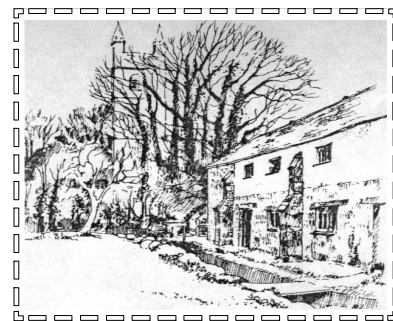




# THE POUNDSTOCK PACKET

KERNOW BYS VYKEN !



## Tim, Tate and Cath triumph at the Pumpkin Festival



Tim Dingle's 'Scary Face' carved pumpkin won the senior cup in the annual competition at Poundstock Craft Fair and Pumpkin Festival. The judge (Rev'd George Rowe) preferred the extremely well carved and traditional face to the Cornish content of Liz Jones' carving of a beam engine, the Cornish flag and 'Kernow bys vyken' (a blatant but ultimately unsuccessful attempt to curry favour), which he placed second.

The judge found it equally difficult to choose the winner in the junior category, where there were several ingenious entries, but after long deliberation he chose Tate Elsey's carved and decorated head as the champion. Tate had used a modelling clay nose and chocolate eyes together with his grandmother's old wedding hat to produce a wonderful pumpkin head.

The winner of the heaviest pumpkin was much easier to establish, Cath Hill's champion 49½ lb monster was almost twice as heavy as the runner-up.

Whether you judge it by the number of visitors or the amount of money raised, the 2009 Craft Fair and Pumpkin Festival was the most successful yet. The craft stalls filled the church and Gildhouse, and this year saw an expansion to include local produce and foodstuffs. Another innovation was the pair of beautiful young alpacas in the churchyard. They were from Bowden Alpacas of Stratton, whose stall showed what wonderful yarns can be produced from alpaca fleece.

Over the two days a total of £850 was taken, which will contribute to church and Gildhouse funds.



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## December

## January

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6.0–7.30 pm BROWNIES 01566 781234)  
7.0–8.30 pm GUIDES

Thursday: 6.30–8.0 pm SCOUTS

(Daphne Dowling 01288 352786)

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## LOCAL CONTACTS

MP: Dan Rogerson 01566 777123  
Parish council chairman: Colin Gilbert 01288 361894  
Parish council clerk: Lynn Pluess 01288 361368  
County Councillor: Phil Tucker 01288 341617  
Jacobstow WI president: Mrs. J. Spettigue 01288 361525  
Marhamchurch WI president: Mrs. K. Reed 01288 361160  
Poundstock Ladies Skittles: W. Orchard 01288 361653  
Tilleys coaches: 01840 230244  
Hookways Jennings coaches: 01288 352259  
National childline: 0800 1111  
Police—non emergency 08452 777 444  
Floodline 0845 9881188  
Citizens Advice Bureau: 01288 354531  
Cornwall Council: 0300 1234 100  
Doctors' surgery: Neetside 01288 356809  
Stratton 01288 352133  
Boscastle: 01840 250209  
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Tuesday	10.00am–1.00pm
Friday	10.00am–1.00pm

## MARHAMCHURCH W.I.

## Meetings

8 December Christmas Party

12 January John O'Groats to Lands End

By David Arney

## JACOBSTOW WI

## Meetings

10 December Christmas Party

## 14 January Cookery Demonstration

By Marion Reason

Other events in December  
Stamford Group Carol Service  
Outing to Cothele

## Poundstock Gildhouse

can be hired for any event  
from meetings and parties  
to meals and receptions.

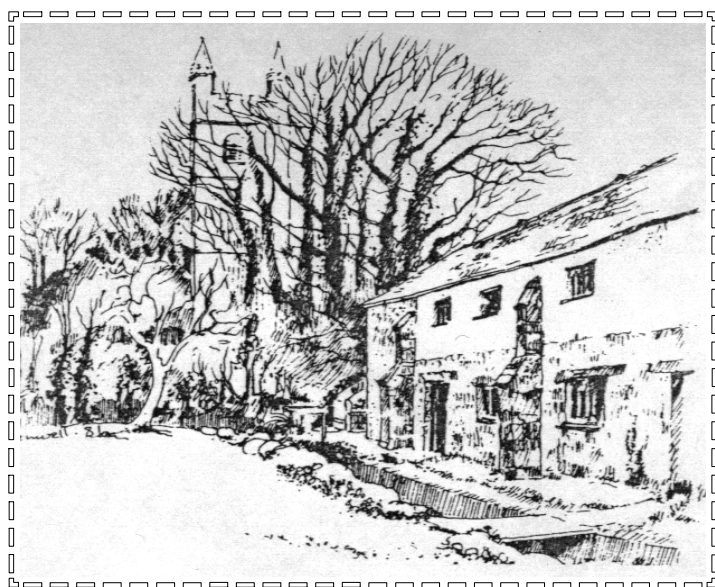
For details, visit

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or contact 01288 341537

## POUNDSTOCK PARISH HALL

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### POUNDSTOCK CAROL SINGERS

Will be touring the parish this yuletide and will welcome anyone who would like to join us. We will meet at Bangors Chapel car park at 6pm on Monday 7th December. Bring a torch, song-sheets provided.

Seasonal refreshments to follow.

**Collection in aid of Children's Hospice SW**

### CONCERT

Bangors Chapel 3pm Sunday December 13th

**COLLECTION FOR CHILDREN'S CHARITIES**

Followed by tea @ £3

### The Poundstock Packet on the web!

From 1 January 2010, the Packet will have its own website.

Visit [www.poundstockpacket.org.uk](http://www.poundstockpacket.org.uk) for current and past issues, local pictures and up-to-the-minute diary dates



Guy and Pat Rowland and family would like to wish all relations, and friends who read the Packet, a blessed and peaceful Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.



A Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year to all our friends in Poundstock from Jen and Chris Spettigue

Greetings of the Season to Friends and Relatives, and to the dedicated few who work to publish The Poundstock Packet.  
From Don Sutton



Pat and Dudley Moore wish all our friends in Poundstock the warmth of the true Christmas spirit and a fulfilling New Year

A very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year to all our friends in Poundstock.  
Joyce and Peter Marfleet

The children and staff of Jacobstow Primary School would like to wish everyone in Poundstock and

area a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year.



donations in lieu of cards amounting to £60 have been sent to the Children's Hospice South West.



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## **Councillor's Report**

## **Rural Communities**

I have instigated an enquiry to best maintain the sustainability of our rural communities. This will look at the rural shops, garages and schools and the requirements for these in the future. How can the Council help local services remain? I expect you will read about these issues in the local press as we discuss each issue but I will write regular updates and the conclusions we draw. Particularly though we will be concentrating on the retail outlets and Post Offices. Other community services will be addressed later. This is because the funding for Post Offices is being changed again in 2011 and we must have robust plans ready for this date.

I have also asked our committee to look at the beach cleanliness and in particular the discharges made from sewage works. This action of emergency discharge of sewage, although permitted in times of extreme wet weather, has increased over the recent years. We will be scrutinising the actions of all companies which might discharge waste into either the sea or rivers.

## **Children's Services**

Children's services have had a very disappointing (for want of another word) review by the Ofsted auditors. Quite correctly in my view the Head of that service has resigned. People in charge of such important areas must be accountable for their actions. Sally Bain, the Portfolio holder has already made many changes and I would expect the next audit to show much improvement.

I want to say though that I have a great respect for the hard work being done by the 'field' operatives. They have been doing a hard job really well and perhaps without the support due to them. Although their work was criticised because of the structure and support I feel I must just say that these people have been brilliant in their care and commitment. They are regularly attacked, both verbally and physically, while doing their work and while we hear of the auditor's remarks, in the media, we don't often hear of the many successes, won every day, by these Council staff that protect our young people from some very nasty and devious adults.

## **Swine Flu**

The number of people contracting Swine Flu has risen significantly over the last three months and although instances have dropped slightly recently it is expected to rise again. Please speak to your doctor if you are vulnerable or your health is slightly below par. Please also convince friends and family to do the same. The Swine flu is a nasty little bug which can seriously affect those in the groups I mentioned. The vaccine gives very mild symptoms and won't knock you off your feet like the actual swine flu.

## **On any issue**

If the usual avenues are not working for you, please contact me. I am constantly in contact with most agencies and can help with most problems or issues.

Cllr Phil Tucker 01288 341617 ([philip.tucker@homecall.co.uk](mailto:philip.tucker@homecall.co.uk))

## **At the Gildhouse**

The Gildhouse is continuing the successful and enjoyable series of community events begun last year, beginning with a Poundstock Community Christmas Quiz on 13 January. This will be followed by a series of talks and demonstrations on a whole range of subjects, all at 7.30pm on the following Wednesdays: 10 March, 12 May, 14 July, 8 September. Planning is in the final stages as the Packet goes to press, so watch this space for more details and don't forget to put the dates in your new diary.

If you're nifty with a needle, quick with a kettle, or just a friendly soul who'd be happy to show someone round the church or Gildhouse, we need you! Come and join in with a whole range of activities, from making and repairing costumes for the Tudor Days to providing a welcome cuppa for visitors. For more details contact Sandy Dingle, 01288 361356.

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## Congratulations Poundstock, we have a Village Green!

Two years ago the residents of Bangors Green, decided to apply to register the green area in the centre of the estate as 'Village Green', this being allowed under Section 15 of The Commons Act 2006. The decision to take this action was made after an NCDC official mentioned, at a meeting with residents, that the area in question was owned by NCDC and that the council might consider building on the space at some future date. Village Green status would protect the area from development. I am pleased to report that our application was approved on the 15<sup>th</sup> October 2009.

Village Green status, however, does much more than just reduce the risk of development. It also means that the green is now a PARISH resource, where all Poundstock residents can indulge in lawful sports and pastimes. These might include organized, or ad-hoc games, picnics, charity events, open air church services, table top sales, brass band concerts, fetes and similar activities.

The registration process is quite complex and was not made any easier by local government bureaucracy and its talent for constructive inertia. The constant prevarication made a process that should not have taken any longer than 6 months to complete, into a two year, uphill struggle. You will realize what an accomplishment this is, when I tell you that of all the many hundreds of village green applications that have been submitted in Cornwall, the Poundstock Village Green application is only the 54<sup>th</sup> to be successful - Hooray for perseverance !

So, we have a Village Green - where do we go from here ?

The Green does need some small improvements ( benches, trees and a bit of drainage) before it can be seriously considered a proper village green and a real asset to the community. To this end, we are looking to set up, under the watchful eye of the parish council, a small committee made up of a parish council representative and representatives from interested groups in the parish - churches, Bangors Residents Association, youth groups, charity groups etc. This group to meet every couple of months, or so - it's brief to research and chase funding that may be available to improve this potentially great community asset.

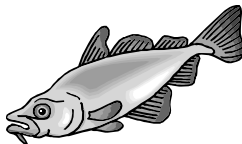
The granting of village green status to this space means that, for the first time, the parish of Poundstock has a real Village Green, available for everyone to use. If you have any ideas at all, as to how your group, or family could use the space, please come and use it, or watch this space for information on how you can join the Village Green Improvement Group.

We are looking forward to handing over the approved 'Village Green Registration Document ' to the Parish Council at a small ceremony on a date yet to be agreed. In the mean time - congratulations, we have a real Village Green. Let's all enjoy it!  
Bud Abbott - Bangors Green Residents Association

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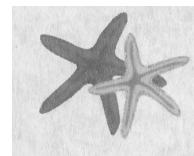
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# CHURCHES

9



## ST WINWALOE POUNDSTOCK

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01288 341134

### Wardens:

Peter Marfleet 01288 361233

Sandy Dingle 01288 361356

1st Sunday 9.45 Holy Communion

2nd Sunday 11.00 Family Worship

3rd Sunday 9.45 Holy Communion

4th Sunday 9.45 Morning Prayer (1662)

Christmas Day 9.45 Holy Communion

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01288 361664

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Wednesdays 8.30 am

Fridays 5 pm Evensong

## BANGORS METHODIST CHAPEL

Circuit minister: Rev. Neal Street  
01288 352404

Services 11.00 a.m. Sundays

December

January

6 Stacey

3 Street Covenant

13 Street S US

10 US at St Winwaloe

20 M Street

17 Hodges

27 LA or Bude

24 B. Stacey

31 N. Street

Dec 31 6pm Circuit Service M. Street

Dec 13 3pm Concert, collection for  
Children's Charities. Tea £3

## DIMMA METHODIST CHAPEL

Lay pastoral assistant: Brian Parkman 01840 212736

Contact: Audrey Wickett 01840 230268

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' All welcome

## MONTHLY EXCHANGE SERVICES IN POUNDSTOCK

The last year has seen our joint services established on a regular basis. It has been a successful year and we have all enjoyed sharing in the worship of the community together, and alternating the place in which we meet. We learned a lot about our calendars, when a couple of hitches arose. However these were ironed out without too much trouble and we have now established the pattern which will be in use next year.

We offer everybody a warm invitation to join us on those Sundays; we are a friendly, welcoming group of folk, who enjoy sharing worship together. It is good to share worship regularly, as well as other community activities. Surely we should be coming together to share all that we believe, not only with our regular friends, but with all the people who make up our community. Why not come and join us?

May I send my best wishes and every blessing for Christmas to all readers.

*Rev G*

**2010**

At St. Winwaloe

At Bangors Chapel

January 10th	February 14th
March 14th	April 11th
May 9th	June 13th
July 11th	August 14th
September 12th	October 10th
November 14th	December 12th

## **"I do not know the path ahead, the way I cannot see....."**

So goes the old hymn. I am writing this in November, for the next issue of The Poundstock Packet. So when you read this, yet another new year may well have begun. I wonder how you see the future? For some it bears only casual thought. For others the thought of the journey is troubling at the least, and terrifying at worst.

The only certain thing we can say about the future is that it will arrive, with all its challenges and blessings.

The New Testament records Jesus' saying that we should only worry about today .... tomorrow will look after itself. That's easier said than done. That's why I think it's great to belong to communities. One of the privileges of being part of the Christian church is that we can support each other in prayerful and practical ways. We all, of course, know how great it is to belong to a village community like our own. Yes, everyone knows our business! But also there is a level of care and concern that can only be dreamed of in larger conurbations.

In this new-year, the church community commits itself, again, to pray for you.

The hymn ends: "but one stands near, who'll be my guide, He'll show the way to me. I know who holds the future and He'll guide me with His hand." I find great comfort in that.

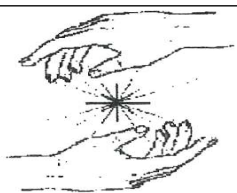
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## We are the Champions!

A very exciting event happened on November 4<sup>th</sup> at Budehaven Community School; the football team from Jacobstow Primary School WON the football tournament competing against teams from the other feeder primary schools to Budehaven!!!

When you are only a small school and especially when you only have 11 year 5/6 children it is very difficult to beat the bigger schools with a greater school population to draw upon for their sports teams, and so, when we won the tournament beating, Stratton in the final, we were absolutely thrilled to bits and very proud of our team of champions.

A huge thank you and well done to the team and also to their coach, dad, Pete Feehan.



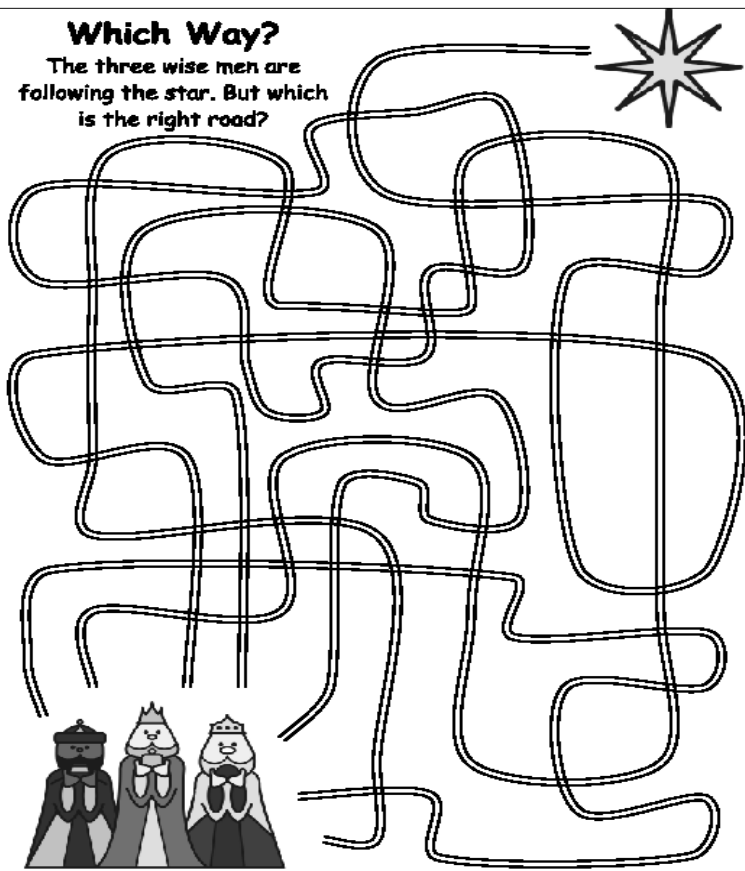
## Christmas Word Search



m	h	z	b	x	i	z	h	i	k	y	p
e	q	t	c	c	l	s	t	a	r	k	r
r	h	i	r	h	l	n	h	c	j	x	e
r	o	m	s	e	r	g	q	m	j	c	s
y	l	l	c	a	e	i	p	i	p	i	e
p	l	r	a	j	u	v	s	s	h	v	n
j	y	k	r	u	w	x	e	t	y	v	t
g	k	i	o	h	r	w	u	l	m	c	s
x	n	z	l	p	e	e	y	e	j	a	a
l	v	r	s	g	a	o	l	t	n	s	s
s	a	n	t	a	t	v	z	o	h	i	m
v	w	t	x	h	h	b	g	e	m	z	t

## Which Way?

The three wise men are following the star. But which is the right road?



merry

christmas

carols

holly

santa

presents

tree

star

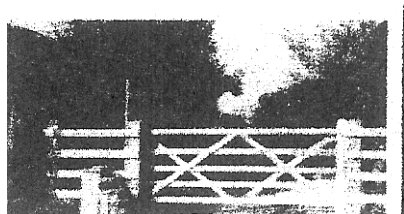
mistletoe

wreath





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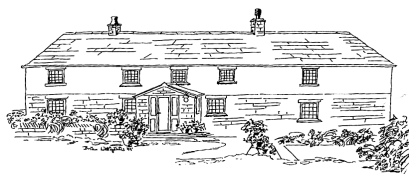
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### Memories of Poundstock Christmas Past.

In the 1920s Poundstock Church Gildhouse was the social centre of the village. It was a time when most of the families around knew each other, having lived there for generations. It was the centre of communal events and I remember a Christmas party at the Gildhouse where my uncle, Frank Greenwood, was Father Christmas. Children lined up to receive a gift from his sack. To my great disappointment I received a fountain pen when I would have much preferred a toy or sweets. A piano and violin provided music; Dorothy Henwood from the family that ran the forge at Treskinnick Cross and George Ferrett sang a duet. George had a good tenor voice and he and Uncle Frank were part of a Christmas Carol group that toured the district. The group would stop and sing at a big house or farm where people were gathered and after a few carols the carolers would be invited in for a Christmas drink, then on they went to the next stop where they followed the same procedure. I understand their harmony and volume improved as the evening wore on.

Christmas dinner always seemed to be goose. I didn't mind because they were aggressive birds and I always gave them a wide berth when crossing the farm yard. They were liable to run at you with head down and neck extended. Dessert was Christmas pudding that followed the fascinating procedure of having brandy poured over it and set alight. As children, we weren't fond of the pudding's taste but the incentive for eating it was that you may be lucky and find a silver sixpence in your helping. Most of the children were lucky.

My Uncle Frank was one of the older members of my mother's family. Frank joined the army towards the end of WWI and I was fascinated by his few war stories. One was about the first Christmas after the war started, which happened some years before he was actually in the army. I did not fully appreciate hearing about it until I was more mature. It was the first Christmas Day of WWI in 1914. Along a small area of Flanders on the Western Front the fighting stopped and the combatants got out of their trenches and played football. I learned later that what really happened was that the British trench sentries saw glimmers of light coming from the edge of the German trenches and sounds of a carol being sung; 'Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht', which the British recognized as "Silent Night, Holy Night". It was Christmas Eve and by some spontaneous feeling of goodwill the men were soon out fraternizing and exchanging gifts, singing folk songs and applauding each other. The officers agreed to clear the dead that were strewn across the no-mans land between the trenches and have burial services on Christmas morning. The officers from each side also agreed to have no shooting until the following midnight. Later, on Christmas Day, there were some impromptu games of football with crowds of men playing on both sides. No one disliked anybody during that truce. At the end of the truce Captains on both sides got out onto the parapets, bowed and saluted, got back into their trenches, fired a few shots in the air and the Peace on Earth, that Christmas is all about, was over.

The British High Command was extremely displeased by the fraternizing with the enemy.

*Don Sutton*

### THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION NEEDS SUPPORT

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### **Poundstock**

#### **Community Christmas Concert**

Thursday December 17th @ 7.30

in St Winwaloe's Church

Followed by seasonal refreshments  
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A warm Victorian style start to the Christmas  
Festivities

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## Our Sky in December 2009

About the middle of the month, Jupiter will be setting in the South West, while Orion will be fully visible in the South East, and will dominate the Southern sky throughout the winter months. Saturn will be rising in the East at midnight, following Mars which rises at about 9 pm; Mars is brightening now, and will be visible during the winter months as a distinctly orange, non-twinkling 'star' in the south very close to the constellation of Leo the lion. We have lost Venus in the glare of the Sun, and she will not be readily visible until April in the evening sky.

Last month I promised to tell you about the results of the experiment in which scientists crashed a Centaur rocket into a Moon crater that is permanently in shadow, hoping that the LCROSS (NASA's Lunar CRater Observation and Sensing Satellite) spacecraft following the Centaur would detect signs of water in the plume of material produced by the impact.

Plunging headlong into Cabeus crater, the nine LCROSS instruments successfully captured each phase of the impact sequence: the impact flash, the ejecta plume, and the creation of the Centaur crater.

With the spacecraft returning data until virtually the last second, the thermal and near-infrared cameras returned excellent images of the Centaur impact crater at a resolution of less than 6.5 feet (2 m). The images indicate that the crater was about 92 feet (28 m) wide.

The magnitude, form, and visibility of the debris plume add additional information about the concentrations and state of the material at the impact site. There was a clear indication of a plume of vapour and fine debris, but the ejecta brightness appeared to be at the low end of predictions and this may be a clue to the properties of the material the Centaur struck.

LCROSS also captured emissions and absorption spectra across the Centaur impact flash in both mid-infrared (MIR) thermal cameras over a couple of seconds and also using an ultra-violet/visible spectrometer. The temperature of the flash provides valuable information about the composition of the material at the impact site, different materials releasing or absorbing energy at specific wavelengths that are measurable by the spectrometers.

Astronomers had hoped that the impact would have produced a plume visible from the Earth but, in this, they were disappointed; however, the LCROSS scientists are pleased with the results of the experiment, but we must wait until the normal scientific review process has been completed before the final data is released. I hope to let you know these results in due course.

*Bill Turnill*

### **The weather report**

Since the last *Packet* report our weather station in the NE of the parish, two miles inland, has recorded:

	<b>October</b>		<b>November (to 28th)</b>	
Wettest day	1.17 in	(21st)	0.62 in	(7th)
Total rain	3.27 in		7.63 in	
Days of rain	15		26	
Highest temp	19.7 °C	(5th 14:20)	16.9 °C	(1st 08:10)
Lowest temp	-0.1 °C	(17th 08:10)	-0.5 °C	(9th 07:50)
Max wind gust	32 mph	(27th 09:20)	46 mph	(14th 14:10)
Windiest day	10.0 mph	(3rd)	16.2 mph	(4th)
Predominant wind direction	SE		W	

You don't need me to tell you that November has been wet! However, did you know that the 7½ in of rain so far this month is over 3 in more than the November average for Bude from 1971 to 2000? But the previous month's total rainfall of 3¼ in was nearly ¾ in less than the average for October. Just shows how strange the weather is!

*Graham Jones*

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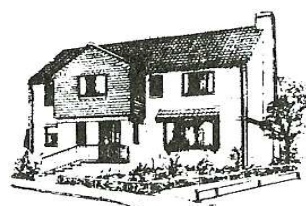
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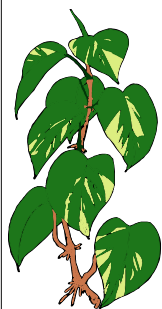
### Wild About Poundstock

The church is left bare of flowers during Advent, the period leading up to Christmas. This is to allow a period of reflection before the celebration of Christmas. It also makes the decorations of Christmas that much brighter. I suspect that it's a bit of realism because before imported and hot-house flowers there were very few available to decorate the church!

This is true of the wild flowers as well. Although in Cornwall there is often the odd primrose or last ditch red campion about, mostly the plants are resting ready for the burst into life next spring. However, there are always berries around, giving colour to the hedges, and maybe the church. They also give food for the birds and small mammals.

Along the hedges there is the deep red of hawthorn, the frosted blue of the sloe, the vibrant pink of spindle, and in the woods, 'the holly bears the crown'. While the trees are mostly showing their bare bones, the holly continues to shine with its glossy leaves. Only the female trees will have the rich red berries. If you look at an older tree, often only the lower branches have the severe prickles as a defence against browsing by deer or cattle.

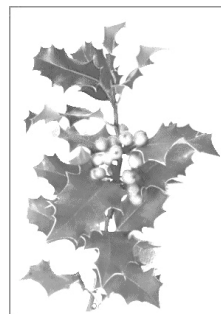
Ivy is one of our most important trees – or is it a shrub? As we know, it uses other trees, or buildings, to get its head in the air, the trunk and branches having suckers to cling to its companion. It doesn't feed on the tree, merely 'leans' on it. Ivy does no harm to its host. Yes, the extra weight may end up bringing the whole lot down, but only because the host was already weak.



Ivy flowers at the end of the summer and into autumn, bringing welcome late nectar to many insects. Then of course, its berries are ripe in February when there is little else left for the wildlife. Many insects, such as brimstone butterflies, some queen bees, and ladybirds will shelter deep among the branches through the winter. Tawny owls will often use the camouflage during the day, away from pestering small birds, while some of those small birds will be glad of the shelter at night.

So winter isn't entirely devoid of plant pleasures, and holly and ivy give a chance to do something different in the way of church decoration too.

*Tim Dingle*



### BEWARE THE PITFALL OF SHARED EQUITY

Homes in the West Country are among the most expensive in the UK. How do our children get on the property ladder? One of the few ways available to low income families is to go for shared ownership. First time buyers in particular see this as their only hope unless they rent.

Typically, a young couple will take out a mortgage to buy a share (eg.75%) of the property. The other 25% remains the property of the co-owner, usually a housing association. The young couple pay rent on that 25%. When they find the money, the young couple can then buy out the remaining 25% till they own the property outright.

But what happens if they don't pay the rent, and fall into arrears? This happened to Miss Richardson who fell into arrears on two months' rental payments. She owned 50% of the property as a shared owner. She was taken to court and she defended the other shared owner's claim for possession. She argued she should at least be entitled to 50% of the subsequent proceeds of sale. After all, she argued, the property was subject to a trust in which she had a 50% stake. No said the Court. It held there was no trust in which she had a share. The court awarded her nothing.

Is this harsh? Yes it is, and I understand she is trying to appeal. But as the law presently stands, a lessee who fails to pay the rent on the part they do not own, could end up losing their entire investment. So beware.

**John Busby**





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## WIDEMOUTH BAY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

We held our pre Christmas meeting on November 18th at the Summerhouse. Councillor Phil Tucker kindly attended and took note of many concerns and gave us information about various council issues. Of great importance is the news that the beach ranger service is safe - there was concern it might be scrapped by the unitary authority as we were the only part of Cornwall to have it, but our fears were groundless, as their valuable contribution has been acknowledged.

Also of interest was news about recycling in the county. This is one of Mr Tucker's main concerns as he serves on the committee for it. All the holiday camps in the county will provide recycling facilities from next season and more bins will be available county- wide, as the need is patently there.

Mr Tucker also promised to look into various planning issues of concern, and has already raised the worries about illegal overnight parking in the car parks with the appropriate department and will report back.

The Fish and Chip Supper will have taken place by the time you read this, but our next meeting is January 20th. Please come to support us - we are doing this to try to raise your concerns with the right people!

*Nicky Vereker*

A dozen people filled The Summerhouse, Widemouth Bay, on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Nov. to hear Barbara Lake recount her experiences as a live-in teacher at Whitstone Head which caters for very special needs children, latterly from a wide area. She told how she gave cookery lessons in her own kitchen before Sue Dickenson got a proper one built. Whitstone Head was built in 1880 for Edward Mucklow (of Marine Drive fame) and among the interesting exhibits Barbara brought was a 1907 auctioneer's catalogue listing all the late squire's effects. A programme of fortnightly talks and activities until Easter will be found on the nearby new notice board.

### Public Consultation

As a relatively junior member of Poundstock Parish Council (in service, if not in years), I hope my fellow councillors will excuse me if I lift the lid on some of the frustrations which we share in our endeavours to do what's best for the place we hold so dear.

Firstly, none of us wanted a unitary authority in Cornwall and were sorry to lose one democratic facet of local government. That said, Cllr Tucker is keeping us briefed on what goes on in Truro and has even espoused one of the key issues of the Parish Plan: the footway/cyclepath along Marine Drive. We need support from Marhamchurch, but by including the needs of the disabled in this project, Cllr Tucker has breathed new life into what, after the affairs at Black Rock, looked very much like a dead duck.

On the question of planning applications, we now know where we were going wrong in making representations to the planning authority about proposed development with which we were not happy. Personally, I feel we should have more power because the new system really can't reflect the knowledge, feeling and experience of those who are closest: Truro is a long way away and CC's Planning Committee can only respond to bureaucratically laid down policies. Being retired and therefore with a lot of time on my hands (I wish!) it is to be expected that many of the circulars and consultation papers which our Clerk receives, fall into my lap. At the last meeting, a bundle of documents over half an inch thick was passed over the table (while everyone else mysteriously found their attention captivated by their agenda sheet!) and I want to share with you what is fast becoming a major concern: there are too many people pushing out paper. Civil servants, public bodies and quangos seem to think that the more they write, the better they justify their pay. Worse: by paying lip-service to democracy they are perpetrating the undermining of the very institutions they purport to represent.

To take an example: the South Western Ambulance Service has issued a "Full Consultation Document" on its aspirations to become a foundation trust within the NHS. In 32 high quality colourful pages it seeks support for its proposals which "will mean that patients, members of the public, staff, and key stakeholders will have a greater say in how the ambulance service in the south west is governed." Unlike the other documents I was handed which ran to many more pages, this has an index of contents- (this is how I find my way around, dipping here and there as the fancy takes me). Passing by "Welcome" and skipping through "Profile", "Mission", "Our journey so far", I am drawn to "NHS Foundation Trust benefits and RISKS" (my capitals). I quote: "The major risks to the Trust application are:

"Impact of recession with no future growth in funding anticipated.

"Cost Improvement Programme from 3% to 3.5% from 2010/11 onwards.

"Increased demand from patients and health community on the three services." (Yes, I did have to phone up to be reminded that these were the services provided by the ambulances.)

I couldn't find any assessment of these risks and anyway I'm not even sure if risk is the right word. After that, it didn't get much better with "membership", "Governance", "Council of Governors", "Board of Directors" and so on. I suppose all this could be argued as taking control away from the bureaucrats but it so looks like jobs for the boys. And oh! Those meetings! I'm reminded of the John Cleese management training film on that subject 30 years ago. Maybe they'll do them by "t'xing".

I've had my moan but I'm increasingly feeling like a dinosaur in a mammalian world: everyone is running round faster while all I want is to see a good job done. Why do we have MPs if it's not to sack them if their Departments do a lousy job? And is this Board of Directors unpaid and can I get rid of them if they do a lousy job? If I had my way, no consultation document would run to more than one page, but then, someone might actually read it!

*Rupert Powell.*

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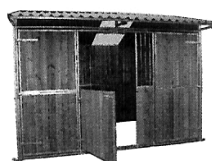
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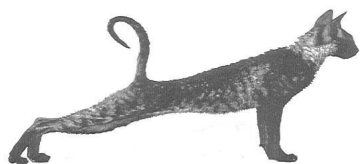
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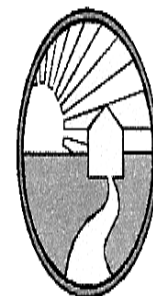
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# **MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2009 (unconfirmed extract)**

A meeting of the parish council was held in the parish hall on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2009 at 7.30 p.m Cllr C Gilbert was in the chair, also present were Cllrs R. Powell, R.S. Hopper, G.W.J. Pluess, W.G. Rowland and the Clerk. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. W.K. Stacey, P.M. Marshall and Miss A.R. Rowland. Cllrs. B.W. Furse & G. N. Orchard were absent. DECLARATION OF INTEREST a) Items on the agenda – Cllr. G.W.J. Pluess – Agenda Item Planning No. 2009/01349. b) Gifts over £25.00 – None declared.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – The chairman suspended the meeting for a 10-minute period giving members of the public an opportunity to address the council, following which the chairman reconvened the meeting.

**COMMUNITY NETWORK MANAGER** – The Chairman welcomed Mr. C. Sims to the meeting who then gave a thorough introduction into the role of the Community Network Manager and ways in which he can assist the Council.

**REPORT CORNWALL COUNCILLOR** – A report was given on behalf of Mr. Phil Tucker on possible funding for the cycleway/footway along Marine Drive.

**REPORT – POLICE LIAISON MEETING** – Cllr. W.G. Rowland gave a report of the Police Liaison meeting.

**REPORT – BEACH USER FORUM MEETING** – Cllr. W.G. Rowland gave a report of the Beach User Forum meeting.

**PARISH HALL MANAGEMENT** (i) Architects Update – Applications have been submitted to Planning. (ii) Recommendations – None given. (iii) Valuation Office Agency – Summary of the rating valuation for the Parish Hall was received. (iv) Village Hall Network – Minutes of the first meeting were received.

**PARISH PLAN** – (i) Policy Review – Cycleway/Footway along Marine Drive, Cornwall Cllr. P. Tucker is looking into the possibility of funding for a disabled passage along the route. Cllr Powell asked consideration be given on how to progress and prioritise the remaining issues on the Parish Plan. (ii) Receive and Approve Recommendations – No recommendations were put forward. (iii) Adoption of the Parish Plan as a Material Consideration, to be taken into account when planning decisions are made rather than as Supplementary Planning Document. Copy of the Parish Plan forwarded to the Senior Planning Policy Officer for Cornwall Council.

**HIGHWAYS** – (i) Traffic Orders – Stopping-up of Highway Treskinnick Cross – Correspondences to be forwarded to Cornwall Councillor Mr. P. Tucker. (ii) Pedestrian Safety – Leverlake Road into Marine Drive – Pending. (iii) Excavation of Highway Property – Letter dated 13<sup>th</sup> October 2009 received from the Highways Service confirming that the location will be inspected and any necessary action taken. (iv) Treskinnick Cross - New Mills – The poor condition of the road surface was discussed and agreed to report the matter to the Highway Service for investigation and any necessary action. (v) Box's Shop – It was agreed the current location of the northern sign is too far from the settlement and a letter be sent to the Highway Service requesting it be moved nearer to Kennacott.

**PROW** – Green Lane – The Modification Order submitted is still awaiting consideration.

**BANGORS GREEN** – Letter dated 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009 received from Cornwall Council was read confirming in accordance with the Commons Act 2006 and Regulations, the matters stated in the application and supporting evidence have been given due consideration by the delegated Officers of Cornwall Council, and concluded that the land does fall within the statutory definition of a village green contained in Section 15 of the Commons Act and accordingly the land has been registered as 'Bangors Village Green' Register Unit No. VG 692.

**ACCOUNTS** – (i) Financial Report – Clerk gave the financial report. (ii) Parish Council Precept 2010/11 – Projects were put forward to be included in the budget when considering the precept. Precept is to be set at the next meeting. (iii) Payments received to date: No payments were received. (iv) Payments of accounts received to date:

Courtenay Insurance Services – Renewal invitation for the Parish Hall of £469.06, Cllr W.G. Rowland proposed payment Cllr. R. Powell seconded. Clerks quarterly wage of £375.00 from August – September inclusive, Cllr. R. Powell proposed payment Cllr. W.G. Rowland seconded. Bazeley Partnership – Work Stages C-D £1,380.00, after discussion it was agreed to defer the matter to the following meeting following receipt of detailed planning drawings. (v) Grant Applications received for consideration: Cornwall Blind Association – No action to be taken. (vi) Barclays – Leaflet received of the current interest rates. Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust – Letter of thanks received for the donation.

**PLANNING DECISIONS** – 2009/01143 Extension to managers dwelling at Woolstone Manor for Mr. & Mrs. M. Wright – Cornwall Council Decision - Approved. 2009/01237 Construction of dwelling Site 2 Bangors for Mr. T. Perry, letter received giving observations and appraisal on this matter given by planning officer Mr. S. King.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS** – 2009/01349 Application for Prior Notification for the construction of a lean-to building for storage of fodder, feed and general storage at Silverdown for Mr. & Mrs. S.J. Cobbledick – No observations. 2009/01351 Extensions to existing bungalow to form a two storey dormer style dwelling at Exonia, Marine Drive, Widemouth Bay for Mr. Kevin Seabourne – No objections. 2009/01461 – Construction of replacement bridge at The Mill, Newmill for Mr. Graham Unsworth – No objections.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Widemouth Bay Residents' Forum – Letter dated 6<sup>th</sup> October 2009 was read raising concern about the use of Chinese Lanterns, it was agreed to refer the matter to Cornwall Council.

Cornwall Fire & Rescue Services Consultation Questionnaire – It was agreed to defer this matter to the next meeting.

Cornwall Council Contact List – A5 booklet with contact details for each of the main services within the Council Post Office –

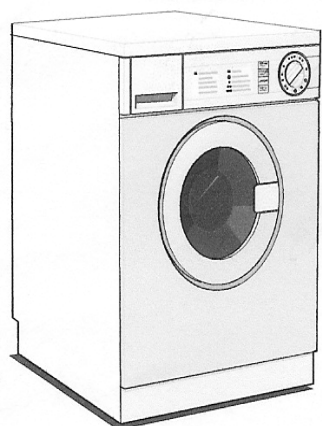
Letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> October 2009 received informing of the temporary closure of the Post Office at Cornish Coasts Caravan Park, following discussion it was agreed to ask where the Post Office Service will be moving to, when and to whom.

South West Ambulance Service – Consultation – Becoming a Foundation Trust, document to be considered at the following meeting following further investigation by Cllr. Powell.

**PARISH MATTERS** – Annual maintenance and repairs to the bus shelters, road sign to Week St. Mary blocking the vision of motorists at Treskinnick Cross, unbroken double white lines along the A39 at Treskinnick Cross and overgrown hedges in Vicarage Lane were discussed, to be placed upon the agenda for the following meeting.

**NEXT MEETING** – 24<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

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