

THE OLD SCHOOL NEWS



Issue 228
Dec/Jan 2021/22



FROM THE EDITOR

Hi everyone

Well Christmas is upon us once again. We hope you will enjoy our seasonal issue and that you will support all the local businesses who are now advertising with us and so helping keep the Old School News afloat. I love all the photos we have received from November which help make a bright and cheerful edition.

Please remember that I am open receiving articles, photos or suggestions with items on how to improve the Old School News. Anyone skilled in the creation of crosswords, sudoku, and the like then please come forward though we need puzzles in a format ready to go

Anyone who would like to have a copy of the Old School News emailed directly please let Derrick Parsons know on derrick.parsons@btinternet.com

Hilary and I wish you all a **Happy and Healthy Christmas and New Year.**

Gill Hiscott (gillhiscott@hotmail.com)

Gill Hiscott

COMING UP AT THE OLD SCHOOL

Sorry folks, our very popular Jazz event on December 10th is now fully booked, waiting list only I'm afraid.

Book your tickets now for the Christmas Party with The Line Up on December 18th. Includes hot spicy drink and pasties in hand to eat as you dance! Veggie, meat and gluten free. Tell us your preference when you book. Telephone 01579 370493 - Book soon as numbers are limited.

Our Winter Walk (Really Loud Mammals) will be on 30th January 10 a.m. at the Old School to start with a hot drink, 10.30 for the walk. Local naturalists will introduce you to how to spot the signs of wildlife, especially on a beautiful crisp midwinter day! And there will be a small display in the Old School. Warming drinks and snacks before or after. For more information telephone 01579 370493 or 370411.

Looking into February from 12th - 20th Costumes exhibition from past to present and all places - If you have a special interest in the techniques used please sign up to help or just come along. Meanwhile, we are looking for contributions. So if you have a Christening robe, minors felt hat, grandad's top hat and waistcoat or great grannies lacy bonnet or ball gown in your attic please bring them in. Bring in something from the current fashion trend too. Shall we have a fashion show?

Please phone the Old School on 01579 370493 or Caroline on 01579 370411.

Caroline Vulliamy



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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STOKE CLIMSLAND POST OFFICE & STORES

We are now taking orders for all your Christmas needs

- Fresh meat, poultry, fruit & vegetable
- Orders made up ready for collection
- Wide range of Cornish Produce
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- Christmas cards & Wrapping paper
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David, Sue & the Team would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas.
Thank you for your continued support
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We would like to wish all our customers
A Merry Christmas
And a Happy New Year

PARISH HALL DIARY DECEMBER 2021/ JANUARY 2022			
Regular Events:			
Monday	7 pm	1st week only	GARDENING CLUB
	7.30 pm	3rd week only	PARISH COUNCIL
	6 - 7 pm	Weekly	ADULT BALLET
Tuesday	9 am - noon	Weekly	POP-UP CAFÉ
	1:15 - 2:15 pm	Weekly	LATINO DANCE
	7 pm	2nd week only	W.I.
	7 pm	Weekly except 2nd week	BOWLS
Wednesday	2 - 8.30 pm	Weekly	SJS DANCE ACADEMY
Thursday	9 - 11 am	Weekly	KEEP ACTIVE
	4 - 7.30 pm	Weekly	SJS DANCE ACADEMY
	8 - 10 pm	Weekly	CALLINGTON GOSPEL CHOIR
Friday	7 - 10.30 pm	Weekly	BRIDGE

PLEASE NOTE: Some events are subject to change during the seasonal period, please check with individual events if unsure.

Together with:			
Dec 11	10 - 3 pm	PRIVATE HIRE	
Dec 18	11 - 6 pm	PRIVATE HIRE	
Dec 19	9 - 6:30 pm	PRIVATE HIRE	
Dec 20	1am - 7 pm	PRIVATE HIRE	
Dec 22	12 - 5 pm	PRIVATE HIRE	
Dec 22	5:30 - 11 pm	PRIVATE HIRE	
Dec 23	8 am - 7 pm	PRIVATE HIRE	

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

METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES			
Dec 5	11 am	Revd David Moss, Holy Communion	
Dec 12	11 am	John Ware	
Dec 19	11 am	Local Arrangement Carol Service	
Dec 26	11 am	NO SERVICE	
Jan 2	10:30	Circuit Covenant Service in Callington Methodist Church	
Jan 9	11 am	Revd David Moss	
Jan 16	11 am	Mark Pellow	
Jan 23	11 am	Grace Stewart	
Jan 30	11 am	Revd David Moss Holy Communion	

OLD SCHOOL 200 CLUB WINNERS			
Sept 3	H Jones	Oct 1	P Bullimore
Sept 10	C Kidman	Oct 8	A Evans
Sept 17	C Vulliamy	Oct 15	C Kidman
Sept 24	A Evans	Oct 22	T Wilson
		Oct 29	P Bullimore

News, diary and other information should be sent directly to Gill Hiscott at gillhiscott@hotmail.com

PARISH CHURCH SERVICES December 2021/ January 2022		
Dec 5	10 am	Morning Worship led by Alan Bruce
Dec 12	8 am	Holy Communion led by Rev Joe Lannon
	10 am	All age Worship led by Dominic Nelson
Dec 19	10 am	Holy Communion led by Joe Lannon
Dec 20	6:30 pm	Carols by Candlelight
Dec 24	4:30 pm	Messy Christingle
	11 pm	Christmas Eve Midnight Communion
Dec 25	10:30 am	Christmas Family Service led by Ryan Hill and Jane Coumbe
Dec 26	No Services at Stoke Parish Church	
Jan 2	10 am	Morning Prayer led by Alan Bruce
Jan 9	8 am	Holy Communion led by Joe Lannon
	10 am	All Age Worship led by Dominic Nelson
Jan 16	10 am	Holy Communion led by Joe Lannon
Jan 23	8 am	BCP Morning Prayer led by Dominic Nelson
	10 am	Family Service led by Ryan Hill and Jane Coumbe
Jan 30	Cluster Service details and venue to be announced	

DECEMBER 2021/ JANUARY 2021 OLD SCHOOL DIARY

Weekly Events:		
Mondays	9 am	ACUPUNCTURE (by appt)
	9 am onwards	PILATES
	7:30 pm	SCOTTISH DANCING
Tuesdays	10 am - 1 pm	RAGS ART GROUP
Wednesday	10 am	CROSS BOARDER ARTS
Thursdays	8 am - 6 pm	OSTEOPATH (by appt)
	11 am	KEEP FIT
Fridays	9.30 am	FRIDAY MUSIC GROUP
	12 noon	FRIDAY LUNCH (all welcome)

Together with:		
Dec 2	9 am	CHIROPODY (by appt.)
	2 pm	AFTERNOON TEA (all welcome)
Dec 5	1 pm	AMY WHEELER, MAIN HALL
Dec 3	7 pm	FILM CLUB
Dec 10	1 pm - 5pm	MESSY CHURCH
	7.30 pm	CHRISTMAS PARTY JAZZ
Dec 11 - 18		ART EXHIBITION
Dec 17	12 noon	CHISTMAS LUNCH
		OLD SCHOOL AGM
Dec 18	7.30pm	CHRISTMAS PARTY WITH THE LINE UP (with supper)

Dec 31 - 4 Jan CLOSED		
Jan 5	2 pm	CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON TEA (Booking essential)
Jan 11	2pm - 4pm	LOOK GROUP
Jan 20	7 pm	INVESTMENT CLUB
Dec 4	10 am - noon	CHRISTMAS MARKET
	3pm to 5pm	MESSY CHURCH



THE SWORD IN THE SCONE SCATS PANTOMIME 2022



Once again, your SCATS Writing Team have been busy putting together the 2022 Pantomime extravaganza for the entertainment of Stoke Climsland Parish and beyond!

Our next production, The Sword in the Scone, is an exciting take on the famous Arthurian legend, with Knights, and jousting, an evil witch, and jousting, Merlin the Wizard, and ... more jousting! And that's to name but a few of the many characters you will encounter along the way during your journey through our story!

You can expect the unexpected with SCATS' unusual twists and turns, as this tale of good and evil and love and loss unfolds.

Who will win the Cornish Crown? Will the witch Bodmina's evil plans succeed? Will the Sword be released from the Scone? Will Merlin save the day ... or not?

Come along to the Stoke Climsland Parish Hall to find out the answers to these questions and many more in a mixture of music, mischief, and mayhem! Performances on the following dates in February and March 2022:

Fridays 25th February and 4th March @ 7pm

Saturdays 26th February and 5th March @ 2pm and 7pm

Put a date in your diary! More details on tickets will be published nearer the time.

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Join us for Messy Christingle Callington Methodist Church

Sunday 5th December from 3.30 pm - 5.45 pm.
Games, creativity, challenges, story
and food for all ages.

Children please bring a well behaved adult with you! To help with catering please let us know if you will be coming - phone 01579 388840, via our Messy Church in Callington Facebook page or ljames434@btinternet.com

Thanks very much.

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DISTRIBUTION OF THIS NEWS SHEET

We are printing enough copies to deliver one per household before 1st December. We want to thank those people who have come forward at short notice to do the delivery for us. We hope that we will have a full and regular delivery service in 2022, always providing we get enough advertising income to enable us to print copies. You can also get an electronic copy online at www.theoldschoolnews.co.uk and on The Old School Facebook page. Printed copies will be placed at selected sites in the parish. If you are able to take additional copies and make them available in your area please contact Caroline Vulliamy on 01579 370411 and she will get copies to you.

Beals Mill phone box	Luckett phone box
Bray Shop notice board	Luckett lower notice board
Downgate Bus Shelter	Venterdon notice board
Higherland phone box	Stoke Climsland shop
Horsebridge pub	The Old School
Kelly Bray Post Office	Tutwell
Higher Downgate - Mary's barn	

'The Hobbit - The Shire Awakens'

Look out! Tolkien's Middle Earth is coming to Stoke Climsland! In July 2022 Bilbo Baggins, Gandalf, the dwarves with hoards of goblins, spiders, wolves and of course a dragon, will be rampaging over the village green.

Once upon a time, before the time of the great pandemic, I discussed with Ben Towe, Headteacher at Stoke Climsland Primary School, the idea of adapting 'The Hobbit' as a whole school, musical theatre production for an end of year celebration in 2021. Lockdown put paid to that but we are determined to go ahead in 2022.

The play will tell the wonderful story of 'The Hobbit' as an ecological parable for our times. During lockdown the idea emerged of engaging the wider community so we would have a mixed ensemble of actors, musicians, 'makers' and volunteers of all ages. Local arts groups, e.g. SCATS, the Parish church and others responded very enthusiastically to the idea and have been extraordinarily generous in offering time, resources and support.

Meanwhile the dark clouds of climate change continued to gather. The parish declared a climate emergency and set a target of 2030 for the parish to become carbon neutral. We reflected on this and made connections. Tolkien's Middle Earth has been described as a metaphor for sustainability and Bilbo Baggins a model of how the ordinary 'little' person can make a difference. Following further conversations with the two parish climate change groups and others, the idea of a more ambitious project emerged.

There will be a performance of 'The Hobbit' in a marquee on the village green on Wednesday 13th, Thursday 14th and Friday 15th July, with a climate change fair, 'The Shire Awakens,' on Saturday 16th July. After the isolation of lockdown, the whole project will be a joyful celebration of resilience, the road to recovery and renewal.

This is an ambitious journey and we have been delighted by the warm responses from organisations, groups and individuals across the parish. To achieve our aims we will need participants and helpers in all aspects of the project from performers, stage managers to people helping with fund raising and car parking! We would also welcome your ideas, we have already had some brilliant ones, e.g. the parish church offering to work with the school to build a 'hobbit hole' in the church grounds, the Old School offering post performance, Middle Earth' suppers and others. Please join us in the adventure!

We want to give children, and others in the parish, a rich, creative experience they will remember for a very long time. If you feel you would like to be involved in any way do please get in touch with me directly on: indracongress@hotmail.co.uk

Bilbo Baggins needs you!

I look forward to hearing from you.

David Oddie



Stoke Climsland Gardening Club

(November 2021 meeting)

This month's meeting was a talk by Martin Pope of Plympton, titled "Am I a Plantaholic?" ... and I think the answer is YES !

His interests in flowers began as a lad many years ago, cross-pollinating Regal Pelargoniums. Several of his new varieties are held at the national collection at Rosemoor and are named after family members, including the budgie! Plants can be bought at Fibrex Nursery.

He then showed photos of many other flowers and shrubs taken in his garden. A true plantaholic.

Our Club meetings are held on the first Monday of the month, 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall. We start with a brief Business Meeting followed by a talk from an invited speaker. In summer months we arrange visits to places of interest. Visitors are welcome to our meetings. The next is on the 6th December, Wayne Marshall will speaking about "St Luke's" and gardens.



Mike Casebow

Beavers have been on a sleepover !

For many of our youngest scouts this was their first ever night away from home. What a night we had.

After creating some remembrance crosses to place at the wall memorial we got straight on to our theme of **CHRISTMAS**.

With festive music, Christmas jumpers, full Christmas Dinner with all the trimmings and crackers, we were all in a Christmas spirit. Craft making including Robin baulbals, festive lanterns and natural wreaths. Singing, dancing, Christmas games, puddings and an awesome campfire where we tried to sing loud enough for the villagers to hear from the comfort of their own homes. We returned to the old school for a rest.

As we were beginning to get tired we had a surprise visit.



WE SEEN SANTA!

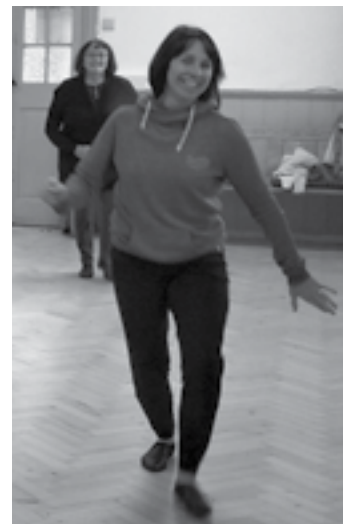
Yes Santa stopped in spreading more Christmas cheer. Reading us a Christmas story and offering noisy gifts to keep the leaders awake. We had lots of questions for Santa to answer in a short space of time. The Christmas fun continued into the night and the rest of the weekend.

LATINO DANCERS STRUT THEIR STUFF

THANK YOU SO MUCH JO

All the dancers who attend your wonderful Latino classes at Stoke Climsland Parish Hall, Callington Town Hall and Callington Methodist Church, thank you for all the hard work you have put in throughout this difficult year. Keeping us all in touch with one another through Messenger and WhatsApp, the videos you produced were excellent and enabled some of us to keep on top of the dancing throughout lockdown, above and beyond, I call that.

The Latino dance group is such good fun, the best way to keep fit ever, it is a bit daunting at first but stick with it and you will amaze yourself as to how quickly you start feeling confident in your ability. How could it not be fun with dances like, Cha Cha Cha, Jive, Charleston, Rumba, Tango and music like Candy Man, Despacito, Mambo No 5, Drunk, Lavedo Loca and Moves like Jagger to name but a few.



Jo is always smiling

Stoke Climsland Parish Hall
Tuesdays 1:30 to 2:30 pm
Callington beginners
Methodist Church Hall
Thursdays 10:00 to 11:00 am

STOKE CLIMSLAND COMMUNITY PROJECT Ltd. AGM 2020-21, on 18th November 2021

Covid meant very many people staying at home and not being able to socialise for what felt like months on end! So it was wonderful for us all when first the Village Market and gradually other activities here began to have lift-off! The Old School News became a fortnightly update - Thank you John, Deri and all of you!

Throughout the pandemic Edah Joll our manageress kept communications going with phone calls and cakes to many of her regular Wednesday Tea, Friday Lunch and friends - Thank you Edah ! And for catering for sad, small wakes in the community in beautiful style.

As it became possible, events moved outside, grew a bit larger, and we found that we really enjoy the market being out of doors in the Old School playground, even if it's a bit rainy sometimes! Well done everyone, especially Val and Clive Kidman! A garden-themed table-top sale was great fun too.

Apple pressing in September went ahead as usual, and hundreds of litres were pasteurised on the spot.

Friday Lunches began again by degrees to everyone's delight and, like the Art Groups (now 4 of them), a great opportunity to meet up with friends and just relax !

A talk and discussion on Prehistoric Art by the Tate Art Look group showed that we can sit comfortably in groups around low tables "bistro-style" within the carefully controlled number limits for indoor spaces and other precautions which the Trustees have risk assessed constantly throughout - Thank you to Pen!

An original production of "Canterbury Tales" by the talented David Myne was set up in the same way and worked brilliantly!

Brilliant too was the Thank you Tea organised by Brigitte Cox to honour Neil Burden who has looked after us all so well as Councillor for almost 50 years ! Thanks both. We had a Midsummer Opening Day kindly opened by Neil, when at the suggestion of the Tate Art Look group, all Old School user groups were invited to be represented. They filled the Old School with displays and stands, and the toddler's music group was in full swing in the Library! There were 39 groups represented - or was it more? Thank you all!

Since then the Parish Archive and its Volunteers have put on another walk-through display of local family trees, and more are in the pipeline.

We are now into our Autumn Program: An Art Exhibition was mounted by RAGS and Cross-Border Art groups started. Then a Jazz evening with food and wine with another to come.

On to December - And a new thing for us - The Line-Up, who've been practicing here for years, are giving us an evening of more recent music to get up and dance to.

New this year too - Duke of Edinburgh Award student Ivy Tomlinson has joined us for community work with Edah and for her Project work with the Parish Archive this season.

Thank you to Tamsin Joll and John Wilmut for creating our two super new web sites for the Old School Newsletter and for The Old School Community Centre.

Thanks to all of our friends and Volunteers for coming along and for sticking firmly to rules.

And now not least to our new Newsletter team of Gill Hiscott and Hilary Scott.

Looking forward to seeing you at all your favourite activities here - and a Happy New Year!

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Coming Up at the CAVE



“NOMADLAND”

Nomadland is a 2020 American drama film written for the screen, produced, edited and directed by Chloé Zhao. Based on the 2017 non-fiction book *Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty-First Century* by Jessica Bruder, the film stars Frances McDormand (who is also a producer on the film) as a van-dwelling working nomad who leaves her home after her husband dies and the sole industry in her town closes down, to be “houseless” and travel around the United States. A number of real-life nomads appear as fictionalized versions of themselves, *Nomadland* premiered on September 11, 2020, at the Venice Film Festival, where it won the Golden Lion. It also won the People’s Choice Award at the Toronto International Film Festival.

The film was a box office success, grossing \$39 million worldwide against its \$5 million budget and received widespread critical acclaim for its direction, editing, screenplay and cinematography, as well as McDormand’s performance.

At the 93rd Academy Awards, it won Best Picture, Best Director, and Best Actress for McDormand from a total of six nominations; Zhao became the first Asian woman and only the second woman ever to win Best Director, while McDormand became the first woman and fourth person ever to win Academy Awards for both acting and producing, as well as becoming the first person ever to win Academy Awards as both producer and performer for the same film. It also won Best Motion Picture - Drama and Best Director at the 78th Golden Globe Awards, and four awards including Best Film at the 74th British Academy Film Awards.

Thursday 27th January
7:30pm
Callington Town Hall



“A CHRISTMAS CAROL” Joy to all mankind... Bah!

Spend an afternoon in the company of a mean, tight-fisted, squeezing, grasping, clutching old miser. Bah!

Watch horrified as Ebenezer Scrooge is haunted by four creepy ghosts (wooo-oooh) each one more terrifying than the last. Bah!

Sob at the bedside of a tiny, malnourished child riven with rickets. Bah!

Celebrate the festive season with a mesmerising one-man performance of Charles Dickens’ timeless, transformative story: *A CHRISTMAS CAROL*. Bah! Bah!



Sunday 5th December
4:00pm
Callington Town Hall

Reel your way through the January Blues

Scottish Country Dancing
at
The Old School
Tuesdays 7:30pm

Now I’m not saying we are brilliant but we do have a good sense of humour, just as well! New members are always welcome to come along and join in the general chaos, fun, laughter, a nice cup of tea and biscuit.



The last date for 2021 is December 20th which is going to be our Ceilidh, wear a bit of tartan bring along some nibbles, something to drink and those dancing feet. All are welcome, past, present, new and those who just want to see what we get up to.

The first date for 2022 is January 10th, beat those winter blues and come along.



IRISH BOILED FRUIT CAKE

Quite some years ago now, I helped compile the Stoke Climsland Church Recipe Book with Penny who ran the Post Office with her husband Mike at the time. Some may still remember it and even produced a recipe for it. The proceeds went towards the restoration of the church bell tower. Whilst moving a book shelf I came across this little book and having a flick through I thought this interesting recipe could be a good alternative to using a traditional Christmas cake recipe. See what you think!

I’m very sorry I don’t know who provided the recipe in the first place.
Hilary Scott

Ingredients:

1 cup	Sugar	1 cup	Butter
1 cup	Mixed dried fruit	1 cup	Water
4	Large eggs	1 tsp	Brown sugar
1 tsp	Baking soda	50g	Walnuts
1 tsp	Salt	1 bottle	whisky
	lemon juice		(wine may be substituted)

Method:

Place dried fruit, water and half cup sugar in small saucepan. Boil for 15 mins. Pour whisky into shot glass, sample to check quality. Get large mixing bowl. Check whisky again, just in case. Pour level cup and drink. Repeat previous step. Turn on electric mixer and beat butter in large fluffy bowl. Add a spoontea of baking soda, half a cup of sugar and beat again, Resample whisky to make sure it’s still whisky. Turn off the mixer, break two legs and add to bowl. Chuck in fried fruit. Mix on the turner, If fruit gets stuck in pry lose with drewsciver. Sample whisky to check tonsistency. Next sift the lemon juice and strain your nuts. Add one babble spoon of brown sugar, or which ever colour you can find. Grease the oven turn pan cake to 350 gredeedles. Don’t forget to beat off the turner. Pour mix into cake pan and over bench. Throw bowl out of the window. Stagger to laundry, put pan cake in oven, set to hot rinse. Continne sampling whisky till bottle is empty. Bo to ged.

If you supplied this recipe or know who did,
please let me know. aitchscott@gmail.com



Do you have a trusted Recipe you would like to share?

We thought a recipe column would be fun, so people in the parish can share their delicious favourites. Please send your ideas to: gillhiscott@talktalk.net

ART EXHIBITION OPEN UNTILL 8th DECEMBER



The exhibition was put up by two of the art groups that meet at The Old School - Cross Border Arts who meet every Wednesday for the whole day and the Rezare Art Group who call themselves RAGS and meet at The Old School on Tuesday mornings. The paintings done by the 8 people in the Cross Border Arts group are exhibited in the main hall and the 4 artists which make up RAGS are exhibited in the adjoining AH room.

All the paintings have a name and the artist’s name, on a tag, together with a price or NFS note. There is a notice on the wall giving the details of the group and two contact phone numbers and email address if anyone is interested in buying or discussing the work. The exhibition will not be specifically manned but available whenever The Old School is open.

We will be taking the exhibition down
on the 8th December.





AN HONOUR FOR TONY

I was leafing through the Cornwall Wildlife Trust's quarterly magazine the other day when a photograph caught my eye. It's the picture shown here of Tony Atkinson half way up a ladder. (taken by Rowena Millar - my thanks to her for permission to use it here) and that Tony was half way up to inspect a bat box (or maybe it was half way down).

Attached to the item was the news that Tony had been awarded the prestigious Pete Guest award from the Bat Conservation Trust, acknowledging his contribution, over more than 60 years, to the conservation of bats in Cornwall. The Cornwall Wildlife Trust was

congratulating him on the award and I thought that we should all join with those congratulations with a short article.

But I then went to the Bat Conservation Trust website and found out a bit more about this award. It is given in memory of Pete Guest who was an inspirational figure in the bat conservation movement for more than 20 years. Each year, those in the bat world are invited to nominate individuals from across the UK who have made an outstanding practical contribution to bat conservation; Tony is the 20th winner. I found that I could access the nomination statements for the award candidates (you can access these from <https://www.bats.org.uk/our-work/awards/pete-guest-award>).

I previously knew that Tony had worked with people in the area around Buckfastleigh in Devon where I have been involved with a cave studies centre since the mid-1960s. Bats roost in the caves there and I knew that much of the early work on greater and lesser horseshoe bats had been done there. What I didn't know was that Tony had worked there as early as the 1950s with John Hooper who, starting just after the last war, conducted a programme of bat recording and ringing that went on into the 1970s and 80s.

Much of what we knew about bats in that period came from John Hooper's work which involved a team of local people, though John himself lived in Staines and was often seen cycling around the streets of west London in search of bats. In the library at the cave studies centre we hold a substantial record of John's work including his diaries, some bat records, a large collection of his photographs of bats and some early video recordings.

I was also pleased to see that the nomination statement for Tony's award included a paragraph about Mary's contribution to conservation. She, of course, has written a column for The Old School News for many years and I have often admired the depth of her knowledge of the natural world as I compiled her pieces.

We should rightly be delighted that Mary and Tony are part of Stoke Climsland parish.

John Wilmut

Ten Little Known Christmas Facts

1. It's technically illegal to eat mince pies on Christmas Day in England. In the 17th C, Oliver Cromwell banned Xmas pudding and mince pies. The law has never been rescinded
2. It is a traditional to eat KFC in Japan at Christmas.
3. You can eat your Christmas Tree, it is rich in Vitamin C!
4. Boxing Day gets its name from the money collected in alms-boxes for the poor.
5. We give gifts at Christmas as a symbol of the wise men's gifts to Jesus
6. The Germans made the first artificial Christmas trees from dyed goose feathers
7. When the Candy Cane was invented in Germany, it was made into a J for Jesus. The red stripes symbolize his blood.
8. "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" was originally a threat, Sung by rowdy servants demanding booze from their masters...("We won't go until we get some")
9. The abbreviation Xmas isn't irreligious. The letter X in Greek is for Christ
10. All the gifts in the Twelve Days of Christmas would equal 364 gifts



MIST & FRUITFULNESS

An idyllic visit to Halton Quay this morning, when we were lured out by the sun and the promise of a pudding's worth of late bullace berries. We were lucky. There were still enough for a couple of puddings though they were almost squishy-ripe. Perhaps they won't need such lashings of sugar.



The Old Man's Beard there, draping the bushes alongside the lane, was especially showy. I was particularly aware of it for miles going up to my daughter Kim's, and also when we were there in North Wales in October. Passing in the car it looks like silvery shawls flung over the trees. Up close it's a less romantic almost dirty grey! The yellowish green seeds which ripen to a dark brown, are attached to a spherical base and each seed tails off to an inch-long wiry thread with silky whiskers. Each curls downwards, the whiskers entangling with those next to it in the whole clump. Unlike willow or poplar or even rosebay willowherb, which when the seeds are ripe, disengage and blow through the air like a mist, these old men's beards seem resolutely to stay on the chin, but they are gone by the spring....

The air was absolutely still and the early valley mist had lifted. The only movement was the in-coming tide steadily moving a scatter of dead leaves upstream on the muddy flow, imperceptibly creeping up the sculptured folds and gullies of unctuous mud. A common sandpiper shone bright white underparts as it bobbed and paced on the gleaming mud beyond a grassy spit running down from the river's fringe of reeds. Beyond, a few Mallards dozed at the water's edge and further again a little egret, standing motionless above the mirror image of its reflection. The glassy river towards the further bend was a double view of mud, reeds, dark woodland and a dramatic backdrop of a bank of building cumulus, all the right way up, above the upside-down image on the water-mirror.

A buzzard was circling languorously over the river. A crow appeared and mobbed it rather half-heartedly for a while. After all, at this time of the year, with neither territory nor family to tend and protect, what was there, really, to fall out about? Then a ragged party of twenty or thirty jackdaws clattered over and headed for the buzzard. The crow had done his bit for the Corvid race and cleared off. The jackdaws circled the circling hawk which now and then made a slight turn or little side-slip, just to remind the mob of yob-bos who was really the master of the show. It gradually circled higher and higher, but didn't allow the jackies to drive it off its chosen surveillance spot.



Lunchtime was calling so we left, and didn't see how the performance ended.

Pictures: Top: Old Mans Beard; Middle: Common Sandpiper.
Bottom: Looking Upstream at Halton Quay
Trip to: Halton Quay, Photos by Mar Atkinson



Friday December 3rd

Ammonite Staring: Kate Winslet and Saoirse Ronan. A romantic rama loosely inspired by the life of Mary Anning, the acclaimed fossil hunter from Lyme Regis

Friday January 14th

The Father Staring Anthony Hopkins and Olivia Coleman. A psychological drama following an ageing man who must deal with his progressing dementia. Hopkins won an Oscar and a BAFTA for his performance.

(doors open at 7 pm, film at 7-30)

Our Covid-19 precautions mean that seating will be spaced out, restricting numbers. If you intend to come you should call the office at

The Old School in advance to book a seat.

The Old School Office (01579 370493)

NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME



'Callington Toddler In'

For babies, toddlers & their parents, grandparents, carers

CALLINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

*Each Thursday 9.30 - 11.30 am
Toys, creativity, healthy snack, tea & coffee. Parking behind the Church. 01579 388840 or visit our Facebook page*



‘Talking Turkey!’

Q - Why do we only eat Turkey at Christmas?



An essential of the festive meal is of course the roasted turkey. With over 10 million birds consumed each Xmas in the UK, Turkey remains the 1st choice for over 75% of the population. However the Turkey has only been the main meat since the 1950's, prior to the 2nd World War it was Pheasant, Peacock or Swan being the bird of choice in many a home. Turkey's popularity of course remains greatest in North America, where its wild cousin origins, believed first brought to Europe by the Spanish Conquistadors in the 15th century and traded around the Mediterranean, including key ports in Turkey from whom it is named by association. More latterly our own 'Pilgrim Fathers' also discovered this ready meat source and continue to celebrate 'Thanksgiving Day' nearly some 400 years later.

In terms of its production from UK farms the mix of specialist large scale poultry units supplying the frozen market and the traditional farm down the road raising a small clutch of birds fresh for the festive table has widened over the years as convenience, cost and personal choice has overtaken & somewhat diminished its taste & flavour of this special family meal.

Earlier media alarm of Turkey shortages come the 25th may have fuelled a rush to fill the freezer, but in reality the commitment by Poultry Farmers to the rearing & fattening of our favourite bird started way back in June or earlier for the larger Heritage Bronze. Contrast this with a standard Supermarket Chicken which has a far shorter life of just 42 days and we can appreciate the true cost & dedication of our Turkey farmers each season.

So here's to Christmas Food & Drink, all carefully produced by generations of farmers & growers both here on our home soil and from around the World - all for your essential nutrition, satisfaction & enjoyment. Merry Christmas from everyone 'Down on the Farm'!

Brian Howlett



Stoke Climsland Sports & Social Club

Follow us on Facebook
MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

We are open Wednesday to Saturday 8.00pm to 11pm. If you want to know more, come to the bar to find out. Alternatively you can telephone the secretary: Louise Power on 01759 370819 or email louisepoweraok@msn.com.

Well, we are reopening slowly and with all the windows and doors open.

Snooker has restarted and the team is asking for additional members. If you are interested please come to the club on a Wednesday and speak to someone.

The Stoke Climsland Darts Competition will start soon and people are coming into the club to practise hitting the dart board. Yes, it is that good!!

The well known and respected quiz evenings have started. We are only having 10 tables at present and these are booked by tickets from the club. To book a table you must pay your £5 per team and register on the form in the club. Don't just turn up on the night as you won't get a table, they will have already been booked! During the quiz there is table service.

We have also finally had our AGM, second time of asking and a year late. Still it was well attended and we have new people on the committee; it is now the largest it has been for a long time. Hopefully this will generate lots of new ideas for the club in the future. Can I remind all members that their payment is due at the end of December. There has been no change in the amount. If you have not paid by the end of January your membership will be deemed to have lapsed.

Here are the dates for the immediate future:-

Quiz on the 18th December at 8pm (see rules above).
Carols and Raffle on 19th December at 8pm.

Quiz on the 22 January at 8pm (see rules above)
Membership Night on 29th January at 8pm.
Quiz on the 19 February at 8pm (see rules above)

Luckett Social Club

With so much uncertainty in the world life goes on here in Luckett. Although in these cautious times day to day life is far from normal. In October to allow our Club members the chance to participate safely in this year's Annual General Meeting we decided to hold it on a zoom facility rather than the Clubhouse itself. 19 members took part on Friday 29th



although some had a few technical issues with sound and pictures. Anyway there was no change in the Officers or Committee members which remain the same as elected in October 2019.

Ian Salisbury - Chairman, Geoff Howlett - Hon. Secretary, Shelia Hobbs - Hon. Treasurer and Danny Hobbs - Vice Chairman.

With the possibility of catching and spreading the virus we have not organised any big events or put things on which would normally attract large numbers over the last 2 months. But wish to give the members the opportunity to come to the Club and socialize should they feel comfortable to do so.

A couple events planned for December include a Bingo night on Friday 10th and A Members Christmas Get Together on Saturday 18th. This will be an outdoor event by kind permission of Adrian & Deb Glassborow, instead of the usual Christmas Party. So dress up in plenty of warm clothing.

At the time of printing our January programme was not available.

For more information visit our facebook page [The-Luckett-Social-Club](https://www.facebook.com/The-Luckett-Social-Club)

Geoff Howlett (Honorary Secretary).



At our recent AGM we were privileged to have the local councillor Adrian Parsons present to award us a Cornwall Civic Award - the highest award that Cornwall council can present. The Scout Group was nominated by the award by Former Councillor Neil Burdon; where the panel was unanimous in its decision that we should be in receipt of the award for the amazing way in which the leadership team work together to provide Scouting activities for the community.

Eight new Beavers scouts have recently been invested into our colony. You may have seen the Beavers around the village as they have been working on their photography badge by having a photography treasure hunt and creating picture collages.

They have completed the County Beaver challenge walk by independently walking around the grounds of Lanhydrock House, exploring the grounds and achieving a badge in the process. They have also been brushing up on their cooking skills; making chocolate apples for Halloween. The Beaver Scouts have also had an amazing sleepover details of which can be seen in the report by the Old School.

The Scouts and Explorers have recently been camping at Downhouse; taking part in their annual Patrol Camp competition. The Weekend started with each Patrol being given their equipment on Friday night, they then have to erect their sleeping and cooking tents - all of which is heavy canvas. They are monitored by the Leaders and awarded points based on their teamwork and how well everything is put up and taken down again at the end. The camping completion was won by The Eagles Patrol this year, but it was extremely close with only a handful of points between them.

Over the weekend they need to cook all of their food on wood over an open fire. Not a mean feat given the fact that on the Saturday evening they need to take part in the cooking competition where they produce a three course meal. The food that was produced was incredible and could put some restaurants to shame; especially with the finishing touches like flowers on the table and waiters wearing waistcoats. The cooking competition was also won by the Eagles.

The highlight of the camp was the campfire on Saturday night. It was great to see the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers all together, sat around the fire; singing and having a great time. Hopefully we can do more of this soon!



What sort of Christmas are we going to have?

I am writing this in mid-November and wondering what sort of Christmas we're going to have this year. Remembering the difficult circumstances last year and seeing the current high rates of Covid in our area can only make us wonder whether things will be any better this time round. There is so much that we look forward to in this season - having an extended time off work, getting together with family and friends, observing cherished traditions - to name but a few. For some it offers the chance to jet off to warmer climes and escape the 'winter blues' for a while. It's difficult to try and work out which of these might be the most important. Holidays (bank or public), giving people statutory time off work, have always offered us the opportunity to gather together as families. If this was important in past times when individuals rarely lived or worked far from their place of origin, how much more important is it now, when we are so 'mobile', and can live and work far from the rest of our families - even in different countries or on different continents.

At the heart of the Christmas Story is the account of a fledgling family - a young couple, the woman expecting her first child - travelling to the town from which the man's family originated. Sadly there was no warm welcome awaiting them, no family reunion, and the only place they could find to stay was where the animals were kept. There it was that the child was born; an animal feeder was the nearest they could find to a cot in which to lay him down. How Mary must have wished that she could have stayed at home in Nazareth to give birth, with her mother beside her to help and encourage. How guilty Joseph must have felt at dragging his young wife all that way at the worst possible time. But matters were out of their hands - the occupying Romans had issued a decree that had to be obeyed. It wasn't Mary or Joseph's fault that the baby was born in those circumstances. It wasn't an auspicious beginning to what Christians believe was the most important life ever lived.

On the news yesterday, 14th November, was a piece about a refugee woman found in the forests on the border between Belarus and Poland. She had five children with her and was expecting another. She was suffering from hypothermia. It wasn't clear whether her husband was among the other people found with her. What start in life will the child she is carrying have? She must surely wonder how her circumstances had deteriorated to that point. I can only try and imagine what pressures had forced her and her children to set out on their journey - but I can believe that they probably weren't her fault. She is, of course, just one of thousands who are in similar desperate situations.

When the child, born in a 'stable' and laid in a manger, grew up he made this amazing statement:- "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10). The "they" he was referring to was his 'flock', those who followed his voice. Jesus wants all people to follow his voice and so enjoy the fullness of life that we were created to have - all of us made in 'the image of God'. So this Christmas, whether we are able to get together with our families or not, may we spare a thought for those families who are so much worse off than we are. And remember too the baby who's birth Christmas celebrates, born at what seemed a bad time, but who now takes the central place in human history. He came to give hope to us all. In him may you have a hope filled Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Keith Browne

How Stoke Climsland Parish Council Funds Its Work

Every household's Council Tax bill within the parish contributes a small element of its bill to Stoke Climsland Parish Council. This is called the PRECEPT.

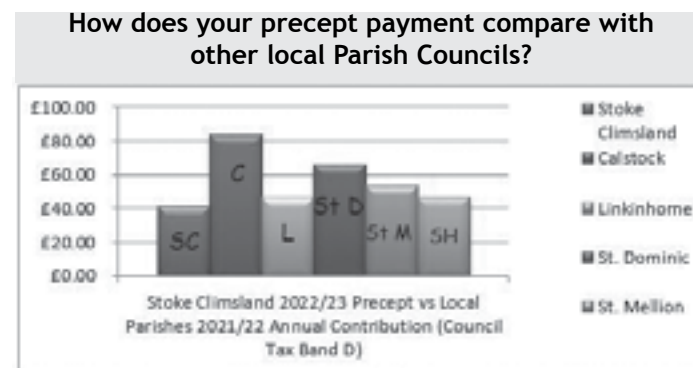
How will the Parish Council use this money going forward?

- Play areas: to maintain ROSPA standards a budgeted programme of works costing £60,000 over the next 5 years. Maintenance, replacement and renewal.
- Defibrillator maintenance and renewal
- Grass cutting: all tenders being reviewed for effectiveness and adequacy.
- Grit bins: replacement of damaged bins, installation of additional bins in new locations and keeping them filled with salt in harsh winters.
- Footpaths: ensuring footpaths remain accessible and usable.
- Grants towards local community projects

Why are we setting the precept at this level?

Traditionally, Stoke Climsland Parish Council's precept has been very low and, over recent years, Parish Council reserve funds have had to be used in order to maintain the level of works required within the parish.

For this reason, your precept is rising but will still be lower than most local parish councils, increasing by just 25p per week on a Band D council tax property.



JAZZ at
The Old School



REMINDER: it's jazz on the
10th December - there may
be some tickets left!

Programme 2022

Provisional bookings with old friends of jazz at The Old School have been made. These are:

Saturday 16th April 2022 - The Old Green River Band

The evenings will take the usual form, starting at 7-30 pm with a two-course dinner in the interval and a well-stocked bar.

FOR BOOKINGS contact The Old School Office (01579 370493) or the organiser Vivienne Davis (on 01579 383819 or 07798 751337) or visit: www.oldschoolstokeclimsland.co.uk/jazz

THE NEXT OLD SCHOOL MARKET IS ON DECEMBER 4th

Covid19 Guidelines will still be followed.

When visiting The Old School:

Please would you bring a face mask and wear it when moving around the building. We will be operating a one way system, starting at the main door through to the back as the exit door. A gazebo will be provided outside the main door and limited waiting available in the porch (social distancing will be in place)

The breakfast will be served from the kitchen door, and there will be Gazebo's and seating outside.

The market stalls will be inside and spread through the 3 rooms. The windows will be open for ventilation so please wrap up!

We will be having a maximum of 35 in the whole building at any one time.

STALLHOLDER LIST

Chris George - Wood Turner- 01579 370654
 Dale Wood - Honey - 01579 362458
 Derek Scofield - Fruit Juices - 01579 350594
 Di Nash - Gift Hand Knits - 01579 384155
 Ian MacDonald - Framing -01579 351221
 Jeremy Daw - Butcher - 01579 350410
 Karen Cooper - Cards - 01579 370536
 Linda Losty - Aprons, Masks etc. - 07494939086
 Michael Harford - Wood crafts - 01579 370663
 Neil Robyns - Pies, yogurts, etc. - 07831625159
 Sandra Jane - Leather products - 01579 370966
 Sue Cook - Plants & Glass Ornaments - 01579 383885
 Val Kidman - Preserves & Cakes - 01579 370297
 Tasha Biggs - Resin Gifts & Diamond Art - 01579 387077

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Stoke Climsland WI



In November Stoke Climsland WI held a Willow weaving evening. This involved using locally sourced Pempwell willow, kindly donated by Pauline Champness. It was a very enjoyable evening and there were lots of Christmas themed decorations made .

The next meeting will be the **Christmas Social evening on December 14th**.

Dates for your Diary: 2022

11 th January	The History of Callington through photographs	Terry Gimblett
8 th February	Kayaking in the South West	Rupert Kirkwood

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday
Stoke Climsland Parish Hall at 7.30pm
New members are always welcome.
Visitors £3.50 including tea and cake



REMEMBRANCE.....

In matching bright turquoise jumpers the beavers waited at the crossroads to join the procession from the Scout hut. Yellow flags held high, first came the cubs, then the scouts, followed by the adventure students from the Duchy College to take up position around the war memorial. We all gathered around, the troops, the parents, grandparents and others just wanting to pay their respects to the soldiers who lost their lives to protect the nation. On that peaceful Sunday morning the young people laid poppy wreaths. The names of those who had died from the village was read and then a bugle started up with The Last Post, the church clock struck 11 and so started the official two minute silence. The bugle sounded again to signify the end. Beavers first, the troops filed back along the road to the scout hut.

Missed by those who remember him as a prominent presence at this event was Fred Wood who sadly died in October last year. Gill Hiscott



From Front: Rachel, Jasmine, Tallan, Jack, Otto, Aggie, Arlo

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