



No. 106 December 2020 / January 2021

THE POUNDSTOCK PACKET KERNOW BYS VYKEN !



Consultation on the Proposed Atlantic View Crematorium at Poundstock

A public consultation was held during the last two weeks of November regarding the proposed crematorium development just off the A39 on the southern route to Widemouth Bay. Because of Covid restrictions, the consultation had to be held entirely online, making it difficult for those without internet access to take part. However, a public consultation is a preliminary step towards a planning application; residents will have more opportunity to register their opinions and concerns when plans are formally submitted, which is expected to be within the next few weeks. Meanwhile, the Crematorium Consortium can be contacted on 01288 308020 or via their website, www.atlanticviewcrematorium.co.uk, where far more detail is available.

In the words of the Consortium – the landowners and a local funeral firm – their aim is ‘to create a sensitively designed building which will be integrated into the wider rural landscape, with a focus on enhancing the biodiversity and ecological value of the site. A peaceful memorial garden will also be created to offer people the opportunity for quiet contemplation in a place of tranquillity and support, with views of the Atlantic Ocean’ (see illustration below).

At present, families have to travel to either Barnstaple or Bodmin to a crematorium, and there is widespread support for a crematorium to fill the North Cornwall gap. The real point at issue is whether Poundstock is the right place: some will see it as a golden opportunity offering the possibility of new jobs and a boost to the local economy; others will be less enthusiastic, seeing it as a serious blow to the local holiday industry, deterring visitors who will take their

business elsewhere. It is very much a matter for individual consideration and opinion.

The Consortium expects to submit plans within the next few weeks, when Cornwall Council’s planning department will be happy to receive residents’ comments. If permission is granted, work is expected to begin in 2022 with completion by the end of the following year, meaning that the crematorium could be operational in 2024.



**Distributed free to every household in Poundstock parish
Produced every two months**

Contact us at poundstockpacket@gmail.com

ERIC W HARRIS

*General builder working
with you and your home*

Nissi Farm, Widemouth Bay,

Bude, Cornwall <><

07800818396 01288361081

ewharrisbuilder@yahoo.com

*Also available for hire, man and compact digger,
ideal for those small jobs and filling potholes in lanes.*



Anglo Plumbing and Heating

Gasafe registered for LPG and natural gas
Domestic, commercial and industrial
appliances serviced and installed

All enquiries welcome

Tel. 01409 261442

Mobile 0795 8901 777

E-mail: George.aph@googlemail.com



B.R Plastering

Plastering, Plaster boarding,
Rendering & Building

rodder27@live.co.uk

07761735022

Wharf Woodcraft

Bespoke Joinery
Furniture & Repairs

Lower Wharf, Tel. 01288 352921
Bude, Cornwall Mobile 07752 124414
EX23 8LG

www.wharfwoodcraft.co.uk
enquiries@wharfwoodcraft.co.uk



**QUINCEBOROUGH
FARM
SELF-CATERING
COTTAGES**

**PAT & ALASTAIR ROWLAND
WIDEMOUTH BAY BUDE CORNWALL
EX23 0NA**

**TELEPHONE 01288 361236
WINTER LETS CAN BE ARRANGED
ALSO STORAGE AND WORKSHOPS**



Florist . Home . Gifts

7 Belle Vue, Bude Cornwall, EX238JL
www.bleujenflorist.com
01288 356606

We always welcome any input from our readers. If you want to get in touch or to send us an article or local information, contact the editor: Liz Jones, Langford Hele Farm, Marhamchurch EX23 0HR. Tel. 01288 361147. Email: poundstockpacket@gmail.com

The deadline for our next edition is 20 January.

To advertise with us for a year (six issues) costs a total of £30 for an eighth of a page or £40 for a quarter-page (£45 for colour, but availability is currently very limited). For more information please contact Jen Spettigue, 36 St Marwenne Close, Marhamchurch, tel. 01288 361525 or Liz Jones (as above).

We do our best to deliver to everyone in the parish. If you know of anyone who has been missed, please let us know. Copies of the magazine are available at the Beach House and Wainhouse Country Stores, by post for 50p + postage or via email; please contact us for information.

The editorial board does not necessarily endorse the views expressed by individual contributors and we can't accept any responsibility for the accuracy of information provided. We reserve the right to edit items submitted and decide on what is suitable for publication.

Hail and farewell

The Packet team were sad to hear of the deaths of two well-loved and greatly respected members of our community, Gwen Maddever and Sara Rowe. Each contributed hugely: Gwen in her capacity as district nurse and midwife, and Sara as a friend and helper to so many. Both brightened the lives of those around them and will be very much missed. We're grateful for who they were and what they did, and are honoured to pay our respects to them in this issue.

As this strange year draws to its close we are still in thrall to the dictates of coronavirus. Who would have thought, a year ago, that we would be hiding away at home this Christmas, avoiding each other as much as possible? May the new year bring respite and a return to a more sociable life. If this year has taught us anything, it is that we need each other. Gwen and Sara would doubtless agree.

Liz

THANK YOU TO THE PARISH OF POUNDSTOCK

I would like to thank the Parish of Poundstock for their support during what has been an awful year for many but for myself and family in particular due to my ill health. I would like to thank all who have sent their kind wishes, through phone calls or cards, they have been very much appreciated.

My ongoing health issues have meant that I have not been able to attend the Parish Council Meetings and even though I have sent my apologies and followed much of the business through the minutes that are taken, my position as a Councillor is now vacant. Naturally I am disappointed that I cannot undertake my responsibilities to the Parish and hope that you will support the work undertaken at this level in the future.

Thank you all once again.

Fred Ward, Widemouth Bay

Heard family history – can you help?

Mr Geoff Heard, who is researching his Heard ancestors, has contacted the Packet with this query:

John Henry Heard was born in 1872 in North Tamerton and his wife Elizabeth Ann (Court) was born in Plymouth in 1872. John was the son of Elizabeth Heard, the sister of my great-grandfather John Heard.

Elizabeth had married a Richard Lewis Philp, making John his stepson, and lived at Swell Corner.

On the 1911 census John, his wife and family were living at Meades, Poundstock. They are both listed on the Bangors Methodist monumental inscriptions. They had nine children, seven boys – John Henry, William Lewis, Richard, Edward, Thomas, Frederick and Daniel – and two daughters – Catherine, who married William John Boney, and Elizabeth Ann.

I have tracked all the boys and also Catherine. However, I cannot find any further details re Elizabeth Ann Heard. She was born 1907, but no marriage or death can be found. Is there anyone who might recognise the family and have any clues? Covid has stopped my annual pilgrimage from Manchester to North Cornwall/Devon.

Geoff Heard heardfamily@btinternet.com

**However different it may be, the Packet team wish everyone
a very happy and peaceful Christmas,
and a healthy, positive and hopeful new year**

Contact us at poundstockpacket@gmail.com



Local Architect

John Forward RIBA

Planning Applications,
Building Regulations applications,
Or full architect's services, all for a
competitive fee.

Friendly, environmentally sensitive,
low energy architect services.

Telephone me on **07966 774595** to discuss your
project and for a fee quote, with no obligation.



Vanishing Point Art & Design, Cambrea, Long Park Drive,
Widemouth Bay. 07966774595 or 362170
Vanishing-point@outlook.com

CHRISTMAS *at the* COMMUNITY PRODUCE*STALL

**AS AN OUTSIDE MARKET
STALL WE CAN CARRY ON!**

WITHIN CURRENT LOCKDOWN GUIDELINES

8TH NOV-20TH DEC

Local food producers will join us
through Sundays in November...

With crafts & gifts (hopefully)

joining in December!*

* Subject to changes in lockdown duration

SUNDAYS 10.30-12

in the

**CRACKINGTON
INSTITUTE CAR PARK**

Local artists, crafters & artisan makers
will be showcasing & selling their work
throughout December.

Something different every day!

Bude Christmas Market Fayre

Every day 11 am to 4 pm

4th to 23rd December

Canal Suite, Café and Shop

Bude Tourist Information Centre

EX23 8LE



6 December

Travelling Stitches

The Body Shop

Sue McGookin hats and headbands

Sooz Sweet n Saucy

Sue Penny Christmas wreaths

13 December

The Slate Lady (Toni Ann's tableware)

Jen Spettigue knitting

Sue Penny Christmas wreaths

Usborne Books

20 December

Love Organic

Homemade Fudge

Aimee and Rob Gifts

Bakes and Cakes

... And look out for Boscastle Farm Shop
too!

UPDATE!

Sara Rowe, 1942–2020

Many will have been very sad to hear of the death of Sara Rowe in early November, only three months after she was diagnosed with cancer. Sara's great gifts of friendliness and kindness and her affinity with other people made her a well-loved and treasured member of the community during the sixteen years she and George lived at Widemouth Bay, particularly among the many housebound people they befriended and visited. She was equally valued in their new community of Chiddingfold in Surrey, where they moved in 2015 to be near their daughter and her family.

Sara was born in Manchester in November 1942. Her father was the headmaster of a boys' prep school. 'We don't want you to grow up with all these boys,' said her mother, and so at the age of seven she was sent to boarding school. Here, her love of sport and her natural ability flourished and she excelled in many sports, playing junior cricket for her county. When it was time to leave school she moved on to the Chelsea College of Physical Education in Eastbourne, playing tennis and hockey for the college, captaining the lacrosse team and finally playing for both the English and Great Britain lacrosse teams.



After college Sara became first a PE teacher, in Putney, Sevenoaks and Epsom, and then a PE education advisor in the Winchester area. It was here that she met George. They married in 1973, and in due course their son Adam arrived in 1974 and their daughter Emma in 1976. With her natural warmth and generosity, Sara made sure that George's daughter Gillian was an essential part of their family too. As everyone who knew her will remember, her family was a tremendously important part of her life. She adored her five grandchildren, describing them as 'a huge bonus' and delighting in their company.

When George and Sara moved here in 1999, life took a different turn when George felt called to ordination and Sara took on the role of vicar's wife. She embraced it with all her characteristic enthusiasm, even though she complained that 'I've never been to so many services in my life!' Together they ministered to the people of the parish, and particularly Widemouth Bay. As George says, 'Sara's ministry was outstanding.'

At Sara's funeral, the rector gave thanks for Sara's great warmth and gracious kindness, and ended: 'To know her was a privilege and a blessing.' There are many who will agree.

Sara chose this poem to be read at her funeral:

Afterglow

I'd like the memory of me
to be a happy one.
I'd like to leave an afterglow
of smiles when life is done.
I'd like to leave an echo
whispering softly down the ways,
Of happy times and laughing times
and bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who grieve,
to dry before the sun
of happy memories
that I leave when life is done.

Helen Lowrie Marshall

Thank you, Sara, for many happy memories. Rest in peace.

P & B Interior Design

Ready made curtains, voiles, nets, cushions
Curtain tracks, poles, tie backs all in stock
Huge selection of roller and Venetian blinds

Suppliers of Velux blinds

Custom made curtain & blind service available

Farrow and Ball wallpapers and paints

DMC threads and kits

Haberdashery & accessories

Gifts for all occasions

2 Lansdown Mews

Lansdown Road, Bude

www.Budeblindsandcurtains.co.uk

01288 356 303

ABS Chiropody

Anne Richardson MSSCh/MBChA

Chiropodist/Podiatrist

Tel: 01288 341 941

Diabetic Foot care

Nails Treatments

Callus & Corns

Foot Pain

Verrucae

Surgery at:
Hartham Lodge,
Week St Mary,
Near Bude
EX22 6XJ

Google ABS Chiropody or go to

www.sites.google.com/view/abschiropody/



www.hcpc-uk.org



TRENCREEK FARM HOUSE St Gennys, Bude, Cornwall EX23 0DG



Traditional Sunday Lunches
Evening Dinners
Midday Lunches
Special Occasions
Family Celebrations
Vegetarian Meals Available

All served in an informal, relaxed and unhurried atmosphere.

All food is freshly prepared and home cooked
Bookings are essential. 24 hours notice please

Non-licensed, so bring your own choice of drink

Ring Richard or Margaret Heard

01840 230219



YOUR LOCAL INSURANCE BROKER

Offering A Whole Range Of Products
Including Business, Motor, Home,
Liability, Travel & More!



CALL US TODAY - 01288 353999

Chapter House, Burn View, Bude (by Coop)

www.hodgsoninsurance.co.uk

www.guesthouseinsurance.co.uk

**We Search The Market So You
Don't Have To!**



Gwen Maddever, 1927–2020

Miss Maddever was a well-known and well-loved figure in the area for many years, delivering babies, giving injections, dispensing advice and kindness. Anyone who has ever been to a service at Bangors Chapel will remember this tiny lady, always wearing a large badge proclaiming her faith, offering sweets to everyone as they left (unfailing, it was wine gums and chocolate eclairs). Many readers will have their own special memories of her, and we are grateful to her family for letting us reproduce their tribute here

Gwen was born and grew up at Looe Down farm near Liskeard – she was the youngest of five, with two brothers and two sisters. Just her sister-in-law, Jean Maddever, remains of that generation of the family, alongside

Margaret, her great friend and companion of over sixty years who now lives at St Anne's Residential Home. She also leaves behind nine nieces and nephews who have known and loved her as a kind and generous auntie.

As a teenager during the Second World War she worked hard on the farm, and her practical talents were already beginning to show through with awards for ploughing with horses and animal husbandry. However, her ambition to become an engineer after the war did not materialise despite some early training – in this she was a woman ahead of her time – but her independent spirit and determination led her on a solo trip across Europe to Tunisia in North Africa (while members of the family were praying fervently for her safe return) and then her acquisition of a series of motorbikes while training to be a Queen's Nurse in Exeter and London. It was there that she met Margaret, who herself had trained as an anti-aircraft gunner in the war and was more than up for riding pillion!

They set up house initially in Grimscott where they didn't even have electricity, but then secured 'The Cottage' in Widemouth, which they set about renovating and turning into home for the next sixty years, while developing their careers as highly respected and well-known district nurses and midwives.

They looked after nephew Andy for a short while when he was a baby and one of the many outhouses sprang up when they took in Gwen's mother in her old age. Some of us nieces and nephews have wonderful memories of summer visits in particular, when it always seemed to be sunny on the beach and there were lots of cakes and biscuits for tea and games on the lawn! She never forgot our birthdays and Christmas, either, when exciting parcels arrived in the post.

Those of you who have seen Gwen's workshop will know it stands as testament to her brilliant DIY and gardening skills – how many have memories of phoning only for Margaret to answer with 'Gwen's up a ladder' or 'At the bottom of the garden'! She could turn her hand to anything from chainsawing a tree to delicate silver jewellery work. All this ran alongside their strong Christian faith and commitment to the Lord, which included building and running The Ark as a practical witness in the local community.

Since breaking her hip three years ago Gwen needed more help and support and a rest from all those physical labours. Trelana provided a comfortable and safe place for her to end her days here on earth.

In her room I found her mother's handwritten book entitled 'Fragments Worth Remembering', and it might be appropriate to finish with these few lines from 'A sure confidence':

So when life's sun is sinking in the west,
I know that with the coming dawn comes rest;
And when the shadows show the close of day,
He who has conquered death shall light my way.





Reg Charity no.1183872

A caring, safe, non-judgemental café & information hub for under-5s with additional needs

☺ A welcoming environment ☺ No diagnosis or referral required ☺ Lots of sensory equipment
☺ Makaton singing and signing ☺

hi-5talktimecafe@hotmail.com; hi-5talktimecafe

**In the former Bangors Chapel building
Tuesdays 11-3**

A warm welcome awaits!

R & N FUELS (Nicholls Bros) **COAL MERCHANTS**

DON'T BE LEFT IN THE COLD!

LOCAL DELIVERIES, ALL SOLID FUELS

COMPETITIVE PRICES

01840 230111 (COLIN)

01840 250568 (ROGER)

Lisa MacFarlane

BSc. D.Pod. M. M.Ch.S.

Chiropodist / Podiatrist

**Now available for home visits
in the Bude and surrounding area**

Over 25 years experience in both
the NHS & Private Sector

Fully qualified and insured

Registered with
 hcpc health & care
professions
council

Please call
01288 359949 or 07967 123313
to make an appointment.

lisamacfarlane15@gmail.com



BUDE EYE CENTRE

QUALITY . VALUE . COURTESY . SERVICE

YOUR MODERN INDEPENDENT OPTOMETRIC PRACTICE

Bude Eye Centre, established in 2005, are equipped with up to date equipment, a wide selection of eyewear and latest contact lenses to suit individual needs. We offer same day service and also hearing aid services.

WE OFFER:

- ✓ NHS & Private Eye examinations
- ✓ Contact lens specialist
- ✓ 3D OCT Screening available
- ✓ Free children's eye care
- ✓ Regular hearing service, including free assessments
- ✓ Honest and expert advice on frame selection
- ✓ Wheelchair friendly practice

Bude Eye Centre, 7 Queen Street, Bude, Cornwall EX23 8AY 01288 350041 · budeeyecentre.co.uk



Rector: Rev. David Barnes

01288 341670

d.barnes645@btinternet.com

Sadly, our churches remain closed except for services (see below). However, since the situation is still so uncertain please contact the rector or wardens for up-to-date information .



**Our Lady and St Anne
Widemouth Bay**

Warden: Judith MacDonald 01288 362254

St Winwaloe, Poundstock

Wardens: Hilary Kenny 01288 361504

Barry Smith 01288 361716

Service plan for December

This is the plan for the next five weeks, if it's possible; currently, we aren't sure. At least one service will be zoomed every time there are services scheduled, and invitations will be sent out to all on the email list. If you aren't on the list but would like to be, please contact Lesley at lesleybooker@gmail.com.

December

- 6** Holy Communion, Bude, 9.30 am
All-age Worship, Week St Mary, 9.30 am
- 13** Holy Communion, Marhamchurch, 9.30 am
Morning Prayer, Poundstock, 9.30 am
Holy Communion, Whitstone, 11.15 am
- 20** Holy Communion, Bude, 9.30 am
Holy Communion, Week St Mary, 11.15 am

- 24** Holy Communion, Marhamchurch, 9 pm
Holy Communion, Whitstone, 9.30 pm
Holy Communion, Bude, 10.30 pm
- 25** Holy Communion, Poundstock, 9.30 am
Holy Communion, Week St Mary, 10 am
- 27** Holy Communion, Marhamchurch, 9.30 am

January

- 3** Holy Communion, Bude, 9.30 am
All-age Worship, Week St Mary, 9.30 am

The Other

This poem was included in the recent letter to the diocese from the Bishops of Truro and St Germans. R.S. Thomas was a clergyman in the Church in Wales, who lost his only son in the First World War.

There are nights that are so still
that I can hear the small owl calling
far off and a fox barking
miles away. It is then that I lie
in the lean hours awake listening
to the swell born somewhere in
the Atlantic
rising and falling, rising and falling
wave on wave on the long shore
by the village that is without light
and companionless. And the
thought comes
of that other being who is
awake, too,
letting our prayers break on him,
not like this for a few hours,
but for days, years, for eternity.

R.S. Thomas

Christmas celebrations online

It's a shame that we can't hold our usual carol services or even sing in church together this year, but as a consolation there are lots of Christmas celebrations available online.

Services will be streamed from many churches and cathedrals ranging from our own (see above) to St Paul's and Canterbury Cathedral. Not all details were available as we went to press, but see churchofengland.org, classical-music.com or individual websites:

- 13 Dec. Coventry Cathedral, Carols by Candlelight
- 21/22 Dec. Rochester Cathedral, A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, 7 pm
- 23 Dec. Ely Cathedral, Crib Service, 12 noon
Salisbury Cathedral, A Service for Christmas with Carols
- 24 Dec. Salisbury Cathedral, A Family Service for Christmas, filmed around the cathedral's Christmas tree and featuring a live donkey
Canterbury Cathedral, Evensong with Christmas Music

Online Christmas concerts are being arranged by an enormous range of charities and organisations. Some are free (for instance, Marie Curie, Shelter, Macmillan, the Alzheimer's Society), while others ask for donations or the price of a ticket.

Maybe we can't sing together this year but there is still plenty to join in with and enjoy. Happy Christmas!



Bangors Organic Veg Boxes

Veg, salad, fruit, bread, eggs, milk and more!

All products are certified organic

Simple online ordering

Pause, cancel and restart your subscription at any time

Free local delivery in our zero emission electric van

To order visit: www.ooooby.org/north-cornwall
 T: 01288 361 297 | 07792 108 541
 E: info@bangorsorganic.co.uk | EX23 0DP

SOIL ASSOCIATION ORGANIC

- GROWING LOCAL ORGANIC FOOD SINCE 2003 -

CLARK CONSTRUCTION

Stephen Clark
builder/mason

All building work undertaken

**A friendly service,
competitively priced**

E-mail

steveclark0111@hotmail.co.uk

Or call

07825750263

Moore's Butchers Traditional Butchers

Established over 100 years

BEEF and LAMB produced on
our own farm

**Local PORK, BACON and
FREE RANGE POULTRY**

COOKED MEATS

**Free deliveries to Poundstock,
Widemouth Bay**

**Bude: 6 Queen Street
01288 355552**

Kilkhampton: 01288 321240

W. SANDERS & SONS LTD WAINHOUSE CORNER

ST GENNYS

**BUDE, CORNWALL
EX23 0AZ**

MOTOR REPAIRS AND SERVICING

M.O.T. CLASS IV & VII

TYRES & EXHAUSTS

AIRCON

Tel. 01840 230708

Email: Sanders.garage@yahoo.com

Contact: LISA SANDERS

Kids' page



The Rainbows, Brownies and Guides decided to continue via Zoom until at least January, and with the November lockdown we're not sure when we will meet face to face again, especially with the amount of paperwork needed and having to wear masks making the leaders think twice. All units have been busy completing work towards earning badges. In November, all units took part in Parliament week, which included a video from Scott Mann where he answered a range of questions from the girls and their families. We have also become more brave with our activities completed over Zoom, including cooking with all sections: the Rainbows will be making Girl Scout cookies and the Brownies and Guides will be making and icing miniature Christmas cakes, baked in a baked bean tin!

Louise Cowling



2nd Bude (Jacobstow) Scout Group

During the summer and autumn months committee members and friends of Jacobstow Scouts have demolished the scout hut located at Wainhouse Corner. The hut has been part of the community since being erected in 1978. Our sincere thanks to the Cory family who gave us use of the land for a yearly peppercorn rent. Demolition was completed and the gates finally closed on Saturday 7 November 2020.

We are now moving to pastures new. Mr and Mrs J Batchelors (Small Hill Barton) have gifted a plot of land located at Rosecare to the Scout Association, a truly generous and kind act, allowing the continuation of the group. Outline planning has been granted for a new scout hut.

We have been fundraising for the past three years for a new scout hut through fayres, tractor rally, Morrison's bag pack, sponsored bike rides and many more events. These have always been well supported by members and the local community.

We are delighted that Co-op have chosen us as part of their Local Community Fund for the next twelve months. Co-op members can support us by choosing 2nd Bude (Jacobstow) Scout Group (Crowd Funding).

Thanks to the dedication of our leaders, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have been back with face-to-face meetings during September and October. All groups have enjoyed activities outdoors, whatever the weather has thrown at us.

The coming year will be an exciting year for 2nd Bude (Jacobstow) Scout Group as we will be celebrating our 50th year. Thank you to everyone who has supported our group where so many young people over the years have enjoyed countless activities.

Jill Cole



Scouting leaders and committee members: L-R Josie Shepherd (Beaver leader), Sarah Gwennap (secretary), Jill Cole (treasurer), Robert Medland (group Scout leader), Daphne Dowling (Cub leader), Mark Gwennap (vice chairman). Missing from picture, Mike Green. (chairman)

Contact us at poundstockpacket@gmail.com

Ratty



lease don't switch to the other channel! I am offering a little about Ratty. You know ... the little chap who took pity on Mole and freed him from the drudge of spring-cleaning. Took him for a picnic of cold ham, cold beef, pickled gherkin salad, French rolls, cress sandwiches and so on.

Ratty wasn't actually a rat; he wasn't even a water rat; he was a water vole. Water voles are veggie, so I've no idea why he offered ham and beef sandwiches.

Now, there are two different real rats: the black rat, who was the naughty one whose fleas carried bubonic plague. He was the only rat around in the Middle Ages, so he was the little monster who nearly ruined the city of Hamelin; the mayor asked the Pied Piper to pipe his pipe and charm all the rats in the city. And they followed him and jumped in the river and drowned. When the Mayor of Hamelin didn't pay the Piper the money they had agreed, the Piper started up again and charmed all the children, who followed him and got swallowed up in a mountain. There's a bit of a moral somewhere in there.

And now enter the brown rat. Have you noticed people bigging up their stories of the brown rat?



'It was **ENORMOUS!!** I mean it was **THIS** long!!! I'm sure it was a king rat; its tail was about a foot long: the biggest rat I've ever **ever** seen!!!'



It shows a deep, I mean intense, intense fear of rats. More than snakes and spiders.

As the politicians all say, 'Let's be perfectly frank and clear about this': rats are all roughly 40cm long, and their tails are about 20cm.

And while we are about it, can we try to bust the myth about never being more than 2 metres away from a rat? More likely 50 metres *on average*. Certainly in run-down parts of coastal industrial cities you could be 2m (6ft in old money) away. And anyway, it is reckoned that our closest little monster is some sort of beetle. *Stop scratching your head! And not Rattus Norvegicus.*

The brown rat came to England in the mid 1700s. Some say they were escapees from lumber ships from Norway.

Meanwhile Weasel, our cat, is irresponsible for keeping the rat population under control in the chicken run. She rushes them through the catflap, up the stairs, into the bedroom and under the bed. When this first happened, I boasted, 'It was **ENORMOUS!!** I mean it was **THIS** long!!! I'm sure it was a king rat; its tail was about a foot long: the biggest rat I've ever **ever** seen!!!'

Christopher Asbury

Widemouth Bay defibrillators

Thanks to the generosity of locally based charity Jay's Aim, the defibrillator at the Summerhouse has new pads and battery – things that have to be replaced at regular intervals to keep it ready to use. In the past, they have been funded by our summer barbecue.

The charity was set up in the memory of James Osborne, who sadly died at the age of 28 from a cardiac arrest. Its mission is to reduce the number of young people who die from sudden cardiac arrests in the South West, by giving free CPR/AED training, providing public access defibrillators and putting on free-to-attend heart screenings.

They have also funded signs at the gateway, and also by the beach car park for the defibrillator sited there. Thanks to the charity, the defibrillator is once again ready, should it be needed. If anyone would like to make a donation, their website is www.jaysaim.co.uk.

Nicky Vereker



LIGHT LUNCHES

PIZZAS

EVENING BARBECUES

GREAT ASSORTMENT
OF HOMEMADE CAKES

ICE CREAM

WHERE POSSIBLE LOCAL
PRODUCE IS USED

WAINHOUSE COUNTRY STORE POST OFFICE

(The Post Office also has Banking
Services, including Foreign Currency Facilities)
Euros available over the counter at the Post Office

& OFF-LICENCE

ST GENNYS 230 554

Local cheese and cream, bacon,
frozen foods, fruit and vegetables

Barnecutts pasties freshly baked

Newspapers & Magazines

National Lottery

We are now agents for dry cleaning

OPEN

Monday to Saturday 7 am–7 pm

Sunday 7 am–6 pm

With friendly and helpful staff

Advertising in the Packet

This size (an eighth of a page)
costs

£30

for a year



BRIGHT JOINERY

Fine Carpentry • Architectural Joinery • Bespoke Furniture

07813 545 774

info@brightjoinery.co.uk

www.brightjoinery.co.uk

Bude, Cornwall

DENISE WELLINGTON

Dir FD

INDEPENDENT FUNERAL SERVICES

Compassionate & Caring

24 hour contact

Tel: **01288 359277**

NEW MEMORIALS

MEMORIAL MAINTENANCE

PRE-PAID FUNERAL PLANS



Thornelea St. Anne's Hill Bude Cornwall EX23 0LT

enquiries@denisewellingtonfunerals.co.uk

www.denisewellingtonfunerals.co.uk

Pheasants

I was driving to work and a sudden movement caught my eye, a cock pheasant broke cover and ran three parts of the way across before stopping ... not dead because I was able to swerve.

So, *Phasianus colchicus*, or the common pheasant, *colchicus* is Latin for 'of Colchis' which is now Georgia, a country on the Black Sea where pheasants became known to Europeans. Pheasants were originally part of the genus *Gallus*, like junglefowl and domesticated chickens, but they diverged about 20 million years ago.

The pheasant is a well-known game bird, and perhaps the most widespread and ancient one in the whole world. The common pheasant is, as you can imagine, one of the world's most hunted birds; it has been introduced for that purpose to most countries. The cock birds can be found in a vast colour range, from nearly white to almost black with flashes of gold, silver, jade, like living jewels. They can weigh between half to 3kg, with males averaging 1.2kg and hens averaging 0.9kg; the cock is the flashy one and the hen and youngsters have a duller mottled brown plumage. Young birds look like hens with a shorter tail until the young cock birds begin to grow their characteristic bright feathers on the breast, head and back at about ten weeks after hatching.

Pheasants are found naturally from Asia and the Balkans, the Black and Caspian Seas to Manchuria, Siberia, Korea, Mainland China and Taiwan. The birds are found in woodland, farmland, scrub and wetlands. In its natural habitat the pheasant prefers to live in grassland near water with small copses of trees, so extensively cleared farmland can't maintain populations for long. They are gregarious birds and outside the breeding season form loose flocks. Wherever they are hunted they are always timid once they associate humans with danger, and will quickly retreat for safety after hearing the arrival of people.



While pheasants are pretty good short-distance fliers, they prefer to run. If startled, however, they can suddenly burst upwards at great speed, with a distinctive 'whirring' sound and often giving unmistakable kok kok kok calls. They can fly at about 30mph but when they're chased they can manage up to 56mph.

Pheasants nest on the ground in scrapes, lined with grass and leaves, often under a hedge. They roost in sheltered trees at night. The cock birds are polygamous and are often accompanied by a harem of hens, who will produce a clutch of around 8–15 pale olive-coloured eggs in late spring. The chicks stay near the hen for several weeks, yet leave the nest when only a few hours old. After hatching they grow quickly, flying after 12–14 days, resembling adults by only 15 weeks of age. They eat a wide variety of foods, like fruit, seeds, grain, berries and leaves as well as a wide range of insects, such as leatherjackets, ant eggs, wire-worms, caterpillars and grasshoppers. And even small mammals and lizards.

Pheasants were hunted by Stone Age people just like grouse, partridges and junglefowl. It is possible they were introduced to Britain by the Romans. An old method of catching was to make a cone of paper, put it by the pea plants with a few raisins in and wait for the bird to put his head in; he'll stand still then until you pick him up! They were rediscovered as a game bird in the 1830s and now are reared extensively for organised shoots and are shot in season from 1 October to 1 February. Around 30,000,000 pheasants are released each year on shooting estates, but most released birds survive less than a year in the wild.

Recipe

If fresh, it is mild, and should be treated exactly like chicken. It may be stuffed with a very light closely minced forcemeat or better a stuffing made from fat sugar-cured pork. It is rather a dry bird and the fat and the steam from the stuffing keep it juicy. Roast and as soon as you take it from the oven wrap in a cloth wrung out in cold water or cider. Wrap it carefully, putting another cloth outside, and put in a haybox. As the bird is well greased from roasting, the damp will not penetrate, but it will keep the steam in and the bird will be more tender to cut. (From *Food in England* by Dorothy Hartley)

A Sheepish Farmer

RON'S GARDEN SERVICES

GROUND & GARDEN MAINTENANCE

LAWN MOWING
HEDGE CUTTING
PLANTING & PRUNING
WEED CONTROL
PRESSURE WASHING
GENERAL GARDEN MAINTENANCE

01288 362 952
07817781 837

COVERING BUDE & SURROUNDING AREA



ATLANTIC

PLANT & GARDEN MACHINERY

Sales, Servicing & Repairs

Servicing
Repairs
Maintenance
Used Machinery Sales
On Site Repairs

All Machinery Undertaken.
Diggers, Ride-Ons, Rollers, Strimmers,
Wacker Plates, Disc Cutters, Mowers,
Hedge Trimmers, Leaf Blowers,
Chain Saws & Much More.

Call Simon On 07581015320

Or Email

atlanticgardenmachinery@yahoo.com
Poundstock Bude

Cutz Ahead

Unisex Hair Salon

Monday 9-3
Tuesday closed
Wednesday 9-3
Thursday 9-3
Friday 9-3
Saturday 9-2
Late appointments via booking!

4 Lansdown Road
Bude

Mrs C. Stone

01288 359123



Stove & Chimney Specialists

Visit our showroom at Red Post
Nr Bude, Cornwall, EX23 9NW

- ✓ Supply and install woodburners and multi-fuel stoves
- ✓ Gas and electric stoves
- ✓ Fireplaces and surrounds
- ✓ Chimney flues and linings
- ✓ Laying slate hearths and oak beams
- ✓ Chimney stack rebuilds and repairs
- ✓ Fireplace renovations
- ✓ Showroom with live working stoves



Showroom Opening Hours

Mon-Fri 9am until 4pm

Saturday 10am until 2pm

Call us now for a FREE no-obligation quote on:
01288 381852



www.cblstoves.co.uk
carl@cblstoves.co.uk



Parish Council Chairman's Report

A Remembrance Day ceremony was held at the War Memorial on Sunday 8 November, attended by a few local residents following Covid guidelines. The short service was led by the Rev Rob Dickenson, who reflected the remarks made by HRH Prince Charles the previous day by including members of the National Health Service whose lives had been lost in the course of their work. After the names of the servicemen named on the War Memorial had been read out by Barry Smith, I laid a wreath on behalf of the residents of Poundstock Parish. *The Last Post* was played by Charlie Morwood to mark the two-minute silence.



I am sorry to report that two Councillors have forfeited their seats on the Parish Council by failing to attend meetings over a period of six months. The legal situation has been confirmed by Cornwall Council, and the process of co-opting replacements will be discussed at the Parish Council meeting in January. Fred Ward and Alastair Rowland had both been on the Council for a number of years and their participation during that time is appreciated.

A number of people have contacted me recently with concerns about the proposed Atlantic View Crematorium. The current consultation is being conducted on behalf of the developers only, and remarks should be addressed to them. The use of my name and Poundstock Parish Council in the links to the Facebook and Bude Banter petitions relating to the Atlantic View Crematorium were both unauthorised and improper. It is totally inappropriate for the Parish Council or individual members to make any public comment in advance of a formal planning application. The results of any properly conducted surveys would be taken into account at the appropriate time.

We are living through difficult times, and uncertainty around the course of the pandemic makes any kind of forward planning almost impossible for most of us. The widespread character of our parish makes a sense of community and belonging difficult to achieve, and I am conscious that we have not worked together in the way that neighbouring parishes have managed. There is no real focal point or meeting place, and I am convinced that we must push on with plans to replace the old Parish Hall.

This is a project that has been dragging on for many years, and we must not make the current situation yet another excuse to do nothing. A fair amount of work has already been done, and with a positive response from the whole parish we should be able to reach the point when final decisions can be made.

It just remains for me to wish you all the very best for Christmas, and a happy, safe and healthy New Year.

Steve Pawley

Chairman, Poundstock Parish Council



Wishing you a Toadely Hoppy New Year!

Pondering the future for 2021? Considering a new year, a new you? Why not make this the year you do your bit while kicking off the January blues by becoming a Toad Patroller and saving lives?

Froglife are calling for volunteers who are needed to join Poundstock's toad patrol to help carry toads and frogs over busy roads as they make their way back to the ponds in which they were born for the mating and breeding season. Common toad populations have declined by 68 per cent in the last 30 years through increases in traffic, high kerbs and drains and building development, but Poundstock's toad patrol rescued **2,217** toads between January and April 2020. Overall, this year, even during lockdown, Toad Patrollers up and down the country rescued 77,708 toads!

For more information contact your local area Toad Patroller Brenda Alison on 01288 361491 or email Brenda.alison@outlook.com, or visit the Froglife website at www.froglife.org.

DB WALLING



- Dry stone wall repairs
- Retaining dry stone walls
- Stonework with mortared joints
- Earth stone hedging
- Landscaping
- General construction & ground works
- Garden features

FREE QUOTES

Call Dan on 07968 996 191

www.dbwalling.co.uk

WALLING LANDSCAPING



**Planning Permission
Building Regulations**

Please feel free to contact us for a free no obligation visit and quote

01288 352121

info@rarowe.co.uk

www.rarowe.co.uk

ARTHUR W. BRYANT FUNERAL SERVICE

BUDE

01288 352282

CAMELFORD HOLSWORTHY

01840 214891

01409 253000

**INDEPENDENT FAMILY
FUNERAL SERVICE**

**MEMORIAL
MASONRY**

**OUR FAMILY CARING FOR YOUR
FAMILY FOR OVER 50 YEARS**

**PRE PAYMENT FUNERAL
PLANS**

AWBRYANT.CO.UK

CARING@AWBRYANT.CO.UK



TW- LPM

*Landscaping - Patios, Groundworks,
Stone Walling, Artificial Grass,
Turfing and Garden Design*

*Fencing - All Aspects of Garden,
Domestic and Security Fencing*

*Property Maintenance - Repointing, Jet
Washing, Painting & Decorating,
Roofing Projects, General
Building and Refurbishments*

07960652496

01840 312003

Professional

Insured

Qualified

www.twlpm.com

Parsons Pottery

It's always a pleasure to welcome a new business in the parish, but if there was ever a difficult time to launch out, 2020 was it. Nevertheless, John and Rosie Parsons of Parsons Pottery are determinedly upbeat and enthusiastic about their new venture based in the beautiful surroundings of Quinceborough Farm.

John has been throwing pots since he was fifteen. In a few moments he can magically transform a shapeless lump of clay into something useful, beautiful and unique. But as he points out, a local pottery is nothing new: years ago each village would have had its own pottery, making – well, pots, and all the everyday utensils required by families and farmers in the days before plastic took over the world.

Parsons Pottery offers hand-made items for sale, of course – check out their Christmas shop at the workshop – but a whole lot more. John and Rosie aim to get all manner of people potting and painting, and not just the artistically minded: they offer pottery painting workshops and clay craft classes, with hand-throwing lessons and maybe even raku sessions planned for the future. If you're staying in, they have paint-at-home kits: choose an object, paint it with the materials provided and return it for glazing and firing. Group sessions are available too – just ask.

The Parsons have been regular visitors for more years than they can count but finally moved to Widemouth a year ago. Since then they've worked really hard to establish the workshop and become part of the local craft community. For more information on what they offer, visit www.parsonspottery.co.uk or 07967044298.



IT'S ALL SET FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS AT MEADOWLANDS COURT

A group of friends at Meadowlands Court have joined forces in a real community effort to put up their Christmas tree a little early this year. Barb and Tony Kestell, who kindly sent these pictures, were among the first to move in at the new development just off the A39 at Box's Shop.



'There are now 20+ of us,' they say, 'still lots of building work going on but it will be nice when finished. Our Christmas tree has gone up early this year because one of our ladies is rather poorly and we thought it would cheer her up. Luckily she can see the tree from her lounge.'

Lockdown may have blighted many things this year but it obviously can't dampen the spirit of Christmas in this part of Poundstock. Well done, everyone, and a very happy Christmas to you all.





**Come to us for all your
Christian resources**

Large range of Bibles
Wide selection of Christian books,
CDs, gifts and cards

"Thy Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path"

Reg. Charity No. 294313 01288 356886

Mon – Sat 10 am – 4 pm (5 pm BST)

Lansdowne Mews, Bude

Credit/debit cards accepted

sales@arkangeltrust.freemove.co.uk

www.arkangeltrust.org.uk

CLAIRE & SIMON

NEATE FEET

Foot care practitioners

Foot care in the comfort of your own home

Toenail clipping Ingrowing toenails Painful corns
removed Paddings & dressings Verrucae
treatment Painful callus reduction

All you require to keep your feet pain free!

Claire & Simon Neate dipfhp

Qualified foot health practitioners

Call: 07968 232344 / 07870 508867



Busbys Solicitors

The Strand, Bude EX23 8TJ

**OFFER YOU
A WIDE RANGE OF
LEGAL SERVICES**

01288 35 9000

www.busbyslaw.co.uk



Handyman

Any job considered

Need a hand with anything?

Inside or out – house or garden

Light bulbs replaced to heavy objects moved

Fencing / woodwork / metalwork / engineering

Basic plumbing

Mowing / tree work

Flat pack furniture assembly

Fixings and brackets

You name it and I'll be happy to discuss it

New to area

References on request

Please call Jeremy Draper on 07847893603

Tess Draper

Cleaning and Gardening

New to the area

Regular and one off visits

20 years' experience

HND Horticulture

Friendly Trustworthy Reliable

References available

Fully insured

Please call 07758096429

R J SARGENT & SON INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

PRIVATE CHAPEL OF REST
MEMORIALS SUPPLIED
FAMILY BUSINESS
ESTABLISHED 1973



Tel. Terry Sargent
01288 361468

Trewithian,
Poundstock, Bude
EX23 0DS



A WARM WELCOME ALL YEAR ROUND

Cornish Coasts farmshop, licensed café and
camping shop is open everyday offering

HOMEMADE MEALS • DELICIOUS CAKES
GREAT COFFEE • CREAM TEAS
HEARTY BREAKFASTS • CAMPING SUPPLIES
LOCAL PRODUCE • HOMEWARE AND GIFTS

OPEN DAILY 08:00 - 16:00
(Extended hours in summer)

☎ 01288 361 380 ✉ admin@cornishcoasts.co.uk
f cornishcoastsfarmshopandcafé 📍 Poundstock, Bude



A WARM WELCOME ALL YEAR ROUND

Cornish Coasts farmshop, licensed café and
camping shop is open everyday offering

HOMEMADE MEALS • DELICIOUS CAKES
GREAT COFFEE • CREAM TEAS
HEARTY BREAKFASTS • CAMPING SUPPLIES
LOCAL PRODUCE • HOMEWARE AND GIFTS

OPEN DAILY 08:00 - 16:00
(Extended hours in summer)

☎ 01288 361 380 ✉ admin@cornishcoasts.co.uk
f cornishcoastsfarmshopandcafé 📍 Poundstock, Bude



Unit 1 'The Stables'
Quinceborough Farm,
Leverlake Road, Widemouth Bay
Cornwall EX23 0NA



Pottery Painting workshops

Paint at Home Kits

Clay Craft Classes

Hand made items for sale



Phone or text: 07967044298
Email: jar@parsonspottery.co.uk
www.parsonspottery.co.uk

f Parsons Pottery

Excerpts from the draft minutes of the virtual meeting of Poundstock Parish Council, 27 October 2020

An Ordinary Meeting of Poundstock Parish Council was held via Zoom, starting at 7.30 pm. Present: Cllrs Stephen Pawley (Chairman), Alison Rowland, Brenda Alison, Kerensa Cobbledick, Paul Curtis, Colin Gilbert and Pamela Idelson. Apology received from Brian Furse, who was unwell.

Cost of repair to the listed tomb in churchyard: comments received from the Parochial Church Council on the quotes received were discussed at length. It was resolved to get a third quote.

Free parking will be provided by Cornwall Council for one day over Christmas; resolved to select Boxing Day for this.

Planning application: PA20/08518 Higher Causewell, Highfield, Poundstock EX23 0DW, alterations and extensions to dwelling, Tank Construction & Hire Ltd; resolved to support.

October accounts: resolved to approve payment of £5,177.62 plus accounts presented of £175.33.

Ward member's report: Cornwall Councillor Nicky Chopak explained the Widemouth Restrictions on Parking Local Consultation is about the proposed changes, not the existing scheme. It is now proposed to extend the double yellow lines on the western side of Marine Drive for the full extent of the existing seasonal restriction, reducing the extents of the seasonal restriction on the eastern side and replacing this with double yellow lines. A section of the seasonal restriction will be retained between Madeira Drive and Leverlake Road. Cllr Chopak suggested upgrading Zoom to extend meeting times. She spoke of press releases regarding free school meals and explained money received by Cornwall Council for this in March has already been spent. Get in touch with her if aware of any family in distress.

Chairman's report (also see p. 16): The Chairman spoke of the effects of COVID-19. With virtual meetings of the Parish Council continuing, we must learn to manage low broadband speeds, frozen screens and the limitations of on-line meetings. A subscription to Zoom has been investigated. He asked all Councillors to be properly prepared for meetings and where necessary bring matters of concern to the attention of the Chairman and Clerk beforehand.

Clerk's report: The Zoom Standard Pro plan costs £14.39 per month for unlimited meetings. Resolved to purchase.

Correspondence: CRHA Buttercup Field Phase 2 Update: the option to site a new hall on the site phase 2 Buttercup Field was discussed further. It was generally considered unsuitable to locate a hall in such close proximity to existing and proposed housing, along with purchase, development and infrastructure costs.

Working/Steering Group Report: Members of the Steering Group will conduct a further analysis of the consultation data; each sub-group will produce a statement on the current position and forward plan for the Nov. Council meeting.

Parish Hall Working Group: The Working Group will produce an up-to-date report for the Nov. Council meeting.

Meeting closed: 21.27 pm.

(The full approved minutes can be found on the Parish Council website or the parish noticeboards. To attend a meeting via Zoom, please contact the Parish Clerk.)

Poundstock Parish Council

www.poundstock-pc.gov.uk

Chairman Steve Pawley	Marlborough House, EX23 0EE0	01840 230697 steve.pawley@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
Vice Chair Alison Rowland	Coppathorne, EX23 0DD	01288 361239 alison.rowland@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
Councillors		
Brenda Alison		01288 361491 brenda.alison@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
Kerensa Cobbledick	Silverdown, EX23 0DH	01288 361459 kerensa.cobbledick@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
Brian Furse	Higher Trewint, EX23 0EQ	01840 230342 brian.furse@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
Colin Gilbert	Auverne, Vicarage Lane, EX23 0AU	01288 361894 colin.gilbert@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
Pamela Idelson	Trebarfoot Manor, EX23 0DH	07540 573740 pamela.idelson@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
Paul Curtis		07791 192021 paul.curtis@poundstock-pc.gov.uk

Two vacancies (as of the end of November 2020)

Council Clerk Lynn Pluess	Trevoulter Barton, EX23 0DH	07768 100560 clerk@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
----------------------------------	-----------------------------	--

The Parish Council website publishes agendas and minutes for current council meetings, together with details of councillors and how they can be contacted. You will also find a list of planning applications affecting the parish and lots of information about the Neighbourhood Development Plan. For further information, contact the Parish Clerk.

theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN



Jacobstow WI

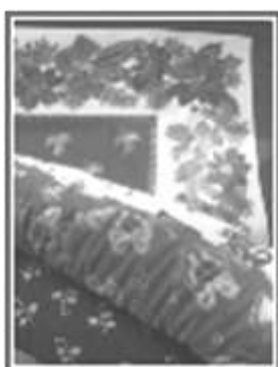
On 21 October the Autumn Council Meeting was held online for the first time, with over 100 members attending. Following business updates from the County Team, Hampton Court Palace lecturer Sarah Slater gave a talk entitled 'Sex, Secrets, Scandal and Salacious Gossip of the Royal Court 1660–1830'. Wearing period dress that she made herself, she brought history to life and left us wanting to learn more about these interesting times.

To mark last year's Centenary of the Cornwall Federation of WIs, two of our members started litter picking on their local walks, initially aiming to collect 100 pieces of litter. They are still going! Sheila and Bella, pictured here with Topsy, quickly overtook their target. They have now collected over 900 pieces and have their sights set on 1,000! A huge thank you and well done, ladies!



While the latest lockdown prevents us from meeting as a group, members continue to keep in touch by telephone and our monthly newsletters. Some county events have continued, with more being planned for the New Year and Denman At Home classes also available online.

Members continue crafting at home, but at the time of going to print many of our Christmas crafts weren't quite finished! Here's a flavour of some of our Unfinished Objects or UFOs!



Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Jill Baker

Pumpkins

While 2020 hasn't been everyone's favourite year by a long way, it does seem to have been a good year for pumpkins. We had several photos from readers showing the whoppers they had grown in their gardens, all with a healthy waist measurement (unfortunately we couldn't manage to weigh them this year).

Congratulations to Alan Green and Marie Rendle, who tied in second place with 50-inch fatties. Pretty good, but not a patch on the out-and-out winner: the prize goes to Pat Rowland, whose giant cucurbit had a waist measurement of 74 inches (that's getting on for 2 metres).

Sadly, no one sent us a picture of their clever carving or imaginative photo-montage. You'll just have to wait for that until next year's Pumpkin Festival.

Now what can you do with all that pumpkin? Pumpkin soup, pumpkin pie, pumpkin risotto, pumpkin chutney ...



WHAT A YEAR!

As I write this article we are currently in the middle of the second lockdown of the year, due to end on 2 December – or does it? With all the issues involving Covid, it is difficult for any of us to make any proper plans. Christmas may be on hold for most of us, or severely reduced in size and entertainment.

In previous years my wife and I have entertained as many as seventeen family members. This year we may be down to just the two of us to celebrate the festive season, or three at most – but time will tell.

It has been an extremely bizarre year for all of us. I have been staggered and humbled by the enormous resilience shown by so many of my clients, some of them very elderly and living alone. Others, however, have suffered terribly from loneliness and isolation, even to the point of taking their own lives.

Hopefully the promised vaccine will soon be available for all of us. The question then arises: will people's lives return to their *modus operandi* before March? What will change? Will people embrace families far more, and no longer take them for granted? Will people now shop locally? Will they appreciate home comforts more? Are they more likely to spend their holidays in lovely surroundings like Devon and Cornwall? Time again will tell.

From the legal perspective, I have seen many relationship breakdowns since the start of the lockdown in March. I have seen many issues involving contact and care of children. I have seen too many clients dying because of Covid. I have seen far more people ready to update their Wills or have Wills written for the first time. And I have seen many people realise the enormous good sense of putting Lasting Powers of Attorney in place to protect themselves in the event of incapacity or inability to cope, as they get older and more frail.

John Busby

Our Night Sky in December 2020

Look out for Jupiter and Saturn very close together in the evening sky, especially on the 15th of the month. Both are sinking rapidly after sunset, so you will have to be quick to catch them. Mars continues to dominate the southern sky throughout the night, but is growing fainter as it recedes from us. By 1900, Orion will be rising in the East, and will be visible in the southern sky throughout the night. Venus will be rising in the South East by 0700 but will be lost in the dawn sky by 0800.

Ever since Albert Einstein's general theory of relativity was considered to have predicted black holes by linking space-time with the action of gravity, it has been known that black holes result from the death of a massive star leaving behind a small, dense remnant core. Assuming this core has more than roughly three times the mass of the sun, gravity would overwhelm to such a degree that it would fall in on itself into a single point, or singularity, understood to be the black hole's infinitely dense core.

A black hole's 'surface', called its event horizon, defines the boundary where the velocity needed to escape exceeds the speed of light, which is the speed limit of the cosmos. Matter and radiation fall in, but they can't get out. Although light can't escape a black hole's event horizon, the enormous tidal forces in its vicinity cause nearby matter to heat up to millions of degrees and emit radio waves and X-rays. Some of the material orbiting even closer to the event horizon may be hurled out, forming jets of particles moving near the speed of light and, focused by the intense magnetic field surrounding the black hole, they emit radio, X-rays and gamma rays. Jets from supermassive black holes can extend hundreds of thousands of light-years into space.

In 2019, astronomers using the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) – an international collaboration that networked eight ground-based radio telescopes into a single Earth-size dish – captured an image of a black hole for the first time. It appears as a dark circle silhouetted by an orbiting disk of hot, glowing matter. The supermassive black hole is located at the heart of a galaxy called M87, located about 55 million light-years away, and weighs more than 6 billion solar masses. Its event horizon extends so far it could encompass much of our solar system out to well beyond the planets.

For those of you interested, the NASA website describes black holes and has some excellent diagrams and artists' impressions, as well as telescopic images.

I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and prosperous 2021, and happy Night Sky watching!

Bill Turnill

Diary Dates

December

4–23 Bude Christmas Market Fayre, 11–4 every day, TIC (see p. 4)

6, 13, 20 Crackington Community Produce Stall, 10.30–12 (see p. 4)

January

Nothing yet - but we live in hope!

FREE ADVERTISING FOR LOCAL EVENTS

The Packet will always advertise local community and charity events free of charge. As soon as circumstances allow meetings and events to take place, we will be delighted to publish the details: the deadline is 20 January for events in February and March.

Don't forget: tell the Packet!

Defibrillators in the parish

There are three, all in Widemouth Bay. One is next to the Summerhouse (at the church in Leverlake Road), one is near the top of Long Park Drive by the entrance to Pencarra and Bellair, just below the junction with Edith Walk, and the third is at the back of the public toilets just above Widemouth beach. The RNLI lifeguards also have a defibrillator.

Local Contacts

MP: Scott Mann	01208 74337
Parish council chair: Steve Pawley	01840 230697
Parish clerk: Lynn Pluess	0776 8100 560
Cornwall Councillor: Nicky Chopak	0781 030 2061
Cornwall Council	0300 1234 100
Jacobstow WI: Mrs J. Baker	01840 239829
Marhamchurch WI: Mrs P. Hazeldine	01288 682193
Poundstock Skittles: Pam Gilhespy	01288 361570
Rebel Cinema	01288 361442
Bude Library/One-Stop Shop	0300 1234 111
Library renewal line	0845 607 6119
Recycling centre/tip (Tiscott Wood)	0845 630 0300
National Childline	0800 1111
Police – non-emergency	101
Farming Community Network	0845 367 9990
Bude Food Bank	01288 448748
Citizens Advice	03 444 111 444
(Phone advice line, operates 10–4, Monday–Friday)	
CCS helpline/Age UK Cornwall	01872 266383
Floodline	0845 988 1188
Western Power (power cut)	0800 678 3105
Doctors' surgeries: Neetside	01288 270580
Stratton	01288 352133
Boscastle	01840 250209
NHS non-emergency helpline	111
Stratton Hospital	01288 320100
(Minor Injuries Unit is open 24 hours a day. Currently patients are advised to phone before attending.)	

Local Organisations

Libraries

Bude Library is currently open 10.00–3.00 Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10.00–1.00 Saturdays, click and collect only. Reserve books by phone (0300 1234 1111) or online at capitadiscovery.co.uk/cornwall/login.

While the churches are closed, Poundstock's two pop-up libraries, in St Winwaloe's and Our Lady and St Anne's, are not available.

Poundstock Post Office

Still based in the old shop at Cornish Coasts Caravan and Camping Park on the A39. Open Mondays and Thursdays, 9.00–1.00 (ask at the new shop).

The following details relate to pre-covid meetings. We apologise that with **THINGS BEING SO CHANGEABLE IT'S** impossible for us to give up-to-date information. Please contact each organisation for the current situation.

Scouts and Guides

Cubs: Monday 6.30–8.0 pm (01288 352786)
 Guides: Monday, Jacobstow parish hall
 Scouts: Tuesday 6.30–8.0 pm
 Beavers: Wednesday 6.0–8.0 pm (07855 001284)
 Rainbows, Brownies and Guides: ring Louise on 078 1798 5661 for more information.

Marhamchurch WI

Meets in Marhamchurch Methodist Hall at 7.30 pm on the second Tuesday of the month.

Jacobstow WI

Meets in Jacobstow Parish Hall at 7.30 pm on the second Thursday of the month.

Juliotter Garden Club

Meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month in Otterham and St Juliot hall at 7.30 pm. More info from Alan on 01566 781559 or Paul on 01840 269178

Launcells/Bude Dog Training/Agility

Puppies, pet dog training, problem dogs, clicker training, socialisation. Classes for all ages and abilities, Bangors Chapel hall, Mondays from 6.30pm. All profits to charity. Details from 01566 86500 or 01288 321922.

Bude Bridge Club

Meets Tuesday and Friday evenings and Wednesday afternoons in the Parkhouse Centre. Further information from www.bridgewebs.com/Bude or ring 01237 471111.

Widemouth Bay Summerhouse

A friendly group (and their dogs) meet alternate Fridays at 2pm in the Summerhouse (by Widemouth Bay church). More information from Jann Bowers, 01288 361931.

Whist drives

Whist drives normally held at the Bray, Marhamchurch, on Thursday afternoons are suspended for the moment.

Bangors Chapel Hall

Although the chapel has closed the hall can still be hired. It has easy access and parking, and is very convenient and comfortable. Ring Debbie Marsh, 01288 488195.

Poundstock Gildhouse

You can hire the Gildhouse for events from meetings to parties and wedding receptions. Ring 01288 341537 or 01566 781559, or visit www.poundstockgildhouse.co.uk.