

The Granite Towers

A Community Magazine for Lanlivery and Luxulyan



October & November 2026

EDITORIAL



At our last Granite Towers committee meeting, I suggested that we run a series “meet the committee”. That didn’t quite go to plan, and I wound up writing this editorial. Sorry if it’s a bit Luxulyan heavy. Hopefully someone from Lanlivery will redress the balance in a future edition.

I first visited Cornwall in 1959 travelling across the Royal Albert Bridge (by steam train of course) which was celebrating its centenary that year. I was on my way to Victoria Barracks home of the Duke of Cornwall Light Infantry with the Reading School CCF. I have never marched so fast. Probably better known as Walker Lines these days, it is well worth a visit as there is a museum housed in the keep.

Meanwhile, back in Luxulyan, mains water had not yet arrived, and water was being collected from a pump near St Cyor’s Holy Well. That had lost its supply when the railway arrived and cut the source. Consequently, the railway had to sink a bore hole and install the pump. This

was still in use until 1964 when the village was connected to the mains supply, the water from the pump was deemed “unpotable” and the pump was removed. The remains of the pump can still be seen close to where it would have been in its working days.

In 1961 I joined Post Office Telephones which was then part of the GPO. I was sent to Bletchley Park as it was then the Home Counties Training Centre. Its past history was still a bit “hush hush” even in the 60’s. In those days I was employed on converting manual exchanges to automatic. It is interesting to note that Stenalees Exchange (which served Luxulyan, Bugle & Treverbyn) had already been converted in 1939. However, whilst on holiday on Alderney in the Channel Islands, I was amazed to find that they were still on a magneto system where you picked up the handset and cranked a handle to call the operator. I was thinking of applying for the job to convert it but was put off by the fact that they wanted someone to look after the radio station as well I was told later that the chap who got the job knew nothing about radio either. Little did I know that back in those early days I would eventually witness the end of the copper network.

Back in England, it had become a ritual to visit Cornwall with many holidays to Crackington Haven until Egloskerry Station came up for sale. We were unsuccessful in our bid to buy it as we couldn’t sell our home in Reading, but we kept looking and eventually settled in Luxulyan. It’s a great little village and I have to keep telling myself how lucky we are to live here.

Jim Cleare

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

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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 - £50 Small adverts - 1/8 of a page - £30



LUXULYAN PARISH COMMUNITY FUND

Need help funding a project? The Luxulyan Parish Community Fund (LPCF) supports community projects within the parish of Luxulyan. LPCF’s grants are usually between £250 and £5,000. For eligibility and guidelines go to <https://www.luxulyan-pc.gov.uk>

Please send copy for the next edition of
“THE GRANITE TOWERS”
December 2026/January 2027 EDITION to the editor,
by NOVEMBER 10th 2026.

EMAIL ADDRESS for Granite Towers copy:

granitetowersluxlan@gmail.com

Photos for front or back page to Ellen McConnell

ellen.mcconnell@hotmail.co.uk

See page 10 for all deadline dates.

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

LUXULYAN VILLAGE HALL BOOKING AGENT

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

VIEW FROM THE SURGERY

You are probably aware that in the healthcare community there is a big push to reduce the use of antibiotics and to use them only when necessary. There are even posters in the vet clinics about it. Most of the surgeries in Cornwall were asked to do an audit on the prescribing of antibiotics for children for three months and for three common conditions, earache, sore throats and coughs. The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence have produced guidance for all these conditions to help clinicians decide if antibiotics are needed. Our results show that we issued the correct antibiotics for the correct length of time (most of the time) but we often used one clinical sign to justify the prescription. There is lots of information about in the public domain about how viral diseases such as coughs, colds and sore throats (including tonsillitis) do not need antibiotics and that the antibiotics do not work for them. People often mistake the antibiotics working when it is the normal timescale of the cough, a person requests an appointment to see a doctor after having the cough for one week and not getting better. Then the doctor prescribes an antibiotic for seven days and the patient feels better at the end of the course. However, most coughs will clear after about two weeks, so they probably didn’t need the antibiotics, just time. However next time the patient has a cough they will ask for antibiotics again.

There are many other reasons patients have asked for antibiotics: Going on holiday so want to feel better, have an exam so can’t miss school or college, it’s their birthday/Christmas soon so can’t be ill, their sibling, friend, classmate got antibiotics for their cough so they want some, social media sources say they need them. Doctors have added to this as when I started in general practice any child with earache and especially those who had a red ear drum got antibiotics. Evidence in the 1990s showed the antibiotics made little if any difference to the course of the ear infection or levels of pain the child had, but 20 years later a red eardrum is still used by some clinicians as a reason to give antibiotics.

Taking antibiotics is not without risks. They can cause side effects that can range from diarrhoea and vomiting to a full anaphylactic reaction (when your airways swell restricting your breathing and you develop a rash and is a medical emergency). I suspect travelling with a child with diarrhoea or sitting an exam with it is worse than having a cough.

The other issue around overusing antibiotics is the issue of bacteria developing resistance to them. A single prescription for amoxicillin for a cough is unlikely to do much about this but multiple this by every clinician in surgeries and pharmacies in the world each issuing one unnecessary course exposes the bacteria to this medication allowing it to change and develop resistance so amoxicillin will become useless against infections in the future. This reduces the choices of antibiotics when you do have a bacterial infection making them more difficult to treat and more superbugs appearing.

So, over the next few months when coughs and colds are common, please think carefully about your choices. There are many resources on the NHS websites including NHS111 online to use for advice. There is a superb app called HANDipaediatrics that parents can use when worried about their children and there are the local pharmacies who can advise you as well. The pharmacies can also issue prescriptions if the pharmacist feels they are necessary.

If you or one of the family has a cough or cold often the best treatment is time and not medication and the NHS has many resources to help you including your GPs. Please understand that if we say we believe you don’t need antibiotics we are working in your interest and if your symptoms change do contact your GP again.

Andy Haywood

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Lanlivery Vintage Rally Horse Show Celebrates Another Successful Year

The Lanlivery Vintage Rally Horse Show proved to be another wonderful success, bringing together the local community for a fantastic day of horses, family fun and charitable fundraising.

We were blessed with a glorious sunny day following the two weeks of rain in the run up to the show. On the day competitors of all ages and abilities took part with their horses, ponies and dogs across a range of classes including showing, showjumping and gymkhana, as well as a super fun dog show run by Sophie Stephens. Congratulations to all the winners and competitors who made the horse show such an enjoyable and memorable one. Well done to everyone who took part – the standard was excellent, and it was wonderful to see so much enthusiasm and many smiles throughout the day.

Amongst our winners the Crown Inn perpetual cup was presented to the champion in ring five Matilda Lilleyman. The Marshall’s Motors cup went to Novice best combination winner Michele Mullin, The W Richards & Son cup went to Tina Handely. A huge congratulations to our overall supreme champion Lauren Burt with her gorgeous grey hunter from Tresillian who took home the Sue Potter memorial trophy. She had been ring champion in the ridden ring and reserve champion in the working hunter ring earlier in the day having produced consistent flawless performances.

A special thank you goes to the Phillips family for kindly allowing the use of their land and helping to provide such a picturesque setting for the show.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to all of our sponsors: Kernow Equine Vets, Holmbush Windows Ltd, Darcroft Garage, Ride Angel, Walter Baileys, W Richards & Son, Chark Farm, The Cornish Rosette Co, James Kittow Butcher & Grazier, Morcom Construction, Downwest Embroidery, The Crown Inn, Harbour Clinic, Equibe, Pengelly Garden Centre, Emily Kenyon, Raptor Equine, Burley Bed & our local farriers. Their support is invaluable and plays a vital part in making the event possible. From prizes and rosettes to the many other costs involved in organising the day, their generosity helps ensure that the Lanlivery Vintage Rally Horse Show can continue to support charitable causes while providing a growing community event.

Finally, the biggest thank you must go to our incredible team of volunteers. From the planning and preparation beforehand, to helping with parking, entries, stewarding, judges, refreshments, setting up and clearing away, so much work goes on behind the scenes. We can’t thank you enough for giving up your time to make such a great day.

Focus now shifts to the 2027 horse show which will be held on Saturday 4th September. If you would like to be involved do let us know. Thanks all

Becky Littleton

LANLIVERY VINTAGE RALLY

Well, what can I say? After two years of being wet and having to cancel the Sundays, it was wonderful to have two goods days.

Saturday was the busiest and what a pleasure it was seeing so many people around the ring enjoying watching the events. Diggers cracking eggs, a rally car doing doughnuts and the hundreds of cars, tractors, motorbikes and lorries.

Sunday was not quite so busy but at least we were going. The tea tent was really busy, and I would like to thank everyone who helped out and those who made all the lovely food available, which included cakes and scones. A very big thank you also to Kathleen who organises it all every year and keeps the tea flowing all weekend.

Saturday night in the beer tent was a big success with live band 'Strawdogs' and the raffle made £335. Thank you to all who gave prizes.

The Terry Bonney Shield for the best steamer went to Andy Perchard and the Diane Williams Cup for best exhibit went to Thomas Hoskin for his Rover. This car has been to every rally for the last 41 years! Amazing support, thank you.

We had a lot of feedback from the public saying how they had enjoyed the day and what a lovely Rally.

So, thank you everyone for coming and supporting us. Thank you everyone who helped out and to the landowners for allowing us to use the fields (cow pats and all). Also thank you to the advertisers who purchased advertisement space in the programme. If anyone would like a copy, there will be a few in Lanlivery church.

Here's to a bumper year in 2027

Diane Williams
Founder of Lanlivery Vintage Rally

PLANNING- YOUR SAY!

Cornwall Council are asking all Towns and Parishes to consult within and complete a Neighbourhood Priorities Statement (what we want in our area)

We've organised a Steering Group of councillors and volunteers:

Debbie Batchelor, Kevin Brown, Alison Clemo, Meg Green, Cathy Haley, Tony Lee, Mark Richards, Sam Sinkins.

A questionnaire will soon be distributed to households and businesses throughout the Parish. The aim being for you to have your say about future planning/development.

If you would like to assist please contact one of the Steering Group members.

We will keep you informed of progress via Facebook, Lanlivery Residents FB page and Granite Towers.

FRIENDS OF LUXULYAN VALLEY (FOLV)

Friends of the Luxulyan Valley (FOLV) have had a busy summer in the valley. We will have had two forest schools and for the first an adult session for using the natural environment to help with our often-stressful lives. We have also had a history walk and geocaching in the valley.

I have been travelling around the country for a few weeks. When we left all the fields and grass were brown, but I understand that it has now greened up. It would be interesting to know what effects the stress that the dryness and heat have had to the fauna and flora in the valley.

We are currently working closely with Cornwall Wildlife Trust in their four-year Tor to Shore project.

On Sat October 24th we are having an open half day event again. We have two central performances one of a choir and the other dance. There will also be many stalls many with interactive activities as well as face painting, quizzes etc. Please feel free to come along.

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 £10 Joint £13 Family £15.

You can also find information on Facebook and on the internet <https://www.luxulyanvalley.co.uk/>

Robin Stephenson



LUXULYAN COMMUNITY CINEMA

At Luxulyan Village Hall

OUR NEXT 2 FILMS

THURSDAY 15th OCTOBER

PAPILLON

Based on a true story, Papillon is the story of a notorious felon and the horrors of the French penal system that imprisons him.

THURSDAY 19th NOVEMBER

GLENROTHAN

Legendary actor Brian Cox makes his indelible directorial debut with this tense drama about family and forgiveness, featuring fellow veterans Alan Cumming and Shirley Henderson

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Raffle

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FLAMING LEAVES

As summer passes into autumn the days shorten and the temperature drops. This is because the earth is tilted on its axis as it travels around the sun and while we have winter in the Northern Hemisphere the Southern Hemisphere is having summer, and the nearer you are to the Poles the more marked this becomes. At our latitudes deciduous trees have the strategy of losing their leaves in autumn.

The green of the summer leaf comes from the pigment chlorophyll. This is the factory where the atmospheric carbon is combined with water releasing oxygen and making glucose which is the building block for the growth of the tree. This is why we are planting forests to combat the extra carbon dioxide in the air that is one of the main causes of global warming. However, the leaf is vulnerable to cold and so in autumn it retires. A green summer leaf would be destroyed by frost as the water in the cells expanded and ruptured the cells. Also leaves provide big resistance to wind which is not most helpful to the tree in winter storms and they would be weighed down by snow.

Leaf fall is done by the growth of an abscission layer of specialised cells that grow to form a barrier between the leaf and the twig that supported it. As the chlorophyll dies off the green fades leaving the yellow and orange colour of carotenoids and the red and purple of anthocyanins to become visible. This gives us the changing colour of an individual leaf and the magnificent variations that mark our autumn woodlands. This year we have had drifts of fallen leaves in August. This is a strategy to limit the damage done by the drought.

Having fewer leaves means that the tree loses less water to the atmosphere. Coniferous trees tackle winter in a different way. Walk through a forestry plantation and it looks much the same all year round. Its leaves are small, usually no longer than 5 cm "pine needles" are typical. These spikes are covered with resin or wax to make them water resistant and their smaller surface area reduces the loss of the internal water which is carrying nutrients up from the roots in the process known as transpiration. Their chemical composition is slightly different from the broad leaves of deciduous trees making the needles more frost resistant. Also snow slides off and wind resistance is less. The conical shape of the tree exposes its leaves most efficiently to the slanting light of winter at high latitudes.

Deciduous trees such as oak, beech and sycamore are mop headed, round and big on top. These are what we will appreciate as autumn progresses and the local woods turn to many shades of brown and red. As we scuff our boots through the fallen leaves or pause to consider the command "Let fall no flaming leaf" there can be a moment of reflection on the importance of leaves to ourselves as well as our trees.

The end.

Marion McCullagh

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LUXULYAN 100 YEARS AGO.

Transcribed from the original text in the Cornish Guardian and Western Morning News by Hazel Harradence

CG. 1 October 1926: DYER-STATTON. At the UM Church, Bodmin, September 23rd by the Rev H Gilbert Lowe, John Henry son of Mr & Mrs Dyer, Luxulyan to Mabel Gwendoline, only daughter of Mr & Mrs TA Statton, Nanstallon.

CG. 1 October 1926: Marriage of Miss Ethel Udy. The wedding was solemnised at the Parish Church, Luxulyan, on Wednesday September 22nd of Miss Ethel Udy, youngest daughter of Mr & Mrs JH Udy, Lockingate and Mr Lewis Pinch, youngest son of the late Mr & Mrs Pinch of Chytan. The Rev CF Jones officiated.

The bride who was given away by her father, was attired in a blue repp two-piece suit and carried a bouquet of white lilies and chrysanthemums. She was attended by her sister Miss P Udy, who wore a dress of grey repp with hat to match and carried a bouquet of white chrysanthemums. Mr Arthur Pinch, brother of the bridegroom, carried out the duties of best man. (repp was a ribbed textile with closely spaced cords that run across its width, traditionally produced using silk, cotton or wool)

CG. 29 October 1926: A very pretty wedding took place on October 23rd when Miss Winifred Darlington, second daughter of Mr & Mrs W Darlington, became the wife of Mr Courtney Darlington, second son of Mrs G Darlington and the late Mr G Darlington of Cross.

The bride wore a grey gabardine dress with hat to match. She carried a bouquet of white chrysanthemums and asparagus fern, and was attended by two little bridesmaids, Edna Carthew who wore embroidered silk and Phyllis Darlington who wore a dress of shantung silk. They both carried bouquets of white and pink chrysanthemums. Mr C Carthew gave the bride away and Mr L Burton acted as best man. A reception was held at the bride's home, where a small party of relations and friends were entertained.

CG. 12 November 1926: The Life and Reminiscences of CTT. In this volume Mr Charles T Trevail of Luxulyan gives an entertaining account of his life and reminiscences. In a preface he says his desire is to show the influence of heredity, early environment, school life, work in general and of religion as factors in moulding the life, and above all the value of religion as a guide and support through life. The writer also deals with many phases of his public life and his many experience in assisting solve family and business questions of great variety and over a wide field. In a concluding paragraph he states his motto has been "Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, and as long as you can".

The volume which is priced at 3s, contains a wealth on informative matter and should prove very popular with Cornish people in general. It is on sale at the various booksellers in the county.

CG. 19 November 1926: Armistice Sunday. On Armistice Sunday the members of the Luxulyan branch of the British Legion attended the 11am service at the Parish church and laid a wreath of poppies and cypress leaves at the War Memorial in remembrance of their fellow comrades.

CG. 26 November 1926: Beam Wireless. Question in Parliament on Alleged Interference. Mr G Pilcher MP for the Penryn-Falmouth division asked the Postmaster General whether he had any information regarding the alleged interference with ordinary wireless receiving which has resulted in Cornwall from the operation of the new beam system of communication with Canada. If so would he approach the Marconi Company with a view to the protection of the interests of owners of private receiving sets.

The Postmaster General replied that the Bodmin beam station does not interfere with broadcast reception in Cornwall provided that suitable receiving apparatus is used. He admitted some interference had been experienced in the county by persons conducting experiments in transmission and reception on short waves but such a thing was unavoidable.

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, 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!) If anyone has a childhood stamp album that they did not want to throw away but didn't know what to do with it – well Guides can make use of that as well! For the next few weeks we can also take old mobile phones, tablets, foreign coins (even old ones), jewellery & watches. Most recently a large envelope of stamps raised £22, prior to that £90 was raised. Many thanks

ST. PINNOCK WI

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FRIENDS OF LUXULYAN VALLEY – DIARY DATES

Wednesday 21st October – 7.30pm
Luxulyan Village Hall
Talk – “The life and times of the Glynn’s of Cardinham & Cardinham House”

Saturday 24th October – 12.00pm – 4.00pm
Luxulyan Village Hall
Open Day

Wednesday 28th October – 11.00am – 2.00pm
Meadow Barns
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Talk – “Cornish hedges”



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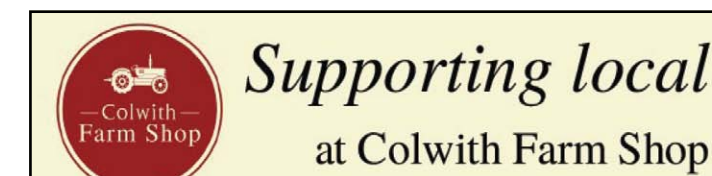
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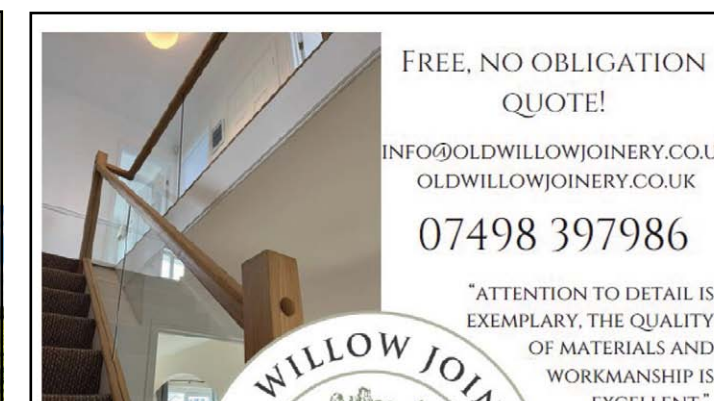
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Deadline dates are generally the
**10th of the month preceding
publication of the edition.**

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
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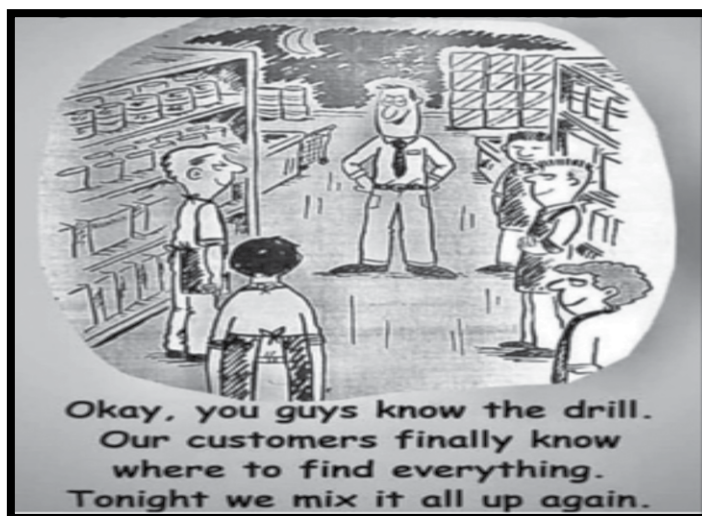
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EMAIL FROM OXFORD



Well, what a summer that was, hot, hot, hot! A fortnights' break at home in Kernow was a helpful escape from some of the intense heat felt in Oxford, as well as enjoying lots of family time. The beach trips were bliss. We arrived early enough to enjoy the quiet stillness of the day, and ahead of most other beach goers. The coffee and Danish pastry went down remarkably well too. There was a fun evening becoming reacquainted with a handful of secondary school friends at a reunion. It was so interesting to see and hear what everyone had been up to. My fears of not recognising anyone were unfounded, thankfully. Everyone being both the same, but very different too.

In order to make our return journey a little more enjoyable we decided to stop off in Dorset for a couple of nights. I had many options planned for, but in the end, we spent a day in Lyme Regis and an afternoon in Salisbury.

We hunted for fossils along the beach at Lyme Regis, which went remarkably well. It was very, (I'd say) bouldery instead of pebbly, which wasn't great to be carrying a small toddler over, so my husband and I took it in turns wandering along the shoreline and back. Once you got your 'eye in', there were fossils everywhere. There were a good number of large ammonite fossils we both got photos of and the ice cream afterwards was a fitting reward.

Our time in Salisbury was spent enjoying a lovely lunch in a bakery off the market square, then allowing the little one to run around a local park to let off steam after a 2-hour nap in the car. We had intended to have a look inside the Cathedral, however time got away from us, so we only managed to see it from the outside, which is of course still spectacular. It just whetted the interest for what's inside, so another visit in the future has been added to the 'list of places to see'.

The change of plants in my garden has begun. Out with the Michaelmas daisies that REALLY haven't fared well in the parched sandy soil during the spring and summer, and in with some plants more tolerant of drought conditions, at least once they're settled in. One is a type of Artemisia (wormwood), a version of which (not the one I have) is used for making absinthe. It certainly is a very aromatic addition! If its scent is anything to go by, this transition towards more mediterranean style plants could mean a rather lovely aromatic move. A change from relying on scent from blooms towards plants who are aromatic in general – think lavender and sage as a start, both of which have successfully made it through without too much assistance.

My tomatoes this year have performed better than previous years too. It means that I may actually see out the season without many, if any, green tomatoes, hurray!

I keep a lot of plants in pots around the patio area, which is handy for changing the look and feel of the space. If and when the temperatures increase next year, I am seriously considering moving many of these pots into the slightly shadier area between the houses. It would hopefully limit the length of time they'd have to tolerate the heat. A couple of days this summer I recorded temperatures in the high 40°C's on the patio, which is incredibly intense for anything to have to cope with.

Thankfully, temperatures have now reduced to something a bit more normal, and we have had some rain, hallelujah! It's amazing how little it takes for nature to flourish again. The grass is growing! and plants in general are looking like they're able to breathe again ahead of the impending seasonal shift.

Autumnal colours, and all the fruit and vegetables available make this a very enjoyable time of year. My first apple and blackberry crumble with custard, of the season, went down very well and since it was a hit with my little one too, it will definitely be on the menu a bit more often than it otherwise might. Any meal that can be enjoyed by the whole family is a winner in our household. I love cooking, just not ALL of the time.

As with everything, it seems it's all about the little things in life that make it worthwhile. Little moments with friends and families that create memories to cherish; little tweaks to recipes that make it your own and hopefully better; the traffic lights turning green as you approach them. I have a little one experiencing lots of big emotions currently, but the little moments in between the dramas are beautiful and sweet, I just need to write some of them down to help me remember them when life gets overwhelming, as it does from time to time.

Wishing you all well until next time.

Katy x

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 OVER 50s CLUB

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 each 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.



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LUXULYAN SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

Short Mat Bowls is a game where all people of any age can play together both competitively and recreationally. Physical strength plays a small part in the game while skill and strategy are the real factors. Whether you are looking for new friends, light exercise, social or competitive interaction; Bowling has it all.

New people are always welcome. Please join us at any of our club 'roll-up' sessions. Come as you are and please bring clean flat soled shoes (no heels) to protect our mats.

Roll-ups run on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Luxulyan Village Hall.

If you would like to know more please contact, Steve, our Secretary at
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THE HIVE

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**




‘Excuse me.’
Sarah paused in her third attempt to complete the inventory of the books that filled the shelves around her and turned to the customer.
‘I wonder if you can help me.’
Sarah suppressed a sigh. She loved working in a bookshop, but stocktaking was one of her least favourite tasks, and she was keen to get it finished.
‘Of course,’ she said, pasting on a smile and hoping her irritation at being interrupted didn’t show.
She looked at the man in front of her. *‘What can I do for you?’*
‘Well...’ The man hesitated. Sarah judged him to be in his late twenties. There was an earnest look on his pleasant face, and she waited while he seemed to gather the courage to continue.
‘The fact is, I’ve written a book, and I wondered if you’d look at it, give me an opinion.’
Sarah’s heart sank. The last time she’d been asked to do this it had taken her two weeks to decide how to tell the author that his work didn’t have a flying pig’s chance of getting published.
‘I mean,’ the man went on, *‘you must have read loads of books and seen lots of new publications. I’ve seen you in here before. You’ve been here a long time so you must know what you’re doing. All I need is for you to take a look, tell me what you think.’*
‘I’m sorry, I don’t think I can. I’m really busy at the moment and because I work in a bookshop doesn’t mean I’m qualified to critique someone’s writing.’
She didn’t add that she’d previously been a librarian, or that she belonged to a book club and regularly gave opinions on new works.
‘There’s no hurry,’ the man continued. *‘You can take as long as you need. I’d be really grateful. It’s taken me a long time to write and, well, I’m thinking of doing a sequel, maybe a series, but I need to know if it’s got – I don’t know, staying power, I suppose you’d call it.’*
Sarah really didn’t want to do this. She tried not to look at him, but something drew her gaze and she found herself looking directly into his eyes. Hazel eyes, she noted, wide and seemingly candid.
‘All right,’ she said reluctantly, *‘but I can’t guarantee-’*
She stopped as a broad smile lit his face, and he reached down to a bag at his feet and withdrew a thick wodge of papers, tied round with some sort of cord. Sarah’s heart dropped even further as he laid the tome on the counter. She was a quick reader but it would take her weeks to get through this.
‘I really don’t think...’
‘It’s not as long as it looks,’ the man said, as if to reassure her. *‘There’re sketches in there as well. I found them useful when I was writing, you know, I’d get a picture in my head, then draw it before I tried to put it into words.’*
‘It might take me a while,’ Sarah said resignedly.
‘That’s all right.’ He drew a card from his pocket. *‘Here’re my details. You can contact me on this number, or email me when you’ve finished.’*
Sarah read the name on the card. Andrew Petersen.
‘And please be truthful,’ he said. *‘I can take criticism.’*
And with that, Andrew Petersen whirled round and was gone as quickly as he’d appeared. Determined not to even look at the manuscript until the stocktaking was complete, Sarah found a carrier bag, pushed the thick bundle inside and slid it under the counter. Between customers and telephone calls, it took another three days to finish the inventory.
‘Well done, Sarah,’ said Laura, her boss. *‘You’re on leave next week aren’t you? You deserve some time off.’*
Sarah agreed. She’d worked hard over the last six months, often manning the shop and handling orders and deliveries alone while Laura got to grips with a colicky baby. She’d been looking forward to a few restful days before going to Brighton with friends. Her gaze lingered on the carrier bag, still nestling under the counter. Chiding herself for not saying no to Andrew Petersen, she picked up the bag and went home.
It was the following day before she looked at the manuscript, flicking through it without enthusiasm. The sketches caught her eye first. They were good. If the author couldn’t write, he could probably make a career from drawing.
Nevertheless the prospect of reading through this mountain of paper was daunting. She felt she was at the start of an uphill trek over difficult terrain, unable to see the end of the trail. Sighing, she made herself a cup of coffee and settled down to read.
Sarah’s initial reaction was that the male protagonist was everything she disliked in a man. Over-assertive, opinionated, not above bending either rules or the law to further his cause. The storyline kept her attention though, and she found she had to keep reading. After five chapters she was warming to the protagonist. He was one of those characters you couldn’t help liking, even though you knew he was a rough diamond with questionable morals.
The novel was long, and sometimes arduous, but by the time she was due to go to Brighton, Sarah was hooked. Unable to leave it until she came back, she took it with her, reading it each night in bed and early in the mornings, until she’d finished. The ending wasn’t what she’d expected. She couldn’t decide if that was a good thing or not. What she did know, though, was that she couldn’t stop thinking about it, and any story that had that effect was worth reading. One thing was clear in her mind. Andrew Petersen’s work wasn’t destined to sit on a shelf gathering dust, like her own unsuccessful literary efforts. As unsuccessful as her broken engagement, from which she was still recovering.
The day before she was due to return to work, she emailed Andrew, thinking carefully about what she should say. She kept it short, clearly stating that the novel was far too long, and would actually make two books, that some of his phrases were outdated and that there was more than one possible ending.
“Even so,” she finished, *“I found it refreshing and thought provoking. If it was polished and well edited, I’m sure you could find a publisher for it.”*
A reply came back three hours later. No mention of the book or of her critique, just one simple line of text: *“Will you have dinner with me?”*

Christine McHaines

You might notice longer grass in the churchyards, or someone gently pushing on a headstone. Here’s the simple story behind it.
Churchyards were never meant to look like bowling greens. Before lawnmowers existed, grass was cut with scythes or grazed by animals. The ground is uneven because it’s ancient. The graves sit close together because that’s how communities buried their loved ones for centuries. Modern expectations arrived long after the churchyard was shaped.
Churches aren’t paid to keep churchyards immaculate. Unless a churchyard is formally “closed,” the PCC and volunteers (often of mature years) carry the responsibility, and finances are tight in your local church.
The height of the grass is not a measure of respect. Respect is shown in care, welcome, prayer and presence — not in centimetres of lawn.
This land is special in many ways. Churchyards are one of the few places where the soil hasn’t been touched by chemicals for hundreds of years. That’s why you see such biodiversity in wildflowers, mosses, lichens, insects and birds you won’t find in the fields next door. It’s ancient grassland quietly flourishing.
If you see someone pushing on a headstone, don’t worry. The Burial Authority must legally test memorials for safety using a light, controlled hand-pressure check. It’s careful, trained and respectful.
As Christians we honour these places because it holds memory, not because it holds the people we love. They are with God, held in peace beyond anything we can see.
We keep paths safe. We tend the space with love. And we let nature breathe where it has breathed for centuries to honour God’s creation.

Revd Laura Bushell Hawke

PLANT SWAP AND COFFEE MORNING.

The very last plant swap for this year will probably be on Saturday 3rd October at the Memorial Institute. If you are unable to bring anything to swap then you can purchase any of those on offer for a donation or just come and enjoy the company and tea/coffee and cake available at reasonable cost, not forgetting the bacon butties! We will then meet through the winter just for bacon butties, cake and coffee, always on the first Saturday of the month, the first one being on 7th November from 10am. November is also Remembrance weekend and the Institute will have poppies to buy, as well as other souvenirs to help raise even more money. All monies taken at the Institute on the 7th will go to the British Legion.

* * * * *



Red Moor School

THE RED MOOR SCHOOL

We are now into a new academic year here at Red Moor School and already it is going very well. The students are immersing themselves into lessons and the school community. We have welcomed new students after our year 11’s left and we are all working towards another fantastic year.
Over the summer we had the pleasure of the highest rate of students Red Moor has ever seen achieving globally recognised qualifications. Here are a few words from our exams officer, Kerry:
“During the last academic year, our students worked towards and achieved qualifications across the school, including GCSEs, Functional Skills, Entry Level Functional Skills, UAS and BTEC qualifications. We are incredibly proud of the effort, determination, courage and progress shown by our students. For some, success has meant achieving a qualification; for others, it has meant reaching a personal goal, overcoming a barrier or taking an important next step. There is no single definition of success. We celebrate every student for what they have achieved and the progress they have made on their individual journey.”

Well done to each and every one of them!

Compiled by Kerrie Rawlings, RMS Admin Team



SKYLARKS: MEETING GOD IN NATURE

Skylarks has been temporarily paused until the shelter has been replaced at LEGGS; We hope to be able to continue our activities in the New Year. We were very saddened to see the damage done to the shelter; we lost our fire pit in the fire that was stored in the storeroom along with a number of other resources which will need to be replaced. We look forward to welcoming new members in the New Year and indulging in toasting marshmallows and making s'mores!

Shelley Porter famporter58@gmail.com

Shelley Porter

CHARITY COFFEE MORNING AT THE KINGS ARMS

This is held on the last Thursday in each month from 11am. Following queries 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 29th October and 26th November. Most recently a total of £450 has been given to local good causes with an additional sum towards replacing the store and shelter at the Glebe field. We will save some more and then distribute it!

WHERE AM I?

Somewhere in Lanlivery or Luxulyan Parish.
You will find the answer somewhere in this edition of Granite Towers



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**New members always welcome!
WHY NOT GIVE IT A TRY?**

LIFE ON A SMALL HOLDING



Having been on crutches since the end of June, I am now able to drive and get about on my own two feet, but my fields are quite lumpy and I'm having to be really careful now that I am tending my animals again. The first morning that I took over the animals (my pet sitter was also helping me this time), I lost a pig and he lost a ewe and two lambs. I hobbled over to my far fields to look for the pig and Jon headed down towards the moors, for the sheep. After a while, we both met in the middle field, from different directions, discussing where to look next. Just then, I saw the three sheep walk towards us, from the field Jon had just walked through. I thought he was having me on when he said he hadn't found them. But then Jon saw the errant pig walk up behind me, from the field I had crossed! I'm convinced the animals are playing games with us.



There is so much fencing that I need to do, but that will have to wait until my ankle is a bit stronger and I don't have to watch every little lump that I step over. However, my gardens are beginning to look wonderful, as I've had time to catch up on all the things I don't normally have the time to do.

Last year's Jersey calf, Jago, had a one-way trip a few weeks back. It took a whole morning to double bag all the meat. The steaks are absolutely delicious! Now, I have four full freezers again. I'm slightly worried that the lambs are due to go towards the end of the year. Mum is refusing to have beef for breakfast,

lunch and dinner. I'll have to start making my own bread again, now that I'm up and about – there is no room to freeze shop bought loaves. The milking cow decided to be a proper house cow, by coming into my kitchen. Only three honey pots smashed, so I suppose not too bad.

The top of my foot is still quite swollen, but I had a friend over to trim the hedge line of one field, whilst I went carefully along after, pulling up the old sheep net. Because I have to look at where my foot is being placed on the lumpy ground, I can't trim at the same time. Then I got the quad and flail out, but the ground was too rough for my little flail. So now I have to find someone to get the tougher vegetation cut down before I can go back with my flail. I have found that the crutch handles sit nicely around the bars on the quad, so they don't fall off. Being a small holder, I need to improvise! At least I've made a start on the fields. Nice that it is raining every day now that I can do a little bit more.

Tracy Elliott



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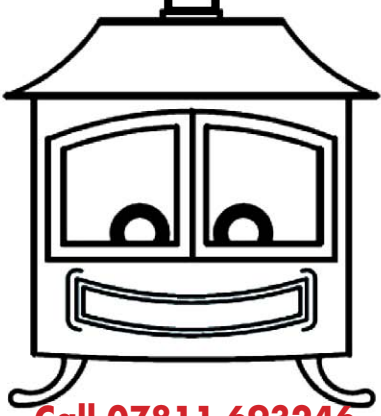
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LUXULYAN ENVIRONMENT GREEN GLEBE SPACE

Since the last Granite Towers was published, we witnessed something that we never want to see again. On Friday 24th July, our shelter and storeroom with all our tools was discovered alight and the fire brigade was called to extinguish the fire which was threatening to creep into the churchyard. The result was sad to see - blackened wooden poles and trees, metal roof panels laying where they fell and a pile of ash. Fortunately, the fire did not spread too far, and the apple trees and the fields were safe, as was the churchyard, despite the tinder dry grass!

But good can come out of bad - We were delighted to see so many people come and help with our call for help to clear the site a few days later. We particularly thank Roger Phillips for the use of his tractor and trailer to take the metal work to Henry Orchards and for the work he and Mary Fox did to make the site safe the following day.

We had many offers of help in different ways and Stacie helped us to set up a GoFundme page which to date has raised just over £1400 towards the rebuild of the shelter and storeroom and we thank everyone who contributed. The page is still live if you would like to contribute:

<https://gofund.me/14957bdd4>

The village shop and post office had a collection jar which raised £47.63! Again, thank you so much and thank you to Kay Baker for her support at a very difficult time!

The King's Arms and Richard Turner held a quiz night in aid of LEGGS which raised £284.26; thank you to everyone who supported that night especially Tracey, Adam and Richard!

Thank you for the individual donations too, many of which were very generous. We have also applied for some grant funding. Thank you to the pub coffee morning team for £250, Feast Week team £100 and to Luxulyan Community Fund for allowing the grant for repairs to be converted to rebuild funds! We are still waiting for further applications for grants to come to fruition!

The rebuild plans include a field shelter and a small shipping container to store our tools safely in basically the same place where the old ones were sited. We are in the process of asking permission from the landowners (The Diocese of Truro - it is Glebeland) to rebuild in a slightly different way. We may need to apply for planning permission, but we have a quote from a local firm to rebuild. Because we do not own the land, we must use a firm with an indemnity policy rather than the volunteers to rebuild. The shipping container will need to come flat packed and be built on site due to access restrictions. We are also still needing to raise more funds to cover all this! The plans will be on display on Saturday 24 October in the village hall.

The year started off with the damage to the gates by Storm Goretti and a lot of wood to be moved and has ended with a lot of work and a rebuild. But we are determined to make sure that this happens and with the support of our wonderful community we are sure we will succeed. Thank you for all the offers of tools! Overwhelming support!

Just before the fire at the end of term, Luxulyan school children spent a whole day exploring the site; some moved wood chips to make paths, some learnt about the pond, some just walked around and explored the butterflies, bees, and other insects that were enjoying the sunshine, warm weather and wildflowers. It was a joy to see their enjoyment of being in nature for the day!

We are still carrying on with our volunteer mornings each month! There is still plenty of work to be done!

The future dates include:

Saturday 10th October and Saturday 14th November 10 am to 1 pm

Refreshments provided but we are asking you to bring some hand tools with you until we have a storeroom to store our own!

For further information contact Shelley Porter 07761798220

HARVEST

Harvest, a time for reflection,
On what the past year has brought forth
Be it flowers, crops or our actions,
This is surely the time for much thought.

If only we'd tried a bit harder,
In the garden, or yet in the fields,
The fruits that we had would be better,
But it's the way we work - not the yields.

Mary Pollard Snr

LANLIVERY OVER 60s

Lanlivery Over 60s meet at 12 noon on the second Thursday in the month, at The Crown Inn, Lanlivery. We next met on 8th October and 12th November.

All are welcome to join us for a meal, some light-hearted quizzing, a raffle and a natter.

There is no membership fee, but you do pay for your own food and drink. Raffle tickets are £1 per person.

For more information, please contact Peggy on 07879 883 083.

FROM THE RECTORY

Dear Friends

As I write, we are beginning to think about and plan our Harvest Festivals across the Benefice. Harvest in our rural Benefice and indeed Diocese is and can be a very important time for our communities. Different crops are ready at different times and for the farming community it can be a busy but also stressful time as everything is safely gathered in.

As our climate changes, the weather can make an enormous difference, and the extremely hot dry periods of this summer will inevitably have reduced yields and caused many crops to fail. Many of us will have rejoiced in the hot dry weather, although it hasn't been good for our gardens. However, for the farming community drought is something to be feared because it destroys crops and creates problems for the coming season.

If nothing else, harvest is a time not just to give thanks but to pray for those who work on the land and help provide food for our tables. This year there is much uncertainty because the hot dry summer, for harvest is the time when the quality of soil is revealed. Of course, weather conditions have a lot to do with it. But all things being equal, you would expect a field with good soil to show itself with a high yield of good crop.

Whereas bad soil would be revealed by a small yield. Jesus plays on this idea in his famous 'Parable of the Sower/Soils' which you can find in three of the Gospels: Matthew 13, Mark 4 and Luke 8. Here though, he is asking the question of how good we are at listening.

Are we good soil when receiving the seed of his teaching? Just as the quality of a field is shown at harvest time, the quality of our listening will be shown up, one day. According to Jesus, some people are more like concrete than soil. His teaching just bounces off like a seed bouncing along a path with nowhere to settle and take root.

Other people are like a thin layer of topsoil over rock. They only listen to Jesus long enough to get a feeling that he's a good person. But when they start to sense what being his disciple really means, they quickly forget even that small amount of what he said.

I think the third 'soil type' is rather pertinent to our age. These people listen to all sorts of competing voices - the gods of our world with deceitful promises of wealth, success, homeownership, healthcare as the great saviour, and the like. These voices are like weeds in your vegetable bed, stealing away the goodness of the soil.

Only the fourth type of person really listens to Jesus and knows the joy of having a life he has transformed and made productive. In Jesus' parable the seed is sown on all sorts of soil, indiscriminately. Likewise, all of us have the opportunity to hear Jesus' "words of eternal life". When the harvest time comes, will we be revealed as people who have really listened to him?

Every blessing for this Harvest time.

With every blessing

Fr Simon

FROM CHURCH

The prophet Micah, writing in the eighth century BC, imagined a day when nations would beat their swords into ploughshares and never train for war again. But the line that lingers isn't the famous one about weapons. It's the one after it: people sitting under their own vine and fig tree, "and no one shall make them afraid."

Not triumphant. Not vindicated. Unafraid. That's worth sitting with on Remembrance Sunday. We tend to reach for words like sacrifice and valour, and they're not wrong — but they're not the whole truth. The whole truth includes the fear: in trenches, in the holds of ships, in the long wait for a telegram. Micah's vision of peace isn't really the absence of memory. It's the absence of that one thing — being made afraid.

We are, by any measure, still a long way from his mountain. A century on from the guns falling silent, war has not stopped being learned. That gap between the vision and the world as it is can curdle into naivety on one side or despair on the other.

The German pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer, writing from a Nazi prison cell in the last months of his life, offered something else. Not a God who explains the gap or resolves it from a safe distance, but one who suffers inside it — present in the cell, the trench, the silence — without pretending the wound is healed.

Perhaps that's the discipline Remembrance actually asks of us: to hold the grief and the hope at once, and keep walking toward a horizon we haven't reached.

Chris McQuillan-Wright

FROM CHAPEL



Dear Friends,

As I write this, the first day of term has come, and for some not just the first day of term, but the first day of school – ever. The new uniform is taken off the hanger and put on for real. The new school bag is packed. It's a brand-new start for thousands of four-year-old children across the country.

In the course of a lifetime we rarely have the opportunity to experience such significant beginnings. Other similar examples could include starting a new job, moving to a new house, or beginning a new close personal relationship. Whatever the circumstances, a brand-new start can be a bit scary. It may be a daunting prospect to face the unfamiliar. Yet it can also be exciting as a brand-new start enables us to not only leave the past behind, but also to take it with us into the future as we continue to learn, to develop, to grow, into a new future which brims with anticipation and promise, hopes and dreams.

Christians believe we are not restricted to the milestones of life to enjoy the potential of a brand-new start. Jesus's message of forgiveness offers this gift every day. The stories we read in the Bible give many examples of a brand-new start, Noah and the Ark, the people of Israel making a brand-new start in the Promised Land. And of course, with the coming of Jesus, people like Levi and Zacchaeus chose a brand-new start in life by deciding to follow Jesus. This includes St Paul, who wrote to the Christians in Corinth "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!"

So, it is my hope and prayer for all is that, whatever the circumstances, the brand-new starts we face will bring excitement and opportunity, the possibility of promise fulfilled, life inspired with good and fruitful hopes and dreams as we continue to learn, to live and most of all, to love.

Revd. Iris Bray - Gunwen with Stenalees Methodist Church



NEWS FROM GUNWEN

On Sunday 16th August at 3pm we held a Cornish Song and Dance Celebration at Gunwen Chapel. Rev Paul Benney preached about the Wedding Feast at Cana and people attending joined in with Cornish hymns, songs and dances. Four of the hymn tunes that were included were, Truro, Treviscoe, Saltash and Gunwen. It was well supported with about 50 people from the usual congregation, Rescorla Musicians, the wider community, Friends of Gunwen and St Austell Circuit. Everyone enjoyed a welcome cup of tea, scones and jam and saffron cake, which added to the lovely atmosphere of the afternoon. Many thanks to all who helped make the event possible. Meur ras!



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

*I've just finished reading a book about the world's greatest basements
..... it was a best cellar!*

*The main function of your big toe is to make sure all the furniture in
the house is in the right place!*

Lanlivery Church News and Services

Lanlivery Services

Please note that it is possible for services to be changed so keep an eye open for emails, pew notes and social media. Note that Evening Prayer on a Wednesday will be at 5 p.m. until the end of October after which it will be held at 4 p.m.

October 2026

4th Trinity 18

9.30 Morning Prayer

11th, Trinity 19

9.30 Eucharist

18th, St. Luke

9.30 Morning Prayer

25th, Trinity 21

9.30 Eucharist

November 2026

1st, All Saints

9.30 Morning Prayer

8th, Remembrance

9.30 Eucharist and Act of Remembrance

15th, Second Sunday before Advent

9.30 Morning Prayer

22nd, Christ the King

29th, Advent Sunday

10.30 Benefice Service

From the Registers

Baptised on 30th August, Mabel Sarah Susan Holland. Daughter of Lowenna and Matthew. Welcome to the family of the church. "Shine as a Light"

Years' Mind remembering the anniversaries:

OCTOBER

Tracey Jacqueline Mallett
Kevin John Williams
Celia Kathleen Laurence Gay
Dominic David Christophers
Gertrude Margaret Bonney
Peter John Sandry
Robert Morley Richards

NOVEMBER

Stephen Henry Thomas
William Douglas Kellow
Margaret Smith
Norah Clarice Mary Skerry
Raymond Horace Darborne Davis
Vivien deLancy Boucher
Colin John Dunn
David Anthony Chapman

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 640323 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

PLEASE SAVE THE DATES

Tuesday 8th December, Restormel Concert Band at Lanlivery Church

Sunday 13th December 4 p.m. Valley Voices Choir, Carols at Lanlivery Church



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 4th October & 1st November

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:

Jim Cleare 01726 850553 - Jim.cleare@btinternet.com
Shelley Porter - famporter58@gmail.com

SKYLARKS

Please see page 18 for more details and if you are interested in being kept up to date, please contact Shelley Porter on 07761 798220 or famporter85@gmail.com.

FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS TREES LUXULYAN CHURCH

Saturday 5th December and Sunday 6th December 2026

We are inviting businesses and organisations in the local area to decorate a tree for the festival in church. We will need to know how tall your tree will be (it can be live or pretend!), whether you will need electricity for your lights if using and what time you hope to be decorating your tree. Please book your space by 15th November. The set up day will be Friday 4th December from 2 pm to 7 pm. There will be entertainment over the two days with seasonal refreshments. We have booked 'Cornish Connection' to sing for Saturday afternoon and hope to have performances confirmed from others and the school children from Luxulyan. We will of course have our hamper raffle with three chances to win some seasonal goodies and a Christmas raffle. Last year we had over 20 trees, all very different – and we'd love to have more this year. Please get in touch to book your space! If you would like to join in the fun, please contact Shelley Porter famporter58@gmail.com or 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 4th October *Harvest Festival*
11.00am Parish Praise Shelley

Sunday 11th October *Trinity 19*
11.00am Sung Eucharist Rev Barry Browning

Sunday 18th October *Luke the Evangelist*
11.00am Sung Eucharist Rev Chris McQuillen-Wright

Sunday 25th October *Trinity Last*
11.00am Sung Eucharist Rev Chris McQuillen-Wright

Sunday 1st November *All Saints Day*
11.00am Parish Praise Shelley

Sunday 8th November *Remembrance Sunday*
11.00am Service of Remembrance Shelley

Sunday 15th November *2nd Sunday before Advent*
11.00am Sung Eucharist Rev Chris McQuillen-Wright

Sunday 22nd November *Christ the King*
11.00am Sung Eucharist Rev Chris McQuillen-Wright

Sunday 29th November *1st Sunday of Advent*
10.00am Sung Eucharist Benefice Service at St Denys

COUNTRY DIARY

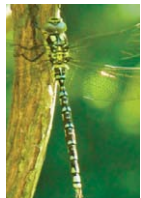
8th JULY 2026

Hot at 25°C midday. Down by the lower ponds I discover a teneral (newly emerged) southern hawker dragonfly hanging from a buddleia branch. A silver-washed fritillary 'sails' through the morning sunlight comes to rest on the shaded trunk of a small willow tree where, I assume, it is simply seeking respite from the heat. However, when discussing this with Keith from Luxulyan a few days later, he informs me that the butterfly would have been laying her eggs under the bark. The larvae will hatch and spin silk cocoons. After a period of hibernation, they will emerge in the spring to feed on the dog violets growing beneath the tree.



9th JULY

Very hot at 28°C. Standing in the stream where the dappled sunlight creates rippled reflections on the mossy banks, I watch a golden-ringed dragonfly dancing through the shadows. Nearing the house, I hear a new family of long-tailed tits calling and see that the siskins are nearby with their fledglings.



12th JULY

The heatwave continues! New blackbirds call loudly for food, and the wet mealworms are in constant demand. Thistledown is driven helplessly by the gusting SE wind.

17th JULY

I encounter a peacock butterfly and a painted lady.

21st JULY

Another hot day. A juvenile great spotted woodpecker spends several minutes feeding on the suet balls.



24th JULY

A southern hawker flies along the drive and over the gate and I have a second sighting of a juvenile bullfinch. "Pink pink" calls a chaffinch as the sun sets on another hot summer's day.



28th JULY

Goldfinch fledglings chatter exuberantly from the safety of the large ash boughs as they wait to be fed. At the day's end the herring gulls, their underbellies aglow with the sunset, mew like kittens as they drift languidly towards the west.



29th JULY

The sudden call of a yaffle echoes across the garden as I hear the distinctive cry of a peregrine falcon passing overhead. Then, through the ensuing silence, comes the wistful autumn song of a robin. Today it is declared that Cornwall is officially in a drought situation.



3rd AUGUST

House martins and swallows flutter high above me and once again I hear the peregrine. It seems such a short time ago that I watched a bee find the first bramble flower where now the berries shine black and ruby red.



9th AUGUST

Hot again. Through the kitchen window I watch a dunnoek preening on an ivy branch and a humming bird hawk moth finding nectar in the buddleia blooms.



10th AUGUST

Down by the lower ponds I use my new bird ID app and hear the usual ones. However, in addition, it identifies a spotted flycatcher, a willow tit and a crested tit. The spotted flycatcher is no surprise as I had photographed one here in 1990 and the willow tit is possible in this habitat but a crested tit is highly unlikely as they are only found in the Highlands of Scotland!



12th AUGUST

During the partial eclipse of the sun this evening I record fourteen species of bird including a yellow-legged gull amongst the circling herring gulls.

16th AUGUST

At 8.00.am I am able to add linnet and pied flycatcher to my list but curl bunting I do not think possible.

19th AUGUST

Overnight rain clears early and I find a hornet hoverfly on some buddleia.



27th AUGUST

A visit to the Tregorrick Sunflower Trail stirs fond memories of a bygone age. It was on the road here that my dad taught my brother and I to ride our bikes by running behind us, holding on to help us balance. On one such day I glanced over my shoulder to see that Dad had let go! I had been successfully launched into my 'brave new world'.



COUNTRY DIARY

5th SEPTEMBER

The bees are now finding the newly opened ivy flowers. The hottest summer on record draws to a close and the distant fields that, a few days ago, were sun-bleached are now verdant again.

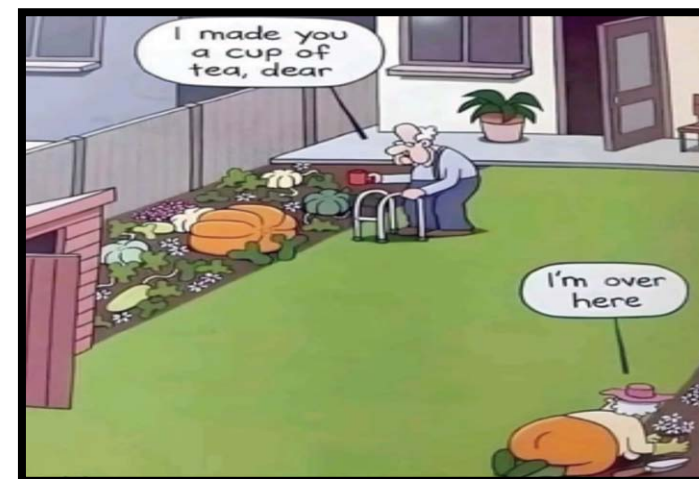
6th OCTOBER 2006

We cycle out along the quiet roads. It's good to see puddles by the wayside again after the hot, dry summer. Tonight the autumn winds send billowing, silver clouds across the face of the Hunter's moon.

18th NOVEMBER 2006

David observes over twenty fieldfares in the tall sycamores while the golden leaves of our Cornish elm (ulmus minor) enliven the leaden grey skies.

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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 07946 935680 07946 935680 07946 935680 1

Guests and new members are always welcome at our events

- see "Dates for your Diary"

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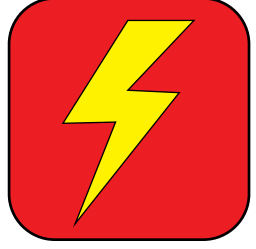
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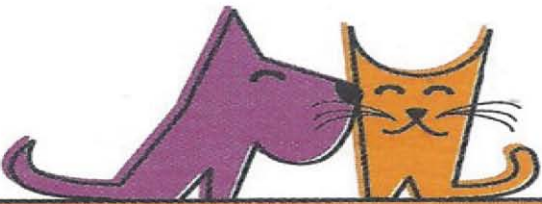
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Contact Clare Hugo on 07881 224791

WHERE AM I
 Lanlivery Churchtown,
 road junction by
 The Crown Inn at the
 end of school April 2021

*My banks recently called
 me to let me know I had
 an outstanding balance.
 I said "Thanks, I used to
 do gymnastics!" and hung
 up the phone.
 That was nice of them
 to say*

DATES FOR YOUR DAIRY

OCTOBER 2026

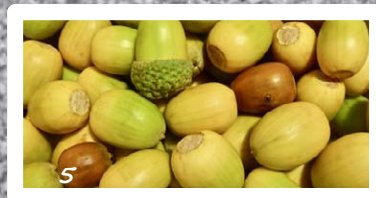
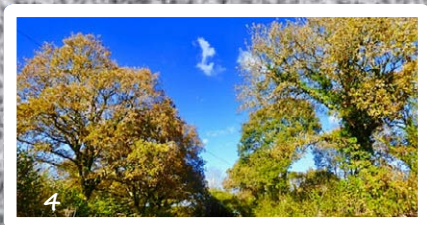
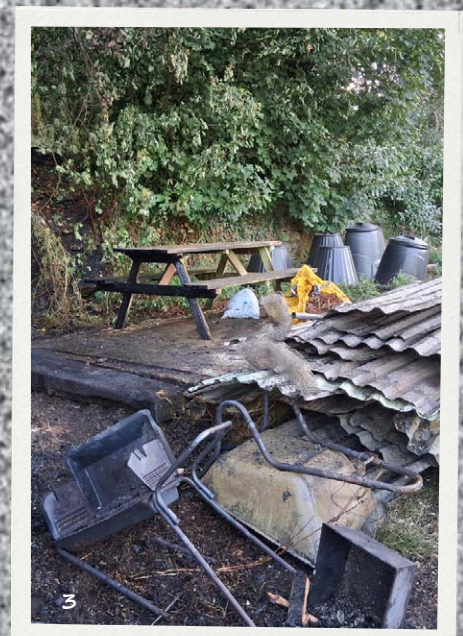
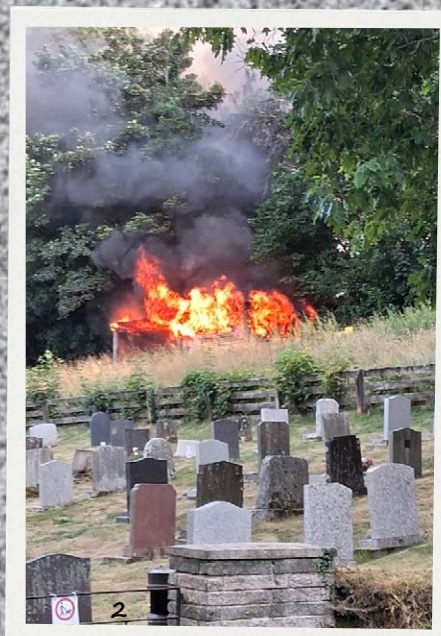
Mondays & Wednesdays	Granite Valley Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Wednesdays & Fridays	Luxulyan Short Mat Bowls	7.00 - 9.00pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Saturday 3 rd	Plant Swap & Coffee Morning	10.00am	Luxulyan Memorial Institute
Sunday 4 th	Soup and Sweet	11.45pm	Luxulyan Church
Wednesday 7 th	Luxulyan Over 50s	12.00 noon	The King's Arms
Thursday 8 th	Lanlivery Over 60s	12.00 noon	Crown Inn
Thursday 8 th	Movie in the Church	2.30pm	Lanlivery Church
Saturday 10 th	LEGGS Volunteer Day	10.00am - 1.00pm	Glebeland
Thursday 15 th	Luxulyan Community Cinema	Film starts 7.30pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Wednesday 21 st	Luxulyan Over 50s	12.00 noon	The King's Arms
Wednesday 21 st	FOLV - Talk	7.30pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Saturday 24 th	FOLV - Open Day	12.00 - 4.00pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Wednesday 28 th	FOLV - Activity Day for Children	11.00am - 2.00pm	Meadow Barns
Thursday 29 th	Charity Coffee Morning	11.00am	The King's Arms

NOVEMBER 2026

Mondays & Wednesdays	Granite Valley Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Wednesdays & Fridays	Granite Valley Bowls	7.00 - 9.00pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Sunday 1 st	Soup & 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 Village Institute
Tuesday 10 th	COPY DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER 2026/JANUARY 2027 GRANITE TOWERS		
Thursday 12 th	Lanlivery Over 60s	12 noon	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 - Talk	7.30pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Thursday 19 th	Luxulyan Community Cinema	Film starts 7.30pm	Luxulyan Village Hall
Friday 20 th	Social Evening	From 7.30pm	Laqnivery Church
Thursday 26 th	Charity Coffee Morning	11.00am	The King's Arms
Monday 30 th	Christmas Coffee Morning	10.30am - 12.30pm	Lanlivery Church

PLEASE SAVE THE DATES

Tuesday 8th December, Restormel Concert Band at Lanlivery Church
 Sunday 13th December 4 p.m. Valley Voices Choir, Carols at Lanlivery Church



Front cover -
Rosemary Truscott

1. 2 & 3. LEGGS
Fire and Clear up -
Shelley Porter

4. Autumn at
Lavrean -
Kathryn Hill

5. Acorns -
Kathryn Hill

6. LADS Ladies Day
- Catherine Grey

7. Remembrance,
Lanlivery
Churchyard -
Caroline
Stephenson