



# TRIO

The Port Isaac, Port Gaverne  
and Trelights Newsletter  
No: 243 • June 2004 • 35p

## Here comes summer ... *St Breward Band celebrate 50th season in Port Isaac*



**S**t Breward Band make history and celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> summer season playing in Port Isaac on Thursday May 27<sup>th</sup>. It signifies the beginning of summer and, as always, the Band will play every Thursday at 7.45pm on the Platt and in true Port Isaac tradition will play the Furry Dance and march through the village for locals and visitors to follow and enjoy.

The Band's Publicity Officer told *Trio* that, "It all started by the band being engaged to play at local fetes, festivals, fundraising events and dances, but it wasn't until the 60's that a Mr Hillman who ran the village Spar shop saw an opening for a tourist attraction by suggesting the band play on the Platt allowing, for the first time, the band to fund raise from it's audience. The playing of the Furry dance at Port Isaac has been in existence ever since the band started playing for the village, it now being a main attraction for visitors who love to dance and follow the band up the hill although a much shorter route than past years.

"Hundreds of visitors return year after year some with third generations to listen to the band and dance up the hill. But it is only in recent times that the band sat down at their concerts on the Platt, they used to play all the way up the hill to the top car park, then back down again only to stand for another hour or so taking the weight of their instruments- that's dedication for you!!

Port Isaac summer concerts on the Platt continue right through until September 2<sup>nd</sup>, with their 'Last Night of the Proms' and another season will be over.

**Port Isaac  
Music Festival**  
May 28th - 31st  
*see centre pages*

### Castle Rock planning appeal gets the OK

**O**n May 18<sup>th</sup> Mr Douglas Machin, a Government Planning Inspector, announced his decision to allow an appeal by Arrow Developments Ltd against a December 2003 decision by North Cornwall District Council's Planning and Development Committee to refuse outline planning permission for the demolition of the hotel and residential development of an unspecified number of houses.

*(continued on page 2)*

**Golden Circle Coffee Morning**  
Wednesday June 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Village Hall  
10.00am - 12noon  
Bring & Buy • Raffle • Bric-a-Brac • Cakes  
*everybody welcome*

# New Village Hall Chairman



A new Chairman was elected to lead the Village Hall Committee at its first meeting after the AGM. Due to work commitments (yes, we do have day jobs!), Steve Appleby stepped down as Chair - but remains on the committee. Ian Fuller was unanimously elected as Chairman with Sam (Littlechild) as his deputy. Bess (Coates) remains as Minutes Secretary with Kim (Lanyon) as Secretary jointly with Dee (Randell) who is also Moneybags (Treasurer). Janet (Chadband) is Bookings Secretary so if you want to book the Hall for an event she's your gal. Other committee members are Chris Bolton, Joan Murray, Andy Penny and Roy Speakman.

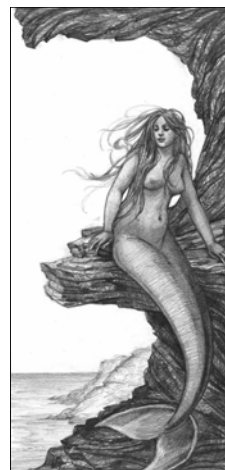
As you read this the plans for the Village Hall improvements, which include the disabled access and toilets, are being viewed by a planning officer in preparation for the official planning application. We are seeking the opinion of the planners before the formal planning applications submitted to iron out any possible problems they may have with the design. We will shortly be reviewing the cost of the project and assess future fundraising requirements.

We are going to need a lot of money and so our fundraising continues. The sales of Laurence's limited edition print and the Village Hall Calendar for 2005 are going well but there are still plenty left. Remember - shop early for Christmas! The calendar would make an excellent gift and comes ready to mail if you want to send it by post.

Our next big fundraiser is the Music Festival over the Bank Holiday Weekend (see centre pages) culminating in the 70s Night in the Village Hall on Monday May 31<sup>st</sup>. Tickets are available in advance from *Secrets* so get yours now or you may be disappointed.

**Don't forget, we cannot achieve S\_CCESS without 'U'.**

## The Mermaid by Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen



**Signed Limited Edition Print**  
£50 unframed  
Purchase from *Secrets*  
or by mail order -  
Tel: 01208 880862 or 880905  
Email: [deesam@bopenworld.com](mailto:deesam@bopenworld.com)

**all proceeds to  
Port Isaac Village Hall**

## Port Isaac Village Hall Hire Charges



**GENERAL USERS - £5 per hour**  
*20% discount for advance block  
bookings of six or more sessions*

**NON PROFIT MAKING PARISH CLUBS/ORGANISATIONS/  
ASSOCIATIONS etc INCLUDING CHILDREN'S GROUPS - £4 per hour**  
*25% discount for advance block bookings of six or more sessions*

**ALL USERS - 24 hour period - £30**

*Note: hire covers the Hall and Kitchen. Cups, saucers and tea plates,  
teapots and kettle are kept in the kitchen for general use.*

**Central heating and electric are both via £1 coin meters**

**Bookings and info: Janet Chadband - 01208 880262**



**The Port Isaac Calendar 2005**



Published by Port Isaac Village Hall  
With special thanks to all the contributors

**The Port Isaac Calendar  
2005 - £8.50**

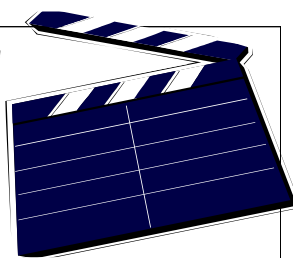
Available from *Secrets*,  
*Port Isaac Pottery* or *Port Hair*  
Mail order: Send a cheque for the  
sum of £10.50 (£2 p&p) made  
payable to 'Port Isaac Village Hall'  
to *Secrets*, Fore Street, Port Isaac,  
Cornwall PL29 3RD

**Thankyou Port Isaac** The filming  
of 'Doc  
Martin' is now  
well over half-  
way. The crew and production company  
would like to say a very big thank you to

all of Port Isaac for the warmth of welcome and the  
patience you have all had with us as we film in and around the village.

The early indications are that the film is very good and Port Isaac is looking at  
its best. Provisionally the series will be shown on ITV starting primetime  
Sunday September 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Buffalo Pictures**



# THIS ISSUE

All the usual news plus:

60 bags of Rubbish	p4
Your letters	p5
PIGS	p7
D-Day	p9
Monk!	P11
Music Festival	centre pages
The Road to Sitcoms	p15

## Riding for the disabled more helpers needed

Are you an active person with a few hours a week to spare? Do you like being with people and horses as part of a team? If so, you could be the very person we are looking for. Why not come to one of our sessions at Camelford and see what we do and whether you would like to join us?

To find our more contact Yvette on 01208 269824.

**"The past is gone, the future isn't here yet, the present is but a fleeting moment ... why worry?"**

**TRIO COPY DATE FOR JULY JUNE 21<sup>st</sup>**

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*The publisher does not necessarily hold the same views as those expressed by contributors and reserves the right to refuse or alter material supplied.*

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Email - [deesam@bopenworld.com](mailto:deesam@bopenworld.com)

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## Castle Rock saga continued from front page ...

In its statement of case to the Inspector, NCDC planners had emphasised the importance of the hotel to Port Isaac's tourism economy and this was supported by letters from St Endellion Parish Council, STEER, many business owners and individuals and a 350-name petition. Both the Parish Council and STEER had recommended a mixed development with housing and employment uses.

In his decision to approve housing use, the Inspector acknowledged the strength of local feeling but pointed to the fact that while Cornwall County Council's Structure Plan allowed for the protection of hotel areas from redevelopment, NCDC had confined this protection to one area in Bude in the District Local Plan. He did not accept NCDC's argument that protection should now be extended to what they claimed was a 'honeypot' tourist destination in Port Isaac. He stated that NCDC had not produced sufficient evidence of the adverse effect of the hotel closure on Port Isaac's tourism economy, which would outweigh the improvement of a site in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

While the appeal was being processed NCDC officials produced a draft Supplementary Planning Guidance on Community Benefit. Taking effect from Mach 31<sup>st</sup> it applies to planning applications lodged after that date and requires developers to enter into legally binding agreements with NCDC to ensure that 35% of dwellings in any village housing scheme of more than five houses will be 'affordable' or subsidised. In exceptional cases the developer can agree to pay NCDC a 'commuted payment' for those houses to be built on another site in the village. This actually puts into effect the request of the Parish Council when the first Castle Rock Hotel planning application was made last summer. The new guidance also requires developers to make contributions towards sports or education facilities.

Arrow Developments submitted a further detailed, planning application for 13 houses and a restaurant before this new policy took effect. The advice from planning officials is that in the normal course of events this application would not be subject to the new policy. However, there is a question about the legality of this application which is currently being studied by NCDC's lawyers and it may be thrown out by the Council for being invalid. If that happens, any future planning application by the developer will be subject to the new rules on Community Benefit.

Clearly there is a lot at stake for the village with plans proposed for more affordable housing and a community sports hall, both of which require funding.

*Martin Bell*

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**H**elp support the volunteers who are responsible for the care and upkeep of the Main and have recently built the new bridge. Send a donation, made payable to 'Friends of the Main' to Chris Bolton, Trewetha Farm, Port Isaac, Cornwall PL29 3RU, tel: 01208 880256

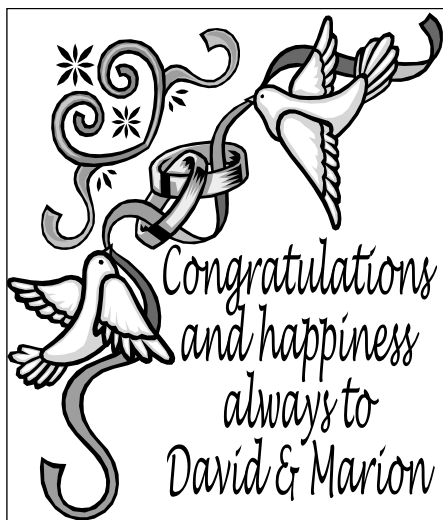
## Splicing the knot

You could say I liked the cut of her jib, or perhaps her lines which are easy and pleasing to the eye. She carries her way through stormy seas without fuss. But not forgetting her refined stern when passing, leaving a fine and true course and to show her wake to longing sailors.

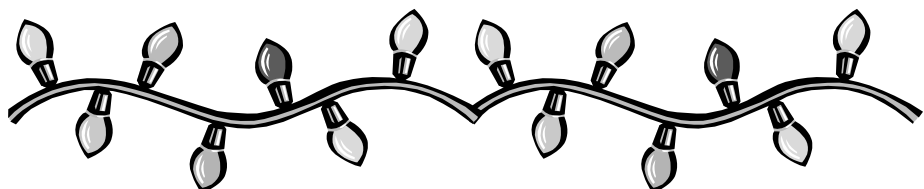
I take this opportunity to explain that I am speaking of Marion who thankfully has agreed to marry me and I am whisking her off to Bequia in the Caribbean to splice the knot on the beach.

We would like to say a big thankyou for all the cards and best wishes.

*David & Marion  
Compass Rose*



A little boy asked his father, "Dad, where did I get my intelligence from?". His father replied, "It must be from your Mother because I've still got mine".



# Where were you all?

After all the interest shown in the idea of lighting the whole village at Christmas, Sharron and I were amazed when only two people turned up for the well-publicised meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup>. We were subsequently told that a lot of people were working as extras for the filming on that day but would be willing to attend a meeting on another occasion. Maybe a Monday night was not the best night to arrange a meeting even though a lot of businesses say Monday is their quietest night. Who knows?

However, we still believe that Port Isaac residents would love to see the whole village lit up at Christmas but we cannot do it on our own. To give everybody the chance to offer their support for this idea we have arranged another meeting for Wednesday June 16<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. If the attendance at this meeting is equally disappointing we can only assume the village does not want more Christmas lights and we will not pursue it any further. The funds already raised will be donated to another worthwhile charity in the village.

*Ian Fuller*

## Trelights Methodist Church

*invites you to a*

### Summer Fayre

in the Methodist School Room  
on Tuesday June 15<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm

Various stalls including cakes, white elephant, bric-a-brac, raffle and refreshments. Proceeds to Chapel funds.

**EVERYBODY WELCOME**



A BIG thank you to all the Ilfracombe Divers who were unable to go diving on Saturday morning due to the fog and volunteered to clear the beach of all the rubbish that had washed in over the past week.

On Sunday morning a few who weren't on the first dive trip again collected some more rubbish making a total of nearly 60 bags!

# Father Hugh

Many will be saddened to hear that Father Hugh Fryer died suddenly on Sunday May 16<sup>th</sup>. He was a much-loved Rector of the United Benefice of St Endellion, Port Isaac and St Kew for six years before Father Michael was appointed.

A Requiem Mass was held at St Mary's Church, Penzance on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

A memorial service for Father Hugh will be held at St Endellion Church on Friday May 28<sup>th</sup> at 12noon.

More details can be obtained from Judith Pollinger on 01208 880181.

## PORT ISAAC GARDEN SHOW

I hope you are busy sowing/sewing so that your produce/item will be in tip top condition for the Garden Show. The exact date has yet to be confirmed but it should be at the end of August as usual.

Fellow vegetable gardeners tell me they are having a hard time at the moment, ground too wet, ground too hard, weather too hot, too cold, nothing growing - in fact same as every year!! Fingers crossed everything will catch up - it usually does. Flower growers need to just keep up the watering and feeding.

You crafty people have no excuses; your masterpieces should be well into production. Hope more of you will encourage your children to enter this year's show - remember there are cash prizes for children.

Calling all cooks - why don't you show your mouth-watering creations to a wider audience.

Most classes will be the same as last year. Entry Forms will be available later.



## Julia Daisy Gore

1912-2003

*A Memorial Service will be held on  
Friday May 28<sup>th</sup>  
at 11.00am  
in St Peter's Parish Church*

*You will all be most welcome to come along and  
join us. Please dress as bright as you like.*

*Ring Barbara on 880233  
if you would like more information.*

## The Nation's Biggest Thankyou D-Day Landing - June 6<sup>th</sup> 1944 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

On behalf of the Parish, I have sent the following message of thanks:

"The people of the Parish of St Endellion, North Cornwall, would like to give our biggest thank you to our fallen heroes and those who are left, for their bravery and sacrifice on June 6<sup>th</sup> 1944, D-Day Landing."

*Allan Chadband, HPAO*

## RNLI news *T*hankfully we have had a quiet time - as they say, the calm before the storm.



*Molly Farmer doing her bit*

and determination not to remove our coats when they wanted to film the 'take'. We were such primadonnas!

April 28<sup>th</sup> though springs to mind. Buffalo Pictures re-enacted our RNLI Funday for the Doc Martin production. However, being April it was very much colder than the usual August event. It was so cold and windy that I jokingly told the casting director that I had been warmer in the Antarctic at minus 35°. Weather conditions aside, we couldn't fault the patience, kindness and concern of all the film crew who looked after us brilliantly despite our moans

On June 20<sup>th</sup> we again hold our annual Lifeboat Service on the Platt at 12.30pm - an important and meaningful event and everyone is welcome. We wish our crew safe and successful shouts during 2004 in their endeavours to save lives at sea.

*Annie Price*

**The Romans did not create a great Empire by having meetings; they did it by killing all those people who opposed them!**

# Letters to Trio



## Are they following us?

## Why not the sensible option?

**Dear Trio**

A local gardener's lawn mower recently 'fired' a stone at one of our very large Pilkington toughened plate glass windows, shattering it and leaving the lawn littered with hundreds of particles of broken glass for our dog and grandchild to step on. It made me realise how careful gardeners must be with the powerful gardening tools they use nowadays. It also led me to think of St Endellion Parish Council's recent tendering of the annual contract to maintain local public footpaths.

I appreciate that the Parish Council, being a public body, must obtain competitive bids from suitably experienced and indemnity insured contractors. What really surprised me however, was the decision by Council members to award the footpath maintenance to a Bude based contractor who was not the lowest bidder, apparently without having obtained references from other parish councils or public bodies that he might have worked for.

The Parish Council is liable for the safety of members of the public who use our paths and it attempts to offset this liability with an insurance policy. However, we live in a 'no win - no fee' litigious age with councils and their insurers being sued by serial 'trippers', people with a habit of tripping up on cracked pavement slabs and making large financial claims for personal injury. The quality of maintenance of our public footpaths may be a small matter in financial terms but it is very significant in the context of public liability and the Parish Council must be able to demonstrate that it takes all reasonable steps to ensure that its contractors are competent before they are appointed.

One of the advantages of engaging Port Isaac's Robert Ford, who carried out this work last year, was that anyone could tell him if toddler face slashing summer growth bramble had suddenly sprung out of a hedgerow and Mr Ford would sort it. There was no need for us to write to the Parish Council Clerk and for the Clerk to write to Mr Ford asking him to do something about it. That sensible arrangement has now been lost. The selected contractor from Bude will only provide the number of visits and clearance that he was instructed to price for in his tender. If he has to do more than that, he will presumably charge the Council for the extra work.

**Martin Bell, Port Isaac**

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## Political correctness ... or what?!

**Dear Trio**

We live in an age of political correctness; an age where common sense is relegated to a last consideration; an age where people in responsible jobs are afraid to speak their mind in case one of their colleagues will report them to a senior for holding views which are not acceptable. Health and safety matters override every other aspect to an absurd degree. Ordinary people go along with this because they fear their careers will be put in jeopardy should they speak out. The compensation bandwagon is clouding the judgement of those in authority. I am sure you can think of endless examples of political correctness such as the backstroke being banned in a Midlands swimming pool because it is dangerous. The list is endless.

*(Continued on page 7)*

### HAVE YOUR SAY!

Letters to *Trio* should be sent to The Editor,  
3 Trewetha Lane, Port Isaac, Cornwall PL29 3RN  
Email: [deesam@btopenworld.com](mailto:deesam@btopenworld.com)

*Writers must include their full name and address -  
anonymous letters will not be printed*

**Dear Trio**

We were really looking forward to being in Port Isaac over Easter. We just love Cornwall at this time of year. All the trees and flowers are so far advanced from where we live in Surrey. And this year even the weather was being kind.

But there was trouble in our Cornish Paradise this Easter. There were several young rugby teams staying in various locations in the village, all from Essex, and after closing time at the Crows Nest they could be seen sitting around on walls, and trespassing as they continued drinking until the small hours. On the second night a group of about 6 - 8 had gathered right in front of our place, hovering between my neighbour's car and the wall, and in the morning I saw exactly why. Graffiti had arrived in Port Isaac. To say we were annoyed was to put it mildly. You become accustomed to this kind of vandalism up country but not in Port Isaac. After much discussion with my neighbours it was decided to call the Police, who duly arrived. The poor chap was suffering from a stiff neck at the time but nevertheless was very helpful and promised to have a word with the Rugby Team Leaders, which I assume he subsequently did. We never heard anything further as we had to return home unexpectedly.

However, the Graffiti of course had to be dealt and my son in law and neighbour kindly decide to tackle this. They went to the local well known Builders Yard and at my daughter's suggestion Martin asked for outdoor paint, battleship grey in colour. His request was met with great mirth and he was asked what "doughnut" he got that colour from and when told from his wife they laughed even more. Eventually they decided to match it to the colour used on our neighbour's house (a well known Port Isaac resident) but later when applied to the wall it was more duck egg pink that Plymouth Dockyard grey. It does rather stand out this bit of wall but we're getting used to it now and as we bought quite a large tin it will probably appear again. It does at least make directions easier. We don't just give the address; we can now add "you know, the house with the front pink wall".

**Jude Bevan**  
**The Terrace, Port Isaac**



# News from Trelights

The Village Green

Committee has changed the date of its Table Top Sale/Cream Tea afternoon in Coronation Park, as the earlier date clashed with the Royal Cornwall Show. It will now be on Saturday June 19<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm. There will be stalls with plants, books, bric-a-brac, cakes and refreshments - something for everyone. There will also be a raffle, so please come along for a cream tea and a browse.



# News from the Carn Awn Singers



In May the Singers presented an afternoon concert at Roche for the Chapel Anniversary. Judging by the response everyone enjoyed our varied programme and we have been asked to make a return visit. Many thanks are due to the ladies who provided a delicious tea for us.

Our annual concert in St Peter's Church, Port Isaac is on Wednesday July 21<sup>st</sup> at 7.45pm. We are fortunate to have as our guests the talented Shelley family from Lanivet who will be playing a number of different instruments. Well-known local Chairman, Peter Parsons has agreed to compère the programme which will include some old favourites and some new pieces, with something to suit different musical tastes. Supper will be provided after the concert to round up what promises to be an enjoyable and entertaining evening.

More details will be given in the July *Trio* but should you require further information or are arranging a concert and would like the Carn Awn Singers to take part, please contact Barbara Richards on 01208 880575.

## House to let in Port Isaac

Long term let.

3 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large kitchen, lounge and dining room. Garden and parking.

Telephone David & Marion on 01208 880767

Cleaner urgently required for 3 bedroom holiday cottage. Saturday changeover.

Good rates of pay.

For further information contact Matt Day on 07808 061857

## FOR SALE

Belling Classic 425 freestanding double oven, infrequent use and in good condition. Was £511 when new - **£100 ono**

## Two-seater settee

Free to good home

Telephone 01208 880419

If anybody has bric-a-brac, books, etc (not clothes) for the sale, could you please deliver them to Aubrey Grange, Trelights or contact Mrs Ann Prouse on 880156 to arrange collection. If you have any plant or cookery donations could you please bring them on the day. See you there.

(Continued from page 6)

Political correctness (PC) (Ed: Yes, we know that in this publication usually means Parish Council and we would not like you to confuse the two!) affects the administration of the law, local government, health, education and even religion. You really should be concerned.

In spite of all this, there is one feature of modern life which stands out against the boring tedious politically correct lobby; the 'Monk's Mutterings' column in *Trio*. Monk says exactly what he thinks and is surely a defender of our once free society where freedom of speech was taken for granted. With the 'loony Left' in control this freedom is a thing of the past. I say, "Keep up the good work Bob, your country needs you".

However, in a free society a right to reply does exist. I make the following points on your article about Celts.

- 1 Your views on Celts are an insult to generations of Port Isaac people.
- 2 As you denigrate locals, why do you walk around dressed as a local, ie blue jersey, oilskins etc? To a visitor you appear to be a retired fisherman or, as you say in your articles, a retired local yokel.
- 3 Would not your skills as a writer be better served by writing about your own home area and not Port Isaac?
- 4 Your opinion that Celts always run away is interesting. As the indigenous population of Port Isaac has been replaced, I would not expect you to comprehend the nature of the village years ago. They would be running towards you Bob, not away!

It is surprising that someone who has chosen to live in an isolated village should find so much wrong with the very people he has helped to replace. This is not unusual. Recently in a 'Cornish Studies' library, I came across a book entitled 'The Cornish Coast'. It was published in 1910. The writer completed what these days would be called a walking along the coastal footpath. The following is a direct quotation from this book.

"Delabole is slatey in every respect. Even the fences are slate. It is a very ugly and depressing place. Port Gaverne, where the road again touches the coast, is just a dark chasm in the cliffs with a village down below and bathing, not so embarrassingly mixed with fish-offal and dustbin refuse as that obtainable at Port Isaac where the perpendicular cliffs form all too tempting dust-shoots for easy going housewives. Pack the cliff tops and roads as tightly as possible with cottages and houses and furbish every one of them with prolific families; and there plus more than a little dirt and a fish like smell you have Port Isaac."

Believe it or not folks, that is a direct quote. What is it about these English who love to have a go at the Cornish, especially our accents? Have you ever thought of repatriation?

**Geoff Provis, Launceston, Cornwall**

Ed: We make no apology, we have used our well-publicised right to 'alter material supplied' by omitting certain parts of this letter. We also hope that this letter now closes this discussion.

# Health, Hair & Beauty Night

The Health, Hair and Beauty Show, although not as well supported as was expected, went amazingly well and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

Sharron, with her right arm in plaster (*A Health Tip from the Editor - DON'T PLAY GOLF IF YOU ARE A HAIRDRESSER!*), managed to perform hair transformations on three models - Tamsin, Emma and Betty. Make-up artist Sue finished their makeovers before the Cornish Guardian photographer's photo shoot. Kim, Angela and Jo were kept hard at it all night doing manicures whilst Julie and friends from Rainbow Crystals in Wadebridge offered crystal healing, reflexology (*Ed: brilliant*) and Tarot readings. Sara demonstrated a range of beauty products made from ingredients in your fridge and pantry. With Janet offering tea, coffee, sausage rolls and scones and Dee supplying the welcome bubbly and running the bar, the evening couldn't help but be a great success.

A total of £300.60 was raised and this has been divided equally between the Village Hall and the Christmas Lights fund.

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## and now one for the men

Well, the girls have had their turn. Now it's time for the guys. It's taking place in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday June 14<sup>th</sup> and promises to be a great night out. Avon and Bodyshop will be displaying a range of products for men and manicures and reflexology will be available (yes guys, you can use these services). Haircuts and hair advice will be available and a range of hair products will be on display. On top of all this you can enjoy a pint (or two) of real ale from the licensed bar while viewing tools on display from Western Supplies.

If you have any ideas for the evening (keep it clean) or would like a stall contact me on 881188. Tickets will be £3 and include a glass of bubbly on arrival. There will be a raffle (with manly prizes!) and all proceeds will be divided equally between the Christmas Lights fund and the Village Hall.

Sharron

## Life is like a jar of golf balls!

The Golf Pro stood before the PIGS and he picked up a very large and empty jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the PIGS if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

So the Pro then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the PIGS again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The Pro next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The PIGS responded with a unanimous "yes".

The Pro then produced two cans of beer from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The PIGS laughed - what fun this was!

"Now," said the Pro, as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognise that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things - your family, your health, your children, your friends, your favourite passions - things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house, your car. The sand is everything else - the small stuff.

"If you put the sand into the jar first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take your partner out to dinner. Play another 18 and then play again the next day, and the next if you feel like it. There will always be time to do all those jobs you keep promising at home.

"Take care of the golf balls first, the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."

One of the PIGS raised his hand and inquired what the beer represented. The Pro replied, "It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of beers". (*Ed: 'nuff said!*)

## Over the Hill? Past it? Too long in the tooth?

That's not you, is it? Not if you're one of North Cornwall's 'Over 50s'!

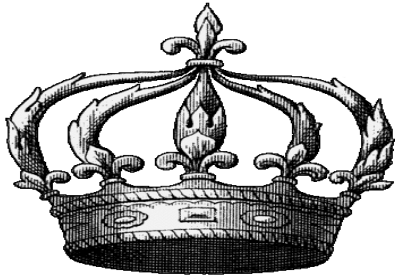
Come to our next meeting ... **Picking up what's yours**

A look at what we might be missing, getting information, help or advice to answer some of the 'where to go?', 'who to ask?', 'how can I get what's mine?' questions.

2.00pm on Wednesday June 30<sup>th</sup> in Camelford Hall, Cleas Road, Camelford

Due to inherit a fortune when his sickly, widower father died, a man decided he needed a woman to enjoy it with. Going to a bar, he spotted a woman whose beauty took his breath away. "I'm just an ordinary man," he said, walking up to her, "but in just a week or two, my father will die and I'll inherit £20 million." The woman went home with the man, and the next day she became his stepmother. (Men will never learn)





## Special People

Each month we are going to feature a 'Special Person'. This is someone who comes into school and helps out with all sorts of things and whom we think deserves a great BIG Thank You.

### Mrs Gaunt

For over 10 years she has been coming in to school to listen to and encourage the children with their reading. She also supports all our fundraising efforts and attends our school events.

### THANK YOU MRS GAUNT!

"I like Mrs Gaunt because she talks to me."

*Mark, Reception*

"Mrs Gaunt is very kind because she brings in lots of things for us to build with."

*Liam, Reception*

"We like Mrs Gaunt because she comes in to school and reads with us."

*Imy, Year 1 & Jessica, Reception*

"I like Mrs Gaunt because she is really nice and friendly."

*Laura, Year 2*

### Thank You!

Dear Friends of the School,

Thank you for going out on the golf course on a wet day and raising £1000.

We will be looking forward to new computers and library.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

*Rion Witcomb*

# schoolchat

Port Isaac School  
news and views



## The dragon is coming!

There is a monster being built in the school garden. Stephen Barriball and his dad have been really hard at work digging out the space where our dragon is going to be. They have a large digger to move the earth around and Stephen was able to drive it. We are hoping that the dragon (breathing steam!) will be finished this summer and we are all looking forward to being able to play on it.

*Sophie, Year 4*

We hired a mini digger to dig out the drains for the dragon that Robert is going to build in the school garden. My dad Chris was doing the digging and he let me have a go. It was great fun!

When all the work is finished we will have a steam breathing dragon to play on and around. Everyone in school is very excited about it.

*Stephen, Year 4*

## Painting around the climbing frame

Over the Bank Holiday weekend, Robert, Mr Elgar, Mrs Elgar, Stephen Barriball, Christopher Barriball, Sophie Haynes, Linda Collings and Rosie Collings were very busy painting. If you walk past the school you can easily see where! Now the fence around the climbing frame is brightly coloured and fun to look at.

*Rosie, Year 4*

## Our new wildlife area

We have a new wild life area in the school grounds. Mr Elgar has been helping us and he has put up bird boxes and tidied the garden behind our playground. We hope lots of little birds will come and visit us now.

*Nathan, Year 3*

### Tesco Vouchers

We have collected an incredible 4817 vouchers so far. Our target was 5000. Please can everybody check their purses, wallets and bags for any stray vouchers and hand them in to school by June 12<sup>th</sup> so that we can have a final tally and start to choose the computer software that we would like.

**Many thanks to everyone who has helped us!**

# The Family after suicide

## Bodmin Conference



The needs of children and adults bereaved by suicide were sensitively explored during a day conference held in Bodmin in April. Eighty people, including Anglican and Methodist clergy and many lay pastoral carers, attended the conference at which various professionals and charitable organisations were also present. The idea of holding such a day came from SASA - 'Suicide Attempted Suicide & the Aftermath' - a small group of Christians, both clergy and lay, concerned with providing support for people caring for those bereaved by suicide. The conference - 'The Family After Suicide' - was organised by SASA in collaboration with Continuing Ministerial Education, the Methodist Church, Truro Diocese Training & Development, and Family Life & Marriage Education.

### **Consultant Psychiatrist**

The conference was ably chaired by Dr John Williams, former Medical Director of Mount Edgecumbe Hospice for 10 years. The first speaker was Dr Richard Laugharne, a Consultant Psychiatrist from Trevillis House, Liskeard who referred to the dramatic, and so far inexplicable, increase in the numbers of suicides in the 1960's to 1990's, but said that thankfully numbers were now continuing to decrease, in every age group except in young men, where it was still rising. Between 1980 and 1990 it rose by 80%.

### **More Suicides in Cornwall**

In Cornwall, too, a higher than average number of people commit suicide each year, 70, as opposed to a national average of 50. Mental illness was a factor in 90% of those people who took their own lives yet only 25% were in contact with mental health services. He also spoke about the increase in deliberate self-harm, a different phenomenon, but one which was related to suicide, and one in which more women than men were involved.

### **Ethical Dilemmas**

Dr Laugharne said that sectioning of patients under the Mental Health Act had gone up, and he referred to the ethical dilemmas facing psychiatrists about whether to detain people against their will or to return them to the community. He also spoke of the importance of helping people to develop coping skills in the home and community so that when under stress they did not resort to attempting to kill themselves. He said that drugs and alcohol were major factors in suicide as was social fragmentation and the breakdown of relationships. Being part of a cohesive, caring community was a great help in preventing suicide even in deprived areas, which would generally be considered to be at higher risk.

### **Effect on Families**

Dr Laugharne referred to the devastating effect on families when someone took their own life and suggested ways in which the bereaved might be helped. He emphasised the importance of accurate communication among family members; of helping people to cope with feelings of guilt; to correct a

distorted attitude to the deceased, where the person was either being idealised or demonised; to help the family to face the future; to encourage the expression of anger and to explore the sense of abandonment, of the pain of having to live without the person.

### **Personal Reflections**

After questions to Dr Laugharne, three people who had lost a close family member by suicide, then spoke courageously and movingly about their loss and answered questions. The morning ended with an address by a Psychiatric Liaison Nurse, workshops on the needs of those bereaved by suicide and a plenary session.

### **Supporting Bereaved Children**

In the afternoon Penhaligon's Friends, gave an excellent power-point presentation and talk and answered questions about their work in supporting bereaved children. Then a panel comprising of member of Cruse, the Samaritans and Penhaligon's Friends answered questions and the day ended with a time of silent reflection and prayer before an icon and a lighted candle.

*Judith Pollinger*

## North Cornwall Conservative Association

### St Endellion Branch events

Thursday June 24<sup>th</sup> - Lunch at The Mill, Port Isaac, hosted by Jim & Bertie Watson. 12.30pm for 1.00pm

Tuesday July 20<sup>th</sup> - Coffee Morning at The Badgers, Trelights by permission of Mrs GK. 10.30am-12noon

Tuesday September 14<sup>th</sup> - Coffee Morning at Gull Rock, Port Gaverne by permission of Mr & Mrs D Bolton. 10.30am-12noon

Tuesday October 19<sup>th</sup> - Annual Golf Competition at Roserrow Golf Club. Call Jim Watson on 01208 880298 for further details.

### Do you, or someone you know, need a listening ear?

The Local Pastoral Ministers of St Endellion, Port Isaac and St Kew are available to visit the sick, the bereaved, the lonely and newcomers to the area.

Telephone Katrina Gill  
(co-ordinator) on 01208 850465

A visitor was talking to an old Port Isaac fisherman on the Platt. "And have you lived here all your life?" asked the visitor. "Not yet" said the fisherman.

# Monk's monthly mutterings!

## The Anglo Saxons

Now, I'm rather fond of the good Old Anglo Saxons. I'm not one myself (nor a good old Essex boy), originally coming from the North-East of England and having a Mum whose maiden name was Scofeld, whose Mum's maiden name was Olafssen and whose Mum's maiden name was Svenssen. It would appear that, as my parents, uncles, aunts, grandparents, cousins etc all had fair hair and blue eyes, I am probably of Viking stock, or, as I prefer to call it, Norse stock. I am neither proud nor ashamed of this fact, having had no say in the matter.

As usual, I digress. I like the Anglo Saxons because of their quiet, logical way of getting (or not getting) things done; their clever way of inventing things and leaving it to others to use these inventions and make money out of them; their almost complete unflappability and the way they don't harp on about their 'culture'.

One of the ways the market research boys use to obtain information about the numbers of ethnic or foreign minorities or majorities without offending anti-racists etc is to look up, in local telephone directories, the number of surnames that are obviously Indian, African, Jewish, Anglo Saxon etc. This method is surprisingly accurate and remarkably simple and enables supermarkets to know it's a waste of time stocking the shelves with pork pies and bacon where there are a considerable number of names like Greenbaum and Goldstein; or doing an advertising campaign for beef stew where there are several thousand Patels. Incidentally, in the Cornwall & Scillies directories, by far the most common names are good old single syllable Anglo Saxon names like Smith, Brown, Green, Black etc. They far exceed the 'Trelawneys', the 'Pendennis' and all the 'Tre...', 'Pol...' and 'Pen...'s put together. No need to explain what the market research boys would make of this.

Once again, I digress. England has been invaded a few times (but not

many). The first notable invasion was by the Romans who greatly admired the bravery and skill with which the Anglo Saxons fought back. Normally when the Romans won a battle they would kill every man, woman and child; not so the Anglo Saxons. After beating Bodicea they did not put her or her followers to death; admittedly they whipped Bodicea and raped her two daughters, but they were allowed to live in comparative comfort and fraternised and integrated with their conquerors.

My lot, the Norsemen, came to the East coast at the beginning of the Dark Ages from Scandinavia. The probable reason for the invasion was the mini ice age which made the northernmost parts of Europe somewhat inhospitable. Contrary to popular belief, they did not come to rape and pillage, they came to settle. They were highly skilled farmers, fishermen, seamen and navigators and were making trips to Ireland, Greenland and America long before Chris Columbus was a twinkle in his dad's eye. The Norse integrated quite well with the Anglo Saxons and went on to produce many fine seamen, explorers and scientists right up to the present day (at least seven generations of my own family have sent their eldest son to sea, including my son, myself, my father, my grandfather - I digress!). The Anglo Saxons and the Norse got together to have a good old go at the next invaders who were a pretty nasty lot. Regrettably they lost.

The Normans, under Willy the Conqueror (1066 and all that), were not nice to the locals at all. They tortured, they taxed them to near starvation, they did what they liked to the women, and they set themselves up as Barons, Overlords, Dukes etc and definitely had a nasty superiority complex. They were probably responsible for the class system which, even to this day, is so objectionable in this country. Before 1066 it was the done thing to elect Kings, Chiefs and leaders, to go and have a pint with them, to invite them round for tea and if they burnt the cakes give them a thick ear (see King Alfred). But nowadays, and since Willy the Conqueror, the aristocracy have had as little to do with the 'plebes' as possible - when did you last have a pint with a Duke? French is still the second language of the aristocracy, French is still used in expensive restaurants, and the 'aristos' still send their scrawny daughters to Swiss and French finishing schools and their spotty sons to Eton to learn superiority. Not favourite invaders, the Normans.

All in all, if you are a good old Anglo Saxon you have a nice short Christian name like Bill or Fred and a nice short surname like Smith or Brown, you haven't a clue when St George's Day is, you don't know which way up the Union flag is supposed to fly, you make love with your socks on, bitter is your favourite tippie, you don't give a damn for politicians, you still regard America as a colony who revolted, you think culture is something used to make yoghurt, you can't stand bagpipes, Emmerdale Farm, Coronation Street or people with hyphenated names and you can use the words of the great Anglo Saxon Bard to the rest of the world - 'Up Yours' - then you are almost certainly Anglo Saxon thru and thru!

**Bob Monk**



First birthday

**Cody Tiddy**



Have a brilliant birthday

Friday June 11<sup>th</sup>

Lots of love, hugs and kisses from

**Mummy, Daddy & sister Sinead**

**and paw hugs from Missy, Buffy and Lucky Star**

# Past times June 1986

RNLI

**Shout** - The lifeboat was launched on June 14<sup>th</sup> to go to the aid of an inflatable dinghy with engine trouble. It was off Trevone and was blown out to sea. The dinghy was assisted into Harlyn Bay by a local boat but the lifeboat was requested to stand by. Crewmembers were Ted Childs, Jon Coshall and Mark Provis.

**Fundraising** - A coffee morning at the Slipway Hotel raised £53 for the RNLI .

**ANIMAL WELFARE** - A letter from Peggy Haynes to June and Bob Bentley thanked them for raising £218.70 for animal welfare.

**VILLAGE HALL FUNDRAISING** - A successful cream tea was held at the Manor House raising a total of £98.39. Thanks were given to Pru and Mike Savell, Mark and Carol Provis and to Glebe Farm.

## June 1995

**VE DAY STREET PARTY** - Letters to Lil Thomas thanked here for organising the street party to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day. The atmosphere was fantastic with the music and dancing, food and booze enjoyed by young and old alike.

**VE DAY DANCE** - The VE Supper Dance at the Green Door, Port Gaverne was enjoyed by all. Frank McNichol donated a painting for the raffle that raised £102. This and £78 raised from the tombola has been sent to the War Widow's Association.

RNLI

**Fundraising** - A coffee morning at the Wheelhouse raised over £160.

**Shouts** - On April 29<sup>th</sup> an angler from Liskeard was fishing off the Rumps when his car keys dropped onto rocks below. He climbed down to recover them but was washed off the rocks. He managed to swim out and hang on to a crab pot buoy. His friend climbed the cliff and ran to Pentire Farm to raise the alarm. The lifeboat was launched in two minutes and he was picked up suffering from hypo-thermia. He was transferred to a RN

helicopter and then to Treliske. Crewmembers were John Collins, Richard Hambly and Chris Scott.

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the request of the police, the lifeboat was launched to search for a body that had been sighted at Compit. The lifeboat made a thorough search but nothing was found. Crew were Nigel Andrews, Mike Daly and Chris Scott.

On May 6<sup>th</sup> the lifeboat was launched when a woman fell over the cliff at Trebarwith beach. The casualty was picked up by the air ambulance and taken to Treliske. Crewmembers were Mark Provis, Andy Walton and Paul Worden.

**SCOPE** - Mrs Hicks received a letter of thanks from the Gladys Holman House for a cheque for £1200. The money will be used to pay for a new battery operated hoist.

**FRIENDS OF PORT ISAAC SCHOOL** - Fund raising events this year have raised enough to buy a new video recorder.

**ROWING CLUB** - The club, plus supporters, travelled to the Isles of Scilly on May Bank Holiday for the World Gig Championships. The ladies had four hard races and their overall position was second out of 38 gigs competing. The men finished 29<sup>th</sup> out of 39 gigs.

*Bess Coates*

## English Asparagus - surely the best!

Asparagus can be bought in our supermarkets all year round; it comes from Egypt, Israel, Kenya, Spain and other exotic climates. However, in May the English asparagus season starts. June is the last month for us to enjoy this delicious homegrown vegetable with its beautiful purple tips. It really is best when fresh from the garden with the dew still on it and straight into the pan; or collected from a 'pick-your-own' farm. With today's fast delivery services, supermarkets sell good quality English asparagus and the price need not be too horrendous for 'that special treat'.

I have known people think they are unable to cook asparagus because they don't own a special asparagus pan. This is not a good excuse. I do not own one but use a frying pan with excellent results. First, hold the spear of asparagus in your left hand and, with your right hand, snap the stalk wherever it gives, thus removing the woody end. Wash and place in a shallow pan. Pour boiling water to cover and bring to the boil and cook for about four minutes for thin stalks and six minutes for thicker ones. When cooking stalks of different thicknesses put the ones into the water first and add the thinner ones after a couple of minutes. Drain well onto kitchen paper and serve with the sauce of your choice. I would recommend a simple sauce of melted butter and lemon juice with a good splash of milled black pepper or, if you want to be grand, Hollandaise Sauce.

### *Hollandaise Sauce*

2tblsp white wine vinegar \* 3tblsp water \* 4 egg yolks  
110g/4oz melted butter \* salt & freshly milled pepper \* juice of  $\frac{1}{2}$  lemon

### Method

Put wine vinegar in a pan over a moderate heat and reduce by half. Remove from the heat and add the water and then the egg yolks and whisk over the heat until thick. Remove from the heat and gradually whisk in the butter. Season with salt and pepper and lemon juice to taste. Serve whilst still hot over the asparagus tips and enjoy this wonderful English dish.

EP

# Parish Council news

The following report is not based on approved minutes signed by the Parish Council.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Mr David Phelps (Chairman)

Mr Malcolm Lee (Vice Chairman)

Miss Elizabeth Harris (Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer)

## Representatives & Committees

Mrs June Yates – re-elected Trelights Village Green Representative

Mr David Phelps, Mr Malcolm Lee, Mr Robert Manders & Mrs June Yates –re-elected onto the Amenity Committee

Mrs Janet Townsend – elected as Voting Member to Cornwall Association of Parish & Town Councils

District Councillor Mr W Dawe – re-elected as Parish Council Representative on the Village Hall Committee

Mr Robin Penna – re-elected as Footpath Co-ordinator

Mr Robin Elgar, Mr Malcolm Lee, Mr Robert Manders & Mrs June Yates – re-elected onto the Footpath Committee

Mr David Jennings – re-elected as Hospital Voluntary Car Service Officer and Transport Representative

Mr Malcolm Lee, Mr David Phelps & Mrs June Yates - re-elected as Parish Council Representatives onto The Friends of the Main Committee

Mrs Janet Townsend – re-elected Fireworks Committee Representative

Mr Robin Elgar & Mr Malcolm Lee – re-elected as Parish Council Representatives onto St Endellion Economic Regeneration Committee

Mr Robin Elgar – re-elected as *Trio* Correspondent

## COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Councillor Mrs Helen Richards reported on an off-Road Motor Cycle event she had attended near Fraddon to help young motorcycle riders to be aware of where they should and should not ride. She also reported on a trip she had made down the Mine at Geevor which will soon be open as a Tourist Attraction.

## LOCAL TRANSPORT - PLAN 2006-2011

Transport representative Mr David Jennings reported on the above Plan and the associated questionnaire. His suggested responses to the

questionnaire where agreed by the Council. The Local Transport Plan is too lengthy to report in this article but anyone interested should contact Mr Jennings who would be happy to give further information.

## ST ENDELLION SPORTS FACILITY PROJECT

Mr Malcolm Lee reported on a visit made with Mrs Barbara Bell to Towednack & Nancledra Community Hall on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2004. The hall was selected for a visit as it was a recent project mentioned by Alex Lawson (Cornwall County Council Education Authority) as being a joint community/school sports hall supported by Cornwall County Council. The community hall was built in 2001 at a cost of £220,000. It is set in a very rural location, about a mile outside Nancledra, immediately adjacent to the village school. It is constructed with stone from a local quarry and blends in very well with the existing school buildings. The hall was funded by Heritage Lottery Fund, SW Regional Development Agency, Cornwall County Council, Penwith District Council, Towednack Parish Council, plus local fundraising and support. The main hall is approximately 15m x 8m, with a large storage area, as well as a separate kitchen. The hall is managed by a charitable trust which St Endellion will need to set up for our project in the next 3/4 months. Mr Peter Richards (the Hall administrator) was helpful in supplying information which would be very useful for our project, including copies of their constitution, business plan and completed lottery grant application.

## CORONATION PARK, TRELIGHTS – SEWAGE OVERSPILL

The Chairman read out a letter from South West Water indicating that they had visited the site, flushed out the pipe again and put it on their priority list for regular inspection. The Parish Council was of the opinion that this did not address the original concerns of the Council and a further letter has been written to South West Water reiterating our request for a site meeting with a responsible engineer so that this problem can be resolved.

## NEXT MEETING

This has been arranged for 7.30 pm, Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> June in the Church Rooms, Port Isaac.

*Robin Elgar, Parish Councillor*

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND NOTICES

**Application 2004/00548** -Listed building consent for the replacement of existing uPVC window with single glazed box frame sliding sashes and replacement of existing asbestos hanging slates with reclaimed Delabole Slates. Delegation Possible. Hilldene, Church Hill, Port Isaac. Mr N Morgan. **The PC is in support of this application.**

**Application 2004/00830** - Proposed alterations and two storey extension to existing dwelling. Full Planning. Delegation Possible. Royston, Trelights, Port Isaac. Mr S Clark. **The PC is in support of this application.**

**Application 2003/02723** - Certificate of lawfulness for the continued use of premises as a single dwelling. Leat House, Church Hill, Port Isaac. Mr & Mrs K Tomline. **The PC confirms that the above premises ceased to be a shop in September 1999.**

We have had a spring clean and all the winter clothes have been removed to make room for the brighter, lighter garments that now fill our rails. A carnival corner has also been started so why not come in and see if you can find yourself a costume and maybe win a prize.



At the time of writing, totals for April were not available but will be published next month.

Things are still being left on the shop doorstep out of hours and it is again requested that these are not left as they cause a fire hazard and an obstruction. Normal opening times are on the door but subject to the availability of our volunteers.



# The Road to Sitcoms

by James Platt



The recent contest to find “the Nation’s best sitcom” probably came up with a worthy winner in “Only Fools and Horses”. It wasn’t my favourite (in fact I would have put it behind “Yes Minister”, “Blackadder”, “Dad’s Army” and “Fawlty Towers”), but it did offer enough classic episodes within its very large output to give it much merit. Sitcoms in the late 1940’s and early 1950’s when I was growing up were, particularly when television came along, almost all imported from America – “I married Joan”, “The Burns and Allen Show” and “The Phil Silvers Show” (Sgt Bilko) were prime examples of the genre. Sgt Bilko is still being seen on TV and the quality of that show lies in its seeming not to have dated much at all. I saw that Rick Stein keeps a photo of Phil Silvers as Ernie Bilko in his kitchen (“Rick Stein’s Food Heroes”), and from that observation it may be something of an irony that the alternative title to the “Phil Silvers Show” was “You’ll Never Get Rich”.

We liked the American TV comedy shows mainly because they made a change from the comedy offerings on the radio, or the wireless as it was more commonly known, that we were used to. The change was welcome for its own sake, although wasn’t ever preferred as an alternative.

Perhaps the BBC radio programme that came closest to being a true sitcom in those days was “Life with the Lyons”. It starred Bebe Daniels and Ben Lyon and their children Barbara and Richard. Bebe and Ben were Hollywood stars of the 1930’s cinema, strongly American, but managing to give listeners the impression that they were British to the core. A given episode of “Life with the Lyons” would consist of a linked sequence of bantering encounters between the Lyons and their neighbours, with regular gags deprecating Ben’s acting career, invoking his alleged miserliness, and coping with Bebe’s scattiness. As such, “Life with the Lyons” was only a step or so removed from the standard half hour radio comedy show format of sketches involving regular characters (such as the

Glums in “Take it from Here”), catch phrases galore, musical interludes (featuring a close harmony quartet, or a rhythm combo, or a songstress of note), and stand up gags.

The radio humour tended to be vested in inducing listeners to laugh at the privations and social pretensions of the time. The Establishment (eg government, judiciary and church) were essentially off limits. Any comedian who strayed across the line, even into the mildest of criticism of these (apparently) cherished institutions, could expect no less than to be handed a red card by the broadcasting authorities. The Royal Family was totally inviolate as far as the attentions of comedians was concerned. Satire hadn’t yet been invented. The Royal family lived in a cocoon that criticism could not penetrate. Times have changed, haven’t they?

Petty officials, by contrast, were always fair game. The rent collector, local authorities, men from the ministry, shopkeepers and policemen were the butt of repeated jokes, gentle in nature. Other classic subjects for gags were rationing, queuing, spivs, black marketers, and mothers-in-law. Arthur English took on the persona of a stereotypical spiv (a model for Walker in “Dad’s Army”), in which role he styled himself “The Prince of the Wide Boys” (wide in this context refers to a fashion for shoulder padding). Arthur completed his routine at a gabble, ending up by declaring, “I don’t know what I’m talking about! Open the cage, let me in!”

The northern comedian Al Read brought a whole range of well-known stereotypes together in “The Al Read Show” subtitled “Such is Life”. It was a one-man show, Al doing all the voices. There was the bullying mother-in-law, the henpecked man of the house, the “helpful” neighbour, and most famous of all the Johnny know-it-all (“You’ve met ‘em!”). In Al’s world, the underdog always came out on top. Would that it were always so!

Any reference to matters sexual was also a great no-no for radio comedians. Not that that stopped certain masters of innuendo, not least among which were George Formby and Max Miller (known as the Cheekie Chappie). George was immensely popular, the more so in films and on the stage than in radio perhaps, and his risqué numbers with ukulele accompaniment were as legendary then as they still are now. Max’s delivery depended on an impeccable timing to smooth the edges of double entendres. “You’re the kind of people who give me a bad name!” he would say to his audience. “Miller’s the name laidy. There’ll never be another!” And there never would.

Although I liked almost all the radio comedy series that were on offer to us (Dave Morris in “Club Night” - catch phrases, “As ‘e been in?” and “Eh, wack!” left me a bit cold), my special favourites featured the Liverpoolian comedians, among whom Tommy Handley, Ted Ray, and Arthur Askey stood supreme. Tommy Handley’s show “ITMA” (“Its That Man Again”) was as celebrated for its role in boosting domestic morale during the war as it was for its rapid fire, laugh a line humour. The appeal of the show depended on established characters equipped with well-loved catch phrases, such as the charlady Mrs Mopp (“Can I do you now sir?”), the elbow lifting Colonel Chinstrap (played by Jack Train – “I don’t mind if I do!”), the lugubrious Mona Lott (“Its being so cheerful as keeps me going!”), Funf (the archetypal spy – “This is Funf speaking!”). And so on. Nigel Rees wrote that ITMA had more catch phrases per square minute than any other radio programme, before or since! When Tommy Handley died suddenly in 1949, the whole nation mourned the passing of an all-time great man.

Ted Ray was another of Britain’s supreme radio comedians. His show, “Ray’s a Laugh”, ran all through the 1950’s. He was one of the best ad-libbers ever. His quick fire delivery of gags was sometimes almost too fast to follow. He was faster than Bob Monkhouse and Dennis Goodwin in their prime – and they were a



(Continued on page 15)



*(Continued from page 14)*

double act! The most enduring catch phrases of "Ray's a Laugh", derived from an exchange between the characters of Mrs Hoskin, and Ivy (played by Ted Ray), concerning a certain young Dr Hardcastle, to which Ivy would say "He's lovely Mrs Hoskin, he's loooovely!" Mrs Hoskins' need to consult young Dr Hardcastle was prompted by her saying, "Ee, it was agony Ivy!"

Arthur Askey styled himself as "Big Hearted Arthur", and was famous for his immortal catch phrases, "Hello playmates!" and "Ay thang yew!" He co-starred in Band Waggon with Richard Murdoch in the 1940's, and went on from that wonderful wartime favourite to lead his own show "Hello Playmates" in the 1950's, in which one of his co-stars for a time was the great magician and illusionist, David Nixon. Arthur's catch phrase "Doesn't it make you want to spit?" was described as a vulgar and unpleasant expression by the then BBC Director General, but it was reported that Arthur was far too popular with the public for the DG to be able to do anything about it.

The defining quality for these three greats was that all they had to do to make people laugh was simply appear on stage. They didn't have to say anything, even on the radio. The anticipation from the studio audience did it all and infected listeners with the same kind of delight. Perhaps the most recent examples of this talent to delight on sight were Tommy Cooper and Eric Morecambe. There is no currently similar example to cite. Present day "humour" seems to depend too much on crudeness of content and on attacking those who are unable to defend themselves.

Tony Hancock ("Hancock's Half Hour") in the 1950's, and Robb Wilton in the 1940's stood also at the apex of the pantheon of "laugh on appearance" comedians. Tony Hancock's contributions were supreme and have never dated to this day. They can still be listened to and enjoyed absolutely. Robb Wilton was a little more of a man of his time and as such was of immense historical importance. His monologues, typically leading off with, "The day war broke out, I said to my missis..." What a gift he was to us all!

Some other great stand-up comedians of the post war period were Frankie Howard and Derek Roy (who respectively hosted "Variety Bandbox" on alternate Sundays); Ken Platt ("I won't take my coat off, I'm not stopping!"); Reg Dixon, not to be confused with the Blackpool Tower ballroom organist Reginald Dixon, ("Ee, I've been proper poorly!"); Will Shakespeare ("Shakespeare was a man!"); Jimmy Wheeler ("Aye, aye! That's your lot!"); Terry-Thomas; Vic Oliver (Winston Churchill's son-in-law for a while!); Alfred Marks; Jimmy Jewell and Ben Warriss ("Up the Pole"); Cyril Fletcher (the "Odd Ode" man); the impressionist Peter Cavanagh ("Cav calling - the voice of them all"); and Percy Edwards (who did animal noises and was best known for playing George Cole's dog in "A Life of Bliss"). Most of the foregoing appeared topping the bill in radio shows such as the early afternoon (dinner time!) "Workers Playtime", "Henry Hall's Guest Night" on Saturdays, and "Happidrome" ("We three in Happidrome, working for the BBC, Ramsbottom and Enoch and me!"), also on Saturdays. Jimmy Clitheroe (the Clitheroe Kid), Douglas Cardew Robinson (Cardew the Cad), and Beryl Reid (Monica in "Educating Archie") all specialised in playing the parts of children. Cardew the Cad had his own weekly strip in the comic "Radio Fun".

"Educating Archie" featured Peter Brough and Archie Andrews. Peter Brough was a ventriloquist, and Archie his dummy. The strange thing was that it seemed to be the other way around, Archie being by far the better actor! Archie's friend Julie, who sang a musical number each week in the first few series of the show, was the teenaged Julie Andrews! The basis of the show was Archie's education by a sequence of tutors that included the ultra great Tony Hancock, Robert Moreton (with his bumper fun book - "Oh, get in there Moreton!"), and Peter Sellers, whose name speaks for itself. Peter also worked with Ted Ray in "Ray's a Laugh", but was better known as one of the three mainstays of "The Goon Show", his associates being Harry Secombe and Spike Milligan. "The Goon Show" was either your cup of tea or it wasn't. There were no grey areas in between. It wasn't my cup of tea. Nor really was the ultra-famous "Take it from Here", although I very much liked one of its stars, Jimmy Edwards, a larger than life figure with a walrus moustache, whose forte elsewhere was playing a cane wielding headmaster ("Whack-O!") with much aplomb. In a similar context ought to be mentioned the programmes "Waterlogged Spa", starring Eric Barker, and including John Pertwee as a west country postman ("It doesn't matter what you do, m'dear

as long as you tear 'em up!"); "Much Binding in the Marsh", co starring Richard Murdoch and Kenneth Horne, and "Ignorance is bliss", a sort of harebrained brains trust chaired by

Eamonn Andrews and noted for the contributions of Harold Behrens. "What a geezer!" "Much Binding" had the roots of its humour in the war, and faded in a natural fashion with the passage of the years beyond 1945. Charlie Chester's "Stand Easy" had an equivalent kind of origin, running from 1946 to 1950. "Stand Easy" was to some extent noted for the character of Whippet Kwick, the cat burglar, but was mainly famed for the "jungle chants", which survive right up to today. A typical example was "Down in the jungle, living in a tent, better than a prefab - no rent!" Another of his catch phrases was "Don't force it, Phoebe!"

The richness of output of these radio programmes was only matched by the pleasure they brought to listeners when the listeners needed it most. Radio was the comedian's medium. It is interesting, although of no importance at all, how few of the comic stars of radio made a successful move to TV and films. Their programmes were pathfinders for the Nation's favourite sitcoms in 2004.

And with that, as Tommy Handley

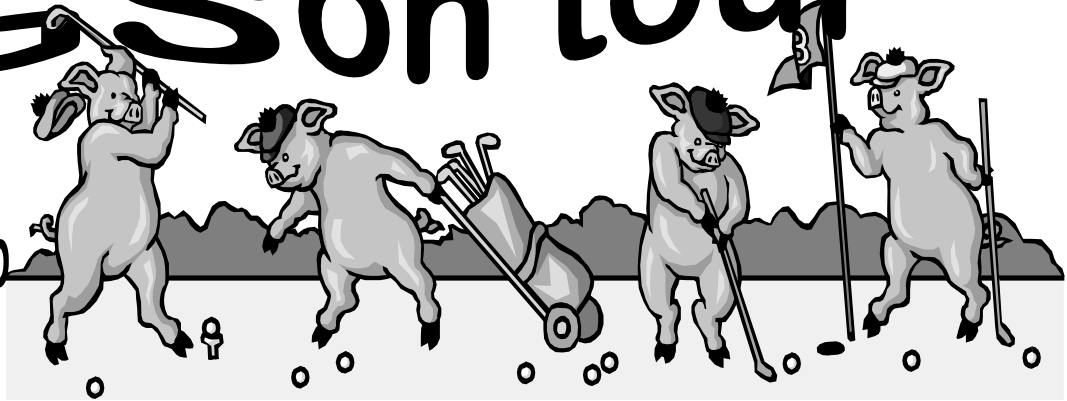
**I am passing this on to you because it has definitely worked for me. By following the simple advice I read in an article, I have finally found inner peace...**

**The article read: "The way to achieve inner peace is to finish all the things you've started." So I looked around the house to see all the things I started and hadn't finished.... and before leaving the house this morning I finished off a bottle of red wine, a bottle of white, the Bailey's, a bottle of brandy, the Prozac, some valium, some cheesecake and a box of chocolates.**

**You have no idea how good I feel...**

# PIGS on tour

## Ryder Cup Day Rosarrow Golf Club



Firstly, I must apologise to my army of loyal readers (tee hee!) about the way this report has been written. I have been made to write this quickly due to the *Trio* copy date being yesterday. So here goes.

Two teams of 16 golfers (eight pairs) started off at 9.00am with team captains Mike Edkins and Jim Bishop going off with their respective partners (not in the biblical sense). The following matches were played in a fair and extremely competitive manner with the *Lion* team coming out on top with a 5½ point over 2½ point advantage going into the singles in the afternoon.

The first match off in the singles was Jim Bishop against Mick Guard with Jim winning emphatically (Ed: *If Jim doesn't want his emphatically, can we have it as a raffle prize?*) 9 and 8. I know I wasn't going to mention any one match in particular but this was such a good result for Jim and his team I had to say something. Also, I couldn't let Mick get away without letting everybody know he got hammered!

The rest of the matches were very competitive and close (except mine against Paul 'Beaver Boy, Bandit' Honey) with the *Golden Lion* retaining the Ryder Cup with a 14-10 points win.

A few special thankys need to be made to John (Bay Hotel), Sam Lorimer and Joe Blewett for stepping in at the last minute to make the teams up to full strength.

Well, that's the golf bit done, now for the presentations.

A presentation of golf balls went to Guy 'The Slut' Hovil for his effort on the third hole with his longest drive estimated at approximately 324 yards (Tiger who, I hear you cry, who needs him?). More golf balls were presented to Jules Mellor for his nearest the pin. Unfortunately, he couldn't be there to collect his balls as he had to let the kids out?! (Ed: ??)

Mr Paul 'B\_\_\_\_y Bandit' Honey, our resident statistician checked out the handicaps and scores over the year and decided that PIGS Player of the Year would be Tony 'The Diver' Dyer who had got his handicap down from 28 to 16 – a great achievement by anyone's standards.

Player's Player of the Year, voted for by all fellow PIGS went to Andy Penny who turns up every month come rain or shine and is a joy and pleasure to play with. Congratulations from us all.

A special presentation from the press writer's guild (me!) went to the man who has given me most ammunition in my journalistic endeavours. The presentation of a mounted (on a wooden plinth) pig with a large pair of b\_\_\_\_s could only go to one man. Yes, you've guessed it, Billy 'The Turtle' Hawkins. (Ed: *The Lardman wanted to write a whole article on Bill's mishaps over the past year but we said it really wouldn't be fair and we couldn't afford to add an extra four pages to the next Trio!*)

There were a few fines handed out by Mick 'The Fine Guy' Guard, most notably to Mike Edkins and Paul Honey for managing to eat lunch and dinner (which was not small) and also managing to fit in afternoon tea while on the course.

A very special mention must go to Steve 'The Power' Bunt who achieved a first by hitting an eagle (no, not literally) on the 14<sup>th</sup> hole, the most difficult hole on the course. We are checking club records but we think that this is a first (Ed: *Can't wait for the verdict!*).

Finally, a thank you from the children of Port Isaac School to Mr Des Weston of the St Kew Inn for the donation to school funds that was handed to us by Mike Edkins.

It's time to go now. Time elapsed – 24 minutes. Not bad. (Ed: *Does it usually take you longer then? It reads much the same as usual to us!*).

**The Lardman**

A final message from Billy to Jim Dyer – "I don't mind lending you my shoes because the ones you had gave you blisters but you could have dried them out before you gave them back!" (Ed: *So that's alright then!*)

*and if you want to know why life is like a jar of golf balls turn to page 8*

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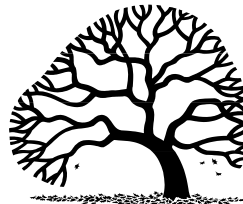


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**Thursday June 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
STEER Forum Meeting in the Village Hall – 7.30pm

**Monday June 7<sup>th</sup>**  
'In the Bag' recycling kerbside collection – put bags out by 7.00am

**Monday June 14<sup>th</sup>**  
"Men's Night" in the Village Hall – 7.30pm

Parish Council Meeting in the Church Rooms, Port Isaac - 7.30pm

**Tuesday June 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Summer Fayre in Trelights Methodist Schoolroom – 2.30pm

Whist Drive in St Endellion Church Hall – 7.30pm

**Wednesday June 16<sup>th</sup>**  
Christmas Lights Meeting in the Village Hall – 7.30pm – YOUR LAST CHANCE TO SUPPORT CHRISTMAS LIGHTS FOR THE WHOLE VILLAGE

**Saturday June 19<sup>th</sup>**  
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**Sunday June 20<sup>th</sup>**  
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**Thursday June 24<sup>th</sup>** – NCCA St Endellion Branch Lunch at The Mill, Port Isaac – 12.30pm for 1.00pm

**Thursday July 1<sup>st</sup>**  
STEER Forum Meeting in the Village Hall – 7.30pm

**Saturday July 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
Port Isaac Gig Club Day, Port Gaverne

**Monday July 5<sup>th</sup>**  
'In the Bag' recycling kerbside collection – put bags out by 7.00am

**Monday July 19<sup>th</sup>**  
'In the Bag' recycling kerbside collection – put bags out by 7.00am

**Tuesday July 20<sup>th</sup>**  
NCCA St Endellion Branch Coffee Morning at The Badgers, Trelights – 10.30am-12noon

Whist Drive in St Endellion Church Hall – 7.30pm

**Wednesday July 28<sup>th</sup>**  
St Peter's Church Summer Mini-Market in Church Rooms – 10.30am

**July 27<sup>th</sup> – August 6<sup>th</sup>**  
St Endellion Summer Festival

# what's on

**Monday August 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
'In the Bag' recycling kerbside collection – put bags out by 7.00am  
**Thursday August 5<sup>th</sup>**  
STEER Forum Meeting in the Village Hall – 7.30pm

**Saturday August 14<sup>th</sup>**  
Port Isaac Gig Club 'Gig' in the Village Hall

**Sunday August 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Lifeboat Funday

**Monday August 16<sup>th</sup>**  
'In the Bag' recycling kerbside collection – put bags out by 7.00am

**Tuesday August 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Whist Drive in St Endellion Church Hall – 7.30pm

**Monday August 30<sup>th</sup>**  
'In the Bag' recycling kerbside collection – put bags out by 7.00am

**Thursday September 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
STEER Forum Meeting in the Village Hall – 7.30pm

**Sunday September 5<sup>th</sup>**  
St Peter's Church Harvest Festival, Supper and Sale, with the Fishermen's Friends, in Church – 6.00pm

**Monday September 13<sup>th</sup>**  
'In the Bag' recycling kerbside collection – put bags out by 7.00am

**Tuesday September 14<sup>th</sup>**  
NCCA St Endellion Branch Coffee Morning at Gull Rock, Port Gaverne – 10.30am-12noon

**Tuesday September 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Whist Drive in St Endellion Church Hall – 7.30pm

**Monday September 27<sup>th</sup>**  
'In the Bag' recycling kerbside collection – put bags out by 7.00am

**Friday October 1<sup>st</sup>**  
RNLI Harvest Festival & Auction at the Port Gaverne Hotel

**Monday October 11<sup>th</sup>**  
'In the Bag' recycling kerbside collection – put bags out by 7.00am

**Tuesday October 19<sup>th</sup>**  
NCCA St Endellion Branch Annual Golf Competition at Roserrow Golf Club

Whist Drive in St Endellion Church Hall – 7.30pm

**Monday October 25<sup>th</sup>**  
'In the Bag' recycling kerbside collection – put bags out by 7.00am

**Monday November 8<sup>th</sup>**  
'In the Bag' recycling kerbside collection – put bags out by 7.00am

**Saturday November 13<sup>th</sup>**  
St Peter's Church Christmas Mini-Market and Lunch in the Church Rooms – 10.30am

**Tuesday November 16<sup>th</sup>**

## REGULAR EVENTS

**Port Isaac Playgroup** – every Tuesday (not during school holidays) from 10.00am to 12 noon in the Village Hall. Contact Emily Brown on 01208 880707

**Yoga** - Mondays during term-time in the Village Hall from 10.30am-12noon Thursdays during term-time in the School Hall from 7.30pm-9.00pm Contact Tracey Greenhalgh on 01208 880215 or Adult Education on 01840 213511

**Local History Group** – The first Friday in the month in Port Isaac Village Hall. Contact George Steer on 01208 880754

**Port Isaac Chorale** – Every Tuesday from 7.30pm-9.30pm in Port Isaac Village Hall. Contact Janet Townsend on 01208 880505

**Carn Awn Singers** – Every Monday at 8.00pm in Trelights Chapel. Contact Joan Murray on 01208 880548

**Golden Circle** - The second Thursday in the month from October to April from 2.30pm - 4.00pm in Port Isaac Village Hall. Contact Penny Manders on 01208 880022

**Learning Together** - Every Monday during term time from 1.30pm - 3.15pm in Port Isaac Primary School. 3 and 4 year olds to come along with an adult

### CHURCH SERVICES

**St Peter's Church, Port Isaac** - Sunday - Sung Eucharist at 10.00am. Every third Sunday - Said Eucharist at 9.30am, Family Service at 10.15am. Every Wednesday - Said Eucharist at 10.00am

**St Endellion Church** - Every Sunday at 11.00am

**Trelights Methodist Church** - Sunday Service at 6.00pm.



Want to find out what's happening in the Village?  
Read your *Trio* and look on the *Trio* Diary page.  
Remember to make sure that your event is included here!