

The Granite Towers

*A Community Magazine for
Lanlivery and Luxulyan*



February & March 2026

EDITORIAL



Hello all

Although a little late, I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year, and you were able to take some time to re-charge the batteries and visit with loved ones. I also hope everyone survived Storm Goretti, relatively unscathed. I heard many stories of people without power, water or internet for several days after. We were lucky and the worst we had was a fallen tree in the graveyard opposite the house; I'm not sure the neighbours thought the same and the tree landed on their garden, but it seems they suffered no damage to the house. A big shout out to everyone who dealt with the aftermath and the clear up.

As we settle into the New Year, especially in January, many of us tend to cut back on spending and evenings out, some will endeavour to complete 'dry January' or 'veganuary'. Some will vow to go on a diet or join the gym. Did you know that January sees the biggest number of sign-ups at the gym? But with cutting out nights out, reducing our spending and steering clear of alcohol what happens to the local businesses who rely on our trade.

We held out last meeting in The Crown Inn and ask Tim, the Landlord for his thoughts on the community value of the local pub which apply to many rural public houses.

Thoughts from the bar.

As we go forward into 2026 there has been a lot of press speculation about the future of rural pubs in the UK, with the alarming statistic that one pub closed permanently every day last year, the actual figure is 366.

So, what does a village pub offer?

The last year saw us host shooting parties, taking all nine rooms and eating heartily after a day in the fresh air, wakes large and small with people reminiscing, sharing stories laughter and tears, a small wedding with the theme of daffodils all laid up beautifully in the conservatory, baby showers with mothers to be laughing

nervously about their future, lots of joyful birthday parties of all ages, guests with special dietary requirements, guests with dogs, debriefs after local council meetings, people coming in for a solitary drink to remember their loved ones, couples on the first steps to romance, we had the controversial Old Time Sailors perform in the garden, Morris dancers who also sang some great shanties, and some evenings that ended in singing, Christmas parties with lots of laughter and the occasional need for the mop.

It all mixes into a blur of phone ringing, wiping tables, cleaning glasses, cleaning beer lines, cleaning kitchen, serving food, laying tables, relaying tables, ordering, crisps, beer, wine, food from different suppliers, laying the fires, getting wood in, laundry, maintenance, the list is as endless as it's never ending.

There is occasionally time to sit by the fire and reflect with a beer, about what we are doing, and why, how we can improve what needs changing, which customer review was negative and why.

In summary it's been another full-on year, and we're getting ready for the next one.

Asking ChatGTP the question of "what does a village pub offer" gives a slightly different answer.

Headings like social & community value, identity and heritage, economic benefits, wellbeing & safety. It reads a bit like Starmer at question time floundering about to avoid an answer. It's missing out the blood, sweat and occasional tears that it takes to run a pub. Essentially the pub is one of the last remaining shared spaces people meet. 2026 we're ready so bring it on!

Lanlivery and Luxulyan are fortunate in that both have a local pub, but not all villages do.

Next time you're out and about, perhaps looking for somewhere for lunch, a coffee, or just somewhere to gather as a family, why not consider your local hostelry. I guess what we're trying to say is use it before you lose it!

Until next time

Claire

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

LADIES' KEEP FIT LUXULYAN

Ladies up to 80+ meet in the village hall on Mondays 6:00pm - 7:00pm.

We run 3 terms of 12 weeks led by our expert personal trainer/fitness instructor Emma Youlden. Our activities are strenuous but adapted to the individual needs of all members, with a range of capabilities.

The fees are £30 per term or £4 for individual sessions. If you are interested in joining the class, have a chat with **Wendy Lewis**

Tel. 07852 112539

LUXULYAN VILLAGE HALL BOOKING AGENT

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

ADVERTISING

Please note our advertising costs and new contact details, as shown in the box on page 3

VIEW FROM THE SURGERY

Well, we haven't had to wait long into the New Year for the first health announcement from the government. From this year all young children will be offered a vaccination against chickenpox. This will be done at 12 months and repeated at 18 months. There will be some other ages offered to ensure as many children as possible are given a chance to be vaccinated. There are many people who will be asking is this necessary as they had chickenpox as a child with no issues. Grandparents may talk about chickenpox parties, where parents would bring their child to the house of someone who actively had the infection, to try and let their child get the disease early and recover.

However, if you talk to anybody who got the disease when an adult, they will tell you it was awful and they wouldn't wish it on their enemies. Most children do recover from this infection with no issues but there are a percentage of sufferers who become seriously ill. I remember one child who developed inflammation in her lungs with chickenpox and the treatment needed was hyperbaric oxygen to keep her alive. She was flown from West Yorkshire to Glasgow to receive this treatment as that was the nearest available centre. From here in Cornwall that would mean someone being transferred to Bristol at least. She survived but I don't know if she had any long-term problems. There are many cases of encephalitis with the infection, this is inflammation of the brain tissues with can be fatal or can cause long-term issues. So, if you are offered an appointment for your child please attend.

The developments proposed within our group of practices (Bosvena, Lostwithiel, Fowey River and Middleway) are starting to take effect. The first you may notice is the enhanced frailty team. This is expanding on the excellent work of our frailty nurses and care coordinators and adding a medical review and planning for patients identified as extremely frail and at risk of admission to hospital. There is also a service being developed for children with health problems and deprivation to help promote their health, and in December there was the first joint clinic held with the orthopaedic service to ensure people were being put forward for the best suitable treatment and are fit for surgery if it is needed. All this has been carried out in buildings that are full to capacity and in many ways not fit for purpose anymore. This is one of the biggest restrictions on what services can be developed but we keeping telling the NHS management this and keep looking ways to overcome this.

We do hope all these developments will keep you healthier.

Take care of yourselves.

Andy Haywood

LUXULYAN OVER FIFTIES

Luxulyan Over 50s is a club that meets on first and third 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 for 12.15.**

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. If you have any suggestions for something different on the menu, please let Tracy know, bearing in mind that our meals are produced to a budget.

Subs are £2 per year and a raffle is held at each meeting which helps with the cost of the Christmas meal. You can also join the Christmas Club, where we put a £1 at beginning of month into the club, which will also help offset the cost of your individual meal.

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

ADVERTISING

Please contact Jim Cleare on 01726 850553
jim.cleare@btinternet.com

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

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!

Please send copy for the next edition of **"THE GRANITE TOWERS"** April/May 2026 EDITION to the editor, by **MARCH 10th 2026.**

EMAIL ADDRESS for Granite Towers copy: **granitetowersluxlan@gmail.com**
Photos for front or back page to Ellen McConnell **ellen.mccconnell@hotmail.co.uk**
See page 10 for all deadline dates.

PLANT SWAP AND COFFEE MORNING.

Just meeting for coffee on 7th February, but hopefully the weather will have been kind enough to have a Plant Swap on 7th March. In any case we will meet from 10am. Tea/coffee and cake available at reasonable cost, not forgetting the bacon butties!

ST. PINNOCK WI

meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month
from 2.15 - 4.00pm at

East Taphouse Community Hall.

We are a very friendly group and you would be made most welcome. Speakers and outings arranged.

Just turn up or email eileenawilliams44@gmail.com

POSTAGE STAMPS CAN MAKE MONEY

Thank you to all of you who over the years have saved the stamps of your cards and letters throughout the year. Please continue to do so especially with Christmas cards coming through the door, as they help a group of disadvantaged Girl Guides go to camp. Please trim off excess envelope, leaving just 1cm round the stamp and leave in the box in church which is on the large unit opposite the door. British and overseas ones accepted (the overseas ones fetch more money!) Many thanks.

CHURCH BRASS

For many years the brass in church has been beautifully cleaned several times a year by John. Sadly John is longer with us, but we would like someone else to take over if they feel able to do so. It is a matter of taking the items down, and cleaning them. Probably easiest for you to take them home to do so. If you are interested, please contact Church Warden Jim Cleare in 01726 850553 or jim.cleare@btinternet.com. Many thanks.

BOOKING FOR LUXULYAN MEMORIAL INSTITUTE

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

Sometimes I like to
mess with my husband
and hide his stuff
where he can't find it.
Like I put his shoes
in the shoe closet, his
jacket on the hanger
and his keys on the
key hook.

LANLIVERY OVER 60s

The Over 60's Lunch Club meets at
The Crown Inn, Lanlivery, on the second
Thursday in the month.

Everyone is welcome for a relaxed lunch with
friendly chat, a quiz and raffle.

Lunch is from 12 noon onwards.

For more information,
please call Peggy on **07879 883 083**.

Our next meetings will be held on
Thursday 12th February and
Thursday 12th March

I think I may
need
professional
help...
A chef, a butler
and a maid
should do it.



The Friends of Luxulyan Valley

Why not join us and support
the conservation of this World
Heritage and Wildlife area on
your doorstep? Membership
details are on our website
www.luxulyanvalley.co.uk

or contact Robin Stephenson (Chair) on
01726 852109 or Claire Eich (Membership
Secretary) on **01726 850781**

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

CHRISTMAS AT LANLIVERY PRIMARY



The children at Lanlivery Primary enjoyed the festive season. They invited their parents and carers in to join us for some Christmas crafts to help us to decorate the front garden. They tried to make them environmentally friendly as they were displayed outside, so many of them were edible for the birds.

The pupils had the pleasure of performing their nativity in the church. It is always a fantastic setting and gets everyone in the festive mood. At the same time the school council were fundraising for Shelter Box. They had made cards and decorations to sell and ran some games for people to try.

Jays and Little Foresters spent a morning at the Eden Project and had the opportunity to try out some ice skating, something that is hard to do in the rest of the year! They had a fantastic time.

As we start 2026, we are looking forward to adventures we have coming up. We are starting a Forest Tiddler group on Monday afternoons. This is aimed at 18 months and up and will involve outdoor activities. If you want to come along, please email secretary@lanliveryprimary.co.uk.

We always welcome visitors, if you are looking for a preschool or school place, please get in touch.



LUXULYAN PARISH COMMUNITY FUND

Did you know that Luxulyan Parish Community Fund (LPCF) supports community projects within the parish of Luxulyan with grants of between £250 - £5000? Organisations outside of Luxulyan Parish can apply provided they can demonstrate the benefit to residents of Luxulyan Parish. The LPCF currently receives its income from West Cornwall Wind Farms, owners of the Lestoon wind turbine and from the Luxulyan and Tredinnick Solar Farm.

Application form and full details can be found on the Luxulyan Parish Council website.



The Hive Cafe is located at Acorn Camping and Glamping in the Luxulyan Valley World Heritage Site. Look out for our seasonal menus, daily specials, picnic boxes, events and opening times.

The Hive offers a buzzing space for coffee and connection, a family space to explore the outdoors, local information and walk guides and a tranquil space to meditate and connect with nature.

Here at Acorn, known for the Hobbit Huts, we have a history of showcasing the valley through our events inspired by Acorn Adventures CIC using creative ways to engage with families, schools and communities. Keep an eye on our social for what we are up to and check out our website at: **ACORN CAMPING & GLAMPING - Website**



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In the last edition of the Granite Towers, we featured the winning entry from our Story Writing competition. This edition we are delighted to bring you the second-place story 'The Space Woman' written by Ivy Rose Vincent (transcribed from the original handwritten entry)

THE SPACE WOMAN

Chapter 1 – A Young girl called Ohana

Once upon a time a young lady called Ohana. She loved watching space movies. And when she was older she wanted to be a space woman. She liked building rocket out of box's. All so she even made food into a rocket. She wanted to be a space woman because her mum was a space woman and every day she just wached space movies because her mum went to learn how to ride a space rocket. But one day when her mum when to learn how to ride a space rocket she sadly died because she crashed into a big rock. But her dad was still alive

Chapter 2 – When Ohana was older

When Ohana was older she was planning to bild a rocket. But she was on her own. Because she had no brothers or sisters or even a mum or dad. Because her dad was working in his office and her mum pastaway. So it was realy hard. But she had a little go building a rocket. But it just kept falling down again and again. But she didn't give up. So she just used toys from in her bedroom like box's, lego and bricks. So she started to build it.

Chapter 3 – Building a rocket

So she started to bild the toys up and it looked amasing! So she said to her self "I'm ready to bild a real space rocket". So she got all the things she needed and when she got all the bits and bobs she went out side and started to bild from the bottom to the top and it was going to be hard because it was very big and long. She hided it when her dad came back from work but she still was bilding it because her dad comes home and stills work on the computer. And finally she finished it but it took her about 4 hours to do it because it was very big. 321... Lift off!

Chapter 4 – on the moon

The moon was very big and bright. It looked like she was on a star (there were no aliens). But there were lots of planets. She always dreamed of being on mars so she got back in her space rocket and flyed over to mars. When she got on mars she sat down and she felt a bit hungry so she had a mars bar. After she eaten she had a little look around and she found a bit of her mums ring. "I think its time to go home now" she said in a tierd voice.

Chapter 5 – Back at home

When Ohana got home she was very proud of her self because in real life she went to the moon. Dad was still working so I put the washing on the washing line and used my space ship to dry it out. (I mite of burned dads shirt). When I did the washing I went in side and huged dad and he said "I love you" I said "I love you to"

Chapter 6 – A gift

I went up to my bedroom and had a little snooze. And then I woke up because the door bell went. I had to get it because dad was working still. So I went to the door and said "Hello". But no one was there. But there was a small package on the floor. I picked it up and opened it and it was the other half of the ring. And I smiled

The End

* * * * *

EXTREME D.I.Y

Richard gazed at the room in despair. Emily wanted it redecorated – again. OK, so he liked a bit of DIY, was good at it, but he was on leave and needed a break. He'd only just finished the hallway – four doorways leading off, all those fiddly corners, cutting out and matching up the pattern. Emily wanted wallpaper in the lounge as well. Of course she did.

'Paint's boring,' she insisted. 'I like patterns.'

Sighing, Richard agreed, and then regretted it when Emily said, 'Can you do it before Lucy comes to stay?'

Lucy, Emily's cousin, usually spent a week with them in the summer holidays. Richard knew Lucy loved to get away from the city, to be close to the beach and spend time with Emily. Really, she was no trouble. But papering the lounge... He needed a lot of patience to do it, and at the moment he didn't feel very patient. The garden needed weeding and the grass resembled the African Savannah rather than a suburban residence. For three months the mower had needed repairing, and for three months it had languished in the shed unrepaired. Then there was the garage to sort out – all the old furniture they hadn't got rid of when the new things arrived. Richard could see his well-earned time off from work disappearing in a whirlwind of domestic chores. A change is as good as a rest, was his father's mantra, but Richard wished they were having a real change, perhaps the Caribbean or the Greek Islands.

Lucy's visit was just days away when Emily tried again. 'It won't take long,' she pleaded, looking at him with those baby blue eyes and gap-toothed smile that he couldn't resist.

'OK,' he conceded. After all, she was right. "How long did it take to decorate a doll's house?"

Christine McHaines

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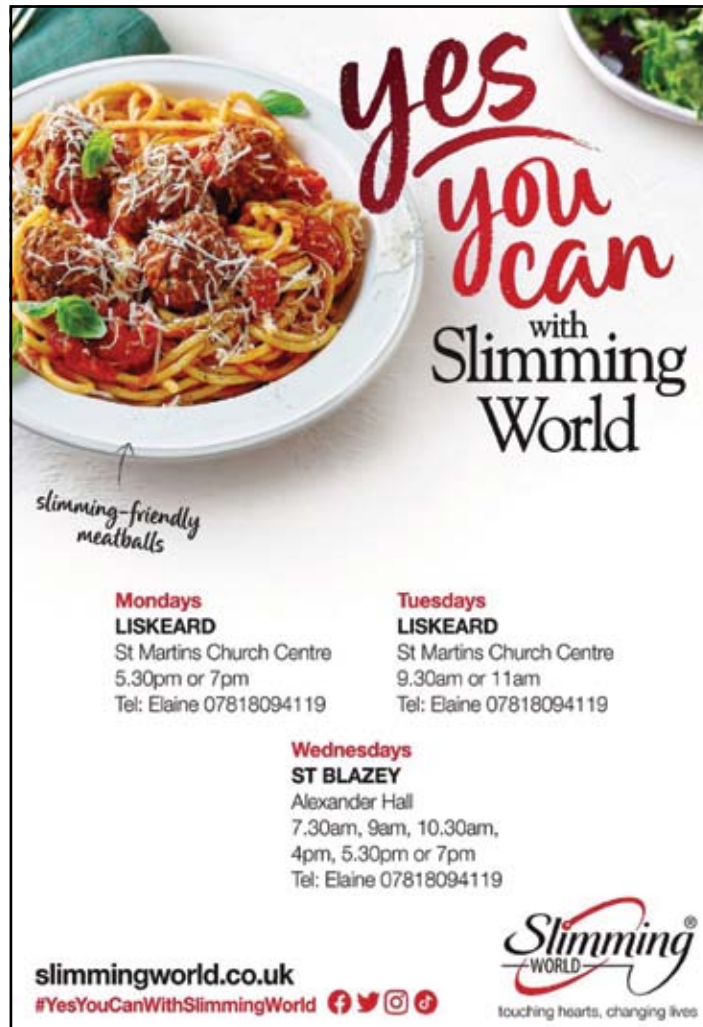
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Luxulyan School

Embracing community, shaping futures

News from Luxulyan School

The Luxulyan Way

In this issue we would like to share a little about how we support positive behaviour at school.

The Luxulyan Way is built around three simple ideas: **Ready, Respectful, and Safe**. These are easy for children to understand and remember, and they help create a calm and caring school environment.

Being **Ready** means coming to school prepared and keen to learn. Children are encouraged to try their best, listen carefully, and take pride in their work, helping them make the most of every day.

Being **Respectful** is about kindness, good manners, and consideration for others. Children learn to care for one another, value differences, and show respect to staff, visitors, and school property.

Being **Safe** helps everyone feel secure and happy. Children are taught to make sensible choices, move safely around the school, and ask for help when needed.

St. Austell Festival of Music and Speech

34 children from across Reception to Year 6 took part in the Festival in late November last year. They entered a range of solo, duo and group classes in both the Music and Speech categories. All the children performed to a high standard and achieved either a merit, commended or honours certificate.

We achieved 1st place in the following classes:

KS2 Drama • Y5/6 monologue • Y5/6 humorous poem • Primary age poem about Cornwall or by a Cornish Poet • Y3/4 duologue
Y3/4 monologue • Y3/4 humorous poem • Reception set poem • Primary School Choir (under 100 KS2 on roll)

Vocal solo – grades 1 and 2 • Y3/4 – song from a musical or film • KS2 duet

The children did an amazing job and we were very proud of all of them.

Compiled by Rachel Allison
Ash Class Teacher



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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.

WHILST WE DO PRE-ALLOCATE SPACE
FOR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS,
PLEASE USE IT OR YOU MAY LOSE IT!

THE MEADOW BARN NEWS



Whole classes, Walks and Stories in the Valley

and create Story Walks from stations along the Mid Cornwall Metro line.

In a hard copy it will not be clear, but online you will see how relevant the colours of this map will be, in setting out 'Good as Gold Stories!' Despite the many dark themes in our world, which will be referenced occasionally, our motivation is to provide light-hearted learning and lift the spirits. We have so much to celebrate in our communities, both the achievements of years gone by and the new things coming down the track.



Times are changing and The Meadow Barns Centre is changing too. In 2026, even though we loved doing it, the red tape and insurances will no longer allow us to lead school classes on story walks through the valley. Instead, we will prioritise training small groups of adults at the Centre, but also we are keen to build on our July 2023 big day at Kresen Kernow and the autumn 2025 successful partner events for the general public, in other locations. You may have seen us going 'Full STEAMS Ahead' in photos on Facebook, in St Austell, Bodmin, Par and with the Friends' at their Luxulyan Open Day.

As we go into springtime, our sights are clearly set on a new agenda, to collect and share stories of the past and future,



Water Wheel workshop, Kresen Kernow

Stories from the Station at Luxulyan will be shared, and new ones recorded, during the week of February Half Term. Please do support and contribute to the following opportunities, starting at 10.30 a.m. each day:-

Monday 16th February – meet at the Station Car Park for tales of Bridges and the Old Mill

Tuesday 17th – meet in the Church, for coffee, sharing stories inside and out, plus a short walk down hill to include LEGGS field

18th - A Wednesday Workshop about Water Wheels. For families with small children and/or limited mobility, we aim to follow this with a ride to the valley and a level walk, playing Poo Sticks and exploring the Wheel Pit

Thursday 19th - meet by the Village Shop for 'Tales of the Rails', walking tram tracks and sharing stories of how Treffry created the railway and the legacy that we have today.

Friday 20th - meet again at the shop for 'The Extraordinary Story of Divided Water and the Viaduct' – a set of quite technical STEM stories, for teens and adults. And by the way, we hope to recruit a Team of Teens, to help mark walk routes and deliver an enhanced visitor experience, through the summer season.

We hope as many people will attend as possible, bringing their older relatives and/or photos to share. If you can't make it then communicate by email and we will happily set up another time. Please bring some cash to cover refreshments and make donations. But for the Workshop there will be an online booking system in advance and a modest charge per person. Please keep an eye on the Luxulyan Valley Stories page on Facebook for further details. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/960056271231911> enquiry@themeadowbarns.co.uk

Nick Bennett Thank you

It is with heartfelt thanks that Alex, Gloria and family of Nick Bennett write this message to express our sincere gratitude for the extraordinary outpouring of love and support that we have received since Nick's sudden passing. The shock and devastation of losing Nick has been immense but it is your warmth and kindness that has truly helped us through some of our darkest days.

We wish to thank everyone for the countless cards, kind messages and offers of help. Whether it was a comforting word, a shared memory or a practical gesture, it was very much appreciated. The huge attendance at the funeral bore testament to how popular Nick was. We have been deeply moved to hear how he touched so many lives, learning new stories and hearing so many acts of kindness. The respect and affection that you have shown for him speaks volumes about the genuine, kind and thoughtful person he was.

Finally, we must thank Revd Chris McQuillen-Wright for his care, guidance and support, the delivery of the funeral service captured Nick perfectly and was the fitting tribute we were so eager to achieve.

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LIFE ON A SMALL HOLDING

Hello – I live on a small holding in the parish and wondered if a bit of light reading may of interest to our readers. Here is the first instalment of "Life on a small holding".



My Jersey cow, Ashley, has had a strong bull calf. All was good until the beginning of this year, when I brought her in for me to hand milk one morning. One of her back teats looked different and on closer inspection, I saw two deep cuts, almost severing the teat, along with a long gash on her udder. I tried to clean it, but she was kicking out too much, so I resorted to a vet call. Luckily, my friend (and pet sitter, Jon, was here). Between us we managed to clean it enough to see the milk canal hadn't been severed. The next few mornings milking were "interesting" but I survived with no broken bones.

The next pantomime was getting my cattle trailer reversed back onto the tiny yard. This has the garage and veranda one side, my porch behind it and granite gateposts with 2" clearance for my Landy on each side. It then took Jon, his wife, my friend and myself about two hours to get the two pigs loaded. At the destination, they refused to come out of the trailer. A week later, I found myself having to buy a 4th large freezer to accommodate the pork. Along with last autumn's lamb and beef from the summer, I'm now trying to convince my Mum to eat meat for breakfast, lunch and dinner – without success.



I bought two new piglets in January, which are a much smaller and more manageable breed than the previous ones. Because my pigpen is waterlogged, they live in a pen in the cows' house for now and they grunt and squeal when I milk, which makes the cow jump, her legs fly up in the air, along with me, the milking stool and bucket. I also became the owner of a 3-year-old Spaniel and older Terrier (to add to my own elderly Jack Russell and Mum's Yorkie). In their previous home, they didn't get out a lot, so the Spaniel does everything at full speed, including chasing my geese and poultry, which he is slowly learning not to. Unfortunately, there was some barbed wire down on a footpath near me and he ripped open his chest on it, during his second week here. So, off to the vet again. But he's all healed now.

I paddled down to the garden and decided that my 20-odd roses probably wouldn't survive if I left them swimming in 3" of water for much longer. These are on a chequer board layout, with concrete slabs alternating with soil squares. I bought some plastic planters and managed to dig out the ones with snorkels on, sinking over my wellie in the process. There are still six more to plant up. I bought an 8ft galvanised water tank to take the excess rainwater that floods them, but it was overflowing on its second day.

I then ventured along to the vegetable garden, but under the grass and weeds, I saw that the ground there was boggy as well, so the rotovator is still hibernating. Instead, I thought I'd take the trailer to get some fodder beet for my thin cow, but Landy decided to stop his wipers working and I've used the last of my hay. At least the dogs had a grand time, on our run back over the moors from the garage.



Now, with fodder beet and hay here, I have happy animals again. My freezers are full, my fridge is mostly milk, and I sit in the evenings, saving recipes that one day I may get time to cook !

Tracy Elliott

CHARITY COFFEE MORNING AT THE KINGS ARMS

This is held on the last Thursday in each month from 11am. Following queries as to what happens to the money, it is decided as a group of those present at that particular morning for it to go to locally where we think it can do some good. £3 will get you a cup of tea/coffee, a piece of cake and a raffle ticket. If you have a small raffle prize to donate that would be good as well. The next meetings will be 26th February and 26th March. If you know of any deserving cause locally that could do with a little bit of help, please come along to a morning and let us know.

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Luxulyan and District Old Cornwall Society

Thursday 26 February
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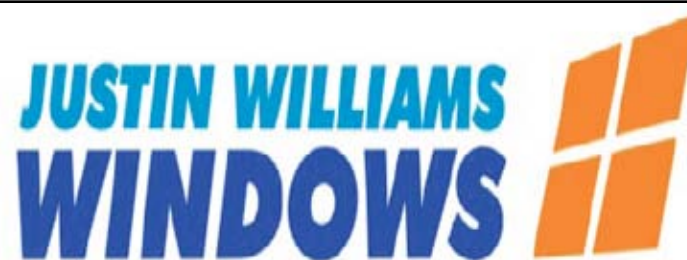
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MARCH

A new month marching in
 And with it comes the spring.
 A host of golden daffodils
 As bright as any bling.
 Camellias, white, red and pink,
 Show off their cheerful bloom.
 Tulips, hyacinths and bluebells
 Brighten any room.
 March winds may bring a chill
 Perhaps the odd March hare.
 But of the ides of March
 There's no need to beware.
 For our gardens are nearly ready
 To share their floral bounty
 To turn dull brown to tender green
 In each and every county.
 And when in our Cornish summer
 We rejoice in a rose's arch,
 Think back to this long winter
 And be glad for the month of March.

Christine McHaines

LUXULYAN 100 YEARS AGO

Transcribed from the original text in the Cornishman, Bedford Times and Cornish Guardian by Hazel Harradence

C'man. 24 February 1926: The funeral of Miss Ruth Pollard, aged 14, of Lanlivery and formerly of St Buryan, took place at Luxulyan Parish Church on February 14th. Miss Pollard was the second daughter of Mr & Mrs Edwin Pollard and sustained fatal injuries in a motor accident. Over a thousand persons attended the funeral and although there were six chosen bearers, actually a hundred and twenty-six bearers assisted, as there were relays every few yards. Miss Pollard was extremely popular and there were many floral tributes.

Bedford Times. 21 March 1926: Cornwall Board res. Bedroom & sittm in farmhouse, summer months, beginning May, Luxulyan Cornwall, 5 mins from GWR and PO. For terms apply Mrs H Phillips, Trenoweth Farm, Luxulyan.

CG. 12 February 1926: The annual meeting of the Luxulyan and Stenalees Pig Club was held in the Institute on Saturday, Mr E Parker presided. The treasurer reported a credit balance of £37. 1s. 10d. the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President Mr E Parker, treasurer Mr A Crowle, secretary Mr J Crowle, stewards Messrs A Roach, John Tinney, E Rosevear and E Crossman, committee Messrs J Heard, W Burley, G Northey and C Turner, with the officers for the ensuing year.

CG. 19 February 1926: RUNDLE. At Greenfield Terrace, Stenalees, February 15th 1926. Mary widow of the late Charles Rundle of Luxulyan, aged 81.

CG. 26 February 1926: Imperial Wireless Communication. Bodmin Beam Station nearing completion. - - -.

CG. 5 March 1926: Sale of Leasehold Bungalow at Lockingate, Bugle. Mr J Kempthorne Barber has received instructions from the owner Mr W Kay to sell at auction at the Institute, Bugle, on Wednesday March 10th at 5.30pm all that Bungalow Dwelling house at Lockingate, Bugle, comprising 5 good rooms, scullery and store room together with a large garden adjoining. The premises are held on a 50 years lease from September 1921 at a ground rent of 30/- per annum. Vacant possession on completion of the purchase.

CG. 5 March 1926: A Cornish China Clay Company. Mr Justice Lawrence in the Chancery Division on Friday heard a motion for judgment in default of appearance in the debenture holders action in re Central Cornwall China Clay Co, Lord Benson v the Company. Mr Cecil Turner in support of the motion said his Lordship had already appointed a receiver and manager.

CG. 19 March 1926: There has been a revival in the building trade in the district after the lapse of a number of years. Six Council houses are in course of erection and two more are to be built. At Lockengate one bungalow has been built and two more started. A modern 15-roomed farmhouse fitted with all the latest improvements has just been finished at Chytan.

CG. 26 March 1926: Scholars Concert. On Friday evening last the Schoolroom was filled with a very appreciative audience to listen to a splendid concert given by the children of the Council School. It was the first time many of the children had appeared on the platform and great credit is due to them for the very able manner in which they performed. Mr CT Trevail as usual made a very excellent chairman. - - - - -.

* * * * *

A FREE SPIRIT

The scene that shimmered through the dawn mist brought Eleanor back to earth on a tidal wave of memories. Everything was there; a truly bucolic picture – the medieval church, its spire piercing the November sky like Excalibur rising from the lake. Around it the gravestones stood like sentinels, guarding their precious charges with reverence, lichen and frost obscuring the words that declared who rested under their marble memorials.

The yew tree, bigger now since Eleanor had been here, leaned slightly to one side, as if trying to escape the unforgiving east wind. Beyond the lychgate, the branches of the horse chestnuts, whose shady refuge Eleanor had often sought, were almost bare, their leaves lying huddled in russet mounds or making an icy carpet across the fields. The pond, partially frozen, glistened in the brightening light. And then the village, a cluster of cottages and outlying farms, a market place and the mayoral office, from which the edicts and bureaucracy of daily life were issued.

Eleanor wondered how many lives had been ruined by such bureaucracy, how many people had been forced to leave their homes and their loved ones.

Bureaucracy, bigotry and bias; killers of the soul.

Eleanor drifted through the streets until a familiar aroma made her stop. A sweet smell. Apples from the farmer's orchard, but overwhelmingly, oranges, tangerines from exotic places that Eleanor could only imagine. She pictured her mother, stirring the bubbling mixture in the pot, jars lined up waiting to be filled.

She saw herself, standing on a stool, peering into the pot with childish curiosity.

There were other jars, filled with things her mother had collected from the woods, herbs and plants that helped people recover from illnesses or wounds, things that she herself had collected and used to great effect as she'd grown older.

Things which had been her downfall. She'd been flabbergasted when her father, usually so amenable, had advised her not to follow in her mother's footsteps and to heed the edicts. But Eleanor was a free spirit; her opinion did not bend like the yew tree, her mind was not bare like the branches of the horse chestnut, her knowledge was not obscured like the words on the gravestones. But ignorance had won the day, and now Eleanor could only view her former life from afar.

At last the morning mist lifted, and the shroud that had covered the scene disintegrated into nothingness. Eleanor knew her time here was over. With a final look at the ethereal view before her, she floated into the autumn air, to be absorbed by the clouds in a swirl.

Now, she truly was a free spirit.

Christine McHaines

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SKYLARKS: MEETING GOD IN NATURE

On 21 December, Skylarks held their outdoor nativity. It was a lovely dry and calm afternoon; we were joined by people from as far away as New Zealand and a pony! Unfortunately, our sheep and goat were grounded by a broken-down car! The story of the Nativity was acted out by adults and children, a prayer tree was filled with prayers and thoughts of others who could not be with us and the afternoon finished with mince pies, mulled wine, Christmas biscuits and laughter!

In January, we take a break as the weather is usually not too good. Unfortunately, where we meet at LEGGS is currently unavailable due to storm damage, but we still plan to meet in February, if not down at LEGGS we will meet in the Churchyard. We plan to meet on Sunday 22 February at 3 pm, venue will be confirmed nearer the time once LEGGS has been risk assessed!

The March session will take place on Sunday 22 March at 3 pm. Both sessions are open to all ages, with creative activities suitable for all.

For further information contact Shelley 07761798220



Shelley Porter



Lostwithiel Bowling Club, established in 1926, is a friendly and inclusive bowls club which welcomes players of all ages and abilities. No matter whether you are a seasoned bowler or are just starting out, and regardless of whether you are ultra-competitive or merely seeking some gentle exercise in a welcoming environment, Lostwithiel Bowling Club will offer you the warmest of welcomes.

This year we are running evenings on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month (from 18:00), so why not come along and try your hand in the idyllic setting of Lostwithiel Bowling Club. A pair of flat-soled shoes is all that you will require.

For further information, please visit our website at lwbc.uk, or telephone our Club Secretary (Penny Philip) on **01208 873 169**.



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FRIENDS OF LUXULYAN VALLEY (FOLV)

I hope you had an enjoyable festive period and that you are looking forward to 2026. We are just finalising together our events programme for 2026/27 which again looks to be interesting, entertaining and diverse. Last year saw the addition of extra events aiming to include families. In December we had a felt crafting workshop, where decorations for Christmas were made. Friends also had a splendid Christmas tree in Church's Christmas tree festival.

Also, in December we had a talk by David Skelhorn on various historic objects in the valley. This was accompanied by a challenging Cornish quiz devised by Tracy Eliot.

In late November we had our open day with a variety of activities and performances. We also had a talk by Caroline Stephenson on the Treffrys, Rashlieghs and the Kendals etc.

Unfortunately, Cornwall Council and Cornwall Heritage are not engaging about the Luxulyan Valley Partnership. Friends finds this disappointing as there are potential projects/works that we wish to work with them on. Hopefully this will change, Friends of Luxulyan Valley vision is: To promote the conservation and preservation of the Luxulyan Valley including its flora, fauna, historic artefacts and unique atmosphere, as well as to provide an amenity resource for the community.

We have an event, activity, talk etc at least once a month and wish to be very supportive of the Luxulyan community. We also provide a free quarterly newsletter where you see detailed write ups. If you are not already members of FOLV why not join us. Contact folvmembership@gmail.com

Membership annual rates: Individual £8 Joint £10 Family £12 if you join before April 2026.

You can also find information on Facebook and on the internet

<https://www.luxulyanvalley.co.uk/>

In January we have tree identification at Boconnoc, a talk on Luxulyan Quarries in February and our AGM is on March 11th followed by a talk on Mary Bryant.

Robin Stephenson

* * * * *

EMAIL FROM OXFORD



It's been a different couple of months in our household, with our long-awaited holiday to New Zealand. The flights that I was quietly dreading, were actually very straightforward and passed without any notable problem. The little one slept, ate, watched some TV programmes (silently because she wasn't keen on the headphones) and read her books, phew! At the time of writing, we still have to get home, but the flights are a lot more staggered into stages with stopovers in Auckland and San Francisco. Being night flights too, we have hopes that some sleep may be possible.

As for the weather in New Zealand, it eventually warmed up, but I regretted only packing lighter summer clothes in the first week and was seriously considering adding a few new items to my winter wardrobe. Thankfully we were able to enjoy some beautiful days, known locally as Dunner Stunners and make use of the heated outdoor saltwater pool by the beach, fabulous!

The home away from home, known to me as Dunedin, now doesn't feel quite as homey as it once used to. I guess it's a result of moving away and having to evolve to fit a different 'norm', as well as all the events along the way. It still is a place I hold dear, feeling much like a comfy old jumper, the sort you put on when you want to relax for a bit. There may be a few patches, or holes in places, but you wouldn't have it any other way. It also isn't one you'd necessarily want to wear all day everyday anymore.

Then there's central Otago and Queenstown, the passionate and wild mistress who still makes your heart sing with her abundance of remarkable mountains and crystal-clear lakes, but where the reality of living in the area would be a lot more mundane and not particularly practical. It has been a trip peppered with memories, mostly good, but also one of exorcising some thoughts of 'what if?' Having my daughter around certainly helped to drag me out of my reminiscences, as well as adding a few more memories to cherish.

Whanau (pronounced faa-now) translating as family in Māori, means more than just the English definition of 'family' and relates to others with whom you have a shared ancestry or interest, and with whom there is support for the wellbeing of all involved. It can include those who make you laugh and cry, at times, but who also have your back, no matter what.

I mention this as I feel incredibly grateful to have been able to reconnect with my Dunedin whanau this past Christmas. They are the type of folks with whom communication has been slimmer than we'd all have liked over the past six years, but once sitting down enjoying a brew or two together, the time disappears, and it's like we last saw them a month ago, or so. Some have changed more than others, but that shared interest in each other's wellbeing remains.

I feel privileged to have grown up in Lanlivery, where I feel the word whanau could also be applied to the village of folk who have supported me in one way or another over the years, either physically, emotionally or spiritually.

It is this I think I crave in Oxford, this sense of community that I am missing in my current lifestyle. I am certain there are lots of communities in and around Oxford that would fit the bill, I just haven't found the right one yet. Perhaps a challenge for the year ahead? A year of change, as they all are in one form or another, though the intention is for a positive change.

Wishing everyone good health and happiness for the coming year. Until next time.

Katy x

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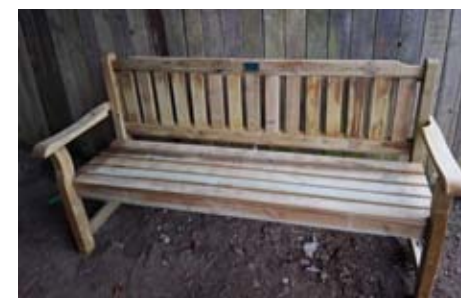
STAY COSY!



ENVIRONMENT COLUMN

As you read this, we should be seeing many signs of spring!

(As I write, we are being battered by gales!) Spring is a great time down at LEGGS. Everything is starting to shoot up and the early daffodils and snowdrops are pushing through. The site seems to be waking up from the darkness of winter, and we see signs of amphibians beginning to look for mates, birds looking for



nesting sites – it's such a great time to be down there.

Thinking of the winter gales, in the last issue I was saying that we had completed our major projects and we were heading for a maintenance program but since then we have realised that the shelter area, which is much used, is in serious need of major repairs! We hope it will have survived the winter gales but will need to be seeking grants and



quotes for the work required.

We will of course be raising some funds ourselves and will be organising a plant and bake sale in the Institute in April and joining the Clay plant sale at Roche in May. Your support at both of these would be much appreciated.

The LEGGS team would like to thank Keith Knight, Steve Knight and Louella for donating and siting a new bench in our shelter just before Christmas. It is a thing of beauty and much appreciated. The shelter is much used by visitors to sit and appreciate the quiet and the view and by volunteers for their refreshments! Thank you again!

Our regular 2nd Saturday of the month volunteer mornings will continue throughout 2026:

Saturday 14 February 10 – 1 pm

Saturday 14 March 10 – 1 pm

You do not have to stay for the whole time, and we will find a task suitable to your time and abilities – we'd love to see you!

Other dates for your diaries:

Plant and Bake Sale Luxulyan Institute 10 – 12 Saturday 18 April 26 Refreshments, Raffle, plants and bakes – donations of all gratefully received nearer the time.

Clay Plant Sale, Victory Hall, Roche 10 – 4 pm Plant sale!

Shelley Porter 07761798220

STOP PRESS!

LEGGS is currently closed to the public due to the collapse of a tree in the entrance to the site. We will be organising its clearing it up, replacing the gates, and repairing the wall. We have not been able to get on site to assess any further damage and ask members of the public to refrain from going on site until we have sorted things out.

This may take some time as our funds are rather low at the moment! Thank you for your patience. We will announce when the site is open again via social media.

Shelley Porter
famporter58@gmail.com
07761798220

NEWS FROM GUNWEN

An abundant selection of fresh vegetables and a generous array of raffle prizes saw the pre-Christmas Coffee Morning raise £329 for the chapel funds. Thank you to all who contributed in one way or another.

One of our members, Janet Francis, decorated a Christmas tree for the Luxulyan Parish Church Festival of Christmas Trees. Many thanks to Janet for representing Gunwen Chapel using the theme of Worldwide Christmas.

The Carol Service on 21 st December was attended by about 40 members of the local community. All the readings and lovely singing of carols was rewarded with tea, clotted cream mince pies and convivial company in the Community Room downstairs.

The Old Christmas Day/Epiphany Faith Tea was held on January 3 rd . An afternoon of music, singing, readings, a quiz and of course tables laden with goodies, was enjoyed by members of the wider community. The music was provided by Garry and Friends from the Rescorla Centre and Merv and Alison Davey performed the Wassail ceremony.

Our Anniversary Service will be held on Sunday 5 th April 2026, Easter Sunday, and will be taken by Sheila Allen. All are welcome to join us.

For more information about all 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

FROM CHURCH

From the new Rector

As I write to you to introduce myself, we are in the middle of Advent, a time of waiting and preparation for both the celebration of Jesus' birth at Christmas and the return of Christ at the second coming. The name Advent comes from the Latin word 'Adventus', meaning coming; arrival. I know that you all in the Lostwithiel Benefice of parishes have been waiting patiently for a new Rector and my wife Claire and I are very looking forward to arriving to be with you all early in the new year.

I grew up in Torpoint (so only just in Cornwall!) and attended the local schools. I joined the local parish church (St James the Great) at the age of seven beginning in the Sunday School, before becoming an altar boy and latterly a Sunday School teacher. As a keen footballer I played for Torpoint Youth Football Club

Upon leaving School, I began working for Plymouth City Council before moving to work for the Health Claims Department for Royal & Sun Alliance, after taking my insurance exams, where I became a Supervisor and Trainer whilst training for a management role. As I was then living in Millbrook, I began attending All Saints Church, where I also served at the altar and was also a Sunday School Teacher. I was on the PCC and over the few years I was there, I was Freewill Officer, Treasurer and a Churchwarden prior to training for Ordination.

After being selected to train for Ordination, I spent three years training for Ordination at Ripon College, Cuddesdon (Oxford), where alongside the academic training, I undertook placements in different churches and placements as a Chaplain in a Young Offenders Prison, a care home for people with dementia and a homeless shelter.

I was ordained as a Deacon in Truro Cathedral in June 2009 and as a Priest the following year. I served my curacy in St Michael's Church, Newquay. Newquay of course is known for its holiday makers over the summer so there was a ministry to the holiday makers too. However, there was and sadly still is, a big homeless issue in Newquay and so a large part of my ministry was to the homeless. Following my ministry to the homeless, in 2010 I became a member of the Management Board of St Petrocs. In November 2011, I was asked by Bishop Tim, to join the newly formed 8 Saint's Cluster (the parishes being- St Day, Carharrack, Chacewater, Gwennap, Stithians, Perran-ar -worthal, Devoran and Feock) initially as an Associate Priest and then as Priest in Charge. As well as the Sunday services, with several parishes, we were very busy with occasional offices/life events and with the six schools in the Cluster, leading assemblies, Open the Book, Messy Church, Experience Easter etc. We were also busy with coffee mornings, lunch clubs and other fundraising events etc. I would always attend as much as I could as these are such good opportunities to meet people and I enjoy meeting people and hearing their stories and about their lives. During my time in the 8 Saints Cluster, I also trained four Curates and ran the Diocesan intern scheme (from a vicarage we had spare in the Cluster) for young people seeking to explore a vocation to the priesthood, many of whom are now ordained.

As well as being Priest in Charge of the 8 Saints Cluster, I also had several roles within the Diocese such as the Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands, Assistant Rural Officer, Board Member of St Petrocs, Fire Chaplain, Chaplain to the Gypsy, Romany, Traveller Communities and a member of Diocesan Synod. I have recently been part of the Godrevy Team in Hayle, and I very much look forward to joining the Lostwithiel Benefice of Parishes as your Rector as we journey together as disciples of Christ and as we pray, study and worship together and as we come to know God and each other deeper on this journey.

I move into the Rectory in Lostwithiel, with my wife Claire who is a Transitional Care Nursery Nurse in Treliske. When you come to speak with Claire, you will be able to tell that her accent isn't local and that Claire originates from Cumbria. We also move in with our Dachshund 'Franklin' who you will meet on walks around the parishes and in the churches.

Between us, Claire and I have five children ranging from the ages of 17-32 and we also have a 1- year-old grandson living in Plymouth. We both enjoy walking, reading, watching films and listening to music. We are also members of the National Trust and enjoy visiting their properties and gardens. We can see there is already lots going on in the Benefice and as we are both very interested in and enjoy meeting people, we intend to be seen around the parishes as much as possible and we both very much look forward to meeting you all and getting to know you.

May we take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy, holy and peaceful 2026

***With every blessing,
Fr Simon and Claire***

FROM CHURCH

Spring is upon us. Snow drops have raised their heads and then buried them again. New life is springing into being. And yet for some the bruised reed of the winter lingers on. Some people say that God gives only what we can cope with. Very often that is not the case: the mental health of the nation is at its all-time lowest with, in my humble opinion, "time" or rather lack of it being an increasingly difficult challenge. Everything is so fast now, expectations are immediate. Time to ponder, reflect, plan. They aren't there. Immediacy, snap decisions. Decisions and time delayed making them are costly. Now in the public world, that which we see in our news, contracts of employment are meaningless. Contracts between companies are meaningless. Alliances between countries are meaningless. Loyalty in our community to clubs and associations are meaningless as we all seem to chase the quick fix and the fast buck/dollar/pound depending on how much American TV you watch.

This Lent, take time to watch the daffodil come out. Take time to savour the change in temperature. Take time to appreciate the extra hour at the end of March. Take time to be.

And it is at this point that I welcome Father Simon who has become the new priest at Lanlivery. A long-time colleague and friend who is a pastor at heart and deeply spiritual man. Give him time, all the time, to come to know you and embrace you, accept him as I know he will you. Together, you and him, me at your friends at Luxulyan, together perhaps we can build Christ centred communities where we can stop and see God patiently at work within each other.

Blessing as always

Chris McQuillen-Wright

FROM CHAPEL



Dear Friends,

This is a true story.

"I'm giving up rice pudding for Lent," the young girl declared in all seriousness.

"But you don't like rice pudding!" replied her mother.

You may be looking forward to scrummy yummy pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, 17th February as a way of marking the beginning of Lent.



Scrummy, yummy pancakes were a way of using up all the good things in the store cupboard before the weeks of austerity leading to Holy Week. And the tradition of 'giving something up for Lent' began.

Unlike the story of the young girl and the rice pudding, the idea of giving something up for Lent usually includes some sense of sacrifice, and there isn't much sacrifice in giving up something we don't like. For me this would be to give up chocolate, especially chocolate combined with nuts. You, of course, will have your own treat of choice in mind as a potential sacrifice for Lent.

I suggest an alternative to giving something up which we don't like, or we can do without, but rather to give something instead. You may already be thinking of ways which would work for you, like adding an extra tin or packet in the foodbank basket, or giving an extra donation to your favourite charity, or the gift of time in making that phone call or visit or sending a card or letter.

Paul encouraged the church at Galatia "Let us not become weary in doing good. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people." Even those opposed to Jesus admitted he went around doing good, giving himself in so many different ways to those in need around him. As we move through Lent towards Easter, we could particularly concentrate on how giving can have far-reaching potential to lift life and bring joy. Christians celebrate that Jesus didn't just give his all in life, but right up to his death, believing it is because of his ultimate giving out of love for all, that Jesus has been raised to live for evermore in the Spirit of God's love.

As we enjoy each yummy scrummy pancake on 17 th February, we could consider in what ways we may have opportunities to do good, to share love by bringing joy to others. So, keep up the good work!

Every blessing

Rev. Iris Bray - Stenalees with Gunwen Methodist Church

Lanlivery Church News and Services

Lanlivery Services

We are delighted to welcome Fr Simon Bone as Rector of the Benefice of Lostwithiel Parishes and his wife, Claire. We are sure that his ministry will be engaging and fruitful. During his settling in period, it is possible that services may change so keep an eye open for emails, pew notes and social media.

February 2026

1st Candlemas

9.30 Morning Prayer

8th, Epiphany 5

9.30 Eucharist

15th, Transfiguration

9.30 Morning Prayer

18th, Ash Wednesday

6.00 at St Bart's

22nd, Lent 1

10.30 Benefice Eucharist at St Veep

March 2026

1st, Lent 2

9.30 Morning Prayer

8th, Lent 3

9.30 Morning Prayer

15th, Mothering Sunday

9.30 Morning Prayer

22nd, Lent 5

9.30 Eucharist

29th Palm Sunday

10.30 United Benefice Eucharist

Years' Mind remembering the anniversaries:

FEBRUARY	MARCH
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
David Hopper	Nicholas Kendall
Eduard Veerman	Humphrey Bowmar York
Martin Holding	Rita Adams
	John Vincent
	Timothy John Turner

Contact details for Lanlivery Church

lanlivery@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook:

St Brevita, Lanlivery Parish Church

Rector: Revd Fr. Simon Bone. The Rectory.
Springfield Close, Lostwithiel.
01208 640232 fathersimon@btinternet.com

Churchwarden

Ellen McConnell: **01208 543491**
ellen.mcconnell@hotmail.co.uk

Church Office: Monday to Wednesday,
0900-1200
01208 872232
church_centre@yahoo.co.uk



LUXULYAN CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

SOUP & SWEET IN LUXULYAN CHURCH

Soup & Sweet is usually provided on the first Sunday of each month at 11:45 am.

There is no need to attend the church service preceding this. The next dates are 1st February and 1st March.

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.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR LUXULYAN CHURCH

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

Priest:

Rev. Chris McQuillen-Wright 07478 732212
chrismcquillenwright@me.com (Day off—Friday)

Churchwardens:

Robin Burley 01208 831145 - rabkol@aol.com
Jim Cleare 01726 850553 - Jim.cleare@btinternet.com

SKYLARKS

We have made plans so please see the article on page 18.

All are welcome to just turn up (children need to be accompanied by an adult please!) but if you would like further information please contact Shelley on 07761798220.

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 February

11.00am Parish Praise

Local Worship Leaders

Sunday 8th February

11.00am Sung Eucharist

Rev Barry Browning

Sunday 15th February

11.00am Sung Eucharist

Rev Chris McQuillen-Wright

Wednesday 18th February Ash Wednesday

Sung Eucharist

TBA

Sunday 22nd February

11.00am Sung Eucharist

Rev Chris McQuillen-Wright

Sunday 1st March

11.00am Parish Praise

Don McQuillen-Wright

Sunday 8th March

11.00am Sung Eucharist

Rev Barry Browning

Sunday 15th March Mothering Sunday

11.00am Sung Eucharist

Rev Chris McQuillen-Wright

Sunday 22nd March

11.00am Sung Eucharist

Rev Chris McQuillen-Wright

Sunday 29th March Palm Sunday

Sung Eucharist

Rev Chris McQuillen-Wright

Book and Bake Sale

Luxulyan Parish Church
Saturday 7 March
10 am to 12 noon

Books, Bakes,
Raffle, White
Elephant stall.
In aid of church
funds.

As from 3rd of November until the 27th February Luxulyan Village Hall

will be running a warm space for anyone who would like to pop in for a cup of tea, a biscuit and a chance to meet up with friends and make new ones.

We will be open from 1.00pm - 4.00pm Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

We will be asking for a small charge of £1. So if you would like to come along all would be welcome just turn up.

Please keep an eye out for further developments .

COUNTRY DIARY

12th NOVEMBER 2025



A missel thrush scolds a song thrush sings and a wren scuttles mouse-like amongst the flowerpots.

20th NOVEMBER

Blackbirds are busy feeding on the snow-covered ground.

21st NOVEMBER

Ice on the ponds and the birds' drinking bowls.

23rd NOVEMBER

Windy. I pause to listen to a blackbird's sweet subsong and the chirping of the house sparrows. But something is missing - the chatter and clatter of starlings. A decade ago, their chirrups and whistles were a familiar sound on still winter days. Not now! They are now on the red list of conservation concerns. The UK has lost 82% of this species between 1995 and 2023.



24th NOVEMBER

On this gloomy day I note how the palette of greens on the mosses, lichens and ivy leaves enliven the subtle, muted shades of late autumn.

3rd DECEMBER

A very light frost at sunrise. Mid-morning a song thrush makes a brief appearance alongside the ground feeders but is very nervous and doesn't stay. At dusk I stand in the twilight to watch the silhouettes of tiny birds hurrying into the shelter of the spruce trees as the long winter night embraces us.

5th DECEMBER

The silence of the garden is suddenly punctuated by the loud 'mewing' of a buzzard as it drifts majestically above me. Heavy rain all day causing floods in some areas.

9th DECEMBER

After the recent rain the night is dry and calm. A tawny owl calls. He will be able to hunt successfully tonight in these improved conditions.

13th DECEMBER

A marsh marigold blooms by POND SIX!

15th DECEMBER

Mid-afternoon a large flock of jackdaws sweep swiftly over the gardens at Heligan.

17th DECEMBER

More heavy rain! There are floods on the A391 at Lanlivery.

21st DECEMBER

At 3.03pm we arrive at the winter solstice. It rains lightly, two crows caw, a collared dove coos, and a blackbird sounds an alarm. Now the earth slowly turns its face to the sun again.

24th DECEMBER

At 8.25.am seven Canada geese fly overhead, their plaintive cries carried on the chilly northeast wind.

25th DECEMBER

I am pleased to see a small flock of starlings alighting on the wires at Penwithick.

1st JANUARY 2026

A male blackcap pays a fleeting visit to the seed dispensers.

3rd JANUARY



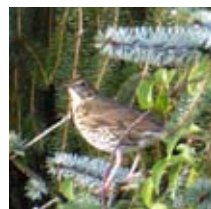
Sun and showers, some wintry. The sunlit beech hedge is alive with the fluttering and chattering of the resident colony of house sparrows. Two great tits collect sunflower hearts. This is possibly a pair.

4th JANUARY

Sunny but chilly. I put up a flock off redwings as I pass along Bullfinch Lane. They had been foraging amongst the thick carpet of leaf litter before my unwelcome appearance.

10th FEBRUARY 1980

The clear blue sky is awash with winter sunlight as we set off for Cotehele. The avenue of stately trees along the main drive casts crisp shadows of their skeletal branches. David spots a treecreeper in the same area where we saw it last year.



COUNTRY DIARY

12th FEBRUARY 1984



Snowdrops and crocuses lift the spirits on this chilly, sunless day.

19th FEBRUARY 1982

Today I notice that the black-headed gulls that frequent the school playground are now almost in their summer plumage. The dot on each side of their heads has been replaced by a dark, chocolate brown 'hood'. They will soon be leaving for their breeding grounds. Daffodils bloom on the grassy bank.



26th MARCH 1984



On my journey to Lostwithiel I look for the blackthorn blossom along this familiar route, but I see none. It is too early in the season. In the fields that I pass I see sheep with their lambs, and on the hedgerow banks, the primroses announce that winter is over.

27th MARCH 1982

In the river valley at Cotehele we observe a grey wagtail fly out from under the bridge where, quite likely, it has a nest. On our homeward journey we stop near St. Mellion. Here we find many tadpoles in two puddles that have almost evaporated in this unseasonably warm weather. David scoops them all up and relocates them into some much deeper pools.

KATHRYN HILL

Pancake Day!



It's Shrove Tuesday
(Pancake Day) on
17th February

FRIENDS OF LUXULYAN VALLEY
– DIARY DATES

Wednesday 18 February 2026
19:30hrs Village Hall

Talk – Quarries around Luxulyan
Join us for a look into our local industrial past.

Wednesday 11 March 2026
19:30hrs, Village Hall

AGM followed by
Mary Bryant talk,
A Cornish convict, sent to Australia in 1787,
who escaped the penal colony

Please check website for details
<https://www.luxulyanvalley.co.uk>

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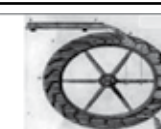
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LUXULYAN COMMUNITY CINEMA

At Luxulyan Village Hall

OUR NEXT 2 FILMS

Thursday 19th FEBRUARY
THE ROSES

Life seems easy for picture-perfect couple Ivy (Olivia Colman) and Theo (Benedict Cumberbatch): successful careers, a loving marriage, great kids. But beneath the façade of their supposed ideal life, a storm is brewing – as Theo's career nosedives while Ivy's own ambitions take off, a tinderbox of fierce competition and hidden resentment ignites.

Thursday 19th MARCH
THE CHORAL

1916. As war rages on the Western Front, the Choral Society in Ramsden, Yorkshire has lost most of its men to the army. The Choral's ambitious committee, determined to press ahead, decides to recruit local young males to swell their ranks. They must also engage a new chorus master, and despite their suspicions that he has something to hide, their best bet seems to be Dr. Henry Guthrie (Ralph Fiennes) - driven, uncompromising and recently returned from a career in Germany. As conscription papers start to arrive, the whole community discovers that the best response to the chaos that is laying waste to their lives is to make music together

Film Starts 7.30pm Licensed Bar



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The clocks go forward one hour on 29th March and British Summertime begins

Me: "I am surprised at how winded I am by this exercise"

Personal Trainer: "This was the tour of the gym"

DATES FOR YOUR DAIRY			
FEBRUARY 2026			
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
Sunday 1st	Soup and Sweet	11.45am	Luxulyan Church
Wednesday 4 th	Luxulyan Over 50s	12.00 noon	The King's Arms
Saturday 7 th	Coffee Morning	10.00am	Luxulyan Memorial Institute
Thursday 12 th	Lanlivery Over 60s	12.00 noon	The Crown Inn
Saturday 14 th	LEGGS Volunteer Day	10.00am - 1.00pm	Glebeland
Wednesday 18 th	Luxulyan Over 50s	12.00 noon	The King's Arms
Wednesday 18 th	FOLV - Quarries around Luxulyan talk	7.30pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Thursday 19 th	Luxulyan Community Cinema	Film starts 7.30pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Sunday 22 nd	Skylarks	3.00pm	TBC
Thursday 26 th	Charity Coffee Morning	11.00am	The King's Arms

MARCH 2026			
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
Sunday 1 st	Soup and Sweet	11.45am	Luxulyan Church
Wednesday 4 th	Luxulyan Overs 50s	12.00 noon	The King's Arms
Saturday 7 th	Coffee Morning & Plant Swap	10.00am	Luxulyan Memorial Institute
Saturday 7 th	Book and Bake	10.00am - 2.00pm	Luxulyan Church
Tuesday 10 th	COPY DEADLINE FOR APRIL/MAY 2026 GRANITE TOWERS		
Wednesday 11 th	FOLV - AGM followed by Mary Bryant Talk	7.30pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Thursday 12 th	Lanlivery Over 60s	12.00 noon	The Crown Inn
Saturday 14 th	LEGGS Volunteer Day	10.00am - 1.00pm	Glebeland
Wednesday 18 th	Luxulyan Over 50s	12.00 noon	The Kings Arms
Thursday 19 th	Luxulyan Community Cinema	Film Starts 7.30pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Sunday 22 nd	Skylarks	3.00pm	TBC
Thursday 26 th	Charity Coffee Morning	11.00am	The King's Arms



COOL PERAN LOWEN!

St Piran's Day
– 5th March

One day, I'm going to judge a spelling bee.
I'll ask one of the kids to spell the word "there."
When he asks for it in a sentence, I'll say...
"Their car is parked over there and they're late."



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.



9.

Front Cover: St Piran's at
Perranzabuloe - Fran
McConnell

1. Luxulyan Keep Fit -
Wendy Lewis

2. Lanlivery Church Christingle - Fran
McConnell

3. Lanlivery Over 60s Christmas Lunch - Peggy
Langdown

4.& 7 Spring - Kathryn Hill

5. Luxulyan Christmas Tree Festival - Ellen McConnell

6. Snowdrops - Caroline Stephenson

8. Damage to LEGGS by Storm Goretta - Shelley

9. Lanlivery School Christmas Craft -