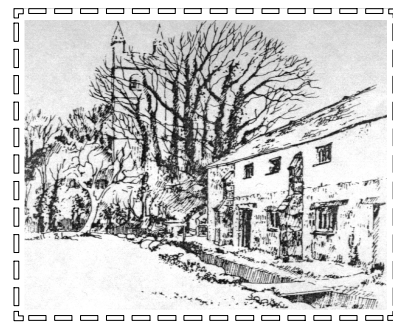




THE POUNDSTOCK PACKET

KERNOW BYS VYKEN !



POUNDSTOCK REVEL

Frantic preparations are in full swing, as Revd. George Rowe struggles to decipher the notes he made for the opening speech, Jen Spettigue scans the horizon for any signs of potential visitors and Chris Spettigue finds a moment for quiet meditation before the hectic work ahead. A report on Poundstock Revel 2009 can be found on page 9, and more photos appear on page 7.

POUNDSTOCK BRIDES Married at St. Winwaloe

Karla Shaw, granddaughter of Joyce and Peter
Marfleet married Matthew Kenney on 28th March

* Madeline Jones, daughter of Liz and Graham,
* married Matthew Cartwright from Wollongong N.S Wales
* On 7th February



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No. 37 June/July 2009

DIARY DATES**June**

- 4 Cornwall Council & European parliamentary Elections
 4-6 Royal Cornwall Show, Wadebridge
 9 Marhamchurch WI A taste of the Caribbean 7.30pm
 11 Jacobstow WI History of Widemouth Bay 7.30pm
 19 Bude Community Cinema, The Boy in Striped Pyjamas,
 Parkhouse Centre, 7.30 pm

July

- 8 Summer Concert Poundstock Gildhouse 7.30pm
 9 Jacobstow WI Bee Keeping 7.30pm
 10 Bude Community Cinema *The Kite Runner*
 Parkhouse Centre 7.30pm
 12 Callington Community Gospel Choir, Bude Methodist Church 7pm
 14 Marhamchurch WI From Sheep to Cloth 7.30pm
 31 St.Gennys & District Horticultural Exhibition, Legion Hall .3.30pm

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 Parish council clerk: Lynn Pluess 01288 361368
 County Councillor: Bob Booker 01288 341221
 Jacobstow WI president: Mrs. J. Spettigue 01288 361525
 Marhamchurch WI president: Mrs. M. Jeffery 01288 361609
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June 9th A Taste of the Caribbean

By Alison Gribble

July 14 From Sheep to Cloth

By Mrs. Goodswen

JACOBSTOW W.I.

Meetings

June 11th History of Widemouth Bay

Talk by Guy Rowland

July 9th Bee Keeping

Talk by Edward Old

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and Forabury Churches, Boscastle

July 23rd President's Evening,

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DRESSING ST NEOTS WELL

THANK YOU FROM PAT GRIFFITHS

A great big thank you to all the people who supported me on Saturday 25th April at the Primrose Foundation Garden Party held at my home at Widemouth Bay. Despite the weather, the gale force wind, heavy showers and losing a Gazebo, it was a great success. My idea at the beginning was to raise £175 for one bi-opsy needle for one woman to be diagnosed. Now thanks to donations and people's support so many more women can be helped.

The total raised with donations still coming in is an amazing £1550.

Pat Griffiths Clover, Marine Drive Widemouth Bay Bude, Cornwall EX230AQ

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glyn.bude@googlemail.com

CUTTING DOWN

Our operational year runs from June to May for subscribers and advertisers. Jen Spettigue has been busy getting the support of advertisers for the year, which starts with this issue. It's not surprising that some businesses have not been in a position to renew their advertisements. Although we have been fortunate enough to obtain a few new advertisers, the result is that we have had to cut our size back to 22 pages.

In spite of our slightly smaller size, I hope that you find our pages full of interest and information.

This would be a good time for me to give my warmest thanks to all those, who generously make the time and effort to provide us with such a varied wealth of material.

Dudley Moore



THANK YOU FROM JEN SPETTIGUE

Thank you for your wonderful support again for Poundstock Lent Lunches 2009. We gave Stratton Hospital League of Friends £750. Our expenses were £66 to Bangors Chapel and £60 to the Gildhouse, so you all raised an amazing total of £876 in difficult times.

Thank you all. *Jen Spettigue*

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WINTER LETS CAN BE ARRANGED

Gwen was born and brought up at Langford Hele, where her father and grandfather farmed.

Was Poundstock very different when you were a child?

There was just the school and the church and the chapel and the parish hall – that's where I went as an infant, when I started school. You went across the road to the school for the juniors and seniors. With the war, there were the evacuees and we had two classes in the parish hall. But the road was very quiet then; we used to be able to walk up from the parish hall to the school in a line and we had no worry about cars.

What was school like?

There was a smaller junior room and a bigger senior room. We always had assembly every day, when we sang a hymn and had prayers, and then we always had a scripture lesson every morning, first off. We had the usual subjects: the three Rs, history, geography, science. And the girls did sewing, and knitting – we all had to knit a sock, on four needles! – and the boys did gardening. We had to take our own dinners and we used to warm our pasties on the big black stove. Later, we could have proper meals for two shillings a week. We thought that was wonderful, though it was quite a lot of money back then.

What was life like on the farm?

We had cows, chickens, pigs, a little of everything – back then that's what all farmers did. Nine or ten cows for milk, young bullocks for beef, sheep, pigs, chickens. A retailer used to come in and pick the eggs up once a week and that used to be the grocery money. Dad would walk the bullocks to Week St Mary or Stratton to the market before cattle lorries came in. I can remember when he got a tractor – that was wonderful. Before that you did all the work with a couple of horses. We grew grain and potatoes and vegetables. Hay, of course, hay and corn. And Dad liked his field of clover because he used to keep a couple of hives of bees, down in the orchard.

Everything was delivered. The baker, the butcher, the grocer, they all came to the house. The baker used to come twice a week, and on Saturdays he used to leave the bread in the milk churn at the end of the lane, so I had to go down and fetch it. We used to have two churns for the milk, and before he had the tractor Dad sometimes used to tie the milk churns on to his bicycle to take them down!

Did you have mod cons like electricity and running water?

At first it was all oil and candles. I can remember carrying the lantern around to feed the calves, evenings and mornings, in the dark. Electricity was a bit later, when we had a generator – I think I was about ten or twelve. It was wonderful to have the electric light after you'd hardly been able to see anything. You be sent up to bed at seven o'clock sharp and the candle would blow out!

We didn't have mains water until after I was married. We had a well by the house and another in the yard. I always remember, the well ran dry on our wedding day! There was a great big tank outside that collected rainwater so that was always the washing water, and so really it was just drinking water from the well. Mains water wasn't around, you see. Everyone had their own wells or a bore-hole.

What was life like?

We were lucky, it was so peaceful. The fields, all the trees, and the birds. The cuckoo used to sing all day long, down in the copse. And of course we didn't need a clock then, because you had the railway. You knew when you were milking, and you heard the twenty to eight train go up, you'd know how far on you were with your milking. Dad used to go down the field and he'd know there was a certain train he had to come in by. He never had a watch. We could see the whole length of the viaduct, from Woolstone right up to Trelay, and when family used to come and stay, when they left, we used to stand outside with a tea towel and wave them off.

Years ago people had time, time really for everything. And we were so fortunate, we had Wide-mouth. We used to go down there of an evening and have a little swim, and of course some of the family would all congregate down there, and friends as well, and then they'd have a good game of rounders very often as well as having a swim, if the weather was right. All the neighbours around were friends, everyone seemed to help everybody. Back then, there was a lot of caring. Everybody valued people. Although we had nothing we enjoyed everything. We had a happy childhood.



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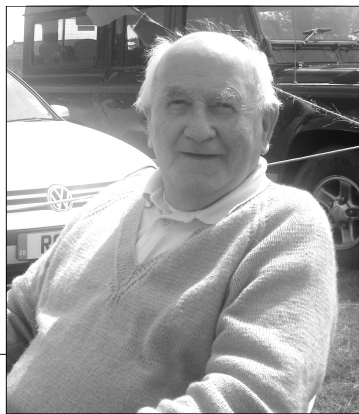


A large number of children brightened further an already brilliant sunny day. Grown ups sat and watched them racing. Then decided to have a go themselves, with varying levels of success.

Tim used his renowned powers of persuasion on the plant stall. This potential customer was struggling with the concept of buying plants to feed wildlife.



On Sunday 24th May some 35 people set out on the driest walk ever experienced to the Holy Well of St. Neot. Revd. George Rowe set them on their way and conducted the well blessing.



Ron Hicks gave invaluable help on the gate, giving visitors a bright and cheery welcome.

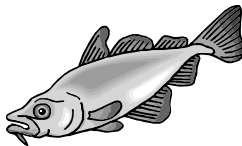
After the blessing, the well was dressed with many colourful flowers



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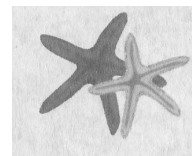
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28 Hogarth

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Poundstock Revel

The straw Panama hats were in evidence at Poundstock Revel on Whit Saturday. The sun shone across Brenda's Field to allow many people to enjoy the variety of stalls and refreshments.

The curate cared for the coconut shy, and the snails raced across their course. There wasn't a pig but you could Bowl for the Bells. You didn't need a hat to Splat the Rat nor waterproofs for the Fizzy Fishing. There was Corn bag tossing, two Tombola, and both plants and flower arrangements to buy.

Children were well catered for with face painting, biscuit decorating, and bouncing along in the Sack Races.

The event was opened by the Reverend George Rowe. Scones, cakes and tea ensured a good end to the day. As a result, over £900 was raised for Poundstock Methodist Church and the Gildhouse.

The fine weather continued into Sunday when about forty locals and visitors walked out to St Neots Holy Well for a short Celtic service and to decorate the well with flower posies, before returning back along the lane to the Gildhouse for another tea to round off an enjoyable weekend.

Thanks must go to everyone who helped both before, on, and after the event and also to all the businesses and individuals who donated prizes that allowed us to make the event so successful.

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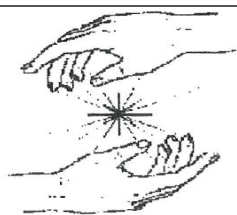
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Puzzle Verse

Can you fit the underlined words correctly into the grid?

One letter has already been entered to get you started.

I FEEL LIKE A CHANGE

by Duncan MacKellar

I've had a funny feeling,
It's been with me all day,
That maybe I could learn to fly
One sunny day in May.

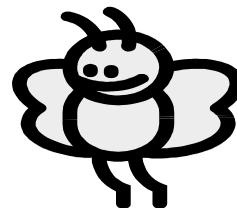
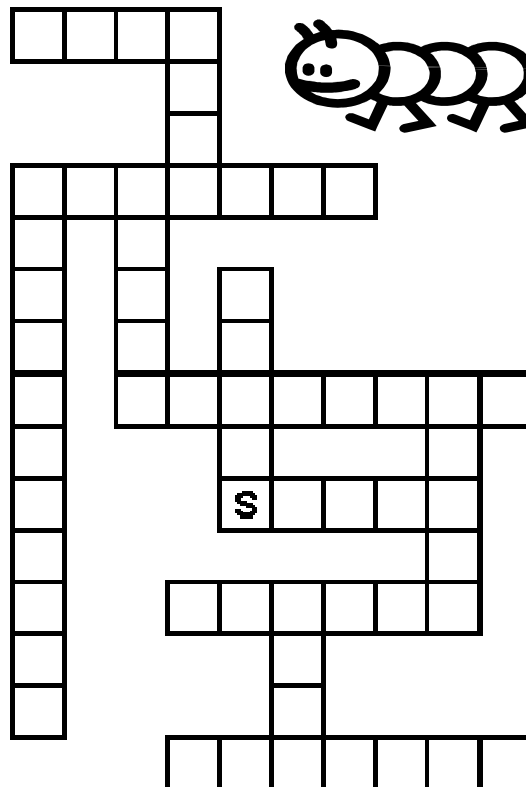
I'm only a caterpillar,
So what am I to do?
There seems no way I could fly away
And yet, I know it's true.

I don't know why I'm certain,
One day I'll reach the sky.
It's very strange but soon I'll change,
Into a handsome butterfly.

Meanwhile, I'll just take a nap,
Let's see what nature brings.
You never know, I just might grow,
Some brightly painted wings.

From the picture and clues below, can you match each clown's name with his real name and work out how long each clown has been with the circus (2, 3 or 5 years)?

1. Dodo the clown is juggling.
2. Coco has been with the circus one year longer than the clown at A.
3. Bobo's real name is Mike.
4. The clown whose real name is Tom, has been with the circus 5 years.
5. The real name of one of the clowns is Jack.



CLOWNING AROUND



A



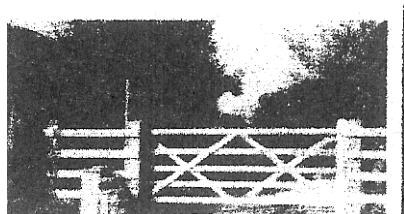
B



C

Position	Clown Name	Real Name	Years
A			
B			
C			

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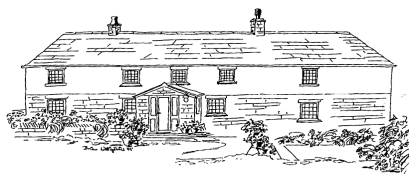
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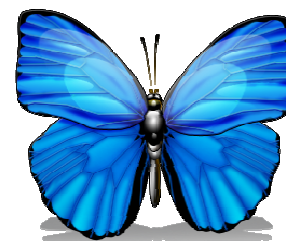
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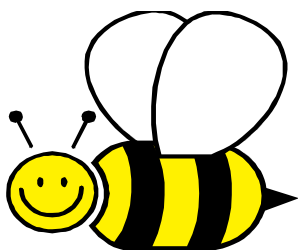
Wild About Poundstock

Walking down the lane from the church towards Millook this past week, I was really enjoying the flowers along the banks, especially the bluebells. These seem to be exceptionally good this year, almost certainly one of the pluses from the wet weather last year. With the cold earlier on the primroses seem to have lasted a long time too. On the down side, despite the quite warm spring, many of the butterflies are in low numbers. I have seen most of the species that I would expect but in some cases, just singles. While orange tips and green veined whites seem plentiful, comma, brimstone, peacock and tortoiseshell have been very scarce. One that seems numerous everywhere is the large, or cabbage white! The next group of butterflies are just starting as I write (mid May); dingy skipper, small copper, and common blue I have seen. Let's hope that things will get better, although it was the summer that was actually so bad last year.



We enjoyed a really informative (and amusing) talk about bee keeping by Graham Jones at the monthly Gildhouse talks last week. There is a lot of concern about the future of bees, mainly with problems of the Veroa mite which infests bee colonies. The problem is exacerbated by modern farming practice of monoculture crops and especially by the amount of cutting of hedges and verges (Cornwall Council take note!) reducing the amount of wild flowers through the summer. We can help with our gardens but it doesn't replace the huge nectar source once found in the general countryside. All this doom and gloom made me think about bees generally, as the majority of bee species are 'solitary bees' rather than the colonies of honey and bumblebees.

There are something like 250 species of solitary bees in Britain, many of them commonly found in gardens. They come in many groups; mining, leaf cutter, masonry, and cuckoo bees for instance. Most of these don't have complex colonies with queens and workers that raise the young. The exception to this is perhaps some of the cuckoo bees that exist as a queen who takes over a colony of bees or wasps and gets them to rear the young. Most of them dig little burrows in bare banks, mortar or dead wood in which they lay an egg with food for the larva when it hatches. Many leave a package of pollen as food but some insert a caterpillar that has been paralysed ready for the emerging pupa to eat! There's nowt so wild as nature.



Do get out and enjoy the huge variety of insects in your garden or the beautiful Poundstock countryside. There's no better sound than the buzz of summer.

Tim Dingle.

The weather report

Since the last *Packet* report our weather station in the north-east corner of the parish, two miles inland, has recorded:

	April		May (to 26th)
Wettest day	0.55 in	(27th)	0.46 in (15th)
Total rain	2.06 in		1.87 in
Days of rain	15		14
Highest temp	18.6 °C	(24th 14:20)	19.4 °C (24th 15:30)
Lowest temp	-0.9 °C	(11th 05:40)	2.1 °C (10th 06:00)
Max wind gust	33 mph	(13th 13:40)	37 mph (8th 08:10)
Windiest day	10.2 mph	(25th)	11.6 mph (26th)

In April there were only two days when the temperature fell below 0°C (11th and 12th); this compares with four days in April 2008 when the last occasion was on the 16th.

Graham Jones

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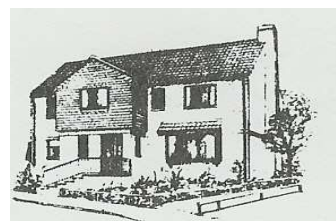
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THE WIDEMOUTH SUB-STATION SAGA

Squire Edward Mucklow left an impressive legacy in and around Widemouth Bay, as anyone who has seen the monumental structures of his farm buildings will agree. But by far the largest is the coast road from Wanson Mouth towards Upton, (the majority of which is known as Marine Drive) and the ever contentious Sand Road. These roads were built on land dedicated by Mr Mucklow over 100 years ago to replace the old coast road which was fast becoming eroded by the sea's action.

The new highways comprise a 20ft carriageway and two 20ft verges which are occasionally demarcated by drainage ditches.

Over the years, some frontagers have incorporated these verges in their own plots and are adjudged to have acquired ownership rights through adverse possession. However, contrary to their belief, they have not extinguished the right of the public to pass over their land. (This can only be done when the highway authority (now Cornwall Council) is granted a Stopping-up Order by a magistrate's court.) To avoid future argument: it is the right to pass- not to park- which still exists.

The Parish Council has been involved with Cornwall County Council over this issue ever since (and probably before 1974) local government reorganisation saw the deeds mysteriously get lost (although we still have a copy!)

What has this got to do with the electricity sub-station? you may ask. In all honesty, not a lot, but it should be put on the record that Western Power Distribution paid for the land on which they plonked the offending structure and in so doing, technically speaking, put the kybosh on any hopes to get a footway/cyclepath created along Marine Drive (week 27 of the Parish Plan).

I'm writing this because future generations may ask "What was the Council doing, allowing this to happen?". Enter now the dramatis personae. Firstly the developer who, in November 2007, was assured that the Parish Council would support any application to stop up redundant highway land provided that sufficient space was reserved for the not yet officially approved footway/cyclepath. At the Parish Council meeting, the developer annotated his drawings to comply with this objective. However, members were far from satisfied with many aspects including drainage, density, layout and use class. The plans were subsequently approved by NCDC and we are still awaiting confirmation from them that our misgivings were reported to the appropriate authorities. (There is a sewer in the road but local knowledge told us that this is a rising main- a pressurised pipe which can't be connected into. Affordable housing would not be permitted by NCDC, we were told, because this was classified as an industrial site.)

Enter now Western Power. They are required by law to provide an electricity supply to anyone who requests one. The Public Utilities Street Works Act, which dates back to the days of public ownership of the statutory undertakers, gives them the right (basically!) to put what they want where they want. In this case an employee decided that this would be a good opportunity to upgrade the electricity supply to the whole of Widemouth Bay and therefore provide a larger piece of equipment. He also decided that a box by the roadside would look better than something suspended on a couple of poles.

The final player in our saga is an officer of Cornwall County Council who held the mistaken belief that a footway was proposed on the east side of Marine Drive and accordingly insisted that the equipment should go on the west side (near where a footway already exists!)

There you have it. We have held pointless meetings (which have achieved nothing significant), talked of mass resignation or non-co-operation (which denies parishioners democratic representation, letters of protest) and the only conclusion that we can come to is that the law must be changed. I'm writing this partly as a councillor, who is obliged to attend PC meetings and partly as a resident who probably wouldn't bother because those I've voted for will see to things. I'm grateful to all those who have supported the move to "Move it", but I'm very upset that the long history of official prevarication over The Sand Road and marine Drive should have led to this unhappy state of affairs.

Rupert Powell.



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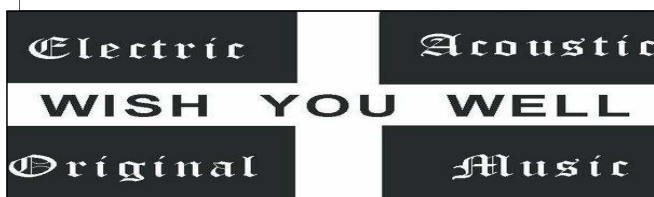


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North Cornwall enjoys some of the most wonderful scenery in Britain, and most of us feel very privileged to have it on our doorstep. The National Trust has ensured that we get as much access as possible to our coastline for our greater enjoyment. The Trust also ensures that our national heritage is kept alive, as does the Landmark Trust.

Periodically these organisations have had the problem of dealing with people suffering injuries at their historical sites. To what extent, you may ask, do they have to worry about paying out compensation? The Occupiers Liability Act 1957 requires an occupier to take reasonable care that a visitor “will be reasonably safe in using the premises for the purposes for which he is invited or permitted by the Occupier to be there”. So what happens when, as with the National Trust and the Landmark Trust, the location is a historical monument, or another place of intrinsic “social value”?

Well, the courts do exercise a high modicum of common sense in such circumstances. They have ruled for a long time that different standards have to be applied when historical buildings and old sites are involved. Three decisions highlight this common sense approach.

In the 1995 case of *Staples*, the claimant fell from a famous and very old harbour wall. The sea spray had made it slippery. The Court of Appeal held that it was an obvious risk that the wall would be slippery, so there was no existing duty under the Occupiers Liability Act. The appeal judges were at pains to emphasise that the harbour wall was a major tourist attraction and that the claimant was only using it for a recreational walk.

In the 2003 case of *Tomlinson*, the claimant was injured when he dived into a lake in a historic park. Again, the occupier was held by the court not to be liable for his injuries. The court said you have to look at the “social value of the activity which gives rise to the risk and the cost of preventative measures”.

In the case of *Hunt* in 2008, Mrs Hunt injured her ankle when going down into the crypt of Ripon Cathedral. The steps were centuries old and very well worn. Again, the court held that the cathedral was not liable.

So, when premises, like the above, have a “social value” these principles are applied:-

1. Visitors and users should not have unrealistic expectations of floor surfaces or the surroundings of an ancient monument.
2. If the risks are plainly obvious to a reasonable observer, then the occupier has no obligation to warn visitors of the risks.
3. When the court decides whether duties under the Occupiers Liability Act have been followed, it will look at (1) the risk of injury, (2) the level of injury, (3) the cost of preventative action, and (4) the social value of the activity.

“Social value” has no statutory definition, but to assess what it involves, the court will look at the beneficial purpose of the enterprise, the extent to which the public at large benefits, and, of course, visitor numbers. The Compensation Act 2006 now gives statutory recognition to the principles I have outlined in the 3 cases give above. The court can now take into account the extent to which a legal duty would “prevent a desirable activity from being undertaken” or “discourage persons from undertaking functions in connection with a desirable activity”. *John Busby, Busbys Solicitors, Bude.*

Our Sky in June 2009

As we approach mid-summer, the skies struggle to be really dark and, instead of looking at the stars, you might keep a look-out for the Noctilucent clouds which can sometimes be seen shining 50 miles high in the northern sky, lit by the sun as it skirts just below the northern horizon. They resemble cirrus clouds which are at least 9 miles lower, and sometimes show waves and iridescence.

Saturn sets at about midnight in the west, whilst Jupiter and Venus continue to greet early risers in the South-east and East.

By the time you read this, the Atlantis Space Shuttle should have completed the repair of the Hubble Space Telescope. If it has been successful, NASA hopes that the upgrades will extend Hubble’s life for another 5 years.

This space telescope has given us greater insights into the Universe than all the data gathered since Galileo turned his primitive telescope towards the Moon. Because it is above the atmosphere, it is able to gather information which is normally blocked by the blanket of air which shields us from the more damaging radiation from the Sun and outer space. Together with orbiting telescopes which study the other regions of the electromagnetic spectrum – Infra-red, Ultra-violet, and X-Ray, our knowledge of the Universe increases on a daily basis; however, it has been the spectacular optical images that Hubble has sent back that have captured the imagination of us all by their breathtaking beauty.

The update of Hubble has been partially designed to fill the gap between now and the launch of the James Webb telescope in 2014. The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) will be a large infrared telescope with a 6.5-meter primary mirror, and will be the premier space observatory of the next decade. It will study every phase in the history of our Universe, ranging from the first luminous glows after the Big Bang, to the formation of solar systems capable of supporting life on planets like Earth, to the evolution of our own Solar System.

We are grateful to the astronauts who have undertaken these extraordinarily difficult and dangerous repairs to Hubble, and we look forward with eager anticipation to the new information that will result from their work.

Bill Turnill

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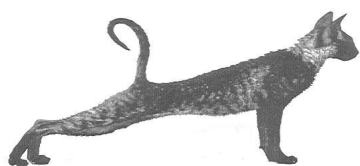
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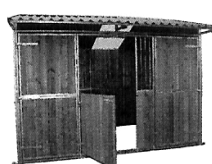


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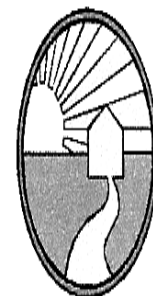
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Councillor Report Local Need Housing

Tight planning controls, the sale of council houses without their replacement and the increase in second homes have prevented young families from staying in the parishes, where they grew up.

Last year Mathew Taylor MP reviewed the rural economy and local need housing. The Government responded to this report in March, and agreed with the vast majority of Mathew's recommendations. The government didn't support Mr Taylor's view that houses with full residential occupancy rights should require planning permission to become second homes. This report shows great support for Parish Plans and how they could be used by local communities to control their housing need. It also supports the development of rural employment. The County's Overview and Scrutiny Committee have supported the report and recommended that its contents should be followed by the new council during the development of the county wide Local Development Framework.

Local need housing has been the responsibility of district councils but the additional second homes council tax raised by the county council was passed back to the district councils to help projects like the four local need houses in Marhamchurch built by Cornwall Rural Housing Association.

Mathew Taylor's report could give small villages self control of local need housing developments similar to this to be built in rural villages. (As small as two or three houses)

Last year Cornwall County Council developed a Community Land Trust Umbrella to help parishes develop their own local need housing. Included in Westminster's response to the Taylor Review were Community Land Trusts as a way forward for small communities to control the size and occupancy of rural developments.

Such developments could only happen if a community could show that there was a local need, and that it was the wishes of the local population for such development to take place.

Councillor: Bob Booker

Poundstock Gildhouse Events

Wednesday open days

Throughout the summer the Gildhouse is open every Wednesday for visitors to drop in and look around this historic Tudor building and find out about its place in village history. Opening times are 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Wednesday events

The Gildhouse is organising monthly events for all interested residents and visitors. These all start at 7:30 pm and the usual charge of £2 will include refreshments.

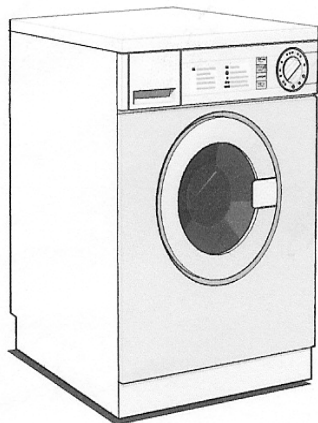
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| 8 July | Summer concert |
| 12 August | Cornwall World Heritage sites – an illustrated talk by Adam Paynter. |
| 9 September | Quiz night. Teams of no more than 6. £3 per head includes food, BYO wine. |
| 14 October | Annual social event for the Friends of Poundstock Gildhouse |

For more information see the Gildhouse website or phone Gail on 01288 341537.

Family Tudor Day 13 August

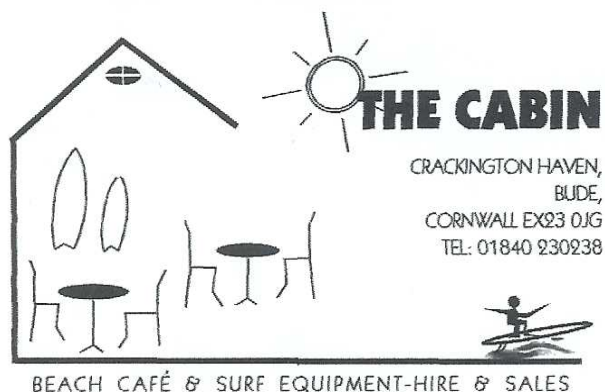
This is the second family day organised for adults and children (age 5 and over) in response to the success of the school Tudor Days. All participants will have an opportunity to be a Tudor for a day, dressing up and taking part in typical activities from the Gildhouse of 500 years ago, including bread and (ginger) beer-making and Tudor dancing. The cost of £5 per head includes a light lunch. There are a limited number of places; please book through the Tourist Information Centre at Boscastle, tel. 01840 250010.

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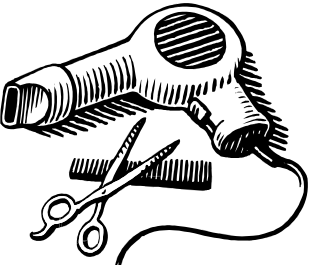


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