THE OLD SCHOOL NEWS

Issue 250 March 2024



Reply from MP Scott Mann to a letter sent by Christopher Harman of Holmbush

Dear Christopher

Thank you for contacting me about the Post Office/Horizon IT scandal Prior to being a Member of Parliament I was a postman. I was around many of North Cornwall's post offices when this scandal happened. I remember seeing post office staff in tears because they couldn't balance the tills - on the ground, it seemed to be obvious there was a big problem.

The Ministers responsible for overseeing the service weren't picking up on it at the time. I am pleased that a historic injustice will be rectified, but my heart goes out to the hundreds of post office staff across the country, including here in North Cornwall, who lost years of their lives to this utterly scandalous miscarriage of justice. I have represented constituents in North Cornwall on this matter and have a family member who was impacted by this.

The Post Office (Horizon system) Compensation Bill will ensure that the group of submasters who exposed the scandal do not miss out on compensation because of an arbitrary deadline. The Government is determined to make compensation claims asap by August 2024. However, time needs to be taken to assess more complex claims, so postmasters receive full and fair compensation and are not unduly rushed into making a decision on their claims.

The harm that these prosecutions have wreaked on the affected families over the past 20 years is irreparable. Lessons should and will be learnt to ensure that an injustice of this magnitude never happens again. Emergency legislation is being brought forward to overturn convictions of all those convicted on the basis of Post Office evidence given during the Horizon scandal.

The Post Office rightly decided to stop undertaking private prosecutions in 2015. If we are to make sure that a scandal such as this can never happen again, we need to look at the way in which private prosecutions such as these have been undertaken.

Paula Vennells has confirmed she will hand back her CBE and so she should, this is the right decision.

OLD SCHOOL FARMERS MARKET - March 2nd - from 9:30am



Jeremy Daw - Butcher - 01579 350410
Ian MacDonald - Framing - 01579 351221
Karen Cooper - Cards - 01579 370536
Derek Scofield - Fruit Juices - 01579 350594
Chris George - Wood Turner- 01579 370654
Helen Webb - Skin Care Products - 01579 683471
Linda Losty - Aprons, Masks etc. - 07494 939086
Neil Robyns - Pies, yogurts, etc. - 07831 625159
Sandra Jane - Leather products - 01579 370966
Sue Cook - Plants & Glass Ornaments - 01579 383885
Val Kidman - Preserves & Cakes - 01579 370297
Suzanne Shone - Felting - 01579 386992
Veryan Barneby - Jewellery - 01579 370680
Kendale Courts - Local Fresh Vegetables - 07813 157961

This News Sheet has been produced by the Trustees of The Old School, Stoke Climsland, Callington PL17 8NY. All enquiries should be made to the office at The Old School, tel 01579 370493 or by email at theoldschool78@gmail.com

Rosemary Hambly - Action for Children - 01579 383773

The News Sheet can be viewed on The Old School Facebook page and is available for download at www.theoldschoolnews.co.uk

For more information about The Old School go to www.oldschoolstokeclimsland.co.uk

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PARISH HALL - MARCH 2024					
Regular Ev					
Monday	7 pm	1st week only	GARDENING CLUB		
	7 pm	3rd week only	PARISH COUNCIL		
	9 am - noon	Weekly	POP-UP CAFÉ		
	1:15 - 2:15 pm	Weekly	LATINO DANCE		
Tuesday	7:00 pm	2nd week only	W.I.		
	7 pm	Weekly except 2nd week	BOWLS		
Wednesday	4.00 - 8:30 pm	Weekly	SJS DANCE ACADEMY		
Thursday	9:30 - 11 am	Weekly	KEEP ACTIVE		
	4 - 7:30 pm	Weekly	SJS DANCE ACADEMY		
	8 - 10 pm	Weekly	CALLINGTON GOSPEL CHOIR		
	10am - 11am	Weekly	PILATES		
Friday	11:15 - 12:15	Weekly	MATURE MOVERS		
	7 - 10:30 pm	Weekly	BRIDGE		
All events are subject to change due to holidays etc. Please contact group leaders for specific info.					
Together wi					
March 9th	Afternoon	PRIVATE HIRE			
March 23rd	Morning	MARIE CURIE COFFEE MORNING			
March 25th	Evening	PRIVATE HIRE			

For further information regarding bookings please contact Sue Watts 07836 202212 or email sue-watts@btconnect.com

PARISH MARCH		:H -
March 2	3 pm	Messy Church in Old School
	8 am	Morning Prayer BCP
March 3	10 am	Morning Worship
	2:30 pm	Remembering God
March 10	8 am	Holy Communion
March 10	10 am	Mothering Sunday
March 17	8 am	Morning Prayer BCP
march 17	10 am	Morning Worship
March 24	8 am	Morning Prayer BCP
March 24	10 am	Palm Sunday - Holy Communion
March 28	7:30 pm	Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion and Washing of Feet
	10:30 am	Good Friday Walk of Witness
March 29	2 pm	The Last Hour - Reflections at the Cross
March 31	6:30 am	Easter Morning Sunriske Service - Kit Hill
	8:00 am	Morning Prayer (BCP)
	10:00 am	Easter Day Holly Communion

News, diary and other information should be sent directly to wendyambrose74@gmail.com

OLD SCHOOL - MARCH 2024					
Weekly Events:					
	9 am	ACUPUNCTURE (by appt)			
Mondays	8.30 am	PILATES			
	7 pm	SCOTTISH DANCING			
	10 am - 1 pm	RAGS ART GROUP			
Tuesdays	1:30	LOVE TO MOVE			
-	1:30	MAHJONG			
Wednesday	10 am - 3 pm	CROSS BORDER ARTS			
Thursday	7pm - 8pm	CHESS CLUB			
	9 - 11:30 am	TODDLER SINGING GROUP			
Fridays		FRIDAY LUNCH all welcome -			
i i luays	12 noon	please book in advance at the			
		Old School 01579 370493			
Together v	vith:				
	9 am	VILLAGE MARKET			
March 2	1 - 4 pm	MESSY CHURCH			
maich z	7:30 for 8:00	David Mynne:			
	7.30 101 0.00	THE CANTERBURY TALES			
	3 - 4:30 pm	LIBRARY and BOARD GAMES			
March 7	4:30 - 9 pm	"TAMAR & MOOR"			
	4.30 7 pili	Nicola Drewett			
March 8	7 pm	FILM CLUB			
March 12	2 pm	LOOK GROUP			
March 13	7:30 - 9 pm	FAMILY HISTORY GROUP			
March 14	3 - 4:30 pm	LIBRARY & LEGO CLUB			
	7 pm	TRUSTEES MEETING			
March 16	9 am - 12 noon	REPAIR CAFE			
March 19	9:30 am	BOOK CLUB			
March 21	1:30 pm	CALLINGTON U3A			
	3 - 4:30 pm	LIBRARY AND BOARD GAMES			
	7:30 pm	INVESTORS CLUB			
March 24	12:30 - 5 pm	GOSPEL CHOIR			
March 26	7 pm	LOCAL HISTORY GROUP			
March 28	3 - 4:30 pm	n LIBRARY AND BOARD GAMES			

	METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES MARCH 2024				
	Sunday Worship 11am (unless stated)				
	March 3	John Ware			
	March 10	Alison Moss			
	March 17	Revd David Moss - Holy Communion			
March 24 Local Arrangement		Local Arrangement			
March 31 Steve Wherly					
		Afternoon" returns after the winter break 27 March 3.30 pm - 5 pm. Bring and Buy Stall.			

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ADVERTISING

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TO HAVE COPIES VIA EMAIL

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www.harewoodcounselling.co.uk harewoodcounselling@outlook.com



Theta Maths

Group Maths Tutoring

Key Stages 2, 3 and 4.

When: Monday or Wednesday 6-7pm by arrangement. Where: Old School, Stoke Climsland, PL17 8NY Over 10 years teaching experience. Enhanced DBS Checked. Contact: thetamathstutoring@gmail.com

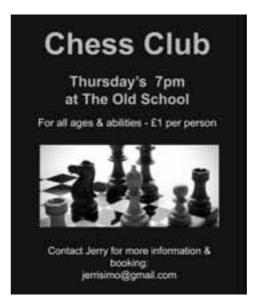
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> FREE ESTIMATES Call Paul: 07966 407019/01579 351651









If so, we need your help! If you can spare a few hours occasionally to help organise the odd event for The Old School, we would love to hear from you.

Whether you would like to see theatre, music, art or any other activity take place in The Old School for the community to enjoy, please get in touch!

We need helpers like you to keep our community thriving!

No experience necessary and we welcome helpers from all age groups.

Want to see an event held in the village? Help us organise it!

call The Old School 01579 370493

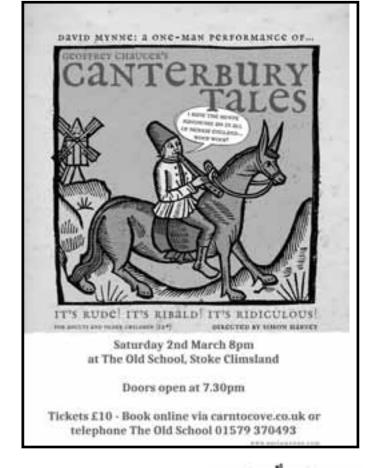
Jumble



Coffee Morning in aid of Marie Curie Saturday 23rd March 10-12

Stoke Climsland Parish Hall

Tea, coffee and homemade cakes.



STOKE CLIMSLAND SHOW JUMBLE SALE

Note for your diary - The Stoke Climsland Show will be holding a Jumble Sale on Saturday April 27th 10.00 am - 12.00 midday.

The last Jumble Sale in November was held in two venues, The Old School House and The Parish Hall. All seem to agree that this worked very well and created more space for people to browse!

Tea, coffee, cakes and bacon butties will be available.

The last Jumble Sale in November raised £1,300 a remarkable figure and an enormous boost to the funds needed to run

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More details will follow in the April edition of the Old School News as to when to drop off Jumble at the Old School House and other arrangements should collection of jumble be necessary.

Please look out for these details as we would request that jumble is not dropped off yet. Thank you all.



Doors open at 7pm for Refreshments Film starts 7:30pm

NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Friday March 8th 2024

"A Haunting in Venice"

Starring: Kenneth Branagh, Kyle Allen, Camille Cottin, Michelle Yeoh and Jamie Dornan.

In 1947, Hercule Poirot, (Branagh) is living in self imposed exile in Venice where he reluctantly agrees to attend a Halloween party and seance. When one of the guests is murdered it thrusts the detective into a sinister world of shadows and secrets..

"It's fun, it's exciting, it's chilling and it's very effective."

"A Haunting in Venice knows exactly what it's doing. More Agatha Christie played by A-listers having fun catering for an audience fed up with super heroes."

"--impressively conceived set pieces, evocative performances, gothic twists and turns, this film certainly delivers".



Luckett Social Club

All events start at 8.00pm unless otherwise stated, with the club and bar open from 7.30pm.

2024 kicked off with Geoff's New Year Quiz on Saturday 6th January when 4 teams competed over 10 rounds of questions mainly based on the year ahead and events of 2023. With jokers played and the traditional Wipeout round completed the clear winners were 'It's All Greek to Me' on 74.5pts. Well done to the professionals Ian & Sally Salisbury and Bridget & Steve Langsford on taking home the prizepot of money. Scratchy were second with 60pts, Beauty Not Brains 3rd and 'It's Gone Now' bringing up the rear.

On Saturday 13th it was Eyes Down Let's Play Bingo. With a few new faces the prize money was fairly evenly spread around.

Judy and Mac shared the top prize of £10.

The following Saturday, 20th 12 members played 16 rounds in the Beetle Drive at a fast and furious pace. Maxine received the booby. Geoff was second and Debs with a total score of 187 body parts winning £ 14.

On Saturday 27th we celebrated Burns Night albeit 2 days late, in fine style. Our grateful thanks go to Christine for coordinating the evening and to everyone who contributed in anyway. The evening concluded with a mini quiz on Robbie Burns and all things Scottish. Well done to Barry & Sarah, Tim, Natasha and Sandra on winning the just for fun quiz.

March dates:

Friday 1st	AUDREY PELLOW DARTS NIGHT Trophies for winner and runner up £2 entry	Friday 8 th	David & Sari's ARROUND THE WORLD IN 80 QUESTIONS QUIZ		RUGBY England v France on the Big screen. KO at 8pm
Saturday 23 rd	BEETLE DRIVE		EASTER PRIZE BINGO All the tickets you need for just £6		

Diary dates:

Saturday 2 June, LUCKETT DUCK DAY at Byenleigh, by kind permission of Adrian & Deb Glassborow. Gates Open 2:30pm Saturday 27 July, SKITTLES EVENING at Deer Park Farm. Team of 6 to register by 6:30pm.

For further information visit our Facebook Page The-Luckett-Social-Club

Geoff Howlett (Hon. Sec.)

Do The Maths!

Well done to SWW this week - they tracked down a missing leak under the road in Luckett which had been losing water at 33 litres per minute - for over 20 years! So no wonder Siblyback was drying out last summer...

That's... 20 years x 365days x 24hours x 60 minutes =?? Litres?! Or gallons (answer next OSN - we may have worked it out by then)



Wild About Calstock Project

Wild About Calstock is a nature-based intergenerational arts project engaging children from Stoke Climsland and Calstock Primary Schools and members of Sensory Trusts's local dementia-friendly Walk & Laugh group, using the tried and tested model of the Photobook Project https://the-photobook-project.com

The third and final walk took place at Cotehele on 10th December on the chosen theme of 'Hidden Wildlife'. The artist, Ellie Robinson-Carter invited everyone to document the walk with a shared single-use camera to create the images for the third Photobook in the 'Wild About Calstock' collection. The participants thoroughly enjoyed the nature-based activities arranged by Bryony James from the Tamara Landscape Partnership. The first activity was a woodland walk looking for signs of wildlife An excellent Q&A session led by Bryony brought attention to the types of mammals and birds in woodlands and wetlands in the Tamar Valley. The attention then turned to the recently established intertidal habitat at Cotehele. Rob Price from the Environment Agency then engaged the participants in an informative discussion about climate change and the national significance of the River Tamar as one of Britain's great rivers. It was good to find out about the positive action being taken to mitigate the impact of climate change in the Parish. We then moved on to the Quay and talked about the Tamar having both fresh and salt water due to the tides. Rob took a water sample from the river and there was great anticipation to see what creatures were in the pot! These included a leech, a worm and a snail - creatures that can survive in water that is of average river health. It was



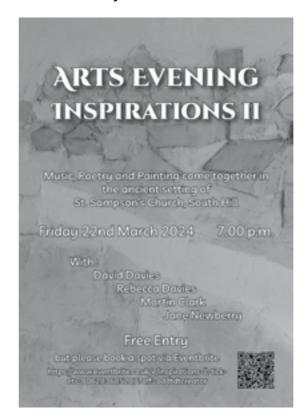
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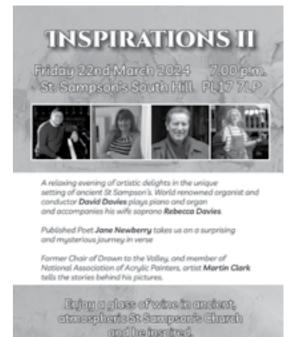
an inspiring afternoon of both knowledge exchange and fun. The children enjoyed the company of the older participants and they, in turn, took real pleasure in having the children in the group.

Some quotes from the children capture the mood of the intergenerational group walks: It was really, really fun, because I got to go outside and have fun with my friends; The older people were very nice, they told me about where we were, and we took a picture together;

Coming up - The project continues with a visit to The Box in Plymouth to see the Tamar natural history collection on 6th March and culminates in an exhibition and book launch at Calstock Arts on 20th March. This will feature a selection of the photographs taken by the participants along with the new collection of Calstock Photobooks. The exhibition will be open to the public from 21st-28th March daily from 10am-4pm. Everyone is welcome to visit. Wild About Calstock is co-ordinated by Calstock Parish Council's Working Group for Nature Recovery as part of their Environment and Climate emergency Strategic Plan. The project is supported by FEAST, Arts Council England, Cornwall Council, Calstock Parish Council, Sensory Trust, The Photobook Project, The Box and the Tamara Landscape Partnership (a delivery branch of The Tamar Valley National landscape) (formerly AONB).

Judith Robinson Project Co-ordinator





Fites entry, but donations welcome towards

St Sampson's Unlocked restoration fund.

An update on the refurbishment work at the Parish Church

By Steve Brocklebank

After the completion of the external works on the church last summer, to solve the problem of damp on the north and east walls, the volunteer team had a well earned rest for a few months before moving onto their next task - the repair and painting of the ceiling and internal walls. Unfortunately, modern paint had been applied to the lime plaster and it has peeled off and become unsightly over recent years. A number of ceiling sections were also in need of repair and re-plastering. We had to scrape off all the modern paint and get back to the original plaster before we could apply a heritage paint specifically designed for application on old plaster. The ceiling and walls of the north and south aisles have now been completed. See the before and after photographs, which show what an amazing difference this has made. It must be time for a short rest again!

The next stage is progressing to the refurbishment of the nave. As with the chancel, the pews are a relatively recent addition compared with the age of the church. Grants were given to parish churches in the 1880's and 1890's to fill their churches with pews. Disappointingly, the pews were often of very poor quality and not constructed on proper foundations. In similar fashion to the chancel that was refurbished back in 2022, the joists under the pew base in the nave are rotten because they are laid directly onto bare earth and the slate floor is subsiding and breaking up for the same reason.

As I mentioned in my article for the OSN back in February 2022, we will be constructing a new solid floor similar to the chancel. This will provide long-term protection for the walls and columns in the nave. The new floor will be insulated and some further underfloor heating will be installed. All the existing slate floor tiles with inscriptions and others that are still in good condition, will be re-laid in the new floor in the same position as they are now. As it is a big job, the work will be completed in sections starting at the front adjoining the existing new chancel floor. Where pews are removed at the front of the nave, they will be replaced with high quality all-wood chairs, samples of which are available to view in the church.

There has been a lot of hard work undertaken by a committed group of volunteers to preserve the ancient fabric of the parish church for future generations, with much still to do. There will be a chance for anyone to come along to the church and have a look at what has been done so far and to be able to talk about what's happening next. The 'Open Day' will be on Saturday 2 March in the Parish Church between 10.00 and noon.







Occasional visitors to the countryside at this time of year sometimes wonder why the fields are empty and where the livestock have gone. Of course to us all living and working with nature we know only too well that the true reason for housing our stock during this time is not to deprive our valued animals of their outdoor freedom but more to provide quality food, water and shelter during the cold and wet winter months when the grass stops growing, the soil conditions can easily be waterlogged causing 'poaching' and the associated run off could well increase pollution of our

There are other benefits to both the livestock and management of winter housing. From an animal health and welfare position better conditions away from the elements result in improved daily live weight growth or milk production as the cow or bullock does not need such a proportion of feed to maintain its body condition. From a farm management angle keeping a closer eye on the housed stock and their daily handling allows for easier and more efficient work patterns, especially during calving or lambing.

But of course from a financial position the overall cost of keeping stock indoors during winter more than doubles that of an outdoor summer grazier. Apart from the long term capital outlay of modern farm buildings and their ongoing maintenance, it is the associated cost of producing our own or buying in grain protein feed rations, grass or maize silage for forage, plus the essential straw or equivalent bedding materials. And these are reliant upon specialist mechanical attachments on tractor loaders or tele-handler operators.

Inevitably what is fed inward for nutrition has a converse out pouring to be then handled, managed and safely stored ready for springtime distribution together with all its issues and regulations to challenge - none the less a valuable and most natural asset - we are talking FYM! - so no further comment required from us 'Down on the Farm'.

PS - A reminder of a free showing of the Farm Net Zero / SC Farm Cluster film and talk - Monday 25th March @ 7.30pm in the Parish Hall - all welcome.

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CHURCH MATTERS - An Evolving Church

By Brian Norris

Back in June 2023 I wrote about changes planned for churches in Cornwall, changes that will affect our local churches and the way they are staffed. These changes are now progressing. Our current rector of the four parishes comprising the Callington Cluster (Callington, Linkinhorne, South Hill and Stoke Climsland), Revd Dr Joe Lannon, will be moving on at the end of April. Representatives from the five congregations in the present four parish cluster have been meeting, and will continue to meet, on a regular basis to discuss and review matters that effect the whole cluster and report back to individual Parochial Church Councils (PCCs). The individual PCCs are trustees for each parish.

A document has been prepared by representatives from all of the parishes in the proposed new grouping describing what the individual churches are like. The document will be sent to applicants for the post of oversight minister for the new grouping (Benefice) when it is advertised in March. The role of the oversight minister will be significantly different from that of the traditional parish priest; with a focus on developing and supporting local lay leadership. The new benefice will probably be known as Kit Hill and will comprise the 4 parishes of Callington Cluster and 3 from Tamar Valley, 13 churches in all.

The process of advertising, selecting, interviewing and appointment is likely to take several months minimum. While the benefice is in transition, the running of parishes and conducting of church services will be undertaken largely by lay (those who are not priests) volunteers. The leading of services by licenced lay ministers and lay worship leaders has been well established in the benefice for many years so this will merely be a slight extension of normal practice. Where an ordained priest needs to take a service (Baptisms, Weddings and Communion) a retired priest or Rural Dean will be available. Administration will continue to be handled by the benefice administrator - contact details on the Callington Cluster website.

A new post of Rural Dean and strategic lead of East Wivelshire Deanery has been filled and Revd Michael Johnson was commissioned to this role on 10th January at St Germans. Michael was also licensed as Assistant Curate of the Callington Cluster and Tamar Valley along with other benefices in the Deanery. This role is at present exceedingly demanding as many of the benefices in the Deanery are in transition (between rectors) and all undergoing reorganisation. Michael has already visited some of the churches in the Callington Cluster and it is hoped that he will be able to introduce himself soon in a 'Church Matters' article.

It's worth re-stating that there are no current plans to close any local church buildings. The decision to start the legal process to close a church lies with the local Parochial Church Council, the trustees. It is normally prompted by dwindling congregations and insufficient income to meet the costs of maintaining the building. The legal process includes extensive public consultation.



Stories - I imagine we all enjoy a good story - maybe one we have grown up with, family stories shared with younger generations, a new author recently discovered, an inspiring life story or something with a twist or surprise at the end. Do you have a favorite story?

Open the Book (OtB) is an exciting storytelling project where Bible stories are shared with children in a way that is fun, interactive and memorable. As invited guests in school, storytelling teams use the Open the book Programme to prepare and present a 10-15-minute scripted Bible story to a school assembly, involving the children as much as possible.

As part of my role as Children and Families Workers in our local Methodist Churches I lead two Ecumenical OtB teams - one visits Callington Primary on Wednesday morning and the other Delaware Primary Academy on Wednesday afternoon. We are made up of people from various church communities, all trained and safely recruited, and feel so privileged to be welcomed into schools in this way. You may be aware of other local teams in our area - Stoke Climsland, Upton Cross and Launceston and you may have heard about OtB from children in your family or community.

From an idea which was started in Bedford in 1999 when a group of Christians began regular visits to their local primary school to share Bible stories, OtB now has teams all over this country and also in Africa and Latin America. Open the Book's vision is 'Sharing Bible stories with children everywhere, through the power of storytelling.'

This is what one of our team says about OtB 'I really enjoy being part of the team each Wednesday. Not only is it fun dressing up and acting out the Bible stories, working alongside others from the various churches, but the enthusiasm of the children makes it all worthwhile. When we ask for volunteers to join us on stage, and up go numerous hands, then we get a round of applause at the end for our efforts. No previous experience required, just enthusiasm to bring Bible stories to life for the benefit of the children.'

Costume maker? Prop Provider? Narrator? Actor? we are always looking for new people to join our teams. If this is something you would like to explore please visit www.biblesociety.org or contact me liames434@btinternet.com Thanks very much

Kind regards

Louise



For babies, toddlers & their parents, grandparents, carers CALLINGTON METHODIST CHURCH, Have Road, PL17 7JJ Each Thursday 9.30 - 11.30 am term time Parking behind the Church. 01579 388840 or visit our

Facebook page



STOKE CLIMSLAND

SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Follow us on Facebook

Club Secretary: Louise Power 01579 370819 louisepoweraok@msn.com

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 30° March 7:30pm ALL members are invited to attend the club's AGM. It will entail a brisk run-through of the

statutory business at hand followed by a drink in affable company.

UPCOMING OUIZ NIGHTS

Teams of 4 - £5 entry per team 7:30pm for 8:00pm start

Saturday 16th March Saturday 20th April

SPORTS FIELD

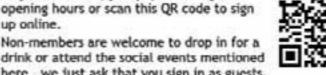
As well as the scouting groups, the sports field also plays host to age-grade football courtesy of our friends at Kelliwick FC. The field is privately owned; we politely remind any dog-walkers using the permissive path or right of way to "leave no

OPENING TIMES

Wednesday & Thursday 8:00pm to 11:00pm Friday & Saturday 7:30pm to 11:00pm

ANNUAL CLUB MEMBERSHIP: £5

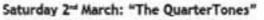
To join or renew, just pop in during our opening hours or scan this QR code to sign



here we just ask that you sign in as guests.

LIVE MUSIC IN MARCH

From 8pm - No Tickets, Just Good Times



Join Miranda and her two buddles for hits and harmonies. Meanwhile, we'll be marking St Piran's Day by serving up

Saturday 23rd March: "Pork Chop with A Cider Banjo" By popular demand, Luke and friends are returning to entertain us with a mix of folk and witty repartee. This time, it's burgers on the menu.

Wild About Calstock Project

Wild About Calstock is a nature-based intergenerational arts project engaging children from Stoke Climsland and Calstock Primary Schools and members of Sensory Trusts's local dementia-friendly Walk & Laugh group, using the tried and tested model of the Photobook Project https://the-photobook-project.com

The third and final walk took place at Cotehele on 10th December on the chosen theme of 'Hidden Wildlife'. The artist, Ellie Robinson-Carter invited everyone to document the walk with a shared single-use camera to create the images for the third Photobook in the 'Wild About Calstock' collection. The participants thoroughly enjoyed the naturebased activities arranged by Bryony James from the Tamara Landscape Partnership. The first activity was a woodland walk looking for signs of wildlife. An excellent O&A session led by Bryony brought attention to the types of mammals and birds in woodlands and wetlands in the Tamar Valley. The attention then turned to the recently established intertidal habitat at Cotehele. Rob Price from the Environment Agency then engaged the participants in an informative discussion about climate change and the national significance of the River Tamar as one of Britain's great rivers. It was good to find out about the positive action being taken to mitigate the impact of climate change in the Parish. We then moved on to the Quay and talked about the Tamar having both fresh and salt water due to the tides. Rob took a water sample from the river and there was great anticipation to see what creatures were in the pot! These included a leech, a worm and a snail - creatures that can survive in water that is of average river health. It was an inspiring afternoon of both knowledge exchange and fun. The children enjoyed the company of the older participants and they, in turn, took real pleasure in having the children in the group.

Some quotes from the children capture the mood of the intergenerational group walks: It was really, really fun, because I got to go outside and have fun with my friends; The older people were very nice, they told me about where we were, and we took a picture together;

Coming up - The project continues with a visit to The Box in Plymouth to see the Tamar natural history collection on 6th March and culminates in an exhibition and book launch at Calstock Arts on 20th March. This will feature a selection of the photographs taken by the participants along with the new collection of Calstock Photobooks. The exhibition will be open to the public from 21st-28th March daily from 10am-4pm. Everyone is welcome to visit. Wild About Calstock is co-ordinated by Calstock Parish Council's Working Group for Nature Recovery as part of their Environment and Climate emergency Strategic Plan. The project is supported by FEAST, Arts Council England, Cornwall Council, Calstock Parish Council, Sensory Trust, The Photobook Project, The Box and the Tamara Landscape Partnership (a delivery branch of The Tamar Valley National landscape) (formerly AONB).

Judith Robinson Project Co-ordinator



Our next couple of talks will be:

February 27th: Dr Harry Bennett - Devonport Dockyard: History and Social Impact. Within a period of just over two centuries, Devonport, originally known as Plymouth Dock, grew from a tiny community at North Corner in 1700 into a large County Borough with a population of over 84,000 at the time of its inclusion into the County Borough of Plymouth in 1914. The rapid development of Devonport during this period can be attributed to the existence and expansion of the Dockyard. Dr Bennett will explore this relationship.

March 26th: Dr Chris Smart - The Roman army in Southwest Britain: Recent Excavations at Calstock in context. Dr Smart will take us through the most recent excavations at our local Roman site and put them in the context of the continuing story of the Roman's presence in Devon and Cornwall.

As always, the talks will be held at the Old School in Stoke Climsland and will start at 7.30pm. All are welcome to come along and if you want more information, please contact Deri Parsons on 01579 370319 or via email: derrick. parsons@btinternet.com You can also contact him if you'd like to be added to our mailing list for details of our meetings.

SHARE Recycling for Charity project. CornwallRecycling@outlook.com Ali 07305 044049

We hit a MAJOR miletone in May 2023 and have raised over £10,200 for KICKS COUNTY charity, who aim to reduce UK stillbirths. THANK YOU EVERYONE.

For more details of recycling and where the drop off points are visit

www.south-hill.co.uk/charity-recycling/

Follow us on Facebook for regular updates www. facebook.com/groups/recycling.for.charity

STOKE CLIMSLAND WI

Our first speaker of 2024 was John Bergdahl who is a coin sculptor. He

explained the process of designing coins and medals and how they are produced. John began as an engraver in

the East of England before moving to London where he developed his skills. From there he worked abroad and on returning to the UK in 2000, he decided to approach the Royal Mint regarding obtaining commissions for his designs. John explained how The Royal Mint choose a theme for a particular coin or series of commemorative coins and they then invite a number of artists to put forward their designs. At this stage a committee choose the designs they prefer.



John has been fortunate enough to have been selected on many occasions and he has regularly produced the winning design. He then makes a clay version and a plaster model. If this is then accepted it will be made into a die and go into production at The Royal Mint. We enjoyed seeing lots of examples of John's work, he showed us each of the stages from the original drawing and tracing to the clay and plaster models and then the finished coin.

Dates for your Diary:

12th March Annual meeting plus talk on Probation 9th April St Mellion Handbells

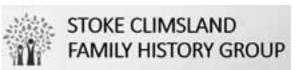
14th May Forever Blooms Chris Beardsmore

11th June Talk on Scouts trip to S. Korea

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month in Stoke Climsland Parish Hall at 7.30pm

New members and visitors are always welcome. There is a charge of £4.50 which includes homemade refreshments. We look forward to welcoming you to one of our meetings.





By Deri Parsons

Many of us will have ancestors and relatives who emigrated to various countries in the then colonies. Researching their fates can be made easier if you know where to look for records. Our next session on Wednesday 13th will talk about 'Researching family members living outside of England and Wales'. As the title implies, we'll be touching on Scotland and Ireland as well, not that we consider them as colonies!

All are welcome to come along to the meetings. They will be at 7.30pm at the Old School and there will be a charge of £2 per session to cover costs.

Remember that, as an adjunct to the meetings, we can offer 1-to-1 sessions where specific issues and/ or problems can be addressed. These could be held at any convenient time of day. If you want any more information, contact Deri Parsons (01579 370319 or derrick.parsons@btinternet.com) or John Wilmut (01579 370736 or johnwilmut@btinternet.com)

Carbon Zero Homes Project

Engagement Meeting Saturday 9th March 1100 - 1230 at the Old School

By Andy Nevill, Community Energy Advisor, Chartered Engineer 07799848084 and nevill@protonmail.com

As we move closer to the end of this project, this is an invitation to an engagement meeting which will be an opportunity to:

- hear about the project: why, what, how what next
- discuss the development of an exciting new voluntary community role

This will be the first of at least two meetings to hear about, discuss, review, and learn lessons from this project. We will be running this meeting with our partners, Tamar Energy Community (TEC), and the specific purpose is to discuss the development and introduction of a new voluntary community 'first point of contact' role.

The title for this role is to be decided. Previously we have referred to this as 'Community Energy Ambassador'. Similar roles are being developed and piloted elsewhere, with similar titles. The vision is for there to be a small team of people taking on this role, working together, and supported by TEC's team of qualified energy advisors.

These roles could be of interest to anyone who would like to be able to support friends, neighbours, and the wider community to reduce energy usage by becoming more energy efficient - to help people save on their energy bills, live in healthy homes, reduce carbon emissions, and to help build resilience in our community. The TEC Energy Advice Hub will be ready to assist where more specialist help is needed.

Comprehensive training on the subject of household energy will be provided, including accredited courses run by National Energy Action.

There will be lots more information at the meeting, so please come along. Tea and coffee will be provided and you are invited to join us for an informal lunch after the meeting.

The Carbon Zero Homes Project aims to support households to make changes to existing buildings so that energy consumption and emissions are reduced, and your home is warmer, healthier and more comfortable. This project is fully funded by the Community Levelling Up Programme.





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1ST STOKE CLIMSLAND SCOUT GROUP

The new year, as is always the case, has seen 1st Stoke Climsland Scout Group return with great enthusiasm to the world of Scouting. In the last few weeks, Scouts have been perfecting their first aid and emergency response skills, whilst also taking part in cooking and craft activities to celebrate Chinese New Year.

Our Explorer Scouts (14 - 18) have been looking into how they promote themselves across the district and designing strategies to attract more interest from young people in their community. With this in mind, a district Explorer Camp is being held between the 23rd and 25th of February giving our explorers the chance to mingle with other explorers from across the district. In this instance, as well as other team building activities, groups will be pitted against one another in a friendly competition, with awards on offer for archery, shooting and cooking. This weekend offers to be an enjoyable experience for all involved and a perfect opportunity to improve engagement between explorer units across the district.

Whilst continuing to work towards their Bronze Scout Awards, 1st Stoke Climsland Beavers camped at the scout hut between the 19th and 20th of January. Having recently invested a number of new Beavers, this camp offered some their first opportunity to sleep in a tent, spend time away from their families and ultimately stay up past their bedtimes. Amongst other scouting activities, on Friday night our Beavers attempted some stargazing. All managed to spot Jupiter, Orion's Belt and very nearly the international space station. A warm and cosy camp enjoyed by all, leaving with lots of stories, new badges, and full tummies.

2024 promises to be an exciting year for our scout group with outdoor activities, camps, and lots more to look forward to in the weeks to come.

Big Breakfast in aid of Cornwall Air Ambulance Saturday 23rd March 9.00am - 1.00pm Callington Town Hall Tickets: £7

Carbon Zero Homes Project - February/March Bulletin

In its current form, this project will end in April, which is when the grant funding from the Community Levelling Up Programme comes to an end. Let's describe this as phase 1. As far as we know we are the only parish council in the UK to have had the opportunity to run a project like this. Collectively as a community we have learnt a lot - and crucially this learning remains within our community.

What is Phase 2?

In short, it is what you want it to be - please step forward if you have a view on that. It is likely that we are now amongst the most knowledgeable parishes in the county about the energy efficiency of our homes. So one challenge is about how best to make this intrinsic knowledge accessible to households in the future when needed. An important step is that we have partnered with Tamar Energy Community (TEC), who are a well-established and respected

hub of expertise. Another important step is that there is an opportunity to work with TEC to develop a new voluntary community 'first point of contact' role which would be of interest to a few people, working together as a team, supported by TEC - please see the separate article on this.

Property Diagnostics

Property Diagnostics Campaign

At the time of writing this we have enough grant funding remaining to support around 15 more households with subsidised property surveys. Hopefully you would have seen the direct mailing with more information about this. The response to this mailing was more than twice what would normally be expected, which is illustrating the interest and curiosity in finding out more about our homes and how to improve them. Last chance to enquire.

Animation



Working with a fantastic production team, we have collaborated with TEC, Two Counties Property Surveyors, Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, and Tamar Valley Health to create a short animation to communicate in plain English what this project has all been about. Click on the QR code, or head to the parish council website or search 'Carbon Zero Homes Project' in YouTube to view this.



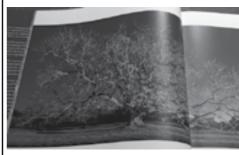
NEXT STEPS

The Carbon Zero Homes Project aims to support households to make changes to existing buildings so that energy consumption and emissions are reduced, and your home is warmer, healthier and more comfortable. This project is fully funded by the Community Levelling Up Programme.

Andy Nevill Community Energy Advisor Chartered Engineer 07799848084

andynevill@protonmail.com

Does anyone recognise this specimen?



- it has grown in SE Cornwall since 1785 (answer next month)

- a very useful tree for its beautiful wood, nuts and oil, and medicinal properties.

Represented here in this picture taken by Adrian Houston (landscape photographer) and co-author of the recently published

'The Queen's Green Canopy'. It is a black walnut tree - a stately specimen.

If you can home a smaller one, 600 - 900 mm tall, ready to plant this month contact me.

The Black Walnut is quite similar to our much loved Ash, populations of which have been devastated by fungal disease in recent years.

The fine old specimen ash in the top corner of the Old School yard still survives but sadly it too will inevitably succumb one day and be gone.

Potentially the Black Walnut could be a good replacement for the Ash in future years - meljoyguy@hotmail.com



World Day of Prayer Friday 1st March 2024

The WDP Service for the Callington area will be held at Our Lady of Victories Church, Lower Coronation Terrace, Callington, PL17 7BY at 10.30

am followed by a 'pay as you feel' light lunch. The theme this year is 'I beg you, bear with one another in love.'



Wednesday@ 10.30

Each Wednesday morning at Callington Methodist Church - a relaxed time of Intergenerational Creativity, Spirituality, Tea, Coffee and Chat.

All ages welcome. For further

details please visit our Callington Methodist Church Facebook page or our website www.callingtonmethodist.org



St Sampson's Unlocked

St Sampson's Living Churchyard.

How lovely it is to see signs of spring. You can now enjoy the primroses and snowdrops in St Sampson's Churchyard from a wonderful recycled bench, made from 3,330 milk cartoons! Long lasting, no maintenance and very comfy!

We are in the process of drawing up a more detailed plan of grass cutting and churchyard maintenance to make the most of this special, ancient area. We would love this awesome space to have more community involvement in the planning and maintenance of it and want your ideas, knowledge and help. If you would like to join this group as a decision maker, someone with a

passion for managing a space for wildlife, or as someone who can help occasionally, please contact me. The more the merrier!

YOU ARE INVITED TO St Sampson's Church Celebration and Open Afternoon Sunday April 7th

Celebrating the present, looking to the future.

Help us mark the first milestone in our restoration journey, to say thank you to everyone for all the work achieved. Everyone is invited for all or part of the day.

- 1.15 Thanksgiving Service of Holy communion with Revd. Canon Judith Pollinger 12.30 Lunch
- 1.30 4pm Open Afternoon. Come and see what has been happening. Drop in any time.
 - Talks and tours about the heritage restored, how it was achieved, the skills involved, and the history discovered
 - Project update and future plans

Cream teas will be served throughout the afternoon and a celebration cake will be cut.

stsampsonssouthhill@gmail.com Judith Ayers Local lay leader

WWW.callingtoncluster.org Facebook St Sampson's Unlocked

Spotlight on: MARIA TOYNTON COMPUTING FOR BEGINNERS

Would you like to use a computer but feel overwhelmed or that you are too old to learn. Are you confident enough to send emails and photos from your phone or are you concerned about pressing the wrong keys.

Please contact me for a 1:1 session, at your home. No prior experience necessary as we can start from scratch and tailor the session to suit your requirements.

I can also help you fill out online forms and applications, many may require attachments or photos i.e., driving licences, or I can help you use comparison websites.

I charge £15 for an hour's session.

I gained my computer qualifications whilst working for East Devon District Council but have now returned home to my roots in the parish of South Hill, where I have started my own business helping people to gain confidence to use their computers at home. You may have seen me at the Tamar Valley Country Store in Kelly Bray where I work on Fridays and Saturday morning.

I would be delighted to hear from you if you have any questions or would like further information.

Maria Toynton - 0788 277 2216

Stoke Climsland Parish Archive

(I will send you a copy of our logo if you don't have it?) NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVE

Don't forget!

The Parish Archive volunteers meet on Wednesdays at the Old School (approx. 11.00 - 3.00pm), to dig and delve in the treasures of our past around a tea or coffee - including a lot of filing and indexing, of course, and sometimes a good walk to check on the parish's footpaths and wildlife - do join us!

PLUS - new this year - we're working towards some new exhibitions for this summer, and we're setting out to interview lots of people of all ages, just for the record! If you'd like to know more, phone 07976 727618

More News from Luckett:

A misdirected 50' low-loader had to back down one hill for 500 yards, before trying to back do a three-point turn by the bridge (a good thing the SWW leak-seekers had packed up!) to head off back up to Kit Hill. The longest vehicle yet. We know that sat-nav's can misdirect big vehicles, causing a lot of damage, but misplaced signage doesn't help!

Luckett Social Club

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I was glad to be there when Barrett's Privateers sang their hearts out on 9th Feb at Luckett Social Club. And people from the wider Luckett community sang their hearts out with them! A terrific evening.

You can join in as well, on 22nd March at Carnglaze Cavern for two treats in one.

GIST (INSURANCE BROKERS) LTD

As members of the Cobra Network we are pleased to announce that CobraQuote is now live

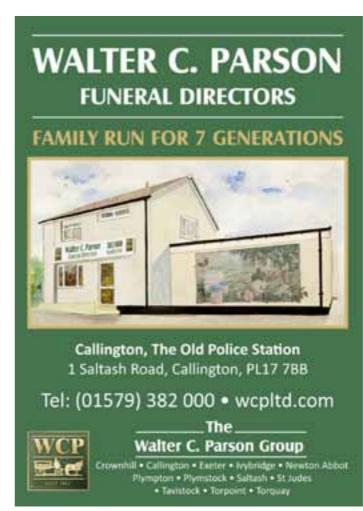
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Movementmedicineuk25@gmail.com

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Please phone freely Maria Toynton 0788 277 2216 or email mtoynton40@gmail.com

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WILD ABOUT CALSTOCK

See page 7 for article

