

# St. John Newsletter

*A Publication of the St. John Village Trust*

Village Website - [www.stjohnincornwall.org.uk](http://www.stjohnincornwall.org.uk)

May 2021 ( Bluebell Edition )



## Editorial

Hello again

I hope that you are all enjoying the rather welcome dry weather – even if it continues to be unseasonally cold and makes it difficult for us growers!

The big event early this month will be voting in the local elections, of which there are details below. I always think that we take them for granted but, of course, if we didn't have a vote we would complain bitterly so it is definitely worth the effort.

On page 2 Chris Morris keeps us abreast of the good progress on the Hall building site and there are the usual notices from the church.

Wildlife Watch is very diverse this month, focusing mainly on 'blossoms', but also featuring a reptile and exotic birds. Plus, the identity of the "new chick on the block" is revealed! Remember him?

In the past we have supported the Children's Hospice fundraising (last year it raised £100,000) and on page 5 there is information on how to support this year's efforts.

Lastly, on the back page, we have a poem chosen by Alison, Sue's tentative steps towards starting the monthly walking club again and we welcome another new resident to the village. Have a good May...

Best wishes

Dave

## Parish Election 6th May

(PLEASE USE YOUR VOTE.)

Elections for our County Councillor, Police Commissioner and Parish Councillors, will be held on 6th May. The polling station will be Antony Village Hall. A good turn-out will ensure that we have a democratically elected Parish Council for the next four years.

Our PC has six councillors, and as the parish comprises two equal (but very different) settlements, St John village and Freathy (with Tregonhawke), we have always endeavoured to have a balance of councillors between the two, (particularly as they each have very different planning rules). However, the ballot paper will not differentiate between candidates from either area, but this will explain why you may see several names that you may not recognise.

For this election on May 6th there are 8 candidates standing for the 6 seats. We will be able to vote for 6 candidates.

Those hoping to represent Freathy are:

Ben Crane

Jacqui Hirst \*\*

Roy Hoskin \*\*

Those hoping to represent St John are:

Gill Berry

Chris Burton

Howard Everard \*\*

Derek (Del) Richards \*\*

John Tanner

\*\* denotes standing for re-election

It would be appreciated if you could help us to maintain the balance of representation between St John and Freathy by voting for 3 candidates from each of the above groups. This link will take you to the minutes of the meeting on 8th December 2020.

<https://stjohnincornwall.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Minutes-8th-Dec-2020-meeting.pdf>

There will be a Parish Meeting (similar to an AGM) at Freathy Sports and Social Club from **7.00pm on Thursday 20th May**, and this will be followed by a PC meeting, with the newly elected councillors from about 7.30pm and it is hoped that as many parishioners as possible will attend.





## Update:

Since last month the milestones for both the COVID-19 relaxation of restrictions timetable and the St John Village Hall's building progress continue to be met, no doubt very much aided by the favourable weather.

Externally there is much visible progress with the annexe's roof beginning to take shape. Indeed the hope is that the roof will be complete and tiled within a fortnight.



Internally the toilet complex has progressed well and is in the final stages of decoration and tiling before the plumbing and electrics can be fitted. This area should also be completed within the next fortnight. However, more importantly the project completion remains on track for early June.

*Note: Please could everyone be aware that the St Village Hall and grounds are out of bounds until the building works have been completed.*

Chris Morris.

## St John Church

### St John the Baptist Church



Our church will be open for services

2nd May	9.15 a.m.
9th May	9.15 a.m.
16th May	Closed
23rd May Pentecost	9.15 a.m.
30th May team service at Maker Church	11.00 a.m.

For details please contact one of our wardens.  
Susan:- 01752 823 090  
Christine:- 01752 829 212

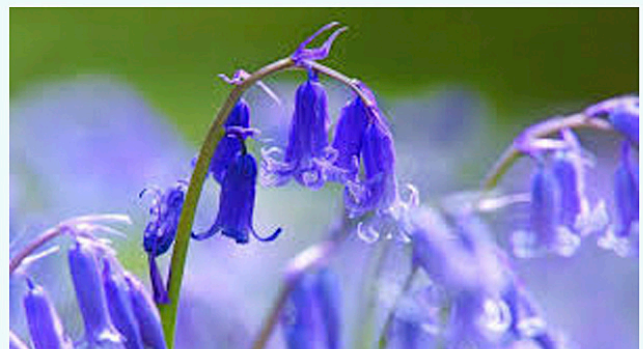
### 100 Club winners for April.

David Eva .....£20

Chris Mills .....£5

Vi Lakeman .....£5

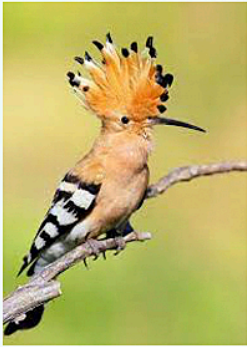
The numbers were selected by the local Tesco delivery man this month.







Now our winter bird visitors have departed, our summer visitors arrive, although I have not yet seen swallows in St John and do we ever get cuckoos?



*Hoopoe*

Of particular interest is the Woodchat Shrike, a butcher bird, which can take swallows. It has been seen on The Rame and caused birders to twitter. It is normally found in Mediterranean areas. And in Looe the striking Hoopoe has been spotted.



*Woodchat Shrike*

## Slow worm alert.

This shiny legless lizard is about. Best spotted at dusk and after rain and often around compost heaps where it feeds on slugs and snails. The mating season kicks off in May and courtship can take up to 10 hours.

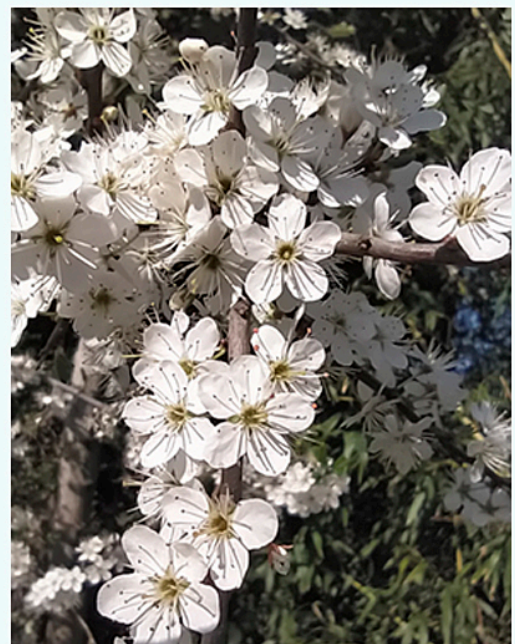


## May blossom under scrutiny.

In April we saw variation within primroses, yet this month conversely we see close similarity between different species of blossom bearing trees. Can you distinguish between these different flowers of the *Prunus* genus?



*Wild plum Prunus .domestica*



*Blackthorn Prunus.spinosa*



## Wildlife Watch (cont)



*Stella Cherry Prunus Domestica*



*Wild Cherry Prunus avium*



Last year we had “a new chick on the block” see now how it has blossomed (thanks Lynne) and he brings a new “song” to the spring chorus and a sharp beak!

Lynne says “He’s still around supervising the builders in the hall and visiting the neighbours. He’s a stropky devil though and quite aggressive. ”

*Yes it is a white peacock!*



### **No Mow May**

A PlantLife initiative (the British Conservation charity):

If you leave your lawn or swathes of it for May it can provide x10 the amount of nectar for bees and pollinators than if you mow it. Even a high cut can enable White Clover, Self Heal and Birdsfoot Trefoil to flower.

200 species have been found on flowering lawns. Survey your lawn at the end of May and impress us with your count or take part in Plantlife’s “Every flower counts” survey to get your personal nectar score.

Children may like to create a “Scaremow”. Details of how to build one can be found on the Plantlife website.

7.5 million acres of flower meadow have been lost, so this makes our garden habitats all the more important.

### **Growing Matters.**

The plastic greenhouse now stands right of the church porch. Please home any of its occupants or swell the ranks.

Kath



## Help your local children's hospice reach pot of gold this summer

Children's Hospice South West (CHSW) is excited to announce plans for its Rainbow Run Your Way fundraiser on 19 – 20 June 2021.

Rainbow Run has become an event synonymous with sunny days and explosions of colour across three different locations in the south west including RAF St Mawgan in Newquay. Last year due to COVID restrictions the event went virtual and still raised £100,000 for the charity. This year participants will be encouraged to once again take on the Rainbow Run in their own way.

Open to absolutely anyone who wants to get involved, CHSW is encouraging participants to pick a route of any distance and complete it however they wish. It will be a chance to don a bright outfit and complete your distance by running, skipping, walking, skating or riding and have fun along the way. The aim will be to collectively raise £30,000 for each of the charity's three children's hospices, including Little Harbour in St Austell, a poignant target to reach for the charity's 30th anniversary year.

This free, fun and very colourful fundraiser is kindly being sponsored by Ann's Cottage and The Exeter and is a fantastic way to show your support for CHSW during its 30th Anniversary year and will also mark the start of national Children's Hospice Week.

Kiley Pearce, Event Fundraiser at CHSW's Little Harbour said; "We were overwhelmed by the amount of people that got involved last year. We could see from social media that everyone really embraced the fun and colour that Rainbow Runs are all about. To be able to raise £30,000 for each of our hospices in our 30th anniversary year really would be very special, and would help us to ensure that local children and families can continue to receive the vital care they so desperately need now and in the future."

It is free to take part in this event but CHSW encourages everyone to register on its website to ensure they have access to event information and free resources. If participants raise £15 or more in sponsorship they will be sent a 30th anniversary commemorative medal after the event. For more information and to register visit [www.chsw.org.uk/rainbow](http://www.chsw.org.uk/rainbow)



The poster is vibrant and colorful, featuring a large rainbow arching over a collage of photos showing children and adults participating in the event. The text is clear and inviting, with a QR code for registration. Logos for CHSW and its partners are included.

**rainbow RUN**  
your way

Scan to sign up

Get rainbowed up and run...  
skip, jog, walk, skate, ride  
to raise vital funds

Registration is free: [www.chsw.org.uk/rainbow](http://www.chsw.org.uk/rainbow)

**Saturday 19 to Sunday 20 June 2021**

Making the most of short and precious lives across the South West  
Registered Charity No. 1000314

children's hospice SOUTH WEST

Celebrating 30 years

Sponsored by:  
The Exeter

ANN'S COTTAGE  
SOUTH GROUPS  
CORNWALL



## Poets corner



### Leisure

What is this life if, full of care  
We have no time to stand and stare.

No time to stand beneath the boughs  
And stare as long as sheep or cows.

No time to see, when woods we pass,  
Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.

No time to see, in broad daylight,  
Streams full of stars like skies at night.

No time to turn at Beauty's glance,  
And watch her feet, how they can dance.

No time to wait till her mouth can  
Enrich that smile her eyes began.

A poor life this, full of care,

*W.H.Davies*



## St John Walkers



Hi everybody,  
After a long break we hope to restart our walks in June. Del and I will lead this one, not quite sure where yet but will let you know in next months newsletter.

I was wondering if it might be a good idea to change the day very slightly to the second TUESDAY of each month as in the past we have found quite a few pubs are closed on Mondays. Please could you let me know if this works for you.

Looking forward to seeing you all again and our chatty pub lunches!

Regards  
Sue

## Welcome

The Village would like to extend a warm welcome to Isobel Gatherer who has moved into Broadlands, Jacks Lane.

We hope you settle into your new home and look forward to meeting you in the future.



## Wit & Wisdom

"You wouldn't worry so much what people thought of you, if you realised how seldom they did."

*Adage written on a matchbox, quoted in a letter to The Times*

"You never know what worse luck your bad luck has saved you from."

*Cormac McCarthy, quoted on Inc.com*

Grammar. The difference between feeling your nuts and feeling you're nuts.

## and finally.....

One tequila, two tequila, three tequila, floor.