

No. 113 February / March 2022



# THE POUNDSTOCK PACKET

KERNOW BYS VYKEN!



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## We stil I need hel p!

At the risk of sounding like the proverbial cracked record, we are still appealing for help. There is now a very real risk that the Packet will not be able to continue unless new people come forward soon.

If you find the Packet useful or enjoy reading it, please would you take a moment to consider whether you could spare us an hour or two every couple of months? We have such a loyal and helpful band of contributors who provide much of the content; what we don't have is a team of people who can share putting the magazine together, ready for printing. It isn't hard – it's just a matter of getting used to what to do.

Do ring me or Jen (numbers below) if you'd like to know more, or if you'd like to help but don't know how. We would be so grateful.

Liz

## Contributions

We always welcome input from our readers. If you want to send us an article or local information, contact us at [poundstockpacket@gmail.com](mailto:poundstockpacket@gmail.com) or ring the editor, Liz Jones, on 079040 88779.

We do not necessarily endorse the views expressed by individual contributors and while we do our best to make sure all information is accurate, we can't accept any responsibility for errors. We reserve the right to edit items submitted and decide on what is suitable for publication. If you wish to copy or reuse any of our content, please contact the editor or article author for permission.

**The deadline for our next edition is 20 March 2022.**

## Advertising

Advertising in the Packet currently costs from £35 a year (six issues), depending on the size of ad you choose. This includes delivery direct to all the homes in the parish – currently 550. For more information please contact Karen Probets via [poundstockpacket@gmail.com](mailto:poundstockpacket@gmail.com) or Jen Spettigue, 36 St Marwenne Close, Marhamchurch (01288 361525),

We do our best to deliver to everyone in the parish, but if you know of anyone who has been missed, please let us know. For those who live elsewhere, copies are available at the Beach House and Wainhouse Country Stores, on our website ([poundstockpacket.org.uk](http://poundstockpacket.org.uk)) or by post; please contact us for details.

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## Around the parish ...

**Defibrillators:** There are now two new defibrillators in the parish, at Treskinnick Cross (in the old telephone box) and at Meadowlands Court (on the A39 at Box's Shop). Details of all the defibrillators in the parish on p. 23.

**Meadowlands Court:** Tony Kestell writes, 'At last, we are now LIVE as regards the Defib unit at Meadowlands Court. We had it fitted on 3 December by Alan from Duchy Defibs. Even though the operation of the unit is straightforward we will be organising training in the New Year.'



Tony also added this photo of tireless fundraiser Rick Dean and his granddaughter Evelyn doing a charity walk around the park before Christmas. They did four laps before going into Bude to do a tour around town, raising a total of £358.07 for Children's Hospice South West. A case of two Father Christmases asking for gifts as well as giving them! Well done Rick and Evelyn!



**Poundstock Parish Council election:** At the end of the year we experienced that rare thing, an election for Poundstock Parish Council, with three candidates standing for the two vacant seats. As a result of the election, Jonathan Faulkner and Eric Harris were elected to serve on the Parish Council. We are grateful for their willingness to serve the community and wish them both well.

**Bangors Chapel:** A Webbers 'For Sale' sign has appeared on the old Bangors Chapel site. It is offered for sale by informal tender, with a guide price of £300,000 and sealed bids requested by 22 February. The building was registered as a community asset with Cornwall Council in 2021. Many feel it would make a good parish hall. It is currently the home of Hi-5 Talk Time Café, our local charity for children with additional needs.

**Unexpected item in the Gildhouse area?** Sue Burrows kindly sent this photo of a no. 95 bus reversing back along Vicarage Lane after taking a wrong turn. How far did the driver get before realising this wasn't the best route to Widemouth Bay? Buses have also been spotted in other unusual roads recently, sadly not new routes, just diversions for road works.



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## CHURCHES

### Thank you for donations to St Petroc's

As usual, the collections at our carol services and our Christmas Day service were given to St Petroc's, and we were very pleased to be able to send a total of £290.44. St Petroc's Society is a Cornish charity, set up 35 years ago to help the homeless in the county. Last year it helped over a thousand people who were sleeping rough, vulnerably housed or facing homelessness, providing practical help, advice and use of essential services. Its long-term aim is to end homelessness in the county. For more information, go to [www.stpetrocs.org.uk](http://www.stpetrocs.org.uk).

### Looking back at Christmas services

Despite concern about the then-new omicron variant, we were able to welcome a good number of people to services over Christmas, with a traditional lessons and carols service at Widemouth Bay, an informal carol-sing in St Winwaloe's with all the doors wide open (at least we were in the dry and the heating was on), and an equally well-ventilated Christmas Day service at Widemouth, with the church full to bursting. Our grateful thanks to John Walter, who played the keyboard for St Winwaloe's carols, Revs David and Rob, who led the services, and all who decorated the churches and provided mince pies and mulled wine.

### Pause for thought

There is so much to be thankful about. So let us all count our blessings, love all we come into contact with, and when we are alone remember we are never alone – God is always with us.

*Hilda Walter*

## Benefice Services for February

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 2, 16    | HC, Bude 10.00  |
| 6        | HC, Bude 9.30; FS, WSM 10.00; EP, Marhamchurch 6 pm   |
| 9 and 23 | HC, Widemouth Bay 10.00   |
| 13       | <b>MP, Poundstock 9.30</b> ; HC, Marhamchurch 9.30 and Whitstone 11.15; EP, WSM 6 pm                  |
| 20       | HC, Bude 9.30; MP, Marhamchurch 11.15; HC, WSM 11.15  |
| 27       | <b>HC, Poundstock 9.30</b> ; HC, Marhamchurch 9.30; MP, Whitstone 9.30; MP, WSM 10.00; HC, Bude 11.15 |

*EP Evening Prayer; FS Family Service; HC Holy Communion; MP Morning Prayer; times are a.m. unless otherwise stated*

*We are sorry the service rota for March was unavailable when we went to press, but it should follow the same pattern. The rota will be posted in the church porch as soon as it is published.*





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It has been wonderful to get back to school, with more children and families well enough to attend and with numbers isolating at their lowest since November. Gradually, as I am sure you all are too, we are learning how to spot symptoms and manage them quickly so that we know whether to isolate or carry on with our day-to-day jobs/education. Thank you to families for continuing to support us with our management of the pandemic.

On just our second day back at school this term, we all went to the Theatre Royal in Plymouth to watch the pantomime *Aladdin*. It was an absolute joy to sit back and watch the children enjoy this event: cheering, singing and clapping along, and knowing when to boo and hiss at Abanazar!

Since we have returned to school after the Christmas holidays, we seem to have been experiencing both Winter and Spring seasons with our weather. The children have loved the cold, crisp, frosty mornings, finding ice frozen solid in our outdoor toys and equipment and watching as it melts as the sun comes out. No matter how old you get, the magical awe and wonder of frost and ice, and the sun shining through, never fails to make you smile. We have also been able to spot signs that spring is most definitely on its way as bulbs have been pushing their way through the surface. A huge thank you to the Jacobstow Guides for planting some more daffodil bulbs for us last term: they are now starting to show and we look forward to the beautiful display they will add to the front of our school.

In our Forest School sessions, the children have been making bird feeders for our local bird population and just last week were treated to a visit from a robin who bravely hopped down on to the ground near where the children were working. One of our local farming families also brought in lambs which were just a couple of weeks old so that the children could all spend some time with the lambs and help to bottle feed them.



*[Continued on p. 11]*

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## Jacobstow School (continued)

Before Christmas we asked children, parents, staff and governors to help us adapt our school motto and reflect what we aspire to do for our children. Our new motto is: Making Memories, Nurturing Confidence, Inspiring Ambition for a Brighter Future.

This is helping us to shape the work we do together in school and our future plans, for example having Exeter Chiefs in to run our tag rugby sessions and asking for a visit from Really Wild Planet to talk about rainforest creatures and let the children be immersed in this experience.

This term our assembly focus is on children's future ambitions, hopes and dreams. We have been discussing what we might like to be when we grow up and what we could do now to try and help us step closer towards our dreams. During the first week of March, we will be holding a dress up day where children can come to school in the clothes/uniform they might wear to do their future job aspiration. If anyone in our local community has a job role (past or present) that they feel our children might learn more about then please get in touch – you could be playing a part in shaping a child's life!

*Mikaela Rofe, Headteacher, Jacobstow Primary and Pre-School*

### A seasonal brain-teaser!

Can you fill in the missing words and then use the first letter of each one to spell out something that always cheers everybody up? (If you get stuck, the answers are in 'Wild about Poundstock' on pp. 15 and 17.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Little white flowers that look fragile but are strong enough to push their way through frozen ground

\_\_\_\_\_ If you're very lucky, you may see these marine mammals (or their cousins, the dolphins) out to sea

\_\_\_\_\_ Beds of these grow alongside the Bude canal

\_\_\_\_\_ A blue or purple flower; the winter variety blooms even in the coldest weather

\_\_\_\_\_ Harvest mice have summer and winter types of this

\_\_\_\_\_ What the harvest mouse builds with in summer

**And the mystery word is, of course,**

\_\_\_\_\_ !

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## Tim Dingle, 1945–2021

*Tim Dingle, recently of Hampshire but for many years a central figure here, passed away in December after a battle with Alzheimer's. His funeral was held at St Winwaloe's in January, and he was laid to rest in the parish cemetery. Tim was a great friend of the Packet, from our first issue contributing 'Wild about Poundstock' on the wildlife of the area. It is a privilege to include this tribute.:*



Tim began and ended life in Hampshire but spent the majority of his life in the Bude area. From a farming family, he attended agricultural college and then farmed for more than twenty years before following his passion for wildlife and the countryside by becoming a cherished and well-respected member of the North Cornwall District Council Heritage Coast and Countryside Service, where he spent many happy years.

Always keen to share his knowledge of plants, birds, animals and wildlife conservation, he started a local RSPB group (later the local Cornwall Wildlife Trust group). He gave hundreds of talks and led numerous guided walks. He was actively involved with the Cornwall Fritillary Group, monitoring numbers and improving habitats throughout the area.

Tim's impact on wildlife conservation efforts and providing access to the coast and countryside of North Cornwall can still be seen throughout the local area, including numerous stiles, footpaths and a lookout bench at Widemouth viewing point.

He worked with the Bude Canal Trust when they took over the management of the canal beyond Holsworthy. With a small team of volunteers he spent many a day clearing areas of the canal to allow more access for visitors. Improving access to Bude Marshes was another of his passions.

Tim was keen on preserving the cultural heritage of North Cornwall. He led the fundraising effort towards the restoration of the 16<sup>th</sup> century Gildhouse which won many awards, not least the 2012 Europa Nostra Cultural Heritage award. He maintained, cared for and coordinated the restoration of multiple holy wells and spent many hours photographing and recording stone crosses and other ancient monuments of Cornwall with his friends and colleagues.

Tim was a keen and skilled gardener, transforming the blank canvas of the Barn House into a beautiful garden that was included in the NGS's open gardens.

Loving husband, dad and grandad, Tim leaves behind his wife Sandy, children Stuart and Becky, and grandchildren Eden, Owen, Mawgan and Maddy.

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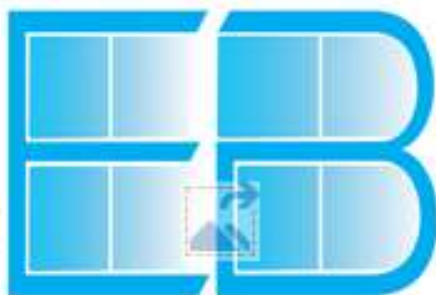
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# Wild about Poundstock

*As a tribute to Tim Dingle, here are some excerpts from his column over the many years he wrote for us. They all come from his observations for February and March, and are just as fresh and relevant today as when he wrote them.*

## **Winter visitors** (*Packet no. 5, 2004*)

Most people will think that to see 'non-resident' birds they need to be out in the spring and summer. However, this isn't the case, as a walk along the cliffs with a pair of binoculars in winter might reveal some less familiar species.

Many of the birds that breed in the far north of Britain, or further north, find our coasts warm and welcoming during the winter months ... An example of this is the red-throated diver, a species I often see not too far offshore. This is a bird that looks black and white, sits low in the water and is rather 'torpedo' shaped. They tend to be in loose groups of 10 to 20.

There are often small flocks of ducks offshore. These may be wigeon ... or scarcer species like the black common scoter or maybe the larger eider ducks ... Grebes are another group that sometimes come to our shore in the winter. These are dumpy little birds with long necks. The most commonly seen is the Slavonian grebe, about the size of a small duck. The other grebe that is sometimes seen ... is the great crested grebe, nearly twice the size. Both of these are black and white, but at a distance look black with white up the neck and a black crown.

Do look out for these visitors. They can quite often be seen off Penhalt or Widemouth Bay ... after a few days' north-westerly wind. And don't forget that there may still be porpoises or dolphins around.

## **Of friend and foe** (*Packet no. 35, 2009*)

At this time of year, when I am starting to sort out flower beds after the winter and looking forward to the garden looking fresh and full of flowers, the 'man in the black velvet coat' attacks! Yes, this is the time of year when the mole strikes.

It is indeed the 'man' in black, for the molehills on the lawn will mostly have been made by the male searching for a mate. Most of the year the tunnels are well below ground, and most of the soil stored there. However, in early spring he hunts around at higher levels and pushes the soil up. Either sex could be at work creating new tunnels as well. Only one animal lives in a system, hence the need to search for a mate in spring. The digging is done with the forelimbs and then soil is pushed back with the hindlimbs. After a while the mole will turn around and push the soil back along the tunnel, and then push up to the surface.

I always smile, because as gardeners we complain about moles but we like lots of worms in our soil, and so does the mole! It's a bit like having a [*contd p. 17*]



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## Wild about Poundstock (contd)

fish pond then complaining about herons. They will also eat slugs, grubs and even small frogs and baby mice ... A larder of worms is stored which are bitten so they cannot move but stay alive! Mole nests are well below the surface, about 3 feet down and lined with grass and leaves; the little ones are born named and blind and are dependent on mum for about a month.

I do like moles but not in my garden! Another sighting this week is much more lovable. Working on the Bude canal up at Pancrasweek I came across a harvest mouse nest among some reeds. This was a summer breeding nest, a ball of neatly woven grass blades. The early harvests these days don't give them much chance to breed in corn but they are found in reed beds and long grass along hedges. At this time of year they are in mossy winter nests in a bank. These beautiful creatures are not as common as they once were and not often seen, although they are active day and night.

### **Winter gloom becomes winter glory** (*Packet no. 41, 2010*)

Last week when the frost was biting the garden looked miserable ... once again, though, the frost has gone and suddenly there is a daffodil in flower, the hellebores have stood erect once more, and there is viburnum, winter honeysuckle and witch hazel flowering. Actually the winter iris have flowered throughout, there is always some winter glory.

The snowdrops are just showing signs of flowering. Everybody's favourites, they just get on with flowering regardless of what is going on around them. How do they do it? Firstly, they have a toughened growing tip to the leaves, enabling them to push up through the frosted ground, and the flower buds contain an anti-freeze. Then, when they do open their flowers, they are held on very elastic stems which defy the winter wind. In Cornwall we expect to see them along road banks as well as out in the woods, and yet they don't appear to be native. Snowdrops are not recorded in Britain as a wild flower until the 1770s. The name does not appear in the Oxford English Dictionary until the late seventeenth century ... and we are still talking about a garden plant. Only in the west country can you expect to find it growing well away from habitation. It is possible that it is native here, at the edge of its European distribution. Even in European terms it is generally an alpine plant, though.

Whatever the history, snowdrops are definitely one of the glories of winter. The green stripes inside the flower are nectar lines, attracting early insects to visit the flower. They certainly have a lovely scent. So enjoy what is to be seen over winter, for anything that makes that special effort demands respect.

Answers to brain-teasers: snowdrops, porpoises, reeds, iris, nest, grass, and spring

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## Out and About

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At this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Cornwall ([www.walkinginengland.co.uk/cornwall](http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/cornwall)) has hundreds of walks to download and print, free. It also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group, all the information is there in one place.

There is so much walking information on the web but it can be difficult to find. Walking in Cornwall (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so you will be able to find a walk suitable for you.

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*John Harris*

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## Local Contacts

NHS non-emergency helpline	111
Coronavirus test and trace hotline	119
Stratton Hospital Minor Injuries Unit	01288 320100
(Currently open 24 hours a day every day. Please phone before attending.)	
Doctors' surgeries: Neetside	01288 270580
Stratton	01288 352133
Boscastle	01840 250209
MP: Scott Mann	01208 74337
Parish council chair: Robert Gavin	(see p. 39)
Parish clerk: Lynn Pluess	0776 8100 560
Cornwall Councillor: Nicky Chopak	0781 030 2061
Cornwall Council	0300 1234 100
Bude Library/One-Stop Shop	0300 1234 111
Library renewal line	0845 607 6119
Recycling centre/tip (Tiscott Wood)	0845 630 0300
Samaritans	116 123
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 cuts)	0800 678 3105
Jacobstow WI: Mrs J. Baker	01840 239829
Marhamchurch WI: Mrs P. Hazeldine	01288 682193
Poundstock Skittles: Pam Gilhespy	01288 361570
Poundstock Ringers	079040 88779
Juliottter Garden Club	01566 781559 or 01840 261237
Rebel Cinema	01288 361442

# Local Organisations

## Libraries

Bude Library is currently open 10.00–4.00 Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10.00–1.00 Saturdays. Reserve books by phone (0300 1234 1111) or online at [capitadiscovery.co.uk/cornwall/login](http://capitadiscovery.co.uk/cornwall/login).

Poundstock's two pop-up libraries, in St Winwaloe's and Our Lady and St Anne's, are available when the churches are open (currently only on service days at St Winwaloe's, but all day, every day for Our Lady and St Anne's).

## 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 are accurate to the best of our knowledge, but check before you go (contact details below or p. 21).

## 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.

## Marhamchurch WI

Marhamchurch Methodist Hall, 2.30 pm, second Tuesday of the month (note change of time to afternoon).

## Jacobstow WI

Jacobstow Parish Hall, 7.30 pm, second Thursday of the month.

## Juliotter Garden Club

Otterham and St Juliot Hall, 7.30 pm, fourth Tuesday of the month.

## Launceston/Bude Dog Training/Agility

Puppies, pet dog training, problem dogs, clicker training, socialisation.

Classes for all ages and abilities. All profits to charity. Further details from 01566 86500 or 01288 321922.

## Bude Bridge Club

Tuesday and Friday evenings, Wednesday afternoons, in the Parkhouse Centre. Details from [www.bridgewebs.com/Bude](http://www.bridgewebs.com/Bude) or ring 01237 471111.

## Poundstock Gildhouse

You can hire the Gildhouse for events from meetings to parties and wedding receptions. Details from 01288 341537 or 01566 781559, or visit [www.poundstockgildhouse.co.uk](http://www.poundstockgildhouse.co.uk).

# Diary Dates

## February

- 8 Marhamchurch WI
- 10 Jacobstow WI, 'Beekeeping'
- 22 Juliotter Garden Club, 'The Wonderful World of Fungi', 7.30

## March

- 2 Ash Wednesday
- 5 St Piran's Day; Bude Concert Orchestra concert, 7.30 (see p. 19)
- 8 Marhamchurch WI
- 10 Jacobstow WI
- 12 NPSG meeting and cream tea, Gildhouse, 2–5 (see p. 41)
- 22 Juliotter Garden Club
- 26 Bude Choral Society, *Messiah*, 7.00 (see p. 19)
- 27 Mothering Sunday

## FREE ADVERTISING FOR LOCAL EVENTS

The Packet will always advertise local community and charity events free of charge. As circumstances allow meetings and events to take place, we all hope to get back to a more normal pattern of life with a lot more going on. As ever, we will be delighted to publish the details: just let us know.

Our deadline for the April and May edition is 20 March

**DON'T FORGET: TELL THE PACKET!**

## Defibril lators in the parish

**Widemouth Bay:** next to the Summerhouse (by the church, Leverlake Road); near the top of Long Park Drive by the entrance to Pencarra and Bellair, just below the junction with Edith Walk; at the back of the public toilets just above Widemouth beach. The RNLI lifeguards also have a defibrillator, available at their hut above the beach when they are on duty.

**Meadowlands Court:** just off the A39 at Box's Shop (see p. 5).

**Treskinnick Cross:** just off the A39, in the old phone box.

## **Pilates Classes In North Cornwall**

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# Mole

We used to have a dog called Mole. A lovely mate. Here's a photo of him cooking a barbecue; and he never stole a sausage.



But this is about the gentleman in velvet who lives underground and featured in *The Wind in the Willows*, and here's a photo of him preparing *his* barbecue.

(Photo courtesy of Unsplash)

You have to get up early to see mole. About 4am is good; that's when the molehills get built. Molehills are shoved up when Moley needs to clear the earth from his tunnel.

He *isn't* blind, but he can't see very well. What he does not have in sight, he makes up with his sense of smell. Research into moles in America showed that moles smell in stereo as much as we, with our two eyes, see in stereo.

'I say, I say, I say. The other day I cut off a mole's nose.'

'How does he smell?'

'Blimmin' awful.'

*Enough of this nonsense!*

Mole's coat is soft and velvety: this is not for our benefit; his coat helps him slip smoothly along his tunnel in search of his standard meal: earthworms.

I'm not a bat or a rat or a cat,  
I'm not a gnu or a kangaroo,  
I'm not a goose or a moose on the loose,  
I am a mole and I live in a hole.



(Photo courtesy of Unsplash)

*Christopher Asbury*



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At our Christingle service, one Rainbow and three Brownies were awarded their gold awards, the highest award available in their section, and therefore they will soon be moving on to the next stage in their guiding journey. Two Brownies also made their promise, which is made near the start of their journey in each section.

To end the term we had Christmas parties for all. The Rainbows and Brownies went to The Venue, played in the soft play and had some chips. The Guides all brought a plate of food to the parish hall where they completed Christmas-themed challenges, including making and decorating a house out of malted milk biscuits and sweets and decorating one member of their team as a Christmas tree to then sing around!

Christmas and New Year brought a break from Guiding for everyone, then with the increase of covid cases brought discussions of whether we should continue to meet in person or return to Zoom. Other

units in the district decided to return to Zoom after updating their risk assessment. At Jacobstow we have decided that, as numbers allow for distancing and we are able to keep the hall well ventilated, we will keep meeting face to face. We also hope that we will be able to meet outside, especially with the Guides, so keep your fingers crossed the weather is kind to us!



*Louise Cowling*

### **Learn something new in 22!**

How about starting 2022 with learning a new skill? Meeting new people and going new places! Why not learn a musical instrument? You're never too old or too young. It's good for your physical and mental health and wellbeing. Playing an instrument will improve your breathing, your concentration, your memory and your stamina. It will also help reduce stress and anxiety.

St Gennys Silver Band is a small friendly group that meets every Wednesday evening and can provide instruments and tuition to anyone who is interested. You will be helping to keep a Cornish tradition alive.

For more information contact Heather Smith on 01840 230976.



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## Our Night Sky in February 2022

By the middle of the month, we will have lost the evening planets that have been delighting us during the past months. However, Mars and Venus will make up for it by becoming morning 'stars', rising about 06.30 before the sunrise overwhelms them. Meanwhile, continue to enjoy the glorious winter skies, with Orion and Sirius dominating the southern sky.

I wonder how many of you were able to watch the epic launch of the James Webb spacecraft (JW) on Christmas Day; surely the best present the launch team could have had! By now, we should know whether the complex procedures for unfolding the sun shades and the hexagonal mirror segments have been successful. If anything goes wrong, all the scientists can hope for is that tweaks from Earth are successful in sorting out any problems, because if they are not, there is no hope of putting things right by sending a manned mission to repair it, as happened with its predecessor, the Hubble Space Telescope, which has performed so brilliantly over the past years.

So why send another telescope up, you might ask? And why send it so far away that it cannot be repaired or upgraded after ten years (because that is when its helium coolant will run out)? The JW is simply the latest generation of space telescopes which will explore the infra red part of the spectrum, allowing astronomers to penetrate the dust clouds that hide what happened 13.5 billion years ago, right back to the very birth of the stars and galaxies which emerged following the Big Bang, which itself emerged from a pinprick in space at the beginning of our time.

Delving into the distant past is not the only task that JW will be able to attempt. Its instrumentation will allow it to study the elements that make up the atmospheres of exo-planets, and might be able to answer the question of whether they are a significant indication of possible life forms. Not such a silly task, since when you think that we have evolved as intelligent creatures in a mere fraction of a second, cosmically speaking, why should life not have evolved over the billions of years since the Big Bang. I am sure people will argue the fors and againsts until final proof emerges!

I will keep you informed of how the JW is performing over the coming months, all being well!

*Bill Turnill*



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## Jacobstow WI

We ended the year on a high at our Christmas Party, with a lovely spread of party food, fun and games and lots of laughs. With thanks to the organisers, we all enjoyed the activities in our festive outfits, secret Santa gifts and carol singing.

Reluctantly, the January meeting was cancelled due to the increase in Covid cases to keep everyone safe, so we're now looking forward to our meeting in February with a talk on Beekeeping.

In the meantime the Cornwall Federation is offering a series of workshops, talks and events covering history, photography, floral arts and crafts. Looking further ahead, we'll be planning our programme of activities and speakers for the rest of the year, preparing for the Annual Meeting in March and new membership year starting in April. The Royal Cornwall



Show schedule has been published and this year's theme will be 'Family Celebration' with the group and individual competitions.

We will soon be voting on this year's Resolutions, the most popular of which will be taken forward to the NFWI's Annual Meeting for consideration as a WI campaign. The shortlist includes the challenging of gender stereotypes in relation to girls' clothing, the sentencing of non-violent women offenders, equality in law for the menopause, the diagnosis of ASD and ADHD in women and girls, and tackling digital exclusion.

New members are always welcome and you can attend as a visitor to see if it's for you before joining. Come along to a meeting or contact Jill to find out more – email: [jacobstowwi@btinternet.com](mailto:jacobstowwi@btinternet.com) or phone 01840 239829.

*Jill Baker*

## **Jacobstow defibrillator: an important message**

Our telephone box in Jacobstow has been set up with a defibrillator, also a small library.

Unfortunately the floor space and access to the defibrillator is being blocked by boxes of books being left on the floor. I have put up notices to ask for this not to happen.

I wondered if you could put a notice in your magazine asking people to be aware of this issue, we really don't want to close the library.

*Charmaine Smith*

*Cutz - Ahead*  
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## A Legal View: Wills – Gifting to Charities

**Legacy giving:** Most of us see kind individuals shaking boxes for charity. Oftentimes these lovely people will position themselves outside shops, often braving the wind and rain to raise money for their favourite charity. It may come as a considerable surprise to many that charity boxes, charity runs and charity events do not form the major part of a charity's income. By far the biggest source of income is legacy giving: what people gift them in their Wills. In the last figures I have seen, for 2017, charity legacy income reached an all-time high of £2.8 billion pounds from this source alone, nearly £38 million more than in 2016. I expect the 2021 figures will show another record has been achieved.

**Small numbers:** Believe it or not, however, only 6.1 per cent of people making Wills leave any gift to charities. It is estimated that if just 1 per cent of those estates which have given nothing to charity did include a charitable gift in the Will, this would alone raise almost £100 million pounds extra for charities. There are also significant tax benefits as the charitable gift is stripped out of the value of the estate. This can reduce the tax burden very considerably for that estate.

**Richard Cousins:** There has been some focus on legacy giving following the sad death of Richard Cousins on New Year's Eve in 2017. He was a 58-year-old widower who died in a sea plane accident with his two sons, his fiancée and her young daughter. He had a multi-million pound fortune. He would have left the majority of his wealth in trust for his two sons, but sadly they perished with him. That meant the 'common tragedy clause' in his Will came into effect, and accordingly his chosen charity, Oxfam, became the principal beneficiary of his estate. He had nominated Oxfam in his Will to benefit from his estate if his next of kin failed to survive him – and this was the result. If he had not written such a clause into his Will, then the intestacy rules would have come into play, and parents, siblings and others would have been the beneficiaries. Instead, Oxfam received a legacy thought to be in the region of £41 million pounds.

**What if?** It is said by many charities that Richard's sad death will help to encourage people to talk honestly about what they want to see happen when they die, including plans on what might seem an unlikely scenario. Lawyers will help clients when drafting Wills by asking the 'What if?' questions. I have often witnessed, for example, parents outliving their children and having provisions in their Wills for where the money should go if that becomes the sad reality.

**Existential risk:** Unless charities continue to get gifts made to them in Wills, the very existence of many is in doubt. Perhaps this article may be some kind of a prompt to persuade you to consider making a gift to your favourite charity when you prepare your Will. Give it serious thought as soon as possible.

*John Busby*

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MBACP

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**Present:** Robert Gavin, Tom O’Sullivan, Stephen Blake, Brian Furse, Revd Ben Lillie, Gemma Watton, parish clerk; Simon Beasely, Chairman of Bude Community Network Panel, Alan Whittle, Vice-Chairman. **Apologies:** Pamela Idelson, Robbie Pearce.

**Planning applications:** PA21/08499, Highfield access to Higher Causewell, Poundstock EX23 0DW, alterations and extension to existing two-storey dwelling: resolved to make no comment, however the Parish Council notes and shares the concerns raised by the Ramblers Association. PA21/10533, Neets Valley, Penfound Road, Poundstock EX23 0DZ, proposed siting of a shepherd's hut holiday accommodation unit; resolved to support. PA21/11233, The Cottage, Leverlake Road, Widemouth Bay EX23 0AF, reserved matters application for a new dwelling house and garage at Plot 4 (details following outline consent PA21/03047 dated 27 July 2021); resolved to object because (a) the Parish Council does not believe that Conditions 1, 3 and 6 have been complied with, (b) there is no evidence that the applicant has liaised with SWW, (c) applicant has provided insufficient information regarding overlooking, overshadowing and overbearing concerns including the potential loss of outlook to the detriment of neighbouring residential amenity and privacy issues, (d) the Parish Council has concerns that it is overdevelopment of the site, in terms of layout and scale, (e) no elevation plans have been submitted to be able to assess this against neighbouring buildings, (f) there is no provision for rubbish and recycling. This is part of a four-dwelling development that will significantly impact on the area and it needs to be considered and assessed as one development. As such, any application for the development of any of the four plots should be accompanied by a detailed ‘Design and Access Statement’ clearly setting out the reserved matters for all four plots and in particular: layout – privacy and overlooking issues; scale and massing, including elevations; appearance; landscaping; drainage – both surface and foul; topography; separation distances, not only between neighbouring dwellings but also as between plots 1–4; indicative 3D images would be helpful; amenity space concerns. PA21/10117 land at Woolstone Manor Farm, Poundstock EX23 0NB, temporary change of use to create seasonal outdoor ‘Slip and Slide’ leisure attraction operating from May half term through to the end of the summer holidays on an annual basis; resolved to object for the following reasons: (a) highway safety issues at access/exit and increased traffic at Box’s Shop crossroads, (b) ecology report is now out of date and a new one needs to be submitted. *[We understand this application has since been withdrawn, Ed.]*

**Finance:** resolved to agree the 2022/2023 budget and set the precept for 2022/23 at £35,000.00. *[Continued on p. 37.]*





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### **Agenda items:**

- (a) Defibrillator: arrange a place and date for public training, pending.
- (b) Review resolution 397/21 'to submit outline planning application to Cornwall Council to demolish the Old Parish Hall and to replace with a similar structure' in light of the information received from Cornwall Council. Resolved Cllr Gemma Watton write to the Bazeley Partnership for general advice.
- (c) Street names at Meadowlands Court: resolved to accept as given.
- (d) Current sewage/drainage capacity in Widemouth Bay and impact on future planning applications/decisions; resolved that Cllr Watton write to South West Water on this matter.
- (f) Resolved to agree the use of election poll cards in the event of a contested election, estimated cost £850.00.

### **Reports:**

- (a) Ward Member Report: Cllr Chopak reported that Cornwall Council is considering closing leisure centres in Falmouth, Launceston, Saltash and Wadebridge. A subsidy of £500k has been made to Newquay Airport. A press release is expected soon about Stratton Medical Unit. There will be Cornwall-wide 'Building the Sands' funding and the possibility of setting up a working group to discuss the benefit to improve the coastal area of Widemouth Bay.
- (b) Chairman's Report: Cllr Gavin attended the Bude and Stratton Town Council meeting and the Remembrance Service at St Winwaloe's, having the great honour of laying the wreath at the War Memorial.

**Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group:** Correspondence on the Housing Needs Survey has been sent to every household, with results expected in January/February 2022. Data processing of previous survey results continues; results are expected soon. An excellent report has been prepared by the two members of the Steering Group Landscape and Environment team. Further training sessions will be arranged in 2022 on the 'Edge of Settlement' analysis. A public consultation event will be organised incorporating the Housing Needs Survey and results, to engage with parishioners on the aims and objectives, and guidance on policies to be included in the Neighbourhood Development Plan for Poundstock. The Steering Group currently has two vacancies.

### **Portfolio Reports:**

Highways and Transport: having conducted a site visit re speeding through Bangors Green, Cllr Furse suggested a 20mph limit. Small sections of road hedges through Millook are a little overgrown. Signage at the top of Combe Lane 'Do not follow sat-nav' is being looked into by Cllr Chopak. *[Contd p. 39.]*

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PROWs: Lack of signage and obstruction of PROWs is still of concern. PROW WCA535: resolved to enter a caution against first registration through adverse possession, clerk to seek a cost to clear the route.

Widemouth Bay toilets, car park and beach: no problem with the extended opening hours for the public toilets.

**Council's Representatives reports from Outside Bodies:** Cllr O'Sullivan spoke to a group set up by Holsworthy Town Council looking at the feasibility of a cycle track from Holsworthy to Bude, with a small section in Poundstock.

**Items for next agenda:** Community Hall.

**Next ordinary council meeting:** 25 January 2022.

**Meeting closed:** 21.36.

## **Poundstock Parish Council**

**[www.poundstock-pc.gov.uk](http://www.poundstock-pc.gov.uk)**

<i>Chairman</i> Robert Gavin	<a href="mailto:robert.gavin@poundstock-pc.gov.uk">robert.gavin@poundstock-pc.gov.uk</a>
<i>Vice Chair</i> Tom O'Sullivan	<a href="mailto:tom.osullivan@poundstock-pc.gov.uk">tom.osullivan@poundstock-pc.gov.uk</a>
<i>Councillors</i>	
Stephen Blake	<a href="mailto:stephen.blake@poundstock-pc.gov.uk">stephen.blake@poundstock-pc.gov.uk</a>
Jonathan Faulkner	contact parish clerk
Brian Furse	<a href="mailto:brian.furse@poundstock-pc.gov.uk">brian.furse@poundstock-pc.gov.uk</a>
Eric Harris	contact parish clerk
Pamela Idelson Smith	<a href="mailto:pamela.idelson@poundstock-pc.gov.uk">pamela.idelson@poundstock-pc.gov.uk</a>
Revd Ben Lillie	<a href="mailto:revben.lillie@poundstock-pc.gov.uk">revben.lillie@poundstock-pc.gov.uk</a>
Robbie Pearce	<a href="mailto:rob.pearce@poundstock-pc.gov.uk">rob.pearce@poundstock-pc.gov.uk</a>
Gemma Watton	<a href="mailto:gemma.watton@poundstock-pc.gov.uk">gemma.watton@poundstock-pc.gov.uk</a>
<i>Parish clerk</i> Lynn Pluess 07768 100 560	<a href="mailto:clerk@poundstock-pc.gov.uk">clerk@poundstock-pc.gov.uk</a>

The parish council website carries agendas, full minutes and other documents, as well as information about the Neighbourhood Development Plan and the parish cemetery. Council meetings are normally held on the fourth Tuesday in the month at 7.30 pm, currently in Bangors Chapel hall and on Zoom, but best to check before attending.



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The Steering Group met again in January 2022 to review their progress to date and to identify and consider the key stages for the year ahead that need addressing. The first of those is to receive the outcome of the Housing Needs Survey, a report by Cornwall Council, which we are eagerly awaiting. We have been informed that a higher than average response was received, with 93 residents completing the survey, giving a 17 per cent response rate, so a HUGE thank you to all that took the time to complete what will be a valuable survey for the Parish. We continue to collect and produce data and with that in mind, and the imminent arrival of the Housing Needs Survey results, we have a date for diaries and calendars:

### **SATURDAY 12 MARCH 2022**

It will be an opportunity to share with you our findings and results to date and an opportunity for you to bring your additional input into how the Neighbourhood Plan should develop, and in particular your thoughts on the Aims and Objectives which will form the basis for the policies set out in the Plan. The event will be held in the Poundstock Gildhouse between 2.00 pm and 5.00, pm consisting of a brief presentation at 2.00 pm followed by the opportunity for you to look at the work undertaken so far, review the data and generally to be informed about your Neighbourhood Plan.

Members of the Steering Group look forward to welcoming you and hopefully to answer any questions you might have. You are also invited to stay for a free homemade Cornish Cream tea.

For additional information and updates please look out for social media posts, flyers in the Parish, the noticeboards and of course the Parish Council website: <https://www.poundstock-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan>

#### **Poundstock Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group**

Chairman: Matthew Blows  
Vice Chair: Brenda Alison  
Secretary: Lyn Smith  
Members: Sara Beckett, Stephen Blake, Robert Gavin, Robbie Pearce, Barry Rogers, Nicky Vereker, Phyllis Ward  
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