



St. John Newsletter

A Publication of the St. John Village Trust

Village Website - www.stjohnincornwall.org.uk

August 2021

Editorial



Well, 'Freedom Day' has come and gone and not much seems to have changed. Summer appears to be well and truly here and we have already had the usual full mix of weather – hot, windy, dry & wet!

It is nice to see the St John Walkers back on track and monthly walks already planned from September to December (see below).

On page 2 Chris Morris gives us the latest update on the progress made since last month. The pictures show a nearly finished job, although some supply issues are still holding things up. Well done Chris, we are all very much looking forward to seeing everything completed.

This month we sadly say, "Farewell", to Carolyn Dann, who lived in St. John all her life. Our thoughts are with her family.

Page 3 is devoted to our support for Caroline Thompson's charity - Children's Hospice South West. If ever there is a charity worth supporting it is this one – you can follow the link for all the details.

Page 4 is very 'Mothy'... with some unique and fascinating pictures. Also the usual news on what wildlife has been seen locally and a link to the big butterfly count.

The last page again features Poets' Corner with another poem by Patience Strong selected by Alison. In the interest of diversity and balance I have featured a poem I remembered doing in an English tutorial at Natal university in Durban many years ago. It may inform the decisions that we are all having to make at the moment.

Until next time – 'Hang in there!' Things will get better but, apparently, not as quickly as we once thought. As the Zulus say "Hamba Ghasley"..... 'Go carefully! Best wishes to you all

David.

St. John Walkers

Following a deluge of heavy rain all weekend we were lucky with good weather for the July walk.

The walkers & 2 dogs set out by taking a track up to Sibbyback Lake dam & then onto the lakeside cafe for coffee. Next we continued along a dry level path around the lake with the back drop of Bodmin moor, completing a walk of just under 4 miles.

We had a pleasant welcome at The Cheesewring Hotel at Minions, where we were joined by partners & friends, for their usual excellent food.

Additional Information: Sibbyback Lake was completed in 1968 & at full capacity holds over 3 billion litres of water!

Viv



There will not be a walk in August as many people have visitors or are away. Bob and Megan have kindly agreed to lead the walk on Tuesday 14th September

Paul and Val will lead the walk on October 12th

Martin and Kath 9th November

John McCullough 14th December

Many thanks to all these volunteers.

Sue Richards.



St John Village Hall - Building Project 2021



Update:

The St John Village Hall building project is now in the final stage. The annexe is complete apart from the flooring, the toilets and kitchen requiring minor fixing only, and some final electrical work is all that remains.

Therefore, excluding the annexe flooring and the main hall, snooker room and kitchen replacement windows, which continue to be illusive, the building project should be finished within the next couple of weeks.



In an ideal world we would like the handover to have no outstanding issues, so it is possible we may have to wait a little bit longer. However, the Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall has kindly agreed to perform the formal re-opening on Friday 3rd September 2021.

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

Chris Morris
Vice - Chairman of Trustees

Farewell Carolyn Dann



Carolyn Jean Dann nee Dallen died on the 5th of July after a long battle with cancer.

She was born in St John and lived here all her life.

She enjoyed dealing in Antiques and was a regular stall holder at local antiques fairs.

All our thoughts are with Stewart, Katherine and the family at this sad time.



Enjoy a cream tea in aid of local children's hospice

People in Cornwall are being invited to tuck into a cream tea and raise a few pounds for their local children's hospice.

The Big South West Cream Tea takes place over the August Bank Holiday weekend and organiser Children's Hospice South West (CHSW) is asking supporters to join in by holding their own cream tea fundraiser with friends and family.

"Just grab some scones, a spoonful of strawberry jam and a dollop of clotted cream – not necessarily in that order! – and join the party," said CHSW Area Fundraiser Bernadette Chambers.

"You can enjoy a Great British classic at home, the park or even virtually and help raise vital funds for local families.

"It's a lovely way to help celebrate CHSW's 30th anniversary, and if you are able to raise £30 or more we'll send you a special CHSW 30th anniversary medal."

The charity, which runs three children's hospices across the South West, including Little Harbour in St Austell, has everything you need to hold your own cream tea fundraiser.

"Register your event on our website to receive your free fundraising pack, which includes invites, recipe, '#JamFirst' and '#CreamFirst' signs, donation form, bunting, thank-you cards and more," added Bernadette.

"You'll also find links to businesses that can deliver a cream tea straight to your front door with a donation going to CHSW.

"If you'd prefer to hold your cream tea before or after the August Bank Holiday that's absolutely fine; however and whenever you plan to take part in the Big South West Cream Tea, every penny you're able to raise will make a real difference to children with life-limiting conditions and their families."

The Big South West Cream Tea is kindly sponsored by Happy Days Nurseries, which operates 18 nurseries throughout the South West and is also celebrating 30 years this year.

Marketing Manager Rebekah Fice-Thomson said: "CHSW is very dear to our hearts, so we're delighted to be able to support The Big South West Cream Tea fundraiser this summer.

"We are looking forward to celebrating our own 30th birthday with a cream tea on September 4 and raising as much as we can for such an important charity."

To register your cream tea event or for more information, visit www.chsw.org.uk/creamtea



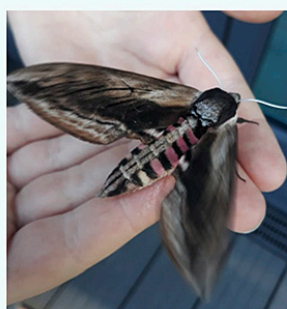
Making the most of short and precious lives across the South West
Registered Charity No. 1003314



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Elephant Hawk Moth



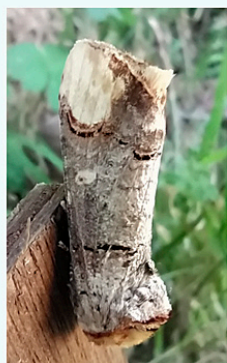
Privet Hawk Moth



Black Arches



Footman



Buff Tip



Poplar Hawk Moth



Fox Moth

Well done gardeners and farmers of St John, you must be doing something right, these are a few of the moths caught (and released) from a moth trap set on evening of July 27th, not the best of nights with wind and rain. Of particular note were large numbers of **Elephant Hawk moth** that feed on honeysuckle as adults and **Footman moth** that unusually feeds on algae and lichen (do we have royalty in our midst?).

It was great to read of the return of a species of butterfly from extinction in the 1960's. The Large Tortoiseshell is thought to have died out due to Dutch Elm disease but has now been recorded on Portland Bill.

If you like to contribute in Citizen Science projects, the Big Butterfly Count continues until August 8th.

It only takes 15min and a sunny day.

See <https://bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org/about> You can download identification sheets and an interactive app.

What to look out for at the moment; Sandwich Terns seen over St John's Lake and Polecat ferrets, of which there have been several sightings on The Rame and in St John.

New beginnings - courtesy of Lynne, who has recently become a grandmother again.

Congratulations to David, our esteemed editor, and essential proof reader, Judith, who have also become grandparents for a second time. Well done parents of course!

First time I have ever been described as "esteemed" - thank you Kath!! - Ed.

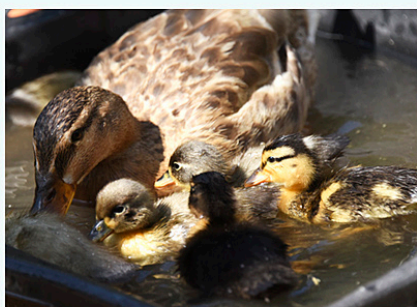


photo - Lynne Betts

St John Church 100 Club.

This months 100club winners are:

Fr Michael£20

Bet & Tony Taylor.....£5

David Stevens£5

The numbers 18, 76 & 91 were chosen by Dr Barnes from The Rame Group Practice at Penntorr.

Ray.



Flower in the Sun

It came out of a packet, the seed from which it grew.
This glowing golden sunflower has grown the summer through
And now stands tall and radiant. The golden triumphant towers
Shining like a little man above the other flowers.

Yet it's nothing grand or rare – A common sight to see
In any country garden. And it always seems to be
Unconscious of its splendour as it hangs there bright and high
Thrusting up out of the earth as if to reach the sky.

Lovely sunflower, come to teach a lesson to the proud.
There you stand in all your glory with you head unbowed
Homely pretentious, yet your beauty draws the eye
And warms the cockles of the heart of every passer-by.

Patience Strong

- Perhaps newsletter readers would like to send photos of sunflowers to the editor for next month. - Alison

The Three Companions



O where are you going? said reader to rider,
That valley is fatal when furnaces burn,
Yonder's the midden whose odours will madden,
That gap is the grave where the tall return.

O do you imagine, said fearer to farer,
That dusk will delay on your path to the pass,
Your diligent looking discover the lacking
Your footsteps feel from granite to grass?

O what was that bird, said horror to hearer,
Did you see that shape in the twisted trees?
Behind you swiftly the figure comes softly,
The spot on your skin is a shocking disease.

Out of this house - said rider to reader,
Yours never will - said farer to fearer,
They're looking for you - said hearer to horror
As he left them there, as he left them there.

W.H.Auden



and finally.....

There's a fine line between fishing and just standing on the shore like an idiot.