

The Granite Towers

*A Community Magazine for
Luxulyan and Lanlivery*



August & September 2020

EDITORIAL



Bill Gates forecast in 2015 that the next catastrophe would not be a nuclear war, but a pandemic, for which we should have prepared, but haven't. It seems amazing that the steps he recommended then, are only now being considered for the present Covid19 pandemic.

Why were we so slow to act?
Probably because ministers

were preoccupied with nuclear proliferation, and other world problems. Brexit then distracted politicians and now we have ever more challenges – in our relationships with Europe, America and now, biggest of all, China. The answer to our problems does not lie in weapons of mass destruction, but in peace, health security and climate security, and currently we should focus on health security, and that should be global.

Then, reprehensibly, the government refused to publish the conclusions of the 2016 report on a cross-government hypothetical scenario of a pandemic in Britain which accurately predicted that the NHS would be plunged into crisis by an infectious and deadly disease. That drill took place in October 2016, but its conclusions were buried by government, even though it highlighted shortages of intensive care beds, vital equipment and even mortuary space. Government reasons given for its suppression were that the results were too terrifying to be revealed and that there were security concerns! The results of suppressing such valuable knowledge – the global pandemic we are now fighting – are surely much more terrifying than being open and honest about a report. Parts of it have been leaked, but we await the full report.

It is also evident that we have become too dependent upon foreign powers such as China – even, ironically, for the protective clothing and kit which the NHS, care workers and general population need to fight the virus. Complicating our relationship with China is the decision to reject the technology of the tech giant Huawei in our 5g network, which we suspect may be used for espionage. To those who say that we will lose out over this, my answer is, why take such an enormous risk – especially when we see how China is treating Hong Kong and Australia? Their government has a bullying attitude to those who wish to be different or change their minds about deals. It is extremely difficult to deal with dictatorial leaders, like the Chinese President Xi Jinping, who tend to use threatening language and talk of retaliation. Mind you, President Trump often behaves with these characteristics and we can all think of several others! I must remind myself, at times like these, that it is not the people, but often the extreme political systems they are under, that are objectionable. (I am attempting to write without being racist or xenophobic).

Looking around “It’s a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World” to quote the title of a famous 1963 film. In that respect, the world hasn’t changed, and probably never will, given human nature. However, given that same nature, which tends to hopefulness, we always hope for gradual improvements!

It was a mad world in September 1940, when Britain was at war. On page 21 we remember our own local heroes, who were valiantly willing to sacrifice their lives to defend Lanlivery one nerve-shredding night.

And now for something completely different – or is it? I have been having my own private battle with a hidden enemy, not only The Virus, but the returning annual pests at this time of year - flying ants. I fight them off with sprays and powders, but each year they return from another source and burst out to surprise me, all over the floor and up the windows, inside and outside the house. I gather from talking to other people, that it has been happening to many of them too. “It’s the season for them”.

It’s also the season for strawberries and cream, gorgeous flowers and delicious vegetables in the garden, and long cool drinks of elderflower cordial, if you managed to catch the elderflowers before they went over. I opened a 10-year-old bottle of elderflower champagne the other day, and that was good too. Here’s to a brighter future. Cheers!

With every good wish

Verna

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 19.

Please send copy for
the next edition of

**“THE GRANITE TOWERS”
OCTOBER NOVEMBER 2020 EDITION**
to the editor, Verna Roberts, by

SEPTEMBER 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.

GRANITE TOWERS MAGAZINE - FUTURE DIRECTION

As many of you know, we managed to maintain an e-version of the magazine during full lockdown. Now that some restrictions have been lifted, we have been able to revert for this edition to a full hard copy printed version. We have decided that it is imperative to continue to offer hard copy to all, however, some of our readers may wish to access just the e-version as an alternative.

This has the following advantages:

- it will enable us to reduce our printing and distribution costs
- the e-version has colour throughout as opposed to just on the covers

We would propose to make the e-version available on the following websites:

- Granite Towers (a work in progress)
- Lanlivery Parish Council
- Lanlivery Church
- Luxulyan Parish Council (link)
- Luxulyan Church

We would therefore request that anyone who is comfortable with not receiving a hard copy should e-mail us at rtrus28252@aol.com confirming their name and full address, so we can revise the distribution list accordingly. Should a full lockdown at any time be reinstated, then we would of course not proceed with a printed hard copy for the duration.

The Granite Towers Committee

* * * * *

VIEW FROM THE SURGERY

As we enjoy the reduction in restrictions from lockdown and hopefully some nice weather, I have been reflecting on how things may change for a doctor's surgery as a result of the pandemic.

The first change that has already occurred and is unlikely to be reversed, is the assessment of appointment requests. Currently all of the patients wanting to see a doctor are having a telephone call appointment to discuss their request and health. This was started to identify patients with a high risk of coronavirus infection(fever, cough etc.) but it has led to the doctors finding they can deal with a lot of issues over the phone, or can advise the patients that they need the practice nurse or someone else and not a doctor. There have been advocates for this total triage system, as it is called, for a while, but we had thought it put a block on our access and openness. However, our recent experience doesn't bear this out.

Another change is the increasing use of alternatives to the traditional face to face appointment, such as email/E consultations and video consultations – where the patients send us details of their problems and we reply with advice or see you over the phone.

Over the years of the NHS there has been a steady increase in needing to see a doctor for non-medical reasons and I think that doctors will start rejecting these requests or diverting them to services that can help more. We get requests for letters for help at work, on holiday, and about housing. We know that our letter is of little use and also employers and gyms can do their own assessments without us. I find it amazing that a fitness trainer needs a letter from a doctor stating it would be beneficial for a person to do exercise. So don't be too surprised if you ask for a letter to wear different shoes at work that you are told it is not a medical matter.

Along a similar line is that I believe doctors will advise people how to help themselves more. This may be after a telephone call or an online consultation. The resultant advice may be to try over the counter treatment or simple self-help and may not be a prescription. This will be supported by people working with the surgery like the social prescriber and community matron, as well as classical services like physiotherapy.

We are currently talking to our main hospital about how to bring their services out into the community. With the idea of reducing crowded areas, the hospital is looking at how to support us with the specialists being more local, linking to the area's doctors more. This will reduce travel and help with what is called "the continuity of care" when the same people are involved and not new faces all the time. We know it improves the quality of care people receive but is expensive compared to having all the specialists on one site and making the patients travel. A lot of the specialist clinics are now doing telephone reviews for patients with stable but long-term conditions, often having monitoring blood tests at the surgery first with the result going to the consultant.

There have been some rumours about discussions on reducing bureaucracy in the NHS, such as reducing the number of inspections, assessments and reviews that the clinicians and a surgery have to go through to continue to work. There is NHS England, the Commissioning Group, CQC and General Medical Council, as organisations supervising us, as well as the paperwork and physical checks we need to do for each one. However, each government regularly promises fewer managers in the NHS and less paperwork, but it always seems to increase.

I will finish on the dream of less paperwork and people only coming to see us for medical issues for which we can help and get back to the day job.

Stay well

Dr. Andy Hayward

A LOOK BACK AT LANLIVERY IN LOCKDOWN

April 2020

Lanlivery seems to be faring O.K. in the current situation. The church remains closed, but the school is open for children of key workers and each day there are between two and six children who seem to be enjoying the Forest Field and plenty of arts and crafts. Local businesses are continuing to serve the parish and beyond. Colwith has the farm shop open and is producing copious amounts of hand sanitiser; Puddle shop has plenty of local produce to keep us all supplied; the Richards family is keeping the animals fed and in top condition; Pelyn vets keep them well; and The Crown Inn is producing take away treats. Of course, we are all helped by newspaper deliveries from Penhaligon's; Baker Tom visits weekly as well as the services of the posties and refuse collectors. Some of the parishioners are key workers and continue to go to their places of work, whilst others are working at home.

May would have been Lanlivery Feast but for this year there will not be any celebrations, and neither will the planned 75th anniversary of VE Day celebrations take place. I will be having some patriotic decoration on the cottage as we are in a central location! My mind goes back to the 50th anniversary when we had a parish photograph taken.

Thanks to Revd Paul for keeping us all worshipping even if we can't actually see each other; it's good to know that we are all together virtually.

Personally, I am trying hard to see the positives in these difficult times and hope that when we are all able to get together again, we will still value the things which are more fundamentally important and not go back to quite so much busyness as in the past. That, and looking forward to seeing my friends and giving my family a hug.

June 2020

I'm still looking forward to being able to hug my family, but now I can at least see them in the garden for a socially distanced catch up. Friends have been able to meet in small numbers and we are looking forward to the Crown opening at the beginning of July, although it will be a different experience from the one we are used to. Nigel and Louisa have continued to provide take away frozen meals each week during this unprecedented time.

The local businesses have continued to serve parishioners and beyond. The Puddle Farm shop and Colwith Box shop have improved and extended their range and premises, card and contactless payments have become the norm. (I wonder if cash will ever make a come-back? If not, there will be implications for charities and children).

Church has continued, albeit remotely, with Facebook, YouTube and Zoom services. Lanlivery Church is now open for private prayer for an hour on Wednesday and Sunday afternoons. We are looking forward to being able to hold services again from 4th July but at the time of writing we are unsure, as a Benefice, how this will be arranged. I hope that we will have more information before this edition of Granite Towers goes to press in a couple of weeks.

Some children have returned to Lanlivery School and I see them waiting to go in at staggered times, via a one way system, marked out to ensure social distancing (how quickly that expression has become part of our normal language). It occurred to me how much easier this must be with small numbers in a village school than at some of the larger ones. It would have been really easy in the 1980s when at least one year group at Lanlivery School had only three children!

As we prepare to welcome visitors back to Cornwall, we wish all our businesses well and hope that everyone remains safe and enjoys our lovely county sensibly. We don't know what the situation will be when we put together the next, October-November edition of the Granite Towers; I hope and pray that the hard work we have put in over recent time will mean that we have further freedom reinstated.

Meanwhile, just now, I am most looking forward to a haircut!

The back page of this magazine shows photographs taken during the lockdown period.

Ellen McConnell

* * * * *

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
Gone	12 th August 2020
28 th November 2020	9 th December 2020

Jim Cleare

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KNOWING OUR NEIGHBOURS

A series initiated by Janet Haley. We started looking back at it in the last issue of The Granite Towers, when we featured her piece about Lanlivery's Eric and Norah Higgs, for October/November 1998. Now it's the turn of Luxulyan couple, Ralph and Vera Keam from the December 1998/January 1999 edition. Three of them have sadly passed away, but Vera continues to live in Luxulyan, near her brother-in-law, Clive.

Mention the name Keam in the Luxulyan and Lanlivery area, and most people would say, "Oh, you mean Ralph". Yes, Ralph and Vera Keam are the "neighbours" in this edition of The Granite Towers.

Born in the parish of Lanlivery at Trethevey, Ralph's family moved to Starrick Moor when he was two years old, where his father was employed in the blockworks. Ralph's mother was a Wherry, a well-known family in Lanlivery.

From Starrick Moor, Ralph walked nearly four miles each way to Treverbyn school, where he first met Vera. Alas, it was not love at first sight in the primary school, but that came later.

Around 1945, Ralph's parents bought Tregarrick Farm. Ralph left St. Austell Grammar School to work on his father's farm. He received a strict family upbringing and was not permitted to attend the local gatherings and dances, but managed to look over the hedge and watch the activities.

Vera was born in Tregony, later moving to Grampound Road, and then to Rescorla for her father's employment. Vera earned her living as a cook in Woolworth's staff canteen in St. Austell.

The highlight of the year in Luxulyan in the 1940's was the Bridges Chapel feast, where Vera and Ralph began courting. The feast consisted of tea, flora dance around Luxulyan, and a game called the "snail creep", when all followed a man trailing a bush along the ground. The reason or origin for this is unknown. (Perhaps someone can shed some light on this?)

In 1950, Ralph and Vera were married at Bridges Chapel and moved into the village at Churchtown, which was then two cottages, and is now one, until they moved to Carminnow Farm in 1955. Ralph travelled the area on his bicycle selling milk from the basket on the front of his bike, as well as farming at Carminnow and helping part-time at Tregarrick.

Their only child, Janet, was born in 1956 at Carminnow Farm, and now lives next door to them, with her husband and two children.

The death of the owner of Carminnow, Owen Williams, who farmed at Rosemelling, meant another move for the Keam family, as they were given first choice of taking on the larger farm.

This move meant a new occupation for Vera, as she began taking in visitors. With one advert in both the Bristol and Birmingham papers, she never had to advertise again, as many willing visitors paid the princely sum of £4.4s per week for full board.

In 1964, Ralph was persuaded by Bill Pollard of Luxulyan to join the parish council. Deciding that he was enjoying the council work, he also stood for Restormel Council in 1975. In 1980, he chaired the Restormel housing committee and in 1983/84 he was elected Mayor of Restormel. Being a home-bird, Vera began her term as Mayoress somewhat reluctantly, but once into the swing of it, thoroughly enjoyed it. The highlight of their term of office was going to a garden party at Buckingham Palace, when they nearly met the Queen! (But that's another story).

As one of their last engagements, they were invited to Bristol to meet Billy Graham, but unfortunately the train broke down, and when they eventually arrived, Mr. Graham had already left. They attended around three hundred engagements during that year, and agree that it was a wonderful time for both of them.

Ralph and Vera retired from farming in 1991, with their main hobbies being Ralph's council duties, their membership of the Over 50's club, where Vera is treasurer, the Luxulyan Working Men's Institute, and their love of Bridges Chapel.

Ralph has been a local preacher since around the age of eighteen, and took the last service at Tretoil, on the Reperry road, near Bodmin. He also preached at Blisland, Fletchers Bridge, Pennant and Bofarnel. Sadly, most of these have now either been converted into dwellings or fallen into disrepair. He well remembers preaching at Retire Chapel, where one of the pipes from the organ fell onto him. He wondered if it was a message from above! Ralph's duties also included being a governor at three schools, Lostwithiel, Lanlivery and Luxulyan, totalling 34 years.

Ralph has seen many changes during his time on the parish, Lostwithiel town and district councils, not least being the change in boundaries, which altered his ward from St. Dennis, Roche and Luxulyan, to that of Lostwithiel, Lanlivery and Luxulyan.

The couple are enjoying their retirement, with their family around them, and it gives Ralph a little more time to watch his beloved football. (Please don't phone or call during an important match)!



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The farmers didn't shut down.

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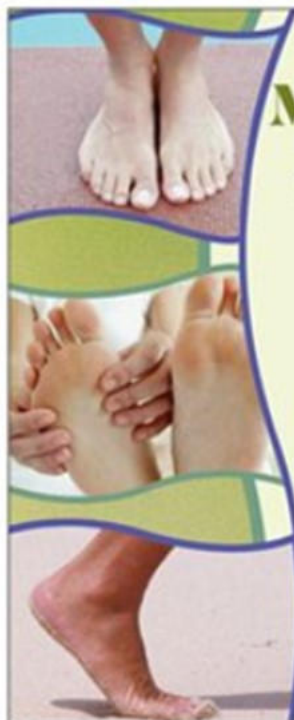
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BEING GREEN!

Luxulyan Church, along with the Diocese of Truro, is working to ensure that by 2030 we will be a 'zero carbon' church. We have joined the Green Church Kernow Environmental Award Scheme and are working towards achieving our Bronze award by September.

To achieve the Bronze award, we need to have completed three tasks from each of the categories, Christian Living, Community and Resources.

From Christian Living we have appointed a church 'Environmental Champion' someone with a passion for environmental matters who will make things happen and will drive the church forward through Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. Our 'champion' is Shelley Porter. Sometime ago we registered as a 'Fair Trade Church' but we will make sure that we keep to this when making future purchases and we set aside a couple of Sundays to celebrate the Environment this year and plan to make sure we do this every year.

From the community column we plan to add an eco-column to our website on 'A Church near you' and regularly contribute towards the Granite Towers with our progress. We also have a display inside the church about our plans for future eco-friendly plans (sadly not accessible at present). As our churchyard is a 'Living Churchyard' where we leave the wildflowers to flower and produce seed and to encourage other wildlife, we can also tick that box. The wildflowers have been stunning during lockdown and we have noticed that the wildlife is thriving!



The wildflowers have been stunning during lockdown and we have noticed that the wildlife is thriving!

In the resources column we are doing much better! We have replaced all our light fittings with LED or energy efficient bulbs, we have composting for all organic materials in the churchyard, we have a water meter, use recycled paper for any printed matter, and have a policy of emailing rather than using post where possible. We have also switched to a 100% green energy provider.



We have switched to Octopus Energy; if you are looking for a 100% renewables provider then please consider using our link, as Octopus will give both the church and you £50 if you decide to switch. Our switch also cut our monthly outlay considerably! <https://share.octopus.energy/shy-macaw-247>

Other plans include installing bird boxes and insect hotels, writing, and adopting an environmental policy for the church, using only environment-friendly cleaning products, and installing rainwater collection butts. If anyone is interested in helping us achieve these and other challenges please get in touch with Shelley famporter58@gmail.com 07761798220

If you wish to have a look online and find out what we are planning to work towards please look here: <http://www.trurodiocese.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Environment-Award-Scheme-2017>

We are very excited to be a part of this project and would love to hear your ideas of how we can become 'greener' and would love to hear your stories of how you have 'greened' your home!

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BOOK GROUP



Our Group is hoping to resume meetings in September – on Thursday 17th at 8pm. This all depends on the course of the pandemic and its vagaries.

We have been reading Sky Burial by Xinran Xue, (translated from the Chinese), The Virgin Cure, by Ami McKay and The Age of Innocence, by Edith Wharton, all of them reading sets loaned from the county library in Truro. Some members valiantly chose to attempt all three titles, some two and others just one. We'll be discussing them, and any other books read during the long weeks of lockdown, and recommending them – or not, to each other.

We meet at Trethevey PL24 2SA at 8pm every 6 weeks or so. Refreshments are always served. For more information, ring Kay Roberts on 01726812065.

Kay Roberts



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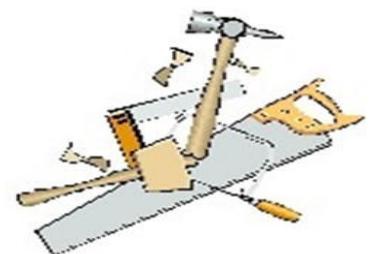
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FRIENDS OF LUXULYAN VALLEY

Volunteer work parties (members only—socially distanced), have re-started in Luxulyan Valley. Numbers are restricted, so booking with ranger, Jenny Heskett, is essential. You can find information about future dates as they become known, on our website, www.luxulyanvalley.co.uk.

Our fungus walk on Breney Common in August has been cancelled but we hope that the morning walk from Pons Mill on Sunday September 20th at 10.30, will go ahead. Numbers may be limited, so telephone me nearer the time, to express an interest. Also let me know if you want to be alerted about future work parties.

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250ml white wine**
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1 tsp lemon juice
butter and olive oil

Method:

1. Prepare sauce: add shallot, fish stock and white wine to pan and reduce by half. Stir in cream and reduce a little further. Strain, add lemon juice and froth a little using a hand blender. Stir in rosemary and adjust seasoning using salt and white pepper as required.

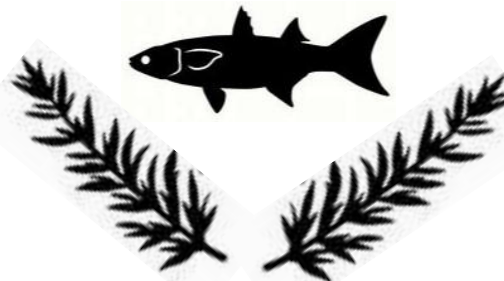
2. Sauté fish gently in a little olive oil/butter with a rosemary sprig for 3 mins basting; then finish for 3 mins in oven at 200C.

3. Plate immediately, laying each fillet onto the sauce and decorate with a rosemary sprig.

* To prepare fish stock, put a large white fish frame (bones and head), such as cod, hake or pollock in a litre of water. Add thyme, parsley, bay leaf and a small onion halved, and bring to the boil; simmer for about 20 minutes, skimming if necessary. Sieve and reduce by half. Cool, bag and freeze, reserving for later.

** Any dry white wine will do; some purists suggest Noilly Prat (French Vermouth).

Robin Burley



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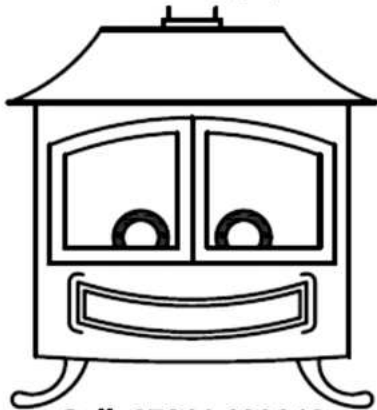
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LUXULYAN AND LANLIVERY WI REPORT

Jackie Russell has been doing a sterling job as secretary, keeping everyone informed of local and county news, mostly by email. Some county activities, although far fewer than usual, have been going on, despite the lockdown, and now with some cautious relaxation of the strictures, some activities and events are starting up again. One such is the Annual Council Meeting. All hope for it has not been lost; the executive members are waiting to see what the situation will be when The Regal Theatre in Redruth opens once again, and whether there is any way the meeting can be held while maintaining social distancing.

Members will have been glad to hear about a subscription update. Following NFWI consultations with all federations, we have been told that there will be a three-month extension to this year's membership subscription. The next renewal date for membership subscriptions will therefore be 1 April 2021. In addition, from this point onwards, membership renewals will always be in April. This is to acknowledge the feedback many of us shared with NFWI during the recent Strategic Vision consultation about the challenges of the January payment date, and how we wished to see this changed in the future.

Many WIs responded creatively to the practical challenges posed by lockdown. The update continues: “and we continue to be inspired by the activities being delivered to ensure members remain connected during this difficult time. However, we do appreciate that this period has meant that many members have experienced disruption to their WI experience and therefore, we hope the additional three months will provide some compensation to acknowledge the disruption. You can read full FAQs on My WI to help you understand a bit more about the subscription process and how this will impact WIs”. Very good news for all members, I think!

At local level, we have had two Zoom meetings so far, one in late May, the other in early July, both very successful and enjoyable and it was lovely to see those that were able to take part. They were very informal, so that we could catch up on each other's news, but we were able to organise some future activities, for example, a walk to take place to the Gribben on July 22nd and a picnic lunch, weather permitting, at Amanda Penk's. This will be on Wednesday 12th August from 12 to 2pm in her gardens, so that we can socially distance in “bubbles” of 6. Please bring with you your picnic and chair if you can. Husbands are invited, as some members will need them as chauffeurs!

We are still supporting “Operation Hedgehog” and the hedgehogs are in need of bedding! Please tear up newspapers into strips, put in a bin liner and bring them, with any crisp packets already collected, to the picnic lunch.

As far as we can tell, the trip to observe the beavers at Woodland Valley Farm, Ladock TR2 4PT is still on at 7.30pm on Wednesday August 19th, and, depending on Covid19 measures for September, and whether we can meet in Luxulyan Village Hall, the next meeting will be on Wednesday September 9th at 7.15pm, when

Roger Smith will talk on The Luxulyan Valley. The competition is a picture or photo of the Luxulyan Valley.

New members and visitors are warmly welcome to our meetings. Please call Secretary Jackie Russell on 07925966696 or President Verna Roberts on 01726 812065 for more information. It will be lovely to see everyone again, and I am sure we are all looking forward to it.

Verna Roberts



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CHURCH HUMOUR



MISSING PRESUMED MARRIED

Gina read the note for the third time, unable to believe what her daughter had written.

I'm sorry Mum and Dad, I know you don't like Tom but I love him so it's better if we go away. I hate to spring this on you but I can't stand the thought of months of hassle and you trying to talk me out of it. I love you both and I'm grateful for everything you've done for me. Don't worry about me. I'll be in touch soon, love Rachel.

Hot tears scalded Gina's eyes. Her beautiful daughter, running away with a man she knew to be irresponsible and unreliable. Shocked to the core, she went to show the note to her husband. Mark had exactly the reaction she knew he would have.

'That no good lout, taking our baby away,' he shouted. 'How could she do this to us? I should have stopped it before it came to this.' Like Gina though, his anger soon turned to despair, and his sobs were as loud as hers.

'What are we going to do?' Gina asked.

'We've got to find her, stop her marrying that lazy slob!' Mark said.

'How can we do that?' Gina asked, wondering if they still did speedy marriages at Gretna Green. 'They could have gone anywhere. Anyway, if she loves him we've got no right to stop her. She's over eighteen.'

'Eighteen!' Mark railed. 'As if anyone knows their own mind at eighteen! They should never have changed the age of consent from twenty-one, letting kids vote, get married, join the forces to get themselves killed. It's immoral!'

'Immoral it may be,' Gina muttered. 'But it's legal.'

The first postcard came from Stratford-on-Avon and showed the house where Shakespeare had lived. *It's beautiful here, Rachel wrote, Tom and I are having a good time. Don't worry about me, I'm fine.*

'Right,' Mark said as soon as he saw the postmark. 'We'll go and look for her. It may not be too late.'

Gina sighed. 'I don't like the idea of her marrying him any more than you do, but I want my daughter. I wouldn't care if she married the abdominal snowman, as long as we can be together again. Anyway, who says they'll get married? Living together is far more fashionable these days.'

'Same difference,' Mark growled. 'He'll be a bad influence whatever they do.'

The trip to Stratford proved fruitless, and Gina and Mark returned home upset and frustrated.

The second postcard came from London. *Things are taking longer than we thought, wrote Rachel. We'll have to be here a while before we can get to the next level. We're fine though. Hope you are both OK.*

'The next level! What the heck does that mean,' Mark spluttered.

'They're still together then,' Gina said, 'but perhaps they're not married yet. How long do you have to live somewhere before you can get married?'

'Only seven days for a registry office,' Mark said when he'd consulted Google. 'You have to give 28 days' notice though. It's much longer for a church.'

A sinking feeling filled Gina as she imagined Rachel in flowing white, floating down a church aisle somewhere without her. Surely Rachel wouldn't do that? And why hadn't they stayed in Stratford? Were they going to be constantly on the move? One thing consoled her. Rachel

was still in touch, which meant she would come home one day. Perhaps she was waiting until she thought they'd calmed down, accepted her choice of partner.

'It's pointless trying to find her in London,' Mark said. 'We could search for a year and not get anywhere. I'll never forgive her for this.'

'Perhaps we should ask *her* to forgive *us*,' Gina suggested. 'We're the ones who tried to persuade her to do what we wanted her instead of letting her choose for herself.'

'So it's our fault now, is it? We – I only wanted what was best for her. It's natural for parents to want their children to do well.'

'I know, Mark, but what we think is best isn't always right. It's her life after all, and university isn't for everyone. If only we had an address. At least we could write to her, tell her we don't care what she's done as long as she's all right.'

'That's why she won't tell us,' Mark guessed. 'She knows full well we'd try to see her if she did.'

Tears filled Gina's eyes. Had they driven their daughter away? The thought was unbearable.

Three months and four postcards later they received a letter. Inside were two tickets to a show at the Mayflower theatre in Southampton. *Hope you can make this date, Gina read. Tom and I would love to see you there. We could meet at the pub opposite at five o'clock for coffee first, and have dinner afterwards. Perhaps you can stay a few days. I'm missing you both.*

Gina was ecstatic. 'Mark! We're going to see our baby!'

Mark growled something about not travelling all that way at Tom's beck and call, but Gina knew he would go. 'Please be nice to Tom,' she begged. 'What does it matter what he's like as long as we still have our daughter?'

On the appointed day they arrived early at the pub opposite the theatre. Gina gasped with joy when Rachel jumped out from a booth and ran towards them, her arms open. Tom was nowhere in sight. When the emotional reunion was over, they sat in the booth, tears still coursing down Gina's face.

'Tom will join us after the show,' Rachel explained. 'He's still rehearsing.'

'Rehearsing?' Mark queried.

'Yes. He's in the show. We both are. That's why I left home. I knew you wanted me to go to university. You never wanted me to be an actress, but thanks to Tom I've got my first speaking role.'

'You ran away to be an actress? Not because you love Tom?'

'I do love Tom, of course, but not in that way.'

Staring at his daughter Mark said, 'So...you're not married?'

Rachel laughed. 'Married? Not on your life. I'm far too young, and the only thing I want to be married to at the moment is my career. Do you forgive me?'

They didn't need to answer. Their relief was palpable, and when they saw Rachel's performance two things filled their hearts.

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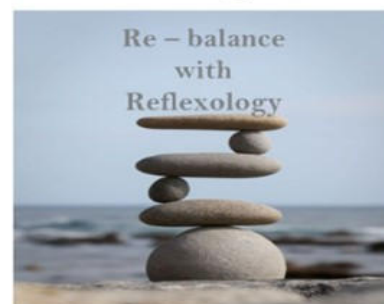
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LUXULYAN MEMORIAL INSTITUTE

We were able to open the Institute Meeting room facility and Snooker room complying with Covid 19 guidelines in the week beginning 6th July.

The Trustees put special conditions on the use of both rooms to keep users as safe as possible after conducting a risk assessment. These conditions will be reviewed on 27th July to consider whether any revisions to these conditions are needed in the light of new information or if guidelines are changed. Please contact Nick on 01726 851648 for a copy of the up to date conditions of use, or, for bookings, Elizabeth on 01726 850553.

The Plant Swaps with the bacon butties have been missed but Nick has held two socially distanced plant sales outside the Institute. Hopefully in August we might be able to have a more normal Plant Swap and Sale with refreshments available, possibly served outside, depending on the weather of course. These will be on Saturday 1st August. Keep an eye out for notices around the village and on the Luxulyan Facebook page.

Nick Legard

* * * * *

LUXULYAN OVER FIFTIES

We intend to keep going with our lunches at The King's Arms, Bridges, on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, maybe in September, and perhaps in smaller groups. Hope to see you on Thursday September 3rd and Thursday September 17th if we can. Pam Stocker and I will be contacting you.

Val Hodge

* * * * *

SUMMER 2020

Well, what a time it's been over the past few months. Who'd have thought we'd be ordered to spend months at home with restrictions on what we can do and where we can go. It's been an uncertain time and as we go forward it will continue to be a 'new normal'. There have been highs and lows, copious amounts of tea drinking and plenty of 'what am I doing?' moments, but the garden is looking pretty good, apart from the corner where the neighbour's cat thinks it's his own private toilet... the battle continues!

One of the many tasks I began tackling is the mammoth task of going through and whittling down some of the thousands of photos I have taken over the last 10 years, of adventures far and near, as well as friends and family that have come and gone, some more permanently than others. The aim is to either print them off to put into albums, or to organise them into photo books. I thought it would be easier to get them printed into photo books, and I guess it would be if you knew how to use the programme and didn't mind cropping photos to fit suggested layouts, but well, I didn't. Something that in my head should take hours, took days, and days, and days....and that was just for one photo book!! Needless to say, I have taken a short pause before starting on the next lot.

Another area of forgotten or neglected activities that I've tried to resurrect is that of writing letters. As much as the age of emails and messenger and the like make it easy and efficient to make contact, it doesn't feel quite the same as receiving a letter through the post. I've actually practised some calligraphy (not that I'm much good, yet),

and I'm finally starting to make a small dint into the piles of stationery I have accumulated over the years. The most recent letter I wrote included a poem I found, an inspiration from a poetry exchange email earlier in the lockdown period. I thought it was quite apt being about the current time of year. It was also a reminder to notice the little 'normal' things happening in the season around us:

August

A time for the hay
And a time for the reaping,
A time for the fruit
For preserving and keeping.

A time to rejoice
For gifts in good measure,
For showers and rainbows
And moments to treasure.
For high, purple hills
And tall rushes growing,
For bright cottage gardens
And lazy streams flowing.

A time for the hay
And a time for thanksgiving,
For sunlight and laughter
And summertime living.

Iris Hesselden

Maybe the 'new normal' isn't actually so vastly different from what we're used to. Enjoy the summer and the abundance that this time of year brings, and stay safe. Until next time.

Katy x

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Written following the 50th anniversary of the end of conflict in Europe, I have tried to epitomize the thoughts and the feelings of the survivors of those young men who fought a desperate, bloody battle, often in far-off lands. Let us thank God they had the courage to do it and in doing so saved the world from a tyrannical Dark Age.

V.E. Day - 1995; Fifty years on

With greying hair and slow moving steps, they came;
 Their once upright shoulders beginning now
 To stoop a little,
 Their faces showing each the passing of the years.

A myriad of ghosts came with them,
 Unseen, yet not forgotten;
 Unspoken names remembered
 From some distant battlefield.

And when the hour struck
 To herald the silent minute,
 They saw again those far-off places of city, village, road or hill
 Where they had fought and many had died.

There, as the bugle sounded, each his memories had;
 Dunkirk - the tragic beach,
 The fighter pilot, tired and weary, the green fields below spurring him on
 Through vapour trail and black-crossed bombers.

Night in the Western Desert, waiting
 At Alamein;
 Monte Cassino; the Burma jungle
 Where death lurked in dark forest.

The great grey battleship, ploughing through Arctic seas,
 The hidden menace beneath the waves;
 Fifteen hundred husbands, fathers, sons, at Cape Farewell,
 Gone for ever.

The Lancaster, limping back, out of the gates of Hell,
 Young men, with drawn faces and jagged nerves
 Listening to the spluttering engines,
 Praying for the lights of home.

Beaches of Normandy, courage at Arnhem, the last attack
 Across the Rhine, the long years in prison camp,
 All came flooding back as the bugle notes faded
 Softly, into the great hush.

And when it was over, they walked away, slowly,
 Their shoulders a little straighter,
 A look of pride in their eyes
 Shining and moist with remembrance.

To the younger generations, a simple fact of history
 That almost seems untrue,
 But to these aging, stalwart men, a memory that will never fade
 Until the last "Lights Out".

Eric Higgs



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Guard recall night they were warned that storm troopers had invaded

Last three volunteers meet for final time

Report: OSCAR MORSE
Picture: JONATHAN BARKER

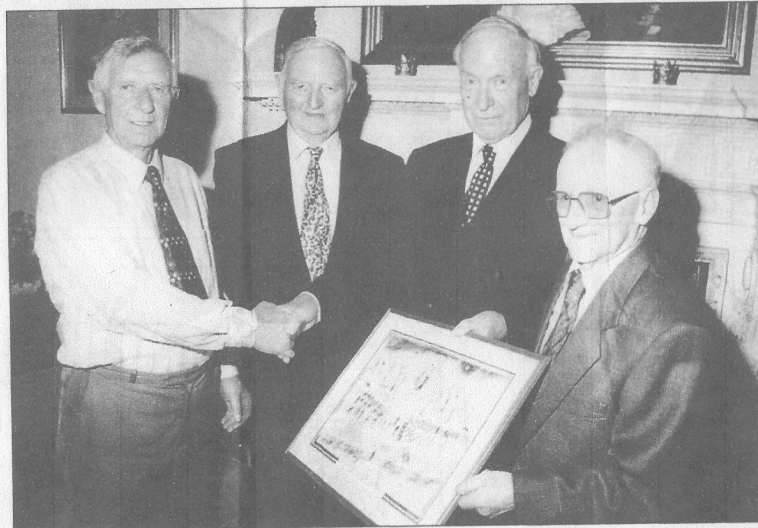
THEY were on the bridge at midnight - rifles in hand awaiting anything the German enemy could throw at them.

It was September 7, 1940, and a handful of inexperienced soldiers had been ordered to guard the bridge and repel the soon to be expected German advance.

This was not Dunkirk or North Africa, but Pelyn on the outskirts of Lostwithiel, and the men handed responsibility for the operation were Lanlivery Home Guard or the Land Defence Volunteers as they were

then called. Last Thursday, on the 60th anniversary of the mission, the three surviving members of the local guard met for the final time to recall the event and to remember life during wartime, aided by a cassette of Winston Churchill's greatest speeches.

All employed in the farming industry so exempt from the services, Eric Higgs, aged 80, Frank Dyer, 78, and Gordon Littleton, are the last remaining members of the 19-strong Lanlivery platoon who guarded the bridge in 1940 under the command of Captain Kendall, the then owner



At the last reunion of the Lanlivery Home Guard, Morley Richards (left), vice chairman of Lanlivery parish council, receives a drawing by Eric Higgs, depicting the scene on September 7 1940. Eric's fellow platoon members Frank Dyer and Gordon Littleton are also pictured.

of Pelyn House.

Mr Higgs still lives on the outskirts of Lanlivery, while Mr Dyer now lives in Cardinham and Mr Littleton in Tywardreath.

A well-known local historian, Eric Higgs has strong memories of that night in 1940.

The Battle of Britain was waging and German troops had been assembling in large numbers across the Channel, and on the night of September

7, weather and tidal conditions were perfect for an invasion.

Mr Higgs recalled: "It was Mrs Kendall who received the coded phone call for invasion from military headquarters in London at 8.10pm - 'Cromwell, call out all units'.

"We'd already been told what the platoon had to do when the invasion came and within 40 minutes we had completely

blocked what was then the main road and were guarding the bridge across the stream that ran through Pelyn.

"We had the odd shotgun and some .22 air rifles but not much else. Frank's and my job was to throw about 40 petrol bombs at advancing tanks.

"We also had large concrete pipes and railway sleepers to rain down on the enemy," recalled Mr

Higgs. He admitted that all were nervous that night, and it did not get any better when an army truck pulled up by the road block, the driver telling the volunteers that it was believed the first German storm troops had landed at Marazion.

"We thought, Oh God, they could be coming ashore at Par or Pentewan next. There was some pit in our stomachs before, but we felt

even worse after that."

Fortunately, the invasion never came, and the men were eventually stood down.

After the war ended the old platoon held five year reunions, but last Thursday was their last.

Mr Higgs has sketches and framed a picture of the Pelyn mission and presented it to Lanlivery parish council.



MIDNIGHT SEPTEMBER 7th 1940

Lanlivery Parish Platoon at "ACTION STATIONS" Pelyn Bridge road block-A39
Codeword "CROMWELL" (invasion imminent) issued nationwide at 8.00pm
Platoon strength...1 officer, 18 other ranks.
Ref: (1) Riflemen (2) Lewis machine-gun post (3) Concrete filled sewer pipes (4)
Eight foot lengths of railway line (5) Fire bomb (Molotov cocktail) slit trench

FROM CHURCH



Dear Friends,

There is a verse in the bible (1 Peter) which says that to God a day is like a thousand years. I think the last few months have felt like a thousand years as well! I can't begin to think about where we were and what was happening the last time I wrote to you. I just know that whether it was before or after lockdown things have changed enormously!

I wonder what life has been like for you. As I have spoken to different people on the phone it seems as if we have all reacted in rather similar ways - tiredness and busy-ness and sadness, followed by a general lack of motivation and frustration, all interspersed with an occasional sense of relief about the things we haven't had to do!

One of the highlights for me has been some of our Zoom services. My three churches (Luxulyan, St. Luke's Boscoppa, and St Blazey) have gathered every other week on Zoom for something approaching a church service... and its been great! I mean, slightly chaotic and messy, nothing ever goes to plan, but great, nevertheless. I've been trying to reflect on why I enjoy it so much. I think it's because it has become normal to worship from our homes. One of my ambitions as a church leader is for every member of my churches, and every resident of our villages to know that;

1. God loves us.
2. Jesus died to reconcile us to God.
3. We have access to God just as we are.

I love church and I love our churches, but I fear that in the past we have made Jesus, well, a bit too churchy! The fact that we have been able to adapt to worshipping in our own homes makes me hopeful that we haven't become dependent on the building for our connection with God.

As I write this (29th June) the government has just released new guidance for public worship. We are awaiting the Church of England's official guidance on the back of that. At first glance it looks unlikely that it's going to be practical to have a service in church for another few weeks (running water in church seems like a requirement, for example) and as things stand I would be asked to actively discourage those over 70 from attending (a good proportion of our congregation) but that doesn't faze me too much.

Our churches are full of people who love God and love one another. And I hope they are the sort of people who want to share that love with those in our communities.

If there's something practical we can do to support you, please do get in touch. Whether that's a Foodbank voucher or help with another practical need, we will do all we can to help.

And as ever, we would love to know if there's anything specific we can be praying for you.

Finally- a couple of little plugs. The first is for a series of (very) short interviews I have been doing. I have been asking different people every week four simple questions. So far, we have had Bishops and rugby players, missionaries and 'normal people'. You can find them here:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLxmuQi3tDCKZsETiRIFdbOuWvuUhyFrR>

Also, perhaps you're not a church goer at all. Well, you'd be welcome to join us at Zoom church when we gather or in person when we're able. You're always welcome.

With my love and prayers as ever,

Revd. Jules
revjules@btinternet.com

BREATHE!

Thoughts on July 2020 from Canon John

It is early June and we are still in Covid lockdown of sorts. I am acutely aware that we are living simultaneously in two time zones. The domestic time zone quietly revolves around feeding birds and the nightly hedgehog visitor, the village shop trip for food, gardening and phoning friends and family. However, the world news reminds us of the tumultuous other time zone which we also inhabit. Since April, home life has been slow and quiet; the outside world has been fast-moving and strident. There are the constant Covid-19 updates from the government and the instructions (based on science we are assured) which control our movements; these messages have become entangled by domestic politics and the increasing awareness that the UK may not yet be 'out of the virus woods' despite the PM assertions. Certainly, post Covid we face an economic recession. We learn too, that the blissful period of clean air is over, as industrial economies fire up again. Globally 8 million people a year have their life span shortened because of poor air quality. Meanwhile, the climate scientists and activists pass on apocalyptic news of the melting ice-caps and Siberian perma-frost: they remind us that the life of this planet is still threatened, and the upheaval of climate change will dwarf anything caused by our current pandemic. On top of this, the murder of a black man in a distant city in the USA brings the whole world up short to face the systemic racism which distorts our humanity. Anger surges, and statues are toppled, but so too are many of our smug certainties about our own history, culture and society.

As he lay dying, George Floyd's cry, 'I can't breathe', becomes the connecting mantra of our current time. A Corona virus patient describe how it feels as their lungs start to pack up: 'I can't breathe'. Air pollution in global cities returns to pre-Covid-19 levels and another 8 million people face an early death because - they can't breathe. The picturesque language of the Bible's creation narratives talks about God's breath giving life to the earth. At Pentecost, the Christian feast we celebrated at the end of May this year, Christ breathed that same breath of God on his disciples and gave them the Holy Spirit so that they could go out into to the world and make it new and beautiful, just and merciful: a world reflecting the love of God; a world where every living thing can breathe.

Perhaps we can't do much to change the world. But treasuring every breath we take would be a good start.

A poem for these times by the Welsh priest & poet R S Thomas (1913-2000)

'The Bright Field'

I have seen the sun break through
to illuminate a small field
for a while, and gone on my way
and forgotten it. But that was the
pearl of great price, the one field that had
treasure in it. I realise now
that I must give all that I have
To possess it. Life is not hurrying

on to a receding future, nor hankering after
an imagined past. It is the turning
aside like Moses to the miracle
of the lit bush, to a brightness
that seemed as transitory as your youth
once, but is the eternity that awaits you.

FROM CHAPEL

NEWS FROM GUNWEN



Gunwen Chapel remains closed at present while discussions take place regarding how the Chapel can be reopened safely, which hopefully will be fairly soon.

For the latest information from the St Austell Methodist Circuit with regard to coronavirus, please visit our Circuit website at - www.staustellmethodist.co.uk. There you will find information, news, prayers, home worship materials, remote worship (via 'Zoom'), plus weekly and daily Bible study. There is also a link to Rev Steven Wild's YouTube channel featuring his 'Daily Reflections', where he uploads a short video message and prayer every day.

In the absence of our traditional Chapel services and events during the pandemic, we have found many other ways to come together in fellowship, love, and to help one another, as well as ways to pray and worship from home, online, or by doorstep or garden visits. Whichever way we choose we have been coming together in Christian fellowship, and keeping our church communities connected throughout this difficult time.

Patrick Reynolds

TYPOS/BLOOPERS

They're back! Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences appeared in church bulletins or announcements.

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

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 details are correct at the time of going to press, but may need to change due to the ongoing pandemic.

There are also online acts of worship. Please see social media and the church website for details.

There will not be any refreshments served, but if you wish to stay for a socially distanced time of fellowship after the service, please bring your own cuppa!

August 2020

There will be a service of the Eucharist at St. Bartholomew's at 10.30 each Sunday. There will also be a Eucharist on the following dates in the stated places. Please note that they will all be at the Benefice Service time of 10.30.

2nd, Trinity 8
10.30 St. Veep

9th, Trinity 9
10.30 St. Winnow

16th, Trinity 10
10.30 St. Brevita, Lanlivery

23rd, Trinity 11
10.30 Bradoc

30th, Trinity 12
10.30 Boconnoc

September 2020 (tentatively back to "normal")

6th, Trinity 13
9.30 Morning Prayer

13th, Trinity 14
9.30 Eucharist

20th, Trinity 15
9.30 Morning Prayer

27th, Trinity 16 Harvest
6.00 Harvest Evening Prayer

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

YEARS' MIND

(Recalling the passing of the following parishioners):

August	September
Jane Bates	John Francis Pollard
	Dionne Lesley Green
	Tayla Saunders
	Brenda Margaret Sinkins

QUIPS FROM OUR ANCESTORS

Do you fondly look back on your school days as the best times of your life? Well, it seems that times may not have changed as much as we'd like to think they have. Children throughout history certainly didn't let strict schoolmasters and challenging conundrums distract from their fun. You only have to delve into our [newspaper archive](#) for the proof. But were these school test answers cheeky comebacks or innocent blunders? Decide for yourself.

At a recent examination at a public school the examiner was asking a class of small boys some questions to find out their intelligence. He wandered through different subjects, and at last came to speak about measles, when a very little boy jumped up and exclaimed: "Please, sir, you will not whip me if I ask a question?" "No," said the inspector. Then the question came; "Why did Eve never catch the measles?" This the inspector could not solve, so he gave it up. "Because she'd Adam," said the small boy.

Whitby Gazette, 19 August 1904

On a recent examination paper on "How We Are Governed" was this question:—
"If the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Home Secretary, and all the members of the Cabinet should die, who would officiate?"

Robert, a boy of twelve, thought for some time, trying in vain to recall who came next in succession. At last a happy inspiration came to him, and he answered, "The undertaker."

Sunderland Daily Echo and Shipping Gazette, 9 January 1914

A school inspector in the North of Ireland was once examining a geography class, and asked the question: "What is a lake?" He was much amused when a little fellow, evidently a true gem of the Emerald Isle, answered: "It's a hole in a can, sir."

Tamworth Herald, 19 May 1900

The Brave Turk
School examination question: "Why are the Turks considered brave?"
Answer: "Because a man with two wives will face death more readily than a man with one."

Nottingham Evening Post, 18 April 1933

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.

* * * * *

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 may 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.*

* * * * *

The following are taken by our friend from Bishop Waltham How's "Lighter Moments":—
Reply of a boy to the question, "Who was John Wesley?" "John Wesley invented chapels, and afterwards became Duke of Wellington."
A boy in an examination, being asked to give an account of the Sadducees and Publicans, wrote: "The Sadducees did not believe in spirits, but the Publicans did."
"What became of Adam and Even when they were turned out of the Garden of Eden?" "They went to the workhouse, sir."
In a school examination the question was put, "Explain the meaning of a Bishop, Priest, and Deacon." One boy answered, "I never saw a Bishop, so I don't know. A Priest is a man in the Old Testament. A Deacon is a thing you pile up on the top of a hill, and set fire to it."

Leamington Spa Courier, 18 April 1913.

Luxulyan Church Services

For the time being, the church is closed. However, we are planning to hold virtual services throughout July and August. These may be either 11 am live zoom or pre-recorded. Please see our website or facebook for more details.

Should you wish to join us and are not on our current circulation list, please contact Jules for an invitation.

We had originally planned an outdoor pet service for 30 August, however, this will be reviewed in due course.

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

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

Among the questions sent out by a school examiner was the following example in arithmetic: "If one horse can run a mile in one minute 50sec., and another a mile in 2min., how far would the first horse be ahead in a match race of two miles?" A scholar returned the question with this attached—"I will have nothing to do with horse-racing."

Worcestershire Chronicle, 7 December 1901

UNCOMPLETED PROVERBS.

Apropos of answers to school examination papers, a question was set at a girls' school asking for the missing words of uncompleted proverbs. One of these was: "People who live in glass houses . . ." to which a girl added the words: "should undress in the dark!" Another one was: "Man proposes . . ." to which another girl added what seemed to her to be a perfectly logical conclusion, though scarcely the right one: "Woman accepts!"—"Morning Post."

Gloucester Citizen, 19 August 1925

COUNTRY DIARY

9th MAY 2020

We walk to Treskilling Downs, where the roadsides are white from the recent 'blizzard' of willow seeds.

10th MAY

Sunny and warm. I visit Willow Wood where the large, tumbledown apple tree is arrayed in a mantle of ethereal blossom. The woodland floor, where once the bluebells grew, is bare – a result of further winter flooding. A song thrush sings above me all the while.

14th MAY

Early morning, I hear the cuckoo calling down over the stream. Later I find a honeybee trying to release a willow seed from its leg. Very carefully I help to remove it and the creature then flies off to continue its work.



16th MAY

A song thrush has recently become a frequent, but timorous, visitor to the feeding area.

19th MAY

Swallows chatter above me as I work in the garden while the cuckoo calls in the distance away towards Kerrow.

22nd MAY

The song thrush now seems more confident in the company of the numerous, bold blackbirds. Later he is joined by his mate and they forage together.

26th MAY

Many of the blackbirds have families to feed now. A new brood calls from rowan bank. Blue tits are frantically gathering suet from the coconut and

flying off to the nest box suspended near the potting shed. I note their lilted flight patterns as they hurry to and fro. Minuscule ash seeds litter the ground outside the kitchen door.

28th MAY

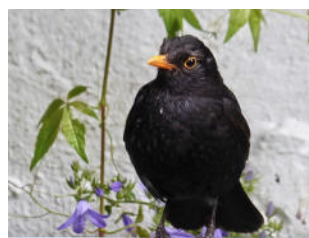
The pair of song thrushes continues to visit.



At eight o' clock this evening I encounter a large toad amongst my dahlia pots. After 'posing' for a photo, he lumbers off to the damp sanctuary of the nearby shrubbery.

This has been the sunniest May on record.

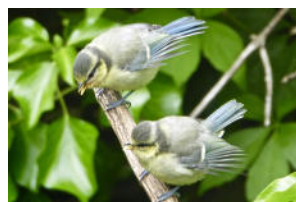
1st JUNE



Recently a male blackbird has taken to looking in the kitchen window asking for the supply of suet pellets to be replenished. He then waits outside the door for the food to be brought out

and then, having gathered a beakful, flies off to feed his brood. His plumage is becoming ragged and he has a careworn look about him now.

4th JUNE



The new blue tit family has been brought to the feeding area. Around midday David sees a pair of bullfinches and a goldfinch eating sorrel seeds.

1st Call Septic Tanks

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COUNTRY DIARY

13th JUNE

Soon after sunrise I walk in the garden where the blackbird song adds melody to the rhythm of the raindrops dripping from leaf and flower. Perfume of honeysuckle and sweet rocket pervades the new day.

22nd JUNE

Only one song thrush comes now and takes off suet pellets, so we assume that, somewhere nearby, the female is on a nest, possibly already with nestlings. Great spotted woodpecker fledglings call urgently for food on Rowan Bank as the adult fills his beak with as much suet as possible for them.

27th JUNE

A marsh tit alights on the coconut but is immediately frightened off by a blackbird.

4th JULY



A juvenile bullfinch visits with an adult male, but feeds independently alongside. A honeybee gathers nectar inside the shelter of the large, pendulous flowers of the campanula 'Iridescent Bells' on this rainy afternoon.

6th JULY

I discover a forest bug on the laundry basket and release it back into the wild.

12th AUGUST 1979

This year we have had the driest spring for fifty years followed by the wettest summer for seventy years.

15th AUGUST 1981

At Kingsmill Lake, Landulph, clouds soon obliterate the evening sun and a chilly breeze stirs up over the meadow. Six curlews fly over the water as we sit quietly by the shore.

6th SEPTEMBER 1985

We race to Saltash and arrive in time to watch the steam loco 'Clun Castle' crossing Coombe viaduct. I look out over Coombe valley to our previous home. A chiffchaff sings 'farewell' to summer, bringing back memories of watching the passing seasons create subtle changes to the life of this much-loved landscape.

23rd SEPTEMBER 1988

We travel to Sennen Cove via the coast road from St. Ives. Near Kelynack we observe two swallows dipping and soaring over the hedges towards the foam-flecked sea. Leaving their familiar summer haunts behind them, they will very soon be departing on their epic journey of migration. Goodbye summer. Au revoir swallows.

Kathryn Hill

With apologies to William Wordsworth

*I wandered lonely as a cloud
Two metres from the madding crowd,
When all at once my turn was called
To enter Waitrose hallowed hall.
This was the pensioners' special hour.
I'd gone to get a bag of flour,
But I forgot when through the door
What I had gone to Waitrose for.
The Waitrose staff were extra kind.
I told them it had slipped my mind.
They asked me what else I had forgot;
They clearly thought I'd lost the plot.
I phoned my wife again to ask.
She reminded me of the special task:
"I need some flour to bake a cake
With all that cream you made me take."
"Ah yes I recall," I had to lie.
I dared not ask what flower to buy
But then I saw them by the tills
A bunch of golden daffodils!*

Submitted by Sally Vincent



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Steph Apostolou: luxulyanpreschool@gmail.com

ALL ABOARD
to LUXULYAN PRE-SCHOOL

SINGING TOGETHER!

Readers above a certain age will instantly recognise the title above. It was a BBC radio broadcast to support singing in schools, from the dark days of war in 1939 to its final broadcasts in 2004 - a staggering 60 year run! The recipe was simple, mainly folk songs and each programme contained a "rousing chorus, a song with a beautiful melody and a nonsense song", according to documents from the time.



Another equally powerful influence, going back to the war was Dame Vera Lynn. As I sit down to write this, her funeral cortege is playing on the TV evening news. What an incredible lady, revered right to the end of her 103 years, topping the UK album charts at the age of 92 and reaching the 3rd place at the age of 100!

With very little training, Vera's voice had a special quality of warmth and humanity, which proved such a comfort through war time. As with 'Singing Together' everyone could pick up those tunes, humming or whistling if they didn't like to sing. Everyone could also attend church, finding solace in singing the hymns as well as the service. Thus singing was a vital element in helping people to cope.

All these thoughts are leading to spring 2020, when churches were closed and singing ruled out. The only thought was to contain Covid 19, with no consideration of the loss of physical, mental and spiritual benefits, by banishing singing together. Wearing masks, the physical exercise of lungs and breath control could surely have been helpful for people who might struggle to recover from the virus?

And the powerful sense of togetherness, breathing together and controlling vocal sounds to blend with others, could have helped to counter isolation. In place of that togetherness, we now have a great fear, possibly irrational, of singing with others.



On the plus side, some groups have done a sterling job online, creating multi-tracked performances through the wizardry of technology. 2 of the very best film examples I have seen are 'Cornwall My Home', from Kernow Bedroom Choir, led by Daniel Woodfield and a glorious African song, 'Wana Baraka', led by Nick Hart. However, for all those triumphs there were also disasters, not shared! I'm thinking of the fair few singers unable to pitch when singing to a backing track wearing head phones. It wasn't the same, musically, or socially ... such a strange situation, but let's not look back, anymore. Look ahead now.

If you are a frustrated singer, or know someone else in that category, I have an offer for you. During the final week of August (from 25th) (subject to all the usual Covid/Health and Safety provisos), I am offering singers and wind or brass players the chance to organise an outdoor rehearsal and picnic 'do', making use of the wide open space of my amphi-theatre. Think of it as a mini Minack – bring waterproof cushions, macs and warm clothing and possibly your own gazebos. There will be two covered areas, one near the 'stage' with an electronic keyboard, the other in an open sided shed with trestle tables and benches, plus a tea urn. On Thursday night 28th there may also be a **SINGING & CLAPPING TOGETHER** event on a larger scale, in tandem with Radio St Austell Bay. Details still to be confirmed. If you are interested, please just send an email enquiry@themeadowbarns.co.uk, text 07967 653346. Please see and share the advert on page 7.

Caroline Stephenson

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Please look us up at our web site



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Note opening hours subject to change during pandemic

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**The Veterinary Centre
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St. Austell
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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
Nov 10 for DEC /JAN edition
Jan 10 for FEB/MAR edition
Mar 10 for APRIL/MAY edition

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LANLIVERY OVER SIXTIES

We're still here – ready to start again as soon as we can. That could be in September. We meet at The Crown Inn on the second Thursday of each month for lunch at 12 noon. Thursday September 10th is the date – so keep it free in case!

Pammy Bruce 01208 871035

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Little Foresters

We are a small pre-school set in the grounds of Lanlivery school. We offer great facilities with a huge outdoor space and use of the forest school. Places available for 2+ and funded places for 3 and 4 year olds.

Our aim is for children to develop and learn in a safe, stimulating, fun and happy environment.

For more details or to arrange a visit please

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION

Dear Members & Friends,

We hope you are all well. Just to reassure you we are still here and will return to meeting as soon as the situation allows.

Programme

At this time, we would have hoped to be looking forward to going to a talk by Cathy Farnsworth in her garden. Unfortunately, all our events are still on hold perhaps we will be able to visit Cathy next year. I am aware that a few of us have seen a silver lining in the reduced use of aeroplanes and cars and the resultant improvement in air quality. May the world learn from this and be more mindful of our impact on the global ecosystem.

International Friends

Toni, Anna, and Sue were able to talk to Elaina in Belarus on Skype to mark her 40th birthday. 21 years ago, we sponsored Elaina to come to study in Truro for a term. She thoroughly enjoyed the experience, worked very hard at her studies and perfecting her English. She has built on this and got a good job with the University in Minsk and with teaching English to people in business. Elaina has remained in contact with us, it has been and continues to be, a privilege and a joy to know her.

The health pandemic has impacted us all, our country should be in a good position to care for its population. Concerned for Sadiki in Democratic Republic of Congo where they have a long running conflict, Ebola, malaria, cholera, insufficient clean water, poor infrastructure, I sent him an email from all his friends in Cornwall UNA. Sadiki is ever an optimist. Here is his reply.

Many thanks Friends.

I am so grateful to receive your message and to know about your situation in this tough time of COVID-19. I am in Kinshasa with all my family. We are fine, with extremely limited movement, spending most of the time at home due to the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic which has already affected 550 people in the country with 42 deaths. (29 April, this is now 85).

My warmest greetings to all of you. Sadiki

UNA Cornwall Facebook.

Paul kindly set up a Facebook page for us. As I have had a bit more time at home, I have finally found it. There are regular updates of UNA information and campaigns, well worth a look if you have Facebook.

Good health and best wishes to you all,

Amanda & Toni.

LUXULYAN VILLAGE HALL BOOKING AGENT

Linda Belcher, 15 Beswtherick Fields, Luxulyan, Bodmin PL30 5FB. Tel: 01726 337447 belcherl@outlook.com

LUXULYAN MEMORIAL INSTITUTE

To make a booking, contact: Elizabeth Cleare Tel: 01726 850553 jimcleare369@btinternet.com

Dates for your Diary

AUGUST 2020

Sat 1	Plant & Swap sale	Lux Institute	
Wed 12	Lux Parish Community Fund	Grant Panel Meeting	
Wed 12	WI Picnic Lunch	Amanda Penk's Gardens	12—2pm
Wed 19	WI visit to Beavers	Ladock	7.30 pm

SEPTEMBER 2020

Thur 10	DEALINE FOR	GRANITE	TOWERS
Thur 10	Lanlivery Over 60s Lunch	Crown Inn	12 noon
Thur 17	Luxulyan Over 50s Lunch	King's Arms Bridges	
Thur 17	Lanlivery Book Club	Trethevey PL24 2SA	8 pm
Sun 24	FOLV Morning Walk	Meet Ponto Mill	10.30 am
Mon 21	UNA World Peace Day	County Hall Truro	12—1 pm

SEPTEMBER 2020

Thur 3	Luxulyan Over 50s Lunch	King's Arms Bridges	
Wed 9	WI Meeting	Lux Village Hall	7.15 pm



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION CORNWALL BRANCH Intended Programme 2020

Unfortunately due to current health restrictions all meetings were cancelled until further notice.
We wish you all well and hope to resume before too long.

UNA DATES

September

Monday 21st: 12-1pm County Hall Truro WORLD PEACE DAY
Singing for Peace.

October

Week of Prayer for World Peace 11-18 October Peace Chapel in Truro Cathedral members of various faiths are invited to gather in small groups to pray daily for peace time to be confirmed.

One World Week

Saturday 24th : United Nations Day : 10.30am
Flag raising at County Hall.

Sunday 25 : "United Nations Evensong" :

4.00pm. in Truro Cathedral. Bishop Philip will give an address on the persecuted Christians throughout the world.

November

The Caradon Lecture ; Plymouth. (tba)

December

Sunday 6. : 2-5pm : Quaker Meeting House, Truro End of Year Tea Party with our overseas friends.

Porter Electronics

Computer Repair and Custom Builds

We offer a wide range of computer services, including:

- Wireless network installation from home to multiple site wide system for business
- Computer installation, software setup and instruction in the basic use of the system
- Custom designed and built computers. From a single home computer to multiple workstations and server package for business.

Bespoke or off the shelf.
Whether its a one off job up to a flexible maintenance contract package.

Just contact us by phone or email.

Sound and Lighting Hire

We can supply equipment for any use, the limit is your imagination.

Here are a few of the projects we have been involved in

- Theatre
- Corporate Events
- University End of Year Ball
- Sound Reinforcement for Bands and Singers
- PA Installation, both temporary and permanent, indoor and out.

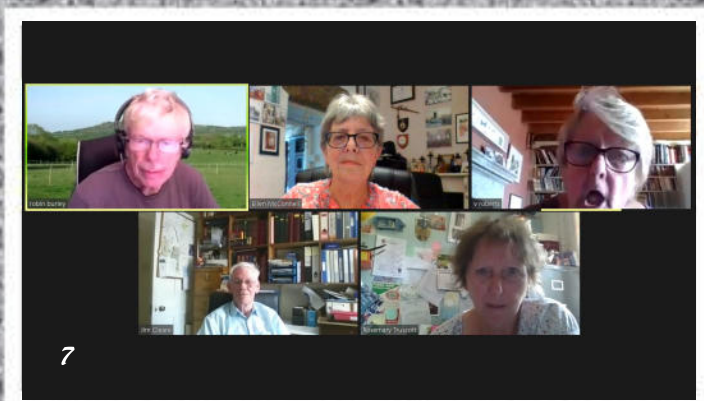
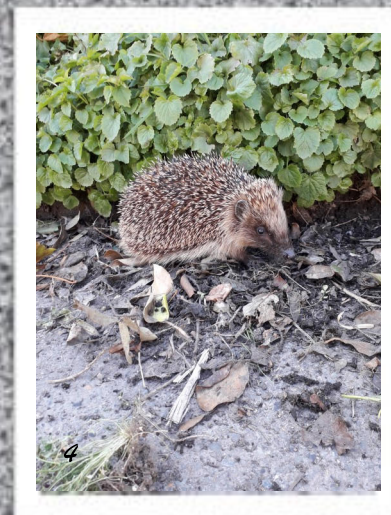
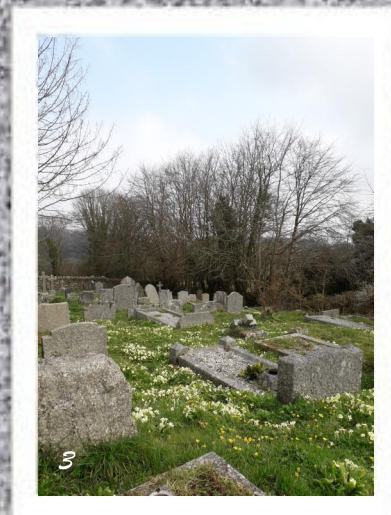
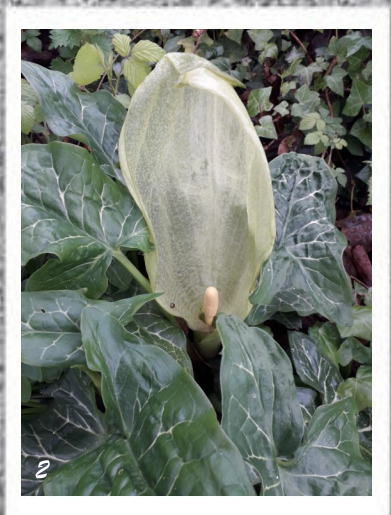
From a week long show to one night only.
A tailor made package to suit your requirements and budget.

If required a fully trained, professional and courteous engineer can also be supplied with the equipment to operate and look after it during your show, so your show can look and sound the best it can.

So for your next event just get in contact!

Phone: 01726 851120

Email: Alan@AWPComputer.co.uk



1 - 4 Lanlivery in the early days of the Lockdown!

6. This is how Luxulyan shop sold flour!

8 The A30 without traffic.

5. We will Remember on V.E. Day Anniversary

7. Your Granite Towers committee meeting via Zoom