



# St. John Newsletter

February 2018

## Editorial



A reminder that subscriptions became due on 1st Jan 2018. Sole membership £5.00 and snooker £10.00. Payments can be made to any committee member.

In this issue - more information from the Parish Council - we urge you to get involved with how you want the Solar fund monies to be spent. Also your input on proposed boundary changes and why you should object to them. The village committee is seeking ideas for a proposed entertainment programme for 2018

and your input would be welcome.

Then there is the Pub's programme of events and planned changes.

Sadly, we say Farewell to Sally North and our thoughts are with David Eva at this sad time.

Finally, on the last page, Sue Huke's 'spot-light' feature has its first publication. She intends to interview selected villagers to find out 'more' about them - I have volunteered to be her first candidate!! Let us know what you think.

*David Greenhalgh*

## Parish Council



We have received another £3000 (£1500 for St John), from the Solar Fund Community committee. If you have any ideas for using this money for the benefit of the community, then please let us know.

The Boundary Commission proposes to combine St John with West Torpoint, together with Antony and Sheviok. Thus our new Cornwall Councillor will cover both urban and rural areas. Cornwall are seeking consultation by 19th February. We urge you to visit the website <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk> and comment (object) to the proposed boundary changes.

To help you to comment, here is our PC response, "St John PC objects to the proposed changes to the Cornwall Council allocation of wards, in respect of the Rame Peninsula.

We strongly believe that there are significant advantages in the present arrangement whereby one Councillor represents the parishes of St John, Sheviok, Antony, Millbrook and Maker with Rame. These five parishes share a peninsula which has many distinct features, with problems associated with road transport, involving very limited access into the peninsula, AONB and AGLV designated areas, limited health and educational facilities, lack of retail facilities and general lack of employment opportunities.

We share a huge reliance on visitors with many businesses reliant on the leisure industry. We share an outstanding coastline around the south and east of the peninsula as well as the River Tamar AONB to the north. We have common interests in the huge number of heritage fortifications.

These common factors are why, under the co-ordination and huge personal effort from our Rame Cornwall Councillor, we have worked together as a cluster of five parishes to prepare and adopt the Rame Peninsula Neighbourhood Development Plan. The development of this Plan over the last five years has brought the five parishes together, and other initiatives of joint working, on planning and transport issues, have successfully been initiated through our Councillor. We would ask that if the current arrangement cannot be maintained then the new ward boundary should not divide these parishes, and that the five parishes should continue to share a Cornwall Councillor."

Please see [www.stjohnincornwall.org.uk](http://www.stjohnincornwall.org.uk) for full minutes of meetings and accounts, and details of future meeting dates.

Next meeting is 1st February at St John village hall.

*Del Richards*



# St. John Village committee meeting



Minutes of the St. John Village committee meeting. (15th January 2018 )

After apologies the minutes of the last meeting (4th December 2017) were read and there were no matters arising.

Charmaine presented the Treasurer's reports for both Nov. and Dec. In Nov. there was the usual income from the sports clubs ie. Snooker, Bowls, Bridge and singing and coffee mornings. Expenditure included electricity, SWW, paint etc.

The Quiz night made a profit of £88.10 Then in December, again the usual income from snooker, bowls, coffee, Hire of Hall and Expenditure – electricity, gift, tree lights, Fire ext service. etc.

The Xmas wine evening made a profit of £570.00.

In 'any other business' attention was brought to the state of the doors to the Hall and snooker room. Both are ill fitting and cold wind blows in making heating less efficient as well as being less secure than they should be. It was agreed that we look into repairing and making them more secure. I brought up the need to plan ahead and book future fund raising events. Much discussion ensued over who should actively seek prospective acts (performers/ entertainers) and events and what the nature of them should be. The result of this is that we agreed to devote our next meeting on Monday February 5th at 7.30pm. to this one item. If you would like to come to that meeting and tell us what entertainment events you would like, or make some suggestions, you would be most welcome.

*David Greenhalgh*

## Farewell Sally North



Sally was born in Brentwood, Essex in 1948, where she lived with her parents and sister Susan for 20 years.

Sally worked as a legal secretary in Hertford and moved to Somerset when her husband Peter retired in 1995.

After Peter's death, Sally formed a long and lasting relationship with David Eva.

Throughout her life Sally was known for her vitality and sense of humour. She was a lifelong Gilbert & Sullivan enthusiast and enjoyed singing in a variety of choirs.

Sally and David moved to St John in 2014 and immediately fell in love with the village. Owing to Parkinson's Disease, she was unable to join in with village life as much as she would have liked. After a long battle with her illness, Sally sadly passed away on 15 January.



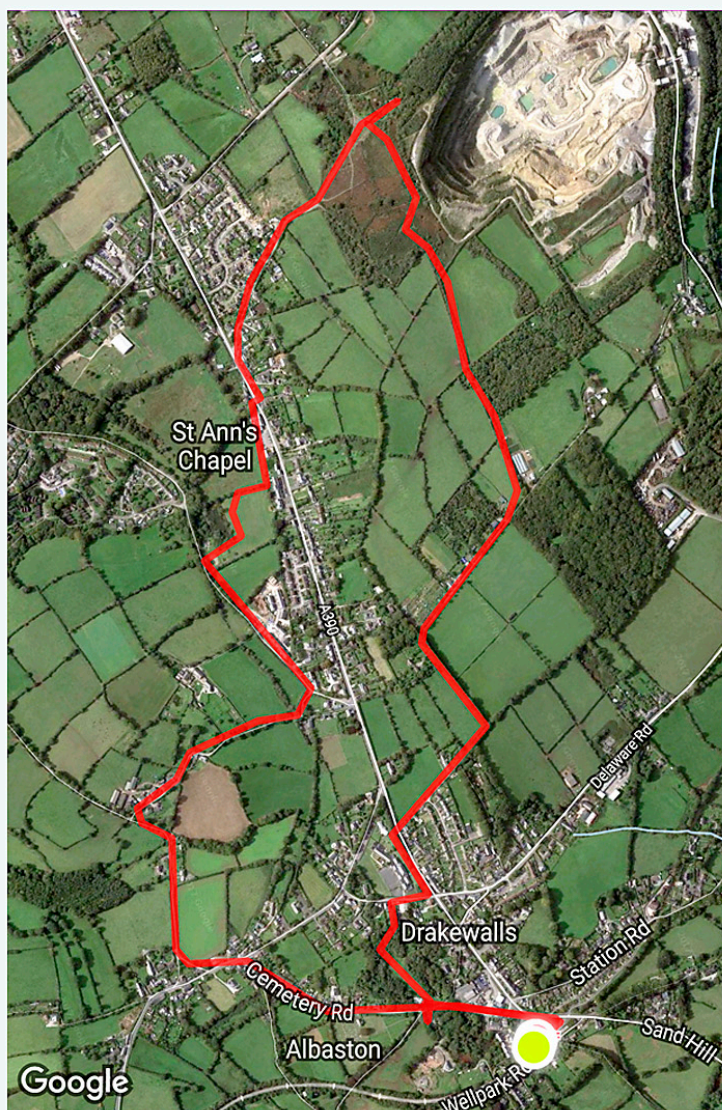


## St. John Walkers - 2018

Month	Date	Organiser	Telephone	Email
January	9	Yvonne	01579 363915	y.a.douglass@gmail.com
February	12	Richard & Alison	823249	glenside2@btinternet.com
March	12	Howard & Viv	823250	vivienne-walker@sky.com
April	9	Mary & Brian	822890	bbird748@yahoo.co.uk
May	14	Linda & Chris	822083	linda_morris1886@live.co.uk
June	11	Thelma & Kath	829113	thelma.bryant@sky.com
July	9	No Walk		
August	13	No walk		
September	10	Janet & Sue	829225 822742	susan@huke.co.uk
October	8	Clive & Carol	822557	cliveandcarol@btinternet.com
November	12	Paul & Val	823118	
December	10	Richard & Alison	823249	glenside2@btinternet.com

1. Meet outside Village Hall at 9.30 am.
2. If for any reason you are unable to lead your walk please arrange to swap with another person and advise Sue Richards.
3. Please would everybody contact the organiser of the walk by email or telephone to check that the walk is going ahead in bad weather.

*Note - Leader change for Feb 12th.*



January's walk started and finished from Gunnislake Railway Station. The route took us to The Tamar Valley Information Centre and then after crossing the main road we were soon on to a quiet back lane taking us away from traffic noise, passed a few remote houses, allotments and farms. Every so often a glorious view would appear over a farm gate as we gently plodded higher and higher. The dry, stony lanes went to rather muddy, bewildered footpaths but we managed to skirt round them without anyone coming a cropper, thankfully! We continued up gentle slopes till we reached Hingston Down Engine House. From this high elevation on a clear day you would have fantastic views over the Tamar Valley towards Plymouth sound. Unfortunately it was a rather grey, murky day but it was still an amazing sight! We then started to make our way back down to the road encountering some tufts of pure white tufts of fur. After some discussion we decided it must be alpaca wool and this was proved right when we saw the Rosecraddock Alpaca Farm trailer and could hear them close by. After crossing the road we were soon back on a public footpath taking us behind the pub where would be having lunch after the walk. I think we nearly lost a few of the walkers as we were by now cold and hungry! Thankfully the intrepid St John's walkers are made of sterner stuff and finished the walk which took us across a playing field (covered in mole hills!) and through a children's playground leading to back lanes taking us through the villages of Hollow Creep and Albaston. We continued down the lane, passing the Tamar Valley Centre again and back to the station to finish the walk. The 3.5 mile walk had taken a couple of hours but everyone seemed to enjoy it! We then drove the short distance to The Rifle Volunteer where some of us had 2/3 course lunches. (We'd worked up quite an appetite!) The pub was spacious, friendly and the food was excellent! A great finish to the day!

*Yvonne Douglass*





## St. John Walkers (cont.)



Finally, lunch at the Rifle Volunteer



## St. John Inn



### Events for this month:-

#### Thursday 1st Feb -

Ladies darts 'friendly' match with the Marque of Friendship 8.00 pm onwards.

#### Monday 5th Feb -

Funeral wake for Sally North following cremation at Bodmin at 12.30pm.

All enquiries and anyone wishing to attend the funeral or wake can contact Sally's sister Sue Osborne on [suze21@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:suze21@tiscali.co.uk) or 07951567640.

#### Saturday 10th Feb-

Lyn, who works behind the bar on occasion is getting married to Pete - we wish them both well for the future and hope they have a wonderful day.

#### Saturday 17th Feb -

Evening BBQ provided by Phil Newcombe of Coastline Catering, followed by a small firework display.

#### Friday 23rd Feb - Quiz night.

We shall be doing some groundworks in the car park and the land over the coming month so we ask all customers to take care and watch where you're stepping ! We aim to provide better access to the rear of the pub in the future.

Gill.



Dear David,

You may remember that I mentioned some time ago that Jill, full of admiration for those stalwarts who are at the heart of village life in St. John, should be recognised in some tangible way. She came up with the enclosed somewhat humorous attachment with the thought that the "Order" might be given an airing in the news letter. I have had to tidy it up and bring it up to date, for it was all handwritten on a scrap of paper that I found among her papers after she passed away.....With kindest regards, John Woodfield



## The Knights of St. John .....(New order)

- 1) Sir John - Builder, Decorator, Electronic Wizard, Founder of the St. John Newsletter. *motto: "You send it, I'll print it.." (within reason)*
- 2) Sir Lewis - Perennial Boy Scout. All emergencies dealt with calmly and efficiently. *motto: "A good turn every day".*
- 3) Sir Gus - Shining armour not immediately visible; likes to keep a low profile. Totally dependable and comforting. *motto: "Just ask; I'll be there".*
- 4) Sir Michael Stevens - Among other things, having considerable skills, a tractor, and a seemingly inexhaustible supply of time to help others. *motto: "I'll pull you out of all difficulties".*
- 5) Sir Michael Holmes - Likes to be where it's hot and steamy. If it's gone wrong and made of metal, he's your man. *motto: "Any old iron usefully employed".*
- 6) Sir Ray Waldock of the Parish Council, apparently indestructible, with a wife who for years was Secretary to St. John Church P.C.C. ....a steady hand at the wheel. *motto: "Never fear, the Navy's here".*
- 7) Sir David of the Green Baize - who not only cares for the needs of those who play snooker but for those who need quantities of oil and more latterly has taken on from Sir John Hough the role of editor and publisher of the St. John News letter. *motto: "Copy for the letter, oil for the boiler, or just a game with those ever frustrating balls, just give me a ring".*

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*In suggesting this New Order of Chivalry the late Jill Woodfield realised that there were bound to be more candidates who might qualify as members of this prestigious group. To this end she thought that sponsors might submit names and reasons for inclusion, to the village Herald at Arms, Sir David Greenhalgh, c/o Picture Hill, St. John.*

## St John's Church



### January's 100 Club winners are:-

£20 Chris & Vanessa Burton  
£5 Kate Turner  
£5 Carole Ball

### December winners were:-

£20 Sue Huke  
£5 Jean Stevens  
£5 Jones Waldock

## St John's Church

**Soup & Pudd for £6**  
at

**St John Village Hall**

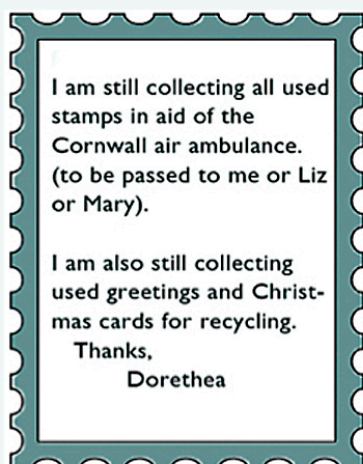
on

**Sat 24 February**

**12 to 2pm**



## Notices and Clubs



### Bridge Club

Village Hall (from 1 Oct. - 31st March)

It is intended to provide information and guidance for beginners and players alike- to give an opportunity to have fun and exercise the "little grey cells" during these Autumn and Spring dull days.

A £1 subscription is requested from club members for use of The Hall (& tea /biscuits!).  
(Clive & Carol Jakeman)



Singing group - Monday mornings 10.30am  
Janet - 829225

Short mat bowles - Tuesday eve, 7.30 pm.

Coffee morning - Wed. 10.30am  
( eggs - veg in season )

Boule - contact Sue 822742

## Snooker



### LADDER



### Highest Break 2018

David Greenhalgh	32
Steve Wick	23
Tony Rogers	22
Chris Trevitt	21
Clive Walley	21
Pete Debono	18
Richard Dolton	16

Steve Wick
Chris Trevitt
Clive Walley
Pete Debono
David Greenhalgh
Tony Rogers
John Woodfield
Del Richards
Howard Everard
Brian Bird
Bob Keys
Richard Dolton
Chris Huke
Chris Morris
Paul Tanner
Ray Salter
Lewis Wilton
Dave Plank
Andy Ridler
Ernie Ridler
Anthony Graves
Sam Hunt
Chris Burton

## Letters to the editor

Caroline Dann has asked me to thank the people of St. John for their best wishes, flowers and cards, it was very kind of everyone and she really appreciated it.

## And finally.....

Have you ever noticed that anyone going slower than you is an idiot, but anyone going faster is a maniac?



# Spotlight



Hello my name is Sue Huke and I am planning a series of informal chats with various St. John village 'locals', in the hope of discovering a little more about them. These will then form the basis for a series of articles to be published at intervals in the Newsletter and will, perhaps, enable us all to get to know each other a little better.

My first guest is David Greenhalgh the new editor of the St. John Newsletter.



David and his family have lived in St. John for 33 years.

He was born in Sheffield in 1946 and in the early 1950's when his father, an engineer with a steel company, was offered a 5 year contract in South Africa the family travelled out to live in Springs, a small town 30 miles east of Johannesburg. They returned briefly to the UK but failed to see any great future or prospects and decided to emigrate back to SA.

David therefore spent most of his formative years in South Africa and the family led a privileged life as white Europeans living under S. Africa's apartheid regime. He attended an authoritarian school for white boys, showing great promise as a tennis player (he was selected as a junior to represent Eastern Transvaal) and also developing his lifelong interest in art.

In the early 1960's, after his matriculation, he left home to attend Natal University in Durban, earning a bit of money by working as a photographer in the local nightclubs and also honing his photographic skills. He didn't actually complete his degree but left university when he was offered a job in the advertising department of a large paint company in Johannesburg. A year later he moved to work in an interior design firm.

As David matured he was becoming more aware of the increasing tensions of the political situation of apartheid and could not contemplate spending the rest of his life in such a divided society and so he decided to return to the U.K.

He completed an art foundation course in Leeds and then a BA Fine Arts degree in Cardiff and it was while he was studying there that his mother sadly developed Motor Neuron Disease and he made several trips back to S. Africa to support his father.

It was also in Cardiff that he met Judith, a physiotherapist and now his wife of 34 years.

They travelled up to Manchester together where David completed a PGCE (post graduate certificate in education) before getting a teaching job in Plymouth. They lived in Plympton for 3 years and then, now married, moved to Picture Hill in St. John.

It was during this time that David's father, now a widower, retired back to the U.K. to live with David and his family until his death in 2003.

David and Judith have two children, Jessica, a photographer and presently back in St. John with her partner Dave, and Sam, a project manager living with his wife Shireen in Southampton.

David worked as a teacher for 20 years until his retirement in 2001 but still continues his own artwork and does the framing and printing for his daughter's business. He is a member of the St. John Recreation Hall Committee and facilitates the running of the snooker club. He also runs an oil buying group and has now taken on the St. John Newsletter but, despite this busy schedule, one of his main loves continues to be walking the local woods and fields with his labrador dogs.

*Sue Huke*