

The Granite Towers

A Community Magazine for
Lanlivery and Luxulyan



June & July 2020

EDITORIAL



How are all of you, I wonder? I hope you have been keeping safe and well during this time of pandemic and lockdown, and that you have been as fortunate as I have, with family, neighbours and friends all phoning, emailing and delivering supplies (at safe distances). I have been greatly touched by people's kindness and feel lucky to live in the wonderful community of which our two parishes are composed. I know that the amazing 'Village Shop and Post Office' in Luxulyan has been a lifeline to so many, including people from Lanlivery, and you can read their saga on page 9. The pop-up shop and Dustow's farm shop have also proved vital for supplies, and a great boon, as has Lanlivery's Crown Inn, selling delicious homemade frozen meals, and The King's Arms, with their extremely popular fresh fish and chips on a Friday. We are all incredibly grateful to all our local shops and suppliers who stayed open and also been making deliveries.

Anyone who is a member of the congregation of our churches has been able to stay connected via live-streamed services, also available online if missed in real time, thanks to our vicars, who have battled so valiantly with the technology. Even this magazine has not escaped virtual reality, the committee having met via Zoom. I must admit it was all quite thrilling, because initially, I thought it would be incredibly difficult and complicated. It was fun being hauled into this new world of seeing each other on screens, and feeling we were defying distance – which we were! .

And all this while spring has been quietly budding and blooming around us in glorious sunshine. The swallows have returned, bringing great joy; they remind us how exhilarating it is to be free – something we are all yearning for after our confinement. And I wonder how everyone has been spending this time – as a rare opportunity to spend quality time with family, to catch up on reading, music, hobbies, make masks and scrubs for health and care workers and of course DIY and gardening, amongst many others? Many are trying to home-school children too, many while simultaneously working from home! Amongst many things, I have been reading stories over the telephone to my granddaughters in the day and often at bedtime, and enjoying the deeper peace brought about by the drop in air and road traffic.

This has benefitted the environment too, by lowering pollution. People are reporting that they are experiencing nature more vividly. Let's hope we learn many valuable lessons from this pandemic experience and emerge with greater awareness of health and social needs, indeed, into a more humane world.

This year has seen celebrations of many important anniversaries: the bicentenary of the birth of Florence Nightingale, the 250th anniversary of William Wordsworth's birth, the 150th of the death of Charles Dickens and the 75th anniversary recently celebrated, of VE Day, to mention a few. However, we had our own amazing anniversary closer to home – the 100th birthday in April of Luxulyan resident Verna Higman – so we are proud and delighted to say to her, "Congratulations and Happy 100th Birthday".

Sadly, because of COVID19 we were unable to deliver this magazine by hand, so it went online. The committee and I would like to thank our excellent compiler Robin Burley for his technical prowess in achieving this. Some people have kindly printed off copies for those without computers. You can access it on the Lanlivery Parish Council website, or the Lanlivery Parish Church website – there is a link to that from the St. Brevita Facebook page. This edition will also have to go online in view of the health risks of distribution by hand, while we try to ascertain future distribution. We would welcome your opinions.

Meanwhile, look after yourselves and each other
With every good wish

Verna



Luxulyan Parish Council would like to commend all key workers and volunteers during the Covid-19 crisis.

They are bravely and unselfishly keeping the country running and putting themselves at risk to help others.

Thanks to their efforts we are all safer, healthier and less isolated.



Please send copy for the next edition of

**"THE GRANITE TOWERS"
AUGUST SEPTEMBER 2020 EDITION**
to the editor, Verna Roberts, by

JULY 10 2020

EMAIL ADDRESS for Granite Towers copy:

granitetowersluxlan@gmail.com

Photos for front or back page to

Ellen McConnell **ellen.mcconnell@hotmail.co.uk**

See page 29 for all deadline dates.

VIEW FROM THE SURGERY

I am writing this on the day the government has eased some of the restriction with COVID 19. Like several of you, I have been at home since March, and getting frustrated about it. I am lucky to have a garden to look at over the computer screen. I will confess to the occasional walk outside into our lovely area, but I do rarely meet anyone when I escape.

Working from home sounds great, but for me it has meant either being on the phone or doing administration paperwork - so sitting in front of a computer screen all day and not with superfast broadband. Very quickly I realised that a lot of the pleasure of my work is working with the team at the surgery as well as seeing people about their problems. Video conference calls don't replace the jokes and quick advice chats when you sneak into the office to grab a biscuit. I feel less guilty about asking someone to do a task if I ask them face to face rather than via a message.

The staff has responded fantastically to the situation; some are working from home supporting those in the surgery. They are all working hard and extra hours, including over the bank holidays to ensure our patients continue to receive the best care we can offer. There have been lighter moments with TikTok dances and cakes. Our patients also have been superb, accepting telephone and video calls rather than being seen in the surgery, and us not being able to do our full range of investigations. We have had lots of rainbow pictures for our windows to brighten the view.

We are not out of the danger zone yet, with ongoing infections being reported, so despite the government easing the restrictions, please stay safe and keep your distances. As always, wash your hands frequently. The surgery is open for all medical problems, so don't ignore your health, and now we are allowed to exercise more, please take the opportunity, as a walk or two a day can help lots of conditions.

Keep safe and protect the NHS.

Dr. Andy Hayward

* * * * *

LUXULYAN PARISH COMMUNITY FUND

Due to the Covid 19 restrictions the Grants Panel did not meet in April. Fortunately we had not received any applications recently. However, we were able to donate £2000 towards the CCF Emergency Appeal. At the time of writing the Cornwall Community Foundation had collected £380,000 to be distributed among causes in need of their help at this desperate time. A typical case is Truro Foodbank which is feeding more children than ever before

If you know of an organisation that would benefit from a grant, please visit our website for an application form, or ring our Chairman Dave Bunt on 01726 852554.

www.cornwallfoundation.com/luxulyan-community-fund

or the Parish Council website www.luxulyanpc.co.uk

Other Grant Panel members are:-

Kay Baker, Francis Payne, Nick Legard, Chris Austin, Bridget Hall and Jim Cleare.

Dates for future grant panels are as follows:-

Deadline for applications	Grant Panel Meeting
29 th July 2020	12 th August 2020
28 th November 2020	9 th December 2020

Jim Cleare

ADVERTISING

Please note that due to increased costs, we have had to raise the prices for advertising; when you renew, large adverts will cost £40 and small adverts £25 for six issues per year. Please see contact details at the bottom of page 13.

HOW THE VIRUS STOLE EASTER

'Twas late in '19 when the virus began
 Bringing chaos and fear to all people, each land.
 People were sick, hospitals full,
 Doctors overwhelmed, no one in school.
 As winter gave way to the promise of spring,
 The virus raged on, touching peasant and king.
 People hid in their homes from the enemy unseen.
 They YouTubed and Zoomed, social-distanced, and
 cleaned.
 April approached and churches were closed.
 "There won't be an Easter," the world supposed.
 "There won't be church services, and egg hunts are out.
 No reason for new dresses when we can't go about."
 Holy Week started, as bleak as the rest.
 The world was focused on masks and on tests.
 "Easter can't happen this year," it proclaimed.
 "Online and at home, it just won't be the same."
 Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, the days came and went.
 The virus pressed on; it just would not relent.
 The world woke on Sunday and nothing had changed.
 The virus still menaced, the people, estranged.
 "Pooh pooh to the saints," the world was grumbling.
 "They're finding out now that no Easter is coming.
 "They're just waking up! We know just what they'll do!
 Their mouths will hang open a minute or two,
 And then all the saints will all cry boo-hoo.
 "That noise," said the world, "will be something to hear."
 So it paused and the world put a hand to its ear.
 And it did hear a sound coming through all the skies.
 It started down low, then it started to rise.
 But the sound wasn't depressed.
 Why, this sound was triumphant!
 It couldn't be so!
 But it grew with abundance!
 The world stared around, popping its eyes.
 Then it shook! What it saw was a shocking surprise!
 Every saint in every nation, the tall and the small,
 Was celebrating Jesus in spite of it all!
 It hadn't stopped Easter from coming! It came!
 Somehow or other, it came just the same!
 And the world with its life quite stuck in quarantine
 Stood puzzling and puzzling.
 "Just how can it be?"
 "It came without bonnets, it came without bunnies,
 It came without egg hunts, cantatas, or money."
 Then the world thought of something it hadn't before.
 "Maybe Easter," it thought, "doesn't come from a store.
 Maybe Easter, perhaps, means a little bit more."
 And what happened then?
 Well....the story's not done.
 What will YOU do?
 Will you share with that one
 Or two or more people needing hope in this night?
 Will you share the source of your life in this fight?
 The churches are empty - but so is the tomb,
 And Jesus is victor over death, doom, and gloom.
 So this year at Easter, let this be our prayer,
 As the virus still rages all around, everywhere.

May the world see hope when it looks at God's people.
 May the world see the church is not a building or steeple.
 May the world find Faith in Jesus' death and resurrection,
 May the world find Joy in a time of dejection.
 May 2020 be known as the year of survival,
 But not only that—Let it start a revival.

Submitted from the other side of the pond

OF BUTTERFLIES AND BEES

Everywhere I've lived has its own array of characters of
 the bug or animal form. My current abode is no different,
 and with the enforced time at home it encourages
 awareness of what's actually happening in your own back
 yard.

With the beautiful warm spring and early summer days
 we have been having, plants and seedlings are shooting
 away. The first 'attack' of the growing year came in the
 form of a dawn raid by (I presume) a sika deer. Goodbye
 spring flowers! I had the fortunate occasion to see the
 deer a time or two in the scrub over the back fence, but
 hadn't even considered them as a garden raider, until
 now. The gap in the fence has been barricaded and
 seems to have prevented continued visits, at least for the
 present.

Another saga, (but of the insect kind) and eventual
 tragedy that played out over a blooming deadnettle was
 between a trio of hover flies and what we took to be a
 solitary bee. I never realized hover flies could be so
 territorial and would attack other insects. The bigger
 bumbles got away without hassle; however, woe betide
 any smaller bumble or bee should come within range,
 and this particular little bee had decided this particular
 plant was also home.

On the subject of bees, it would appear that we have a
 healthy 'colony' of mason bees in both the front and rear
 exterior walls of the house. I say 'colony' as they're
 actually all solitary bees, it just happens that there are a
 considerable number of them. They're great for
 pollinating plants, though don't create wax or honey... a
 bit of a relief as I had visions of honey dripping down the
 insides of the walls!

Another insect that seems to be living in profusion in the
 back garden is ants; they're everywhere. Luckily, they
 haven't come inside...yet. They even have a successful
 aphid farm on one of the artichokes! This is a real thing,
 which I haven't seen in person until now. The aphids
 produce honeydew as a by-product of their diet, which
 the ants love. The ants in turn farm the aphids to keep a
 regular supply of their favourite tipple close at hand –
 ingenious!

The most recently noticed nemesis I have seen fluttering
 around the garden and hedgerows is the cabbage white
 butterfly. I decided to plant a minimal amount of brassicas
 at this time of the year, due to the potential threat, but I
 think maybe some netting or similar type of deterrent may
 be in order before even those few become caterpillar
 fodder. What have you noticed of the natural world
 around your home over the last couple of months that
 you maybe weren't aware of before? Stay safe everyone.
 Until next time

Katy xx

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QUIZ PAGE

OUR CHALLENGE TO YOU: see how well you do without using the internet!

GENERAL

History - British inventors

1. Miners' safety lamp
2. Vacuum flask (thermos flask) in 1892
3. Spinning Jenny – was accredited in 1764
4. Jet turbofan engine in 1930
5. Application of electromagnetic induction
6. Cat's Eyes 1934
7. A mass production process converting pig-iron to steel 1855
8. Clockwork wind-up radio in 1993
9. Hovercraft in 1956
10. Waterproof fabric in 1823

Fictional characters - books, plays, films, TV. What is my occupation?

1. Indiana Jones
2. Richard Hannay – first profession before joining the army
3. Jean Brodie
4. Fang from Oliver Twist
5. Peter Quince from Midsummer Night's Dream
6. George Dixon
7. Miss Prism in "The importance of being Earnest"
8. Frances Davey
9. Perry Mason
10. Siegfried Farnon

Cryptic herbs and spices!

Answers are all herbs or spices. The answers may be found in or through the clue, or from an anagram in the clue or from an anagram of an answer to the clue

1. A warship sunk in the Solent (8)
2. To climb (for example, a mountain) (6)
3. Found in sausages (4)
4. US native languages spoken in Colorado (5)
5. What's left when a jet has flown over (8)
6. Affliction of the jaw of early matchstick maker (6)
7. Conceited (8)
8. Great mob gathered together (8)
9. Founder of an Italian car company (7)
10. They drive small work boats (6)

SCIENCE AND MATHS

RELATIVELY STRAIGHTFORWARD.....



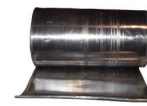
Question 1. Name a gas contained in the sun



Question 2. What sex is a young parrotfish likely to be?



Question 3. Which is heavier at room temperature, lead or mercury?



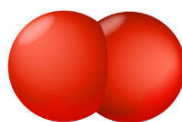
TRICKIER



Question 4. What is meant by the triple point of a substance?

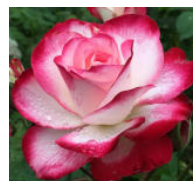


Question 5. The four Beatles decided to cross the road in line. How many possible combinations of the order of the four could there be?



Question 6 At room temperature and pressure there are five gaseous elements in the periodic table that form stable diatomic molecules - i.e. two atoms bonded together. Can you name all of them?

TRICKIEST



Question 7 It was the Royal Cornwall Show and rose growers were invited to the flower tent to submit their best bloom from one of 100 named varieties. Assuming that each variety was equally popular, what would be the minimum number of entrants in the tent for there to be an approximately even chance of two blooms of the same variety being entered?

Answers on page 19

COVID QUIPS

This is it. The day your dogs have all been waiting for. The day they realize their owners can't leave the house and they get you 24/7! Lol. Dogs are rejoicing everywhere. Cats are contemplating suicide.

We thought we'd have flying cars by 2020.

But no, here we are teaching people how to wash their hands

Raw toilet paper for sale £20



Some assembly required

LUXULYAN AND DISTRICT OLD CORNWALL SOCIETY

We made the decision to cancel our March meeting; although the lockdown had not started, we felt it was the wisest course of action. We had been due to hear Roger Smith talking on Tywardreath Priory. We hope that we will be able to hear his talk next year. We have also had to postpone our first AGM, which hopefully will take place in the autumn.

However, the permitted exercise time has provided an excellent opportunity to walk around our beautiful area, admire the hedgerows and notice things that we might have driven past a hundred times without seeing them. Whilst out walking, Malcolm and I have spotted a "cast-off stone"; (a stone placed against the hedge to protect the corner from damage by wagon wheels) at Bodiggo. We also noticed an inscribed stone in the hedge at Atwell and the remains of a railway wagon used as a field shelter near Tredinnick Farm. We found the impressive Menhir just below Helman Tor and, returning via Roseney Mill, we passed under a huge apple tree covered in blossom and humming with bees. Perhaps when our Old Cornwall Society is able to meet again, we might spend a little time sharing anything of interest we have found during these strange times.

Research into the Nuclear Power Station Protest has continued, documents kindly provided by those involved have been scanned and more items have been unearthed and promised to us, including a full set of Luxulyan Against Nuclear Development (LAND) magazines. If you have memories, photographs and/or artefacts you would be happy to share with us, we would be most grateful. Please contact me, on 01726 852262 or 07929 747397.

Ros Hayward



Cast-off Stone at Bodiggo



Helman Tor Menhir (with Malc for scale)



Apple Tree near Roseney Mill



Inscribed Stone at Atwell

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WHEEL ALIGNMENTS

THE VILLAGE SHOP & POST OFFICE, LUXULYAN

Approached by the editorial team of The Granite Towers and asked to write an article for this edition, I hesitantly agreed that I would write about what we are doing during lockdown and the effect this has had on us.

When this all started and we could see lockdown approaching, we, like other families, started to think practically – “What do we need?” (Not once did we hoard!). “But let’s prepare for not going anywhere.”

Then there it was, the email from the Post Office, saying we were key workers and ‘had’ to carry on. I’ll always remember that moment, Mike and I sitting on the sofa, staring at each other open-mouthed! Because, yes, like everyone else we were extremely scared, as Mike is in the vulnerable group, so we knew his working was a risk. If he became ill, he would indeed be refused a ventilator, like so many others, but the difference for him was that he had to work. We cried, lost sleep, and talked endlessly. We called a team meeting, to try to find a solution. I emphasised to all our staff, that no one would be forced or expected to work. Amazingly every one of them said, “No let’s carry on”; “Let’s do it for our village, let’s do it for the community, our customers”. They were saying, they would risk their health and that of the people they love in their homes for you. For everyone who we’ve delivered to, served, helped.

Over the years we’ve had great staff, and Mike and I have always been grateful for everything they do for us, but you’ve heard of ‘The A Team’, well this is it. This is our A Team – Tracey, Kay, Lucy, and Will are the best we have ever been, right here and now. We are all working exceptionally hard to get us through what one of our customers rightly pointed out are, “the worst conditions we have lived in since World War II”. They were right, and I was grateful to them for that, because as Mike and I stared at the gaps on our shelves which had never existed before, feeling down-hearted, letting our customers down, they helped us to realise this was tough, and would continue to be so.

Since then we’ve been on quite a journey! Stock availability plummeted. We thought we may as well close if we couldn’t get the stock in, but I determinedly said, ‘I will not be defeated, there’s a way around this’. I sourced it, we bought bulk flour, yeast, icing sugar, pasta, rice... like taking a step back in time, and surprisingly, we liked it. We had always planned, after the glass-bottled milk, to put in a refill system, so instead of planning it, it was thrust upon us!

As always we wanted to do more for our community than the basics; from grass cutting to fundraising for the village, things totally unrelated to the shop, so we have been offering free delivery, not only within Luxulyan, but also out to Trethurgy, Lanlivery and our surrounding areas; we’ve been collecting and posting parcels, collecting and topping up electric keys, and seeking help for people who need urgent medication, as well as just checking on people. I’ve also made our Facebook page, a place to share and provide important information for everyone in our community, not just about ‘the shop’, but about all of us and our daily lives, and I like to think we’ve achieved that too!

Our many volunteers walk around the village delivering groceries and topping up electric keys. Not one has had to be reminded to help, like Hilary, who, every day, just turned up every morning – “Any deliveries for me today?” She has walked uncounted miles, delivering topping up, and to her we say, “Thank you so, much, from the bottom of our hearts”.

We know stocks haven’t been perfect, they aren’t anywhere, but we have tried, and we continue to try our best. We know these are worrying times for everyone, and we count our blessings daily. Thus far we are healthy, and thanks to the support of our community our business is surviving where many may not. For this, we thank you, for choosing to shop with us and support us.

The last 7 years haven’t been easy, but to all of you who have wholeheartedly supported us through all the years and now this, we are eternally grateful. It’s not easy running your own business, as anyone who has tried will know; it was a massive risk for us: we put our entire life savings into making our village shop something special, in the hope the community would use it. Many watched, wondering whether or not we would fail, so after this, I hope not only our customers, but everyone, will remember how much we’ve had to endure to get here and I hope this beautiful well-stocked shop will stay forever and be my legacy to the village where I was born and bred, a piece of me, that will remain. So, support it for the village, for future years, because the small shops and suppliers are dying whilst the supermarkets thrive, buying from abroad.

If this has taught us one thing, it’s this: throughout this pandemic ‘the big boys’ could not, and have not come through for us, it’s our small local businesses, run by many small Cornish families who started with nothing, but made something! The local butcher, baker, egg man!!! So, when you buy from us, you support them their families and our great Cornish economy. If only after all of this, (and we resume whatever ‘normal’ will be), that it is remembered for a long time to come, and we ‘choose’ to support local, because they have pulled us all through.

Mike, the Team and I hope everyone is staying safe and taking care of themselves and others, until we can all meet again!

Cathy Gray

THANK YOU TO THE VILLAGE SHOP!

I am sure you will all join with me in thanking Mike, Cath and the team for being there in our hour of need. At the beginning, when people were stripping the shelves of the supermarkets, your village shop was still reasonably well stocked. Maybe not quite as bad as WW2. I remember rationing carrying on for several years after the war. One of our projects at primary school was to make a ration book holder. The big difference this time is that we can’t see the enemy.

When we finally return to some sort of normality, remember, The Village Shop was here when you needed it most.

Jim Cleare



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PILATES

My Pilates class will be running every Thursday
from 2 – 3 pm in Luxulyan Village Hall.

Steph Thomas
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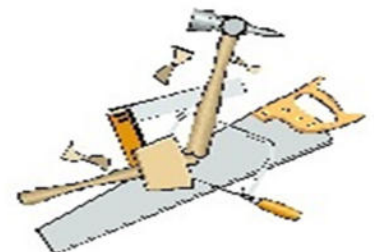
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FRIENDS OF LUXULYAN VALLEY

Due to Covid 19, all our events and work parties up to the end of July have been cancelled. It is not certain, but we hope the August event may be able to go ahead. On Saturday 22 August we are planning a Fungi walk on Breney Common with fungus expert, Pauline Penna. Meet at Gunwen Chapel (PL30 5DU) at 10.30 am. We will confirm this nearer the time in our summer newsletter, in the next edition of Granite Towers, and on our website: www.luxulyanvalley.co.uk.

The Valley has looked particularly beautiful this spring, so we hope some of you have been able to enjoy it for your daily exercise, while keeping physically distant from others, particularly on the wider tramways.
Best wishes,

Joan Farmer (Secretary)

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OPERATION HEDGEHOG LUXULYAN AND LANLIVERY


Operation Hedgehog is led by Cornwall Wildlife Trust in partnership with Cornwall Mammal Group, Prickles and Paws Hedgehog Rescue, the University of Exeter and community groups including the WI. The aim is to raise awareness of the hedgehogs' desperate situation and reverse their rapid decline in the UK, (from 30 million in the 1950's, 1.5 million in 1995 to less than 1/2 a million now). To deliver real and lasting success they need to engage with and influence the widest possible audiences, including farmers, planners, householders, schools, and community groups. Luxulyan and Lanlivery Operation Hedgehog aims to act through spreading the word and surveying in our area. The survey was originally going to last through 2020, but as we were unable to move the surveying equipment around this spring the survey will continue next year as well.

Initial information suggests there are hedgehogs at Rosmelling, Mena and Lanlivery village. It would be great to hear if you have hedgehogs in your area and to share those sightings with Cornwall Wildlife Trust who will add them to their map of Cornwall showing where all the hedgehogs are. You can "log your hog" at <https://ercis.org.uk/HedgehogSightings> or on your smart phone. Download their app (Online Recording Kernow and Scilly) ORKs. This will allow you to take photos of wildlife, upload them with the area and date and send them straight to Cornwall Wildlife Trust.

If you would like to have the Luxulyan and Lanlivery operation hedgehog footprint trap and camera for a week contact amandajpenk@gmail.com 01208 872326. I will add you to the list and then, when we are moving again, I will contact you to find a suitable time. You can follow us on Facebook Operation Hedgehog Luxulyan and Lanlivery.

I am delighted that Luxulyan village shop is now collecting crisp packets to recycle. In return, money from the recycling firm is given to Prickles and Paws Hedgehog Rescue. Thank you everyone who has already brought their crisp packets in. I have taken a car- full to recycle already. If you eat crisps, please save the packets – any variety or make – and drop them off at the shop to help the hedgehogs. *Thank you.*

Amanda Penk



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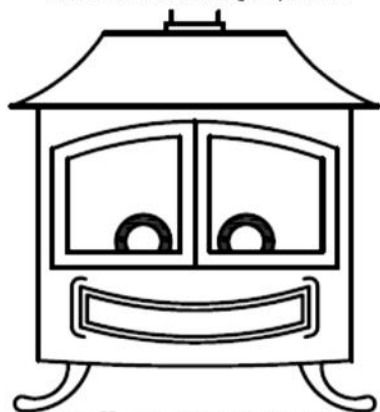
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LUXULYAN AND LANLIVERY WI REPORT

“I shall not cease from mental fight, nor shall my sword sleep in my hand”. Perhaps never have these words from William Blake’s poem “Jerusalem”, been more pertinent and useful to WI members than now, during this time of lockdown. Like everyone else, WI women have had to cope with a multitude of restrictions, including social contact, travel, work, shopping and exercise. Disappointingly, our monthly meetings, various events and activities, plus all the many educational and life-enhancing courses have had to be cancelled.

We last met in March, so we at least have happy memories of that evening and the hilarious beetle drive and spot-on competition we enjoyed. April’s meeting had to be cancelled of course, to the chagrin of all of us who were looking forward to painting a pot with that evening’s speaker, potter Heather Hunt. And now we’ll never hear about Prickles and Paws, the Hedgehog rescue charity, the talk for May; go for the Spring Walk in the Luxulyan Valley – an extra activity; or learn about gluten-free cookery (June)...but will we get to do Laughing Yoga, (what...LAUGHING Yoga?) July’s talk and activity. We shall, if there is a relaxation of the lockdown. Then there was to be a July summer walk, followed in August by an afternoon Cream Tea event and an evening visit to watch beavers at Ladock. Maybe these events will gradually be allowed. At the moment we just don’t know.

WI members all over the county were looking forward to the Spring Countdown, the county-wide meeting in Redruth, which is cancelled, and to competing in various competitions, including at the now cancelled Royal Cornwall Show. There should have been some very unusual and exciting events for us too, such as the smart phone photography workshop, exploring the town of Hayle, and a Cake, Craft and Camping weekend, which involved a botanical painting workshop, a beading workshop, a book group, pyrography, abseiling, origami, wine tasting and much more!

Many activities and much news has been followed online and on the county website. Members can follow some of the important social and political work on the main website. Our own WI has been keeping in touch by the introduction of a telephone tree, the bright idea of member Lee Hemmings. Each member rings the person following them on the members’ list. Our secretary, Jackie Russell has been doing sterling work, emailing everyone with the latest news from the national and county federations – and even delivering a birthday posy – as I found out when she arrived at my house having driven from Luxulyan! Then there is our member, Joan Blackshire, who oversees “Sunshine”, i.e. being responsible for sending cards and messages to members who are in ill, hospitalised, or needing cheering up and comforting.

Thus we attempt to keep mentally healthy and our spirits raised, while staying involved with the ideals of the WI to build Jerusalem, not only in “England’s green and pleasant land”, but globally. Even in lockdown, our swords will not sleep in our hands, and hopefully we’ll help to create a better world for when we emerge from it.

Look out for news of the next meetings and activities if

they are allowed. Wednesday July 8th could be the date of the next meeting (Laughing Yoga) at 7.15 pm Luxulyan Village Hall; Summer Walk Wednesday July 22nd; and Cream Tea Wednesday August 12th.

New members and visitors are warmly welcome to come along. Please phone Secretary Jackie Russell on 07925966696 or President Verna Roberts on 01726 812065 for more information.

Verna Roberts



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THE FUNNY SIDE OF LIFE

If you know the bible even a little, you may find this amusing. It come from a Catholic Elementary School Test. Children were asked questions about the Old and New Testaments. The following statements about the Bible were written by the children.

- In the first book of the bible, guinnesses, God got tired of creating the world, so he took the Sabbath off.
- Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah’s wife was Joan of Ark. Noah built an Ark and the animals came on in pears.
- Lots wife was a pillar of salt during the day, but a ball of fire during the night.
- The Jews were a proud people and throughout history they had trouble with unsympathetic genitals.
- Sampson was a strongman who let himself be led astray by a jezebel like Delilah.
- Samson slayed the philistines with the axe of the Apostles.
- Moses led the Jews to the red sea where they made unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients.
- The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards Moses went up to mount cyanide to get the ten commandments.

BOOK GROUP



What have you been reading during lockdown? Have you managed to get through that pile of books by your bed?

We’d love to hear your recommendations, so be prepared to talk about them at our next meeting, when we’re allowed to socialise again. Just email me at maudroberts@yahoo.com with your book titles and we’ll discuss them at Trethevey PL24 2SA at 8pm on a Thursday sometime in the future after lockdown. I’ll email you with the date when we know it, or ring me on 01726 812065, or email. New members are always welcome and refreshments are always served.

Kay Roberts

GONE FISHING

'Can we go fishing, Dad?'

Rob looked at his 15-year-old son and sighed. 'We went fishing yesterday, Josh. I know it's the holidays but there are other things to do. I promised your sister we'd go to the seal sanctuary today.'

Josh pulled a face. 'Oh, all right. I suppose the seal sanctuary will be fun.'

'Of course it will.' His mother's voice came from the doorway. 'And if we're there at feeding time you'll see plenty of fish.'

'Ha ha,' Josh said, though as an animal lover he knew he'd enjoy seeing the seals and watching their antics. He heard a giggle and turned to see his sister with a wide grin on her face.

'It's probably the most fish you'll ever see,' Rosie laughed. She dodged Josh's playful blow and went on, 'Still, you did catch a mackerel last week. What a miracle!'

'Pack it in you two,' Rob said, relieved that the day's activities had been settled without an argument. 'Go and get ready.'

Josh was quiet on the journey. Despite his sister's teasing he was pleased with the progress he'd made as an angler. Not that he could call himself a real angler, but he was determined to become one. He'd started by crabbing in rock pools, graduated to a net in shallow waters and went on to line fishing. He usually went with his dad, but in the last year he had gone more with his friend Sam, who was two years older and shared his passion for fishing.

When they neared their destination, he frowned as he saw a sign for the seal sanctuary. Was now a good time, or should he wait till later? Deciding to wait, he settled down to enjoy the day.

Five hours, one picnic and two ice creams later, they made their return journey. When Rosie had exhausted her chatter about what they had seen and resorted to her headphones, Josh decided the time had come.

'Dad.'

'Yes, son?'

'Sam's getting a spear gun.'

Rob caught his eye in the rear-view mirror. 'Is he now.'

Josh saw his mother's anxious look as she swivelled round. 'Aren't they dangerous?'

'No,' he said. 'Not if you know how handle them. Sam's dad used to have one. Can I have one for my birthday?'

'No,' said Mum.

'I'll think about it,' Dad said.

The following week Rob went with Josh and Sam to watch how the spear gun was used. Josh tried his luck and though he didn't catch anything he handled the gun well. A week later he got what he wanted.

'Be sensible,' Rob told the boys on their first expedition. 'Stay near the shoreline.' He wasn't worried. Josh and Sam had lived on this part of the Cornish coast all their lives and knew the dangers of the currents and rip tides.

Josh felt a beat of excitement as he and Sam set off on their bikes. Fifteen minutes later they were in the water in a sheltered cove where fish were known to come in on a high tide. Spearing the fish wasn't easy and he missed two. He was about to try a third time when a

cry made him swing round. A figure was in the sea a little way off, arms flailing and thrashing the water. Without thinking he shoved the spear gun at Sam and struck out for the person who was obviously in trouble. He reached the figure, a girl he saw now, who was gulping air when her head came above water. The seabed dropped away as he neared her, giving the sea greater depth.

'Keep still,' he yelled, going behind her, and flinging an arm around her neck. Within minutes he'd pulled her onto the tiny strip of beach and Sam helped her to her feet. She stood shivering, her lips blue and her face pale, but otherwise seemingly unhurt. 'Th-thank you,' she stuttered.

'Can't you swim?' Josh asked her. She looked about fourteen and very frightened.

'Yes, but not well,' she answered. 'One minute the water was knee high, then I couldn't feel the bottom and I panicked.'

After she'd dried herself on Josh's towel, they joined her parents in the adjacent cove, accepting their thanks modestly. By the time they returned to the spot where they'd been spearing, there wasn't a fish to be seen. Too exhilarated after what had happened, they called it a day and left.

They got to Josh's house before anyone else was back. Sam lit the barbeque and it was smouldering nicely when Josh's parents and sister came into the garden.

'Hi, you two,' Rob said, peering at what Josh was about to lay on the grill. 'Wow! Two! They look like sea bass. Who got them, you or Sam?'

'One each,' Josh grinned. 'You're not allowed to take more.'

Even Rosie looked impressed. 'Perhaps you haven't been wasting your time after all,' she said. 'What do you think, Mum?'

Mum beamed. 'Brilliant. You could make a fortune selling fish like that.'

Josh and Sam exchanged glances. Try as he might Josh couldn't keep a straight face. 'Not much of a fortune,' he said. 'We paid four pounds each for them in ASDA.'

There was a short silence before everyone spoke at once. Rosie's voice shrilled above the others. 'You little cheat! Here we are thinking you've been out and speared your first fish and all the time you bought them.'

Her tone changed when she heard how Josh and Sam had rescued the girl. 'Is this true?' she asked suspiciously.

'Yes,' Sam said. 'Look, here's her name, Lucy, and her parent's telephone number. They gave it to us and took ours. They said they'd ring before the end of their holiday and take us for a meal as a thank you.'

'Well done,' Rob said, eyeing his son with pride. 'Take you for a meal, eh? Perhaps they'd like to come here for a barbeque instead.'

Josh nodded. 'I could ask them. I could go fishing again and we could have a fish supper.'

'Good idea,' Rosie said, mischief in her eyes. 'Have they got any more sea bass in ASDA?'

Christine McHaines

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EASTER LOCKDOWN

Hip, hip hooray for it's Easter Day.
The birds are singing, but no church bells ringing,
No planes in the sky; no cars going by.
So quiet and still, many people so ill.
"Stay home, stay home", on the news they say.
"Don't go away on your holiday".
This virus is bad, and I feel very sad;
No family to come and have some fun.
No roast on Sunday or even on Monday,
Just a telephone call and that is all.
But no good sitting and feeling blue;
Jobs to be done and things to do.
The garden is weeded, and the plants have been seeded.
The garage is near, the shed tidy and sweet.
The car is so clean, just look at it gleam.
Now time to relax and think of others:
The doctors, the nurses, and the worried mothers.
We will overcome and be strong once more
We will beat you virus, that is for sure.
So, let's be thankful for what we have got
And say a prayer for those we have lost.

Diane Williams

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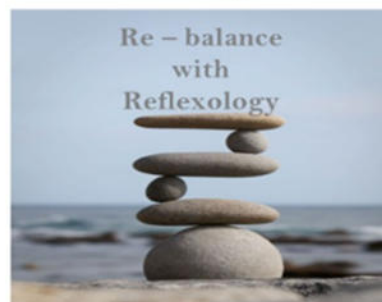
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ANSWERS TO QUIZ (PAGE 6)**History—British inventors**

1. Humphry Davy
2. James Dewar
3. James Hargreaves
4. Frank Whittle
5. Michael Faraday
6. Percy Shaw
7. Henry Bessemer
8. Trevor Bayliss
9. Christopher Cockerell
10. Charles Macintosh

Fictional characters in books, plays, films, TV.**What is my occupation?**

1. Archaeologist, Archaeology lecturer, professor
2. Mining Engineer (ref "The 39 Steps" etc – John Buchan)
3. School teacher (The prime of Miss – Muriel Spark)
4. Magistrate
5. Carpenter
6. Policeman (Dixon of Dock Green 1955-76 writer Ted Willis)
7. Governess to Cecily Cardew –also originally a nursemaid to Lady Bracknell's sister
8. Priest - Vicar of Altarnun (Jamaica Inn - du Maurier)
9. Lawyer (Perry Mason - Erle Stanley Gardner)
10. Veterinary Surgeon ("All Creatures Great and Small" by Herriot; pl. by Robert Hardy on television)

Cryptic herbs and spices!

1. Rosemary (Mary Rose)
2. Alecost (to scale)
3. Sage
4. Cumin (Nomic)
5. Cilantro (Contrail)
6. Hyssop (Phossy)
7. Tarragon (Arrogant)
8. Bergamot (Great mob)
9. Nigella (Agnelli)
10. Nutmeg (Tugmen)

Science and Maths

Q1: Hydrogen or Helium

Q2: Female (Most parrotfish are hermaphrodites starting out as female and ending as male.)

Q3: Mercury (Mercury has density approx. 13.5 g/cc, whereas Lead is approx. 11.3 g/cc)

Q4: The temperature and pressure at which the gas, liquid and solid phases of a substance exist in thermodynamic equilibrium. Example: steam/water/ice coexist at 0.01°C and 0.006 atmospheres pressure.

Q5: 24

Consider..... if there had been only one person in the party the answer would be 1 (e.g. John)

With two in the party the answer would be 2 (2 x 1) e.g. John Paul; Paul John

If there had been three in the party, the answer would be 6 (3 x 2 x 1) (e.g. John Paul George; John George Paul; Paul John George; Paul George John; George John Paul; George Paul John)

Thus with four in the party, the answer would be 24 possible combinations (4 x 3 x 2 x 1)

[Expressed mathematically, this is 4! or Factorial 4. Note if Brian their manager had joined them, the answer would be 120 or 5! (5 x 4 x 3 x 2 x 1)]

Q6: Oxygen (O₂) Nitrogen (N₂) Hydrogen (H₂) Chlorine (Cl₂) Fluorine (F₂). Note that two other halogens, Bromine and Iodine can also be diatomic, but they are respectively a liquid and solid at room temperature and pressure.

Q7: 12

This problem is evaluated by looking at the probabilities of all of the blooms being different.

Consider if only 1 person is in the tent there is a 100/100 chance of nobody having the same bloom – i.e. a probability of 1 (complete certainty)

If there are two people in the tent, there is a 100/100 x 99/100 = 0.99 probability of nobody having the same bloom.

If there are three people in the tent, there is a 100/100 x 99/100 x 98/100 = 0.9702 probability of nobody having the same bloom.

This process is repeated for n people until the overall probability reaches 0.5 or close to it – in other words an evens chance.

Thus, we find that at the 12th person, we have an overall probability of 100/100 x 99/100 x 98/100 x 97/100 x 96/100 x 95/100 x 94/100 x 93/100 x 92/100 x 91/100 x 90/100 x 89/100, which equals 0.5032 or approximately an evens chance.

[Expressed mathematically, this is $100!/(100-n)! \times 1/100^n = 0.5$]

A WINTER OF TRANSFORMATION AT HELMAN TOR

Anyone visiting the Helman Tor area, including Breney Common and Red Moor, over last winter will probably have noticed lots of activity across the moors as the Cornwall Wildlife Trust started its long -planned habitat restoration work, which is being funded by Countryside Stewardship. Wildlife has now emerged to find a wide range of new habitat in which to feed, breed, grow and live.

It has been hard to visualise the concept over the winter as the unusually wet winter left parts of the nature reserve looking like a quagmire! But nature's ability to adapt to change will ensure that multiple new habitats develop, such as open water, marshes and grasslands. There's also a huge increase in woodland edge, one of the richest areas for wildlife.

A couple of years ago, the charity Buglife surveyed an area of Breney where similar work had been done. It found 215 rare mud snails in a small area in 60 seconds – the previous record being 50! Just one piece of evidence to show how nature embraces diversity, and the recent large-scale work should produce some interesting results.

Work will be done to restore any footpaths damaged during the work, so that access to this wonderful wildlife area can continue.

If you'd like any further information, please contact me, Phil McVey (CWT Trustee), at

littleboslymon@aol.com



Fen habitat restoration at Breney Common.
Photo: Simon Stuart-Miller



Landmarc contractors clearing vegetation from a Breney pond. Photo: Séan O'Hea

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Fax: 01208 814996 Email: david@rjbray.co.uk
www.rjbray.co.uk



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Why not join us and support the
conservation of this World
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doorstep?

Membership details are on our
website

www.luxulyanvalley.co.uk

or contact Jim Cleare (Chairman)
on 01726 850553

or Mandy Case (Membership Secretary)
on 01726 337106

Guests and new members are always welcome at our
events - see "Dates for your Diary"

M.M.B. PLANT HIRE

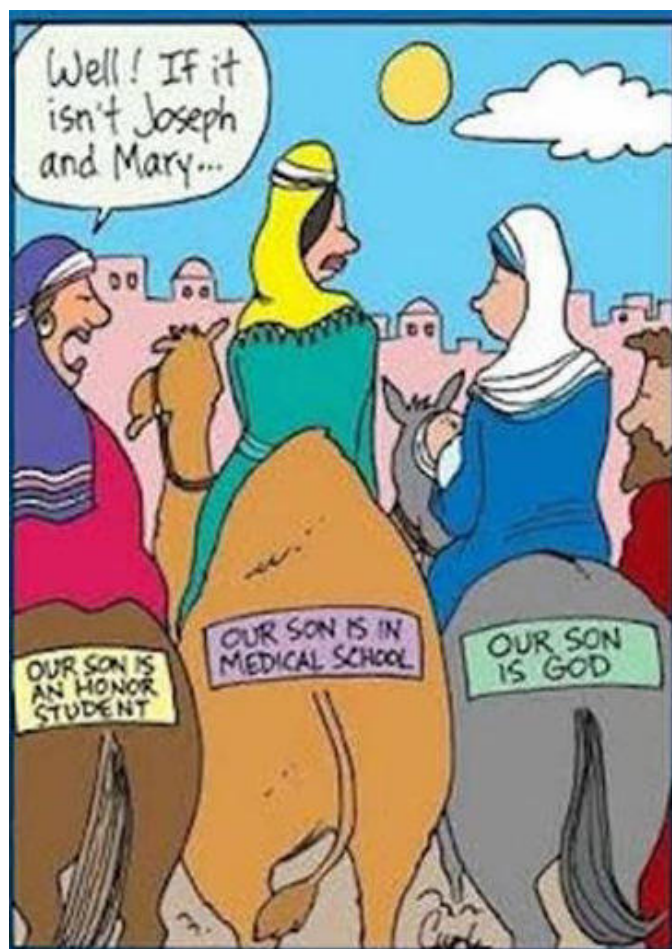
**Mark: 07816852022
Brian: 07863288963
Home 01726850525**

Ground works - Landscaping

**3.5 tonne mini digger
swing shovel JCB**



CHURCH HUMOUR



THE GARDEN OF HOPE

Elsie awoke to another grey day. She heard the rain beating against the window before she drew back the curtains. Donning her dressing gown, she went to the kitchen to make breakfast. It still felt strange, eating alone. Three years now since Jim had died, and even now she sometimes laid two plates and cups. In the last week it had felt stranger than ever. Since the enforcement of self-isolation, she couldn't even go to see her daughter. Kate wanted to come to her, but Elsie wouldn't have it. Having only recently stopped her voluntary work of serving soups and teas to homeless people, she wouldn't risk anything being carried back to her grandson. Cystic Fibrosis was risk enough.

And today, on her seventieth birthday, Elsie was plunged into a vulnerable category. Lovely birthday present, she thought, buttering her toast. What a difference a day makes. Switching on the radio, she tuned into the local radio station. The news was full of the number of new Corona Virus cases and what everyone should do to keep safe.

'Safe,' Elsie said to herself. 'How much safer can I be, stuck here behind these walls?'

Of course, she knew she was lucky to have these walls, this pleasant bungalow that she and Jim had kept up so nicely. Luckier than lots of people, and she had her garden. Early March was when she usually spent a lot of time in the garden, pruning roses and planting primroses. Yes, that's what she would do to help her though this isolation business, work in the garden. If it ever stopped raining.

She finished her second cup of tea, keeping an ear out for the phone. Kate usually rang her on her birthday even if she was seeing her later in the day. And she always made a cake. No cake today, just cards if the postman brought any.

She heard the post come through the door and rushed to wave at Dave, the local postman, but was too late. Elsie sighed as she watched the familiar red van drive away. She turned her attention to the mail – three cards from people at her garden club, one from her sister and one from her niece. Nothing from Kate. Perhaps it would come tomorrow, or perhaps Kate hadn't wanted to risk going to the card shop. What Elsie missed most was the home-made card from her grandson. At seven years old Daniel was bright, and cystic fibrosis hadn't impacted on his talent for drawing.

After showering and washing her hair, she peered into the wardrobe wondering what to wear. She was tempted to stay in her dressing gown. After all, there was no-one to see her. Rejecting this and pulling on comfy trousers and her favourite jumper, she tidied up the bedroom and picked up her book, one she'd been meaning to read for ages. Somehow though, she couldn't concentrate. She kept gazing at the phone wondering why Kate hadn't rung. Surely, she hadn't forgotten? Resisting the urge to call her, she rummaged in the kitchen cupboard, telling herself to stop feeling hard done by and get on with something. What did her birthday matter really? And if she wasn't going to get a cake, she would make her own. Frustration filled her when she realised she didn't

have any flour – she'd taken her last bag to the homeless centre.

It was still raining at lunchtime, and Elsie was beginning to feel like a prisoner in her own home. The weather was like a bar on her cell, keeping her inside and battering the plants outside. She could see several pots blown over by the wind and lying in pieces on the ground.

Turning away from the window she set some soup on the stove, thinking of all the soup she had served at the homeless centre. As she finished eating the room lightened. It had stopped raining and the sun was emerging from behind the clouds. Momentarily cheered, Elsie found her craft kit, deciding to make some things she could sell at the summer fete. Surely it would be safe to mix with people by then?

It was an hour later when she heard the toot of a horn. Desperate for a distraction she looked through the window at the car outside. Kate's car. Thrusting the window open she saw Kate get out, and then Daniel climbed out from the passenger seat.

'Don't come in Kate,' she called. 'Just in case.'

Her daughter nodded and took something from Daniel, who moved away holding the end of what seemed to be a long piece of card. As it unrolled, Elsie felt tears pricking her eyes.

"Happy Birthday Nan," she read. The words were written in bright crayon, with balloons and cakes decorating the edges. Kate hung the banner on the inside of the fence, tying it with string already fastened to the card. Kate reached into the car, took out a box, approached the front door and put it on the doorstep. Then she went back to the gate.

'Happy Birthday Mum,' she called. 'We love you.'

When they'd gone Elsie retrieved the box from the doorstep. The cake it held looked delicious, and the earrings wrapped in tissue paper were ones she'd told Kate she liked months ago.

Her phone rang and she picked up the handset.

'Hello Elsie,' said a male voice. 'It's Clive next door but one. Happy Birthday.'

Pleased but surprised, Elsie said, 'How did you know?'

Clive's laugh sounded in her ear. 'It's not hard when there's a whacking great banner on your fence.'

Later, when the garden had dried somewhat, Elsie went out, breathing in the fresh air with relief. A movement caught her eye, and she turned to see Clive waving at her over the two fences between them. She waved back, wishing she could ask him and his wife in to share her cake. 'Give us a ring if you get fed up,' he called, and Elsie's heart lifted. Then her immediate neighbour, a young woman who'd only recently moved in, appeared at her doorway, and called, 'Let me know if you need any shopping.' Continuing her walk round the garden, Elsie noticed the primroses and daffodils that flaunted their yellow beauty in defiance of the wind and rain. A symbol of hope amid the gloom.

And as Elsie cut into her cake that evening, her heart filled with that same hope.

FROM CHURCH



Dear Friends,

I don't know about you, but the last edition of the Granite Towers feels like an age ago. So much has happened and so much has changed. Life feels so very different to two months ago.

There is no doubt that this time is very tough – tough for those who live alone, tough for those home-schooling for the first time and tough for those worrying for themselves or loved ones. As a church family it was exceedingly difficult to accept that we couldn't gather together or even

to enter our church buildings. I know that Luxulyan church is a place where people go to spend some quiet time knowing that God is present and when times are particularly tumultuous that's the kind of place we need.

I don't, for a second, want to diminish the suffering of so many people. Nothing miraculously makes up for the tragedy of losing a loved one, and the trauma of not even being able to say goodbye to them. It's horrible. But as is true of every circumstance, somehow, God can bring about light, even in the darkest times.

We have been meeting together online every other week on Zoom, with a pre-recorded service in the intervening weeks. And new people have been engaging. Of course, we miss those who don't have internet access, or who don't consider themselves 'techy' enough to join Zoom, but it's been great to see younger people finding their own way of 'being church'.

I love our church buildings and I know that they serve as a beacon of hope and community in our parishes, but 'being church' was never about granite. It was always about a group of people who seek to put Jesus, the son of God, at the centre of their lives and the one thing I hope is that church becomes more accessible, more appealing during this time.

I am a Vicar, as you probably know, and I am an extrovert. I like people, I know how to walk up to someone and start a conversation, and yet I find churches really hard places to walk into if I don't regularly attend. I was on holiday a few years ago in Devon with my parents. They don't regularly go to church (well, actually my mum does now, online!) so I decided to find a church nearby and make the effort to go on my own. I drove there and was really quite apprehensive when I got there. I didn't know if I was parking in the wrong place. I walked in and I didn't know anyone. I sort of hoped no one would speak to me so that if I hated it, I could walk out without people noticing! To my dismay I ended up having to sit wedged between people, so there was no way I could leave if I wanted to. The church service was long, I had no idea what was going on, I didn't know any of the songs and I felt like I stuck out like a sore thumb. And then coffee happened, and I didn't know how to escape! People were very friendly, but it wasn't easy. I didn't feel spiritually engaged – it was all too stressful for that. At that point I had been ordained for about six years- so I can only imagine how 'normal(!)' people find it.

All of my 3 churches are full of wonderful, friendly people. We make every effort to make people feel welcome and included. But it has become clear during this challenging time that in the past church hasn't been as accessible as we hoped it might be. We have a good, loving, gracious God who is always coming towards us and more than anything else we want to share that news with the people in our villages.

When we are able to meet again there will be a true celebration, but in the meantime we'd love to hear from those who live in our community how we help you to encounter God for yourself (if you haven't already done so!).

Please do get in touch (revjules@btinternet.com) and let me know how our church can bless you and pray for you.

With my love and every blessing,

Jules



I appreciate that Easter probably feels like a long time ago now, but for Christians Easter is an ever-present feature in our lives – all year round! And as I continue to reflect on Jesus' resurrection which we

celebrate at Easter, I can't help but feel a sense of regret that what should have been a time of great joy and celebration, for lots of different reasons, probably wasn't! For some it would normally have been a time of being with friends and family, for the younger ones it's usually about the chocolate Easter eggs, (although that probably still happened) for the green-fingered and naturalists Easter was probably still a time when you enjoyed the natural world which has come back to life after the winter.

This year however was a very different Eastertide for most of us however, but even so, I offer this brief reflection that I hope will bring encouragement in these dark times; perhaps we might reflect on God's un-changeableness- I was struck again recently by the thought that we are often overtaken by things that are beyond our control, we are inevitably in the midst of change every day, our longstanding traditions and customs notwithstanding... so why I should be awestruck by the thought that God NEVER changes I don't know; perhaps it has something to do with needing stability and certainty in an unstable and uncertain time in our history? Whatever it is, I am confident that God in His Son Jesus is always with us and remains a constant!

The second happy thought with which I would seek to offer you comfort and hope is that resurrection is not simply about believing in an aspect of the Christian faith, albeit a significant part. I said in one of my live streams over Easter, which are freely available on the Benefice of Lostwithiel Parishes face book page, quoting Professor Tom Wright, that the resurrection isn't a bolt-onto story that would have otherwise had a tragic ending! The resurrection IS the fulcrum, the centre and starting point in understanding what God is doing in the world. Resurrection then is the culmination of God's ultimate plan and purpose for God's entire created order, of which the human species is but a part. Resurrection therefore naturally and inevitably includes and incorporates all of God's wonderful world - so as we hold in tension the stunning natural world that is continuing to bloom and blossom around us with the silent and deadly killer virus that is simultaneously decimating parts of our society, let us continue to put our faith and trust in God, who has the good of his world at heart and which he still firmly holds in the security of his hands.

Your Vicar – Revd Paul

FROM CHAPEL

Covid-19 has taught me lots of new words, and suddenly I've had to try and dust off my schoolboy science and statistics lessons to try and keep up with daily briefings, guidance and news reports. More so than at any other point in my ministry, or my life, I am saying, "I don't know" (which must be a positive thing). Then sometimes a familiar word comes along, and I must confess I breathe a sigh of relief. One such word was "roadmap"; the language being used by the Prime Minister and the Government to describe what the gradual recovery of the nation and society might look like. I am familiar with road maps; I was often the one who would follow the atlas and give directions on car journeys.

Christians are also familiar with the picture language of maps and journeys. As the Scottish Episcopal Church sometimes say at the start of their Marriage Services: "Through the ages, people on great journeys have stopped at important places, and at decisive moments, to build cairns at the roadside to which they and others can always return. Our life consists not only in being but also in becoming, it is a journey in which we grow and are transformed."

Many of us will have sung "One More Step Along the World I Go", probably at the sort of moment in our lives we might put particular energy into marking: baptisms and weddings. Our journeys at the moment are marked with particular worry and uncertainty. For some of us, they are marked by grief in this trying time. For all of us there is likely to be a sense of collective trauma. This is a bumpy road to travel. We continue to pray for all those whose life-events have had to be postponed or that are uncertain at the moment.

But just as in more straightforward times ministers and chapels have been by your side - to celebrate the birth of children, in the coming together of people in marriage, and in the grief and goodbyes of funerals - we are by your side now, walking alongside you, and holding you in prayer. We have to do that in different ways now, and like all of us, we are adapting to this new terrain. We do so, not out of a sense of civic duty or public service, but because of our unshakable belief that we worship and serve a God who journeys with everyone each day of their lives. There is no road too treacherous, no time too confusing and no worry so overwhelming that it can wrong-foot God.

Our communities continue to be in my prayers,

Rev. Paul Parker,

Minister, Gunwen Chapel

(paul.parker@methodist.org.uk) // (01726 850504)

* * * * *

NEWS FROM GUNWEN



Gunwen Chapel remains closed due to the pandemic, however there are some excellent ideas for worship at home together with help and information on the

Methodist Church website at www.methodist.org.uk as shown below -

Service sheets for use at home

Prayers

Live-streamed services

Doing your own live-streaming

Resources for personal prayer and Bible study

A virtual Church choir

There is also a free phone service (from landlines) to hear prayers and news from the Methodist Church on 0808 281 2514.

For further information please contact Gunwen Chapel Minister, Rev Paul Parker, on 01726 850504.

Patrick Reynolds

Bereavement in Cornwall during COVID-19

Visit our website for a list of charities and services able to offer support to those bereaved, from any cause and of any age

www.cornwallbereavementnetwork.org



Bereavement services in Cornwall have come together with the aim of making it easier for those who have experienced the death of a loved one to find support

If you would prefer to speak to someone about where to find the right emotional support for you then please call

01726 829874 10am - 6pm Monday to Sunday

One of the team from Cornwall Hospice Care will help to put you on touch with the right support for you

If you need support with the process and practicalities that you are having to cope with following a bereavement, then please call

01872 252713 9am - 4pm Monday to Friday



Lanlivery Church News and Services

Lanlivery Services

Please note that at the time of going to press there are no services being held in church and the buildings are closed. There are online acts of worship. Please see social media and the church website for details.

June 2020

7th, Trinity

9.30 Morning Prayer

14th, Trinity 1

9.30 Eucharist

21st, Trinity 2

9.30 Morning Prayer

28th, Trinity 3

9.30 Eucharist

July 2020

5th, Trinity 4

9.30 Morning Prayer

12th, Trinity 5

9.30 Eucharist

19th, Trinity 6

9.30 Morning Prayer

26th, Trinity 7

9.30 Eucharist

From the Registers:

Laid to rest in the churchyard on 11th March, following a service in church, Marion Elizabeth Thomson. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

YEARS' MIND (Recalling the passing of the following parishioners):	
June	July
Elizabeth Lucy Marshall	Alec Clement Court
Irene Mary Ford	William Howard Roberts
Olive Marjorie Hepworth	Hilda Irene Court
Jean Winifred Goodman	Ernest Albert Charles Gay
Mary Ruth Clayton	Barbara Helen Wherry
Joan Voyce	
Glynn Riddle	

CONTACT DETAILS FOR LANLIVERY CHURCH

www.lanliverychurch.org.uk

lanlivery@gmail.com

Rector: The Revd Paul Beynon,
The Rectory

Springfield Close,

Lostwithiel

01208 623577

p-beynon@sky.com

Associate Priest: Revd Sheila Bawden

Churchwardens

Tim Turner: 01208 872165

Ellen McConnell: 01208 872981

ellen.mccconnell@hotmail.co.uk

Church Office:

01208 872232

church_centre@yahoo.co.uk

COLWITH FARM

Colwith Farm Potatoes

Planting has continued at Colwith Farm, and the Colwith Farm Box Shop at Lanlivery has been boosting its stock. Supplies include fruit and vegetables, meat from James Kittow Butchers, eggs, flour and of course, Cornish new potatoes as well as hand sanitiser being produced at the Colwith Farm Distillery, which is open seven days a week.

Colwith Farm Distillery

Colwith Farm Distillery is drawing upon its extensive 'plough to bottle' resources to produce as much WHO grade hand sanitiser as possible to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

Owner Steve Dustow has committed to using "everything at our disposal" to fulfil demand, including making alcohol from molasses to avoid the market backlog. The distillery has already taken orders from Cornwall County Council, Devon & Cornwall Police, GP practices, DHL, and Plymouth City Bus. Steve estimates the facility is now using twice as much alcohol to produce the hand sanitiser than would normally be used in the production of vodka and gin.

The 100ml bottles of hand sanitiser are available from the Colwith Farm Box Shop at Lanlivery, and online at www.colwithfarmdistillery.co.uk

The distillery has also now been able to add gloves and face masks to the range, having received many requests for these PPE products.

Samantha Kirton

LUXULYAN CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

“Soup & Sweet”

In line with the latest instructions regarding catering in churches during the pandemic, we are currently suspending “Soup and Sweet”, which would normally be served at 12 noon on the first Sunday of each month. We hope to resume this activity later in the year.

* * * * *

Luxulyan Church APCM has been postponed to a later date to be advised.

* * * * *

PRAYER WALKING WITH LUXULYAN CHURCH

As a church we feel it is important to pray regularly for our community; to this end we normally arrange a ‘prayer walk’ in different parts of the parish each month.

Due to the current situation, we are not gathering, but hope to resume in September. If you have any special prayers in the meantime, please contact me at famporter58@gmail.com.

Shelley

* * * * *

St Austell Food Bank
– helping local people in crisis

We are happy to receive donations for the food bank at any time. Don't forget to include toiletries as well as staples such as tinned tomatoes, tinned fruit, soups, and treats (chocolates etc). Toilet rolls very welcome!

These can be left in the marked box in the church porch.

Thanks to the generosity of Cynthia Grose and Hazel Harradence, there is a good selection of plants for sale in the Church porch. Please take a look while on your daily exercise.



Luxulyan Church Services

For the time being, the church is closed. However, we are planning to hold virtual services as follows:

Sunday 7th June (Trinity)

Pre-recorded available from 8 am

Sunday 14th June (1st after Trinity)

11 am Live zoom

Rev Jules Williams

Sunday 21st June (2nd after Trinity)

Pre-recorded available from 8 am

Sunday 28th June (3rd after Trinity)

11 am Live zoom

Rev Jules Williams

Given the uncertainties over lockdown, we are currently expecting to continue zoom or pre-recorded services in July. Should you wish to join us and are not on our current circulation list, please contact Jules for an invitation.

Contact Details

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2490/

Priest:

Rev. Jules Williams 01726 76282

revjules@btinternet.com

(Day off - Friday)

Churchwardens:

Robin Burley 01208 831145

rabkol@aol.com

Jim Cleare 01726 850553

Jim.cleare@btinternet.com

* * * * *

PLEASE NOTE

ALL SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE SEE THE CHURCH NOTICE BOARD, WEBSITE OR FACBOOK FOR UPDATES.

Verna,

*Congratulations on your
100th Birthday !*

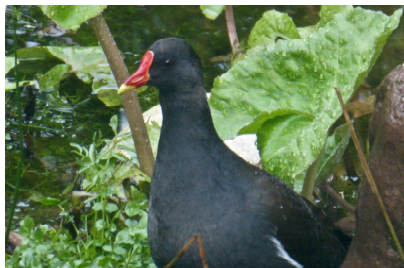
COUNTRY DIARY

9th MARCH 2020

A moorhen wanders nervously around the feeding area and then away along the camellia path.

11th MARCH

Several crows croak in the sunlit poplars while one appears to be struggling to snap off a twig for nesting materials. I discern tiny dots of white buds on the blackthorn tree that I discovered as a small sapling some years ago.



14th MARCH

Early this morning the moorhen appears once again, strutting along the path and wading into Pond Six.



Along Bullfinch Lane the thick layer of leaf litter is so wet that last autumn's sycamore seeds have begun to germinate in it. We will leave them to provide a valuable

food source for any small mammals that may find them.

15th MARCH

The ground is saturated once again after overnight rain. One of our many blackbirds has

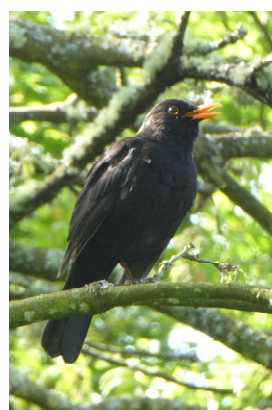
taken to mimicking the signal emitted by the washing machine when it has completed its cycle. This has proved to be confusing!



16th MARCH

A light frost. The auriculas are in bloom. The great spotted woodpecker is busy 'drumming' in the poplars where jackdaws are

chattering raucously – an interesting combination of sounds.



Down beyond Willow Wood I hear a blackbird singing the jaunty, Richard Briers 'Good Life' whistle that David sometimes does as he walks around the garden.

18th MARCH

Shortly after midday I hear the chiffchaff calling above the stream. A pair of siskins arrive at the feeding area.

21st MARCH

The cold, easterly wind continues to blow. I find a stiletto fly outside the greenhouse. This seems an early sighting.

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COUNTRY DIARY



23rd MARCH
David discovers a peacock butterfly and a slow-worm in the lower ponds area. Winter has become spring and the sun and wind work in harmony to warm and

dry the soil.

24th MARCH

The silver willows have become golden, but many catkins have been blown down prematurely. I put out four new roosting pouches filled with sheep's wool.

4th APRIL

Neighbour Clive reports a sighting of a lone swallow this morning and I hear the first willow warbler song of the year in the willow carr* below Treskilling downs. A male brimstone butterfly flutters over the front flower border. We put up two more dormouse nest boxes in Willow Wood.

14th APRIL

Our tulips are resplendent in the spring sunshine. David observes a song thrush taking off suet towards the lower garden and later I see it eating ivy berries by the hen run. Down by the stream a yaffle shatters the morning silence with his hearty laughter and, along the path, the bluebells are coming into bloom.

19th APRIL

A fledgling blackbird calls urgently for food and is promptly fed by its father. Nearby I discover some cuckoo spit on a willow herb stem. This is so early!

20th APRIL

I sow wildflower seeds. The north-east wind rises suddenly, showering me with the cast-off cases of newly opened beech leaves and petals from the blackthorn blossom. Their work done, they will slowly become part of the soil. The cycle of life continues. Many nettles have signs of butterfly eggs on them so, as this is primarily a wildlife garden, I will refrain from removing them until they are no longer needed.

30th APRIL

This has been the warmest April on record.

1st MAY

The coldest May Day I can recall!

4th MAY

This evening I watch an adult greenfinch feeding his two offspring as they sit on the seed tray. It reminds me of how, in May/ June 2002, we cared for two orphaned greenfinch nestlings in, what proved to be, a very humbling experience. SEE RETRO NOTES.

1st JUNE 2002

I film our fostered greenfinches drinking.

2nd JUNE 2002

The greenfinches still take some mashed food from the pipette that David offers but they now spend most of the day eating their seed.

21st JUNE 2002

Recently released into the wild, the young greenfinches have joined a small flock of the resident species and I film them all jostling together on the bird table. Later, when I go outside, most of the birds fly off but two remain feeding confidently! Our work is done.

25th JULY 1984

We visit friends near Stoke Climsland where, in the cool of the evening, we stroll along the summer lanes. Tufted vetch is abundant, and the air is infused with the heady fragrance of hedge bedstraw. As we turn to retrace our steps, we walk into the eye of the setting sun, hanging like a huge, glowing lantern between the luxuriant Cornish hedgerows ahead of us.

Kathryn Hill

* carr is Old Norse for copse in boggy lands



Our purpose built, OFSTED registered, Pre-school setting within Luxulyan Village Hall, offers professional quality childcare in Early Years Education for children aged 2-4 years old.

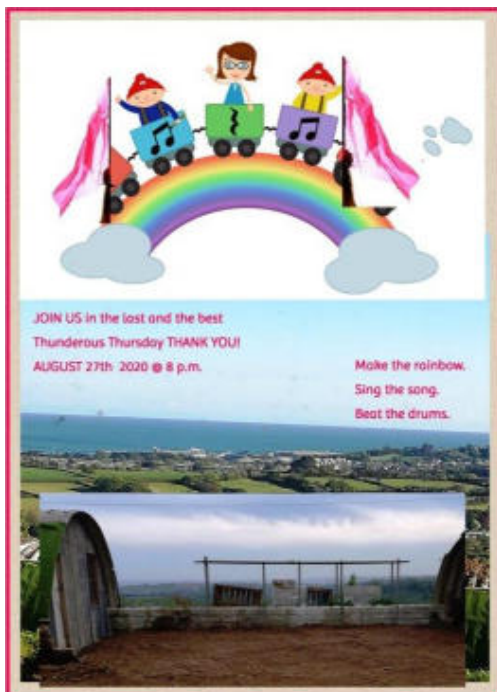
We provide a fun, happy, and safe environment with fantastic facilities including, an amazing undercover outside play area.

Term time only sessions with Grant Funded sessions available

For more information please contact
Steph Apostolou: luxulyanpreschool@gmail.com

ALL ABOARD
to LUXULYAN PRE-SCHOOL

A THUNDEROUS THURSDAY THANK YOU - 27th AUGUST



I'm not sure who thought of the idea that people should come outside to clap and bang their saucepan lids each Thursday evening through lockdown. But it certainly caught the mood in our communities and gave everyone something positive to do. It definitely felt we were 'pulling together' as we recognised the massive contribution of medics and key workers in this testing time.

As I stood in the garden with my son and his partner, it became obvious that the clapping sound was resonating and bouncing off buildings and the hillside. Apart from the immediate neighbours we could clearly identify percussion patterns being played in Tywardreath, clapping & whooping in St Blazey and a firework or two being set off in Par. Now, the momentum of our clapping has clearly diminished in the past couple of weeks. But the need for pulling together, respect, thanks and co-operation is as great as ever. Perhaps the next few months will need it even more. So that is why the idea has come to me, to co-ordinate and host a mega' Thursday Thank You' at the end of August. It will be the time when schools usually go back for their new year and – although it may not be a fully normal start in September 2020 – I hope this can be a fitting way to close a chapter.

So, what I envisage is 2 teams, one working on sounds and the other on the visual side. I have already composed a song called 'Til the world is well again' – you can find it on my web page <http://www.betterways2learn.co.uk/til-the-world-is-well-again/> or on YouTube. I will make a simple plan for the music, cutting and pasting sound recordings, including maybe an entire samba 'break', that could lead into the song itself. Local people are invited to write & submit their own words for a final verse and adapted final chorus. We'll choose the most apt to perform, either pre-recorded or hopefully in a live performance, with the mixed tracks woven in. Visually, the important thing is that we could make a display to be seen from miles around. Penpell is visible on the skyline, all the way from the road above Polkerris, through Par and right round to Prideaux! I can offer a site, with scaffold structure already in place, where we can 'launch' a rainbow display. I guess it will be like a modern lightweight sail, on extending poles. Every person who wants to

commemorate a hero during lockdown, will have the chance to bring a decorated peg doll or a felt character and sew it onto the rainbow, in the days running up to the 27th. I am not a designer, so make allowances for my rough impression.

I am planning to finalise the arrangements and get instructions out soon, well before August obviously. But right now, please express your interest, send your ideas or questions to me at cjs@betterways2learn.co.uk OR, give me a call on 07967 653346.

Thank You.

Caroline Stephenson

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A GUIDE TO THE DEADLINE DATES FOR COPY FOR THIS MAGAZINE

Deadline dates are generally the **10th of the month preceding publication of the edition.**

Editions are April/May; June/July; August/September; October/November; December/January; February/March;
THUS:

May 10 for JUNE/JULY edition
July 10 for AUG/SEPT edition
Sept 10 for OCT/NOV edition
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Jan 10 for FEB/MAR edition
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LANLIVERY OVER SIXTIES

I think in all honesty the next Over 60's will probably be July, as I can't see things getting better before then and hopefully the Crown will be open again. We will just have to wait and see and hopefully we will have all our members together again.

Of course, everyone's brain will be fully rested and ready for action! Here's to a fit and healthy summer.

Pam Bruce

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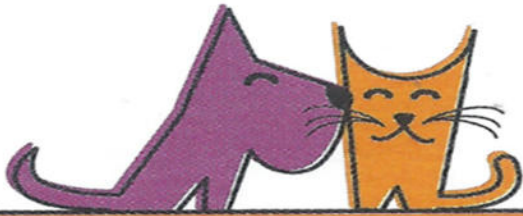
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LANLIVERY..... OUR PARISH

The past, present and future of Lanlivery parish is chronicled in its names.

There is a past to Lanlivery with its roots in ancient Britain. It tells of bygone days and is Celtic in nature and name. The Neolithic site here bears the name Helman Tor with its bronze age remains and from the summit the path styled 'Forth an Syns' trails down to the parish church, denominated St. Brevita, lying in the midst of Lanlivery: Churchtown, and the school of 1877, an Inn, The Crown, of mediaeval longhouse construction, the oft-decorated Holy Well of St Brevita and then leads past the Sandy Way Cross, beyond which lies the historic estate called Pelyn associated with a wealth of eminent historic names: William the Conqueror, Walter Kendall, Henry VIII, Queen Victoria. Then there are names more local, like Kendall, Littleton, Richards, Pollard and Higgs, Lobb and Chapman, Wherry, Thomas, Dunn, Dustow and Dyer as well as memories of loved names on gravestones recently carved and still seen on reflection of past photographs of the 'Home Guard' protecting their village, Lanlivery as 'Ambridge' on Archers' Day, the great gathering of the whole village for V.E. Day, everybody in church on January 1st for 'Lanlivery 2000,' then across to the 'Crown Inn' for the 'Millennium Toast,' planting the 'Millennium Stone' in the church garden, the unforgettable 'Saints' Way Walk' and Eric's 'Lanlivery Pageant' with scenes from past times of the Neolithics, Saxons, Puritans and Victorians culminating in the great Festival Week of 1993 in celebration of the church's restoration.

There is a present-day to Lanlivery. It is known in Feast and Rally and school events,

the annual pheasant shoot, handbells at Christmas in homes lit by candlelight, lively meetings of the WI, awaiting 'The Granite Towers' or a male voice choir visit from Polperro or Mevagissey. The annual cycle of the church's year keeps holy people busy, Christmas and Easter and Ascension. And the cycle of the seasons is a present wonder – spring flowers in the hedgerow, summer harvest and holidays, autumn colours and wood chopping, winter snows. Parish events and harvest suppers, a flower festival, bell ringers' outings, a visit from a Bishop. Life of the Cornish households at Criff or Menawink, Penarth or Streigh, with others competing with the copious 'T's of Tregarreg, Tregantle, Trethevey and Trethew, while at Lower Greadow lies the largest lump of granite in the world.

There is a future for Lanlivery, telling us what's-in-store: a time-capsule discovery in church, the ageing of the Millennium stone, life at Churchtown, growing children who will be the new life of the village, changes in farming, recovery from coronavirus, the unknown antics of "emmits", and maybe even activities of troublesome piskies and the ghost at Treganoon. Forever the fifty-mile view from Helman Tor of Bodmin Moor, Dartmoor, the Atlantic coast at Camel Estuary, China Clay works, Roche Rock, St. Agnes Beacon, St. Austell Bay and always the Fowey river, gazed over by past parishioners resting in peace.

Lanlivery, an illustrious past, a dynamic present, and an auspicious future, a proud place in history, of Christian worship and family life, a good place to live.
Dew boz geno. God be with you. Tereba nessa. Until next time.

David Keighley ©

KNOWING OUR NEIGHBOURS

First printed in *The Granite Towers* October/November 1998 in a series by Janet Hayley about people in our two villages.

Some people in the parish seem to have been here forever, others come along and prove themselves indispensable. This article is about a couple who are known throughout the parish and beyond and are held in great esteem.

Eric Higgs was born at Whistow Farm in the parish of Lanlivery, as was his father before him. He can trace the Higgs family line back to 1640, when they moved from Cheltenham to Cornwall to farm. Norah, his wife of over 50 years, was born in London, but her mother came from Bodmin and her father from Plymouth, and so has really come back to her roots.

Norah's relations, the Rundle family, farmed Churchtown Farm in the 1920's, and as Norah was ill during her childhood, she was sent down to Cornwall to recuperate. Tuberculosis was a killer disease during this time, and Norah suffered yearly operations to cure it, but the doctor told her mother that she would never be well, and not to other to educate her. She has certainly proved him wrong! During her time in Cornwall, she attended Pennant Sunday School where she met Eric.

In the years leading up to the war, Eric was well known in Mid Cornwall for his athletic ability, taking part in many summer sports meetings around the area. His late teenage years were often spent with a group of ten other farmers' sons running in many parts of Cornwall. He was very swift footed in those days and achieved 100 yards in 10.1 seconds! The group travelled to various areas to participate in their sporting events, hoping to win some of the cash prizes, and so boost their finances. One of his friends, Bill Beswetherick from Bodmin, later joined the Metropolitan Police and won the one-mile race at White City, against fierce competition. But as Eric says, "My sprint days are over".

Norah returned to Cornwall in 1941 but was called up six months later to join the army. Eric, not one to miss a chance, courted Norah

and married her on June 1st 1943. Unfortunately, they did not have a lot of time together, just one week's honeymoon in Paignton, before Norah had to return to her duties in the army, and Eric back to the farm, and his Home Guard duties. Norah's kindly relatives arranged the wedding, including making her dress and matching hat, which she did not even see until the day before her wedding, and for which they had saved all their ration coupons.

Their first daughter, Noreen, was born at Whistow in 1944, followed by Pam, before they moved to Roseny, where third daughter Angie was born. Lanlivery School has been well supported by the Higgs family, as Eric and his brother went there followed by their daughters, grandchildren and now their great grandchildren. In 1930 Lanlivery School became a primary school, and so Eric went off to the big school at Lostwithiel!

In the 1950's Eric served eight years on the parish council, but became disillusioned when all they seemed to discuss was the building of a bus shelter at Fowey Cross. This took four years to achieve, but is still standing today! In 1963, Eric, Norah and family moved to their present home of Crift Farm.

Eric's interests included becoming chairman of the Bodmin division of the Liberal Association from 1975 – 1978. Norah became a founder member of the Lanlivery & Luxulyan W.I. Norah worked for Couch's Bakery at St. Blazey for thirty years, ten years as a van delivery driver, and twenty years in the office, as well as bringing up her family and enjoying her leisure time doing crosswords, knitting and cooking. Her talents in this field are well known, having won the cooker section of the produce show at Lanlivery Feast on several occasions. Eric's spare time is taken up with his interests in archaeology, local history, wildlife and writing ten unpublished novels, (publishers, please note).

The couple are enjoying their time now as active members of the Lanlivery Over 60's club, and visiting and entertaining their family of daughters, sons-in-law, seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Janet Hayley 1998

THANK YOU SO MUCH TO THE FOLLOWING LOCAL BUSINESSES!!

(Oh my goodness, I so hope I haven't forgotten anyone!!)

You have raised £1,537.20 for **The Sowenna Unit and The Invictus Trust**, supporting our young people with their mental health!!!!..... what you have actually done is supported numerous families in Cornwall who are going through a difficult time, and that is AMAZING! You have no idea how important this will be for those families!

Heartfelt thanks from me and my family to..... xx

Trethorne Leisure Park, Lanhydrock House & Gardens, Newquay Zoo, Eden, The Tate St Ives, Minack Theatre, Country Skittles, Regal Cinema - Redruth, Blue Reef Aquarium - Newquay, Oasis Fun Pool at Hendra Holiday Park, The Britannia Inn, James Kittow, Griggs Country Store, Baileys of Par, Lisa Gadsby - Hairdresser, Bonds the Jewellers, Laura Bond, The Holmbush Inn, Continental Fruits, Blakes Bakery, The Village Salon - Luxulyan - Amanda Tonkin, Joyce Williams, Maria Jane, Joanne McGilivrey, Jacqueline Cruise, Vera Keam, Janet Cordy, Carolyn Knight, Val Grey, Dave Grey, Mum!! Jamie Stockman, Cloud Nine Hair Design, On the Nail Salon, Luxulyan Institute, Tregonissey Butchers, Carol Girling, Luxulyan Village Hall.

All of my helpers..... thank you thank you thank you!!!!!!

The biggest thank you to Lorna Curtis!!!!!! What a Hero!!!! This woman is an inspiration - thank you is not enough! I'm so happy that you and Brian will be going out for your meal - if you hadn't won it I was going to buy you one anyway!!!! ☺ ☆ ☐

*Catherine Grey
Luxulyan Shop*

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LUXULYAN FEAST WEEK

Note that Feast Week—previously scheduled for June—has been postponed. We hope to put this event on in September.

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1. 50th Anniversary of D Day 1994, Helman Tor
© Jonathan Barker

3. Parish BBQ at Roselath 2009, looking forward to being able to do this again.

2. Lanlivery Parish photo 50th Anniversary of VE Day 1995

4, 5 & 6. Pictures from Kathryn Hill

We look forward to events taking place in future that we can feature on the covers.