to buy a half size bigger to give you the extra space.

As feet are in socks or stockings all day they can become moist and warm, which is good for fungal infections and germs but not too good for us. Wash the feet daily in warm soapy water and do not soak for more than 10 minutes. Make sure the feet are dried thoroughly, taking extra care to dry between the toes.



A chiropodist's tools are wide and varied and can be used for many different things, but unfortunately for one person (in answer to their request) I was unable to help and use my electric drill to file down their teeth!

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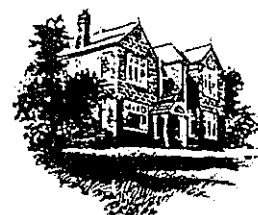
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Chiropodist

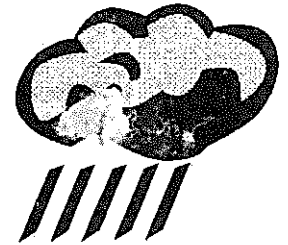
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WEATHER WATCH.

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OFFICIAL RECORDINGS.

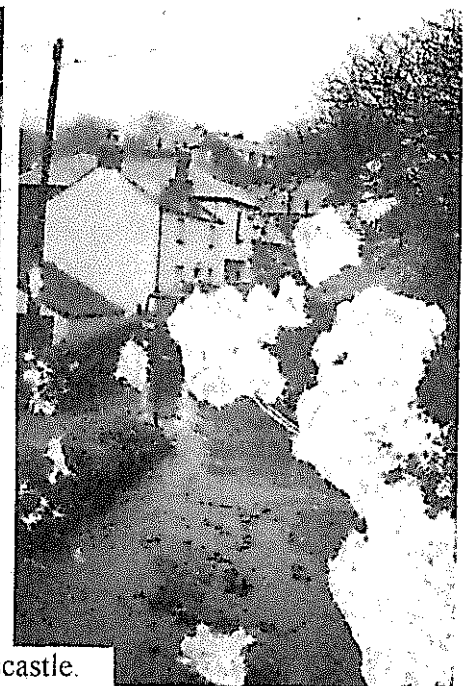
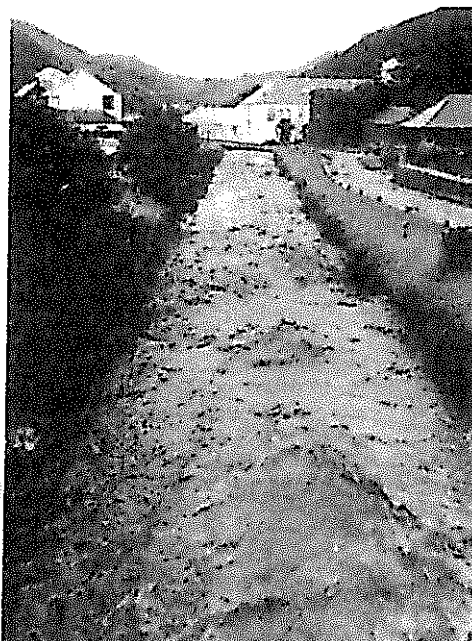
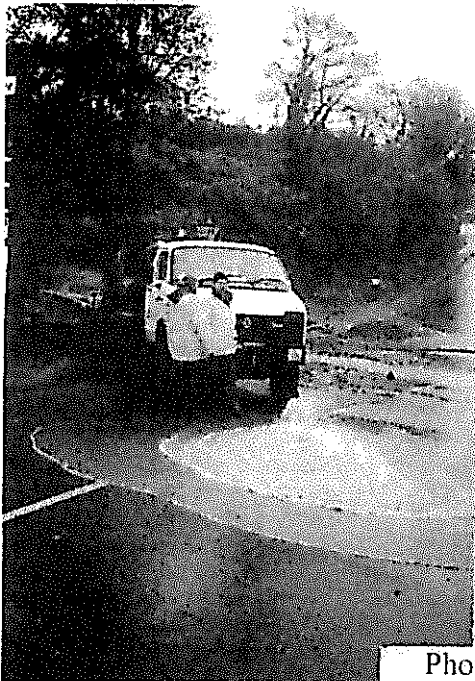
	1997.	1998
August	171.4.mm.	70.5.mm
September	83.3.mm.	124.8.mm.
October	124.9.mm.	275.8.mm.

Greetings weather watchers.

At the time of compiling my last report in early august, we were all still waiting for our summer to arrive. Alas, it never did show its face for more than a day at a time and spread very sparsely at that; in September there were 9 days without rain, a grey and miserable month, compared with how September can be. October had 6 days without rain.

Heaviest rainfall in one day was 38.9mm on the 22nd. Thereafter the daily recordings were very heavy indeed and by the 31st fields and drains could take no more and some flooding occurred. The start of the trouble in Boscastle on that day seemed to be at Doctors Corner, where torrents of water rushed down New Road entering every gateway and crevice on its determined way, flooding some homes. The Valency river was also full, as it rushed towards the harbour. The October rainfall was the highest monthly total since 1981 when 287.6mm. was recorded at Lesnewth.

Take care and God bless you all. Val Gill.



Photographs courtesy of John Kessel. Boscastle.

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Come and see us over Christmas and the New Year

County Council Election

A word from the new councillor

I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself in this article, and to thank all those who came out on a cold and windy day to vote for me. I will now endeavour to serve you all to the best of my ability, and I am quite prepared to listen and learn in the process. The election campaign will not be forgotten overnight, as it was memorable for many days campaigning in gale force winds and driving rain, not to mention a delayed start as I had flu.

I was amazed at the number of people who knew Mr Fred Whiting so well all over the electoral Division, of course I really should not have been, as he was your member for nearly 25 years, and was ever ready to help, and meet people as often as possible. Many said to me on the doorstep the 'he will be a hard act to follow'. I am sure they are right.

However, I hope I will be able to look in on some of your social events, over and above the various commitments I will have. I hope to become involved in agriculture and highways at County Hall, but more about this in due course. You can always call me on my business line 01840 770548, which also takes a message or a fax, or write to me at Trethevy Farmhouse, Tintagel.

Glenton Brown

A CONSERVATIVE VIEW

When the boxes containing the voting forms were shaken out on the table on the evening of polling day I watched the build-up of the piles of 20 with mixed feelings. I knew I would not win, but the margin of the loss was important to me. This seat is winnable, I felt, even if not yet

I was encouraged by the contents of the Boscastle box and also Tintagel, where I was not all that far behind, but St. Teath and Delabole were disappointing. The final margin was a bit of a blow to my pride. Probably no more than I deserved, but the degree of support I had had on the doorstep had been outstanding.

We worked extremely hard and made contact with more Conservatives than we knew existed. A number of life-long Conservative voters who had perhaps changed their allegiance at the last General Election said they were ready to come back to the fold.

Since then we have beaten the LibDems in a County Council seat they had held in Newquay and our candidate came second behind the SNP in a four-cornered fight in the NE Scotland Euro election, so I am starting to feel that the tide is beginning to turn.

Many thanks to all those who voted for me and those who gave practical help during the campaign.

Richard Reeves

Mebyon Kernow

A thank you to all my supporters at the last election.

Sue Bowen would like to take this opportunity to thank all those voters who supported her, and Mebyon Kernow in the recent by-election for the Tintagel Ward.

The result was, for M.K. quite satisfactory at 11.99%. We would have been happy with 10%. It shows people are beginning to become aware that the problems besetting Cornwall cannot be solved by local politicians, who are constrained by the necessity to conform to party policy constructed in London.

Thank you all once more.

Sue Bowen.

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What the Dickens ?

Another Music Hall in February

Slap, bang! Here we are again!

Here we are again, here we are again; Slap, bang, here we are again

What jolly dogs (and girls!) are we!

The raucous opening chorus of the Boscastle Cave of Harmony's third production in February, a Grand Dickensian Music Hall, will take us back to 1870. Our annual feast of melody and mirth follows the first two shows in honour of Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee and the coronation of King Edward VII. This time we present a programme of lusty, tuneful and often charming songs and acts played in the halls in the last years of Britain's most famous novelist, Charles Dickens.

The description "Dickensian" is not just a convenient one. The bill, based on the early days when music hall was graduating from the crude but lively song and supper rooms to proper, purpose built theatres, reflects the irrepressible gusto of Pickwick Papers and its Cockney characters, the warm sentimentality of Tiny Tim in A Christmas Carol, and, yes, the grimness of mid-Victorian London revealed in Oliver Twist. Audiences then were used to coping with the harsh realities of life by laughing at them, by cocking a snook at pomposity and death. One powerful item, that classic of black humour, The Ballad of Sam Hall, hugely popular in its time, can still shock us today.

We think you will find, as the cast is discovering in rehearsal, that you will be transported for an evening to a very different world from ours. One or two of the items are strong meat, others achingly funny, others delicate and utterly delightful. One characteristic stands out: the wonderful melodies

that enchant us today, just as they captivated audiences nearly 130 years ago. And how splendid they are! Some of the songs are still firm favourites, from Champagne Charlie and She Was Poor But She Was Honest to Pretty Little Polly Perkins of Paddington Green, all with rousing choruses.

Your favourite artistes will take part, among them the majestic John Bolitho, the perky Jo Fallaize, the enchanting Zoe Hodges and Roger Nicholls who made such a hit in May this year. There are new faces, too, including Joyce Hargrave-Wright from Tintagel and the well-known tenor David Pinn.

As before, the show takes place in Boscastle Village Hall (the proceeds go to its development fund) and for this show every seat will be numbered and can be reserved individually. In earlier productions tickets were sold out well before the first night, so a fifth performance has been added to cope with demand. The music hall will run from Tuesday, February

15, to Saturday, February 20. Performances will begin at 8 p.m. and doors (and the bar) will be open from 7.30. Seats can be booked from January 2nd at Boscastle Post Office in Dunn Street (01840 250259) and prices are £4.00, £3.50 and £3.00 with concessionary prices for senior citizens and the unwaged at £3.50, £3.00 and £2.50. As we have learned from previous years, it is a good idea to book early! As ever, audience participation is not just encouraged: it is compulsory, and patrons in appropriate dress will be particularly welcome. And when the strains of the last chorus, Dear Old Pals, die away we hope that you will have enjoyed another memorable evening.

Michael Turner



George Harlock

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Progress with the North Cornwall Visual Arts Centre

Plans to establish a Visual Arts Centre for North Cornwall in Wadebridge move forward. Jane Castling is Friends Co-ordinator and Fundraiser and has been very active in recent months.

The plan is for the Centre, once established, to be partially staffed by volunteer 'Friends' along the lines of Bideford Arts Centre and The Tate Gallery at St Ives. There are already 79 'Friends of the Saltings' signed up and their subscriptions paid : £5 a year for 'Ordinary' Friends; £30 for 'Foundation Friends'; £50 for husband and wife. (Foundation subscriptions revert to the 'ordinary' rate after the first year). Indeed, Friends are already active in manning the Saltings Information Centre at 49 Molesworth Street, Wadebridge for three hours a day, five days a week.

Local authorities (District and County) continue to make encouraging noises and a number of possible sites have been suggested by North Cornwall. The Betjeman Group who have also expressed interest in establishing an art gallery, have been recommended, with North Cornwall Visual Arts Centre, to find ways to collaborate so that they may work in shared amenities. Both groups are engaged in discussions on how a single group may fulfil the objectives of both parties.

Fund raising efforts are gaining momentum. The cost of building and equipping the Centre would be funded by a combination of Lottery and European sources. Formal application has already been lodged with the authorities. In the meantime, a complete feasibility study is planned which will be the subject of a Lottery grant application, part-funded by locally-raised monies. Daily running costs, which are growing as activities increase, will also be provided from charitable work. The Information Centre in Molesworth Street is provided without cost by Friends and a programme of activities is now being developed by the Friends Committee.

The first event in the programme was the Grand Charity Auction, held in the Town Hall in Wadebridge on Saturday, 14th November with local artist Henry Israel in the role of Grand Auctioneer. It was an appalling night with squalls of heavy rain and the turnout was disappointing. There was a large and loyal party from Boscastle, however, and a creditable sum of £1,606 was raised as the foundation of the Saltings expenses fund. Jane Castling is very grateful for all the donations of auctionable items and to those people who braved the weather to attend and bid.

Boscastle Newsagents

Christmas Greetings



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THE WEA IN BOSCASTLE

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ART CLASS NEWS

The Creative Art Workshops have lately been dubbed 'Adult Playgroup'. I have just come back from an afternoon of construction and collage using flotsam, jetsam and found objects. The hall was spread with shredded skeins of nets and ropes, empty mussel shells, pebbles, sea-smoothed driftwood and fragments of brightly coloured plastic.

Someone's husband asked : "What does your teacher expect you to do with that lot?" Her reply : "This is the week you demonstrate a playful, relaxed attitude to making and creating." It also showed that you do not need to be an expert or spend a lot of money on art materials. There were some inventive constructions : sea-monsters, an owl on a perch, a collage of colourful autumn fruitfulness fading into cold winter bleach out.

The group is responsive and fun to work with. I can see development in friends who have come for several years. Some have felt inspired to go on painting holidays. A rewarding moment : a woman whose eyes had filled in frustration over her lack of technical skill, the next week went on to make a beautiful tonal drawing; the magic of three dimensions existing on two. She said "Yes, I want to keep that one."

A suggestion for a project for May, 1999 : A weekly day workshop, 10 am - 3 pm, painting outside using Boscastle Hall as a base. Let me know if you are interested. As ever, we need 10 to run via the WEA.

Ros Eastman, 01840 250670

STAINED GLASS

It is hoped that a beginners' class (though students with some experience are also welcome to attend) in Stained Glass will run this winter. Details of the course are still being finalised, but it will probably be held over several afternoon sessions of 3-4hrs long. Look out for posters with dates and times. Coloured glass etc, to make window panels, lamps, or other glorious designs can be purchased from the tutor, Arthur Bradley, who will bring a selection of materials to the class. For more details or to book a place on the course ring 250483.

BOSCASTLE HISTORY PROJECT

The Boscastle History Project has made a good start with a group of over 15 people interested in researching into life in the village throughout the ages. Topics of particular interest include : farming, marine concerns, education and society, wartime Boscastle, Church and Chapel, genealogy, prehistory, the arts, architecture in fact every aspect that we think of we add to the list. We had a guided tour of the Cornwall Records Office in Truro and discovered what a vast range of documents they hold there. The group are making a list of books, maps and other documents including old photographs that they have. If you have any such gems that you think would be of use to the project, we would be delighted to hear from you. We also aim to record some oral history and look forward to many interesting conversations; perhaps we will hold a social evening in the new year where anyone with thoughts, ideas or information to share can come for a drink and a chat.

To contact the group ring Philippa Arthan 250483 or Ann Knight 250317.

AFTER THE XMAS CLEAR OUT



VISIT PENVAGE AUCTIONS NEXT SALE

SATURDAY JANUARY 16TH AT 10-30AM.
CLEASE HALL, CAMELFORD.
01840 250576/250328

Church Chapel

Below is the Christmas programme of events in Boscastle Churches. All put on something special, and we invite you - residents and visitors alike, to join us. What sort of events? At Trevalga Village Hall on 21st it is a good 'old fashioned' carol sing, fortified with mince pies and the Rector's special mulled wine. Out at Otterham, in front of a blazing fire in a Medieval farm house, it is readings (sacred and secular, serious and funny) that we concentrate on - bring it and read it! On 23rd it is the traditional carols round the streets with the band, ending up at the Cobweb - say no more! The United Carol Service, at the Methodist Church this year, with the traditional readings and carols, reminds us of the age old Christmas Story. We have two 'Midnights' (actually 11.30pm), because we could not get everyone into one church. Forrabury and Lesnewth are hosts. For many this is the highlight of the church's year. On Christmas Day itself, the Methodists have their service at 8.30am; and St. Juliot at 10.15 (the traditional 1662 Communion service) and Trevalga (Rite B) at 11.00am - all with carols.

Why? Despite everything that is commercial about Christmas, we proclaim the birth of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. That is what it is all about! That is what the millennium is all about. That is why CHRISTmas is. 'Oh Come! Let us adore Him.'

JMA

Christmas Programme

- Sat. 12th Dec. 7.30pm. Davidstow Church.**
Carols with Camelford Town Band.
- Fri. 18th Dec. 7.00pm. Otterham Church.**
Carols in Church, followed by readings and refreshments in Churchtown Farm. (Bring it and Read it)
- Sun. 20th Dec. 6.00pm. Boscastle Methodist Church.**
United Carol Service.
- Mon. 21st Dec. 7.00pm. Trevalga Village Hall.**
Carols, mince pies and mulled wine.
- Wed. 23rd Dec. 7.00pm. Meet Langfords Meadow.**
Carols through the village with St. Gennys Band. End at Cobweb.
- Christmas Eve, 24th. 11.30pm Forrabury and Lesnewth Churches.**
'Midnight' Eucharists, with carols and candles.
- Christmas Day.**
Boscastle Methodist Church 8.30am. Service with Communion.
St. Juliot Church 10.15am (said 1662 Holy Communion with carols)
Trevalga Church 11.00am. (sung Rite B with Carols)
- Sun. 3rd Jan. 3.00pm Lesnewth Church.**
Carols and Readings.

Greetings from the new Methodist Minister

I am George Lewis, the new Minister for the Methodist Church in this area. From the heart of Zululand in South Africa to the North Coast of Cornwall; from temperatures in the upper 80s to the Cornish winter; from a Third World to a First World environment; from a variety of languages and cultures to a place where everyone speaks English (a sort); from the legends of Zulu King Chaka to the legends of King Arthur; it is all very different, but it is wonderful to be here and I am looking forward to working with you.

I was born in South Africa and have been in the Methodist Church all my life. I started my working career in the Gold Mines near Johannesburg as an apprentice fitter and turner. After completing my indentures and a Diploma in Engineering, I went to Teacher Training College and entered the teaching profession. I did this some thirty years, teaching Maths and Technical Drawing, ending my time as a Deputy Headmaster of a C High School in Durban.

I qualified as a local preacher nearly thirty years ago and for eight years pastored a church in the Durban Metropolitan circuit, while continuing teaching. I took early retirement in 1988 and was ordained a Methodist Minister in 1991. I served in Durban Central Church for two years and then accepted an invitation to Mtubatuba in Zululand. There I ministered to five societies (chapels) of which two were Zulu-speaking. Zululand is a wonderful place to work. Most of the folk are involved in sugar cane or timber farming. There are three large game reserves in the area, where one can see most of the big game animals, elephants, lions etc in their natural environment.

I am a widower and have 5 married children and four grandchildren. I am very pleased to be in this area and look forward to getting to know you.

UNITED CAROL SERVICE

Boscastle Methodist Church
Sunday 20th Decemb
6.00pm
All Welcome

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Tintage. Tel. 770274

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Fr. Storey 770663
Masses: Sunday at 10.00am
Saturday at 6 pm
Mon.-Thurs. 10am.

Fri. 6pm (1st Fri. 7 pm)
**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY
OF FRIENDS**

Quakers meet in the
John Betjeman Centre,
Wadebridge, each
Sunday at 10.30am.
Everyone welcome.

MAN OF BOSCASTLE

Arthur Olde 1921 - 1998

Our village was greatly saddened by the loss of Arthur Olde, a man who for many, many years contributed so much to the life of our community. The Blowhole speaks for all residents in extending sympathy to Iris and her family. On the following three pages, we publish some of the many tributes which have been paid to this very special man.

*A transcript of the Address given
by The Rev. David Easton at
Arthur's funeral service.*

When I sat down to think about what to say today, I hardly knew where to begin, for Arthur managed to do such a lot in his life. I was in danger of drawing up a long list of things he had done. Of course he was born in this village and lived here his entire life. He did an apprenticeship in Tintagel, was called up for National Service during the war, and served in North Africa managing somehow or other to be in both the Army and the Air Force, although not both at the same time. (Perhaps one of them couldn't stand his sense of humour.) He worked for Fred Pearn on his return, and then set up business eventually on his own account as a carpenter and also as an undertaker. He played football well into what we might call middle age, was involved with the British Legion ever since he returned from the war, served with the Coast Guard, was a member of the Men's Club here in the village, and was a member of the Parish Council and also of course was the steward of this Chapel here.

All these things are true but I want to say more about Arthur Olde than just that, because we are here today not because of the things he did in his life, although they are important, but because of who and what he was. I'd like to suggest to you three things that stand out particularly as reasons for our tribute to Arthur.

If you want a tribute to Arthur Olde, look around you. Look around at this village and first of all at this street. There is hardly a house that he has not worked on at some time or other. If you want a tribute to Arthur, see it in the handiwork, his handiwork, to windows and many other places where his skills were employed over the years. See it in the restructuring of the Sunday School room in the Chapel in which he played a significant part. Practical knowledge and skill which he used in so many ways and if you are lucky you might even see some of it in your own home, even though Iris often had to wait years whilst he was doing jobs for others. Also in the time spent with people he worked with; the jokes and laughter.

See it too in the countless people for whom Arthur was the first to visit the home after the death of a loved one. I think in all his work it was more than just a job for him. It was a way of meeting and sharing and helping other people; and so if you want a tribute to Arthur, look around you in this village.

Secondly, if you want a tribute to Arthur, look around you at all the people here today. We are not here because we feel we ought to be but because we want to be. We want to be here to pay tribute to him

and to support Iris and all her family. I think perhaps above all Arthur was a people person, whether he was winding you up with his sense of humour, or whether he was helping people out. He was a person who liked to be with people. It wasn't just another job when he was replacing a window or seeing to a funeral. Without exaggeration it would be true to say that he was one of the most thoughtful people I ever met.



Arthur Olde

I say thoughtful rather than just kind because he had the ability to look at situations and other people and say, "Now what help do they need?" and try and answer their need. If he had a pound for every time he had run a person to Plymouth Hospital or some other place to help them out, he would have died a millionaire. I am sure there are lots of examples of Arthur's thoughtfulness. I would like to share with you two of them, but there could be many more. When Dr. Hillier, who as you know was a G.P. in this village for many years, eventually moved away, Arthur used to write to him every month or so to keep him up with the news of what was going on here. I was never sure

whether Arthur really enjoyed writing letters but it was one of his graces and gifts. In a quiet and unexpected sort of way, he showed a kindness to other people.

Another example which sprung to my mind when I was thinking about all of this: I think it was the 150th anniversary of Brockhill Chapel. It had been agreed to decorate the church for the anniversary. At the last moment the person who was going to be doing the decorating was unwell so it couldn't be done. On hearing this, Arthur, without being asked, went over there and decorated the church himself. He was a true friend to those who he knew and had a warm welcome for those who he didn't. Over the years visitors have been welcomed to this village and more especially to this church. He didn't always agree with you and wouldn't be slow in letting you know, but afterwards he didn't hold it against you and other people found it impossible to hold it against him. And of course, central to all the people here today are Iris, Bridget, Deborah and all the family, some of whom have travelled a long way to be here today. Of course, Iris and Arthur had known each other all their lives, swam in the harbour together as kids, grew up together in those dim and distant days when they acquired the names Barfis and Oxo. (We think today people have weird names!) Iris was always keen to point out that she is younger than Arthur, but in July of last year they celebrated their Golden Wedding, on a lovely day during which many of you called to see them.

Arthur said to me then, and I am sure he would like me to repeat it today what good times he and Iris had had together and how fortunate they were to have known each other. They were certainly good for each other and sometimes entertaining for the rest of us, as we watched Iris keeping him in order. Sitting in your kitchen waiting for the two of you to get Sunday lunch on the table afforded me regular amusement.

Thirdly, if you want a tribute to Arthur Olde, think of his faith. For many years Arthur was the Steward and Treasurer of this Chapel. He gave hours and hours of his time to the life and work of the Methodist Church and this village and also in the wider community. Arthur wasn't somebody who

preached sermons or spoke about his faith a deal. In fact, he often said he didn't have much faith but that certainly was not the case. There were times when he said to me that during the week he thought about a sermon he had listened to or a point which was discussed at a Bible Study and wondered how he could find the original. Arthur, faith had to be practical, and I am sure that's how it should be. As we heard in our first lesson, how can we love the people we can see, how can we love the God whom we cannot see? As a Minister, I have been impressed with many people over the years who have served the Church of Christ and the wider world faithfully and with integrity. Arthur was one of them.

Perhaps on a personal note, I might be permitted to say how much I appreciated the ways in which Arthur supported and encouraged me during my time as a minister here at this Church. And I know that was true also of other ministers who served here because they have said so to me, not just since Arthur has died, but at other times too. Perhaps in the Methodist Church, which meant so much to Arthur, and to which he gave so much of his life, I may speak on behalf of all those who have come here as ministers during the years, we thank him for all the ways he supported and encouraged us.

Finally, there is one thing about Arthur I have not mentioned yet and that is his laughter and sense of humour. It never deserted him. I spoke to Arthur on the phone about a week or so before he died and then and in the face of suffering and death he showed laughter, courage and faith. I know too that he would want me to thank the many people who visited him or sent cards over the past weeks who have continued to support Iris and all the family, their love and prayers since his death. It was that at the end, he died peacefully surrounded by his family and in his own home.

Arthur Olde was a child of Boscastle and of this place and its people and over these past months and days the people of Boscastle and far beyond have shown that they loved him. Arthur, thank you for everything. We shall miss you so much!

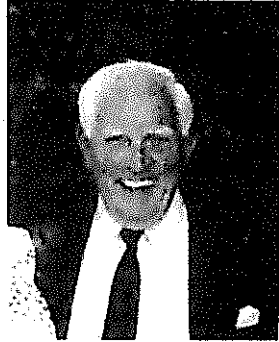
Arthur Olde - Parish Councillor

Although for many years he was asked to join the Council, Arthur always refused until he retired. This was due to the fact that the many facets of village life in which he was involved would have made it impossible for him not to have declared an interest in most Council-raised issues. This fairness and honest approach was to be apparent throughout his time as a Councillor. Arthur will be remembered by all the Councillors for his ability to treat all matters without fear or favour, often managing to inject his own brand of humour into a discussion. His eyes would twinkle, a small grin appear on his face and an otherwise explosive situation during a debate would be brought back to reality by a no-nonsense comment.

Those with differing views to Arthur would find that, whilst being a worthy adversary, he was always willing to accept others' viewpoints; but if he felt that his view was truly that of the people of Boscastle, he would never give up fighting for his opinion to be acted upon. His site meetings with the National Trust have become the stuff of legends, often humorous, always remembered by both sides. The Council will sorely miss Arthur but feel sure that if there is a committee in his next life its members will be greatly enriched by his fairness and sense of humour.

Arthur Olde

In all the Offices he held in the Boscastle Branch of the Legion, including that of Chairman, Arthur was tireless in the service of our members. His intimate knowledge of the village and those who, like him, had seen active service in the 1914/18, or 1939/45 war, was invaluable. On many occasions, when he became aware of someone in difficulty, his response was immediate ensuring that vital support, whether personal or material, was available without delay. His knowledge, his organisational ability and his friendship will be sadly missed. May he rest in peace.



The Royal British Legion.

Arthur Olde

Boscastle AFC would like to extend its sympathy to the wife and family of the late Arthur Olde.

In his younger days he was a player with the village club before moving on to play for The Camelford Railway team when the Boscastle team was disbanded. On its re-formation in 1974, Arthur was elected to serve on the club's first committee doing more than his fair share for several years.

Even after his retirement he remained a staunch and loyal supporter right up until the end.

BOSCASTLE SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB

Arthur Olde was a member of the club from around 16 years of age, breaking off only during his war service. During his demob leave he helped to alter the club from 3 rooms to 2, removing what was then a library. He was always the main driving force when various alterations were made. Arthur was a committee member, for more years than current members can remember and played in the local snooker and billiard leagues for many years. Even when he retired he would always turn out to help, if any of the teams was short of a player, or short on transport. Arthur was the senior member of the club. He will be greatly missed by young and old members alike for the continuous effort and support that he has given to the club over the years.

H M Coastguard

Tribute to Arthur 'Barfus' Olde.

It is with great amount sadness that I write this small tribute to such a large and 'well liked' character, I need to go no further as every man woman and child in the village knew of Barfus but perhaps they are not quite so familiar with his work for H M Coastguard. He joined the team at Boscastle on the 19th August 1951 (then aged 29) which incidentally was before I was born! He served until the 8th January 1987 having completed just under 35 years service, and is one of only two auxiliaries at Boscastle who have received a 15 year clasp to complement their 20 year Long Service Medal. I joined the company in March of 1971, so I served alongside 'Barfus' for some 16 years. In this time I have many memories and 'flashbacks' of Barfus having us all in fits of laughter with his banter, jovial manner and tremendous ability to 'wind up' any visiting training officer. I can still hear him now putting the younger 'green' members of the company (me included) to right if they struggled with a certain knot or drill technique. As an auxiliary coastguard he was just always there whether it was a Casualty Drill night, or a social function. It was a rare occasion if he missed it, but I for one (along with many others) will miss Barfus for his solid straight to the point, dependable nature. It was a sad day for the team when he retired, now it's a sad day for the whole village.

Mac Reynolds, Station Officer,
Boscastle Auxiliary Coast Guard

Tribute from Boscastle School

Arthur Olde went to Boscastle School, and has often spoken to me over the years of his own school days. Many of his tales were amusing and gave me an insight into the past, which school record books rarely do.

His interest in the school and his concern for everyone in it has been evident throughout my time here. I can barely count the number of instances of kindness and generosity which he has shown to the school, for they are many.

He mended things, arranged things, built nativity platforms and cast a friendly eye over after-school sports. He asked for nothing and gave so much. Nothing was too much trouble; it was always, 'leave it with me', and 'it's a pleasure to be a help'.

Arthur was a true friend to our village school, and those of us here at the school were privileged to share in that friendship.

Neil Young - Boscastle School

Full Turn-out for Remembrance Sunday

The eightieth anniversary of the end of hostilities in The Great War was marked by a service in the Methodist Chapel in Fore Street on 8th November. Remembrance services are held on alternate years at Forrabury Church and the Chapel. The service was conducted by Mr Glenton Brown. In his address he drew attention to the sharp difference in the lives of ordinary people today from those of 80 years ago. Today we take comfort and security as our right, whereas in those days, men were expected to risk their lives unquestioningly in defence of their country.

A two minute silence was observed by a full congregation. St Gennys Band played movingly in the Chapel and, in the watery autumn sun-shine, later led the march to the War memorial. Mr Roy Pickard was the flag-bearer for the Royal British Legion, the commands were given by their President, Mr Peter Fanshawe. In a short service of dedication at the memorial, which was decorated with Union flags, the names of those men and women from the parish who were killed in the war were read out.

Wreaths were laid by the Women's Institute, the Royal British Legion, the Parish Council, Boscastle School and others. It was the largest attendance at a Remembrance Day service for many years and apart from the special significance of the 80th anniversary, there can be little doubt that the recent sad death of Mr Arthur Olde, was an additional reason why so many people attended to pay their respects.



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THE NATIONAL TRUST

NEW STAFF

My first duty in this National Trust 'news update' should be to introduce the latest NT team working alongside the Area Warden, Jeff Cherrington, in the Boscastle to Morwenstow area. Following in Ian Bradley's footsteps, (many of you will have known and met him in the last 12 months) is this year's student warden Louis Thomas, who is based in Bude. He is currently gaining NVQ Level III qualifications in Environmental Conservation at Royal Duchy College whilst working for the Trust.

Personally, I am no stranger to Cornwall, having spent a year working for the Trust on Roseland and Veryan Bay properties, and, since the start of 1998, on the Polzeath to Tintagel stretch of coast up here in the north. I have recently taken up residence in Boscastle to continue my countryside wardening experience as part of the north coast team. Also joining us is Jo Charlton, a Countryside Management student from Aberystwyth in Wales, who will be undertaking voluntary work experience as part of her year-out placement.

RECENT WORK

Work over the last few months in Boscastle includes much general maintenance as well as nature conservation work. At Forrabury, an area of the highly invasive and smothering exotic species, Japanese knotweed, has been cut and treated. Hopefully this quick action will prevent it becoming anything but a minor problem. Those who know 'Rocky Valley' will appreciate the plant's invasive potential!

Scrub clearance and grass cutting has also taken place around Forrabury Church in areas identified as being valuable for wild flowers, come next spring and summer. An annual cut was also made of the meadows in the Valency Valley in line with aims to conserve and diversify the numbers of plant species there.

Bat counts have taken place over the summer at New Mills to monitor species and numbers present. A winter roost visit is being planned to follow up this survey.

Footpath maintenance remains one of the priorities - at western Blackapit, rotted wooden steps have been replaced with more enduring and in-keeping slate ones. Problems with erosion and drainage have been monitored and improvements made or planned as necessary. In addition, the woodland paths through the Valency Valley and Minister Wood have been cleared of dangerous and dead over-hanging trees.

In light of the recent and ever threatening storms and gales it is only too clear how this type of maintenance becomes essential.

WINTER WORK

The winter work schedule will include further woodland tasks - selective removal or ring-barking of the non-native sycamore and beech will take place in order to open up more light to woodland ground flora and to encourage other trees - oak, ash and hazel to come through. Further tree planting will occur on the renovated earth hedgebanks on Home Farm - it is very much hoped that the school and the Youth Club will be keen to get involved in this activity.

The Willapark headland and the coastal field at Western Blackapit will shortly enter into a 'Countryside Stewardship Scheme' in a joint agreement between the NT and tenant Sam Hancock. The prescribed management will aim to conserve and enhance wildlife and habitats. The scheme also allows for preservation of features such as field boundaries, so the Cornish hedging will be repaired where necessary.

Also planned at Willapark is the repair and improvement of some badly eroded footpaths.

That is about all the news for now. Please note that the Harbour Gift Shop is now closed until the new season.

It only remains for me to wish you all a very happy and enjoyable Christmas and offer best wishes for the New Year.

Mike Simmonds

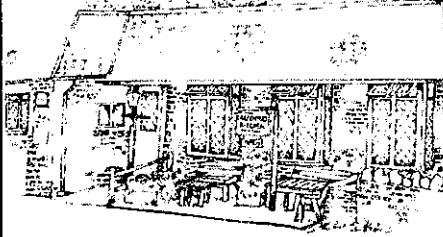
NT Assistant Warden - Boscastle



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Piskey
Pete's
Report

Piskey Pete and the Wayside Witch

Piskey Pete has packed his bags and gone off on holiday and the Wayside Witch is also taking a well earned rest.

During the season Piskey Pete collected £ 1800.00 and the Wayside Witch £ 1760.00 for The Cornwall Air Ambulance

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MEDIEVAL KNIGHT AT THE NAPOLEON

Earlier this year mine hosts, Richard and Sherry Claridge, organised a Medieval Night to raise funds for the Boscastle & District R.N.L.I. The event took place in a marquee erected in the pub garden.



No sooner had they totted up the takings than disaster struck at Bossiney. Undaunted, they redoubled their efforts and quickly staged a comedy evening in their restaurant.

The show played to a full house and proved to be a hilarious success, pushing the grand total raised at both events to a record £1,146.04.

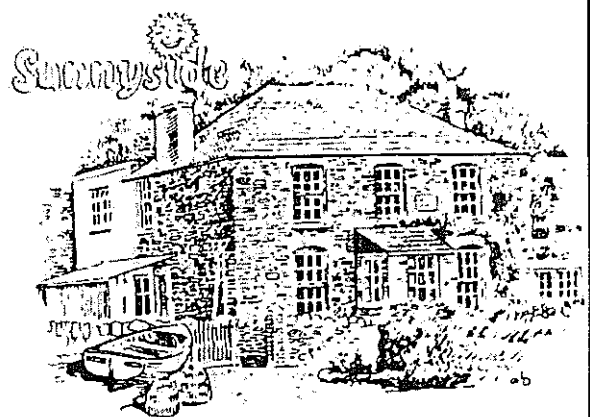


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Young Reporter

Theatrical Performance From Boscastle Youth Club

Boscastle Youth Club has now been successfully running since its beginning in the early spring of 1998 and it would be hard to find one of its members who has not enjoyed the activities experienced in the past. The Youth Club's program has included playing games, talking to friends and listening to music at the Villa Hall, games, archery and a barbecue at Bottreaux Mound and Tregathal Farm, basketball, football, swimming and roller skating at Camelford sports centre and Davidstow skating rink. Over a recent period of six weeks the Small Scale Theatre company has been working in collaboration with Boscastle Youth Club, the aim being to help the children attending the youth club organise and act their own plays. There were three main groups, crime, science fiction and fashion, all of these were comedies. All participants did extremely well especially considering that they had only two hours every week to rehearse which isn't too much if you think about it.

The play was performed in front of an audience on the tenth of November. The one pound entry fee for members of the audience went towards youth club funds and the whole event was a success.

The crime group which was made up of Aaron Washer, Thomas Stewart Leech, Leah Pethick, Jenny Pinc Flo James, Angharad Jones and Danielle Tiplady, focused in great detail on the terrible and not unfortunately common crime of dog napping! In this sketch Danielle was a news reporting narrator, Leah played an old lady whose dog had been stolen, Jenny was a police woman, Flo was the dog napper, question and Aaron, Thomas and Angharad were other criminals. Featuring in the science fiction group were Frank Page, Kathryn Kehoe, Lewis Sullivan, Alex Key, Miriam James, Helen Kehoe, Martin Seldon, J Barnett, Josh Lockyear and I. This group featured an alien dance, then a paranormal news report starring Frank as the news reader and Helen as a reporter at the scene of a UFO crash landing. Next was a futuristic commercial break before a talk show named Pricilla's Points of View with the subject of alien abductions. Kathryn played the host whose name coincidentally was Pricilla. Miriam and Alex played abductees and Lewis had a role as a sceptic scientist. In the fashion group was Anna David, Sarah Moran, Debbie Bull, Anna Sewell, Danielle Beetles, Vonnie Hampshire, Nikki Abbott and Laura Leeds. In the first sketch Anna, Sarah, Anna, Debbie and Danielle clearly stated they had had enough of growing up. The second scene involved teenagers played by Nikki, Vonnie and Laura who wanted to go clubbing being cheeky to Vonnie's mum who was played by Danielle. In the fashion groups final act Vonnie played a new girl being torn apart by two rival sects who each wanted her to join them.

The Small Scale Theatre is a brilliant organisation and they have done some good drama with Boscastle School in the past. The Small Scale Theatre consists of two people Rebecca and Donna. Boscastle Youth Club is very appreciative of their work with us.

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Kieron Sullivan

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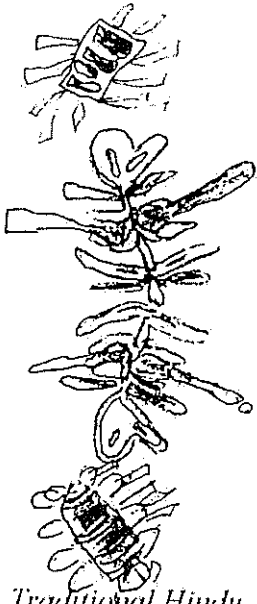
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Children's Art Competition

FLOODS

Saturday 31st October, the day planned for judging the Children's Art Competition at the Rocky Valley Art, Antiques and Crafts Centre, fell during some of the worst weather seen in recent months. The rain pelted down almost incessantly, and the fields, already saturated, emptied their contents into the roads in a series of small rivers.



Traditional Hindu 'Rangoli' pattern for Diwali by Trehane Dreyson

There were floods on almost every road that ran down towards Trethevy and the Rocky Valley Centre. Even the competition judge, Bridget Holden of Delabole, failed to get through until the floods abated in the late afternoon.

A few brave (or foolhardy) stalwarts fought their way through the floods to see the children's work.

Fortunately, a number of people had been able to view the exhibition during the few days prior to the judging, and were able to record their votes for the pictures they considered to be best in the show. In this way, the resulting Viewers' Prize was determined.

RESULTS

The judge awarded a special prize, to a picture produced by the joint effort of three young artists: Matthew Pethick, Gavin Sleeman and Rhisiart Jones, all of Boscastle County Primary School.

The overall prize, a £20 voucher for art equipment or materials, was donated by 'Arty Crafts' of Wadebridge, and was awarded to Boscastle C.P. School.

Prizes in the three age groups were awarded as follows:

Under 7s: First, Tamsyn Keens of Otterham C.P. School; Second, Jasmine Finney of Boscastle C.P.

7-11: First Natasha Borne of Tintagel C.P.; Second Emily Dawe also of Tintagel C.P.

11-14: Both winners were from Wadebridge School. First prize went to Ryan Henderson and Second prize to David Huntley.

Cash prizes were awarded to the children achieving first and second places in their age groups. These prizes were donated by Kernow Estates of Camelford and the gallery owners, artists and

craftspeople of the Rocky Valley Centre.

The viewers' prize was donated by the North Cornwall Advertiser.

The standard of art produced by the children was extremely high. There were several comments, by visitors, that compared the children's work very favourably with that of modern artists whose work appears in well-known and prestigious art galleries. Some of the work produced by the youngest entrants was quite sophisticated and really beautiful to look at.

The children of Boscastle C.P. School made a really stupendous effort, and richly deserved the prizes they were awarded.

£20.43 was raised by the event for the Cornwall Air Ambulance.



One of the ten winning entries from Boscastle School. This picture by Lewis Sullivan portrays Thomas Stewart-Leech.

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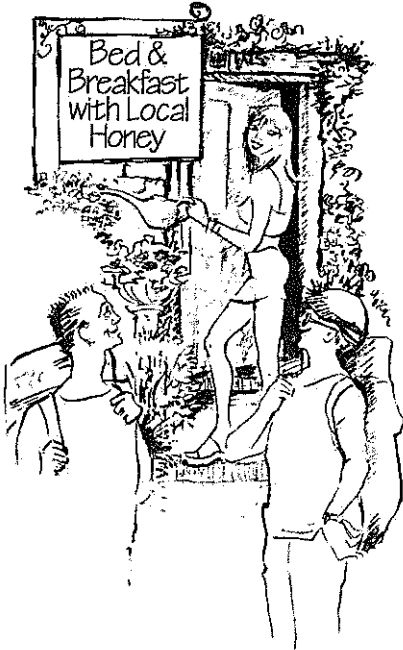


We hope that you have a lovely Christmas and
we wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year



Christmas Cracker

Michael Turner, the well-known impresario of the Victorian and Edwardian musical entertainments "Caves of Harmony", has produced another winner, this time in the shape of a book. The title 'Do You Scratch Your Bottom In The Bath? Have it reglazed by the professional (and other gems of miscommunication)' tells all.



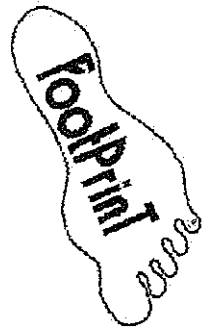
It is a superbly funny collection of misprints, official gobbledegook and unintentional humour culled from small ads, public notices and other sources. My own favourite is from a County Council report which reads: "...For some weeks this method has been tried by members of the County Council staff. It is now considered foolproof."

Zany illustrations are provided by Gof, the cartoonist. It is a cracker of a book which will make an ideal Christmas stocking or under-the-tree present to be chuckled over in private, or read out loud to entertain the family over the turkey and plum pudding. It knocks the usual Christmas cracker motto into a cocked paper hat.



Priced at £7.99, it is published by Souvenir Press Ltd of 43 Great Russell Street, London, WC1B 3PA. Order your copy now for Christmas from a local bookshop or direct from the publishers.

Seasonal
Greetings



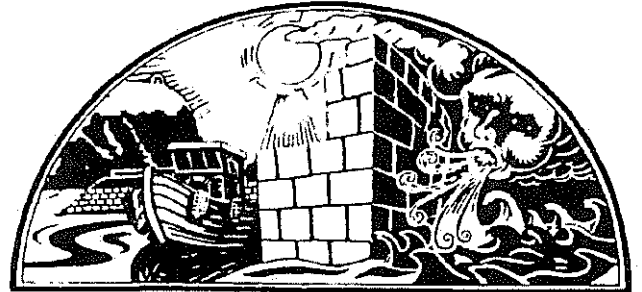
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Drug Abuse in Rural Areas.

A major Home Office study has been published highlighting the problems of drug abuse in rural areas. The report shows that rural communities show a marked reluctance to acknowledge drug misuse as a problem, although the availability of drugs is rapidly increasing. The problems associated with rural drug misuse include:

- ♦ poor provision of help agencies and low public awareness of those that are available.
- ♦ greater stigma attached to drug misuse, which tends to drive the problem underground and make it more difficult to counter.
- ♦ service and help providers have problems supporting isolated communities, and finding suitable premises from which to work.

Among those factors identified which contribute to the upsurge in the level of drug abuse in the country areas are:

- ♦ boredom, as a direct result of lack of suitable and affordable activities.
- ♦ peer pressure.
- ♦ lack of adequate information.
- ♦ lack of accessibility to centres where help is located.

The report also suggests that the increase in rural areas of such crimes as burglaries, car theft and muggings are often drug-abuse related.

The Drug Prevention in Rural Areas' Central Drugs Prevention Unit, Home Office, Horseferry House, London SW1P 2AW. (Copies of the report are free.)



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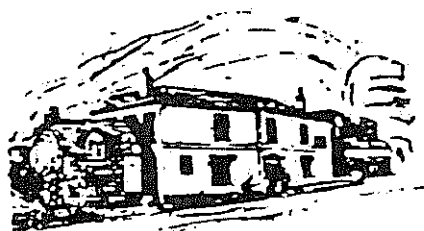
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Crimewatch

Report by PC Michael Alcock

Hello Everyone,

Well I'm sorry to say we certainly haven't been crime free over the last 3 months. In early September we had two burglaries on the same night at the Harbour Light shop and at the Harbour café. As is often the case, at the café the value of the damage caused to the window and frame to gain entry, was five times the value of what the offender(s) stole.

Power tools etc. seem to have been on some unscrupulous person's shopping list, as we had a burglary to the garage part of a cottage, where a chainsaw, brush cutter, electric drill and other similar items were stolen. A welder was also stolen in a similar incident in Trevalga. Someone is snooping around to learn where these things are. They are not just stumbled across. If you see anyone acting suspiciously in such circumstances please note all the detail you can and let us know. Likewise if you've been offered similar items for sale at "fallen off the back of a lorry prices!", then please let us know. If the seller is innocent then I'm sure they won't mind being checked out.

Rebecca at the Visitors Centre was far from amused at the thief who calmly walked out with the centre's C.D. player whilst, we presume, the staff were distracted. Has anyone heard anything on the grapevine about this? The C.D. player looks more like a video recorder and it may be the thief thought that's what it was. It is made by KODAC and is not a common unit.

Turning from crime now to the roads. It's those horrible dark evenings and mornings again and the time of the year that your vehicle lights must be in good working order. It only takes a few seconds to walk around your pride and joy and check they are all working, so please let's do it.

Whilst on the subject of roads, we were all saddened by the recent accident on the A39 at St. Kew which claimed the lives of two Camelford youths, and coming so soon after the tragic motor cycle accident just outside Boscastle. With more and more youngsters now taking to the roads on motor cycles and in cars, I see all too often that they want to get that buzz of seeing how fast they can go, which in tandem with a feeling of being invulnerable at that age can have dire consequences. That is not to say that these two recent tragedies were caused by driving too fast, but I myself have witnessed "skin of the teeth" near misses within the last couple of weeks involving young riders and drivers where things could have gone horrifically wrong. It may be the person coming the other way that makes the mistake or pulls out on you, but if all your concentration is going into "how fast I can get to where I'm going" then you may have no time left to react. Please be careful out there.

On a lighter note, I do hope the young lady I met on one of my "during the night" walks has got over the shock. I'm sure she still thinks it was some sort of apparition. Yes, it really was me Emma!

Evening all. P.C. Michael Alcock.



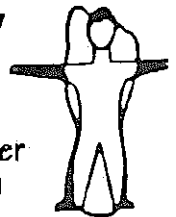
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Boscastle Visitors Centre

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A New Beginning

Retirement! What a comforting word. The removal of routine such as catching that bus or that particular train - the bell indicating change of lessons etc-NO MORE. My time is my own -to do with as I wish. Retirement simply means a change of life style.

Happy holidays spent at Port Gaverne whetted the desire to move to Cornwall. This was achieved and then the necessity of discovering just where one is and meeting the locals became essential. The easiest and most interesting way of doing this was to join local organisations. The first one I joined was The North Cornwall Heritage Coast and Countryside as a Volunteer. I barely knew where I was but help was always at hand and of course maps, books and leaflets were there for

guidance. Quite often Visitor and Volunteer checked together. I must admit my knowledge of wild flowers, birds and places has increased considerably but I still have a long way to go. I've been a Volunteer since 1992 and since 1994 have helped at Boscastle Centre.

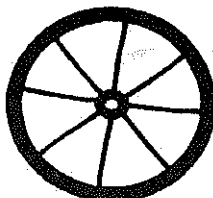
The Centre is open every day of the year with the exception of Christmas day and Boxing day. At the height of the season it is quite normal to have over 1,200 visitors daily - most come in to look around and check with maps etc, to refer to wild life literature - check this flower, that bird, butterflies and so on. "How long will it take me to walk to Tintagel on the coast path? What time does the bus go?" The questions are numerous - but then that's why we are there. Helping visitors, if you can, is very satisfying and they are generally very grateful for any help they get. The comments in The Visitors Book speak volumes!

There are many times when two or three pairs of hands would not go amiss - the phone rings, the fax sings, paper for brass rubbings is required, the video is requested, has a camera been handed in ? (check lost property book) Would you kindly let me have some water for my dog?"

Do you know where I can get a bowl of lentil soup? 'Is so and so still in Boscastle? We haven't been here for a few years. Yes, it's still here - directions given and happy visitors depart.

It's now 4.45 p.m. - the Centre closes at 5 p.m. in the season. Another stimulating and very happy and rewarding day at the Centre. Being a Volunteer here is certainly the BEST thing since sliced bread! BUT there is one question I must ask: Why is the Centre empty of people at 4.50 p.m. and THEN full to capacity at 4.55 p.m.?

Liz Durrant Boscastle Visitors Centre



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Sports and Recreation Club Sponsored Walkers



On a typical summer's day, (i.e. it was very wet) a group of enthusiastic members met at the Club and did a circular walk via Lesnewth, Halamling and the Valency Valley to raise funds. Despite the atrocious weather, everyone thoroughly enjoyed their walk, which lasted exactly two hours and raised a total of just over £600. Well done to all who participated, and a big thank you to those who sponsored walkers. The Club is holding a Grand Christmas Raffle, with great prizes. Tickets can be bought from any club member and the draw will be held in the Cobweb on Friday 18th December.

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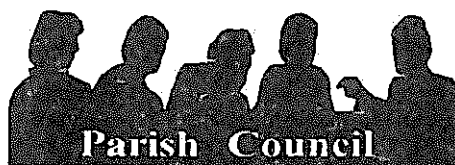
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Forrabury and Minster Parish Council



Article 4 Survey

An Article 4 survey was undertaken by Forrabury & Minster Parish Council in October 1998. A questionnaire and explanatory leaflet was delivered to every household in the conservation area. The survey aimed to gather the opinion of residents within the conservation area regarding the possible introduction of Article 4. Due to the number of holiday and second homes in the conservation area, it is not possible for this survey to present a true percentage of returns, as during the survey many properties would have been unoccupied. Out of 250 questionnaires distributed, 90 replies were received, a response rate of 36%. Three-quarters of those who responded to the survey were in favour of the introduction of Article 4. A report presenting the results of the survey has been produced and this will be used by the Parish Council when considering the introduction of Article 4. Copies of the survey results can be obtained, price 50p, from the Parish Clerk, Ron Hart, tel. 250222.

Boscastle Sport & Recreation Club

Despite some earlier setbacks, the prospect of a new building is now looking much better. It will, however, be several months before a decision is made. An architect has been commissioned to prepare further drawings, and trial pits are to be dug and inspected by an archaeologist. Meanwhile, it looks as though the N.C.D.C. will purchase the plot of land between the Club and the Post Office.

Road Salting

Once again Highways have informed the Council that the B3266 is not on the gritting list for the winter. The clerk is to write to Highways pointing out that this road is used by at least four school buses and forms the main way from Boscastle for workers travelling to Davidstow Creamery, Camelford, Wadebridge, Bodmin, Truro, Exeter and Plymouth. The Council request that a new survey of road traffic takes place before this winter.

Rubbish Collections

The clerk is to write to NCDC to ask that the bins in the harbour area are emptied as per the summer programme until the end of October. Currently the bins are only emptied once per week in October, which is insufficient as this is still a holiday month, witness the Cobweb Carpark charges applying until the end of October.

Doctors' Surgery Extension

A planning application to extend the doctors' surgery may be problematic. The ash tree to the north of the surgery is protected by a tree-preservation order, and it is feared that too much disturbance to the root system of the tree would kill it.

Precept 1999/2000

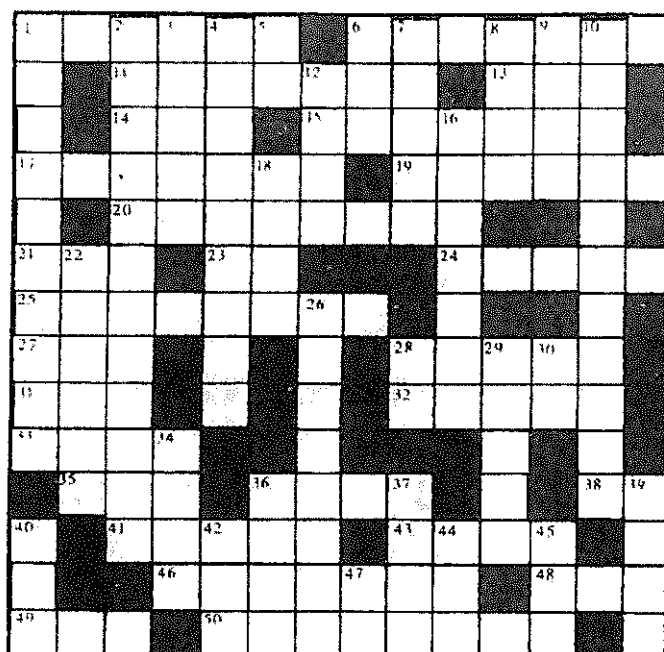
The Parish Clerk's recommendation that a precept of £8000 be set for 1999/2000 has been accepted by the Council.

DOWN

- 1 Worn
- 2 Evergreen
Shrub
- 3 Misgiving
- 4 Insensitive
- 5 Boy's Name
- 6 Males
- 7 Adroit
- 8 Impend
- 9 Plant
- 10 Condition
- 12 Flower
- 16 Deer
- 18 East European
- 22 Trojan Prince
- 26 Huge
- 28 Thus
- 29 Haven
- 30 Adverb
- 34 Light Toboggan
- 36 Position
- 37 Blood
- 39 Leer
- 40 Whimsical
- 42 Animal
- 44 Scottish Town
- 45 Part of the Foot
- 47 Preposition

ACROSS

- 1 Metal Necklace
- 6 Duck
- 11 Number
- 13 Crude Metal
- 14 Idiot
- 15 Burdensome
- 17 Continual
- 19 Knob
- 20 Egg Dish
- 21 Father
- 23 American City (abbrev.)
- 24 Courageous
- 25 Busy Place
- 27 Woman's Name
- 28 Reconnoitre
- 31 Colour
- 32 African Mammal
- 33 Nobleman
- 35 Old French Coin
- 36 Complacent
- 38 Negative
- 41 New Zealand Tree
- 43 Kiln
- 46 Mouth of a River
- 48 Bird
- 49 Tibetan Ox
- 50 Roman Coin



The Blowhole is printed by 'Swiftprint'
104 Treverbyn Road St. Austell
01726 70700

A CAUTIONARY TALE

Recent events in the news reminded a local lady of a scary experience in the past. Here is her story:

A few years ago when there were a lot of Discos and Dances, and occasionally the local farmer would have the odd Barn Dance in the middle of nowhere. I was one of the young girls who happened to go from time to time. On one particular occasion I went to a Barn Dance and got talking to different people, as you do. Someone came up to me, I didn't know him from Adam. He was asking me all sorts of questions, like who was I, where did I live, how old I was etc, and I was fool

enough to tell him, but he kept pestering me. All I wanted was to dance and have a good time. So I said very politely I must go and talk to a friend of mine. Eventually the dance ended and all was well. I didn't think anymore of it.

As time went on, not long after I did have a boyfriend and everything was fine until the times when he used to come and pick me up. All of a sudden, from what appeared to be nowhere there would be this car. Headlights full-on, enough to blind us and following wherever my boyfriend and I went. It was very spooky and quite frightening. It didn't just happen once but went on for weeks, it seemed like an eternity. We were getting anonymous phone calls nearly every evening.

Eventually my boyfriend and I got so fed up with this person, we not only decided to stay in when he came to see me, I was getting concerned about his safety, so we decided to stop seeing each other for a while. But this car was still there, going up and down the roads, two, three times a week. It was haunting, not only for myself but for my family also. It was rather unnerving, until one day I managed to get the number plate. I never let this person see me, I was well out of sight. From then on all it needed was one phone call to the police station. Within 20 minutes - half an hour they told us who this person was and where he lived. But my nightmare was not quite over. I later found out that person was the same person as I had met at this dance previously. This episode in my life was very frightening. It was like something out of the X-Files. I will never ever forget it.

All I can say is if there any young girls out there reading this, for goodness sake beware and try not to go anywhere alone. Luckily the tauntings stopped following us eventually. But I dread to think what might have happened if I was alone in our country lanes. With so many terrible things happening all around us in today's society you cannot be too careful. Everyone is vulnerable, whether you're young or old and it always helps to have a friend.

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Mac's Tracks

Hi! I'll start this Blowhole with a review of the only film that I have seen since the last (Timewarp...!) Blowhole seems so long ago!

The Saving of Private Ryan : I don't think that I even have to say who directed this one ! It's another Stephen Spielberg Classic, superb from start to finish-another one of those films that I will certainly have to see again . The first 24 minutes, the D day landings, were just awesome, frighteningly realistic , heart stopping . How did he film those scenes ? This is very gripping , all inspiring , but most important of all reveals to us something of what those young men (our Fathers and Grandfathers) went through. It certainly opened my eyes and I shed several tears . All in all, a very moving experience. Very much recommended !

The music review in this Blowhole is based totally on the CD collection of the late Richard Jones, who was a great friend of mine. I would like to pay tribute to him and say a heartfelt thanks'to him, albeit posthumously, for leaving me his CD's and Albums - plus many, many memories, most of which bring a large smile to my face !

Richard's collection is somewhat similar to my own, covering quite a wide range of tastes and moods but his having a slightly 'heavier' central theme ranging from Pink Floyd , Tom Petty and The Levellers on the one hand to Tasmin Archer, Paula Cale and Roxette on the other . There are, as in all collections, a couple of gems ... one being 'The Best Rock album in the World Ever. This is a 36 track double CD with all the greats and legends including The Who, Rainbow, Cream, Deep Purple, Hawkwind and even the only song released by Python Lee Jackson in A Broken dream. Anyone know who Python Lee Jackson really was ? Another gem is an 18 track CD 'The Blues Experience'. This time, offerings from Robbie Robertson, Robert Cray,U2,Chicken Shack to name but a few. An excellent collection - it will take several winter evenings and many hours to listen to all of these CD's. I will be forever

indebted to Richard for his six Waterboys albums, but I hold reservations regarding 'Frank Sinatra - Duets' and I don't think that I ought to mention 'Billy Ray Cyrus !' (These he must have won in a raffle!) And there are artists that I have not heard of or listened to as yet. Richard had borrowed and shown quite an interest in my 'Van Morrison' collection - perhaps he also became 'Enlightened'. A wonderful legacy that will live on for a lifetime. Thanks Rich ! Until the next Blowhole, enjoy your leisure time.
Mac

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Wednesday	8.30 - 1.00	2.00 - 5.30
Thursday	8.30 - 1.00	2.00 - 5.30
Friday	9.00 - 12.30	Closed
Saturday	9.00 - 12.00	Closed
Sunday	Closed all day	

Midland Bank plc - Mobile branch

Doctors Corner

Monday and Wednesday 11.00 - 11.15

Waste Tip

Bowthick, Sanding Road, Tintagel.

Monday to Friday	8.30 - 4.30
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Sunday	Closed

Further information from CES Ltd.

Redruth 01209 821669

Penryn 01326 376463

Camelford Library

Town Hall, Market Place

01840 212409

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Tuesday	10.00- 1.00	2.00 - 5.00
Wednesday	Closed all day	
Thursday	10.00- 1.00	2.00 - 5.00
Friday	10.00- 1.00	Closed
Saturday	9.30 - 12.30	Closed
Sunday	Closed all day	

Mobile Library

The Mobile library will be in Boscastle on 7th January, 21 January, 4th February and 18th February - These dates are all Thursdays.

It stops at the Wellington	11.05 - 11.40
Bottreaux Garage	11.30 - 11.40
Paradise Road	11.45 - 12.05

Coastguard: in emergency, dial 999 and ask for the Coastguard.

Police Station: (Central Switchboard, 24hrs):

0990 777444

RSPCA: 0990 555999

Doctors Surgery: 250209

Kernodoc (Out of hours emergency doctor)

phone surgery 250209 for recorded number

Post Office: 250259

Visitor's Centre: 250010

East Cornwall Hospital, Bodmin 01208 251559

Launceston General Hospital: 01566 76565

Treliske Hospital, Truro 01872 25000

Stratton Hospital: 01288 35210

Derriford Hospital, Plymouth 01752 7771

Civic Amenity Site (the tip) 77077

Village Hall Bookings:

Darren and Louise Brakes: 25012

Cornwall County Council 01872 32200

NCDC (Central Switchboard): 01208 89333

Local Churches 25031

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Pete's Peeps at the Past

22nd April 1814

NAPOLEON'S DEFEAT

All over Cornwall they are celebrating the entrance of the Allied Army into Paris and the dethronement of Napoleon. (Napoleon was sent to Elba, escaped and fought the Allies again at Waterloo. He was then banished to St Helena.)

With the return of peace thousands of troops returned home penniless. Having no prospects, many drifted into vagrancy and crime. Petty offences of all kinds were numerous and, in Cornwall, the authorities were too badly organised and indolent to deal with them effectively.

2nd April 1819

TO BOTANY BAY

Pardoe Walters, aged 19, was indicted for stealing clothes from Thomas Varcoe of Roche. He owned up in order he could be transported so as to be with his parents who were both at Botany Bay. His Lordship said, as it wasn't with a felonious intent, he should be acquitted. In fact, first offenders and young criminals under fifteen years served their sentences on prison hulks in naval dock-yards. The conditions were similar to slave ships. But the hardened transporters were released on arrival until 1826 when the Government decided on a system of hard labour.

11th December 1820

ACTION BY THE MOONSHINE BRIGADE

The preventive boat under Sampson Woodcock, stationed at Boscastle, went after smugglers at Mullhook (Millook Haven) and seized 500 tubs of foreign rum and remained to guard them. But two armed boats of smugglers came and, firing on the beach, overpowered them and took the tubs and the preventive boat. A £200 reward was placed.

22nd March 1822

A ST COLUMB WEDDING

At a wedding at St Columb, the persons present stood in the following relations to each other - two fathers, two brothers, two uncles, two fathers-in-law, two cousins, a husband and wife and a son and daughter. The company consisted of only four persons.

6th February 1824

TREBARWITH SANDING ROAD

A public meeting was held within the borough of Camelford to consider the best plan for making a new sanding road from Trebarwith Beach in Tintagel to Concolden Bridge in St Minver. (Sand and seaweed for manure were brought over steep cliffs on horseback. The new road cost £2,000 but was recouped by a toll-gate.)

19th August 1825

A CELEBRATED VESSEL AT FALMOUTH

The "Enterprise", a steam vessel, arrived in Falmouth on her way to Calcutta with passengers. She was the first steam-ship to reach India. She weighed 479 tons, was 122 feet long, had an engine of 120 horse-power and made the journey in 113 days at an average speed of 6 knots. She won a 100,000 rupee prize from the Indian Government which purchased her as a ship-of-war.

28th April 1826

SLATE OUT OF BOSCASTLE

A vessel from Clovelly, "The Narrow Escape", was completely wrecked in a creek near Tintagel, but the crew escaped to the shore. Just before it happened it had been loaded with slate at Boscastle from Messrs Sloggatt & Co. Messrs Roseveare and Sloggatt owned the North Delabole Slate Quarry as well as a large part of Boscastle from where their produce was shipped.

Bottreaux House Hotel

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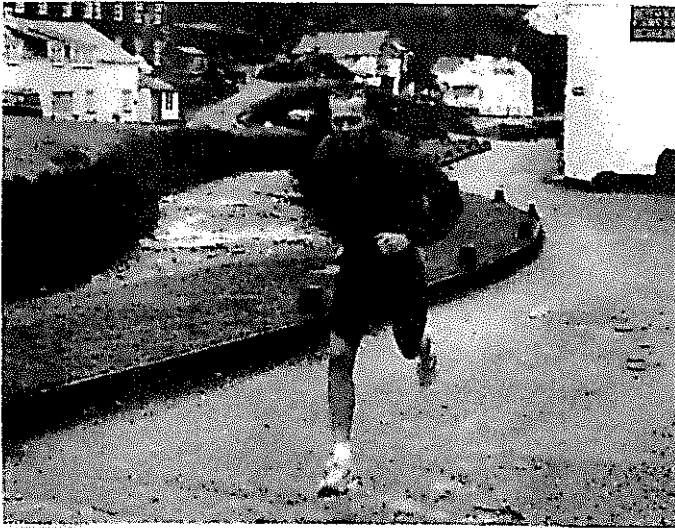
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- BETWEEN NOV. 1998 AND EASTER 1999 TABLES IN OUR RESTAURANT ARE AVAILABLE BY RESERVATION ONLY.
- CHRISTMAS PARTIES OR GROUP FUNCTIONS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

SPORT



ROAD RUNNING

Raymund Rogers has recently been seen training very hard around the roads of Boscastle. He has joined Newquay Road Runners and has been training with some of their elite runners. He has achieved some very good results: 17th in the Cornwall 10K, 17th in the South West Championship 10K in Somerset, 13th in the Devon Championship 10K, 2nd in the Mob Match 5 mile at Falmouth in 27 mins 58 secs, 9th in the Tavy 7 miles in 40 mins 18 sees.

His best 10K time is 35.28. At all of these races there were about 200-250 competitors so he is doing pretty well.

His next event is likely to be at the South West Cross Country Championship as part of the Newquay & Par Team. Neil Caddy, one of Cornwall's international runners is also part of this team.

It has also been good to see Patrick Sullivan out competing again. He ran at the Tavy 7 and also at an 8 mile race in Launceston recently.

Rare Occasion

There was a rare occasion on Wednesday 18th November when Two CORNISH MEN appeared at an England football match together. The first was the St. Blazey born goalkeeper Nigel Martyn and the second was a Cornish boy called Philip Northcott. Philip has Boscastle connections, as his grandmother is Mrs Phyllis Perry of Potters Lane and his uncle is the ex-Boscastle right-back Philip "Hacker" Collet.

Philip Northcott was one of 12 lucky boys selected by the FA to act as ball boys at the friendly International. He plays for Mount football youth team based at Bodmin.

BOSCASTLE SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

Boscastle Short Mat Bowls Club has now played several matches in the Northern area of the Cornwall Bowls League, with some very good results. In total there are ten league matches to be played, each one both home and away, as far apart as Morwenstow and Wadebridge. The standard of play has improved considerably amongst the members. The Monday evening and Thursday afternoon Club sessions are both very well attended and enthusiasm amongst the members remains very

More Football

Richard Jones Memorial

On a dry but blustery day recently, a football match was held between a Boscastle XI and a team of Dairy Crest work colleagues and friends. The match was played in front of a good sized crowd and was played in friendly spirit with Boscastle building up a 3 goal cushion by half-time. In the second half Dairy Crest introduced "local lass" Anita Symons who showed she had had a misspent youth, as she was the best player on the field and scored a fine hat-trick to prove it. This brought the scores level, only for Boscastle to secure a late winner. It was an enjoyable afternoon and somewhere in the region of £120 was raised for the Richard Jones Memorial Fund.

Pasty and Cider

The club's most recent fund raising event was a Pasty and Cider evening held at the home of club stalwart Margaret and Steve Dray. An enjoyable evening was had by all who attended and around £280 profit was raised.

Polo Shirts

Boscastle AFC have brought out a specially designed Polo shirt to celebrate its silver jubilee year. The shirt is nicely inscribed with the appropriate dates and a club badge which was recently designed by "local historian", Roger Pethick.

This shirt is available in a choice of colour and size and can be obtained from any club member for the knock down price of £10.

Announcements

Members of the club were delighted to hear of yet another new addition when David and Diane Bosley became the latest with club connections to have a baby who was born on the 22nd October. Young James Robert Bosley, who is already said to have a mean left foot, showing some signs of becoming a useful player for the future. (He must have inherited his grandfather's and uncle's genes.)

Congratulations to all the family.

FOOTBALL

1st Team News

Under player-manager Richard Pethick, Boscastle's 1st team have had their best ever start to a football season since their re-formation.

They are not only unbeaten at the time of this going to press, but they also hold an 100% winning record in all league and cup games played. Their success is mainly due to having a strong squad and to everyone keeping fit and free of injuries. More than 30 goals have already been scored this season and several of the team have got their names on the score sheet, with the majority being scored by 'Boscastle's favourite son', Simon Biddick with 8, fly winger Adrian Parsons with 7 and 'veteran' Paul Saffhill and young Timmy Ovens with 6 apiece.

But, with a long way still to go this season everyone is keeping their feet firmly on the ground, even though there is hope of winning at least one of the five competitions they have entered.

2nd Team News

The second team haven't quite enjoyed the good start made by their first team counterparts, but they are having a far better start to the season than they did at the same stage last year. Of the seven games played they have won 2, drawn 2 and lost 3, scoring 16 and conceding 21. The teams top scorers are Neville Turner and 'local boy' Sam Washer who have struck up a good partnership up front.

Player-manager Graham Jory has been pleased with the progress the team have made under his astute guidance and especially with the emergence of the youth element.

Youngsters Paul Dray, Sam Washer, Johnny Mugford, Daniel Ovens and goalie Alex Higgs have all made great strides this season and they are enjoying playing regular matches alongside the more experienced members, including Mick Moran, John McClaughlin and Josh Bluett, who have all recently moved into the area.

The second team has got a new linesman this season, our local dentist, Phil Higgs, who is apparently only officiating in the hope that one day the team will be a player short and will have to call upon his services. Here's to hoping!!!

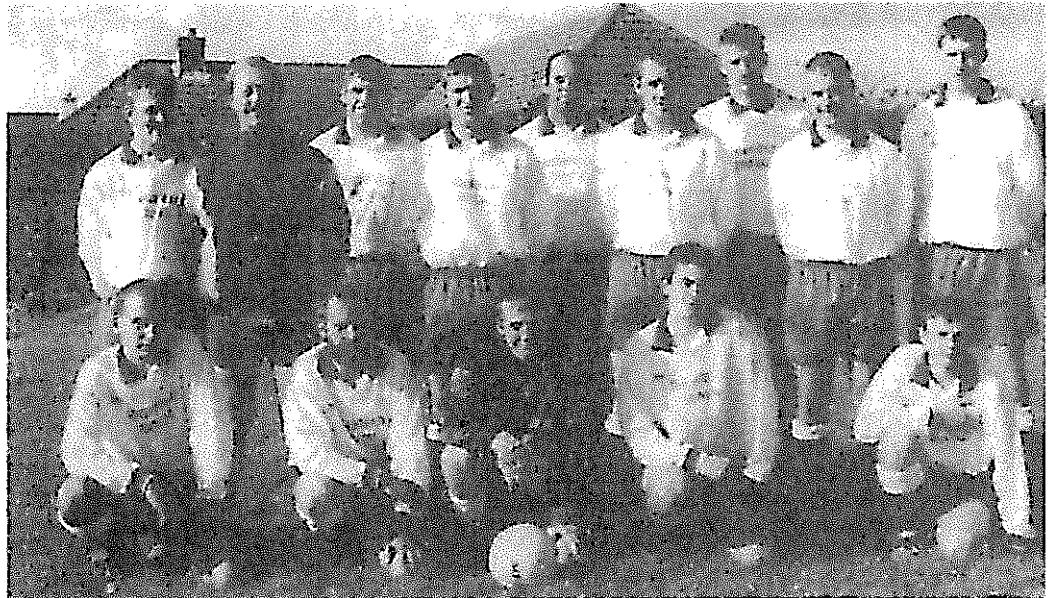


Boscastle 1st Team

Back Row L to R Steve Dray (vice chairman), Doreen Hancock, Sharon Pethick, George Brown, Mick Moran, Eric Smith (chairman), Ron Hancock, Steve Jose.

Middle Row L to R Graham Heal, Simon Biddick, Richard Pethick, Johnny Bosley, Roger Perry, Nick Fillery.

Front Row L to R Phil Burnard, Paul Dray, David Bosley, Adrian Parsons, Timmy Uglow and Paul Saffhill. Missing from photo: Tim Ovens and Robin Haddy. Team Sponsor: Malcolm Biddick and Son Electrical contractors.



Boscastle 2nd Team

Back Row L to R Graham Bradley, Mick Moran, Steve Dray, Sam Washer, Josh Bluett.

Middle Row L to R Arthur Marshall, Neville Turner, John McClaughlin, Graham Jory.

Front Row L to R John Mugford, Julian Findlay, Alex Higgs, Daniel Ovens, Paul Dray.

Missing from photo: Steve Edwards. Team Sponsors: Highfield Dental Practice (Phil and Tracey Higgs)