

St. John Newsletter

Village Website - www.stjohnincornwall.org.uk

January 2020

Editorial



Happy New Year to you all.

For me the recent festivities were tinged with sadness as my next door neighbour for most of the last thirty years, Margaret Cardew, passed away shortly after Christmas. (p2)

This month's edition is the largest yet! It is amazing the amount that goes on in our small village. We have the usual reports: the walkers, I can't let it go unsaid that it was led by Viv Walker! Anyway, it was a local route around St. Germans. It seems that 9 non walkers avoided the walk and just went to the pub! (should be a law against that or at least a penalty or a note from their Mum!!) They say they filled up the pub...but no photo. In the Pubs report I am struggling with the Les Dawson aka Janet simile and they are causing the road to be closed on 27th Jan.

The Xmas Wine & Dine report had Father Xmas using our new sound systems microphone and the singers entertaining us (they were busy in December as they were also entertaining Torcare residents.)

Then of course there is the snooker report of the finals of the Pool doubles competitions. I may need to explain – for a bit of fun we are adopting or being given snooker names (like the professionals, you know Alex “ Hurricane” Higgins) I used them for the finalists in the two competitions. (p8) If you can think of 'a good one' let me know.

As if that was not enough there is a report on drain repairs, local films as well as an idea by Kath Overton to start a monthly Wildlife Watch type article.(p7)

Last month we said that we would be starting to complete new subscription forms, required by the Charitable Trust, at the Xmas Wine & Dine.....well, for various reasons that did not happen. However, we will be doing it at the New Year Lunch on the 18th Jan. (p2)

Lastly, there may be more mistakes than usual in this edition as my ' proof reader' is away for a few days!

David Greenhalgh

What's Your Parish Council Up To?



Thanks to those who turned out to help clear the flooding in Church Lane this month. We managed to locate the offensive drain and clear it with the help of the Dolton rodding equipment. Top marks for sheer bravery went to Christian who lowered his mobile into a running drain to get a photograph of the connection, (the PC had already confirmed that it would not replace the instrument)! Following our work, Cormac have promised to undertake improvements to all the drainage around the church entrance, and they have also ordered BIFFA to carry out road-sweeping and leaf clearance in the village.

Further to the note last month regarding local Climate Emergency, the PC would wish to clarify that should a St John CE group be formed then the PC will be open to providing any funding e.g. literature printing etc.

We have a good financial position this year and we expect further Solar Fund monies in January, so all ideas welcome? Please see www.stjohnincornwall.org.uk for full minutes of meetings and account.

Del Richards

A Happy New Year to you all from the Trustees of the Village Hall!



Thanks to everyone who have supported the Hall over all past decades - painting – mending – mowing – pruning – cooking – cleaning – printing – administrating - organising and of course donating, to say just a few ways! If you are new to the village then we are sure you will have some talents we would gladly appreciate – and that doesn't mean going on committees; we want everyone to be part of our community team.

Our first “do” is on **Saturday 18th for our New Year's Lunch** – it's for everyone young and old! 12:30 for 1:00 – come along – maybe meet some new friends, enjoy good company. If you haven't been to the hall for a while we'd love to see you again. There is one thing..... can you let us know you are coming so we have enough food to share around! Contact Janet on 01752 829225 or Sue on 01752 822742

St John Village Hall



NEW YEAR LUNCH

Saturday 18th January 2020 12.30 for 1pm
Please join us for a sherry on arrival followed by
a buffet lunch with a glass of wine
£10 a head
Tickets from Janet Mitchell 01752 822742

Please note:
We will be taking the opportunity to collect your St. John Village Hall Trust annual
subscription £5 a head + £10 Snooker membership
Registered Charity No 1178524

Farewell - Margaret Cardew

The Cardew family are sad to announce that their beloved mother, Margaret, passed away peacefully in Torcare Nursing Home, Torpoint, on the 29th December 2019.

Margaret and her husband Les came to live in St John in 1978, in the new house which they had built, 'Swallows Fall'. Although Les sadly died just ten years later, Margaret continued to live there for a further 28 years until she went into care and the house was sold. Margaret and Les had five children - three of them also came to live in St John, and Steve and Ricky and their families still live here today. Although Margaret lived alone in Swallows Fall for many years, the house was never empty as her 13 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren loved to make frequent visits and have fond memories of spending lots of time in St John - at the house, in the woods and around the lake.

The family would like to express their appreciation to the friends that supported Margaret in her later years.

The funeral date is still to be arranged.



The St. John Inn

Well - - - another Christmas has been and gone !

Life at the St John Inn is wonderful and chaotic with my dementia getting worse and worse. I can't seem to remember anything.

December was full of things happening -

Many thanks to all those that turned up on the 13th to help decorate the pub for Christmas, it looked splendid. If you didn't get to see it - shame on you....!

As someone put on the face book page - 'a pub is for life not just for Christmas'

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohninnCornwall/>

On the **19th** we had a lovely session around the piano with Les Dawson - sorry - Janet - playing carols with song sheets provided - - - ps. where's my copies ?????



On the **20th** we had our Fun Christmas quiz written by one of the Friday night boys. Not sure that it was 'fun' but we had a jolly time and plenty of nibbles to keep us going. The winning team was the Fergus Fuzzbuts.

Santa visited in the early evening and I lovely young child came back in with a beaming smile saying that she asked Santa for an iPad - you could hear the jaws hitting the floor. Daddy looked a little sheepish !!!

Next quiz is 31st Jan with the quiz masters already in preparation. (if you're worried about losing and having to run the next quiz there are those out there willing to do the dirty work for you - just ask).



A few of our seasoned veterans turned out in all their Dickensian glory on the **22nd** but it would have been nice if more had participated.

Christmas day was enjoyed by all and we opened from 12 - 3pm with all rooms full to capacity - Many thanks for a wonderful day and also a great big thanks to Eileen and Ralph for a lovely Christmas Dinner. .

Phil's food

We are still providing nourishment on a Friday night - 5-8.30pm - anything from fish & chips to cottage pie.
Take the stress out of cooking and come and enjoy some company.

Pamper day

We are aiming for the 9th Feb. (Sunday) from around 2-7pm. We now have a hairdresser along with beautician and nail technician - more on the way.

Keep an eye on the notice board or our website for more information.

Complete road closure

We are having a new water main on the **27th Jan** and the road will be closed for the day by Bramble Barn - be warned !

Lost property

A red umbrella, lovely knitted white bobble hat, blue waterproof jacket.

Rob & Gill



Xmas Wine & Dine



The Christmas wine and dine evening on Saturday December 7th - organised by Liz, Paddy, Pat and Janet - was almost full to capacity. It was a week earlier than usual, which meant that any keen Strictly fans could watch it in peace the following week, without anyone giving away any spoilers at the wine evening. The decorations looked lovely, having been put up by a willing band of helpers. The very tasty menu consisted of Cheesy Chicken, Cajun chicken, Chicken or Vegetarian Casserole, and a variety of desserts. We had some new rules this year, consisting of selecting a 'table monitor' to supervise taking plates to the hatch and not allowing too many people crowding the kitchen workers. This worked well and Tony Gillies was particularly excited as he'd once - in another life- been a monitor at school! The Secret Santa was supervised by Bob Keys who was Baboushka, and he selected 2 helpers - Thelma and Janet - called Babbas(?). This consisted of them doing the donkey work, dragging round heavy sacks, while he told the Russian Baboushka story. My knowledge is that Baboushka was a woman or a nickname given to old men who looked witch-like! So Bob.....? The evening ended with a lively sing-song of Christmas songs, led by the Lady Singers. Many thanks to all the helpers, particularly Christian and Tony's washing up team, and Ralph for showing us how to heat the ovens!

Janet



Bowls

The bowls Christmas meal was held on Tuesday 17th December in the village hall. Sharon provided a very tasty selection including curry and beef bourguignon. A good time was had by all, particularly when we played a party game afterwards. We all took a wrapped present and by throwing a dice you could win several presents but others none at all! Bowls is on Tuesday evenings at 7.00 pm if you would like to try it.

Janet.





St. John Walkers - 2020

Month	Date	Organiser	Telephone	Email
January	13	Sue & Del	823253	sueclarerichards@me.com
February	10	Yvonne	01579 363915	y.a.douglass@gmail.com
March	9	John McCollough	960267	john.mccollough@hotmail.co.uk
April	13	Alison & Richard	07977214776	doltonpc@gmail.com
May	11	Thelma & Kath	829113 813304	thelma.bryant@sky.com
June	8	Linda & Chris	822083	linda_morris1886@live.co.uk
July	8	No Walk		
August	12	No Walk		
September	14	Bob & Meg	823119	carswell212@aol.com
October	12	Paul & Val	823118	
November	9	Mary & Brian	822890	bbird748@yahoo.co.uk
December	14	Howard & Viv	823250	vivienne-walker@sky.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.

St John Walkers Christmas Walk Monday 9th December

A great turnout of 22 walkers and 2 dogs set out for our Christmas walk on a day with no rain, in fact it was sunny all day.

The walk was a circular one around St. Germans starting at Quay road then under the viaduct. Stage two was through the village with a stop for some of us to look around the church. Then onwards with a gentle walk up the hill and onto our last leg along the old track of long meadow. Finally down the hill past the station and off to lunch at The Rod and Line at Tideford.

A further 9 people joined us so we well filled the pub, where we all enjoyed the food, a good party atmosphere and the welcome from the staff.

Viv Walker



St. Johns Church

On behalf of St. John Church PCC, our grateful thanks to all who gave their time to clear the drains around the Church thanks also to Christian and Ralf for cleaning the gutters on the Church.

A future date for your diary Saturday February 1st. 2020, the Church will be holding a Jacket potato lunch in the Village Hall, more information next month.

Susan.

100 Club - Dec. winners:-

Amanda Trevitt £20

Susan Holmes £5

Father Brown £5

Happy New Year to all 100 club members - Ray.

Christian's work party



Early December saw a happy bunch of volunteers attack the village hall hedge, trimming it to perfection and getting it carried away. Such a large group led to us doing it in record time in order for more time to attack the singers biscuits that were poorly hidden. Perfection was later met by way of Chris Morris and his hedge trimming machine. Thank you to all who turned out. *Christian.*

Just before Christmas Del and Richard D led a further party to Church Lane, to tackle the uninvited stream that had formed in the road outside the Church gates. All in the party had a chance to play in the stream before John McCullough used his magic spade and immediately resolved the issue. A very satisfying afternoon for all. Below is a photo from inside the main drain showing the unblocked drain.

If there are any ideas for projects around St John in 2020 that would occupy the antics of the volunteers please get in touch!



Good to see Susan overseeing the work! - Ed.



Xmas Carol's at the Church



Film Fans



"FILM FANS" SCREENING AT THE COMMUNITY HALL KINGSAND

The film follows a Chinese family who, when they discover their beloved Grandmother has only a short while left to live, decide to keep her in the dark and schedule an impromptu wedding to gather before she passes. Billi, feeling like a fish out of water in her home country, struggles with the family's decision to hide the truth from her grandmother. Lulu Wang has crafted a tasty cinematic stew of family depression and grief, hugs and laughter, memories and regrets. It's spiced with sweet, encouraging conversations and funny family dinners, examinations of the differences and similarities of Chinese and American cultures, blatant fibbing, and some pretty heavy drinking and smoking, too. Critic:- "The Farewell is a comedy of warmth and bracing honesty. Simply put, it's one of the best films of the year."

CFFM & MILLBROOK MOVIES PRESENTS

YESTERDAY

SATURDAY 18 JANUARY

MILLBROOK VILLAGE HALL

DOORS: 6.30pm

FILM: 7.30pm

PRICE: £5 new members £3 members

CONTACT: Laurence Watkins lmw@millbrookcinema.co.uk

ABOUT: A struggling musician realises he's the only person on Earth who can remember The Beatles after waking up in an alternate timeline where they never existed.

www.cffm.co.uk

www.millbrookcinema.co.uk

[BBC](https://www.bbc.com) [ITV](https://www.itv.com) [Channel 4](https://www.channel4.com) [Sky](https://www.sky.com)

MILLBROOK VILLAGE HALL Yesterday Saturday 18th January

Jack Malik is a struggling singer-songwriter in an English seaside town whose dreams of fame are rapidly fading, despite the fierce devotion and support of his childhood best friend, Ellie. After a freak bus accident during a mysterious global blackout, Jack wakes up to discover that The Beatles have never existed. Performing songs by the greatest band in history to a world that has never heard them, Jack becomes an overnight sensation with a little help from his agent.

Doors 7pm
Film 7.30pm

St John Singers at Torcare

Some of the singing group visited Torcare again on December 16th. This time we sang a selection of Christmas songs and carols. We spent an enjoyable morning there and finished off with lunch at the Old Rowing Club. We didn't take our recorders but that could be a future date?! The update on recorders is that some have now managed 5 notes. Quite an achievement!

Janet.



Wildlife Watch

Seen some hunched, short-necked Egrets in the fields near Millbrook? If they have yellow beaks, unlike the Little Egret whose beak is black, they are likely to be the much rarer Cattle Egret, a native originally of Africa and Asia. Anglers along the banks of St John's lake have been catching unusually large numbers of plaice in the past couple of weeks.

Any frogspawn been laid in your pond? How early will it be this coming year?

If you see any unusual wildlife and would like to share with us, we'd be delighted to hear from you.

kath.overton@gmail.com

Kath is keen to see if there is any interest in having a regular page (or half page) in the Newsletter devoted to our rich and varied wildlife in and around St John. I am sure there are some 'twitchers' out there who love to record the seasonal birds that visit the lake and elsewhere, also many of you attract a huge variety of colourful finches, tits etc to your bird feeders. I personally would be interested in when and where different fish are being caught. So, if you would like to register your interest, contact Kath and send your photos so that we can all share in an interest that is surely universal.

Ed.

Snooker

On Sunday 17th Nov we held our annual meeting in the Pub to draw for partners in the Xmas Doubles knockout competition. Since then matches have been played week by week. There is also a Plate event for first round losers.

Eventually John 'sixpence' Tanner & Pete 'Welsh Dragon' Debono reached the finals, as did Chris 'Cool Hand' Huke & Dave 'The Artist' Greenhalgh. The final was played on Wed. 4th Dec. and 'Cool Hand' and myself managed to win 13-7.

In the final of the plate Chris 'Doc' Morris & Chris 'Biggles' Burton played Del '?' Richards & Bob 'The Jailer' Keys - the two Chrises triumphed 11-5.

I would like to thank everyone for their support and all the matches were played in good spirit and humour and I hope everyone enjoyed taking part as much as I enjoyed running, organising and watching the matches. A final thank you to the committee who sponsored the prizes.

Dave



Main event Finalists



The Plate Finalists



....some of the rowdy spectators



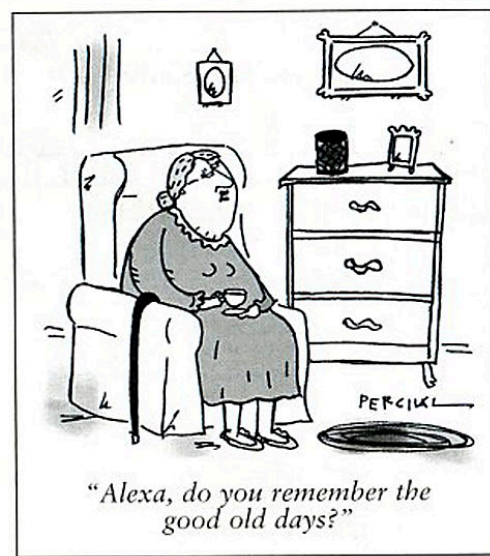
LADDER



Highest Break

Chris Trevitt	28
David Greenhalgh	28
Chris Morris	25
Pete Debono	23
Howard Everard	22
John Tanner	20
Bob Keys	18
Chris Huke	18

Chris Trevitt
Pete Debono
David Greenhalgh
Chris Morris
Del Richards
Brian Bird
John Tanner
Richard Dolton
Chris Huke
Paul Tanner
Ray Salter
Lewis Wilton
Clive Walley
Steve Wick
Bob Keys
Howard Everard



and finally.....

Three conspiracy theorists walk into a bar.....
you can't tell me that's just a coincidence.