

THE OLD SCHOOL NEWS



Issue 249
February 2024



Photo by David Price

Stoke Climsland Amateur Theatrical Society
is proud to present their Pantomime for 2024

ROBIN HOOD AND HIS MERRY MEN

Our Legendary Hero Robin Hood, relocated to our fair County of Cornwall, confronts the wicked High Sheriff of Callington and his mean-minded mother. In true SCATS tradition, expect a tale of goodies and baddies, of love and loss, and as much music, mayhem and merriment as we can muster! Mix things up with a few plot twists and turns and you can look forward to a fabulously fun time for all!

Evening Performances will take place at 7.00pm on
Friday 16th & Saturday 17th February &
Friday 23rd & Saturday 24th February &
Matinée Performances on Saturdays 17th & 24th February at 2.00pm

**TICKETS ON SALE FROM STOKE CLIMSLAND POST OFFICE
NOW!**

Adult Tickets £7.00, Child Tickets £3.50, Family Ticket (2A+2C) £18.00

We look forward to seeing you there!

Harbottle & Jonas

THE OLD SCHOOL
STOKE CLIMSLAND

SATURDAY 24 FEBRUARY
Tickets via Eventbrite or reserve via 01579 370493
theoldschool78@gmail.com

10.30 (doors 10.00) £12

They will sing... They will sing... They will sing... They will sing...
Musicians... Musicians... Musicians... Musicians...
One of the stars... One of the stars... One of the stars... One of the stars...

FULL DETAILS: WWW.HARBOTTLEANDJONAS.COM

DAVID MIDDLE & HIS BAND PERFORMANCE OF...

CANTERBURY TALES

IT'S HUGE! IT'S ABBLE! IT'S RIDICULOUS!

Saturday 24th March 8pm
at The Old School, Stoke Climsland

Free entry at 7.30pm for adults & 10p for children

Tickets £15 - Book online via www.eventbrite.co.uk or telephone
The Old School 01579 370493

OLD SCHOOL FARMERS MARKET February 3rd - 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
- Rosemary Hambly - Action for Children - 01579 383773

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**

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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SCATS PANTOMIME 2024

COLOURING COMPETITION

SCATS are very grateful, once again, to Stoke Climsland Primary School for facilitating our Pantomime Poster Colouring Competition. The entries were of an extremely high standard across the school, and each year group has their own 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed winners. The poster entries are judged 'blind' in that whilst we look at each Year Group together, the names of the entrants are not revealed until the winners are decided. The Competition for Overall Winner is then decided from the outstanding entries from each Year Group. It was an extremely close competition again this year, but we are delighted to announce that the Overall Winner, whose Entry (original drawing by Sara Hooley, and reproduced here) is our Poster for Robin Hood 2024, which also appears on the cover of the Pantomime Programme, is Georgina Wells of Year 5. Congratulations Georgina on winning for the second year running! Every Year Group Winner receives a Complimentary Family Ticket to the 2024 Pantomime.

Details of Tickets and Performances can be found in this OSN.

PARISH HALL - FEBRUARY 2024

Regular Events:			
Monday	7 pm	2, 4, 5 weeks only	SCATS REHEARSALS
	7 pm	1st week only	GARDENING CLUB
	7 pm	3rd week only	PARISH COUNCIL
Tuesday	9 am - noon	Weekly	POP-UP CAFÉ
	1:15 - 2:15 pm	Weekly	LATINO DANCE
	7:00 pm	2nd week only	W.I.
Wednesday	7 pm	Weekly except 2nd week	BOWLS
	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
Friday	10am - 11am	Weekly	PILATES
	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 with:		
Feb 3rd	Morning	PRIVATE HIRE
Feb 4th	Morning	PRIVATE HIRE
Feb 17th to March 5th		SCATS

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

PARISH CHURCH - FEBRUARY 2024

Feb 3	3 pm	Messy Church in Old School
Feb 4	8 am	Morning Prayer BCP
	10 am	Morning Worship
Feb 11	2:30 pm	Remembering God
	8 am	Morning Prayer BCP
Feb 18	10 am	Holy Communion
	8 am	Morning Prayer BCP
Feb 25	10 am	Morning Worship
	8 am	Morning Prayer BCP
Feb 25	10 am	Family Service

OLD SCHOOL - FEBRUARY 2024

Weekly Events:		
Mondays	9 am	ACUPUNCTURE (by appt)
	8.30 am	PILATES
	7 pm	SCOTTISH DANCING
Tuesdays	10 am - 1 pm	RAGS ART GROUP
	1:30	LOVE TO MOVE
Wednesday	1:30	MAHJONG
	10 am - 3 pm	CROSS BORDER ARTS
Thursday	7pm - 8pm	CHESS CLUB
Fridays	9 - 11:30 am	TODDLER SINGING GROUP
	12 noon	FRIDAY LUNCH all welcome - please book in advance at the Old School 01579 370493

Together with:

Feb 3	9 am	VILLAGE MARKET
	1 - 5 pm	MESSY CHURCH
Feb 8	3 - 4:30 pm	LIBRARY and LEGO CLUB
Feb 9	7 pm	FILM CLUB
Feb 13	2 pm	LOOK GROUP
	7:30 - 9 pm	FAMILY HISTORY GROUP
Feb 15	7 pm	INVESTMENT GROUP
Feb 17	9 am - 1 pm	REPAIR CAFE
Feb 20	9:30	BOOK CLUB
Feb 22	1:30 pm	CALLINGTON U3A
	3 - 4:30 pm	LIBRARY AND BOARD GAMES
Feb 24	9:30 am	BREAKFAST FOR HOMELESS CHARITIES
	7 pm	HARBOTTLE AND JONAS FOLK BAND
Feb 27	7 pm	LOCAL HISTORY GROUP every 4 th Tuesday each month
Feb 29	3 - 4:30 pm	LIBRARY AND BOARD GAMES

Please note: due to the lack of support received, the monthly Wednesday 'Afternoon Tea' at The Old School is being discontinued with immediate effect.

METHODIST CHURCH - FEBRUARY 24

SORRY, NO DETAILS THIS MONTH

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

Letter from the Editor

Wendy Ambrose

What an amazing Christmas Stoke Climsland and surrounding areas seem to have had, from Cooking Elves to Musical Bands turning 1 year old and wishing all a Merry Christmas with their music! The New Year seems to have started off in the same vein, with lots of events happening and even more planned for future months.

I hope you enjoy the articles gathered together for you in this February edition. The Editorial Team and I wish everyone a very happy 2024.

As ever, if you have something that you find interesting and news worthy, then it is likely that so will other readers of the OSN. Please contact me on wendyambrose74@gmail.com so that your submission can be included in the next issue, but please note that all submissions must be received by myself no later than 8pm on the 10th of every month.

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Highlights of 'What's On' at The Old School

By Lisa Eastell

We are fortunate to have such an active community in our Parish with so many clubs and activities to join or become involved with. We would like to thank all those who give up their time to make our community so special. Here at The Old School, we are aiming to provide activities and events to appeal to all age groups, anything from our toddler music sessions to our Friday lunches! Here are details of just a few of our recently started clubs and some new events and activities for 2024:

Kids Library and Board Games Sessions

Aimed primarily at school aged children, we are opening the Old School every Thursday 3-4.30pm (term time) for you to play board games with your children, use the library or come in for a cuppa. If you have a Cornwall library card, you can borrow any of our library books or reserve and collect any book from the Cornwall library online services. Sessions are FREE but there is a small charge for refreshments. All welcome and no booking required! Volunteers needed to help run these sessions - please contact lisaeastell2@gmail.com if you can help.

Lego Club

This will now be held the 2nd Thursday of the month 3-4.30 pm (term time and alongside the Kids Library & Board Games Session). Join us for a new Lego challenge or theme each session! Sessions are FREE but donations welcome to help with the upkeep of the Old School. All welcome and no booking required. Check out our Facebook page for details.

Chess Club

All ages and abilities welcome! Come along to learn how to play, improve your skills or just for a chance to play socially rather than against a computer! Sessions are every Thursday from 7pm (£1 - includes a hot drink and a biscuit).

Theatre and Music

Along with our regular clubs we also have some exciting new upcoming events! We welcome back the superb David Mynne who will be performing the Canterbury Tales like you have never seen them before on Saturday 2nd March at 8pm! Plus, we are very excited to announce that the amazing folk duo Harbottle and Jonas will be performing at The Old School on Saturday 24th February 7pm. Tickets can be booked online or by contacting the Old School.

We have many more clubs, events and activities on at the Old School so please get in touch if you would like more information. Similarly, if you would like to volunteer to help keep these clubs going or if you would like to start a club or organise an event yourself, we are always looking for helpers and new ideas! The rooms at the Old School are also available for private hire.

Contact The Old School Office: 01579 370493, theoldschool78@gmail.com

BREAKFAST TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE HOMELESS IN CORNWALL AND PLYMOUTH

By Barbara Bennett

There is an increasing number of homeless people in Cornwall and Plymouth. The weather this winter has been very wet and windy, and now incredibly cold, making their lives even more difficult. The current economic situation in our country increases the hardship for many. Sadly, homelessness is a chronic problem which many try to help. Stoke Climsland is holding their "Breakfast for the homeless" on February 24th in the Old School from 9.30 - 12.00. Please support us for a delicious 'proper' breakfast. Donations will be distributed to St Petrocs and charities in Plymouth.

Please bring any of the following, which will be given to the charities:

Men and women's underwear; socks; hats; gloves; warm clothing; jumpers; coats; waterproof jackets; sleeping bags; toiletries including toothbrushes and toothpaste; shaving foam; deodorants; handy size wet wipes; shampoo; conditioner; soaps, hairbrushes and combs etc.

Please only give clothing in good condition. The homeless have to carry all their possessions. They need clothing which will last and help them keep warm.

Thank you for supporting the morning which will help to make the lives of many a little better.

Any further information please phone Barbara Bennett on 07971667556.



**2nd Thursday of every month
3.15pm - 4.30pm (term time)
at The Old School**



Follow us on Facebook:
The Old School Stoke Climsland or Stoke Climsland Kids Lego Club



"The Bookshop"

Starring: Emily Mortimer, Bill Night and Patricia Clarkson.

England 1959. In a small East Anglian town, Florence Green decides against polite but ruthless local opposition, to open a book shop.

"A charming, slow moving village drama, full of old-world Britishness"

"Beautiful and poignant, the three main stars put in stellar performances".

"The Bookshop is one film on the surface and something far more sinister underneath... a brilliant and powerful film"

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

NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Friday February 9th 2024



HUNGRY FOR CHANGE?

Thursday, February 22nd 7pm £21 per person

Did you know, in the UK, we import nearly 50% of all our food ...and then we waste one-third of it.

We will be screening the film, "Hungry for Change" produced by Cornwall Climate Care (CCC). It's presented by a forager who takes us on a fascinating and inspiring journey to meet people in Cornwall working on ways for us to 'do food better' as the climate changes - from the gleaners picking 'waste' crops in our fields to projects growing food in unusual places, and a microbiologist who explores eating insects as a low-carbon option.

Join us at the Old School for a 3 course meal with a difference. The meal will be prepared using ingredients inspired by the film. Some will be foraged, some gleaned, some destined for waste. It will all be tasty and nutritious, just not what you might expect!

Come with an open mind and an empty belly.

The meat option will include venison, and there will be a vegan/vegetarian option. We will be able to cater for special dietary requirements, but these will need to be requested at the time of booking. Booking is essential through the office 01579 370493 or online - see our Facebook page for details.

To round off the evening there will be an update on the Stoke Climsland Carbon Zero Homes Project.

THE LOOK GROUP

We had our first meeting of 2024 on Tuesday 9th January with the theme of Portraits. We went through a variety of very different artists and art styles through the centuries from to Pre-Raphaelites to present day artists. Our meetings are informal, friendly with tea and biscuits. Whether you are a qualified artist or just an onlooker, please do join in.

We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month. Our next meeting is Tuesday 13th February at 1 pm. All welcome. For further details contact Jo on 01579 370200.



Partners in life and music, dynamic Devon based folk duo Harbottle & Jonas are one of the most exciting acts on the UK circuit today, combining a love of the richness of traditional folk with their own original and powerful songwriting.

Dave and Freya have developed a distinct and compelling signature sound, blending concertina, harmonium, cittern, stomp box, acoustic guitar and banjo with their beautiful and closely intertwined vocal harmonies.

You can see the amazing duo at the Old School on Saturday 24th February, 19.00hrs doors open for a 19.30hrs start.

Tickets are available through Eventbrite or by reservation through the Old School on 01579 370493, or by email on theoldschool78@gmail.com

Tickets are just £12 each.



Know your neighbour!

By Lady Foghorn

I was suitably impressed by your sleuthing, good people of Stoke Climsland! The neighbour that some of you guessed correctly was indeed the lovely Jan Roberts. But, will your sleuthing skills be as good this time around? Who is your neighbour behind the question mark? Will you be able to identify your neighbour from the information below? The Editor has agreed to pass on any answers to me!



Are you Cornish by birth? No, although I do like to think I have something of the Celtic magical heritage in me, although it's buried very deep!

When and why did you move to Cornwall? It was just 15 years ago; my circumstances dramatically changed over-night and instead of just staying for a Christmas holiday with family, I developed new roots and settled here in Cornwall.

Who, dead or alive, would you like to have a conversation with and about what? Crikey - a tricky one! I know that whoever I name now, I will go home and think of another fifty others. Off the top of my head, I will have to say Meatloaf. Not only did he have a cracking career, but he survived major heart surgery and went on to continue on stage with his amazing shows not long after. Talk about resilience!

Do you have any neighbours of interest? Why yes! Some share my history of serving in the armed forces whereas others would love to have a menagerie to keep them company; others are highly successful entrepreneurs and successful business leaders, and others can talk for England! All, however, are the salt of the earth and would help anyone without a second thought.

What is the most interesting fact about you that you feel safe to share with all? I'm as mad as a hatter and am always willing to take on a new challenge, but I have a terrible flaw - saying no can be a problem! Most recently however, I have become a firm believer in the power of Universe and of nature.

What would you most like to be remembered for? I sincerely hope that I will be remembered as being someone who is kind and a flame of hope. Leaving people in a better place, physically and/or mentally, has to be one of the greatest gifts you can offer on a daily basis and I strive to do that.

Do you have a significant other or others that you would be willing to describe? Unless you count my faithful four-legged friend and my amazing children, then there is no significant other (or am I being coy?)

Describe your career/s to date. Service, service and service. Mortar Patrol is a key memory, as is having dinner with the Attorney General just before the start of Gulf War II...I don't think I made a friend there though!

Do you have any pets? A mini menagerie of a four-legged friend, a tiny furry four legged creature and a handful of poultry.

Do you have any plans for the future? World domination! I have a number of projects on the go but am pursuing my dreams - helping people struggling in education through my expertise and knowledge, but not in the typical classroom way!

What advice, in your opinion, is the best advice to give anyone? To look for the magic in every day. It is there and it will make you more at one with yourself. When you are happy being you, the world becomes a better and easier place.

So, who is your neighbour? All will be revealed in the next Edition!

Areas of Outstanding Beauty have been re-named!

By Tamar Valley National Landscape

With effect 22 November 2023, designated Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) in England and Wales became National Landscapes, including the Tamar Valley, on the Devon/Cornwall border. Why? The new name reflects their national importance; the vital contribution they make to protect the nation from the threats of climate change, nature depletion and the wellbeing crisis, whilst also creating greater understanding and awareness for the work that they do. National Landscapes teams have been at the forefront of delivering natural solutions to the main challenges facing the nation for many years. The new brand underscores their commitment to redoubling their efforts and engaging with a wider audience. By 2030, National Landscapes aim that, within their boundaries: at least 200,000 hectares of the most valuable natural areas (Sites of Special Scientific Interest or SSSIs), which equates to 1 ¼ times the size of London, will be in favourable condition; 100,000 hectares of wildlife-rich habitat outside of SSSIs will be created or restored, which is roughly nine times the size of Manchester; and 36,000 hectares of woodland, which is a little smaller than the Isle of Wight, will have been planted or allowed to regenerate. National Landscapes Partnerships will also focus on habitat restoration to ensure the protection of some of our most endangered species and increase their work to help more people to enjoy time spent in beautiful places. Because of their size and scope, National Landscapes are ideally positioned to address the environmental issues the UK is facing.

Sarah Gibson, Manager of the Tamar Valley National Landscape says:

"We're absolutely delighted to be named a National Landscape, which recognises the importance of our work to conserve and enhance our beautiful Nature and heritage at the heart of Devon and Cornwall. Our Tamar Valley National Landscape includes 200 square kilometres of hidden river valleys, estuaries and countryside, with a biodiversity value of £2billion...Our National Landscape status will strengthen our ability to attract Green Finance investment as we channel funding and drive activities to benefit the area, to ensure it exists to provide a future for generations to come."



Martin Howlett, Chair of the Tamar Valley National Landscape Partnership says:

"We welcome the long-awaited launch of National Landscapes and rebranding of our Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in recognition of nearly 30 years protection and enhancement of our celebrated corner of the South West and duly acknowledging its equal status alongside our near neighbour of Dartmoor National Park. The designation further strengthens the role of all who maintain, manage and sustain our spectacular vista - from the many traditional family farms, surviving market gardens and orchards, through to woodland plantations, each business not only contributes to the rural economy, but through their land management and husbandry both provide a habitat for the natural environment in harmony with producing quality local food and drink."

Stoke Climsland Parish Hall

Latest news

Your Parish Hall Trustees are pleased to report on the completion of the initial essential building works to the main chimney, louvre tower and replacement of roof guttering now with increased capacity, in line with our activated full planning permission. We continue to

develop the plan in a staged approach towards major refurbishment. We thank our regular hirers for their patience and apologise for any inconvenience caused during this period of external building activity.

Moving forward into 2024, with the support of the

'Friends of the Parish Hall' fundraising efforts, together with the already allocated grant awards, we now plan to embark on a series of internal improvements to the kitchen area, toilet facilities, main hall flooring and a general painting and decorating programme to 'spruce up' our over-all low-cost hall booking offer.

Finally, we would like to convey our gratitude to all for staying loyal to your Parish Hall during a most challenging and difficult past 12 months. Given the disappointment of The Prince's

Foundation pulling their '7 for 70' project promise, we still remain positive (and with the full support of The Duchy of Cornwall), in seeking a long-term solution for the future of a Parish

Community facility. We wish to record our sincere thanks to Ashley Taylor who moves on from his role as the area Assistant Duchy Land Steward; we welcome his successor as our new landlord agent and look forward to further developing the facility concept initiated by Ashley. Together with everyone's full commitment, help and support the task becomes easier and more achievable.

Happy New Year to 'One and All'.

THE WHEAL MARTHA BAND

By Annette Williams



It was a happy birthday to Lockett's own Wheal Martha Band, which now consists of eight regular members - Alison, Annette and Rosie, together with Andrew, Jacob, Pete, Richard L and Richard V. Over the Christmas period Claire and Paul joined us to boost performances - many thanks to them both for stepping in. The band is now one year old!

We are very grateful over the past year to have received funding from the Stoke Climsland Parish Council, Callington Rotary Club and Cornwall Council towards music and other expenses.

Friday 15 December 2023 saw a large gathering of keen local singers around Lockett bridge, accompanied by the band. A selection of carols were sung with great gusto and then everyone moved the short distance to Lockett Social Club, where warm mince pies (thank you to Blakes Bakery and Malcolm Barnecutt) and Alison's delicious home-made sausage rolls were available, washed down by mulled wine, served by Danny and Sheila.

The band had been rehearsing six Christmas pieces to perform alongside favourite carols

and these were very enthusiastically welcomed, together with Bridget's seasonal Shakespearian reading.

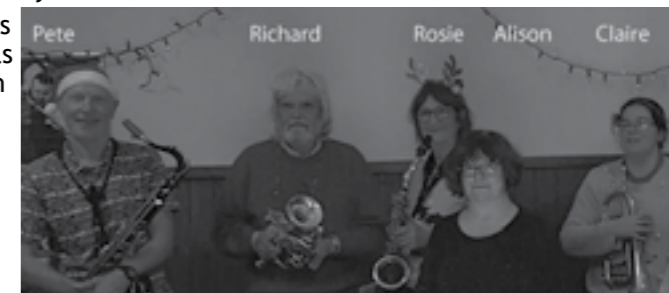
Richard Taylor of Cornwall Blood Bikes drove down to the village on his impressive BMW motorbike for all to see and gave a short talk on the little known, but vital

work the purely volunteer group does, delivering urgent medical supplies, pathology samples, whole blood, platelets, medical notes, medical equipment, medication and much more, providing a significant financial saving to the NHS, all co-ordinated by his wife Anne. A collection was made for the charity and a great Christmas community evening was had by all.

The following week the band played carols and their Christmas pieces at The Honicombe Arms to a small, but appreciative audience and again mince pies and mulled wine were the order of the day - thank you to hosts, Matt and Denise Martin.

Over the two Christmas events The Wheal Martha Band raised just over £400 for Cornwall Blood Bikes - a massive thank you to everyone for your support and generosity.

If you're an enthusiastic or even a lapsed musician interested in playing in a small, friendly local wind band, just drop a line to TheWhealMarthaBand@gmail.com



Down on the Farm

'From local appliers to the dreaming spires!'

By: Martin Howlett

Haunting violins, African drums and Tribal chants, accompanied both Pagan and Middle Earth dressed characters as they entered the main stage of Oxford Town Hall to bless the soil and christen the fine Blenheim Orange fruit sapling proudly upheld for all to give thanks - a scene not out of place for the start of yet another gripping episode of 'Midsomer Murders', but thankfully no call upon or sight of Inspector Barnaby, or even Inspector Morse on his home territory! It did, however, cause strange looks of concern from our delegation of Cornish farmers (locally represented by Bonny Lightfoot and myself), who were present at the Oxford Real Farming Conference (ORFC) by invitation to showcase the work of Farm Net Zero - sharing best practise of regenerative farming through our clusters and community engagement with local schools, special interest groups and general supporting public.

Reassuringly, the ORFC programme across the two-day conference moved on from the bizarre opening plenary to offer over 150 sessions of choice across the 15 iconic meeting rooms in an historic venue, with the main hall hosting keynote speakers and practitioners from across the world. Through topics such as understanding soil health, science, natural plant husbandry, alternative homoeopathy animal health, each encapsulated within the banner of 'agroecological farming', we learned that when such methods were embraced alongside carbon capture land management practises and nature-based flood solutions, they would all contribute to the overall impact and mitigation of climate change.

Finally, our turn came to present a Cornwall Case Study under the title 'It takes a farm community to be net zero'. We provided a background of three demonstration farms along, together with a 30-minute documentary featuring the works of like-minded farmers, open farm engagement with primary schools - including the local TST/Battling On youth group, which was well received. For those who wish to learn more of our initiatives, an open meeting and screening of the film is planned for early spring on Monday 25th March in the Parish Hall at 7pm. All are very welcome.

It is pleasing to have come a long way since the early days of our own climate emergency SCCCAG group to the hallowed turfs of Oxford and without too many murders along the way - Down on the Farm!



SCATS Outing

By Wendy Ambrose

On Tuesday, 19th December, a coach load of 33 budding thespians and other members of SCATS, went on their merry travels to the Barbican Theatre. The delight that lay ahead of them was a brilliant three person play, called 'Fairy Tales, Fables and Other Assorted Nonsense' and was put on by the Assembleth Theatre.

The play was in essence an amalgamation of favourite fairy tales, where the characters lived in fear for their lives, their freedom and their turnips. The once sweet Little Red Riding Hood now rules the forest with an iron fist and an incompetent mob of wolves. The accidental hero, Susan, is magically transported to the forest where she unintentionally instigates a revolution. The multiple characters were brilliantly acted by the three actors, and all of us there thoroughly enjoyed their performance. The obligatory audience participation was a little painful on some of the cast's knees, but all agreed the pain was most definitely worth it!



If you are interested in becoming a SCATS member, then please register your interest on SCATS - Stoke Climsland Amateur Theatrical Society (scatsociety.org.uk) or email chair@scatsociety.org.uk

Lawrence House

By Lesley Barker, Volunteer Assistant Curator

The refurbishment of the Lawrence House building at 9 Castle St, Launceston continues and the Pop-up Museum at No 13 High St is currently closed for a winter break while new exhibitions are planned for the 2024 season. Reopening is scheduled for Tuesday 2 April, but in the meantime, the window at No 13 will display a selection of interesting artefacts from the Museum's extensive collection relating to the history of the town and the surrounding area. An example is shown here - an eighteenth century oil painting 'North East View of Launceston' by Richard Rogers, one of many images of the town in the Museum's collection.



The volunteer Operations Team will meanwhile also be working at an off-site storage facility to bring together the entire Museum collection from various temporary locations so that it can be re-organised, and documentation checked and updated, in preparation for the eventual return of the collection to Lawrence House.

You may of course have been lucky and seen our pop-up display in Christmas in Launceston. We will be doing another pop-up display in March. Details of this, our first exhibition in 2024, will be available next time, together with a report on progress at Lawrence House.

For the latest news of the Museum please go to our website lawrencehousemuseum.org.uk.

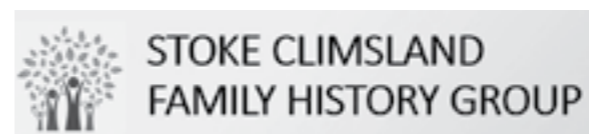


THANK YOU Stoke Climsland WI

By Geraldine Hiscott

WILD is a registered charity which offers support and resources to help other's focus on the best work with young parent families. We also influence national policy and services in order to change the narrative for

them. The Stoke Climsland WI were very generous and donated gifts to WILD for Christmas, and our WILD Young Parents would like to thank them; the gifts were very much appreciated, especially in these difficult times. We are very grateful for the W.I's interest and support.



By Deri Parsons

There are many different software programs that can be used to capture and present your family history data. Perhaps you've asked the question "which is the best for me?". The next meeting of the Family History Group on February 14th will try to provide you with some answers and give some demonstrations of what is available.

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)



February 27th:

Dr Harry Bennett - Devonport Dockyard: History and Social Impact

March 26th:

Dr Chris Smart - The Roman army in Southwest Britain: Recent Excavations at Calstock in context.

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.



STOKE CLIMSLAND WI

By Ros Hardy

In November, we were delighted to see so many visitors at Lyn Crawley's talk. Many of you will know Lyn as a very active member of our community who is involved in lots of events in Stoke Climsland and Lockett. However, lots of us were unaware of one of the interesting posts she held during her RAF career. It was as Equerry to HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, a position she held for two years at the end of the 1990's.



It was fascinating to hear all about the selection process which culminated in a one-to-one interview with the



Duke of Edinburgh at Buckingham Palace. Lyn was the first woman to be appointed to this role by the Duke. Her duties were wide and varied including organising programmes of events and engagements, attending dinners and fundraisers for Charity and often accompanying the Duke of Edinburgh to events in the same vehicle.

She spoke very fondly of her time in this job and she particularly enjoyed the trips out of London when she was required to accompany the family to Balmoral for their summer break and to Sandringham at Christmas. During these trips, she often had to drive members of the Royal family around the Estate and even attend the famous family barbecues and picnics where HRH The



Duke would be in charge of cooking the meat and The Queen would help with the washing up!

At the end of her tour of duty, Lyn was made a Member of the Royal Victorian Order; a Member of the Victorian Order is an honour which is awarded solely at the discretion of the monarch in recognition for loyal service to the monarch or the Royal family. She told us it was an honour to perform her duties as Equerry to

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh who was charming and witty and an absolute pleasure to work with. She left her post with fond memories which she will always cherish.

We have some interesting talks lined up for next year why not come along we would love to see you.

Dates for your Diary:

13th February Social evening

29th February Knit and natter Knit, sew, or crochet. Bring along your projects. All Welcome at 7.30pm.

12th March Annual Meeting

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 and at just £4.50 each, to include tea, sandwiches and cakes, it is a bargain.

Find Stoke Climsland WI on Facebook and check out local notice boards for forthcoming events.



STOKE CLIMSLAND

SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

f Follow us on Facebook

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

OPENING TIMES

Wednesday & Thursday 8:00pm to 11:00pm

Friday & Saturday 7:30pm to 11:00pm



ANNUAL CLUB MEMBERSHIP: £5

You're all still cordially invited to become a member at an outrageously meagre cost of just £5. Just pop in during our opening times and our volunteer staff will be delighted to assist. Or you can now sign up online - just scan the QR code over there →

Non-members are welcome to drop in for a drink or attend the events below - there is a £1 charge and we ask that you sign in as guests.

VALENTINE'S MEAL

SATURDAY 10th FEBRUARY

Join us for a sumptuous two-course meal that includes a delicious lasagne. Tickets cost just £8 per person and are available from the club and the post office.

BEER, BAND AND BURGER NIGHTS

LIVE MUSIC IN MARCH

No Tickets - Just Good Times




Saturday 2nd March: "The QuarterTones"

The first Beer, Band and Burger Pasty night in March sees Miranda hauling her double bass into the club for an evening of 3-part harmonies and an eclectic assortment of pop tunes. And given the proximity to St Piran's Day, we'll serve up 'ansom pasties.

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 unique Cornish comedy.

UPCOMING QUIZ NIGHTS

Teams of 4 - £5 entry per team

7:30pm for 8:00pm start

Saturday 17th February Saturday 16th March

A New Year's Resolution for 2024

By Brian Norris

For many of us life is busy, even frantic at times, with jobs to be done, deadlines to meet and responsibilities we may have. It seems that the pace of life is faster than it has ever been - in spite of all the labour-saving devices we benefit from! It's all too easy to be so involved in what we are doing that there is no opportunity to pause and reflect. To set time aside to slow down and ask ourselves why we are doing whatever it is that we are so busy with. A New Year is a good time to review and perhaps hit the reset button.

Increasingly we live in a 24/7 world. When I was growing up in the 50's and 60's I remember usually busy high streets being quiet and empty on a Sunday with everything except the occasional small shop closed. By contrast, today the high street on Sunday is as busy, if not busier, than any other day. This change is viewed as a change for the worse by some. It was certainly hotly debated when changes to Sunday trading laws were proposed with many groups, both religious and non-religious, vociferously defending keeping the special status of the British Sunday. Setting aside the debate about Sunday trading laws, the need for a sensible work/rest balance is generally accepted. Setting time aside for rest and regeneration is a necessary precaution to prevent burnout and maintain physical and mental wellbeing.

For many centuries the Jews have kept the Sabbath (our Saturday) as a special day when no work is carried out and families gather for a shared meal, worship and reflection. A principle laid down for ancient Israel about three thousand years ago in what we now call 'The Ten Commandments'. Millennia later, there is an understanding of the rationale behind the instruction. Although it makes sound common sense now, we may ponder how it was arrived at several thousand years ago.

Many Christians reserve Sunday for similar purposes and value the weekly opportunity this offers to take a break and recharge physical, mental and spiritual batteries. An opportunity to spend quality time with family or friends. An opportunity to pause and reflect on the past week and perhaps ponder some of the questions that business often denies us the time to consider: what are my priorities? What is really important to me? Why am I here?

It is not, however, always possible to reserve the same set day of the week for rest and reflection, especially if there are children in the family or work is an essential service like nursing or the Police. Sometimes it is really difficult to carve out time to slow down for rest and reflection, however, not doing so carries a health warning, making us more vulnerable to stress and stress related disorders. If it is not already part of your lifestyle, why not consider a New Year's resolution to make it so?

Carbon Zero Homes Project

By Andy Nevill, Community Energy Advisor, Chartered Engineer

Our Property Diagnostics Campaign is now in full swing since its launch in November at Tamar Energy Fest 2023. We have a great technical team to deliver this, including a local licenced Retrofit Assessor.



Funding and Grants

Making energy efficiency improvements to your home will reduce your energy bills and will have other benefits. Energy efficient homes are also attracting higher valuations, but improvements still need to be funded. There are grant schemes available, but these can frequently change. Most grant funding is there to support vulnerable households

and those with a total annual income (before deductions) of less than £31k. Eligibility for some schemes can also include the property EPC rating and the council tax band and they are generally targeting the least efficient properties (e.g., EPC D to G) and those with lower council tax (e.g., A to D). The Boiler Upgrade Scheme is not means tested and currently provides £7,500 towards the cost of installing a heat pump. The Great British Insulation Scheme is means tested but does also support higher income households living in the least efficient properties. Be mindful about eligibility because making an improvement could affect your future eligibility. For example, having solar PV installed could improve your EPC rating from D to C - so doing things in the right order is important. For more information, there are two reliable online sources of information on grant schemes. Search: "Trustmark grants", and "Cornwall grants, loans and subsidies for energy use". Tamar Energy Community (0800 233 5414) and Community Energy Plus (0800 954 1956) can also help with information on funding and grants.

Be Vigilant

Genuine businesses don't cold call - beware of rogue traders. Some cold callers are offering access to grants to sound attractive, and some arrange appointments for a 'surveyor' to attend your home in an attempt to make the business seem more legitimate. Tamar Energy Community have recently released a warning about a 'spray foam insulation scam'. The Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors has produced a useful consumer guide for spray foam. Cornwall trading standards are also reporting an increase in cold calls relating to energy saving products such as new storage heaters or insulation.

Community Energy Ambassadors

Looking ahead, we are keen to explore the idea of setting up a local team of Community Energy Ambassadors in collaboration with Tamar Energy Community - to deliver sustainable long term value for our local community. This will include arranging training for future ambassadors.



Please get in touch on if you are interested in either having a survey for your home or becoming a Community Energy Advisor on either 07799 848084 or by email on andynevill@protonmail.com.

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.

Riding School for the Disabled

By Sarah Thomas



Happy 2024! I hope the Christmas and New Year festivities were enjoyed by all and that New Year's resolutions are being strictly adhered to! However, for anyone who has yet to decide on their resolutions, can I suggest becoming a helper at Duchy RDA?

There are all sorts of reasons to join us. Not only does it benefit our riders, but also our helpers: a win-win situation. A survey conducted five years ago showed that the main reason that people joined us was to be with horses and there are certainly lots of opportunities to be up close and personal with our equines. In addition, helpers replied that they joined to help people and to make a difference. Having been a helper at Duchy RDA for over twenty years, I have seen the difference riding has made to so many of our riders and I have certainly benefited from joining our merry band of helpers.

If, as I did initially, you're thinking that as a helper you need to know lots about horses and how to ride them, don't worry. The great thing about joining RDA as a helper is that you will soon learn anything you need to know, as I discovered all those years ago. You will also never be asked to do anything that you feel unsure or unhappy about. Of course, it's a good idea if you're not actually afraid of horses, although we did actually have a rider some years ago, an ex-marine who'd lost his sight, who came to RDA primarily to overcome his fear of horses, which he soon did!

There are many roles for helpers at RDA. We need people to lead our horses. Side-walkers, usually two per horse, help our riders, tell them what they should be doing and keep them safe. At the end of the ride, usually about 45 minutes, a side-walker gives a report on the rider's progress to another helper in charge of record-taking for the ride, a less physically demanding role. Another most important role is that of tea-maker. After a busy ride there's nothing like a restorative cuppa!

If you think that this might be for you, please go to our group Facebook page: RDA Duchy Group or contact Juliette, our chairperson, at Juliette@rdaduchy.org

PARKING - Controversial or not?

By Wendy Ambrose

As editor of the OSN, I get to hear a lot about what people think about what goes on in the village, and parking is something that is commented a lot on; this is a subject very close to my heart. We are blessed in the village to have a local primary school and for the most part, residents take joy in supporting the school and the children therein. With the exception of parking.

First of all I have to say THANK YOU! I had cause, before Christmas, to email the school about the dangerous and quite frankly, inconsiderate parking. I was trying to reverse my car into my drive which was substantially parked over by a car. To make matters worse, the driver proceeded to get the child out of the back without even a care to see that I was reversing. Being aware of my surroundings, I averted the inevitable accident that was about to happen by stopping before the said child could run behind my moving car. The parent was seemingly oblivious. This is not a singular incident and regularly, the Highway Code is flouted, especially by the car that persists in parking on the corner of the junction at the top of the green.

I say THANK YOU because as a result of my email to the school, the School Secretary very kindly put a notice in the school's newsletter and requested that people park with consideration. For the record, I have no objection to people parking on public roads to drop their children off at school, provided it is done so legally. That notice seems to have worked as both I and my neighbours have noticed a fabulous improvement in parking. So, I say again, THANKYOU.

Below is an excerpt from a letter that I received from a Parishioner; I include it for two reasons: to highlight the dangers in the hope that parents/carers dropping off their children to school, can possibly think twice (those who are irresponsible), and in the hope that those responsible parents will kindly advise those causing problems to consider their actions:

"[There is some]..positively dangerous parking exercised by some parents...they...pour their children out onto a busy main road outside the school! ...there seems to be the parents who have the 'I need to park on a junction', or maybe 'I will mount the pavement and park' (which by the way, if damaged, we...residents have to have maintained)...and let's not forget the...parent [talking] on their mobile - in their hands - while driving with their precious cargo!"

The school have advised me that should parking become a problem again, concerns must to be raised direct to the police on 101.

I am hopeful that the current parking standard is maintained. It is also evidence that parking is not the big issue that some people say it is, so maybe there is no need for there to be another suggestion that part of the Village Green, the one that makes this Village quite quintessentially Cornish, be tampered with. I did speak with the Headmaster and he was happy to meet me to discuss the concerns about parking. If anyone has any suggestions how to ease parking, I would be happy to receive them and take Mr Towe's kind offer up. Suggestions that have already been made to me are: use the Old School grounds, and, have the school's current parking area enlarged by utilising the tennis courts (make them multi-purpose) and engaging a one-way in system.

Not all parents/carers are inconsiderate, and the author of the letter extract was very keen to acknowledge this. But not-one wants an accident causing an injury or a fatality, and local residents do need access on and off their properties, as would the emergency services if needed.

As ever, if you have something you feel that would be of interest to include in the OSN, please email me on wendyam-brose74@gmail.com

A BIG “thank you” to everyone who donated coats in the recent “Wrap Up” project. We were overwhelmed by the generous response. Rotary in Southeast Cornwall joined together to make this happen. By siting collection boxes in local businesses and community venues, we collected nearly 700 warm coats which were distributed via local homeless shelters, refugee centres, organisations supporting the elderly, women’s refuges, children’s centres and

other charities helping people in crisis.

We do not give coats directly to families, because we believe that the charitable organisations can identify support and resources to benefit those in need or signpost them to organisations that could help, thereby creating a lasting relationship between those in need and the organisation that could transform their lives.

Our thanks go to the venues which hosted collection boxes and the charities who are distributing the coats. The project will be repeated next winter, so please don’t throw away good coats.

Similarly, we were delighted by the support shown at the Victorian Market in early December. Footfall was tremendous and the stallholders were pleased with the number of people browsing their stalls and purchasing their wares. Look out for an even bigger and better event in 2024!

Look out for our next couple of events: on Saturday 2nd March we will once more be holding our annual Race Night in Callington Town Hall - but one like you’ve never seen before. The evening will be OPEN TO ALL - and we would love to see families and children present. There will be a hot meal included in the ticket price (children under 12 will be FREE) and there will be a licensed bar with soft drinks available.

Come and be astounded by the LIVE jockeys - and the horses will be beyond belief! Save the date and have a great, fun-filled, family night out.

Watch out for our next BIG BREAKFAST coming soon!

Why not get involved with Callington Rotary? Do something for others, whilst doing something for yourself. It’s a definite win-win!

Ring Roy on 07484 613 198 or email membership@callingtonrotary.org for more details.

www.callingtonrotary.org



TWINNING NEWS



2024 marks a special year for Callington twinning, as we plan to celebrate 20 years of twinning between our town and Barsbüttel. What better way to mark this occasion than by showcasing Callington at its best and liveliest? To this end friends from Germany, together with fellow twinners from Guipavas (France) and friends from our Friendship Link in Keila (Estonia) will be invited to join with us from Thursday 9th - Monday 13th May. This coincides with MayFest so there will be no shortage of events to occupy visitors and their hosts.

If you have hosted before or you would like to host for the first time (we will provide lots of support) it promises to be a very enjoyable weekend. Obviously there will be lots to do and see in Callington on the Saturday and there will also be a joint meal with entertainment on the Friday evening, and a day excursion for all involved is planned for the Sunday. Numbers are expected to be on the high side,

so we will be looking for hosts for families, couples and singles. There is no need to be able to speak the language and five-star hotel treatment is not necessary - just a smile, a warm welcome and Google Translate!

For further information on how to get involved in twinning, please ring Sue on 01579 382705.

“THE GREAT ESCAPER”

Running Time: 1hr 36mins

In the summer of 2014, the 70th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings, octogenarian Bernie Jordan (Michael Caine) made global headlines. He’d staged a “great escape” from his care home to join fellow war veterans on a beach in Normandy, commemorating their fallen comrades. It was a story that captured the imagination of the world: Bernie seemed to embody the defiant “can-do” spirit of a generation that was fast disappearing. But of course, it wasn’t the whole story. It was the story we all tell ourselves to make war and old age bearable. The bitter-sweet script explores the reality with wit and a very big heart. Bernie’s adventure, spanning a mere 48 hours, also marked the culmination of his 60-year marriage to Irene (Glenda Jackson). The story celebrates their love without sentimentality and with an eye to the lessons we can all learn from the Greatest Generation.

“A moving and surprisingly nuanced drama offering far more than flag-waving nostalgia. Superb performances from Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson.”

Thursday 22nd February

Callington Town Hall Council Chamber Doors open at 7.15pm for membership registration

Members’ entrance: Adults: £4 U18s: £3

Start time: 7.30pm (Doors open at 7.15pm)



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Pilates Classes



Fridays 10-11am

Stoke Climsland Parish Hall

Contact Jayne : 07838 842943

Movementmedicineuk25@gmail.com

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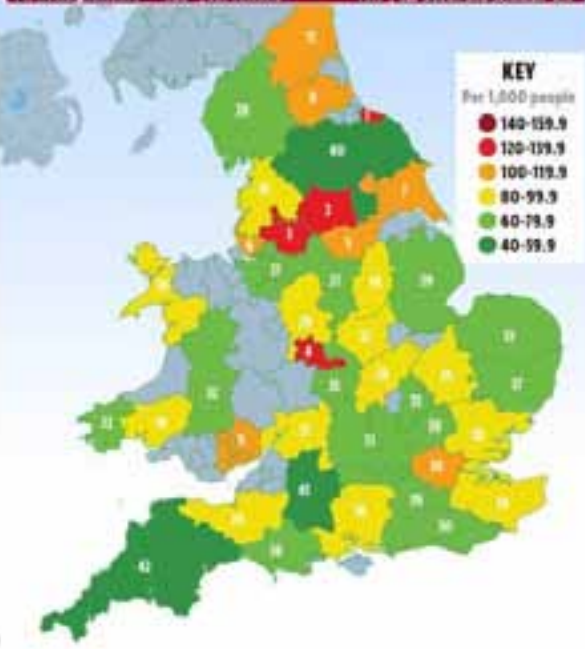
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SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF

Brought to you by Geoff Giles

WHERE IS THE MOST DANGEROUS PLACE TO LIVE?

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2. West Yorkshire 113.3	16. Hampshire 87.3	30. Surrey 75.4
3. Greater Manchester 106.9	13. Gloucestershire 87.1	31. Thames Valley 75.3
4. West Midlands 101.6	18. Essex 86.9	32. West Meria 71.7
5. South Yorkshire 100.9	19. Dyfed-Powys 85.3	33. Norfolk 70.9
6. Merseyside 100.2	22. Staffordshire 84.4	34. Bedfordshire 70.7
7. Humberside 101.3	21. Derbyshire 83.8	35. Warwickshire 68.4
8. Durham 104.1	23. South Wales 83.2	36. Dorset 65.7
9. Swent 102.4	21. Lancashire 82.9	37. Suffolk 65
10. Metropolitan Police 105.6	24. Avon and Somerset 81.4	38. Northumbria 63.9
11. Northumbria 100.9	25. Cambridgeshire 80.3	39. Surrey 60.6
12. Leicestershire 84.4	26. Northamptonshire 80.3	40. North Yorkshire 58.4
13. Kent 93.2	27. Oxfordshire 78.9	41. Wiltshire 58.3
14. Northhamshire 83.3	18. Greater 76.9	42. Devon and Cornwall 57.7



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Three generations of the Williams family enjoying 'The Swings' at Luckett during Christmas. This is the 4th generation to have played here, and Andrew was chair of the group who refurbished the play area ready to pass to the Parish Council for future care.

