

The Granite Towers

*A Community Magazine for
Luxulyan and Lanlivery*



February & March 2021

EDITORIAL



A new year is like those Christmas presents we opened not so long ago, full of mystery, anticipation, excitement, and with any luck, a box of delights, the best present ever, with nothing to disappoint. This is unrealistic, of course, as there will be the usual mixture of hopes and dreams, problems and sadnesses. Nevertheless,

this year, although we are beset by the global pandemic of Coronavirus, sunlit shafts of hope are piercing the gloom, as news of vaccines and improved understanding and knowledge of the virus comes to us daily.

Part of imagining what 2021 might be like set me thinking about anniversaries for this year, and what better to start with than the traditional declaration of 'This will be "The Year of..."'? The United Nations declared it as the International Year of Peace and Trust; the International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development; the International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour and, interestingly, the international Year of Fruits and Vegetables! They are all important and worthy subjects, but the last one is perhaps a surprise, because on first consideration, it is so seemingly humble, compared to the more dramatic forerunners in the list. However, as we are all coming to realise, it is extremely important for future food supplies and a sustainable food chain.

An anniversary in the making is the G7 Summit, to be held in Carbis Bay from June 11 – 13. (Does this give us a hint of when the lockdown might be over)? Britain is hosting it, and Boris Johnson has invited the G7 world leaders, including new American President, Joe Biden, and those of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, and Japan. He has also invited the leaders of Australia, India, and South Korea to attend. This is an exciting and important prospect for Cornwall, and indeed, the world, if the outcomes are virtuous and can be acted upon.

An important anniversary for Cornwall is Trelawny Day, commemorating the death of Bishop Jonathan Trelawny of Pelynt in Cornwall, on July 19, 1721. This year it will be the 300th anniversary of his death. Let's hope that by July, anyone wanting to celebrate this famous Cornishman will be able to do so without masks, social distancing, or any other restrictions.

By the time this magazine is out, it will be time to celebrate St. Valentine's Day on February 14th. Saint Valentine, known as Saint Valentine of Rome, was a widely recognized 3rd-century Roman saint, commemorated in Christianity on February 14. From the High Middle Ages his Saint's Day has been associated with a tradition of courtly and romantic love. However, there are many versions of his story, and very little evidence to support them. What is certain, is that much fun and excitement will be had as many people pursue the popular tradition of sending cards and presents to their "Valentine", mostly chocolates and/or jewellery,

and much of it bought online, I suppose, because of lockdown.

St. David's Day follows on March 1st. "Gwnewch y pethau bychain" or "Do the little things" are considered to be St. David's most famous words and were apparently his final ones. He believed that the people of Wales should do the small, considerate things that often make a big difference.

Many miracles are ascribed to him, including the restoration of sight to a blind man, and one of the more famous is the formation of a hill beneath him as he preached to a large crowd, allowing them to see and hear him more clearly! There must be many a short teacher, preacher or speaker who would be delighted were that to happen to them! His day will be celebrated not only in Wales, but the world over.

Next on the calendar, comes St. Piran, (or Pyran, Cornish: Peran) on March 5th. He was a 5th-century Cornish abbot and saint, of Irish origin. He is the patron saint of tin-miners and is also generally regarded as the patron saint of Cornwall, although St. Michael and St. Petroc also have some claim to this title. Michael is associated with St Michael's Mount and St. Petroc with Padstow. St. Michael has his own feast day celebrated on May 8th, and St. Petroc has 4th June. Piran's major shrine is at Perranzabuloe. Happy St. Piran's Day in Cornish is "Gool Peran Lowen".

Last, but not least among these interesting people, is St. Patrick, a 5th-century missionary to Ireland, who later served as bishop there. He is credited with bringing Christianity to parts of Ireland and was probably partly responsible for the Christianisation of the Picts and Anglo-Saxons. He is one of the patron saints of Ireland, who is celebrated on March 17th.

This brief roundup of anniversaries, or connected events, falling during the time of issue of our magazine will, I hope, remind us of reasons to celebrate, and things to look forward to and enjoy in the year to come. Wherever there are Cornish people there will certainly be many celebrations all over the world on St. Piran's and Trelawny days, even if they have to be held within family bubbles, on Skype, facetime and Zoom etc. if restrictions remain.

Whatever the new year brings (including Good Luck to America's new President), let's keep alive the spirit of optimism and hope. This is not only for our own sakes, but for all the tireless work, devoted care and self-sacrifice poured out by countless frontline and key workers, and those behind the scenes; parents struggling with home-schooling, and, in fact, all who are bravely keeping the world's societies running. We shall need plenty of patience, kindness and co-operation if we are not to waste the enormous effort that has been invested so far in fighting the global pandemic of Coronavirus. So, we gradually unwrap the New Year to see what it will bring – if not a box of delights, then at least several treats amongst the general contents.

With every good wish

Verna

LUXULYAN PARISH Good Citizens 2020

Last year the parish council changed the format of the Good Citizens Award. Not only was one recipient chosen, but many.

As we can all agree, 2020 has been an extraordinarily difficult year, causing much hardship and isolation. Yet because of this, kindness and community has blossomed in expected and unexpected ways. Luxulyan Parish Council wanted to celebrate all those who have unselfishly, sometimes inconspicuously, served others over the past twelve months. The council asked the community who they thought should be recognised and why. Not all nominations were Covid-related, but one good thing that has undoubtedly come from many months of Lockdown is a sharper focus on our neighbours, our environment and the everyday.

2020's Good Citizens of Luxulyan Parish, in alphabetical order, are:

Brian Curtis, Lorna Curtis, Hilary Goddard, Madeline Grantham, Catherine Grey, Cynthia Grose, Andy Hoskin, Anthony Maddams, and Michael Rawbone

To all those who have gone the extra mile to make Luxulyan Parish a friendlier and more beautiful place, the parish says, 'Thank you!'

P.S. Certainly there are others that should be in this list. Look for the nomination forms for *Good Citizens 2021* around August. The forms are available on the council's website and at the Village Shop.

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Luxulyan Memorial Institute — Bookings

The Institute committee has requested that the Parish Council play a larger role in the running of the Institute. The Institute is owned and insured by the Parish Council and councillors are appointed each year as trustees of the charity. The Institute is a charity, and its committee manages the day to day running of the building. The Parish Council will now play a larger role in the day-to-day organisation and will take over the bookings.

To book the Institute Committee Room, or for any other queries, contact:

Mrs Christine Wilson – 01208 831283 – clerk@luxulyanpc.co.uk

As you are aware, the Institute is currently closed. Government guidelines will be followed when Lockdown is lifted.

LUXULYAN FEAST WEEK JUNE 2021

The Feast Week committee are exploring our options for this year and hope to be able to do at least something for Feast Week in June! It will look very different to the things that we have done in the past as we believe some restrictions will still be in place! We hope to have more information for you all in the April/May Granite Towers.

Shelley Porter

GRANITE TOWERS MAGAZINE

As we are back in lockdown, a hard copy of this edition will not be printed. As and when hard copies are resumed, should you not wish to receive one, preferring to access the e-version, please let us know.

The e-version is available on the following websites:

Granite Towers www.granitetowers.co.uk (Note this is a work in progress)
Lanlivery Parish Council
Lanlivery Church
Luxulyan Parish Council (link)
Luxulyan Church

The Granite Towers Committee

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 21.

Please send copy for the next edition of **"THE GRANITE TOWERS" APRILMAY 2021 EDITION** to the editor, Verna Roberts, by **MARCH 10 2021**. 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.

EMAIL FROM OXFORD



Tally Ho!

And Ta da! Wham Bam! We are into 2021. What a start it has been, certainly fireworks! Out with the Old and In with the New...new COVID-19 variant, new vaccine, new president of the USA and new lockdown to name just a few of the ones that have made the news headlines. However, we shouldn't forget the ones that don't necessarily make the news headlines... new day, new month, new family additions, new spring flowers, and for me that includes a new car too. Oh heaven! How luxurious to be able to go for a drive, even if it's only to go somewhere different for the daily exercise!

Apart from the occasional rental vehicle, I've been car-less for the past 18 months which on the whole hasn't been a problem, as I currently live very close to bus routes, and there are shops within easy access for the essentials; and for most everything else that I want to buy there is usually a delivery option. Luckily, there are also a number of walking tracks on our doorstep. However, where I've missed out with not having a car is access to the countryside and other towns and villages for walks and general exploring. If it is going to take 4 hours to travel to and from a destination 5-10 miles away, you don't generally go just to have a wander for an hour before turning around to come home again. And there are so many ancient sites of special interest, or not even special interest, just historical, or pretty, that you really need a vehicle to be able to access.

One such place we found is an RSPB nature reserve, only a 13-minute drive away, which is home to thousands of birds and other wildlife. It's a place many folk go to enjoy the evening murmuration. The first time we were a bit late, so it was practically dark by the time we made our way back to the car park, however this revealed a species I hadn't realised could grow so big in the UK; bats...I haven't been able to identify which type yet, but the wingspan was definitely the size of a medium sized bird!... there's a certain style of flight that you only see in bats. Of course, identification will depend on us being in just the right spot at the right time and with the bat identifying app active....so could take a while! Still, a good goal for the year.

One task that has been occupying my time over the past couple of months has been gradually sorting through boxes of bits I had put into storage when I left for Australia 10 years ago. There are definitely things that I had forgotten were there, along with others that I remembered (more of the former I might add). The voyage of rediscovery has brought both pleasant surprise as well as raised the question, 'why was I holding on to it'? and then addressing whether the question of not letting go of it was still valid. Needless to say, there is a growing box of items to be redistributed via eBay or charity shops.

One of the re-acquaintances I have made through my decluttering is with all the photos and mementos I have kept from my various travels. This process is taking a bit of time, and not just from the sifting of material items, but from all the memories too. One memory I have is from my first solo venture overseas, working in the ski resort of Val d'Isère in the French Alps. The journey should have been straightforward...get myself to Dover and catch the bus that would take me all the way to the resort...easy, right?! What actually happened was ... I got myself to Dover without any drama. However, the connecting bus was late by several hours, and being the early hours of the morning and having travelled for most of the day ... I fell asleep.

Waking a while later to what I thought was my name being called, I found that I was almost the only person left in the waiting lounge. The staff had no idea about what buses had been through, and whether anyone had been calling my name. So, what do you do when you find yourself in a situation you're not sure what to do to make it better? Call home of course! (no mobiles at this time, all from the payphone with limited talk time) ...I can't remember what time it was, but it was certainly early enough for a not too crazy wake up call for the parents and to send Mum into action calling offices of my intended employer as soon as they opened to try and come up with a solution. The solution came not too much later and involved getting myself to London and onto a flight to Geneva where I'd tag a lift with the chalet staff collecting guests to take back to the resort. Straightforward right...hmm, well...the instructions were when I got to Geneva to go out to the terminal entry area and wait to be collected...so that's what I did. What none of us knew was that my flight had landed on a small side runway, so the entry area I was waiting in was actually about 15 minutes walk from the main terminal where everyone else was! I did call the office and double check, but after about an hour of waiting and with the number of people around me gradually reducing to just a cleaner, I used my pigeon GCSE French to try and find out a bit more information. I finally managed to tag a lift with the neighbouring chalet staff who were collecting guests about an hour later than those I was meant to have met, but only after walking down the road to the main terminal. Obviously there were a few questions from everyone... as in 'what happened?' etc, but all went well after that.

I remember being shown around the chalet I'd be based at and being in awe of the view through the huge glass windows, which opened directly onto the snow-laden mountains towering around the valley. The majesty of mountains, especially up close, and snow-covered ones, have had a special place in my heart and soul since. For a very 'green' traveller it was a huge learning experience. I learnt a lot about myself and what I was capable of, as well as what was possible. I learnt to ski and snowboard, to fend for myself, as well as when it's good to stay awake, regardless of how tired you are, also, when asking directions and talking to strangers it's a good idea, even if you only understand half of what's being said.

Sometimes challenging situations you find yourself in are the ones where you learn and grow the most. They don't have to be huge life-altering situations, the soft and subtle are just as profound. Last year was a challenge; this year is squaring up to be similar. I'm thinking it's a good time to put my big girl pants on because it's not letting up yet; though perhaps I'll start with a cup of tea, and take a moment to enjoy the smell of the late winter and early spring flowers – I always enjoy them. They seem extra vibrant and fragrant, perhaps because most of the other plants are still sleeping or only just getting going. Whatever the case, I wish you all a warm, healthy spring. Stay safe, until next time.

Katy x

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CLOSE TO HOME FROM FAR AWAY

Forty-four years ago was one of the hottest Septembers Lanlivery had seen in decades and the bright yellow cornfields behind Trethevey were set ablaze, after a fire had been inadvertently lit in a nearby paddock. As the fire crept closer to the house, my Nana, who had been left in charge, packed my brother's tiny suitcase in preparation for an imminent evacuation; all the while keeping a careful and watchful eye on the encroaching flames.

Meanwhile, 30 miles away in a hospital bed in Truro, my mum was feeling the heat of a different kind. You see, I had somehow chosen this exact moment to make my sudden, and inconveniently timed, entry into the world.

It was the very end of the long, hot summer of '76; fields were bare and wells were dry across the parish. This usually 'green and pleasant land' was by all accounts now dry and brown. It was a 'sunburnt county'. But then, so I am told, the heavens opened and those licking flames, which earlier that morning had so feverishly threatened the house, were doused in quenching rain.

Perhaps, this is where my love for the sun and fiery summer heat arises. You see, skip forward forty-four years and now I live here in Australia where, in her famous poem, Dorothea Mackellar describes this land best:

I live in a sunburnt country,
A land of sweeping plains,
Of ragged mountain ranges,
Of droughts and flooding rains.
I love her far horizons,
I love her jewel-sea,
Her beauty and her terror,
The wide brown land for me!...

Core of my heart, my country!
Land of the rainbow gold,
For flood and fire and famine
She pays us back threefold.
Over the thirsty paddocks,
Watch, after many days,
The filmy veil of greenness
That thickens as we gaze ..."

I grew up in Lanlivery until the age of 22, before moving to Queensland, Australia, in 1998. As such, I am at that curious juncture in life whereby I have now lived in Cornwall and Australia for exactly equal amounts of time. It is certainly a significant point in my life and makes me reminisce about family, friends and home. It is made even more poignant, perhaps, due to the events with which 2020 has presented us.

At Christmas time last year, as we celebrated and sweltered in 34-degree heat on the beach with a BBQ lunch (not very Cornish I know but so very Australian), we watched on as the first cases of Coronavirus were reported from China. We then watched on as those now familiar scenes unfolded over the following months across the world. In March, our government took the decisive steps to restrict personal movement and to conduct online learning for all school age children; and so over the Easter holidays I, along with tens of thousands of other teachers, began to plan how to teach and deliver lessons in a completely new way. And so, the age of 'Zoom' and 'Microsoft Teams' was born.

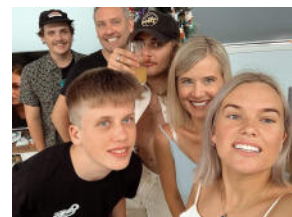
Fortunately, for us in the state of Queensland, this lasted only five weeks. The infection rate dropped and thankfully, since then, we have largely avoided the disruption and devastation other countries have sadly endured across much of the world.

Since May, Queensland has been indescribably lucky in that we have had next to no community-transmitted cases of Coronavirus. To be honest, after the initial 'lockdown' in March, life has in fact been very normal; except of course for the laborious task of scanning QR codes upon entry into every premises for 'contact tracing', and dousing ourselves from head to foot in hand sanitiser (not unlike a sheep dip I imagine). However, this is just the 'new normal'; now a familiar phrase the world over.

In fact, amongst the difficulties that 2020 has presented, I am fortunate enough to say that I have, in fact, had a great year - they do say Australia is 'the lucky country'. We had the relative freedom to live as normal (except of course for the great toilet paper shortages of April).



Although our state borders were shut, Queensland, being such a vast state, has many holiday destinations and on the first of July we took the first flight and spent three days holidaying in the magnificent Whitsundays, where we swam on the beautiful Great Barrier Reef with turtles and fish of every colour. In August, I took our school students on two Duke of Edinburgh's Award adventurous journeys where we explored the Mary Valley where we discovered turtles that can breathe through their bum and how to survive when bitten by venomous snakes. In September, I celebrated my 44th birthday with my friends, and so began my 21st year of living in Australia. In November, we celebrated my eldest son's 21st birthday and we had our first family Thanksgiving (my partner being from Minnesota, America).



In December, we celebrated my younger son's 20th birthday and then a large family Christmas, replete with turkey and all the trimmings. We then welcomed in the New Year, lounging in the pool and basking in that famous Australian summer heat. And so, with 2020 behind us, we look to the future and to new beginnings. 2021 will bring with it many opportunities for us all, I am sure. I for one am looking forward to a new (and hopefully uninterrupted) school year, a move to a new house, welcoming in a new American president and receiving a new vaccine. And so, I wish you all good luck and good health in this New Year, and that you are able to enjoy a 'new normal' life once again.

And whilst I 'now call Australia home':

"There will always be a part of me,
In my nightly dreams,
Of those rugged Cornish cliffs,
Those burbling valley streams;
On those bright and sandy beaches,
With their waves thundering by,
On the ancient stony tors,
In the silent starlit sky.
So Cornwall is my heritage,
The land from whence I came,
And I cannot wait to see her,
And you all again".
Ben Roberts

With every good wish,

Ben Roberts



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A raccoon carrying two dead vultures boards an airplane. The stewardess looks at him and says, 'I'm sorry, only one carrion allowed per passenger.'

Two fish swim into a concrete wall. One turns to the other and says, 'Dam!'

Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.

Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says, 'I've lost my electron.' The other says, 'Are you sure?' The first replies, 'Yes, I'm positive.'

Did you hear about the Buddhist who refused Novocain during a root canal treatment? His goal: transcend dental medication.

There was the person who sent ten puns to friends, with the hope that at least one of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did.



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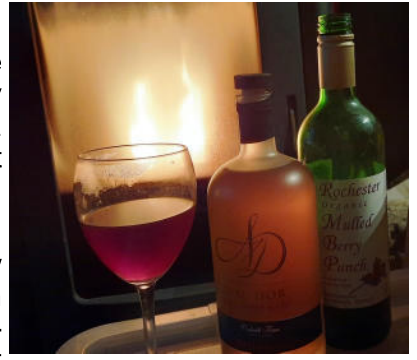
HANDBELLS FOR CHRISTMAS 2020



Outdoor fire

It was back in November that I started thinking about our usual Christmas traditions and plotting how we might keep them alive, even in these strangest of COVID-19 times. There was one lady in particular, who I knew would usually consider a visit of Lanlivery hand bell ringers as the high spot of her Christmas. And so, she was the first person I planned for.

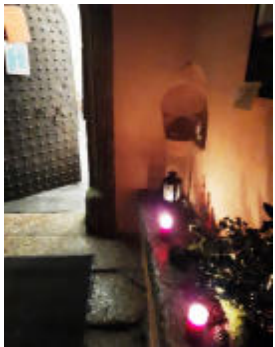
On a sparkling cold Sunday morning at the Meadow Barns, I welcomed Loveday - who grew up in Lanlivery parish but now lives in Tywardreath - along with her 2 neighbours, plus Lisa (who bought Loveday's family home) and Anna, who just happened to stop by. The fire was lit in the big shed for the first time, a little smoky but essential for that spirit of 'Hygge', which Verna had drawn to all of our attentions in the autumn Granite Towers.



Fruit cordial and gin, warming by the fire



Hygge is about a warmth between people as much as the real warmth of the fire; from that point of view the atmosphere of this session did not disappoint. There were so many laughs! Each person played one or two hand bells, finding out how to ring for the first time. They simply were asked to follow conducting signals and a colour code for each of the 3 teams, whilst I led the chosen popular Christmas songs. For safety, there was no sharing of bells and everybody wore disposable gloves, which had been prepared with sanitiser.



Candles in the church porch

A second event was, for one night only, on Wednesday 23rd December. The parish ringing team performed in Lanlivery church, with a managed stream of audience dropping in through the evening. Ellen Mc Connell supervised, and I gave out shots of free Christmas gin, donated by Colwith Farm Distillery. This was also a wonderful, heart-warming hand bell event. It just shows, with a bit of flexibility and imagination, heart-warming traditions can be preserved even in these testing times.

Caroline Stephenson

LUXULYAN OVER FIFTIES

While we are in lockdown, we cannot meet, but as soon as it's over, we will be having our usual lunches in The King's Arms. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. Let's hope we'll be back there soon.

Val Hodge

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Thursday	8.30-10.30/	2.30-5.30
Friday	8.30-10.30/	2.30-5.30
Saturday	9am-3pm	
Sunday	CLOSED	



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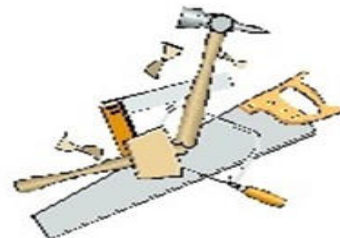
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FRIENDS OF LUXULYAN VALLEY

The next meeting for Friends of Luxulyan Valley (FOLV) members is on Zoom on Wednesday 3rd March at 19.30.

We shall have a short AGM and a presentation on sustainable local food and Eco-economics by Dr. Andrew Ormerod. If you would like to attend, please contact folvmembership@gmail.com for an invitation to the event.
Best wishes,

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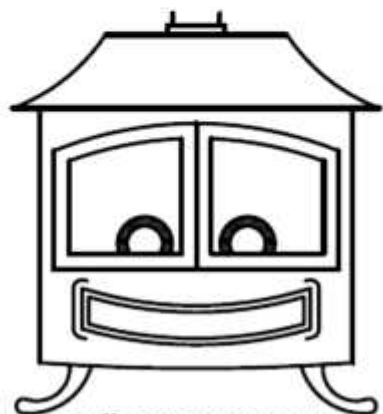
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BOOK GROUP



Well, our book group is still on hold at the moment, and so, as promised in the last edition of The Granite Towers, I will host a Zoom meeting. This will most likely take place in February, and everyone will be contacted with details.

I know that our members are keen readers, and have, of course, been choosing their own books, but are missing the opportunity to discuss them. It will be interesting to catch up with what reading matter everyone has been selecting, so we shall, no doubt, hear of some exciting new titles and authors.

My mother, Verna, who is a member, has been enjoying the time that the lockdowns have given her, to read a wide range of books, which she records in her book diaries, kept from about the age of eleven. She has several books on the go at the moment. Being a devotee of "The Archers" on Radio 4, she has been enjoying the recently published "Ambridge at War", and has just begun "The Famished Road" by novelist and poet Ben Okri.

We have heard from Judith and Mike Jones, who moved to North Devon, where they have settled in well and plan to join their nearest book group. They hope to join us on Zoom.

Until then, I hope your new reading year has started well, and that you are getting through that pile of books stacked up on your bedside table.

Kay Roberts Tel 01726 812065

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LUXULYAN AND LANLIVERY WI REPORT

I am delighted to report that we are still here! In spite of restrictions and lockdown, members have been keeping in touch with each other and with WI news via Facebook, and the WI county and national websites. Sue Hawkins and treasurer Lee Hemmings have been the inspiration for us all on this. Moreover, even though our meetings have been cancelled, the Winter Walk did go ahead. On Wednesday December 30th 2020, five members, led by Amanda Penk, did a morning walk to Helman Tor.

Before Christmas, we took part in a consultation conducted by the National Federation of WIs regarding the future of meetings because the ongoing pandemic has highlighted the logistical difficulties of for WIs and federations when attempting to comply with government requirements in their governing documents i.e. their constitutions. Put plainly, it involves deciding how to conduct meetings remotely during a pandemic such as this one, or any other future crisis, giving us greater flexibility. This would facilitate virtual attendance at Annual and Special Meetings e.g. by telephone, videoconference etc. and similarly for WI meetings, and possibly allow post or email voting. Committee meetings could be similarly affected.

This was our response:

1. We see no large problems with the proposed changes, especially considering that we all need to be much more flexible about meetings and communication if we are to survive in this ever-increasingly technological world, but with the following caveats:
2. a) it is not clear whether the proposed changes to the constitution are for the duration of the pandemic only or are to be a permanent change for the indefinite future.
- b) whilst it all seems a good idea now, the aims and benefits of the WI in a real physical community may inadvertently be overlooked and lost in years to come, one of the main ideals of the WI being fellowship.
3. We would suggest that these virtual methods be used in the future only in extreme or special circumstances, (as in the present pandemic).
4. We suggest a review of these changes after a definite period of time.

In additional comments we asked if the WI could impress upon government and all institutions that the woefully poor broadband in many places, especially rural areas, needs rapid improvement if we are to function efficiently in the internet age. This pandemic has created huge demands in every walk of life, from dependency on online education, shopping, banking, meetings and many others, both business and social.

Pending the outcome of this consultation, the NFWI intends to send notice of an NFWI special meeting which it anticipates will take place in early February 2021. We await the outcome of this.

After Christmas, Lee sent a very encouraging email to those members who are online, beginning, “Dear All, do hope everyone had a peaceful Christmas and let’s hope the new year brings better things. So looking forward to seeing everyone together again. May we be able to do all the things that were planned for 2020 in 2021 from April”

She then asked for help or ideas for our planned exhibit for the Royal Cornwall Show. (Please ring her on 01208 872 716 or 07974700876). This is not until September, but Sue Hawkins is busy planning for it! Thus WI activities continue! Looking to the future, we shall strive to maintain contact with each other, as it is so important while we are all (of absolute necessity) prevented from meeting up, or seeing each other, and it looks as though we won’t be able to for a while yet. However frustrating this may be, I think we need to keep in mind the value of patience. If we can hold on until it safe to meet again, it will be worth it, because I value our own very special and precious WI, as I know all our members do.

We want our WI to be there for us when we can walk out of lockdown into the sunlight again, and enjoy all those meetings, activities and opportunities once more, not forgetting upholding our aims and values expressed by William Blake’s wonderful poem “And did those feet in ancient time...” which we sing at meetings, and the ideals upon which our organisation is based, of fellowship, truth, tolerance and justice.

We also have an impetus to continue and thrive when we remember the purposes of the WI in advancing education, culture, agriculture and science, sustainable development, public health, and citizenship.

So, because we might not meet again until May, or June... (who knows)? Maybe there will be more meetings on Zoom, telephone calls and emails. When we do meet again, meetings will be on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.15 pm in Luxulyan Village Hall. New members and visitors are always warmly welcome. For more information, please ring our secretary, Jackie Russell on 07925966696.

Verna Roberts

WI WINTER WALK

In the bleak mid winter, the clouds hung low and cold.
We were in tier 3 long, long ago.....



Five intrepid walkers undeterred by the weather, set off for a walk from Helman Tor around the Wilderness Trails on December 30th. This local walk was chosen for its varied and interesting

terrain, from Helman Tor’s granite and views, to grassy wetlands, relics of a tinning past and now cared for by Cornwall Wildlife Trust, to atmospheric, ancient, wizened woods.

We were all pleased to be in the socially distanced company of others, chatting all the way. A treat of a cup of tea and a piece of cake awaited us 3/4 of the way around. After a morning of gentle exercise we returned, slightly wet, refreshed, and ready to plan our next walk. Given the current lockdown, next time we will be walking very locally in 2’s. We are looking forward to our spring walk, when hopefully, we shall be able to meet as a group. It’s on Thursday 15 April and we meet in Trethurgy village at 10 am.

Amanda Penk

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

'Surprise!'

Ella jumped as a pair of hands came round her head from behind and covered her eyes.

'Guess who?' a male voice continued. 'And if you say it's anyone but me there'll be trouble!'

Ella didn't recognise the voice. 'Em,' she said uncertainly.

The hands dropped away, and Ella swung round to find herself looking into the eyes of a thirty-something man she'd never seen before.

'Oh my God!' the man gasped. 'I'm so sorry. I thought you were someone else.'

Recovering her poise Ella said, 'It's all right.'

'I could have sworn you were Alice,' the stranger went on. 'She's got a coat just like that, and your hair's the same colour.'

'Is it?' Ella asked, running her hand over her recently highlighted hair.

'Yes.'

They stood for a moment, on the bridge, the river gushing over its stony bed, gazing at each other. Then the man stepped back and said, 'Well, sorry again.'

He began walking away and Ella found herself wishing, stupidly and unaccountably, that she was Alice. Alice with a coat like hers and a man who wanted to surprise her. The last time a man had surprised Ella was when her fiancé had broken off their engagement, since when she had resolved to devote her time to her career as a features editor for a county magazine.

She meandered her way from the bridge to the little row of nearby shops, sat outside a café and ordered coffee. She couldn't stop thinking about the man who'd mistaken her for Alice. More, she couldn't stop wondering if Alice was like her in other ways. Was she a highflyer or did she want to settle down with her man, get married and raise a family?

Pulling herself up sharply, she put the whole incident out of her mind and went back to work.

*

A week later she was looking over her desk at an attractive young woman with fair, highlighted hair, and a determined set to her jaw. Ella was used to interviewing people and she soon got a sense of ambition from the woman sitting opposite her.

'So,' Ella said, glancing down at the woman's CV. 'Alice. Tell me why you want this job.'

When all the routine questions had been asked and answered Ella said, 'I see you live quite a distance away. Will commuting be a problem?'

'Oh, I won't be commuting, I'll rent somewhere here.'

'I see. No ties where you live now then?'

'No. Well, there won't be by the time I move. I don't want anyone holding me back. I think women should be strong, get on with the things they want to do whenever they want.'

For a moment Ella didn't answer. A picture came to her. Alice, with fair highlighted hair and a man who wanted to surprise her. No, she told herself, of course it's not the same one.

'Thank you, Alice. I've got other candidates to see. I'll get back to you as soon as I can.'

Though Ella was sure Alice would be good at the job she'd applied for, she had doubts as to her suitability. Alice, she decided, wouldn't mind whom she trod on to get where she wanted to go. She went over to the window and

looked out, frowning as she saw a male figure outside leaning against the railings as if waiting for someone. Surely she'd seen him before? Yes, it was the man who'd mistaken her for someone else. So, it was the same Alice. If Alice got the job, she was planning to move here without him. Ella couldn't help feeling sorry for him.

A knock came the door. The next interviewee came in and Ella turned away from the window.

*

The next day Ella went down to the river in her lunch hour, to the place she normally went before getting her coffee in the same café. There was a chill in the April air, but the day was bright. As she watched the river tumble over the rocks, she felt a presence beside her.

'Hello again,' said a male voice.

She turned to see the man who'd mistaken her for Alice. 'Hello,' she said, noticing how blue his eyes were. 'Who did you think I was this time?'

'Just you,' he said, smiling.

Nice teeth, Ella thought. 'Oh. No Alice?'

He shook his head. 'Actually, I was hoping to see you here.'

'Really? Were you –' Ella paused, unsure whether to continue. 'Were you outside the County Ways magazine office yesterday?'

He looked surprised. 'Yes. How did you know?'

'I saw you from my window. You were waiting for Alice.'

'Alice? No. I was waiting for you to come out for lunch, but you didn't come so I thought I'd try here today.'

Ella was confused. 'But you said you were meeting someone called Alice and yesterday I interviewed a woman called Alice for a job and you were waiting outside.'

He shrugged. 'My Alice's name is actually Alicia, but I call her Alice. And she's not my Alice anymore. She's taken a job in New York and doesn't want any ties. She left two days ago.'

Ella's confusion grew. 'But how did you know where I worked?'

'Easy,' he laughed. 'When Alice didn't show last week, I went for coffee. I saw you just leaving the café and asked the waitress if she knew anything about you.'

Kate, Ella realised. Kate had been serving her for over a year and on quiet days they'd talked. Kate knew her name, where she worked and that she was single. 'So...why did you want to know where I worked?'

'I wanted to see you again. Do you mind?'

'That depends.'

He looked wary. 'What on?'

'Whether you buy me coffee or not.'

He gave a mock bow. 'May I have the pleasure of buying you coffee?'

Ella pouted. 'I never accept coffee from a man whose name I don't know.'

He held out his hand. 'My name is Mark Simmonds. I'm very pleased to meet you, Ella.'

Ella felt a thrill run down her back and, as they walked to the café together, she wondered whether to tell him that her middle name was Alice.

Christine McHaines
January 2021

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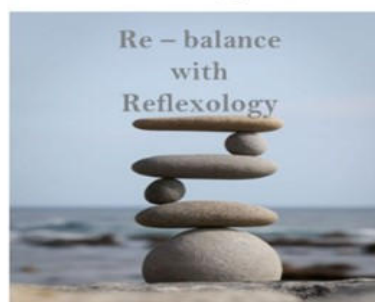
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LOOKING BACK AT KNOWING OUR NEIGHBOURS
Continuing the series by Janet Hayley, started in 1999

It was snowing and the ground was covered in a fine white layer, when I travelled through Luxulyan Valley to visit a lovely cottage that has been in the family of the lady of the house for over 90 years.

'In 1972, we were snowed in for over a week at Redgate near St. Cleer, where I was born', stated the man of the house, Dr. John Rowe.

Constance and John Rowe's families have a very long history in Cornwall, with Constance's family being traced back to the time of Elizabeth 1. John's father had a smallholding at Redgate, *'on the wrong side of the River Fowey'*, he adds! Where he was brought up, going to a school called Trekieve Steps, before going on to the County Grammar School at Liskeard. His next move was to Oxford, to Brasenose College, where he studied history. Following in the steps of Dr. A.L. Rowse, who was a Fellow of All Souls, and with whom he became firm friends, John graduated just before the war, which inconveniently interrupted his research into the Cornish History of the Industrial Revolution, for which he obtained his doctorate.

Constance Rosevear was born at Rock Mill, along with her younger brother, and attended Luxulyan School, then St. Austell, learning shorthand and typing, before going on to the Secretarial College at Truro to complete her course after the death of her tutor at St. Austell. On completing her training, Constance was offered an interview at Hut 5, County Hall, (which is still standing!), which she attended with her mother. She was interviewed on the Monday, received a letter offering her the post on the Wednesday, and told to start the following day. No time to think about it, or change her mind!

The post she took up was for the War Agricultural Office, in the Land Drainage and Pest Office, cycling to Par Station and catching the 8a.m. train to Truro, which was full to capacity. At that time, 50% grants were given to drain land, therefore making more land available for growing foodstuffs. Grants were also given for the provision of water to cowsheds. Her wages were £50 per annum, which was a substantial sum at that time. Lunch was taken at the British Restaurant, in Bridge Street, Truro, which continued to be staffed by W.V.S. personnel while wartime food rationing continued.

The next employment Constance took up was that of a medical secretary at the Royal Cornwall Infirmary (later known as City Hospital), for one year, before becoming a private secretary to Dr. Andrews, the senior physician for the South West. This man made matrons stand to attention, with everyone hanging on to his every word, and with a welcoming committee waiting for him at the entrance to each hospital he was attending. He drove the first classy Bristol car in the region, with his secretary Constance, at his side.

John and Constance met during the war, when John came to the Luxulyan area to visit friends and relatives. He was in the Ordnance Corps of the Army, based in Portsmouth, but also had temporary attachments to Canadian and American forces. They corresponded during the war years, and met again, marrying in July 1956 in Luxulyan Chapel. The organist for many years at the chapel, Mrs. Roach, died in 1944, and Constance took on the task of playing, although at that time she had only played the piano, but forthwith took organ lessons from the late Brennand Smith at St. Austell Church. She still plays at Bridges occasionally and has a certificate for 50 years of playing the organ. For their wedding, Shirley Rowe, later to become Constance's sister-in-law, was organist.

After their marriage, John and Constance move to Liverpool, where he took up a post at Liverpool University teaching American history. They lived in the Wirral area, which they both loved, although a great deal different from Cornwall.

John had a book published in 1952, entitled 'Cornwall in the Age of the Industrial Revolution' with a foreword by Dr. A.L. Rowse. This was re-published in 1993, with a couple of extra chapters, which had been left out of the original copy due to publishing problems. It focused on the economic and social problems of the time, also the religious progression in Cornwall. In 1958, John was awarded a research scholarship for American studies, and given a temporary lectureship in Berkley University, California, for one year. This is where Constance was introduced to the 'American fridge, an enormous great thing!' and where they also made their first visit to a supermarket, Safeway's.

They spent six months travelling on a Greyhound bus, following the journeys of the Cornish miners in the days of the gold rush, and consequently John's book, 'The Hard Rock Men', Cornish Immigrants and the North American Mining Frontier', emerged. This was published in 1974.

Constance and John have two sons, Gareth born in 1961, and Jeremy, born in 1963. Both boys were born in Cornwall, although John did not retire from Liverpool until 1981.

Whilst in Liverpool, Constance was not content just to sit around all day; she started the Irby (a small village in the Wirral) Ladies Lifeboat Guild, in 1972. She also helped at the boys' primary school, with other mums, each taking groups of ten children on local field studies trips. One of their visits was to the site of Thurstaston Hall, where the Ismay family who had built the Titanic had lived.

John was made a Cornish bard in 1950, and took the bardic name of Covathor An Howlsedhad, meaning chronicler of the west; the west also including the American West. Constance, because of her work with Cornish exiles, was also made a bard, named Myrgh Melyn An Garrek, daughter of the rock by the mill.

After retiring from Liverpool, John was granted a Hugh Lamay fellowship for research in South Africa, to follow the trail of Boer migrating farmers to Transvaal. They lived on campus in South Africa in a bungalow, with a maid's house in the gardens. They were considered very strange when they did not employ a maid, and everyone wondered how Constance could cope with looking after herself and her husband! She coped very well, and was kept busy making Cornish pasties, splits and cream, and saffron buns, to show them traditional Cornish fare. She also joined the South African Red Cross within ten days of moving out there, and helped to run clinics, one of which turned out to be at the end of a track in the middle of a field!

John was not the first Rowe to venture further afield than Cornwall, as his father in his early days had twice been to Alberta, Canada, and once to Western Australia, being employed driving steam engines in lumberjack camps. In later days back in Cornwall, he drove a steam threshing set for some years besides road works with a steam roller. So, perhaps travel and discovery are in the blood.

(Continued on page 21)

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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"**

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(Continued from page 19)

John and Constance returned to Rock Mill, since which time they have started the Luxulyan Old Cornwall Society, around 1983, and have been involved with two Rosevear gatherings of some 600 people with every continent in the world represented.

They were the first Cornish family to produce their own tartan. Rosevear (with or without the 'e' on the end) means big heath, so the colours in the cloth are the heathers, plus the gold of the gorse, creamy white representing the clay area around them, and a blue stripe from the sea around Cornwall. This was made up into skirts, kilts, hats, caps, ties, shawls, waistcoats and scarves. Constance was even recognised as a Rosevear by her tartan skirt, when walking down the street in Bodmin!

John's third book was published in 1996, although written many years previously, and is entitled 'Changing Times and Fortunes – a Cornish Farmer's Life, 1828 – 1904'. Does anyone recall being told of those times by parents or grandparents?

John and Constance still lead very full lives with various activities around the parish and Cornwall, and also making visits to their sons, Gareth and his wife Lucy, farming in Norfolk, and Jeremy who is a neuro-surgeon at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford.

John's activities include being a vice-president of the West Country Writers Association; President of the Cornwall branch of the Historical Association; a Fellow of the Historical Society; a member of the Royal Institute of Cornwall, (museums); member of the Folklife Studies and member of the British Association of American Studies.

Constance is a member of Luxulyan Parish Council, Friends of Luxulyan Valley, St. Austell Music Festival, and a steward at Bridges Chapel; and they are both members of the Cornwall Heritage Trust, Luxulyan Old Cornwall Society and Cornwall Home-comers Society. **Is it any wonder that people say they can't get any answer when they phone?**

Janet Haley

ENVIRONMENT COLUMN

As a church we are still working towards our Environment awards but something that was said to me recently resonated deeply. They asked, 'What could one person achieve in the huge problems that we face with climate change?'. I agree it is quite daunting! But if we **all** pledged to do one or two things a month and continue to make them part of our lives then we will indeed make an impact – to do nothing is not an option any longer if we are going to conserve the world for our children and grandchildren!

Just a few things that you might like to consider over the next few months:

- Resolve to recycle, reuse or pass on clothes, furniture, paint, food...in fact anything that may be useful to others instead of throwing out. And buy second-hand – do we really need to buy new clothes/furniture etc every year? New clothes are extremely high in the use of our resources particularly water!
- Pledge to buy local food for at least two meals a week if you can. There are lots of good reasons – it cuts the miles that our food travels and therefore the amount of fuel it uses but also helps to support our local shops particularly in these trying times. Very often the veggies are fresher and better for us!
- Do a litter pick and resolve never to litter our beautiful countryside! When restrictions allow, we will organise a litter pick but there is nothing stopping you from using your outdoor exercise time to go out with a bag and pick up litter (gloves, litter picker upper, bags!) on our roadsides!
- Not all of us can afford to buy an electric car but make a plan to walk rather than get the car out for short journeys if you physically are able.
- Reduce the amount of water and electricity that you are using, and try switching off lights around the house or outside if not needed!



Someone said to me that they have enough to worry about at the moment with the pandemic – yes, very true, but I would say that it gives me things that I can control to think about, rather than something that I am unable to control! Some of the things above have saved us money too!

If you are thinking of changing to a green energy supplier, the church uses Octopus Energy and we have a link which helps both you and us (£50 each!) if you change through our link
<https://share.octopus.energy/shy-macaw-247>

Shelley Porter

famporter58@gmail.com

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FROM CHURCH



Dear friends,

You will have heard by now that the PCCs and I have taken the decision to suspend public worship across the benefice. This means that there will be no Sunday parish communion services or acts of morning prayer in any of our churches whilst the lockdown continues. However, with the exception of Bradoc, which remains closed, our churches will be open for private prayer. I encourage you to make use of these sacred spaces as you feel necessary, whilst abiding by the current restrictions that you only travel where absolutely necessary. Please observe social distancing and wear a face covering if you

visit any of the churches. You will also find a QR code or some way of registering your visit for track and trace purposes. Again, I encourage you to make use of them during your visit.

If you have any questions relating to this latest situation, or would like to talk to someone about a planned visit, please visit the benefice Facebook page. Alternatively, please phone or email the church office or contact me directly.

Your Friend

Revd. Paul

- - - - -

LETTER FROM ST AUSTELL DEANERY

Our church has three surf-style flags which you may have seen flying at the entrance to Holy Trinity Church in St. Austell. They carry a word each - HOPE- FAITH-LOVE.

As well as being our values as a church today, they are taken from the Bible when St. Paul was teaching the Corinthian church. "And now these three remain, faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love" (1 Cor. 13.13).

What did Paul mean? Well, I live not far from St. Austell station, and as I walk to and from our offices, I often see the London Paddington train setting out on its long journey to the capital. On a Sunday it can consist of 8 or more carriages. It reminds me of Paul's 3 words: Love is the engine of God's message to our world - God's love drives everything He does, and is the reason Jesus came to earth. The following 'carriage' is Faith. Jesus invited us to put our faith in Him alone, to allow Him to lead us along the tracks of life. And Hope follows as the third 'carriage'. When we respond to God's powerful love, and put our faith in Jesus Christ by loving and following Him, we experience a real and deep Hope rising up inside us, no matter what is going on in our lives or the world. Love is the engine; Faith responds, and Hope follows on behind as we complete our journey to God's terminus and all that Jesus promises.

We change the flag outside the church regularly - Hope is flying today. May you have deep and lasting hope as Jesus leads you on your journey.

Revd. Howard Flint, Vicar & Rural Dean, St Austell

FROM CHAPEL

NEWS FROM GUNWEN



The service planned for 20th December was able to take place and was much valued by all who attended. A further service had been scheduled for January, but this had to be cancelled due to the increased risks posed by the coronavirus pandemic at the start of the new year. This led to the Chapel being closed in January, and unfortunately it will remain closed until the situation is reviewed at the end of February or early in March. For an update on when services will be able to resume please phone Ivan Phillips on 07812 454665. Ivan will also be able to provide details of the required 'COVID-19 Secure' procedures when services restart.

There is a wide range of information, including regular weekly worship and prayer resources, at the Methodist Church website - www.methodist.org.uk, and the St Austell Methodist Circuit website - www.staustellmethodist.co.uk. Many people are finding these resources helpful at the current time.

Patrick Reynolds

NEW YEAR DAY'S WALK TO JUBILEE ROCK ON BODMIN MOOR

Happy New Year, and like many people across the world, every year I make New Year Resolutions. Some I have actually kept, (buying all our meat from the butcher and not the supermarket, practise languages each day - thanks to the app, Duo Lingo, I have kept this one), but others have fallen by the wayside e.g., Write letter to friends every month! However, this year, one of the resolutions that Hayden and I made – to discover more parts of Cornwall, led us to discovering Jubilee Rock on Bodmin Moor on New Year's Day. We could at least keep the resolution for a day!

I hadn't heard of Jubilee Rock until Hayden mentioned it one night over Christmas as he was flicking through the internet, and something on the Cornwall Live webpage caught his eye, so we decided that we had to find this rock, and if we did not, then we would have had a walk AND started the New Year in a lovely, relaxed way. However, I am going out with someone who is excellent at map reading: he only needs to look at a map once and knows where he is going, unlike me, who can get lost very easily (as many of you will confirm). Hayden would make sure that we would find the rock. It is not very far, 10 – 15 minutes from the lane where we parked, and the walk is on relatively level ground, though rather wet underfoot, so I was glad for my walking boots being waterproof.



View from the rock

Jubilee Rock is located at Pendrift Downs, Blisland, on Bodmin Moor. It is a grade II listed rock and was first carved in October 1810 by Lieutenant John Rogers to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the accession of King George III. There are several emblems on this huge, 25ft wide, 10ft tall rock. There is the Falmouth and Morshead coat of arms, Molesworth coat of arms, the figure of Britannia as depicted on an old penny coin, a beehive, a ship, a plough, and the Cornish coat of arms with the Prince's Plume growing out of it. The rock's carvings were added to in 1859, and in 1887 for Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee and again in 2012 for the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. What struck us, other than the size of the rock, was that it had been carved by hand in granite, in October. I wonder if Lieutenant John Rogers ever thought that the rock would be added to and that many people would visit it?

May 2021 be filled with peace and happiness for you all.

Kay Roberts

SPECIAL OFFER DURING SPRING LOCKDOWN 2021

No one can deny that we were lucky last March, that the weather was exceptionally warm, dry and sunny. As a result many families went exploring, finding out pathways to walk that they had never known before.

This time round, being deep winter, the weather is not so kind and online learning is no novelty. We all wish it had not been necessary again. That's why Meadow Barns centre is offering local families a free learning pack, 'The Story of Maps', to help them go exploring again. It covers a range of subjects, especially Geography, History and STEM. And there's also a competition with prizes to claim later in the year. To apply simply email cjs@betterways2learn.co.uk

Caroline Stephenson



Map above, from Cornwall Family History Society
www.cornwallfhs.com

Lanlivery Church News and Services

Lanlivery Services

Please note that the planned services may have to change due to the pandemic. Services will not resume in Lanlivery Church until the end of Lockdown 3 but worship will be available online via the Benefice of the Lostwithiel Parishes Facebook page and on YouTube. Please check pew notes, social media and the notice boards. The church will remain open for private prayer.

February 2021

7th, Candlemas

9.30 Morning Prayer

14th, Sunday before Lent

9.30 Eucharist

21st, Lent 1

9.30 Morning Prayer

28th, Lent 2

9.30 Eucharist

March 2021

7th, Lent 3

9.30 Morning Prayer

14th, Mothering Sunday

9.30 Eucharist

21st, Lent 5 - Passion Sunday

9.30 Morning Prayer

28th, Palm Sunday

10.30 Benefice Eucharist at St. Bart's

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.mcconnell@hotmail.co.uk

Church Office:

01208 872232
church_centre@yahoo.co.uk

Christmas at Lanlivery

A big thank you to all who decorated the church so beautifully and to Eddy and Bet Veerman who donated the lovely tree. Putting aside the activities which we were unable to hold, Lanlivery Church managed to hold a traditional Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at which the usual readings were heard and carols beautifully sung by the Benefice Choir, accompanied by Caroline Stephenson.

On Christmas Eve the Midnight Eucharist went ahead, celebrated by Fr James Funnell and carols sung by Victoria Nelson and her daughter Polly. It was a wonderful sound to accompany a quiet, reflective celebration. Worshippers gathered on Christmas morning for prayers and readings at the Crib.

Two of the traditional activities took place in a rather different way this year. Children who had requested Christingles were provided with a bag with the elements to make their own at home - you can see a selection of their efforts on the back cover.

The handbell ringers held an evening of ringing in church and over 30 people enjoyed their music during the time. Thank you to everyone who tried so hard to maintain some semblance of Lanlivery tradition in these strange times.

Let's hope that by Easter we are able to be together again in a more "normal" situation.

YEARS' MIND (Recalling the passing of the following parishioners):	
Feb	Mar
Gwendoline Richards	Mary Gillies
Joyce Evelyn Bates	Ruth Mary Pollard
Elsie Ethelind Secker	Joseph Ford
Doreen Keighley	David Bayley
Marion Elizabeth Thompson	Grace Chalmers Harris
	Nicholas Kendall

LUXULYAN CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

PRAYER WALKING WITH LUXULYAN CHURCH

Although our prayer walks have been put on hold for the duration of the national lockdown, that doesn't mean to say that we are not praying for our community! The January prayer walk was undertaken by individuals during their time of exercise and will continue to be done like this until restrictions are lifted.

The prayer walk usually takes place on the second Wednesday of the month at 9.30 am starting at the church. Future planned dates are 10th February and 10th March.

Please contact Shelley on 07761798220 by 9 pm the evening before to let her know of any specific prayer requests that you may have.

* * * * *

Christmas 'in a bag'!

Like everyone else, the church had to think outside the box on how to celebrate Christmas with children this year! The Open the Book team have not been able to go into school and the school have not been able to visit the church for their Christmas carol service, nativities and usual activities.



So the children didn't miss out on the Christmas Story we put Christmas in a bag! Each child in Luxulyan School (91 children!) should have received a bag with a story book, a cut out and colour nativity scene, a Christmas card, a cuddle in a mug and a chocolate heart! This was given with our blessing from the church just to say that we have been thinking and praying for everyone in the school in these rather unusual times. So the staff didn't miss out a tub of 'Heroes' was dropped in!

We usually have a Crib and Christingle Service in church just before Christmas and we provided Christingle in a bag for 33 children. These needed to be booked in advance and we hope that the children enjoyed the making and eating of the Christingles! Our collection at the service goes towards the work of The Children's Society and recipients were asked to give a donation towards the huge amount of work this organisation does with troubled children. Some donations were given to Shelley to send and a total of £30 will be deposited as soon as it is possible to get to the bank!

Thank you to everyone who donated towards the cost of providing the contents of these bags, particularly Pegasus Printers who did all the printing for us free of charge! You are all stars!

We hope and pray that we will be able to do these things face to face next year!

Shelley



Luxulyan Church Services

For the time being we are holding live services on Zoom. Keep an eye on the website and Facebook for updates!

Sunday 7th February

11 am Parish Praise

Archdeacon Audrey

Sunday 14th February

11 am Parish Praise

Rev Claire Jones

Sunday 21st February

11 am Parish Praise

Archdeacon Audrey

Sunday 28th February

11 am Parish Praise

Local Worship Leaders

Sunday 7th March

11 am Parish Praise

Rev Claire Jones

Sunday 14th March

11 am Mothering Sunday Parish Praise

Bishop Philip

Sunday 21st March

11 am Passion Sunday Parish Praise

Rev Claire Jones

Sunday 28th March

11 am Palm Sunday Parish Praise

Local Worship Leaders

Contact Details

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

Priest:

Rev. Jules Williams 01726 76282
revjules@btinternet.com
Day off normally Friday, but currently on sabbatical until Easter

Churchwardens:

Robin Burley 01208 831145
rabkol@aol.com

Jim Cleare 01726 850553
Jim.cleare@btinternet.com

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 also very welcome!

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

Thanks for Christmas!



To Jo and Adrian Street for providing and decorating a Christmas Tree in the Churchyard!

To Alan Porter for providing the technical expertise to stream the Service of Lessons and Carols Service on Christmas Eve!



COUNTRY DIARY

19th NOVEMBER 2020

Dry but cooler. The Lavrean oaks are now bereft of all their leaves. The pale sun shines through the branches, now unhindered by thick foliage.



Along the road a mistle thrush sits on a wire and a speckled wood butterfly flutters over our heads, and lands on some nearby haws.

25th NOVEMBER



At Castle-an-Dinas the ragged blackthorns create a stark silhouette against the clear sky. Above Tregonetha Downs a buzzard sits motionless on a high

wall of plastic-wrapped bales – a convenient vantage point from which to survey the surrounding countryside.

26th NOVEMBER



Soon after midday we walk to Treskilling Downs where the diamond-bright sun dances across the surface of the lake and skips on over the silent heathland and

verdant pasture beyond. A vast fan-shaped cloud sweeps over the scene like a high, vaulted roof.

27th NOVEMBER



A sharp frost. Mid-morning the roadside verges are still lightly iced. A dunnoek sings his reedy, rambling song on a hazel bough, my first hearing of this for the season. A tall, wayside ash stands proud in the cold air, its graceful, upward-curving branches brushing the winter skyscape. At home, a lone starling perches on the suet

coconut and eats almost non-stop. About seven blackbirds are confused by this sudden seizure of power but busy themselves by feeding on the morsels that have dropped below.

29th NOVEMBER



A mild day with continuous sunshine. A male bullfinch spends about ten minutes eating the seeds of the shrivelled blackberries from the

withered stems.

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COUNTRY DIARY

1st DECEMBER



The nuthatches and marsh tits continue to take off sunflower seeds. A bee has discovered the newly opened florets of the mahonia japonica.

4th DECEMBER

We awake to find a light dusting of snow over the garden. Along by the stream only a few burnished leaves cling to the hazel branches. The winter winds have extinguished the flickering flames of autumn's fires.

20th DECEMBER

Tonight, conditions are too cloudy to see the Jupiter/Saturn conjunction and, as I write this at 11.52.pm, the wind howls and rain spits on the fire.

21st DECEMBER

The winter solstice. I walk to the ponds and look over the foaming waterfall, its sound dominating the soundscape. As I return along the streamside path it can still be heard. Then, a little further on, it gradually fades away and the song of the rushing stream meets the sighing of the wind. I pause to listen - a silent figure in a winter landscape.

25th DECEMBER

Late afternoon I become aware of a blackbird singing nearby in the tall ash. It is almost a true spring song, such as I would not expect to hear until February.

27th DECEMBER

The road is awash with puddles. David watches a buzzard in the adjacent field, feeding on worms. We think that the ground is so waterlogged that they have come up to the surface and have possibly drowned in the exceptionally wet conditions. By doing so they have provided a convenient meal for the raptor.

31st DECEMBER

A robin enjoys a late snack on the seed tray as the last day of 2020 slips away and the temperature drops noticeably.

1st JANUARY 2021

Frost encrusts some light snow that has fallen overnight but the day is bright and sunny as I remove the layers of ice from the birds' drinking bowls.

4th JANUARY

We walk out into the cold winter morning heading into the teeth of the wild north wind. A wayside holly still bears clusters of ripe berries, and somewhere in the distance a pheasant calls.

21st FEBRUARY 1988

As I pass by the pond, I notice about ten frogs in the process of mating while uttering their loud 'purring' sounds. The late, afternoon sun lends a pink, translucent glow to the clumps of spawn on the pond surface.

17th MARCH 1992

The large mass of winter heliotrope plants that grow so profusely by the roadside at Lanivet are now bereft of their nectar-rich flowers, but the foliage is dense and has recently taken on a richer shade of green.

Kathryn Hill



CHURCH HUMOUR



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



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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

Well, here we are in lockdown again, but all being well, and hoping the vaccines will help, we'll be meeting again in The Crown Inn Lanlivery for lunch and brainteasers at 12 noon every 2nd Thursday of the month. See you when we can!

Pam Bruce

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For more details or to arrange a visit please



Kerry Hemmings

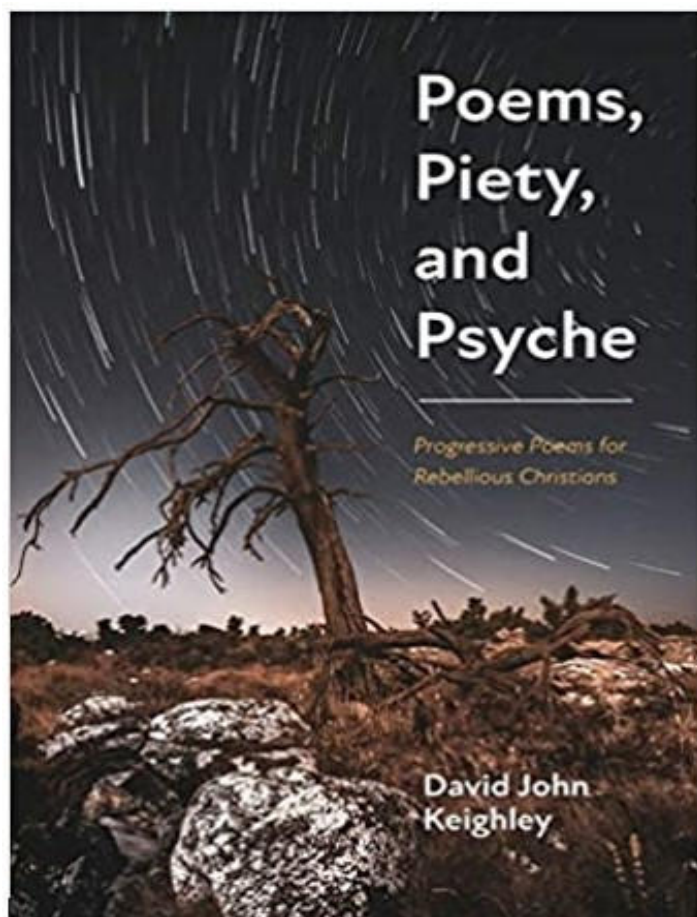
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Confronting the crisis facing Christianity, this anthology of post-modern, progressive Christian poems, with a rebellious tone, demythologizes Christian theology. *Poems, Piety and Psyche* is a brave departure from literal Christian dogma and challenges the outdated ideas of doctrine and Scripture to disclose hidden truths still valid today. This volume is an attempt to revitalize the church and reshape its future for current congregations and the missing generation of young people, scientifically literate, who are exiled from the church through its inability to absorb contemporary teaching of biblical criticism, the reality of evolution, the false idea of a God "up there", and an institutional insistence on an unconvincing supernatural theology. Christianity must be adapted to incorporate these and change, or it will die.

David Keighley reclaims the original gospel message and takes us on a turbulent and challenging journey to the heart of what it is to be truly Christian. There is in these poems an emphasis on the teaching of the historical Jesus while rejecting nature miracles, the virgin birth, and bodily resurrection. Jesus's divinity is that we can see God in him in the same way as we see God in the lives of each other, if we look closely enough.

"David Keighley probes beneath the surface of our faith and provides us with a basis for believing. So long as we have people like David, Christianity will live and renew itself".

*Bishop John Shelby Spong, former Bishop of Newark
Author of "Why Christianity Must Change or Die"*

Available from Amazon or with authors discount at www.davidkeighleywriter.com

FANTASTIC WEBSITE FOR WALKERS

Are you fed-up with doing the same old walks?

Walking in Cornwall www.walkinginengland.co.uk/cornwall is the website for you!

With hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, contact details for all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Cornwall (part of the Walking in England suite of websites (www.walkinginengland.co.uk) – one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris

www.walkinginengland.co.uk

email: john@walkinginengland.co.uk

Dates for your Diary

MARCH

Wed 3	FOLV AGM & presentation	Via Zoom	7.30 pm
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Wed 10	GRANITE TOWERS	DEADLINE	
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Sun 14	Mothering Sunday Eucharist	Lanlivery Church	9.30 am
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Sun 14	Mothering Sunday Parish Praise with Bishop Philip	Luxulyan Church	11 am
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APRIL (advance notice)

Thur 15	WI Spring Walk	Meet Trethurgy Village	10 am
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LUXULYAN VILLAGE HALL BOOKING AGENT

Linda Belcher, 15 Beswetherick Fields, Luxulyan, Bodmin PL30 5FB

Tel: 01726 337447 belcherl@outlook.com



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PRESS RELEASE

How magical is your relationship? Test your knowledge of your significant other with a charity Valentines quiz!

Couples are being invited to join in a fun Valentine's quiz from their own home, the evening's entertainment will also include a "virtual" magic show and music.

The online event on February 12th, will see couples compete against other couples for the chance to win prizes including a chauffeur driven trip and a cream tea for two.

Charity Representative Tamsin Chapman-Gunner said: "You may think you know everything about your partner or you might be looking to discover new things, whichever it is the Merlin MS Centre Valentines quiz is for you. Join us from 7pm to 9pm for a fun evening with a little bit of magic thrown by magician Jon Martin and the musical talents of Shane Solomon."

All funds raised will support people in Cornwall living with long-term neurological conditions both at the Merlin MS Centre and through online support

Despite the announcement of a third lockdown, the new Government guidelines allow the Centre to remain open, although the Charity has decided to reduce the therapy sessions to two days a week as some people want to self-isolate until they have received the vaccination. For those remaining at home the therapy team will run online and telephone support; live exercise sessions; and other support services.

Entry to the quiz and magic show is £20 per couple and can be booked by visiting https://www.merlinmscentre.org.uk/events/event_booking/centre-events/virtual-event

Further details can be found by emailing tamsin@merlinmscentre.org.uk.

Notes to the Editor

The Merlin MS Centre, an independent charity located in mid-Cornwall, provides a range of expert care, support and therapies for people whose lives are affected by neurological conditions such as MS, Parkinson's, Stroke, ME/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

The charity also has additional ongoing costs associated with operating in a COVID safe environment. This includes purchasing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for therapy staff; providing sanitisers and wipes; and paying for additional cleaning products.

With no funding from statutory sources and many ways of raising funds having to stop, it is looking to the support of the local community to keep the services running.

If anyone is unable to attend the quiz and wishes to donate go to www.merlinmscentre.org.uk or send a cheque to Merlin MS Centre, Bradbury House, He was Water, St Austell, PL26 7JF

**Tamsin Chapman ACIM
Digital and Commercial Marketing
Merlin MS Centre
Bradbury House
Hewas Water
St Austell**

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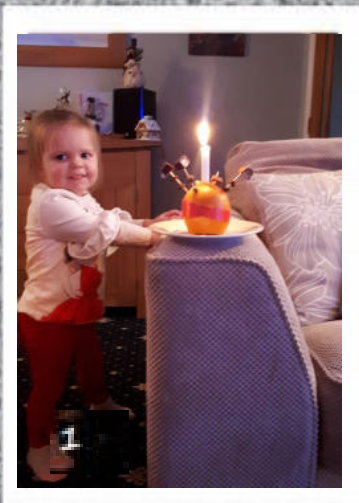
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**BEWARE—BLACK ICE!
Luxulyan in January**



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Front cover, celebrating St Valentine, St. David, St Piran and St. Patrick

6. Lanlivery Christmas handbells in church

8 & 9 Ladies' keep fit at Luxulyan

1 - 5 Lanlivery & Luxulyan do Christingle differently

7. Coolum Beach, Australia at Christmas— Ben Roberts

10 & 11. A hint of spring - Kathryn Hill