



# BOSCASTLE BLOWHOLE

No 101 Spring 2018

£1



*Forrabury Common and beyond, frozen and dusted with snow following the unseasonable weather experienced at the start of March this year. More snowy pictures on pages 34-35*

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# Editorial

So the Blowhole has reached a quarter of a century! To commemorate we will feature items from past issues, focussing on one season each quarter. Here we reprint the editorial from the 1st edition, Spring 1993, which succinctly explains the origins of the magazine: This, the first edition of the 'Blowhole', produced by Boscastle people for Boscastle people, has been well heralded; most of you will have been expecting to receive it,

for its name alone has excited some irreverent comment, We hope, now that it has appeared in your letter box, that it will prove informative and interesting - and that you will contribute to future editions.

## How did it come to be?

Last year, Boscastle was named as one of the Cornish villages to be part of the 'Five Villages Project', which is the brainchild of two well-established organisations: CRCC (Cornwall Rural Community Council) and the WEA (Workers

Educational Association). Quite simply, we were invited to form a WEA group and seek ways in which village life might be enhanced. We would be able to call upon the expertise and support of both organisations in whatever we chose to do.

It soon became apparent that many people would welcome activities based here in the village, particularly during winter months when travel to other localities is daunting or impossible. We needed a newspaper in which ideas could be exchanged, opinions put forward,

appeals launched and news broadcast. Thus the 'Blowhole' was born.

The editorial team has been encouraged by the positive response of clubs and societies, advertisers and other individuals. We have been assisted by the WEA and the CRCC - and as a result of a letter written by a supportive villager, Radio Cornwall.

This Spring edition will be followed by another in the Summer: we will be waiting for your comments, suggestion, letters and other items for publication. Support your local paper.

## Boscastle Blowhole Team

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

The editorial team are: Philippa Arthan, Arthur Bannister, Heather Colne, Sonja Crockford Audley Jarvis, Gloria Quinlan, Ann and Chris Rodda, Sue Viner.

**The next Blowhole will be published in June 2018**

**Items for inclusion can be emailed to [boscastleblowhole@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boscastleblowhole@yahoo.co.uk)**

Copies of the Blowhole are available by post at a cost of £3 per issue or £12 for the year.

To subscribe go to [www.visitboscastle.com/blowhole](http://www.visitboscastle.com/blowhole) or phone 01840 250685

Communications to the Blowhole can be posted to:

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# SUE WALLIS

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## Boscastle Dog Warden Update



Bob Banks takes his duties as dog owner very seriously. Having two German Shepherds he knows that picking up dog poo has to be done – unpleasant or not – and he has been doing it for years. He also takes his Dog Warden duties very seriously, so dog owners of any miscreant, whom he catches offending – **Beware!**

In the last three to four months he has ‘warned’ 35 dog owners who have not picked up their dog’s excrement - 32 of which have been residents - and he has issued one fine of £100. He told me that both he and the Parish

Council are losing patience with offenders, as are many concerned residents, some of which are responsible dog owners. So, the gloves are off and fines will now be the order of the day. *You can run but you can’t hide!*

Unfortunately, Bob has encountered some aggression from a few dog owners but, if necessary, he can call on the County Council, Parish Council and the Police to assist him in enforcing fines. Being a ‘warranted dog warden’ for the whole of North Cornwall, he has the power to go onto private property to issue fines or obtain information

on owners, if dogs foul on public highways. When challenged by Bob, one offender asked him why he was not picking up the ‘flags’, as they were a hazard to children (so the dog poo isn’t??). What this short-sighted offender fails to realize is that if everyone picked up their dog’s mess there would be no ‘flags’ – it is a concerned resident who is planting the flags, not Bob.

It is disturbing to note that as long ago as the 1993 summer issue of the Blowhole there was a letter in it from a ‘Local Mum’

the letter said ‘Please could dog owners take the offending piles home or maybe the council could provide dog bins ...this fouling is an offence’. Well, the council has provided dog bins, three at the top of the village and many more in the harbour area - **SO WHY AREN’T YOU USING THEM.**

NB: Bob’s Dog Obedient Classes are now being held in the Village Hall on Thursdays from 2.00-3.30pm. If you and your dog wish to attend contact Bob and/or Jan on 01840 250015.

GQ

## Birdwatching in Boscastle

During the months of January and February, I was amazed and very lucky to see six Snow Buntings on my bird feeder, a Nuthatch and a Goldcrest twice. I’ve only ever seen a Goldcrest once before and that was years ago. I’ve never seen Snow Buntings before, nor a Nuthatch. I wonder if anyone else has seen any unusual birds in their back garden this winter

Linda Sleeman



goldcrest

The goldcrest is the UK's smallest bird: length 9cm, wingspan 14 cm and weighing just 6g. They are dull greyish-green with a pale belly and a black and yellow stripe on their heads, on males this has an orange centre.

Goldcrests eat tiny morsels like spiders, moth eggs and other small insect food. Their thin beak is ideally suited for picking insects out from between pine needles.

## North Coast Harmony

### Do you love to SING?

North Coast Harmony is a contemporary female vocal group, meeting in Boscastle on Tuesday evenings, and we’re looking for ladies to come and join us!

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Paul Tamplin

# Parish Pump

## Annual Parish Meeting

This will be held at 7pm on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April followed by the usual Parish Council meeting. Invitations will be sent to representatives of various local organisations to address the meeting, and guest speakers including Barry Jordan County Councillor and a member of the Boscastle Chamber of Trade and Commerce.

## Juliotter Garden Club

Club meetings are held in Otterham & St Juliot Hall on the fourth tuesday of the month starting at 7.30pm. Meetings focus on topical subjects and with plenty of expert advice available on how to make your garden flourish. Tea, coffee and a raffle are available. Most meetings feature a speaker.  
5 May: Plant Sale 10am-12.30pm, call Alan Green for Table bookings

For more information contact Alan Green on 01566 781559 or Paul Greatorex, 01840 269178.

## Bottreaux Castle Site

Most of the work to clear dumped rubbish at the castle site. The seat will be repaired using timber left over from the repair of seat at top of Fore Street.

## Flood Book Donation

Parish Councillors decided to put the donation of £500, given by Davis Rowe from royalties from his book, into the playground fund.

## Traffic Warden

Cornwall Council informed the Parish Council that a traffic warden visits the village every week and that 20 fixed penalty notices were issued in 2017.

## Dance Club

Held at Otterham & St Juliot Hall every Wednesday evening from 7:30pm-10pm. For beginners and dancers, all types of dance. £2.50 per person  
Contact Alan on 01840 212400 or Barbara on 01840 213207

## Engagement



## CONGRATULATIONS

To my nephew & head chef at the Napoleon Inn Lee Muffett, and his fiancée Mollie Trethewy who got engaged on Christmas Eve.

Such a fantastic end to the year. We wish you all the love & happiness in the world & looking forward to your wedding in 2019!

*Becky Dallow*

## Boscastle Oil-Ordering Group

Order by 31<sup>st</sup> March for a delivery during the first week of April. Are you new to the village, have you moved into a property with oil central-heating? Check if that address is already on the register by telephoning Myrna Lester on 250520 and advising whether you wish the address to be deleted or whether you just want a change of ownership made known.

## Gateway Toilets CIC

The Parish Council has sent a letter to the trustees of the Gateway Toilets CIC jointly managed by members of the Parish Council and Boscastle Chamber of Trade and Commerce congratulating them on the successful management of the toilets over the past year, an important asset to both the community and visiting tourists.

ML

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# The Body Workshop

## Maintenance & Repair.

Hi, I am Juliette Bridge. Many of you know me from the village, as my father ran Bottreaux garage for over thirty years.

Four years ago whilst travelling, I ended up in a Colombian hospital with unbearable stomach pains. On my return home, I continued to have problems, suffering from painful bloating, constipation and diarrhoea for over a year. Despite seeking medical treatment nothing seemed to help. As you can imagine, this was no fun to live with. I was often grumpy, bloated, miserable, in pain and unable to live life normally. As a keen foodie, my favourite pastimes of eating out and trying new recipes were over! Eventually, after searching for answers, I decided to enrol on a course in Naturopathic Nutrition at the College of Naturopathic Medicine, Bristol. During my three years of study I learnt an enormous amount about nutrition and transformed my health. I



gained important practical experience through clinics and having my own clients. Most importantly, I learnt to heal my own body!

I am now a fully qualified and insured Nutritional Therapist, keen to pass on my knowledge to help others improve their health.

So what can I offer you as a Nutritional Therapist? Poor nutrition can lead to a lack of energy, digestive problems, food allergies and weight gain. The brain can also be affected with depression and anxiety being common complaints influenced by a poor diet. Despite living in a world where healthcare is improving, illness and diseases are still on the rise.

We are becoming more aware that what we eat can affect our short and long-term health. At the same time, we are bombarded with information on diets, food trends and contradictory advice. Our daily lives are becoming busier and more

demanding. How do we know if we are making the right food and lifestyle choices for our bodies? There isn't a one size fits all solution.

Here comes the car analogy (wonder where I get that from?) So the body, like a car requires adequate fuel intake (petrol) and lubrication (oil) as well as air and water to run an interconnected system. If a tyre is slowly deflating it affects stability and road handling of the car, increasing the load on other areas, resulting in raised fuel consumption. The body acts similarly: if one body system is performing below par it can affect others, asking them to work harder to compensate. However, in contrast, we actually maintain and repair a car! Do we really do that for our bodies, or do we just expect them to keep going?

Our body requires specific nutrients in order to perform a mind boggling number of functions every day. Nutritional Therapy aims to restore and maintain optimal health through dietary and lifestyle change.

Nutritional Therapy can support the following:

- Female reproductive disorders (PCOS, endometriosis, fibroids)
- Food Allergy & intolerances
- Menopause
- Lack of energy
- Chronic stress
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- Thyroid health

- Sleep issues
- Low mood
- Controlling cravings
- Chronic Fatigue/MS
- IBS /UC/Crohn's Disease/Digestive disturbances
- Promoting fertility
- Skin health
- Inflammation in the joints
- Athletes (training/performance)
- Migraine
- And many other issues

Naturopathic Nutrition seeks to uncover the cause of illness, rather than just the symptoms and to support the person as a whole. Even a small change can bring about health benefits.

What can you expect from a Nutritional Therapy appointment with me?

- Pre-consultation health questionnaire to complete
- 1 hour one to one consultation
- Tailored plan: to include: dietary recommendations (including where to buy foods), recipes, factsheets, lifestyle & supplement suggestions.
- Working alongside current medications/ GP/consultant or holistic treatment

So if you feel that an appointment could benefit you, or you're not completely sure, please feel free to get in touch and we can discuss in more detail.

juliette@thebodyworkshop.life  
07913 113 767  
www.thebodyworkshop.life



**The Body Workshop**  
Maintenance and Repair

Juliette Bridge Dip CNM mANP  
Nutritional Therapist

juliette@thebodyworkshop.life  
www.thebodyworkshop.life

07913 113767

## Shock Horror! County Councillor does something useful



Waves of shock and horror swept through January's Parish Council meeting when County Councillor Barry Jordan offered to pay out of his own pocket for new traffic restriction signs on Old Road (see picture above) saying - "I've got enough money."

To compound the felony, instead of submitting the proposal to a feasibility study followed by an action plan to be considered by a Council sub-committee beginning

the financial year 2020 he turned up with the signs under his arm at the very next PC meeting.

Is Barry a dangerous new breed of Councillor? Someone who takes an active interest in the work of the community, thinks the County wastes money, actually means what he says?

Oh dear, the end of the world as we know it, my friends, is nigh.

CR

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## An Alternative Vegetable?



Having watched a recent *Masterchef Australia* series, I was fascinated when one of the chefs cooked a meal using **TULIP BULBS**. Intrigued, I delved into the internet to find out more. Apparently, they can be boiled and eaten like an onion and can be very tasty but **BEWARE**: they can land you in hospital and even cause your death!!

During World War 2 the Dutch were forced to eat them as food was so scarce. At the beginning of the war doctors had pronounced the bulbs fit for human consumption but then withdrew the advice. However later on in the war they were rediscovered and booklets were issued

on how to handle and cook them. They contain a lot of starch and when cooked their consistency is slightly mealy. The Dutch were advised to peel and halve them, removing the bitter yellow core. Nobody liked them but 'Hunger sweetens even raw beans'.

The authorities advised tulip soup: see recipe below:

### Ingredients:

- One litre of water
- 1 onion
- 4-6 tulip bulbs
- 1 teaspoon oil
- Curry substitute and seasoning
- Chop the onion and brown with oil and curry. Add water and

seasoning and bring to the boil. Meanwhile grate the cleaned bulbs into the boiling water.

It had no nutritional value but did fill the stomach.

Don't fancy it? Well, you can try a more up-to-date approach to the tulip bulb and use the petals as a cool colourful and crisp addition to your salad bowl. Apparently, they taste broadly like sweet lettuce but with a peppery kick. Tossed with early salad leaves they give you all the crunch you can desire. Some examples are as follows: try the early tulips which have the most scent and taste like peas; or ones that have larger petals which provide an exhilarating snap; and finally, the dark purple or black ones that are similar to an iceberg lettuce with a tang, but leave a sweet aftertaste.

Having written this, I think I will just stick with a traditional green salad or some good old fashioned veg!



Families for Children Trust is a Specialist Adoption Agency and charitable trust based in the South West.

We place vulnerable children from all over the UK with new adoptive families in Devon, Dorset, Cornwall, Somerset and the Isles of Scilly

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*Imogen Jones*

ijones@  
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## Boscastle AFC 1st Team Duchy Division 1 2017/18



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*Back Row: Rob Haddy (Manager), Jonny Bosley, Jack Farbrother, Nick Lawson, Danny Capstick, Luke Dingle, Jamie Burnett, Sam Haddy, Matt Pethick, Gary Sleep (Club Linesman), Sharon Pethick (Club Secretary), Adrian Bright (Sponsor: Cobweb Inn, Boscastle) and Katy Bright (Daughter), wearing the Boscastle Football Kit*  
*Front Row: James Bosley, Martin Heal, Jonny Brewer, Riley Dingle (Mascot), Danny Piper, Jordan Sleep and Rob Heal (Captain)*

## Boscastle AFC 2nds JJJones Duchy 4 Team 2017/18



copyright photo courtesy David Flower

*Back Row: Mark Hewitt (Trainer), Martin Seldon, Ali Gibbons, Robbie Nute, Max Ball, Martyn Sampson, Jason Seldon, Jake Dickinson, Jack Shaw and Scott Dunn (Manager)*  
*Front Row: Callum Bosley, Darren Hambley, Ryan Williams, Aiden Hewitt, Matt Joliffe and Jamie Palfrymen.*  
*Missing from Photoshoot: Jack Gibson & Tim Lyle (Injured)*  
*Sponsor: Home Farm Shop. Boscastle*

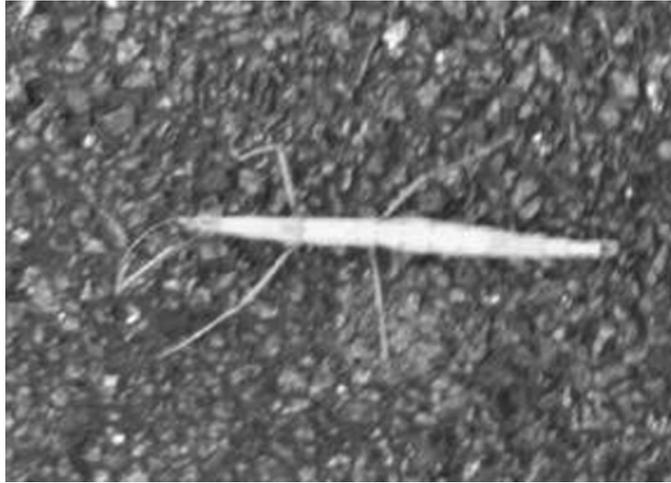


copyright photo courtesy David Flower

*Boscastle vs St Anns Chapel JJJones Duchy 4 game on Saturday February 24<sup>th</sup> 2018*  
*Boscastle went one up by half time in this Division 4 Duchy match. but a blitz early in the second half saw them race into a 4 -1 lead. They finished winning by 6 goals to 1.*  
*Pictured is James Bosley of Boscastle, as he seized on a through ball to hammer the ball past the St Anns goalkeeper James Northey, to score their fifth goal. James scored a hat trick at this match.*

# NOT WAVING BUT FREEZING

How many Village sights, sounds and smells would Lola and I miss, if it wasn't for our walks around the village in all weathers? She does the sniffing and I keep my eyes and ears open. So, on a cold, frosty January morning, despite steaming eyes and with my hood pulled well down against the wintry blast, I encountered a New Zealand illegal immigrant.



Lying on the pavement in Langford Meadow was a pale-yellow stick, about four inches long. I was about to pass it by when I took a second look. At first, I thought it had fragile threadlike branches, attached to the 'stick' - but on looking closer I saw they were waving feebly at me. The creature was lying on its back in the middle of the pavement. I gently turned it over and waited to see if it would scuttle off, but there it stayed - immobile and vulnerable.

This experience brought fresh thoughts on the 'Good Samaritan'. There he was walking along, minding his own business, when he saw another human being in need of help. So over he goes and *bingo*, now he is committed and responsible - conscience can't let him walk away. Likewise, I couldn't leave this creature in the middle of the pavement - all vulnerable and in danger of being trodden on. Gently, I placed it on the grass verge, hoping it would find its way home. Having captured a picture of it on

my phone, we left it to get its bearings and continued on our walk, returning by another route.

I was curious to know what the creature was and the internet *Encyclopaedia Britannica* (Google to you!) soon came up with information on my discovery (responsibility?). It is an 'Unarmed Stick Insect' (*Acanthoxyla inermis*). These inoffensive creatures first arrived at a garden centre near Truro since 1920. They turn up when plants (probably tree ferns) were shipped from New Zealand to nurseries in the south west. They breed parthenogenetically - the young hatch from eggs produced without fertilization by a male - and 'appear to have no negative impact on native wildlife or plants, although further research is needed'. Records of the movement of these creatures are being kept and so I registered where I found it. My contact, Malcolm Lee, informed me that the rest of 'her' family are living in Trefleur Close and lower Clover Lane Close. Malcolm said

that 'few adults survive the winter and when the temperature is below 55F/13C they stop laying eggs'.

I didn't expect my creature to survive another cold frosty night, especially considering we had had frost, hail and several storms this winter. However, the next day, there she was, still on the grass - feeble limbs still waving hello (or was it help). I had discovered that their food is privet

or bramble and I knew just where I could find some. So, I gently picked her up and placed my 'unarmed stick insect' in a hedge of privet. Malcolm assures me that 'these stick insects rarely travel even a few tens of yards in their whole lifetime' and 'by late autumn will have laid all the eggs she ever will. She will quietly spend the brief period left of her life in the hedgerows'. So, by moving her, I had not committed such an ecological disaster after all. Day three and once again I was on the lookout for her in her refuge but - gone! Despite looking for several days I never caught a glimpse of her again.

Malcolm would be 'interested to receive any reports and images' of 'stick insects' and is happy for me to forward his email address which is [gullrockportgaverne@btinternet.com](mailto:gullrockportgaverne@btinternet.com)

GQ

**Boscastle School PTA committee Presents**

## Prize Bingo

**23rd March,**  
**Boscastle Village Hall**  
**eyes down @6pm**

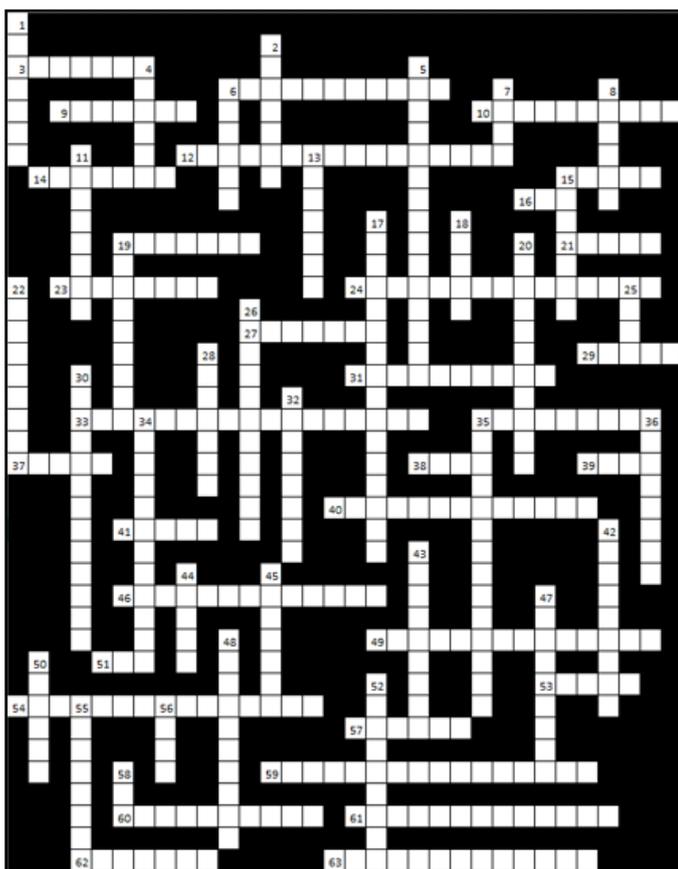
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**Booking Essential numbers restricted to 70**

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# Steve's Local Crossword



3A 6D Ron has special scrambled (7,6)  
 6A Medicine containing helper and North sounding (7,4)  
 9A 41A Bay Watch? (7,5)  
 10A See 23A  
 12A Amazement around, he makes fun of mixed up mate with policeman (5,5,6)  
 14A 4D Wheaty warehouse? (7,6)  
 15A 16A Thrash and Tango sound local delicacy (5,3)  
 16A See 15A  
 19A Got buy with June initially (4,3)  
 21A See 22D  
 23A 10A, 51A, 44D Harboursing enchantment? (6,2,10,3,5)  
 24A Cooking Oscar style kebabs here? (9,6)  
 27A L Dorado confused (3,4)  
 29A 25D Bounder loses bad smell here (5,4)  
 31A Combining power with argument (7,3)  
 33A Tour round empty hotel with epic rapture (3,7,7)  
 35A Use your loaf on the internet here (3,6)  
 37A 7D Cornish religious opinion (5,4)  
 38A See 28D  
 39A Crying for two lost loves (4)  
 40A Get on nicely (5,8)  
 41A See 9A  
 46A Highly value torso (8,5)  
 49A Local Chatterbox (7,7)  
 51A See 23A  
 53A See 61A  
 54A Spinning dream of Dan glows (9,6)  
 57A See 55D  
 59A Little going on here (9,7)  
 60A Leave card game (6,4)  
 61A I pull mouse pram off left (5,8)  
 62A 53A Join swan friend at the sharp end (7,5)

63A Get booted in here? (3,10)  
 1D Initially off Southern Comfort in pubs for pickups (7)  
 2D Mints sorted by queen (7)  
 4D See 14A  
 5D Lucky plant with elan mixed nearby (6,4,5)  
 6D See 3A  
 7D See 37A  
 8D 58D Nice one St Piran (6,3)  
 11D 18D Confused loser felt cure (8,5)  
 13D Personalised call tones (7)  
 15D Oxbridge river before the judge (7)  
 17D The place for bygone etiquette we hear (3,3,5,5)  
 18D See 11D  
 19D Crime drama from up north (3,6)  
 20D Long sleep? (3,8)  
 22D 21A Mixed up asbo style cubs with love (9,5)  
 25D See 29A  
 26D Sounds like medic is unwell (7,4)  
 28D 38A Little Road? (7,4)  
 30D Racing event tied reportedly (8,5)  
 32D Come here for health, right. (4,4)  
 34D Milton lost here? (8,4)  
 35D Strikes first part of triple jump (3,7,4)  
 36D Vital Organ? (8)  
 42D New Road? (5,4)  
 43D Banksy's fed up here? (9)  
 44D see 23A  
 45D Green Lane? (3,4)  
 47D Rowan Atkinson found here? (4,5)  
 48D Golfers cry by the road (4,6)  
 50D 55D Shape behind you initially presents jump (6,4,4)  
 52D No ifs here, though still sounds unsure (5,4)  
 55D see 50D  
 56D 57A Sounds like the road is completed  
 58D see 8D

Answers on page 32




**Electrical Safety Register**  
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# JOHN AYLING

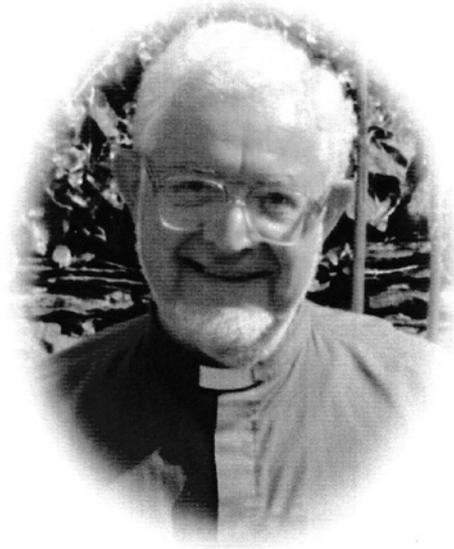
9<sup>th</sup> September 1937 – 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017

John Ayling was born on 9<sup>th</sup> September 1937 and spent his earliest years in a very cold rectory in Walsall. At the age of 10, he was sent off to a remote boarding school near Blackpool. Despite being homesick much of the time, he did well at school, eventually winning a place in Cambridge to read medicine (later changing the subject to Theology). After two years of National Service he went up to Cambridge and it was there that he met his future wife, Yvonne - whilst 'tripping the light fantastic' (although she didn't know that he had never danced before, nor did he consider the occasion 'likely to happen again'). They were married in April 1961. During this early stage of their marriage, John trained for the priesthood, was ordained and served his first two curacies in the West Midlands. John and Yvonne's two daughters, Rachel and Cate, were born during these years.

Next, inspired by a talk on the shortage of clergy 'down under', the family moved to Australia and for four years John ministered in Adelaide. Keenly interested in sport, John was a football referee for the South Australian First Division.

Their next move was to the Solomon Islands where John lectured in a Theological college. In 1972 the family returned to Britain and, for the next 19 years, John continued teaching, becoming head of the sixth form at Adeyfield and Bushey Hall schools.

Putting teaching behind him, Boscastle was the family's next home. Here, he was in charge of seven rural churches and also became involved in several projects in the area - one of which was the 'Mission Hall'. Yvonne remembers that, owned by the church, the Hall had become in need of some tender loving care.



As representative of the Church, complaints rained on John about the state of the building. With no money available from Church funds, he set out to ensure that monies were found to make it 'fit for the purpose'. He discovered the 'Albermarle Scheme', which involved a Church Hall becoming a Village Hall and thereby attracting grants. Negotiations, with the diocesan authorities, the Parish Council and those who attended a public meeting eventually resulted in a successful arrangement and the 'Village Hall' came into being.

John was part of the team who started the 'Boscastle Blowhole' magazine. In the early years John spent many long hours setting out pages of the magazine on his computer. He believed so strongly that it could be a unifying force for the village that he gave his time willingly.

In 1995 Boscastle held an exhibition and service to mark 50 years since the end of World War II, the original inspiration coming from John. The highly successful exhibition was held in the Methodist Schoolrooms. Whilst in Boscastle, John's primary concern, however, was the seven parishes in his care. During his ministry two of them came under threat of closure and whilst John tried

to prepare the small congregations for this outcome, behind the scenes he fought and succeeded in keeping them open. All John's hard work was recognised when he became Rural Dean of Stratton and Hon. Canon of Truro before leaving Boscastle.

John had a lifelong interest in science and nature and was at his happiest when looking at the ocean, being in a rainforest or walking along a cliff path.

Despite their move from Boscastle to Leominster in the early 2000's, on many occasions Yvonne would hear John say that Boscastle had stolen his heart and his wish was that his ashes should be interred there. Fortunately, this will be possible and there is to be a short memorial service and interment at 2pm on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at Forrabury Church.

To his girls he was a solid rock, a father on whom they could depend and to Yvonne he was a devoted husband and carer. He will be sorely missed by Yvonne and his daughters and all his friends and former parishioners.

---

The late Jim Castling, a former editor of the Blowhole, wrote the following 'Rhy Rhyme' which highlights some of John's activities in Boscastle:

*Not a man for snags bemoaning  
Quiet endeavours of John Ayling  
Leave achievements safe and sound  
In Boscastle's established round.*

*Our fine Millenium celebrations;  
Inspired by John's deliberations  
And VE Day's great Jubilee  
Were fostered with his energy.*

*Our August Sing-Fest, Songs of Praise  
We owe to John's inventive ways  
With joyful hymns, canons and  
rounds,*

*In concert with the harbour sounds.*

*Another most enduring role  
Was helping found our own Blowhole.  
And then, with valedictory zeal,  
Founding the Church Tower Appeal.*

# SUE GORDON

Sue Gordon lived in Cornwall from 1986 and Boscastle residents will probably remember her from when she ran the Old Coach House B&B, for her work as an artist, and for playing the organ in our churches especially Davidstow.

I got to know her when she joined the table tennis group on a Wednesday afternoon. She was such a gentle, kind soul (with a lethal serve, I may add!) and we used to call ourselves the two Sues when we played (and generally lost) together. She was also never to play without her trademark hat!

Sue was diagnosed with cancer last year and went to live with her sister where, despite chemotherapy, her condition gradually deteriorated, and she eventually died. Her sister, Gill, has sent us the following memories of Sue.

*Sue Viner*

## AN APPRECIATION OF MY DEAR SISTER SUE

My dear sister Sue died peacefully in her sleep on the 14 October, as I held her hand and stroked her hair. She bore chemo bravely, keeping her spark alive by working on a piece of sculpture, going to art wave, being with her family and chatting on the phone with her many Cornish friends.

Now I'll say a bit more about some strands of her tapestry:

**About Animals:** As children, we loved our chickens, cat and newts, rescued injured birds and made a bird cemetery. Sue took a Diploma in agriculture and worked on a dairy farm and then in Gerald Durrell's zoo in Jersey. But the cruelty of factory farming and keeping animals in cages brought this career path to an end and she contented herself with cats. In Cornwall, Sue rescued a bedraggled white Persian cat called Oscar. Oscar became a character in her action-packed story that swept across several countries; it was entitled



'Oscerina – the Russian Princess'. The relationship between Sue and her last cat Mr Binx was movingly close. When Sue came to Sussex, Mr Binx ran away from his new home and has chosen to live free with a pounce of cats on a farm.

**About Art:** Sue's first job was painting artificial flowers for Constance Spry. She took a Diploma in Sculpture in London and did some wonderful sculptures using welding and carving. She won an award for Best Woman sculptor. She also taught Craft, Design & Technology in a secondary school. Sue joined me in Ghana in a health programme for two years, where she worked with rural communities to create real-life stories about health with flannelgraphs and puppets. She continued her adventures in India, living and working in an art co-operative and soaking up the rich visual culture. Sue moved to Cornwall in 1986 and worked as an artist and maker for the rest of her life. She managed to pay the bills and enjoy life through running a B and B, various jobs and judicious use of credit cards. All her experiences contributed to her creation of highly original art work throughout her life. She was a multi-media artist and maker, including ceramics, photography and using found objects. Ros, a friend in Cornwall, said: "Such idiosyncratic creations – unlike anyone else,

putting together disparate elements – new forms – often with a quirky sense of humour. Breaking all the rules but making it work." Jeanne wrote "Throughout all the time I've known her, the creative flame has been a constant connection – brilliant and quirky and unique images and sculptures are her trademark and she lives on in the objects. I've never known anyone who was able to join so many different materials together without them falling apart! I honour her creative, rebellious and beautiful spirit. Sue was an important member of several groups of artists and is greatly missed. Some of her ceramics will remain a work in progress for her admirers to enjoy and imagine in their complete form.

**About Music:** Sue and I learnt the piano at the age of seven and Sue continued to play the piano throughout her life, joined later by the guitar and didgeridoo. She played the piano with friends and in performances, including with the So Awful Sinfonic orchestra in Camelford, and the organ for local churches.

Sue has a huge network of friends in Cornwall linked with her many activities. These included kayaking, table tennis and environmental action. Margaret said: "Our world has lost a very special and lovely lady. Not only was Sue a gifted artist and craftswoman, she was a very kind and gentle person too and she will be so missed by so many people." Linda wrote to her: "I will always remember your kindness, your colourfulness, your imagination, your determination, your uniqueness. Most of all I will remember your goodness".

Her family and friends will hold a celebration of her life and scatter her ashes in Boscastle on 22<sup>nd</sup> April.





# Church and Chapel



## *A Methodist Ministers View*

If you travel to Geevor Tin Mine, Heartlands at Pool, or Lostwithiel over the Easter Weekend you can join with others in witnessing the Resurrection Tour of the Man Engine. This 11.2 metres (36 feet) high puppet is the largest mechanical puppet ever made and takes a team of some 15 men plus a power unit to give it life. The puppet was made in 2016 in celebration of Cornish Mining, and the mining area of Cornwall being given World Heritage Site Status. The project was funded by a Lottery Arts Grant. To witness this Resurrection Project will cost you £10 (£6 for children).

It is quite clever to market the re-emergence of the Man Engine as a Resurrection Tour, as the reason for celebrating as we do at Easter-tide is to remember with thanks the death and Resurrection of Jesus at the first Easter some 1,975 years ago. The story of these facts of history may seem incredible to some people, but I am aware of two projects where the writer set out to discredit the story but ended up being convinced by it. The most recent project was

undertaken by a lawyer who concluded that there was more evidence for the Resurrection of Jesus than there was for some court cases which have resulted in prosecution. The existence of the World Wide Christian Church with its millions of followers is contemporary evidence of the events of that first Easter.

In his first letter to the Church at Corinth, which was written in response to questions from those first generation Christians, Paul devotes a whole section to talking about the Resurrection of Jesus, and our resurrection, see I Corinthians 15. He talks about Jesus' death for our wrongdoing, his burial and resurrection three days later as he foretold. Paul then goes on to talk about our resurrection into an immortal, spiritual body.

As you celebrate at Easter think about its significance for each of us. Every joy and blessing in your celebration.

*Bryan Ede*



*Dear All*

At the end of March I will have been in post as Priest-in-Charge of this Benefice for a whole year, and how time has flown by. I moved into the Rectory on a very cold day at the end of February last year, but it was not quite as cold as the same week this year! I trust you are all recovering for the very wintry weather of late. It is only when bad weather conditions block our roads and cut off our water and electricity supplies that we truly realise how dependent we are on technology

and transport links in our everyday lives, not to mention bread supplies and access to GP surgeries. Mercifully, as I write this, the snow has almost gone, and the early spring flowers can once again be seen.

I have been looking back over the last year as each of our parishes prepare to hold their Annual General Meetings (to which all in the parish are invited).

We, as part of the church community, have had the privilege of being alongside many of you as you celebrated what we are encouraged to call



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'YOUR LIGHT WILL BREAK FORTH LIKE THE DAWN'  
Isaiah 58:8

'life events' – for example baptisms, weddings, wedding blessings, funerals and the burial of ashes. We have run Lent courses, hosted coffee mornings, craft activities, a strawberry tea, fetes and fairs and quizzes, a Pasties and Poetry event, a Call my Bluff evening, Pancakes, Carols, Remembrance Day commemorations, and many other activities, not forgetting Harbour Happenings in Boscastle in August when we were blessed with a lovely warm day.

Together with Methodist colleagues, we go into Otterham and Tintagel schools as part of 'Open the Book', and I go into Boscastle School, to tell the children stories from the Bible. On St Piran's Day every year, the children from Delabole and Tintagel schools walk to St Piran's Chapel in Trethevy. Despite the rain there were 250 children there this year plus a number of parents and teachers.

Clergy and Worship Leaders and our Reader, continue to take services in church, as well as elsewhere in the Benefice, such as Boscastle Village Hall, Tintagel School Rooms, and Jane Castling's lawn in August. We support local, national and international charities throughout the year and continue to collect donations for Foodbank. We have also been able to provide practical help and support to those in need within our communities.

Please be assured that I am always available for anyone who wants to talk through any issues they have or has concerns about people in need in our communities.

As the season of Lent comes to an end, and as we look forward to the drama of Palm Sunday and Holy Week, and the joy and wonder of Easter Day, may God bless you all.

*Heather*  
*Reverend Heather Aston*  
*Priest-in-Charge*  
*Boscastle and Tintagel*  
*Group of Churches*

## New Churchyard Regulations

On 1 February the Diocese of Truro published a revised set of churchyard regulations which cover the type and style of grave markers, the wording and design of individual stones.

The purpose of the regulations is to preserve the harmonious surroundings for our parish churches and to maintain the dignity of our burial grounds. They are binding on the clergy, funeral directors, and parochial church councils (PCCs) and those involved with using the churchyards for burials of bodies or cremated remains (ashes) and for the erection of memorials/gravestones.

The erection of a memorial over a grave, or the addition of names on an existing memorial, requires permission from me as the Priest-in-Charge of this Benefice. I am only able to approve those that conform to these regulations.

The regulations do,

however, allow you to apply to the Chancellor of the Diocese for approval for any monument that falls outside of these regulations.

Paragraph 16 of the regulations states that *'Except where the design of a headstone includes an integral receptacle, plants or cut flowers may be placed in a removable container which must be sunk flush with the ground.'* This means that plants should not be put directly into the ground.

*'...Wreaths and cut flowers may also be laid on a grave but must be removed as soon as they have withered. Remembrance Day poppies, traditional Christmas Wreaths and other artificial flowers (except plastic) may be laid on a grave for a period of not more than two months.'*

*'The Parish Priest may authorise the removal of any wreaths, cut or artificial flowers which have become unsightly.'*

A full copy of these regulations is on display in each church porch, and your monumental mason will also be aware of what is permitted.

Please contact me if you have any questions about these regulations

Reverend Heather Aston  
 01840 250359

30 March: Good Friday

1 April: Easter Sunday

2 April: Easter Monday

7 May: Early May bank holiday

28 May: Spring bank holiday



## DICK WITTINGTON BOSCASTLE PANTO 2018

It's unclear how Dick Wittington ended up in Boscastle - I suspect he must have used a Satnav for his journey to London - but there was Dick Wittington (alias Emma Goreham) at Boscastle Village Hall - and so was I.

It could be considered unfair, going along to the first night of the pantomime, especially when there was a good chance I could be asked to do the 'write-up' (even professionals do not always give the smoothest of performances on a first night). No worries! If there were any 'first night' nerves behind the curtain, in front of it the audience was buzzing with excitement. There was an air of anticipation and pleasure amongst us, as we awaited an evening of fun and laughter, on the night of Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018 - the first of five performances and a full house.

The pantomime opened with 'Spirit' setting the scene for the events to come, followed by the fearsome King Rat (alias Laurence

Eagle) who appeared with his 'henchgirls'. It was soon obvious that they were the 'baddies' - cue hisses and boos from the audience. Eric and Ernie (Don Lyle and Dawn Hart) were the comedy act, lightening the air of menace (King Rat was scary!) and involving the audience.

Every pantomime has to have a romantic love interest, this one concerned Dick and 'Alice' (alias Jo Kent). The basic story line was the usual - impoverished boy meets girl; father doesn't approve; boy seeks treasure and overcomes several obstacles to become rich and gets the girl. The obstacles were the Rats and Pirate Captain LJ Tinfoil (alias Mike Parsons). He was very scary but not as scary as Dame Sarah (alias Julian Findley). Now there was a woman who wasn't about to take 'No' for an answer and we had to agree that she was obviously a 'dedicated follower of fashion'. (Both larger than life 'actors' would be missed if they were not in the pantomime.) As usual, the

children were word perfect when doing their routines - standing near me was one little boy, whose timing and memory were faultless, definitely one to watch for the future - 'will go far'.

The swimming scene was inspirational and hilarious. A length of blue fabric was stretched across the stage, behind which the cast imitated swimming movements with just their heads and hands appearing - until Jo's feet and legs appeared above the 'sea' (how did she do that?). This brought 'the house down'. Also inspired was the electronic voice of the Alderman's safe, which came as a surprise - three tries of the pin number and you're locked out.

The musical interludes added to the performance - it is always a pleasure to hear Jo's singing - forgotten lines did not detract but added hilarity to the evening. The Art Group painted the scenery this year and did a very good job of replicating Boscastle Harbour. The witty script

had several 'in jokes', which were appreciated by the audience and it wouldn't be a Boscastle pantomime without an 'init' from Emma somewhere in the performance.

These days the Village Pantomime is one of the few opportunities for the community to come together. Every year we hold our breath, hopefully asking 'will there will be a Pantomime this year'. From the 'artistes', to the 'behind the scenes' people (lights, props, prompt, refreshments and raffle) producing the Pantomime takes many hours of dedication from those willing to give up their time for our enjoyment. Once again Jo Kent and Laurence Eagle and their team did not disappoint. After putting on so many performances, the cast were at ease with each other and showed they were 'old hands' at acting. What is more I consider this year's Panto was the best yet. A big 'thank you' to all who took part.

GQ

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## County Councillor's Report



Not a lot has happened with the council over the Christmas and New Year period, I was appointed as a governor to the Cornwall NHS Foundation Trust and have been given assurances that Stratton and Launceston hospitals and the MIUs are safe, hopefully Launceston will be upgraded to an Urgent Care Centre, one of the most important factors is that we must use them, although closure is not on the cards we must make sure that it never happens.

One of the big issues coming to the fore is the new boundaries for

Cornwall, many people will by now know that Cornwall Council is going to have less Councillors, reduced from 123 to 87 so the Divisions sizes are going to increase from approximately 3500 electors to 5500 electors, the proposal for this area is to include Camelford and lose Tintagel, nothing has been decided yet as the boundary commission is undergoing a review before making a final decision.

The council meeting last week set the budget for the next year at 4.99% the Conservative group tried in vain to get it reduced but to no avail, fortunately the Government had made a grant of £1.7 million which brought it down from 5.99%, but we need to keep pressing this administration to stop wasting money. During the next month we will be debating spending £6 million for the proposed stadium for Truro; I don't believe that the council should be giving away council tax payers money

when they can't keep the tax down.

Oliver Jones (CORMAC) has promised to continue with speed check in our area as there have been many complaints from residents in all our villages

This week (5<sup>th</sup> March) on Tuesday I have a meeting in St Ervan, Wednesday in Tintagel, Thursday, Bodmin in the morning and Boscastle in the evening so a busy week, the next Camelford Area Network Meeting is on the 21<sup>st</sup> March when there will be a discussion about a Camelford bypass and

the possibility of £50,000 being made available for Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) which if allowed would help reduce bad and illegal parking, I am pleased to say that after a little encouragement from me CORMAC have alleviated the flooding in Trethevy by repairing a broken drain.

*Thank you,  
Barry Jordan*

Contacted details:

01840 230048

Mobile (Emergency)  
07799 790813

email: barry.jordan2@btinternet.com  
or barry.jordan@cornwallcouncillors.org.uk

### JANE'S VALENCY LAWN SALES

As in previous years Jane Castling will be hosting a number of table top sales on behalf of charitable causes on the lawn at Valency House alongside the harbour. These take place from 9am on Sundays. If weather is inclement the sale day is postponed to the next available Sunday. Upcoming sales are:

- 6<sup>th</sup> May Macmillan Nurses/Marie Curie
- 27<sup>th</sup> May Air Ambulance
- 10<sup>th</sup> June TBA
- 24<sup>th</sup> June Moorland Ponies

Jane is always happy to welcome new stall holders either on a regular or one-off basis. Stall spaces (supply own tables) cost £10. Proceeds of stall rent and entrance donations go to the nominated charity.

For further information please contact Jane 01840 25046 or Chris Rodda 01840 250012 or mobile 07855310610

Advance notice that Boscastle School's Annual Duck Race Day will be held on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July,

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# Boscastle Village Archive

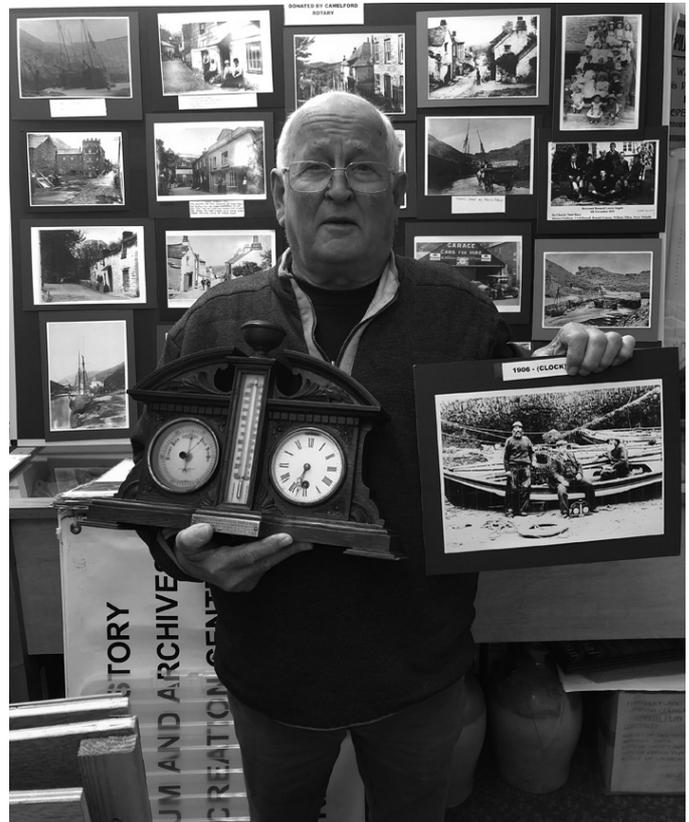
*David Ferrett, 'grandad', and Ross 'grandson', embark on the mammoth task of digitising and recording a wonderful collection of village history:*

**Grandson:** I could run around the restaurant and remember multiple orders without having to write anything down. Now, I am lucky to remember if someone wants sugar in their coffee; on a bad day, I cannot even remember if I have made myself a coffee! However, my grandad can precisely recall stories, tales, daily life and at the age of 79 we started a project to look through his village archives, those that have been kindly donated and more to digitise the collection and his memory.

In an ever-changing world, the ability to capture moments in time was once a momentous occasion. Now, Samsung report that nearly 2 billion photographs are taken in Britain each month alone but with social media

sharing (your Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter tweets), this trend is also resulting in the death of the photo album. However, there is an upside from the movement from physical to digital when it comes to photography; the smartphone being always with you can capture the ebb and flow moments of love, life and laughter – this makes it a richer record albeit less lit at times!

**Grandad:** Being one of nine, the 'Ferrett family' have accrued a collection of family memorabilia over the years. Often these memories, being photos or tales, are often passed down through the generations but in a digital world, where will these now go? For instance: having worked in the village all my life, I was fortunate to work with Walter Gard whose family were the first to be mentioned as living in the village when they were asked to carry out work on Minster Church



*David Ferrett holding the photo of the three fishermen Martin, Bath and Nicholls in Boscastle Harbour. The barometer clock David holds, currently on loan, was presented to Captain Martin for saving the lives of Bath and Nicholls and is the item in the picture*

in 1640. Walter told us of the creation of Tredorne Cottage, at the top of Boscastle, being from the 'stone of wheal chimney' in Boscastle when it was taken down. Or: when we type 'World War Two Boscastle' into Google, there isn't an article that highlights how German bombers, returning to base after a raid, offloaded bombs one of which hit near the flagstaff up on the cliffs above the harbour. We even have a piece of shrapnel from the very bomb at the Community Centre. Are we in a new age world where these memories are about to be lost?

I am receiving photographs from people

who have had them in their family albums for generations with some even visiting to retrace family connections. In addition, I have had the pleasure in meeting some wartime evacuees returning to see our collections, and who often add more of their own. I am grateful to those who have supported the work in collating the vast amount of material the Boscastle Village Archive holds. Whilst my grandson and I are slowly trying to digitise what I have for the future, you are more than welcome to view what we have done so far and even help fill in any missing names. It's an ongoing project, find it at the web address below.

[www.boscastlearchive.co.uk](http://www.boscastlearchive.co.uk)

RY

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Seafood chowder £7.75 - Lobster, crab, haddock burger £9.95

# PAT'S COOKERY CORNER

We spent the weekend in London with my nephew, Nick, his partner Beni and their daughter Alma who is twelve. Alma spotted Jamie Oliver's new cookbook in a charity shop the other week and is just learning to cook from it. (It's the one based on Five Ingredients – Quick and Easy that he presented on TV last autumn). As a result of her success with one of his easy-to-follow recipes, she is all fired with enthusiasm for cooking and it was a delight to talk to her and exchange tips and advice. Here is another feel-good, easy recipe for the kind of comfort dish that we all enjoy and better still (from Alma's point of view anyway) it's both easy and delicious. I shall be sending her the recipe by email tonight.

## Macaroni Ham & Cheese

- 400g of macaroni pasta
- 180ml of single cream
- 100g of half fat crème fraîche
- 1 tsp English mustard
- 200g of half fat medium cheese, grated
- 4 slices of cooked ham, cut in 1cm cubes

- 1 tsp rapeseed oil
- 1 pinch of black pepper
- 1 pinch of salt

### Method

Fill a large saucepan with water. Add a splash of rapeseed oil and bring to the boil. Add the dried macaroni and cook according to the instructions on the packet. Once cooked, drain and set aside. In a separate pan, add the single cream, English mustard and crème fraîche and slowly melt over a low heat. Add most of the grated cheese to the cream mixture, reserving some for later, and stir until all the cheese is fully incorporated. Add the chopped ham to the cream mixture and season with a pinch of salt and black pepper. Mix the cooked hot macaroni pasta with the cream and ham mixture and place in an ovenproof dish – I use an enamel pie dish. Sprinkle some more grated cheese on top and place under a hot grill for 4–6 minutes until the cheese is bubbling and beginning to change colour. Serve immediately.

*Pat Thorne*

# D SCOTT ELECTRICAL

1, JORDAN VALE OLD ROAD BOSCASTLE CORNWALL PL35 0AJ

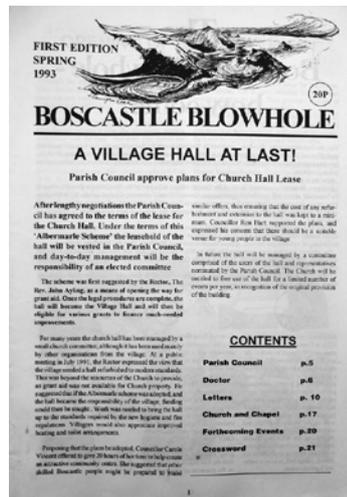


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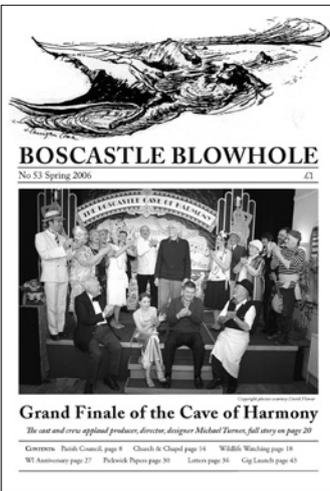
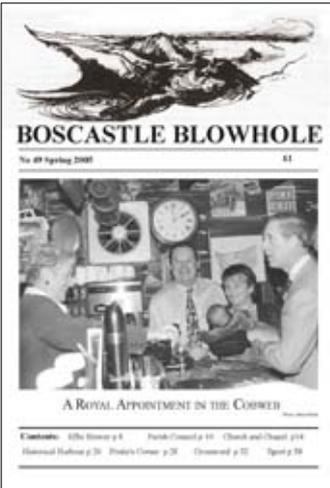
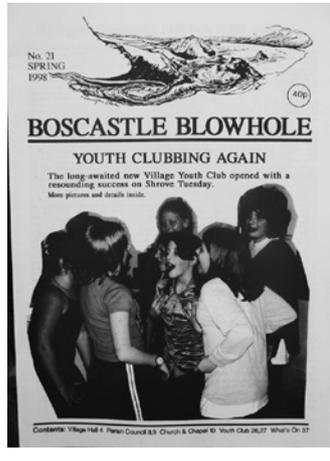
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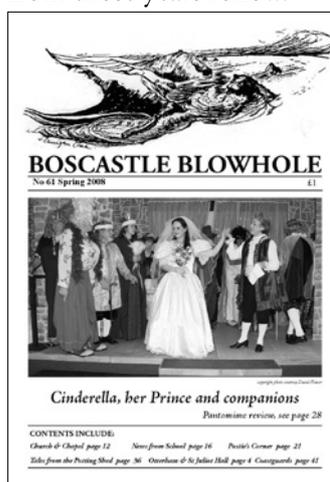
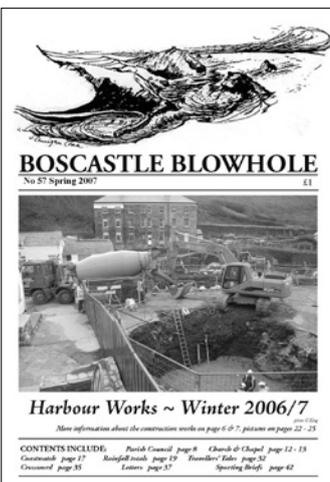


## Editorial Team Spring:

- 1993: YA editor; JA production; PA; JCo; AH; CL; MR; RT  
 1994: YA; JA; PA; SB; JCo; AH; MR; RT  
 1995: YA; JA; PA; SB; JCo; JCo; AH; JL; MR; GT; RT  
 1996: YA; JA; PA; JCo; JCo; AH; JL; MR; GT; RT  
 1997: YA; JA; PA; JCo; JCo; JL; MR; RT  
 1998: YA; JA; AB; PA; JCo; JCo; KC; JL; MR  
 1999: YA; JA; AB; PA; JCo; JCo; KC; JL; MR  
 2000: YA; JA; PA; AB; JCo; BC; JCo; KC; DR; JR  
 2001: YA; JA; PA; AB; JCo; BC; JCo; KC; MD; DR; JR  
 2002: JCo; AP; PA; AB; JCo; BC; JCo; KC; MD; DR  
 2003: JCo; AP; PA; AB; JCo; KC; MD; DR  
 2004: JCo; PA; HA; AB; JCo; CR; DR; NW  
 2005: PA; AB; JCo; CR; DR; NW  
 2006: PA; AB; JCo; CR; DR; NW  
 2007: PA; AB; JCo; CR; DR; MS; NW  
 2008: PA; AB; JCo; AR; CR; DR; MS; NW  
 2009: PA; AB; JCo; GQ; AR; CR; DR; MS  
 2010: PA; AB; JCo; GQ; AR; CR; DR  
 2011: PA; AB; HC; JCo; GQ; AR; CR  
 2012: PA; AB; HC; JCo; GQ; AR; CR  
 2013: PA; AB; HC; GQ; AR; CR  
 2014: PA; AB; HC; AJ; GQ; AR; CR  
 2015: PA; AB; HC; AJ; GQ; AR; CR  
 2016: PA; AB; HC; AJ; GQ; AR; CR  
 2017: PA; AB; HC; AJ; GQ; AR; CR
- HA Hilary Allen  
 PA Philippa Arthan  
 YA Yvonne Ayling  
 JA John Ayling  
 AB Arthur Bannister  
 SB Sue Bowen  
 JCo Jim Castling  
 HC Heather Colne  
 BC Barbara Coltman  
 JCo Joan Cork  
 KC Karen Coulthard  
 MD Mary Dummett  
 AH Annie Hillerman  
 AJ Audley Jarvis  
 JL Janet Lathom  
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 AP Alistair Priest  
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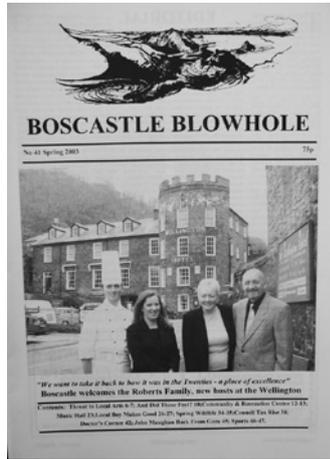
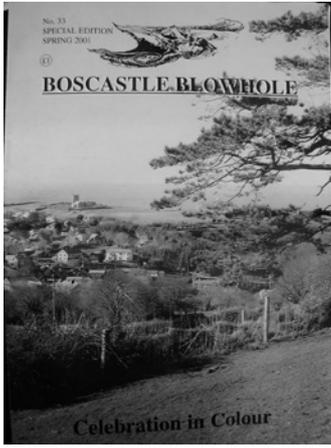


The pictures on pages 33-35 are front covers of the Spring editions of the Blowhole. What a lot has happened in the village over the last 25 years! The Mission Room has become the Village Hall; the Men's Club rebuilt as the Community Centre; Youth Clubs started and stopped (time for a new one, maybe?); Cave of Harmony now pantomines; storms, snow etc. Random snippets from those years follow.



1993: 'We need a bus shelter ...ideal place on Doctors Corner'. Lee & Kevin Sellars  
 1998: Grants from the open Bosccastle Art Gallery in premises next to the PO.  
 1994: Bosccastle WEA have a photocopier available for a community use. Napoleon Inn Pool Team are top of the Sunday League. Much discussion on windturbines continues.  
 1995: Frank Bridge opens a new petrol station and shop. Discussion on windturbines at Doctors Corner.  
 1996: Dr Chris Jarvis explains the new out-of-hours service 'Kernowdoc'. FMPC request the County Council to install a traffic calming mini-roundabout at Doctors Corner.  
 1997: Lee & Kevin Sellars leave the Post Office and Tim and Pat Chadwick move in. Richard & Sherry Clarridge take over from

Ivor & Vera Bright as landlords of the Napoleon Church Floodlighting Trust and the PCC have enabled Forrabury Church to order a modest floodlighting scheme.  
 1999: Pickwicks Antiques, opens in Dunn Street. Mac Reynolds steps down as Station Officer of Bosccastle Coastguards, Les Siford takes on the role. Minster Church designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest.  
 2000: Archaeologists get to work on the site of the old Snooker Club building after it was demolished in January...a few pottery shards believed to date from the 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century came to light. Bosccastle Surgery extension is complete and operational.  
 2001: The National Trust open a new permissive path



on Forrabury Common. Peter & Margaret Templar, new owners, have been busy preparing for the reopening of the Riverside Hotel in time for Easter.

2002: Boscastle Stores Closes. Ross Yates receives an award of £20 for his work as a Millennium Volunteer.

2003: Boscastle Visitor Centre's new computerised service for accommodation providers is coming on well.

2004: Two new slate seats have been created by the National Trust. BT have announced that we have reached the trigger level to enable broadband at the Boscastle exchange.

2005: HSBC ends its mobile banking service to Boscastle.

2006: Groundworks for the Play Area begins.

2007: National Trust plans to convert the Cornish Goodies shop into a cafe

should go ahead this year.

2008: Cornwall Council refuse South West Waters's plans for a sewage works at Tresuck Farm. Boscastle Book Club planned to start soon.

2009: Guy and Tracy Lane de Courtin open their new Post Office Counter, providing postal services from Cornish Stores.

2010: Gill & Oliver Smeeth leave Boscastle Newagents, Ian Lewis & Rebecca Harrison take over. Myrna Lester suggests an oil-ordering group for Boscastle.

2011: Boscastle Cobweb Carpark is selected as one of 15 locations for a 'Design Stories' exhibition to be held in a customised shipping container. The Museum of Witchcraft celebrates its diamond anniversary.

2012: The Gig Club's

Torrent is confirmed to take part in the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant. Dr & Mrs Weir leave Boscastle. Dr Weir joined Tintagel & Boscastle practice in 1969 & retired in 1983.

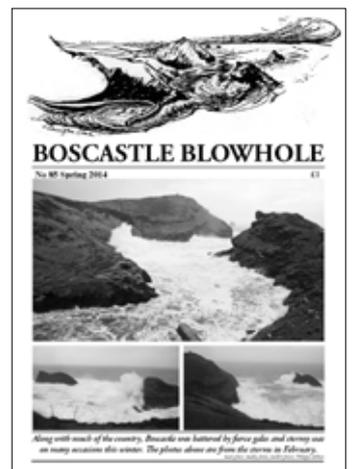
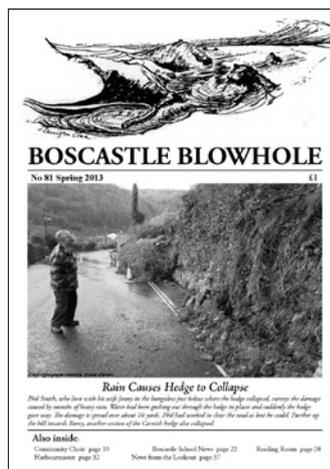
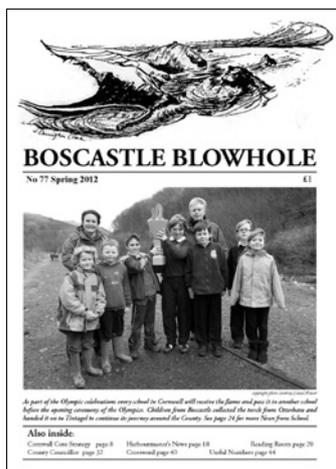
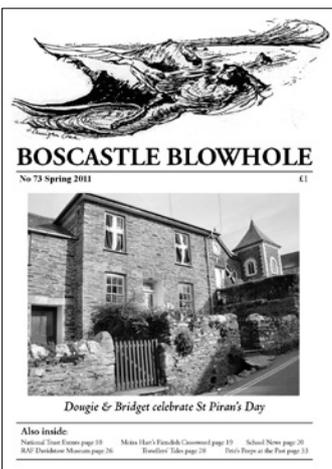
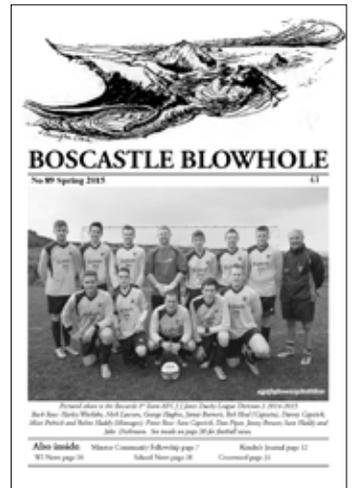
2013: The lane between Newmills and Treworld, severely damaged in flood of 2004, has been repaired. The Maia Music Festival at the Gaia building in Delabole was a great success.

2014: The 'Minster Group' fundraising events begin with a concert at Boscastle Farm Shop.

2015: FMPC has erected a handrail along the footpath leading up to the Forrabury Church.

2016: The National Trust have installed new kissing gates at Willapark.

2017: Boscastle Short Mat Bowls Club win the Northern Area Bowls Championships.



# National Trust

## Delight in Spring

March arrives and we start talking about grass. And ponder the rate at which it will grow this year. Green stuff growing is exciting! We've seen the snowdrops, and the daffs, and the primroses by mid-February. Perhaps a few bluebells are out now, and you may have seen celandine (yellow, with heart shaped leaves, which is how I learnt this one - makes me think *Valentine - celandine*), next will come golden saxifrage (yellow), wood anemone (white with a pinkish flush), common dog violets (the ones with a light purple spur), early dog violets (the ones with a dark purple spur), alexanders (yellowy green) and cow parsley (white).

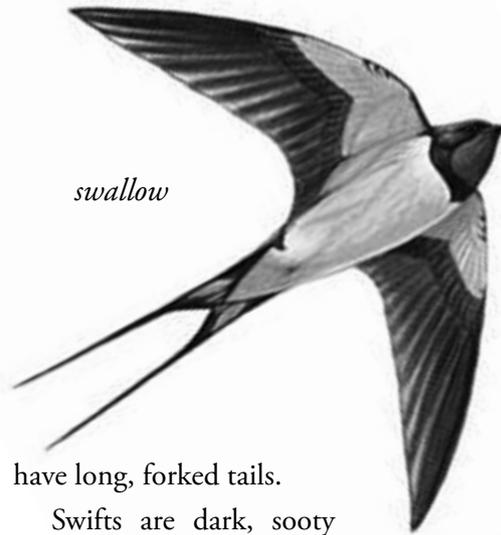
You will have seen the white blossoms of blackthorn, as its flowers arrive before the leaves, and hazel has been flowering since January, with its tiny pineapple flowers, and hanging catkins. Next will come hawthorn, and buds will begin to burst on alder, elder, horse chestnut, sycamore, oak and ash (any

truth in *oak before ash you're in for a splash, ash before oak, you're in for a soak?*)

As well as the green stuff that grows, we start to hear the first sounds, songs and singing of spring. Robins sing all year round, but they're getting louder, and we've noticed tits and blackbirds tuning up. The song thrush is getting vocal, usually repeating a phrase three times over with each burst (this is how you can tell it apart from singing blackbirds who tend not to repeat themselves) and soon we'll hear the constant *chiff-chaff chiff-chaff chiff-chaff* of so-named birds returning from Africa, or those that are year round resident getting in to the spirit of spring.

And then my favourite returning travellers, glossy blue swallows, twittering and chirruping away - so very beautiful. They will be joined by swifts, sand martins and house martins. How do you tell the difference between them?

Swallows have dark, glossy blue backs, wings and heads, with a reddish patch under the chin. They



*swallow*

have long, forked tails.

Swifts are dark, sooty brown all over, and look black against the sky. Their wings are long and narrow, a scythe-like shape, and a tail that is slightly forked, but not as much as a swallow's. They have a piercing, screaming call.

Sand martins are brown with white underparts, and a brown chest band. They make nest burrows in sandy river banks, or cliffs.

House martins have glossy blue upperparts and a white rump. They often build their nests under the eaves of buildings. Both martins have short forked tails. Their call is a sharp 'jik, jik' with some twittering.

You can see swifts, swallows, sand and house martins swooping over water, a lake or a river,

flying around catching insects. You will see swallows perching on telegraph wires or fences, but never swifts.

We are lucky in Cornwall, often getting the first of the spring arrivals. You can watch spring



*swift*






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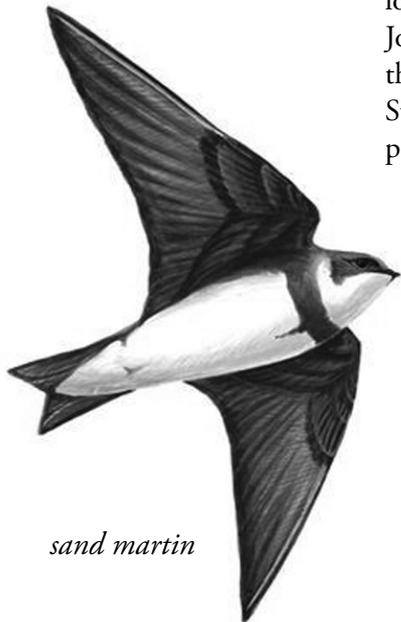

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*sand martin*

loads of beach rubbish.  
Join us for one or for all of the beach cleans.  
Starting at Duckpool car park EX23 9JN

**Tuesday 2 May, 10am – 4pm**

**Strangles – bracken control**

Help us bash the bracken to stop it from taking over. We'll be using big sticks. Sturdy footwear, long trousers and long-sleeved shirts required.

Check for ticks at the end of the day

Meet in Strangles lay-by EX23 0LQ

Everyone is welcome, you don't need any experience. We'll show you how to use the tools, so you can help us with the jobs. Everything you need is provided, just wear clothes that can get dirty, stout footwear and bring lunch and a flask. Please contact me for more information - Jen Tyler 01288 331372 | jen.tyler@nationaltrust.org.uk

spread across the country as people record their first sightings of flowers, birds and butterflies online at [naturescalendar.woodlandtrust.org.uk](http://naturescalendar.woodlandtrust.org.uk). I wonder who will be the first to see a swallow this year.

Get outdoors and enjoy the spring with us, you can join in on any of the volunteer days as detailed below:

**Tuesday 10 April, 10am – 4pm**

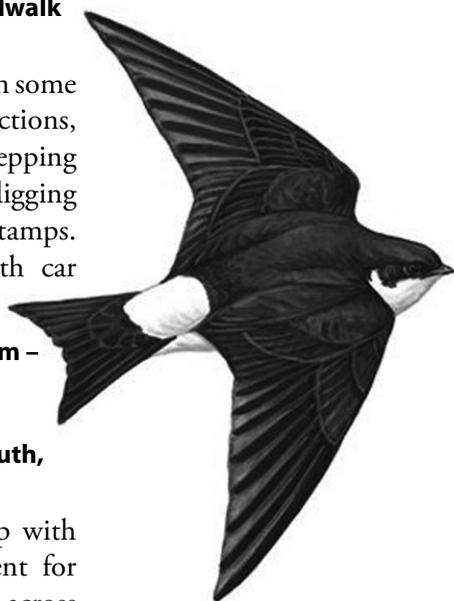
**Sandymouth – boardwalk installation**

We'll be putting in some new boardwalk sections, and some wooden stepping stones using spades, digging bars, hammers and tamps. Meet at Sandymouth car park EX23 9EG

**Sunday 22 April, 10am – 4pm**

**All our beaches – Duckpool, Sandymouth, Northcott**

We're teaming up with the Plastic Movement for a spring beach clean across all our beaches, collecting



*house martin*

## Bus Shelter – Results of Air Quality Monitoring Test

Hope Bradbury, Cornwall Council's Environmental Health Officer wrote to the Parish Council to say that the air quality monitoring test carried out at the site of the proposed new bus shelter during November was disrupted by either accidental or deliberate damage.

The diffusion tube had either fallen out accidentally or been detached from its clips and was found lying on the ground next to the pole. As the laboratory results were therefore unreliable a second tube was deployed in



January to monitor nitrogen dioxide air quality and after collection sent for analysis.

The results of the second monitoring test have been reported to the Parish Council and state that 'The low levels of NO2 measured at the site (less than 25% of the target mean) indicate that the site would be classified as a background site rather than a site experiencing high levels of traffic pollution.'

CR



Are you hacked off with being house-bound after our wearisome winter weather?

Are your Thursday mornings chore-bound or chair-bound?

Then why not pop out and come to the 'Popin'

We are open on Thursday mornings from 10am. To 12pm.

Come and enjoy coffee, cake and conversation with fellow 'Popiners'.

We have been open since November and have been going from strength to strength.

There may be 'a welcome in the hillside' but you'll get a bigger welcome at

## The 'POPIN'

**Boscastle WI Report**

We are very lucky to have so many 'Good Food' venues around Boscastle from which to choose, for that special occasion. Since Christmas is a special occasion and the WI ladies like to ring the changes, for our 2017 Christmas lunch we chose Trencreek. The owners, Margaret and Richard Heard, are the perfect hosts, welcoming you like old friends and always decorating the tables with flowers - on this occasion a tasteful Christmas display. Their food is cooked to perfection - as good as Mother made, if not better! All tastes are catered for, with vegetarians and gluten-free dishes available on request. We had an excellent Christmas lunch, which was enjoyed by all members and the occasion was a superb start to the festivities.



Our WI has a lot of talented members, one of which is Mary Shepherd. Mary can create floral displays beyond my imagination. (I dread getting a bunch flowers that I have to arrange - *thinks 'I'll just stick them in a vase.'*) So, at our January meeting, with the theme 'Looking forward to Spring', Mary demonstrated the floral art and assisted members in making their own

floral displays. The ladies produced very pleasing results - give yourselves a pat on the back!

At our February Annual Meeting there was no speaker, since it is at this meeting that the new committee is chosen and voted in - particularly the posts of President and Secretary. The retiring President and Secretary - Sue Viner and Jill Clark (*in*

*photo above*)- reported on our past year in which we had visited the Davidstow War Museum, Jo Downs' Glass Studio, past secretary Val Gill's new home, and had a Christmas shopping trip to Exeter. We were fortunate to have organist Jonathon Mann play for us at Forrabury Church in July and to have the return of Lynn Gould to speak on 'Kenneth Grahame'. It was

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a very busy and successful year - our 72<sup>nd</sup> year - with three members reopening the 'Popin' at the new venue, the Village Hall. (NB for more information about the Popin, see page 23 of this edition of the Blowhole).

Since our monthly coffee mornings are held in various local cafés, anyone wishing to come along will have an opportunity to meet and chat to us. In February our coffee morning was held at 'Hill Top Farm Shop', Slaughterbridge.

If you would like to join us at a meeting, we are

in the Village Hall every second Tuesday of the month at 2.00pm – visitors more than welcome.

GQ

**The 2018 Committee**

President: Julie Potter

Secretary Helen Hunt

Treasurer: Pam Jordan

*The programme for upcoming meetings feature:*

April: The April meeting of Boscastle WI is an open group day and you are all invited to attend. Details are on the flyer on the below.

May 'Resolutions'

June: Tintagel Brewery Tour and lunch

July: 'The Great Frank Sinatra' with Arthur Aston

## Boscastle W.I.

**Would like to invite you to our open group day**

**Tuesday 10th April 2pm will be our 1st meeting of the 2018-2019 Program and we would like to share it with you. We have the wonderful Roland Rotherham giving us a fun talk entitled, BBC, adventures and misadventures. we will also be serving light refreshments**

**Boscastle Village Hall**





*We are a lovely group of ladies with a variety of ages and interests, each month we partake in out & about activities as well as talks on all sorts of topics from Frank Sinatra to our own local Coast-Watch in the Village Hall. why not pop along and join us, new comers welcome anytime*

**Second Tuesday of the Month 2pm Boscastle Village Hall**






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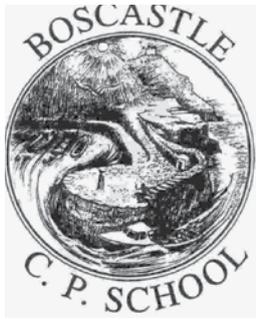
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## News from School

Welcome to Spring although it didn't feel much like that at cross country club this week. We have 12 children in training for the Landrake run this year and have been up at the football pitch and The Stitches for our training. The first week we lost 5 shoes in the mud and have been frantically teaching children how to tie laces tightly ever since! Needless to say the children loved it! Landrake run is on 16<sup>th</sup> of March and is about three miles across fields and over a marsh and can involve some huge puddles if the weather has been particularly bad. There are usually about 400 participants and is a good warm up for the Deli Run in May.

As always we seem to be working flat out and are busier than ever. All of the staff are attending Maths Hub training over the next couple of terms which helps us understand the best way to teach maths, and help children who do not find using numbers very easy. The way maths is taught has changed substantially over the last few years with increased expectations of the children. There was much objection and concern when the new curriculum was introduced however we were one of the first schools to engage with the Maths Hub training and have really enjoyed challenging the children with reasoning and problem solving challenges. Quite a large part of my job is talking with children to find out what they know and I can safely say that ours know and can explain a great deal about their maths and genuinely enjoy the subject.

January found six of our older

children out and about on their bicycles completing their Level 1 and 2 Bikeability training. We have been doing this for several years now as it is an excellent introduction to riding safely on the roads. We are gradually building our cycling teaching with Bike Balance with the Reception children, Bike Club to improve skills of the 7-8 year olds and specific coaching for older children who cannot ride. Our aim is that all children will be able to ride a bike with confidence by the time they leave us.

In January we also worked with Hands on Science who provided us with workshops during the day. The youngest children studied fair tests, everyday materials and nourishment in their Kitten Rescue workshop whilst the older children also looked at the human body in a circulation and heart dissection workshop.

Class 3 have been participating in a music workshop lead by Georgina Bridle from the County Music Service. They have all learned a variety of songs from Disney films to play glockenspiels or xylophones for one of their songs and having listened to their final practise on Tuesday I was very impressed. On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March our children, along with children from other local schools, will meet at Budehaven School for a concert for their parents. It promises to be an excellent evening's entertainment.

This is now a rather shorter than normal update as I'm completing it at home as we are closed because of the snow. Unfortunately, this has meant that our music concert has been cancelled and we will also need to rearrange our world book day activities. Hopefully there will be sufficient snow at Boscastle for the children to build snowmen: most of our children will not have seen snow before so they are in for an exciting couple of days.

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## BITCOINS

In the fairy story of Jack and the Beanstalk, Jack (an archetypal Cornish folk hero) is sent by his mum to sell the family cow at market. On the way he encounters a mysterious bean seller who persuades Jack to swap the cow for a bag of magic beans. On returning home Jack's mother is less than impressed by Jack's financial acumen and throws the beans out of a window. Lo, overnight, a huge beanstalk appears which Jack naturally climbs, discovers a horde of gold and other treasures guarded by a sleeping giant. Chased by the vengeful giant (Fee-fie-fo-fum!) Jack cuts down the beanstalk and giant plunges to his death. Jack and his mother live happily ever after.

Is it me, or has the financial world gone mad? There exist a number of crypto-currencies, Bitcoin perhaps the best known, which trade in bags of beans. A bitcoin, invented by a chap called Satoshi Nakamoto, is a complex computer algorithm which uses up a fiendish amount of computing power (and world's electricity supply) to create. Its adherents reckon the beauty of Bitcoin is that it is a swiftly-moving international currency which can be traded and used for all kinds of purchases. Obviously, banks and governments are highly suspicious of what appears an untraceable source of income and many have already banned its use in ordinary commercial transactions. The result has been huge rises and falls in notional value, each bitcoin valued – in the past twelve months – at between \$10 to \$20,000 dollars. Speculators have either made or lost huge sums in the process.

In a sense any currency is only a concept, a "Promise to pay the bearer" the face value of a note or coin. Financial turmoil, such as hit Germany after the First World War, Greece and Cyprus and various African countries in recent years, shows how quickly a bank deposit becomes a bag of beans. No wonder

on the Indian sub-continent they traditionally hoard gold.

Bitcoin mania has been compared to Tulip Mania as in Holland in the 17<sup>th</sup> century when a single bulb was valued at thousands of guilders or, more recently, the abrupt destruction of many online .com companies whose assets turned out to be little more a few wisps of headed notepaper and a vainglorious internet site.

No-one or any regulation will stop the gambling instinct of the get-rich-quick brigade. The sad bit is that a lot of ordinary folks – all those Americans who bought shares in grossly-overvalued companies just before the 1929 Crash – are sucked into believing what sounds too good to be true isn't at the end true. It doesn't really matter if you spend a few quid each week on the lottery, but maxing out credit cards to gamble online or buy crypto-currency for the vast majority of us means tears before bedtime.

I buy my wife nice jewellery. Precious metals have traditionally held their value and, anyway, she looks pretty wearing them.

CR

### Myrna's Chuckle Corner – Wotsit Mean?

- Madeira = period of lunacy  
Knickers = those who steal underwear  
Nudity = song not heard before  
Curate = graph on GP's wall  
Pantaloons = mad man in y-fronts  
Capable = what a matador does  
Khaki = vehicle ignition device  
Humbug = bee who has forgotten the words  
Denial = Cleopatra's realm  
Amnesia = erm.....  
Comatose = numb feet  
Castanet = what a Spanish fisherman does.

ML

## Scott Mann, MP



I hope readers remained safe and well during the recent bad weather and weren't too badly affected by the subsequent disruption. Even with the heavy snow, strong winds, sub-zero temperatures and impassable roads, many people still made it to work to run our vital public services and business which support the Cornish economy.

From doctors, nurses, police officers, paramedics and fire fighters, to farmers, plumbers, electricians and shop keepers, thousands of you battled through the snow to make sure that Cornwall continued to function.

I also want to commend those who work and volunteer to look after homeless people to make sure that they have a roof over their head and a hot

meal during such awful weather. No-one should be outside in such treacherous conditions and I'm in awe of the people and organisations who offer their services to make sure that people on the streets of Cornwall had somewhere safe and warm to go to.

Once again the storms brought into sharp focus how important it is that we make the Dawlish railway line more resilient. Although the sea wall and track themselves were left unharmed, there was a lot of debris scattered across the track which caused a day of disruption.

Just recently I was given a written assurance from the Transport Secretary that making the line at Dawlish more resilient is his number one national priority, and Network Rail is already conducting work to do just that. Once they have outlined in detail what needs to be done, then funding will be allocated and the long-term resilience work can take place.

Fortunately, the snow melted in time for St Piran's Day festivities, and in Parliament the six Cornish MPs held a

Taste of Cornwall event to celebrate our patron saint and to herald our fantastic food and drink sector.

Eleven producers travelled up from Cornwall to show off their products, including ale, cider, wine, chocolate, cheese, cream, crisps, biscuits and more. Many MPs and government ministers attended to taste the fantastic produce on offer and to speak with business representatives.

Cornwall has a thriving food and drink sector which has huge potential to tap into domestic and global markets. The Cornish brand is very strong around the world and we want to see more of our products being sold in international markets.

In Parliament I also led a debate on the future of our fishing industry and what type of management system we should have in place.

The EU and its quota-

[scott@scottmann.org.uk](mailto:scott@scottmann.org.uk)

SM

based Common Fisheries Policy has failed Cornwall's fishermen and we need a system which is much fairer for our fleets of small boats as well as a system which is better at recording what we catch and conserving stocks.

I also pressed ministers to make sure that on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019, that fisheries is solely within British control and it is not part of an implementation or transition deal. The EU is trying to bring in a complete discard ban which, if implemented in Britain, could bankrupt many of our boats who will have to stop fishing as soon as they exhaust their lowest quota.

We need to be out of any EU fisheries control in March 2019 to make sure that we can protect and grow our fishing industry and implement a much fairer and more effective management model.

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## Tintagel Craft Fairs 2018

**Trevena Hall Tintagel, 10.30 - 4.30 Daily**

**April ... sun 8th - fri 13th**

**May ... Fri 25th - Friday 1st June**

**June ... wed 20th - mon 25th**

**July ... Mon 16th - Thur 19th**

**July ... Thur 26th - Mon 30th**

**July 31st there will be NO fair as there will be a Carnival Cream Tea**

**Aug ... Mon 1st - Sun Aug 5th**

**( Carnival day Sat 4th )**

**Aug ... wed 22nd - Fri 31st**

**Sept ... Mon 24th - Thur 27th**

**October ... Mon 22nd - Thur 25th**

**We will also be running Art exhibitions & pe-loved table top sales in the Old School Rooms from APRIL-JULY AND SEPT & OCT**

**Look out for posters or call for mor info**

**if you would like more information**

**on our fairs please call Julie Potter**

**07828824951**

## Upcoming Events at St Endellion

**St Endellion Easter Festival:** 31 March – 8 April: A feast of choral and orchestral concerts, including Handel's Messiah and Beethoven's 3<sup>rd</sup> (Eroica) Symphony.

**Joyful Company of Singers:** Saturday 5 May, 7.30pm: One of Europe's most prominent chamber choirs returns with a musical voyage of discovery exploring choral settings from Britain, Germany and the Baltic region.

**Wells Cathedral School Young Musicians:** Sunday 13 May, 3pm: We are thrilled to be presenting a Sunday afternoon concert showcasing three of Wells' talented young musicians.

**Neil Maya quartet**  
Friday 18 May, 7.30pm: This superb quartet immerses you in the sounds

of one of the world's greatest jazz bands, authentically reproducing the best-known Dave Brubeck recordings.

**Bristol University Madrigal Ensemble**  
Friday 15 June: The highly popular Ensemble returns to St Endellion as part of their annual tour to Cornwall with a delightful mixed programme of madrigals and part songs.

**Dante Quartet**  
Friday 22 June, 7.30pm  
One of the UK's finest ensembles play Beethoven op 135, Shostakovich no 4, and Tchaikovsky no 1 in D. "Playing of spellbinding atmosphere" (The Guardian).

For further information about any of the concerts and to book tickets go to [www.endellionta.org.uk](http://www.endellionta.org.uk) or call 07787 944935



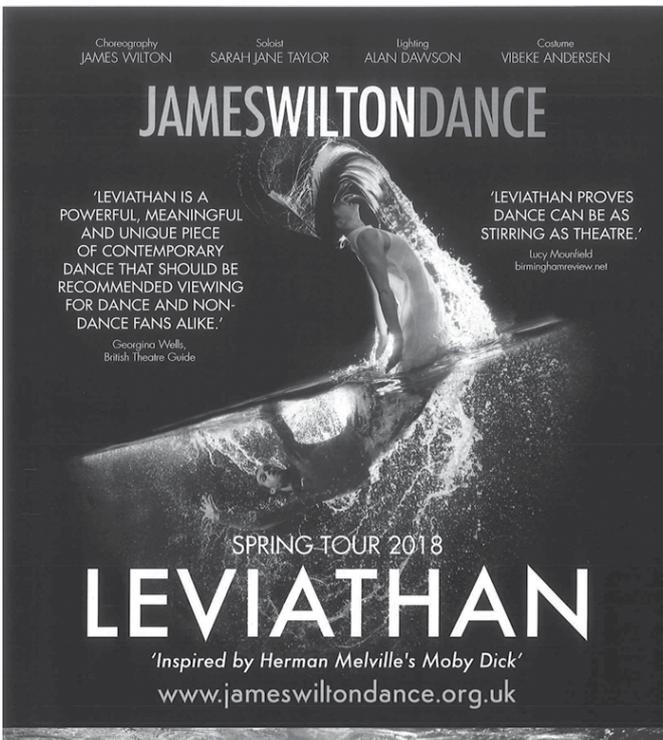
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Georgina Wells, British Theatre Guide

'LEVIATHAN PROVES DANCE CAN BE AS STIRRING AS THEATRE.'  
Lucy Mounfield, birminghamreview.net

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[www.jameswiltondance.org.uk](http://www.jameswiltondance.org.uk)

**Saturday 28th April at 7:30pm**  
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Tickets: £10.00, U-16 £8.00, Family £28  
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Logos: Arts Council, SWINDON DANCE, THE GRAND, etc.

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## Museum of Witchcraft and Magic

Although we've been closed for refurbishments, we have still been really busy! So much has been happening, here are some highlights.

### Exhibitions

Objects from the Museum have been on display at the British Library in their busiest ever exhibition (Harry Potter and the History of Magic). This exhibition is now going on tour around the world and can be viewed online via google arts and culture. You might have seen the Museum on the BBC documentary about this exhibition. We also had a "pop up" exhibition in London at the Viktor Wynd gallery. Thousands of people queued in the street on opening night. We have also worked with local artists on an exhibition which is currently taking place at Newlyn Art Gallery. This exhibition is called Hummadruz and will run from: 3<sup>rd</sup> March to 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2018. This is all great publicity for the Museum (and Boscastle) and we're looking forward to another busy season.

### Events

We will be screening a film called the Otherworld at 7pm on Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup>. Please email Judith at the Museum (museumwitchcraft@aol.com) or call 01840 250111 for more details (or see our website). We have several workshops and a conference (at the

Wellington Hotel) planned for this year and they all sold out in record time. Keep an eye on the events page of our website and facebook page if you want to keep up to date about Museum events. Over winter, the Museum team have done lots of talks to local history groups and the Exeter Women's Institute and we would be happy to speak at any organisations anyone is aware of. A date for your diary: our annual All Hallows Eve event this year will be on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

### Refurbishments and Reopening

We re-open for the season on April 1<sup>st</sup> at 10.30am and will remain open every day until October 31<sup>st</sup>. We have done quite a bit of work in the Museum this winter to freshen up displays. We also have a new exhibition called "Dew of Heaven: Objects of Ritual Magic" which looks at Hermeticism, the Golden Dawn and Aleister Crowley (amongst other things). If this means nothing to you, why not come and see it for yourself (entry is always free to Boscastle residents, please just bring proof of your address).

The Museum continues to go from strength to strength and we are so grateful to so many of the people of Boscastle for their continued enthusiasm and support of this unique Cornish institution.

JH

[www.museumofwitchcraftandmagic.co.uk](http://www.museumofwitchcraftandmagic.co.uk)

## Harbourmaster's News



Winter saw very little activity in the harbour although the cold snap at the end of February and into early March caused a display of icicles which were spectacular.

I had a letter from the Maritime Coastguard Agency reminding me that my fishing vessel certificate was about to expire and so I had to arrange an inspection for my five yearly MOT. The regulations have moved on so that in addition to the usual collection of

safety equipment there is a requirement for crew to attend safety courses which are mainly held down in Newlyn. I did see available a cold water man overboard training session to be held in Poole Dorset. I am not sure how many applicants Boscastle will have for that. Getting into a life raft when in the sea can be pretty tricky. On the other hand at my age and stage sudden immersion into cold water could well induce cardiac arrest.

Chris Key



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## Boscastle Coastguard Update

It's been a busy start of the year for us at Boscastle, with a total of four Call Outs throughout January and February.

It started off on 14<sup>th</sup> January with a dog being reported falling off a cliff at Backways Cove. Unfortunately we can't reveal any more information regarding this incident.

Following this February is being a busy month for us at Boscastle, starting off with a callout on 12<sup>th</sup> February of reports of a possible broken ankle along the footpath at rocky valley to assist the ambulance. Unfortunately we can't reveal any more information regarding this incident, but we wish the casualty a speedy recovery.

With a day off we then were paged twice in the space of 4 hours, the first on the 15<sup>th</sup> being reports of a missing male at high cliff. Once on scene and contacting Falmouth for an update they reveal that the male had been found by his family and we were asked to speak to them to

ensure the wellbeing of the male and ensure that no medical attention was needed. Once located the male was fine and happy to be back with his family.

On returning to station we were paged to a dog over the cliff at Tintagel youth hostel. Once on scene the animal was located on a ledge 20ft above the water line, Polzeath team were then paged to assist with what proved to be a technical rope recovery as the tide was coming in with big swells below. Once set up the dog was recovered to the clifftop to be reunited with its thankful owners to enjoy the rest of his walk.

The coastguard urge dog walkers to keep dogs on a lead when near cliffs or on the paths while walking in this beautiful area, although you may know the dangers your trusted animal may not see the edge when they are playing with their ball or a nice stick.

For more information find us on Facebook, search for Boscastle Coastguard Team

*Andy Teague*

## PSA Testing Evening, March 28<sup>th</sup>

You will have heard recent news reports that prostate cancer now kills more people in the UK than breast cancer, and is now the 3<sup>rd</sup> worst cancer in terms of deaths.

In the UK every year 12,000 men die from prostate cancer-that is 1 death every 45 minutes.

Breast cancer charities have done a terrific job in the last few years, raising awareness of breast cancer & its symptoms, and that is a significant factor in reducing the number of deaths. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of prostate cancer and it remains a subject that is not really talked about.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> March, Wadebridge Camels Rugby Club are once again kind enough to be hosting the Graham Fulford Charitable Trust who will be holding a PSA testing event with the help of local nurses who give their time voluntarily to support this event.

The PSA test is a simple blood test, and although not definitive, is currently the only test available for the early detection of prostate cancer.

The Graham Fulford Charitable Trust was set

up with the aim of raising awareness of prostate cancer. They have been holding these sessions across the UK for several years and have now helped to carry out over 85,000 PSA tests & more than 1300 cancers have been found. Many of these have been discovered in the early stages and lives have been saved.

Having spoken to some of the people picked up in the sessions at Wadebridge Camels over the last 3 years, quite often they have experienced no noticeable symptoms which should be of great concern to us all.

The test doesn't hurt-the nurses are fantastic-and all the Trust asks is a donation towards the cost of the test.

Please encourage all men over 40 to pop along to Wadebridge Camels, where the bar will be open, between 6pm & 9pm on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March and hopefully they will not be 1 of the increasing number of gentlemen who are now very glad they made that effort.

If you would like any more information on the Graham Fulford Charitable Trust or PSA testing, please visit [psatests.org.uk](http://psatests.org.uk) or contact 07831 156071 or 07785 354243.



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## News from the Lookout



Typing this in anticipation of the coldest weather the county has seen for some time I realise just how much of an effect the weather has on our activities.

Summer visitors often remark how nice it must be to work on a headland with fantastic views out to sea, the fresh air and blue skies to enjoy while you ponder the changing colours of the tide ebbing and flowing.

They're never here in January or February when the wind is strong enough to remove spectacles or blow your hat over the cliff edge, and Standings Orders insist that Watchkeepers travel in pairs on the way to or from the lookout.

Although it's not always the wind.

You may remember,

two of our number certainly do, that we were struck by Lightning on New Year's Eve 2015. Two years later to the day the following weather details were entered into our log:-  
**Recorded Wind Speed** - 88 knots (101.26mph)  
**Outside Air Temperature** - 0.2°C (31.4F) in addition the Watchkeeper on duty noticed ice on the windows and estimated that some 9 litres of water had come in through one of our windows during his watch.

Perhaps the only weather effects that interfere with our duties are low cloud, mist and fog. When we can't see Tintagel, Cambeak or even Meachard we are dependent on our AIS, Radar and VHF Radios to keep track of boats at sea, and walkers on the Coast Path are invisible.

As we only usually see the people we are relieving or the ones who relieve us, Winter gives us a chance to socialise and catch up with people who are only names on the Rosters. This season we had a very enjoyable Christmas meal at the Farm Shop and a closely fought Quiz Night with our colleagues at the

Stepper Point Lookout outside Padstow. We won, so the honour of Bosccastle was upheld.

This also an ideal opportunity to thank everyone who has supported us over the last 12 months, particularly The Cobweb, The Napoleon and The Wellington for their generous contributions to our funds through a variety of fascinating activities.

Once again Anno Domini and ill health have cut our numbers, so if you or anyone you know would like to join us, we would be

delighted. Extra numbers will enable us to stay open longer on those summer evenings when people like to linger on the headlands and Coastal Path.

Unusually we don't have anyone in training at the moment and this could have a serious effect on the hours we can stay open next summer. If you are interested in spending a few hours each month looking out for others, then call our Manager, Chris Evans on 01566 781449.

MW

[www.nci.org.uk/bosccastle](http://www.nci.org.uk/bosccastle)

<i>Rainfall totals measured in Bosccastle</i> 			
<i>SX 09697 90138</i>			
	<b>Dec 2017</b>	<b>Jan 2018</b>	<b>Feb 2018</b>
<b>Number of days with no rainfall</b>	4	5	12
<b>Max rainfall on one day in mm</b>	18	14.4	21
<b>Date on which max fell</b>	9 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Monthly total rainfall in mm</b>	145.8	140.6	60.6
<i>Total rainfall for same month in 2016/7</i>	65.2	101.2	91.8
<i>Total rainfall for same month in 2007/8</i>	162.9	184.2	73.7

### 'Remember These Men: The War Dead of Tintagel, Bosccastle & St. Gennys 1914-1919'

This 215 page A5 paperback book was first published in 2012. It tells of 79 men from three parishes.

The book is available at £12 per copy, plus postage. Contact the author, Nick Thornicroft, on 07769 556206, or [nickthornicroft@me.com](mailto:nickthornicroft@me.com)

3A 6D Sharon's Place; 6A Penally Hill; 9A 41A Harbour Light; 12A White Smock Meadow; 14A 4D Cornish Stores; 15A 16A Cream tea; 19A Toby Jug; 23A 10A 51A 44D Museum of Witchcraft and Magic; 24A Bosccastle Bakery; 27 A Old Road; 29A 25D Under Road; 31A Valency Row; 33A The Picture Parlour; 35A The Cobweb; 37A 7D Eglos View; 39A BoHo; 40A Mount Pleasant; 46A Treasure Chest; 49A Cornish Rambler; 54A Langtrors Meadow; 59A Bosccastle Pottery; 60A Bridge Walk; 61A Paul's Emporium; 62A 53A Penally Point; 63A The Wellington; 1D Boscars; 2D Minster; 5D Clover Lane Close; 8D 58D Proper Job; 11D 18D Trethur Close; 13D Myrings; 15D Cambeak; 17D The Old Manor House; 19D The Bridge; 20D The Napoleon; 22D 21A Bosccastle Buoy; 26D Doctors Hill; 28D 38A Potters Lane; 30D National Trust; 32D Spar Shop; 34D Paradise Road; 35D The Leather Shop; 36D Blowhole; 42D Green Lane; 43D Riverside; 45D New Road; 47D Bean Place; 48D Fore Street; 50D 55D Crafty Gift Shop; 52D Butts Lane; 56D 57A Dunn Street

# Patient Participation Group

## New Clinical System

The surgery has been upgrading its software system within the surgery. Once this is done the Waiting Room facility will be turned off. As a result of this any appointments or repeat prescription done through The Waiting Room will not be processed. Please refrain from using this system. Once the new system is up and running a link will be forwarded to all email users to enable them to register with the new system "Patient Access".

## Bottreaux Car Park

The limited parking is still causing a problem. Although parking after practice hours is not a problem. There seems to be a number of drivers who are taking up valuable spaces during practice opening times. Please consider your actions when you park.

## Practice Business Manager

Matthew Gibbons is leaving the practice at the end of February, taking a new position working as co-ordinator for North & Mid Cornwall. The practices themselves have received funding to pay for his role, and this will be managed through a collaborative arrangement. He will have

some involvement with certain projects at Bottreaux. We wish him well in his new post.

New Practice Business Manager, Danielle Kirby, to start on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2018

## Practice Report MG

Bottreaux has 4,884 registered patients as at 31 January 2018. Patient population is served by 2 GP partners & 1 salaried GP, a clinical team comprising 2 Practice Nurses, an Assistant Practitioner, a Health Care Assistant and 2 Phlebotomists.

Funds - The Practice holds funds of £1,493 received in donations from patients, which are at the disposal of the PPG. These funds should be used for the benefit of patients but will be accounted for by the Practice and reported on by the Business Manager. However, the PPG will decide how these funds should be spent and direct the Practice accordingly.

Dr Walker will become a partner as from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018.

## Member discussion & queries

a) Delayed meds - a result of not being available from supplier. Bottreaux

pharmacy holds a good supply of regular meds.

b) Some Tintagel patients having problems obtaining meds from Boots chemist. Boots to be contacted.

c) Delays in Rx scripts getting to pharmacy from drop off points. Possible solutions for collecting are being discussed. At present there is no audit trail.

d) Could Rx drop off/collection be improved? Suggestions: drop off at Crackington Institute with volunteers to deal with collection. Outpatient survey as to when best day/time to pick up. Problems -

Volunteers available. Patients missing allotted times. How to store uncollected items. Explore possibilities PPG

e) MG to support the above via his new post should the need arise.

f) Restart plans for Leg Club in Crackington. Patient numbers needed from surgery. MG

g) Provision of refreshments at a Tintagel Flu jab session. RP & JD to liaise and approach Boscastle WI.

h) PPG Members details

printed in village magazines.

i) Agreement to log informal/minor complaints was decided at an interim meeting with JC & EH. Log will be kept by EH to track a broad spectrum of matters brought to meetings allowing for many similar matters to be addressed. Formal complaints should still be in writing to Practice Manager for full investigation.

j) PPG to select a day to attend waiting room for a meet and greet to acquaint patients with PPG members. Possibly with refreshments.

k) Review of 'Terms of Reference' at next meeting. MG to e mail copy of current ToR to LC to distribute to members.

## PPG Patient Participation Group

RP Roisin Pilsbury, JD Janice Dunning, JC Janney Comber, EH Ellen Hawley, LC Lesly Cooke, MG Matthew Gibbons

For more information contact

Janey Comber janey@jcomber.plus.com

John Wakelin john.wakelin@supalife.com

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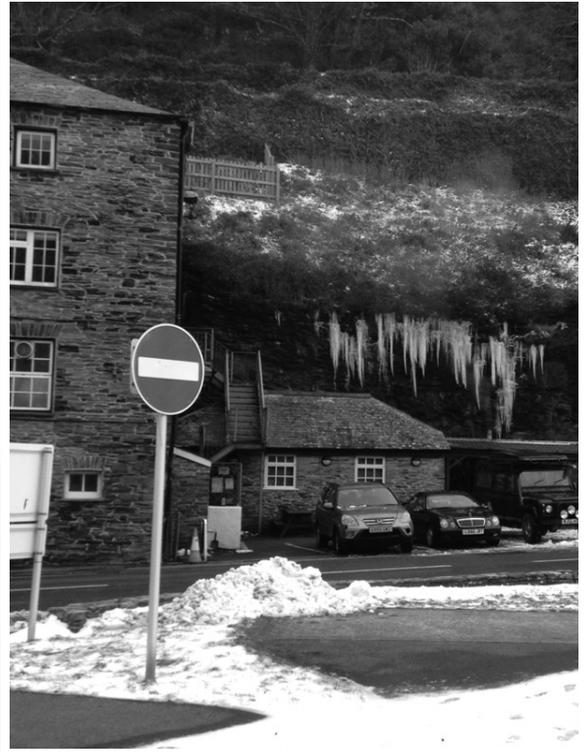
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# PAXO

I am, I confess. a fan of the acerbic Jeremy Paxman. I liked his autobiography *A life in Questions* so much I promptly ordered from Ebay a further seven books, less than twenty quid the lot. He has written about British history and politics, royalty, the Establishment and, (his favourite hobby) fishing, all of which he has managed to polish off while maintaining a workload in television and print journalism that would cripple any ten other people.

“One of the irritating characteristics of life,” he muses, “is that it can only be understood looking backwards, yet you must live it looking forwards.”

During his thirty years of working inside the monolithic BBC he is best known as the fearsome anchorman of *Newsnight* and erstwhile quizmaster of *University Challenge*. Previously he reported on all the dirty little wars, in Africa, the Middle East and Eastern Europe, and as a tyro journalist underwent a baptism of fire three years in Belfast during the “Troubles.”

“Violence”, states Paxman, “is the natural product of injustice. If you deny people free expression and equality, sooner or later there will be an explosion.” He became convinced the British government never comprehended the depth of feeling that inspired a few hundred fanatics to tie down an entire division of British troops for two decades. Eventually sheer exhaustion on both sides produced the Good Friday Agreement and subsequent uneasy peace. (At this point the Northern Irish parliament based at Stormont has not met for over a year so that the province is still effectively governed from Whitehall.)

Once upon a time most politicians were respected and even revered, famous ones, like Sir Winston Churchill, cheered in the street. Nowadays they employ crowd control. Of his generation of news commentators Jeremy Paxman has perhaps done the most to expose their frailties. He has met and interviewed most world leaders and hundreds of politicians most of whom, he says, share certain common attributes:

enormous energy, self-belief from an early age bordering on egomania, (some he reckons were born spouting from a podium), prepared to perform cartwheels if earns votes, coupled with complete disregard for friendship loyalty or common humanity if it gets in the way of their primary objective: power. Despite endless reservoirs of public charm, behind the scenes they reveal themselves as vain, self-righteous and slightly weird. He notes a disproportionate number lost one or more parents when they were young. But, he concludes, “not all of them are dishonest.”

His *Newsnight* interviews shredded the toughest opponents. An opening question to Charles Kennedy, then leader of the Lib Dems, was about his drinking habits. This predictably caused Press uproar. Fair enough, Paxman countered, to quiz a man purporting to be PM about his alleged weaknesses. In the event it did not matter. Shortly after resigning the leadership Kennedy died from a haemorrhage attributed to alcoholism.

He famously asked Michael Howard (then Home Secretary) the same question twelve times. The question hardly mattered, what the public remembered was Howard’s petulant refusal to answer which may well have dished his chances of becoming party leader. Reluctance to answer straight questions Paxman ranks the key failing of modern politicians, alongside refusal to admit they got it wrong or not having a clue about what to do next.

And that’s just one book, ideal loo fodder, every page stuffed with entertaining, often scabrous morsels of info about characters we recognise as household names, our kings queens ministers and tycoons, good lord, so-and-so, who would have thought it, a compendium of the almost unbelievable shenanigans that characterise the modern government of this country. Far from being an exercise in gossip-mongering his is a dispassionate analysis of those who control and manipulate our lives.

CR



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## Another awesome festive season at the Nap!

This year's festive season at the Napoleon Inn was, as ever great fun! From festive singing, mulled wine & mince pies on Christmas Eve, to an amazing party on New Year's Eve there was plenty to keep everyone amused (we hope)

We had our annual Christmas jumper night in aid of save the children with music from Ben

Nicholls...suitably dressed for the occasion! (see photo below)

We were fully booked for Christmas day lunch and it was great to see so many local faces enjoying some great food....and plenty of drink! Bookings have already been taken for 2018 Christmas day lunch which just shows how much it was enjoyed.



Landlady Sharon Muffet and bar staff Laurissa Giddings

Our New Year's Eve party in the village hall was totally awesome with music from ATOMIC

80's and so many fab fancy dress costumes....am already looking forward to 2018s party!!

BD

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# BOSCASTLE WASSAIL

On 6<sup>th</sup> January 2018, Boscastle saw its second Old Christmas event, hosted jointly by the Museum of Witchcraft and Magic, [cornishfolklore.co.uk](http://cornishfolklore.co.uk) and the Cornish Culture Association. The event is a celebration of some of the traditional Christmas folk customs of Cornwall, and from this year, we decided to introduce a wassail as part of the proceedings.

Wassails are mid-Winter blessing customs and there are traditionally two types of wassail enacted in Cornwall. A visit wassail has been celebrated in Bodmin since the early 1600's and is still performed today. The wassail party dress smartly in evening wear; in times past, these would have been gentlemen's hand-me-downs, given to them. The wassailers visit private houses, pubs and civic buildings throughout the day, where they sing the Bodmin Wassail songs and collect money for charity.

The other type of wassail common in these parts is the apple tree wassail, and this is the type of ceremony that has been recently introduced to the Boscastle Old Christmas event.

The apple wassail was a common feature in the winter celebrations in North and East Cornwall, and it was decided to introduce this to the proceedings to bring the event more in keeping with the traditions of the locality.

In the past across Bodmin Moor and much of eastern Cornwall, the orchard wassail was an event which was performed right through the Christmas and New Year period. Each parish would have had their own variation on the theme, as is indicated by the old folklorists and antiquarians of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Themes include a blessing rhyme, an offering of cider



*the Boscastle wassail cup*

to the trees, a special cup or bowl and the placing of items on the trees. The idea was to bring some traditional folk elements into the ceremony from the local area and the ceremony below was the result.

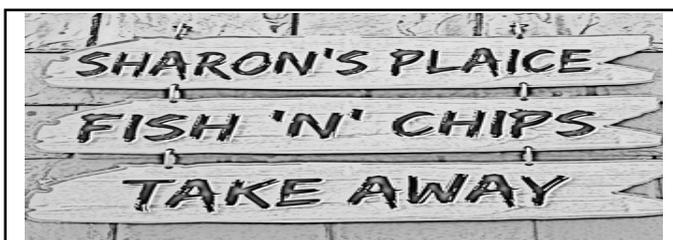
on the roots and branches of the tree.

(Lots of noise is then made, with drums, instruments, whistles, horns etc)

2 A participant is then chosen from the assembled crowd by a traditional pole-style 'Obby 'Oss to hang a cider-soaked apple on the tree, as is the custom in north-eastern Cornwall.

3 A Wassail song is sung. (We used the Redruth Wassail Song, as many of the musicians gathered, already knew the words and tune).

The ceremony took place outside the Museum of Witchcraft and Magic, which is the central hub of the 'Old Christmas' event, and I donated a dwarf apple tree, to symbolise all



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## *The Boscastle Wassail Ceremony*

The ceremony begins with some traditional Cornish folk music.

The Wassail blessing ~ a wassail cup full of cider is raised up:

*"Here's to thee, old apple-tree! Hats full, packs full, great bushel-bags full! Hurrah!"* (Traditional: Warleggan) *"may all the apple trees of the village be blessed"*

1 Cider is then poured

the fruit trees of the village. This tree will be grown in a pot in the Museum garden and will continue to be used for the harbourside ceremony in future years.

We also introduced a 'Wassail Cup' to the proceedings. This wooden cup was purchased in the village at a craft and bric-a-brac fair, held in one of the harbourside gardens during May 2017. The cup was undecorated and a bit battered and un-loved when we found it, and at the time we really had no idea that it would become the village wassail cup. The cup now shows a beautiful wassail motif, designed and applied by local artist Paul Atlas-Saunders, and has had several coats of varnish applied to protect it for future years and I feel that it is a very nice touch that this wooden cup has been given a new lease of life as the official Wassail Cup. When not in use, the cup will be kept in the Museum of Witchcraft and Magic and will be brought out every year for the Old Christmas and Wassail event.

The 'pole-style 'Obby 'Oss' mentioned in the above ceremony is a traditional type of 'Oss, that was once a familiar sight at Christmas festivities in Cornwall. Once common in Penzance and St Just in the West and in eastern Cornwall at Liskeard and Calstock, where the 'Girt Hoss' used to dance ceremoniously around the Tamar-side village at mid-Winter.

The spectacular image

of an 'Obby 'Oss within this context goes hand in hand with the Cornish tradition of Guize Dance, and alongside the Wassail, the Guizers form the other main tradition at the Old Christmas event. Here you will see the participants heavily disguised in a variety of costumes associated with Guize custom. The Oss is just one of them, and you are just as likely to see Venetian style masks, lace veils, animal masks and horns and alongside the horse skulls, other animal skulls are also worn. The result is an eerie, yet fabulous masked procession of musicians, dancers and torch bearers, who weave their music and visual splendour around the harbourside and inside the pubs. One of the dances performed is the Boscastle Breakdown which is danced on a barrel, as was once popular at the Napoleon Inn, and a serpent dance spirals its way around the harbourside.

In conclusion, it is hoped that on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2019 we can build on these traditions and include an afternoon wassail in Boscastle's community orchard. We would actively encourage anyone who wishes to become involved in this community event to contact either myself or the Museum of Witchcraft and Magic. For a comprehensive account of the folklore of eastern Cornwall, please see my new book 'From Granite to Sea'

Alex Langstone  
www.cornishfolklore.co.uk

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# Opening Hours and Useful Numbers

## Camelford Library and Council One Stop Shop

Town Hall, Market Place

**Tel: 01840 212409**

Tues: 9.30am - 5pm Thurs: 9.30am - 1.30pm  
Sat: 10am - 1pm

## Boscastle Spar

**Tel: 01840 250419**

Cash machine during business hours  
Post Office facilities  
Shop open daily at 6am

## Cornish Stores

Phone for opening hours

**Tel: 01840 250344**

## Bottreaux Filling Station

*For fuel and grocery shopping*

**Tel: 01840 250108**

Monday - Friday 8am-6pm,  
Saturday 9am-5pm

## Mobile Library

0800 032 2345 or 01872 272702

**Now visits every fourth Friday:**

**Due at Boscastle, Paradise Road 10.20 -10.40**

**Tintagel- King Arthur's carpark 10.55 -11.15**

**23<sup>rd</sup> March, 20<sup>th</sup> April, 18<sup>th</sup> May**

## NatWest Bank

The Mobile NatWest bank calls at the main  
carpark on Fridays, from 1.45pm until 2.45pm

## Waste Tip, Bowithick Quarry

Sanding Road, Tintagel

**Tel: 01840 770778**

Open Friday to Monday: 9am – 4pm

Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Year's Day

## Emergency Services:

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

**Police Station:** For non-urgent issues: 101

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

**NHS Advice** : If you are feeling unwell and need a telephone  
health assessment, please call the NHS 111 service free of charge  
from any phone by dialing 111

## Hospitals:

Bodmin - East Cornwall 01208 251300

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

X-Ray department Monday to Friday 9am until 4.45pm.

Launceston Community 01566 761000

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

X-Ray department Mon to Fri 8.30am - 5pm, Sun 9am-5pm

Stratton Community 01288 320101

Minor Injuries Unit open 24hrs, seven days a week

X-Ray department Monday to Friday 9am until 4pm

Truro -Treliske 01872 250000

Plymouth - Derriford 01752 202082

**NHS Emergency Dental Appt:** 01872 354 375

## Boscastle National Trust & Visitor Centre:

01840 250010 or 01840 250353

## Local Churches:

Church of England 01840 250359

Methodist 01840 214818

Catholic 01840 770663

**Harbourmaster:** 01840 250200

## Parish Council:

Chairman: 01840 250529

Clerk: 01840 230609 email: forminpc@gmail.com

**Community Centre Bookings:** 01840 250442

**Cornwall Council One Stop Shop:** 0300 1234 111

**Environment Agency:** 0800 807 060

**Floodline:** 0345 988 1188

**South West Water emergency:** 0344 346 2020

**SWW leak reporting** 0800 230 0561

**Highways:** 0300 1234 222

**RSPCA:** 0300 1234 999

**Western Power emergencies:** 0800 365 900

**Village Hall Bookings:** Jo Kent: 01840 250879

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