



The Granite Towers

*A Community Magazine for
Luxulyan and Lanlivery*



December 2024 & January 2025

EDITORIAL



Festive Greetings to you all

I do hope this edition of the Granite Towers finds you all well and starting to get that festive feeling. Each year it seems to catch me by surprise!

I'd like to start by saying a big thank you to everyone who contributes regularly to the Granite Towers, whether as an advertiser or by providing content. Without you, this magazine would not be possible. We are always keen to hear from those

with an interesting story or hobby. Please do not be put off if you are not able to produce the finished article, there is always a member of the committee who can help you. Please send any articles for inclusion (max 600 words), subject to suitability to granitetowersluxlan@gmail.com.

Whilst passing out thanks, I must not forget our fabulous distribution team who ensure copies are delivered to you all every edition.

I was struggling with what to write for this edition as I am not a great one for following current events closely as I find it all far too depressing. However I was watching Strictly, Come Dancing recently when one of the pro-dancers mentioned her parents were coming to a visit from Western Australia. This got me to reminiscing a little on my time there, especially at Christmas, as it was so far removed from anything I had experienced before. Christmas in the UK is the middle of winter, it's cold, sometimes raining and we 'rug up' to keep warm when out and about. The Christmas carols and songs make sense when singing of snow, the cold and snowmen. As far as I know, and this may have changed since I left, there are few if any Christmas songs/carols that address the fact that for those in the Southern Hemisphere, Christmas is in the summer!

I think it first hit me, how odd it was, was when I went out to buy a Christmas tree. Unlike the UK where most shopping areas are the main high street, in Australia, pretty much each suburb has an indoor mall. Some bigger than others depending on the size and location of the suburb. The one I was visiting was one of the larger malls in our area, The Westfield Carousel Shopping Centre in Cannington. It was festively

decorated with Christmas trees, lights, garlands as well as a Santa Grotto with elves and reindeer, and traditional carols were being played through the centre and within each shop, however, I was in shorts, t-shirt and flip flops (thongs if you're an Aussie!). Nothing made sense and boy was it hot! Even with air conditioning.

As we found our feet and settled, we got used to the climate change for Christmas, sometimes returning to the UK to celebrate with family and when in Australia, usually with friends. The day would start with a trip to the beach for a Christmas Day swim, along with many other Western Australians. It was not unusual to see Dad's sent ahead of the family group to secure a barbecue for the day's celebrations! Many swimmers would also don a Santa hat for their dip. It always seems strange to be swimming on Christmas Day. I know many people enjoy a Boxing Day dip here in the UK, but at the temperatures experienced, it's not for me. We would then return home and have breakfast before opening presents and lazing around for most of the day as too hot to do much else. Christmas dinner was never a roast, it was usually something cooked on the barbie with salad and other accompaniments. There was, of course, the obligatory bottle of good WA wine to wash it all down with. I have only been able to find one Western Australian wine in the mainstream supermarkets worth buying since I returned home, from one of my favourite spots, Margaret River. As much as I miss a swim on Christmas Day, I much prefer a Northern Hemisphere Christmas.

As I conclude it's snowing outside and the words of Merry Christmas Everyone by Shakin' Stevens come to mind:

*Snow is falling all around me
Children playing, having fun
It's the season, love and understanding
Merry Christmas everyone*

However you celebrate this year, with family or friends, home or away I hope it's a good one.

Wishing each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful and happy New Year.

Until next time

Claire

The views of the editor are always personal and not necessarily those of the Granite Towers and committee.

ADVERTISING

Please note our advertising costs and new contact details, as shown in the box on page 5

LUXULYAN VILLAGE HALL BOOKING AGENT

Chris Thomas tel: 01726 850618
email: printmasterchris@sky.com

LANLIVERY OVER 60s

The Lanlivery Over 60's Lunch Group meets, at The Crown Inn, on the 2nd Thursday in every month, at 12 noon. We enjoy a convivial lunch, looked after by the lovely staff, an informal quiz and a raffle. There is no membership fee, just bring along £1 for a raffle ticket, and pay The Crown Inn for what you eat and drink. We're a friendly bunch and enjoy meeting new members.

To find out more, or to book a place, call Mark on 07717 298 884.

Best wishes, Mark and Peggy



Luxulyan School

Grow Every Learner Learn for Life Enjoy Every Challenge Excel Together

News from Luxulyan School

We have been very busy going out and about recently.

Oak and Sycamore Class Trip to Royal Cornwall Museum

On Thursday the 7th of November, Oak and Sycamore Class went to visit the Royal Cornwall Museum. First, we took part in a mineral and mining trail in one of the exhibition rooms. There were crystals and gems to look at and touch and artefacts from the mining times. One artefact we all thought was cool was the mummified tortoise shell.

After lunch, we went into the mummification cave where we learnt about the mummification process. We even saw real canopic jars which the Ancient Egyptians used to store and preserve organs. The most exciting part of the day was seeing a real mummified person named Iset-tayef-nakht. He's a 2,700-year-old mummy who died at 65 years old, which was very old in Ancient Egypt.

The trip was amazing, and everyone said it was one of the best we've been on.

Year Trip to Wheal Martyn Museum

Year 1 went to the Wheal Martyn Clay Works as part of their learning about local history. In the morning, we had a tour of the site, led by Nolan who is a volunteer at the Museum. We loved seeing the water wheel in action as we moved round and saw the different stages of the process of clay mining. We then walked up to the pit view to see clay mining in action.

In the afternoon we had a workshop called 'Working Life for Me'. The children started off by looking at photos of the local area and understanding the importance of the china clay industry. We also learnt about the many uses of china clay and took turns acting them out for each other to guess. We then looked at photos from the Victorian times of St. Austell and people involved in the clay mining industry. Finally, we got to have a go at dressing up as a pit captain, kettle boy and bal maiden.

Archaeology Dig at Treffry Viaduct

Sycamore and Oak Class had the opportunity to go down to the archaeological dig at the Treffry Viaduct. We walked down to the Valley and headed to the Crib Hut where we saw holes marked with pegs in the ground. Archaeologists were digging there and at that moment they found something that was part of a clay plate. We also held some artefacts from previous digs that they have done, such as clay pipes, shoe soles and part of an old portable stove.



Key Stage 1 Multi-skills

12 children from Year 1 and Year 2 travelled to Poltair for a multi-skills festival. The children worked brilliantly as a team and had a great time. What's more, Luxulyan School also came in first place in the relay race against all of the other CELT schools who took part! A great achievement. Well done to the children and thank you to parents and carers for your support.

*Compiled by Rachel Allison
Ash Class Teacher*

BOOKING FOR LUXULYAN MEMORIAL INSTITUTE

The Institute is now open, in line with Covid restrictions.

To book the Institute, £10 per session:
Contact Luxulyan Parish Council Clerk by
telephone or email: Mrs Christine Wilson, 01208
831283, clerk@luxulyanpc.co.uk

Please send copy for the next edition of "THE GRANITE TOWERS"

FEBRUARY MARCH 2025 EDITION to the editor,
by **JANUARY 10 2025**.

EMAIL ADDRESS for Granite Towers copy:

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

See page 10 for all deadline dates.

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CHRISTMAS SONG QUIZ

Just for fun – can you work out the name of the
Christmas song/carol just from the initials

- | | |
|------------|-----------------|
| 1. JB | (6,5) |
| 2. COTB | (5,2,3,5) |
| 3. OIRDC | (4,2,5,6,4) |
| 4. RATCT | (7,6,3,8,4) |
| 5. LC | (4,8) |
| 6. AIWFCIY | (3,1,4,3,8,2,3) |
| 7. MCE | (5,8,8) |
| 8. AIAM | (4,2,1,6) |
| 9. DTKIC | (2,4,4,3,8) |
| 10. SN | (6,5) |
| 11. TFN | (3,5,4) |
| 12. LIS | (3,2,4) |
| 13. WC | (5,8) |
| 14. FTS | (6,3,7) |
| 15. BC | (4,8) |
| 16. WTK | (2,5,5) |
| 17. JTTW | (3,2,3,5) |
| 18. FTONY | (5,4,2,3,4) |
| 19. ISMKSC | (1,3,5,7,5,5) |
| 20. OLTOb | (1,6,4,2,9) |
| 21. GRYMG | (3,4,2,5,9) |
| 22. HCSC | (4,5,5,5) |
| 23. SIC | (4,4,9) |
| 24. BICO | (4,3,4,7) |
| 25. TLDB | (3,6,7,3) |
| 26. OCAYF | (1,4,3,2,8) |
| 27. THATI | (3,5,3,3,3) |
| 28. WITA | (7,2,3,3) |
| 29. RTRNR | (6,3,3,5,8) |
| 30. WWYAMC | (2,4,3,1,5,8) |

Answers on page 16

DID YOU KNOW...

Mince pies

Victorian mince pies were originally oval-shaped and contained meat, fruit, and spices. They were shaped like coffins or the manger of baby Jesus

Christmas trees

The tradition of decorating trees with evergreens during the winter solstice dates back to the ancient Egyptians and Romans. Prince Albert introduced the German custom to Queen Victoria in 1840, making it popular across the globe.

Electric Christmas lights

Thomas Edison created the first strand of electric lights in 1880 and hung them outside his laboratory in Menlo Park, New Jersey for Christmas

Santa's image

Coca-Cola's 1931 ads helped shape the image of Santa Claus we know today. Illustrator Haddon Sundblom created the iconic Santa for the ads.

MEMORIAL INSTITUTE COFFEE MORNINGS

Plant Swap season is over now for the winter, but we will continue to meet on first Saturday of the month, just because we can. Come and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and bacon butty, cake and some company. The Institute will be open from 10am on Saturdays 7th December and 4th January.

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Ideally, 1/4 page submissions should fit into a four to the page format 13.5 cm height x 9.5 cm width. Note we do not construct adverts; they should be supplied in finished form.

PLEASE NOTE OUR PRICES AS FOLLOWS FOR SIX ISSUES PER YEAR:

Large adverts—1/4 of a page—£45
 Small adverts—1/8 of a page—£25

LUXULYAN OVER FIFTIES

Luxulyan Over 50s is a club that meets on first and third Wednesdays every month for a modestly priced lunch and friendship at the King's Arms, Luxulyan at **12noon**.

Note: no meeting on 1st January.

Members are phoned or e-mailed a few days in advance to select, from a choice of two, their main and sweet courses so that delays are kept to a minimum.

Subs are £2 per year and a raffle is held at each meeting which helps with the cost of the Christmas meal.

New members are welcome, so please telephone Val on 01726 850045 for details.

www.avalenweddings.co.uk

Contact Clare Hugo on 07881 224791



CHAIR YOGA IN LUXULYAN

Now available at Luxulyan Village Hall are sessions for Chair Yoga led by Tracy. Sessions are from 10 am to 11 am on Fridays, cost is £8 per session. No need to book, just come along and join in. Tracy is a great teacher and will be sympathetic to your aches and pains – to a certain extent anyway!



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LUXULYAN 100 YEARS AGO

Items transcribed from the original text in the Cornish Guardian

5 December 1924: Luxulyan Right-of-Way. With reference to the alleged obstruction to the Ponto Mill and Luxulyan right-of-way, a correspondent writes suggesting that the Bodmin Rural District Council are only acting in a half-hearted manner in this matter. The path, he says, has been closed against the public the whole of the summer and nothing yet has been done to stop the illegal act. - - - - -

I was told by a man who is 75 years old that as a boy of ten years old he worked in a mine above Ponto Mill with his father and used to go to work by this path.

17 December 1924: LANXON-WEST. December 15th at the Parish Church, Luxulyan, by Rev CF Jones, Harold, only son of Mrs and the late Mr R Lanxon, Pool St, Bodmin to Annie S, younger daughter of Mr & Mrs W West, Canna, Bugle.

9 January 1925: New Year's Day Festivities. Through the kindness of Dr Nat Coulson of San Francisco, the schoolchildren in the parish of Luxulyan were entertained to tea on New Year's Day, this was followed by a public tea and in the evening the schoolroom was crowded for a capital concert, the vocal and instrumental numbers for which were contributed by Mrs Chirgwin, Miss Eugene Beswetherick, Miss Betty Northcott, Mr CB Jolliffe, Mr H Burton, Mr JA Beswetherick and the Luxulyan Male Quartette. Colonel Sir William Serjeant CB St Benets Lanivet presided.

After the concert there was a firework display in the boys' playground, and later the company adjourned to the lower glebe field, where a huge bonfire was lit by Sir William, the blaze from which could be seen for miles around. The proceeds were in aid of the Luxulyan Institute fund, to which Dr Coulson has contributed £100.

16 January: Mr RB Anderson of Bodmin examined the Luxulyan branch of the St Johns Ambulance Association, to whom Mr Hocking, of St Blazey has been the lecturer, assisted by Mr W Rady and Mr AL White, with Mr WT Roach as secretary. Results: First aid certificates Messrs John Hosking, Walter Roach, John Kearn, Clifford Darlington, William Crowle, Clifford Roach. Vouchers Messrs Owen Williams, Alfred Roach and Leonard Darlington. Medallion Mr Arthur Pinch.

Compiled by Hazel Harradence

LOCAL WRITER & GRANITE TOWERS CONTRIBUTOR IS PROOF YOU SHOULD NEVER GIVE UP ON YOUR DREAMS



After spending a decade of her retirement penning novels and accumulating rejection letters Christine McHaines received the gift of a lifetime on her 77th birthday - a five-book publishing deal for her cozy crime series.

Christine, who has been contributing short stories to The Granite Towers for more than a decade, always harboured ambitions to become a novelist, but it wasn't until recently she learned her books would finally be published.

"I was in the car with my husband, on the way back from an appointment at Treliske Hospital, when the email arrived on my mobile," she shared. "I was so stunned, I couldn't speak. I had to double-check on my bigger screen at home to make sure it was real."

And it was real. The publisher expressed interest not only in her initial submission but in her entire 'Quentin Cadbury Investigations' series—the latest of which is set against the picturesque backdrop of Cornwall.

"I've always been drawn to Cornwall's beauty," Christine explained. "I knew early on I'd set one of my books here. I've been taking notes and photographs for years of anything that sparked an idea I might one day use. There are key scenes in this book set around the St Austell Bay area. There's the famed Eden Project, which is right on our doorstep, but there are also scenes at some lesser-known places like St Austell's leisure centre. It's nice to include some of those less famous places from where I live."

Christine's publisher, Erik Empson of The Book Folks, praises her ability to weave engaging tales with relatable characters. "Her quirky protagonist duo and light-hearted style is easy reading, and in her latest book, she captures the landscape and way of life of Cornwall to a tee."

In her newest release, *The Mystery on the Cornish Coast*, the young detective Quentin Cadbury and his partner, Wanda Merrydrew, face peril when a notorious criminal they helped imprison escapes.

Forced to deliver a mysterious package or face dire consequences, they embark on a dangerous adventure along the Cornish coast.

The Mystery on the Cornish Coast, the fourth standalone book in the series, is available on Kindle and in paperback or hardback at Amazon. Or grab an author-signed paperback copy at local independent bookshop, Hurley Books in Mevagissey.

Hopefully some of you have already managed to read at least one of the books in the series – I have and highly recommend them – Ed!

* * * * *



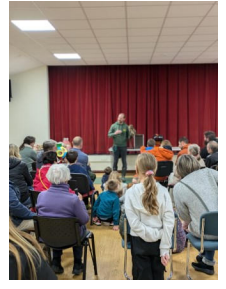
LUXULYAN VALLEY



The last three months have been a busy time for FOLV.

In September we had to cancel a nature walk at the last moment because of the weather. However, a few of us did turn up and the weather then improved. Joan Farmer then gave five of us an interesting nature walk.

In October we had a talk by Duncan Mathews on John Smeaton. John Smeaton (1724-1792) was the first self-proclaimed "civil engineer" and is often regarded as the "father of civil engineering". He designed bridges, canals, windmills, harbours and lighthouses (including the Eddystone). He was responsible for the building of Smeaton's pier in St Ives and also invented the lightning conductor.



On Saturday 16th November FOLV held an open afternoon in the village hall. There were plenty of stalls and children's activities; but the highlight was probably the Screech Owl Sanctuary who brought a tawny owl, a barn owl and a polecat along as well as giving a very informative talk. We estimate that well over 100 people attended and feedback so far has been very positive.



Unfortunately, there has been a spate of vandalism in the valley with signs broken and discarded. It has been reported to police on two occasions. Please let Cornwall Council know if see anything untoward and they can decide whether to forward it to the police.

We have an event every month, a free quarterly newsletter where you see detailed write ups. If you are not already members of FOLV and are interested in joining, please see our website <https://www.luxulyanvalley.co.uk/> Our next talk is on 11th December on flora, mosses, lichens and their benefits by Bruce Middleton..

Robin Stephenson
Chair



SKYLARKS: MEETING GOD THROUGH NATURE

We sadly had to cancel our September/harvest themed session due to a bad weather forecast – and we were right to do so! It poured down!

In November we explored what 'Remembrance' meant to us at whatever age and stage of life we are. We decorated jars for tea-lights and lit them while we 'remembered'. If you would like to see them, they are still in the shelter at LEGGS along with our leaves of Remembrance. The session ended with our traditional toasting of marshmallows!



We are planning a participative and interactive outdoor retelling of the Nativity story on Sunday 22 December at 2.30 pm (meet at the church but we will be walking to LEGGS). It would be fantastic to have family groups of shepherds and wise men (adults and children together) dressed appropriately. We will need Marys and Josephs too – we've already recruited a couple of grumpy innkeepers! We will have some suitable outfits to borrow at the church, but it would be great if you could beg or borrow some yourselves! We will end with appropriate festive refreshments. If you would like to volunteer or need further information, please contact Shelley on 07761798220 or famporter58@gmail.com.

We will probably take a break in January, resuming our sessions in February, but keep an eye out for posters/Facebook announcements for our next date.

Shelley Porter

LANLIVERY SOCIAL EVENING – A THANK YOU

A big thank you to everyone who came to the Lanlivery Social evening on Friday 15th November. making it a wonderful evening. We raised £804 to be split 50/50 between Air Ambulance and the church. Also, a special thank you to those who kindly helped to cover the cost of the refreshments.

Rosemary



ROBERT 'MORLEY' RICHARDS 26TH MARCH 1935 – 16TH OCTOBER 2024

Morley was born in March 1935 in Sweetshouse to Alfred Jack and Martha Richards, and had an older sister called Loveday. He attended school in Bodmin between the ages of 6 and 16, and then worked at home for the family corn merchant business.

At the age of 19 he joined the army where did his initial training in the DCLI Barracks in Bodmin, before joining the Ox and Bucks regiment moving to Germany as a driver for the officers. He was fondly known locally as the Major. His time in the army stayed with him and he enjoyed telling everyone how many steps there were per minute in various marches and would march up and down the lounge at home demonstrating how it should be done.

Morley and Mary met when Mary was 15. She had been in the lorry with her cousin David delivering logs to the corn store. Morley asked who Mary was and wanted to know if she was going to the dance at Lanhydrock that evening. She did go and the rest is history. Morley married Mary Thomas in July 1957 at St Petroc's church in Bodmin. They had four children, and the family home was at Boslymon.

Morley adored his family and was never happier than when he had a baby on his knee. He had eight Grandchildren, and seven Great Grandchildren. He loved to hear what they had all been up to, especially their achievements and of course the naughty stories. Over the years he taught all the children many songs and nursery rhymes that he had sung as a boy and loved telling them tales about the animals.

W. Richards and Son was started around 1916 by Walter and Edith, and their son Alfred John. Back then, deliveries of corn were made by horse and cart. Morley and Mary worked alongside his dad Alf for many years and then later, with his own sons Mark and Matthew. Morley was still keen to help out well into his 80's and would drop off a few bags where needed.

Morley had a small holding at Boslymon where he reared pigs and beef cattle, and always had horses. It wasn't unusual for the kitchen to be a nursery for the farrows and Morley would spoon feed them whisky and hot milk to give them a good start. As the pigs grew, they had to be moved down the road into the piggery. All the family have memories of piglets escaping, running in all directions and Morley shouting "grab their back leg". Morley was passionate about horses, especially following the hunt and point to point racing. He was on the South Cornwall Hunt point to point committee, and he was clerk of the scales for the East Cornwall hunt point to point.

He was frequently involved in local community events including Lanlivery Feast week and was a long-standing member of the Lanlivery Loonies. He sat on the committee for the Lanlivery Vintage Rally and drove his lorry for various groups in Bodmin and Lostwithiel carnivals, as well as carol singing at Christmas. He was also a keen bellringer and has been treasurer and secretary for the bellringers at Lanlivery church.

Morley was always happy to help out at charity events and he took part in hand bell ringing at Christmas and abseiled down the church tower raising money for the new church roof. Due to his community work he was invited to the Queen's Garden Party at Buckingham Palace which he was proud to attend but wasn't a big fan of the London underground!

Morley was a true gentleman, a much loved, husband, dad and papa, and will be greatly missed by all those who had the pleasure of meeting him.

* * * * *

LANLIVERY—FROM THE CORNISH GUARDIAN ARCHIVES

Thursday 04 December 1930

PRESENTATION AT LANLIVERY. On Friday, Nov. 28th, Miss E. A. Keat resigned her position as headmistress of Lanlivery School on account of her forthcoming marriage. The occasion was marked by a happy event, when the senior girls presented her with an oxydised copper coalbox and companion set, which was subscribed for by the staff and scholars of the school and by other well-wisher. Miss Keat carries with her the good wishes of a large circle of friends.

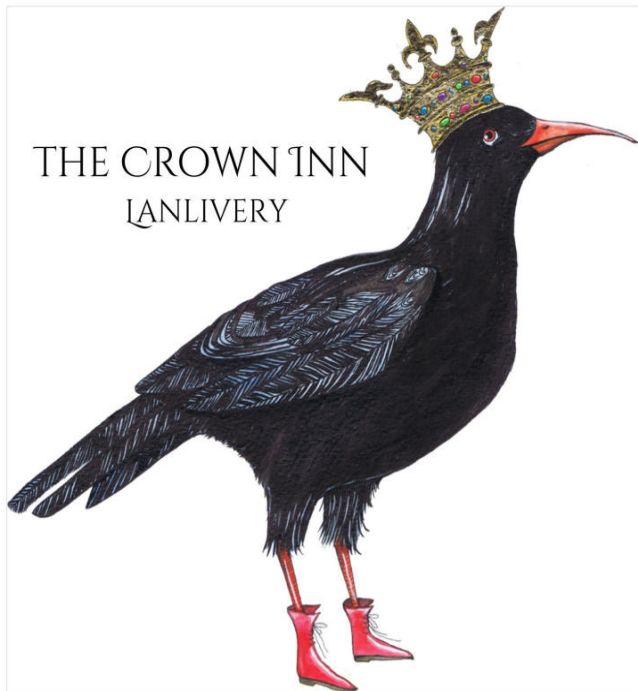
Friday 08 December 1922

LANLIVERY TROUNCED. Our footballers were given a severe setback at Saturday when they had a severe trouncing by a superior combination from Mount Charles and retired beaten by 7 goals to nil. It was an exhibition game and it showed that much practice is needed by the home club before they can hope to bring off many wins in matches with local teams of longer experience. The committee have arranged several fixtures, which include matches with recognised strong teams so that the boys will have plenty of opportunities to improve as the season advances.

Thursday 27 December 1956

Aged 70, Still Walking At Lanlivery sub post office, where Mrs. Henwood is subpost mistress, the Lanlivery mail was quickly sorted by Miss Henwood for her father, who is the village postman, to take on his round. At 75, Mr. G. Henwood has been a post man for about 20 years at Lanlivery, and regularly does his ten miles or so in all weathers. His farthest point is a farm called Braine, almost in the shadow of Helman Tor, but on this round he had not to call there. One of the things one quickly gets to know on a postal round is that there are very few dwellings, if any at all, where mail never goes. To the uninitiated, it is thrilling see, for the first time, little houses, or even farms, which he never knew existed; or which, having vaguely seen in driving by, he was able now to take note of. The Lanlivery and Luxulyan rural delivery entails driving about 46 miles and making at least 50 different calls, and on Monday every place was called at, except one.

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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

NOTE THAT IF YOUR SUBMISSION IS LATE, WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO INCLUDE IT.

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Mother, Mum, Mummy, Grandma, Great Grandma, Aunty Di, Diane, Mrs Oliver...

"A lovely lady" and a "wonderful teacher", "we shared a giggle together", she was "highly respected in the village", you "never heard a bad word said about her", "her smile took all worries away." Your words, Luxulyan.

Archetypal infant teacher and exemplary mother - eldest daughter of Dot and George Bardle and sister to her beloved Gillian. Modest and self-effacing, she allowed herself "a moment's self-congratulation, that her children hadn't turned out badly at all."

She played the recorder, guitar and "I always remember Mrs Oliver playing the piano in assemblies with her eyes closed and smiling like she was enjoying every moment...". She taught some in the village their first steps in music, played for the Christmas shows at school and held music as her private delight throughout her life.

"She cared about everyone, she brought up people rather than just children; she cared about the people they would become, ..."

"As a colleague, she was very helpful in all kinds of ways, personal and professional; very wise, thought deeply about things, she was calm and very organised." Mum coped with the frustrations of living with an elderly parent by going and opening a cupboard for a private scream. And yet, she appeared to have infinite patience.

Born in 1937, Diane's home in Hertford, the family soon moved to St Albans, where Diane grew up round the corner from Ralph. In 1959, she started teaching in Kettering, while Ralph was away for four years in Africa. Distance did the trick, and after Dad, the pig farmer, wooed her from Bodiggo, she married him in 1963 and was persuaded to take up the headship of a rural Cornish school, with an iron stove in the corner, while residing in a caravan, as he rebuilt a granite barn with earth floors, into a dream.

Diane built her place in Luxulyan as schoolteacher, Village Hall secretary, originator of the first playgroup; Smarties helper; bellringer; church choir member; kept-fit regular; LADS stalwart, ...

Recognisable by her white hair she never changed for her pupils, though being greeted at Luxulyan carnival, with "Hello, Mrs Oliver", by large, bearded fathers, whom she remembered as five year olds, left her at a complete loss.

In this candlelit church one Christmas Eve, listening with delight to Mum singing 'Oh Holy Night' with the choir, she worried about getting her part right, it was just beautiful.

She told of her private amusement when at a LADS show, reprising Joyce Grenfell, as she called the 'class' to order, every former pupil in the audience sat up sharply.

"Grandma was an utterly happy and positive soul with a great sense of humour. I'll never forget her infectious laugh and smile, Grandma teaching us nursery rhymes on the piano, our special Christmases all together, her well prepared breakfast table along with her great biscuit stash."

She made a life in Luxulyan for 60 years and she will be missed from the community at The Grove, in Charlestown.

On behalf of Mum, spoken by Mrs March, in *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott, this is for ALL of Mrs Oliver's children:

"The love, respect, and confidence of my children was the sweetest reward I could receive, for my efforts to be the woman I would have them copy."

Thank you, Mrs Oliver.

* * * * *

FRIENDS OF LUXULYAN VALLEY – DAIRY DATES

Native Plants: Wed 11th Dec 2024, 7:30pm to 9:00pm

A presentation by Bruce Middleton on our flora, mosses and lichens, and their benefits.

Meet: Luxulyan Village Hall, PL30 5QA

Volunteer day: Fri 10th Jan 2025, 9:30am to 3:30pm

Luxulyan Valley—coppicing near the incline and dog runs. Expanding the coppice area where the Incline and Fowey Consuls leat meet, plus any dog runs in that area. Meet Pontois Mill car park 9.15 SX0728856150 W3W [aced.flight.cutaway](#) or at the worksite 9.30


Boconnoc: it is the Paradise of Cornwall Wed 15th Jan 2025, 7:30pm to 9:00pm

A presentation by Dr Catherine Lorigan on Boconnoc's history and ownership by a number of Cornish families.

Meet: Luxulyan Village Hall, PL30 5QA

* * * * *





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LOCAL CHOIR NEWS

Men, make the most of your voices!

Cornwall, and especially the Clay Country, has a great tradition of male voice choirs. At one time every clay works had one. Today the Imerys Mid Cornwall Male Choir carries on that tradition, meeting every Thursday to enjoy putting our voices together in harmony, making music far beyond what any of us can do alone in the car or in the bath.

This Christmas we are singing at St Stephen, Par, and twice at St Dennis, and in the course of the year we have events all through mid-Cornwall.

We are also welcoming new singers, experienced or new to choirs, with no need to read music, and from January we are preparing our 2025 programme of songs. Usually, we meet at St Dennis Working Men's Club from 7-9 pm every Thursday (and afterwards in the bar; we are a very sociable bunch). But in January we plan to move two practices to Indian Queens, and in February to hold two in Lanivet to make it easier for local men to drop in and try it out.

If you like to sing by yourself singing in harmony is a rich new experience. Why not give it a go, and maybe come with a friend? Watch out for local posters, or for more information call Barry Hawken on 07816 182891.

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WI REPORT

Delicious pasties and delectable desserts were ready and waiting for members at their Harvest Supper Meeting on Wednesday November 13th in Luxulyan Village Hall. Everyone was warmly welcomed by President, Verna Roberts to this very special meeting when partners and friends were invited.

Jackie Soady, competitions organiser, arranged the table of entries for the three categories: the Wilson Cup, for a produce basket, the Blake Cup for a Floral Basket and the Stock Trophy for a Flowering Potted Plant.

Trevor Davis, one of our visitors judged the three Harvest competitions. The Stock Trophy – Potted Plant was won by Jackie Russell, and the Wilson Cup – Produce Basket, went to Lorna Curtis. Lee Hemmings came 2nd and Verna Roberts was 3rd. Lorna Curtis won The Blake Cup – Floral Display, and Joan Blackshire was second.

There was then a brief time for some WI business, which was dealt with by Secretary Jackie Russell. This included her report of her telephone conversation with the County Advisor about the prospect of the Luxulyan and Lanlivery WI having to close unless a treasurer and secretary could be found for the institute. She put it to members that although all the financial side of the group would still have to be finished by December we could then continue until the end of the 2024/25 year with our last meeting being March, and probably finish with a party/games evening. We have two very good speakers organised for January and February, Memory Matters and Punjabi Cookery, which could be made an open meeting. Mary, our County Advisor would be with us for our November meeting to finalise everything.

Everyone sat in groups to enjoy the Harvest meal of delicious hot pasties, and a wide range of desserts, made by the committee, from which to choose – and there was enough for everyone who wanted to have a second helping!

Members kindly donated the baskets and flowers to the raffle prizes. Raffle winners were:

Val Hodge, Sue Hillier, Liz Edwards, Lindy Van Heffan-visitor, Verna Roberts, Amanda Penk, Joan Blackshire, Lee Hemmings, Joan Lawson, Haze Harradence, Jackie Soady, Trevor-visitor, Lorna Curtis, and a visitor.

Thanks go to all who helped with the evening, took part in the competitions and made desserts and special thanks to

Val who organised the pasties. Verna thanked everyone for coming to this very enjoyable evening.

November's meeting was held as usual in Luxulyan Village Hall as usual. Verna warmly welcomed everyone, including the speaker for the evening, Mary Thompson, a County Advisor and Bill Behenna the speaker for the evening, on the subject of The History of Kelly's Ice Cream. A birthday posy was presented to Hilary Johns and a buttonhole to Mary Thompson and Bill Behenna.

Bill introduced himself as a member of the Kelly family, (he is married to one of the daughters) and his brother-in-law, Alistair Wilton (married to her sister). He said Alistair was his "technician", in charge of the power point laptop. They have both been working on the history of Kelly's for a good many years and the many interesting photographs of the family and their background were fascinating, taking us back over a hundred years to when the family arrived in St. Austell, from their extremely poor country of Italy, where life was still mainly feudal, and many were coming to England to escape the rigours of their terrible conditions. They started making ice cream and selling from little hand carts and kiosks. The business gradually grew until they were producing from a factory in St. Blazey until the business was sold to the Froneri company. The final part of the recipe is still a well-guarded secret. Next time you buy your Kelly's ice cream you'll know there is a fascinating saga where that came from.

The minutes of the October meeting were read and Joan Lawson gave a very full and interesting report of the WI autumn meeting Hall For Cornwall. Mary Thompson guided discussion of the future of our institute. Amanda Penk volunteered to take on one of the jobs if someone could step up for the other.

Jackie Russell reminded everyone about the Christmas Lunch on December 4th at 12.30 for 1pm at the Carlyon Bay Golf Club and that December's Meeting is the Christmas Party at **THE INSTITUTE** on Wednesday December 11th and to note the change of venue. There would be entertainment; bring a card for another member signed "To my WI friend" and bring a plate of food. She distributed the County News.

After further discussion the meeting closed at 9.50pm.

For further information please contact Jackie Russell on 07925 966 696.

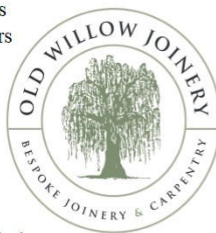
We are looking forward to our February meeting on Wednesday 12th, when we will welcome Purdy, who will be giving a talk and demonstration of Punjabi cooking. This is an open meeting and EVERYONE IS WELCOME. It is for anyone who might be interested, not just WI members

Verna Roberts

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LUXULYAN CHARITY COFFEE MORNINGS

At the King's Arms, Luxulyan, on the last Thursday in each month there is a Charity Coffee Morning kindly hosted by Sam and the team. The money raised goes towards various projects around village; most recently it has given money the school towards the expenses of the Breakfast Club as part of the Just Giving page that has been set up for raising funds and some to Adam for his Marathon bid on 23rd November. Coffee/tea, a piece of cake and a raffle ticket each cost £1. If you can bring along a small raffle prize as well, that will be gratefully received. The next meeting, because of Christmas, will be 30th January. We look forward to seeing you.

MIRABELLE, THE PATRON SAINT OF MIRRORS

Once upon a time, in a far off land, a maiden lived with her mother and father in a wooden shack in the hills, tending the goats and gathering berries. Her name was Mirabelle, and her one desire was to meet a young man she could love and spend her life with. But not many young men passed her in the fields, and when she went to gatherings with her family she attracted attention from no man, neither young nor old.

One day, tired of minding goats for hour upon hour, she wandered away, much further than usual, and came across a lake, still and blue and reflecting the trees and hills around it. Mirabelle gasped with delight. She had never seen a true reflection before. She knew that bright surfaces could reflect images, but the battered pots and pans in their humble hovel showed only a dim distortion of things, and the stream from where she drew water gushed white over pebbles and rocks. She ran to the lake's edge and stared in wonder, leaning over its motionless surface to satisfy herself that the hills and trees she saw there were not growing upside down into the water. Seeing a face looking up at her, she drew back in horror. The face was young and well-shaped, but its beauty was marred by a purple mark that covered the whole of one cheek. Who was this person, this maiden with the disfigured face? A water nymph?

Cautiously she reached out her hand and touched the water. Ripples disturbed its shiny surface and the face disappeared. When the water settled it re-appeared, the purple mark vivid on the pale skin. Surely this wasn't her?

Mirabelle looked around. There was no-one else in sight. Lifting her hand, she touched her cheek. She watched in disbelief as the hand in the water touched the purple stained face at the same time.

Crying out, she turned and fled home.

'Why did you not tell me how ugly I am?' she demanded of her parents. 'No one will ever love me.'

'You are not ugly to us,' her parents told her. 'You are our daughter and you are beautiful and we love you very much.'

'But my face is disfigured. I am fated to spend my days with only goats for company.'

Some months later, when Mirabelle had grown used to the truth of her appearance, she wandered down to the lake again, hoping that by some miracle the purple mark had vanished. She sighed as she realised she hadn't changed. How could she? Reflections can only give back what is given to them.

As she began to walk away, a young man on horseback emerged from the trees. In front of him sat a small monkey, who jabbered excitedly on seeing Mirabelle.

'Hello,' Mirabelle greeted, turning her unblemished side towards them.

When the man dismounted his foot caught in a tree root and he toppled over. Forgetting her purple stain, Mirabelle rushed forward and helped him to his feet. He was the most beautiful person she had ever seen.

'Thank you,' said the young man.

'Are you hurt?' Mirabelle asked.

'No,' came the reply. 'I did not expect to be rescued by a lovely young maiden out here.'

Immediately Mirabelle turned aside. 'I'm not lovely,' she whispered.

'Your voice is lovely and you are kind,' came the reply. 'And my monkey here likes you. That's enough for me.'

Mirabelle smiled. This beautiful man thought she was lovely. No-one except her parents had told her that before. What was wrong with this stranger? Could he not see her ugly mark?

'My monkey is my eyes,' the young man explained. 'If he thinks you are lovely then you are. If you believe you are lovely then you will be. And if you see your reflection you will know. Your reflection always tells the truth.'

Mirabelle turned from this beautiful, blind Adonis and stared at her reflection in the water. Wonder swamped her and she drew her fingers down her creamy, unblemished cheeks.

'It's true,' she said, and fell at the young man's feet.

Like all good stories this has a happy ending. The couple were married, and although she never possessed anything that showed her reflection, every time Mirabelle looked into her husband's eyes she saw herself there, young and happy and beautiful.

Author's note: St Mirabelle is a fictional saint drawn from the following: MIRABELLE - the name means, wonderful, of wondrous beauty, from the Latin mirabilis.

The word mirror comes from the French mirour, originally from the Latin mirari, to admire.

There is no patron saint of mirrors, but perhaps there should be!

Christine McHaines

CHRISTMAS SONG QUIZ - ANSWERS

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Jingle Bells | 16. We Three Kings |
| 2. Carol of the Bells | 17. Joy to the World |
| 3. Once in Royal David's City | 18. Fairy Tale of New York |
| 4. Rocking Around the Christmas Tree | 19. I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus |
| 5. Last Christmas | 20. O Little Town of Bethlehem |
| 6. All I want for Christmas is You | 21. God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen |
| 7. Merry Christmas Everyone | 22. Here Comes Santa Claus |
| 8. Away in a Manger | 23. Step Into Christmas |
| 9. Do They Know It's Christmas | 24. Baby It's Cold Outside |
| 10. Silent Night | 25. The Little Drummer Boy |
| 11. The First Noel | 26. O Come All Ye Faithful |
| 12. Let it Snow | 27. The Holly and the Ivy |
| 13. White Christmas | 28. Walking in the Air |
| 14. Frosty the Snowman | 29. Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer |
| 15. Blue Christmas | 30. We Wish You a Merry Christmas |

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LADS REUNION

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EMAIL FROM OXFORD

I was listening to a discussion on the radio recently on the topic of the weather and how it hadn't been particularly great for getting the best of the autumn colours. For some reason it struck home and has made me look around to determine whether I agreed with their views. I came to the conclusion that they obviously aren't seeing the same things I am. All the varying colours of the leaves from bright amber to deepest maroon, bright red rose hips, orange pumpkins and vibrant yellow of late flowering shrubs such as mahonia or winter jasmine with their delicious scent. I have to admit the colours don't seem to have lingered as long or perhaps been as 'in your face' as the last year or two, but they are there none-the-less and I have been able to enjoy the pleasure of walking through the crispy, colourful leaf litter before it inevitably fades to brown.

There is a leaf sketch by Monty Python which starts with a couple of leaves dropping off a tree, shortly followed by the rest. This sketch perfectly sums up the dropping of the leaves on my neighbour's tree, which transitions through the full gamut of spectacular autumn colours, but it happens so quickly that if you're not watching, it's too late.

Our little Jack Russell, who happens to be the same rusty colour as the leaves, now sports a light on her harness for ease of keeping tabs on. This has been especially helpful for evening and night-time walks, though equally for daytime woodland walks too. She's fairly good at recall most of the time, however the red mist descends, and the ears stop working when a squirrel is sighted or even smelt, which at the moment is pretty much everywhere. Being able to see a zooming red and green light amongst the leaf litter has been really helpful in our ability to follow/call/catch the excited little squirt.

A walk to the closest park includes 'squirrel alley' as we have come to know it. Another local park has sooo many squirrels that her little radar is on overdrive the whole time. The last time we took her she was so distracted with watching the squirrels above her head that she fell off the log she was standing on, which was about a foot high. It was the funniest thing to watch, as you don't expect a dog to fall sideways onto the floor without at least trying to save

themselves, which she didn't seem to even attempt. As you can imagine, it didn't stop her focus, and she was up and off as quick as nine-pins. Daft dog!

There are positive perceptions to be found in all situations. Heading into the long nights of winter can be challenging for some, so looking for situations that bring comfort or hygge (that feeling of peaceful happiness) is a helpful practice in seeing us through to brighter days again. I found these poems recently which hint at some of the positive perceptions and enjoyably cozy evenings to look forward to. You can't beat the smell and warmth of a log fire in the winter, especially if there's a tot or two of mulled wine going around too!

Fall, Leaves, Fall

Fall, leaves, fall: die, flowers, away;
Lengthen night and shorten day,
Every leaf speaks bliss to me
Fluttering from the autumn tree.
I shall smile when wreaths of snow
Blossom where the rose should grow;
I shall sing when night's decay
Ushers in a drearier day.

Emily Bronte

Safe

Come, stir the fire
The lamps unlit
Leave, while we sit
Close to the glow.
And fire and shadow flit
About the room, and fight for love of it.

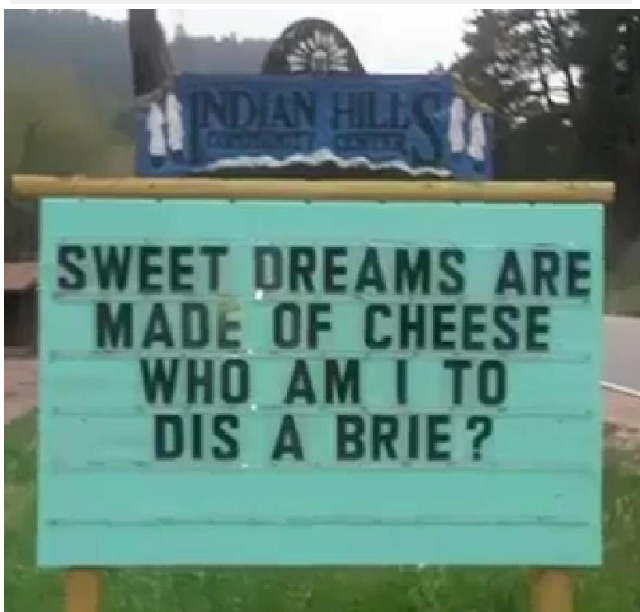
Cold winds blow
Whirling in the drear
Night outside; the blaze
Uncoils its tentacles, and here
We in a dream-daze
With the lamps unlit
Safe in firelight sit.

James Walker

Wishing you all a safe and happy wintertime, until next time.

Katy x

PUNS FOR FUN





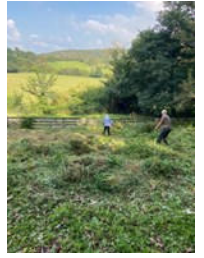
ENVIRONMENT COLUMN

Luxulyan Environment Green Glebe Space

As we approach another winter, we are aware of the need to protect our biodiversity! The leaf fall has been considerable this year and plenty of creatures use the leaf piles for hibernation. The bug houses are still in use and the dead hedges also provide good hibernation material.



As reported in the last issue, we hosted a scything course in September and scythed a considerable amount of our meadow area ready for wildflower seeding. It was hard work but good fun and very satisfying to look back on. The growth was then raked up so that the soil becomes less rich – much better for wildflowers. Thank you to everyone who scythed and raked up. Some were better than others at the skill of scything, some of us need a lot of practice! While raking up we came across numerous frogs and autumn has brought a selection of interesting and different fungi out in the various areas. The native apple trees are thriving and although they didn't produce fruit this year (and not expected to) they are a great addition to the landscape.



We will continue to plant our hedgerows this winter and hope to dig out (with help!) a pond in the New Year, so exciting developments in the future.

It has been great to meet some of the people who use the site on a regular basis for a bit of peace and quiet, a de-stress and a salve for their mental health.

We will be hosting the Outdoor Nativity for the church on Sunday 22 December at 2.30 pm; it will be good to share our area for community use!

Our volunteer mornings continue on the second Saturday of the month, and we welcome everyone who can help even in a small way.

Our next dates are:

Saturday 14 December 10 am to 1 pm – I'm sure a mince pie or two will be available!

Saturday 11 January 10 am to 1 pm – work some off that Christmas pud off!

In partnership with the Old Cornwall Society we will be hosting a wassail to ensure fruitful apple trees on Saturday 18 January 2025 at LEGGS. Look out for further details in the New Year!

Further information from Shelley 07761798220.

W Christmas

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I	K	M	M	D	N	O	D	G	Y	M	A	S	B
J	O	S	A	A	C	L	E	I	T	A	E	N	H
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C	T	M	E	R	S	M	C	A	V	E	N	W	E
K	F	T	F	B	S	E	O	N	I	G	S	F	C
F	R	S	A	R	E	R	C	G	T	I	A	L	O
R	I	I	M	E	N	R	R	E	A	F	N	A	R
O	E	R	I	G	A	Y	A	R	N	T	T	K	A
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CANDY CANES
TREE
JOLLY
JACK FROST
GINGERBREAD
SNOWFLAKE
CRACKERS
MANGER
CHRISTMAS
MERRY
FRIENDS
DECORATIONS
NATIVITY
SANTA CLAUS
GIFTS
FAMILY
ANGEL

FROM CHURCH



When I was first ordained, I had a clear idea of what it would mean to be a successful Vicar. By those standards I have failed miserably! Thankfully I have decided that those standards were both unrealistic and had little to do with what this weird job called Vicaring is all about. Far more importantly I am not sure they even had much to do with being a Christian or a good person.

It turns out that it is not my job to persuade and cajole totally uninterested people into coming to church - lovely though it would be if I was successful at that. Instead, I think I am on this earth to love God, love my neighbour, and perhaps along the way others might think that looks like an attractive way to live.

As you may have guessed this will be my last article as the Vicar of St Blazey and Luxulyan, and it's inevitable that I am going to get a little misty-eyed and nostalgic about the last eight years. It's a good thing to reflect every now and then and to ask "What could I have done better?" That doesn't need to mean a dose of self-flagellation, more a simple desire to learn what I need to learn from this time and to take some little encouragements and happy memories with me on the next stage of the journey.

I think I have changed quite a bit in the last few years, I am more self-assured, more realistic about my manifold failings and I value the little things which my younger self would have dismissed. I have become what my friend calls more of a 'starfish person'. I am sure that I have shared this story before - but here is a little reminder.

Once upon a time there was an old man who used to go to the beach every morning. Early one morning he was walking along the shore after a big storm had passed and found the beach littered with starfish, as far as the eye could see.

In the distance the old man noticed a small boy. Every few seconds the boy would bend down, pick up a starfish, and throw it into the sea.

The old man walked over and asked him what he was doing.

"I'm throwing starfish into the sea. The tide has wash them up and they can't return to the sea by themselves. When the sun gets high, they will die, unless I throw them back into the water."

The old man replied "But there must be thousands of starfish on the beach. You won't be able to make much of a difference."

The boy bent down, picked up another starfish and threw it into the ocean. Then he turned to the man, smiled and said "But it made a difference to that one".

As we approach Christmas, that wonderful time when we celebrate the light of the world, Jesus Christ, descending into the darkness of this world, it's easy to dismiss it all as a nice story.

When we hear the traditional readings at a carol service we may be tempted to think of the incarnation - God made flesh - as something of cosmic significance but something that makes little real difference here and now, to our lives.

And so, I simply wanted to remind you that God sent His son in the world for *you*. So that in *your* darkness the light might come. So that in *your* grief or pain you might find faith and hope for a better future.

You are one of the starfish that our loving God walks along the beach to rescue.

Amidst the big-ness of Christmas, don't lose sight of the little-ness of Jesus. He came as a person so that we might know Him walking by our side day by day.

And in turn you and I are called to be those starfish people, who may not save the world by lunchtime, but who pay attention to every person we encounter and bring light into their darkness as Jesus brings light to ours.

"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." (John Wesley)

While I am very sad to be moving away, I am so grateful that our God is faithful. In both space and time he 'hems us in, behind and before.'

With my love as ever and a very happy Christmas to you all,

Jules

FROM CHAPEL



Dear friend

"Grannie, why is your Christmas tree still up?" It was the middle of August and the sun's rays flooded through the west facing windows. The young girl studied the artificial tree in the corner of the conservatory, perhaps in the hope of finding a forgotten chocolate tree decoration. "That's not a Christmas tree," said Grannie, trying to sound serious. "It's only a Christmas tree when the lights are on."

Christmas lights flood streets, shops and homes during the Christmas season. Your street may have a competition for the best-decorated house, which almost certainly would include a profusion of external lights.

As I write this, we are aware that the evenings are "pulling in". With the shortest day just four days before Christmas Day, Christmas lights contrast sharply with the ambient darkness we experience at this time of the year. Those of us who live in rural areas know the importance of having a functional torch when venturing out at night, whether to finish last minute shopping, visit friends or family or sing carols.

A surreal experience greeted us as we flew back from Malaysia on an overnight flight. The little TV screen on the back of the seats in front of us tracked the plane's progress high above the clouds, travelling east to west through several time zones. But for about an hour the plane seemed to surf on the leading edge of the dawn. It was almost as if the plane itself was unrolling the light of the new day in its wake cruising between night and day, shadow and light. Then suddenly the light of the dawn raced ahead of us, travelling even faster than the plane. And it was day.

Whether we have a single strand of light decorating the Christmas tree, or drape lights from every available nook and cranny, when the lights are switched off and the decorations are put away, everything seems strangely dull and gloomy. The Christmas tree will revert to being an artificial tree in the corner of the conservatory. Yet Christians believe the light of God's life and love born into the world that very first Christmas Day does not end when the Christmas lights are switched off and packed away. The Christmas message offers the light of God's life and love in Jesus to illuminate every moment of every day.

May all know the wonder of love and joy, peace and light this Christmas and throughout 2025.

Revd. Iris Bray
Gunwen Methodist Church



NEWS FROM GUNWEN



On the 19th September 15 children from Lanlivery School came to Gunwen Chapel for the ancient Cornish harvest tradition of Crying the Neck. The children faced three points of the compass with some corn in their hands announcing the end of the Harvest. They sang a song about cauliflowers and many other fruits and vegetables and then went into the Community room for an Art and Craft session, where they made a colourful tree and some scarecrows.

In the evening nearly 40 people attended the same tradition which was led by Garry Tregidga and Ros Hayward, with the blessing conducted by Rev Iris Bray. A Harvest Supper was enjoyed by all, as was the singing of Cornish songs accompanied by Garry and his musical friends from Rescorla Centre.

The Harvest Festival was conducted by Mr Tony Warren and the gifts were divided between the Food Bank and the Auction. This was held the following evening at the Harvest Supper where the enthusiastic auctioneers managed to raise £345 by selling the perishable items

that had previously adorned the Chapel. Many thanks guys!

Future events are the Carol Service on 15th December at 6pm followed by mince pies and tea. The Old Christmas Day celebration is on January 4th 2025 from 2pm – 5pm with music, readings, a fun quiz, Faith Tea and a raffle. We also have our pre-Christmas Coffee Morning and Raffle on Friday 6th December at 10.30am.



For more information about all of our services and other events please see the St Austell Methodist Circuit website or contact Keith Truscott on 01208 75532

Best wishes from all at Gunwen Chapel

Judy Uden

Lanlivery Church News and Services

Lanlivery Services

During the time of transition there may be changes to services. We will endeavour to keep to our 9.30 schedule.

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.

December 2024

1st, Advent Sunday

10.30 United Service for Advent at St. Bart's

8th, Advent 2

9.30 Morning Prayer

15th, Advent 3

6.00 Carol Service

Friday 20th

8.00 Carols in the Crown

22nd, Advent 4

9.30 Eucharist

24th, Christmas Eve

4.00 Crib & Christingle

10.00 Midnight Mass

25th, Christmas Day

9.30 Worship at the Crib

29th, 1st after Christmas

10.30 Benefice Service at St Bart's

January 2025

5th, Epiphany

9.30 Morning Prayer

12th, Epiphany 1

9.30 Eucharist

19th, Epiphany 2

9.30 Morning Prayer

26th, Holocaust Memorial, Epiphany 3

9.30 Morning Prayer

From the Registers

Burial: Laid to rest in the churchyard following a funeral in church, Robert Morley Richards. Morley was central to our community and a dedicated bellringer and faithful member of the congregation. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Transition:

While we are without a rector in the Benefice, if you require help or information please contact the Church Office (details below) or one of the church wardens who may be able to point you in the right direction!

Be assured that work is in hand, with the assistance of the Archdeacon and Diocese, to appoint a new incumbent. A parish profile has been put together which will inform the Benefice Profile. It is expected that the post will be advertised early in 2025.

Contact details for Lanlivery Church

www.lanliverychurch.org.uk
lanlivery@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook: St Brevita, Lanlivery Parish Church

Rector: Vacant

Associate Priest: Revd Sheila Bawden

Churchwardens

Tim Turner: 01208 872165

Ellen McConnell: 01208 872981

ellen.mcconnell@hotmail.co.uk

Church Office: Monday to Wednesday,
 0900-1200

01208 872232

church_centre@yahoo.co.uk

Years' Mind

remembering the anniversaries:

Dec

Rose Melanie Scorse
 Margaret Sophia Williams
 Walter John Wellington
 Valerie Christobell Lyons
 Horatio Allen Griffiths
 Ray Davis
 Jean Husband
 Bethan Kathryn Charles

Jan

Elsie Saggs
 Ian Crawford
 Patricia Griffiths
 Mary Beatrice Martin
 Gordon Faddy
 Elisabeth Jean Thomas
 Moyra Jean Serls
 John Maurice Higham Linfoot



LUXULYAN CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH ACTIVITIES



LUXULYAN PARISH CHURCH

MISTLETOE MARKET

SATURDAY 7th DECEMBER

10 am – 1 pm

10:15	The Barmaid sings	
10:30	The School	
11.15	Tywardreath Morris	
12.00	The Barmaid sings	

*Craft Stalls, Cakes, Refreshments,
The Legendary Christmas Hamper,
Raffle, Tombola*

Competitions:

Best Christmas Hat – child class and adult class

Guess the Penguins

Lucky Stocking

Entry Free

Donations to food bank at the door welcome

SOUP & SWEET IN LUXULYAN CHURCH



Soup & Sweet is usually provided on the first Sunday of each month at mid-day. There is no need to attend the church service preceding this. There is no soup and sweet on 1st December. The next dates are 8th December (day after the Mistletoe market) and

PRAYER WALKS

Luxulyan church organises a prayer walk in the parish once a month.

If you would like to join us or have a particular person or place that you would like us to pray about please contact Shelley on:

famporter58@gmail.com
or 07761 798220

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 just inside the church.

SKYLARKS

Our next session of Skylarks will take place on **Sunday 22 December at 2.30 pm** and will involve the story of the Nativity.

See also article on page 8 of this edition for further details.

Luxulyan Church Services

Below is a draft. Note that some of our services may change. Please check notice boards, the website and social media for the latest update!

Sunday 1st December

11 am Sung Eucharist

Rev Jules Williams

Sunday 8th December

11 am Sung Eucharist

Rev Barry Browning

Sunday 15th December

11 am Sung Eucharist

Rev Jules Williams

Friday 20th December

1.30 pm Christingle

Rev Jules/LWLs

Sunday 22nd December

2.30 pm Outdoor Nativity

Local Worship Leaders

Tuesday 24th December

7 pm Nine Lessons and Carols

Rev Jules Williams

Wednesday 25th December

10 am Combined St Blaise

Rev Jules Williams

Sunday 29th December

11 am Sung Eucharist

Rev Chris McQuillen-Wright

Sunday 5th January

11 am Parish Praise

Local Worship Leaders

Sunday 12th January

11 am Sung Eucharist

Rev Chris McQuillen-Wright

Sunday 19th January

11 am Sung Eucharist

Rev Hugh Symes-Thompson

Sunday 26th January

11 am Sung Eucharist

Rev Chris McQuillen-Wright

CONTACT DETAILS FOR LUXULYAN CHURCH

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

Priest:

Rev. Jules Williams

01726 76282

revjules@btinternet.com

(Day off normally Friday)

Curate:

Rev. Chris McQuillen-Wright

01726

chrismcquillenwright@me.com

Churchwardens:

Robin Burley

01208 831145

rabkol@aol.com

Jim Cleare

01726 850553

Jim.cleare@btinternet.com



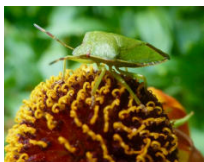
SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS



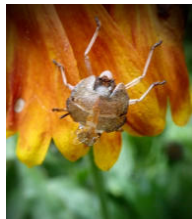
**CHRISTMAS EVE 7 PM
LUXULYAN CHURCH**

COUNTRY DIARY

15th SEPTEMBER 2024



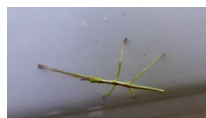
I discover a newly emerged common green shield bug on a helenium stem and its exuvia close by.



17th SEPTEMBER
The Harvest 'super moon' rises dramatically behind the ragged hawthorns boughs.

18th SEPTEMBER

A young stick insect clings to the side of the car, so I blow it gently onto some paper and relocate it to a more suitable habitat in the privet hedge.



20th SEPTEMBER

Warm at 20°C. A chiffchaff calls strongly and frequently up in the willows above the stream. This is the latest in the year I have heard this sound so redolent of summer days. Ripe rowan berries litter the ground, but plenty still remain on the trees.

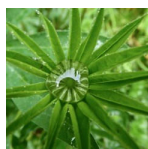
22nd SEPTEMBER



The autumn equinox. Raindrops hang from the blooms of cosmos and dahlias, their bright, pastel hues blending with the rich, deeper shades of dying foliage on the surrounding trees. Above them a male southern hawker dragonfly cruises back and forth.

25th SEPTEMBER

A wet day. I pause to observe the simple beauty of a raindrop captured in the centre of some lupin leaves.

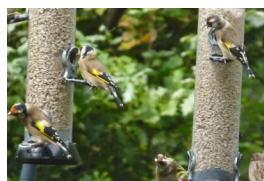


27th SEPTEMBER

Cool. In the garden this afternoon the late September sunlight is pale and weak, warming neither body nor soul as the wild winds of autumn rage around me.

2nd OCTOBER

A tattered large white butterfly makes its weary way across the flower garden. Its days in the sun will have been few this dull, wet summer. The goldfinches begin to return to the



feeders now, back from the wider countryside where they will have been feasting on a plethora of ripe seeds.

3rd OCTOBER

Two nuthatches busy themselves taking sunflower seeds from the dispensers and flying off, returning very quickly for more.



7th OCTOBER

Heavy downpours this afternoon causing flooding in Truro and surrounding areas.

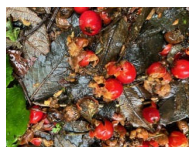
8th OCTOBER

The southern hawker patrols the dahlia border again, flying deftly between the gently falling leaves.

11th OCTOBER

Bullfinch lane is strewn with sodden sycamore foliage and the smell of mould permeates the silent air. The nuthatches continue their daily visits, frantically garnering the seeds to store for colder days. The blackbirds have not yet returned to the feeding area, but I discover a male bathing in the rivulet between ponds TWO and THREE.

15th OCTOBER

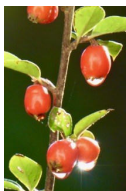


The fallen rowan berries, now squashed and nibbled, are scattered on the ground, vivid scarlet against the dark, saturated leaf litter. Dying bramble leaves glow like welcome beacons on this gloomy autumn day.



17th OCTOBER

Mild. The elderberries that shone like clusters of ebony buttons in the late summer sunlight have all disappeared and only their skeletal stalks remain. The birds, notably the blackbirds and thrushes will have devoured the tiny, juicy fruits. Nearby I hear the first agitated calls of some redwings announcing their arrival from Scandinavia to spend the winter here.



19th OCTOBER

Morning sunlight plays upon the raindrops adorning the glowing cotoneaster berries.

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COUNTRY DIARY

20th OCTOBER

The resident pair of dunnocks forage beneath the feeders.

27th OCTOBER

I hear the first dunnock song of the season.



1st NOVEMBER

A passing breeze sends down a pattering shower of crisp, dry beech leaves around me, the sound blending with the faint, pensive subsong of a blackbird. Such are the sweet nuances of autumn days for those who pause to listen.

4th NOVEMBER

The mild, dry weather continues. Seven blackbirds have now moved in from the surrounding areas as their supplies of natural food gradually becomes depleted.

8th DECEMBER 1981

As we walk to our classroom, we stop to watch a song thrush seeking food at the base of our playground hedge. Later we see a small flock of black-headed gulls flutter down, thus bringing the number of bird species seen here today to thirteen. They are as follows, starling, chaffinch, robin, blackbird, greenfinch, pied wagtail, collared dove, blue tit, great tit, magpie, house sparrow, song thrush and black-headed gulls.

20th JANUARY 1982

Young Daniel points out the new, shiny green leaves of the cuckoo pint unfurling on our playground hedge.

23rd JANUARY 1982

David draws my attention to a brambling on the bird feeder which hangs high in the sycamore. It is joined briefly by a male siskin. Both these colourful birds are recent arrivals we have not previously seen here.

Kathryn Hill



LUXULYAN PARISH CHURCH



MISTLETOE MARKET

SATURDAY 7th DECEMBER

10 am – 1 pm

10:15	The Barmaid sings	
10.30	The School	
11.15	Tywardreath Morris	
12.00	The Barmaid sings	

**Craft Stalls, Cakes, Refreshments,
The Legendary Christmas Hamper,
Raffle, Tombola**

**Competitions:
Best Christmas Hat – child class and
adult class**

**Guess the Penguins
Lucky Stocking**

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Steph Apostolou: luxulyanpreschool@gmail.com

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DECEMBER

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YESTERDAY

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We offer a wide range of computer services, including:

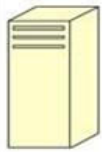


- Wireless network installation from home to multiple site wide system for business
- Computer installation, software setup and instruction in the basic use of the system
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We can supply equipment for any use, the limit is your imagination.

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- Corporate Events
- University End of Year Ball
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- 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!



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St Austell Choral Society



Our annual Advent celebration - carols with a selection of seasonal readings.

Mount Charles Methodist Church
Victoria Road, St Austell

Friday 13th December 2024 at 7.30 pm



Admission £5 (students free)

Refreshments included (Donations welcome)

Tickets at the door or in advance from:

www.staustellchoralsociety.co.uk

Registered charity No. 275480

Dates for your Diary

DECEMBER 2024

Wednesdays	Luxulyan Short Mat Bowls	2.00 – 4.00pm 7.00 - 9.00pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Fridays	Chair Yoga	10.00 – 11.00am	Luxulyan Village Hall
Fridays	Luxulyan Short Mat Bowls	7.00 - 9.00pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Wednesday 4 th	Luxulyan Over 50s	12.00pm	The King's Arms
Wednesday 4 th	WI Christmas Lunch	12.30pm for 1pm	Carlyon Bay Golf Club
Friday 6 th	Coffee Morning	10.30am	Gunwen Chapel
Saturday 7 th	Coffee Morning	10.00am	Luxulyan Memorial Institute
Saturday 7 th	Mistletoe Market	10.00am – 1.00pm	Luxulyan Church
Sunday 8 th	Soup and Sweet	12.00pm	Luxulyan Church
Wednesday 11 th	WI	7.00 pm	Luxulyan Memorial Institute
Wednesday 11 th	FOLV – Native Plants	7.30pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Thursday 12 th	Lanlivery Over 60s	12.00pm	The Crown Inn
Saturday 14 th	LEGGS Volunteer Day	10.00am – 1.00pm	Glebe Land
Tuesday 17 th	Restormel Concert Band	7.30pm	Lanlivery Church
Wednesday 18 th	Luxulyan Over 50s	12.00 Noon	The King's Arms
Friday 20 th	Carols in the Crown	From 8.00pm	Crown Inn, Lanlivery
Sunday 22 nd	Skylarks	2.30pm	Meet at Luxulyan Church
See Church Pages for details of all Christmas Services			

JANUARY 2025

Wednesdays	Luxulyan Short Mat Bowls	2.00 – 4.00pm 7.00 - 9.00pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Fridays	Chair Yoga	10.00 – 11.00am	Luxulyan Village Hall
Fridays	Luxulyan Short Mat Bowls	7.00 - 9.00pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Saturday 4 th	Coffee Morning	10.00 am	Luxulyan Memorial Institute
Sunday 5 th	Soup & Sweet	12.00 Noon	Luxulyan Church
Wednesday 8 th	WI	7.00pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Thursday 9 th	Lanlivery Over 60s	12.00pm	The Crown Inn
Friday 10th	COPY DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY/MARCH 2025 GRANITE TOWERS		
Friday 10 th	FOLV – Volunteer Day	9.30am – 3.30pm	Ponts Mill Car Park
Saturday 11 th	LEGGS Volunteer Day	10.00am – 1.00pm	Glebe Land
Wednesday 15 th	FOLV – Boconnoc Talk	7.30pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Wednesday 15 th	Luxulyan Over 50s	12.00 Noon	The King's Arms
Thursday 16 th	Luxulyan Community Cinema	Film Starts 7.30pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Saturday 18 th	Cornish Wassail	2.30pm	Meet at Luxulyan Memorial Institute
Thursday 30 th	Charity Coffee Morning	11.00am	The King's Arms



Front Cover:

Keith Adams

4, 5 & 6.

Benefice Nativity in Luxulyan Church, 2004,
2006 & 2007

1, 2 & 3.

Lanlivery School Nativity 1989 & 1990

7 & 8

Seasonal photos from Kathryn Hill