



# St. John Newsletter

*A Publication of the St. John Village Trust*

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

April 2022 ( Primrose Edition )



## Editorial

Despite it feeling like we are heading back to winter at the moment I am hopeful that spring will continue when this cold spell is over...

Below there is a packed parish council report covering roads, charities we support (Shelterbox/Aide for Ukraine and First Responders) and much else besides.

Page 2 has the report on the much delayed 'New Year' lunch that finally took place in March and includes a special birthday, page 3 is a notice board of forthcoming events plus a report from the St John Walkers and on page 4 is 'Wild Life Watch', with reports on the bird life visiting us as well as lots of useful information and tips. Page 5 has the 'growing matters' section, which covers the 'Spuds in a bucket' competition, an appeal for snowdrops and a fossil find in the village!

There is also Beryl's report on preparations for the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in June and (would you believe it?) the Singing group is 8 years old and there is an exciting report on how they celebrated it! All this plus the church's 100 club winners - all on one page!

Page 6 has another article on the 'Children's Hospice South West' charity that we support. This time raising money with an Incredible Hike – if you are able to help all the information is here.

On the last page we have a change in Poets' Corner with a short poem submitted by Linda, Dorethea's 'Thank you', Charmaine's appeal for subs and info about the money raised for the Ukraine appeal. There is also, of course, the usual changes in our snooker ladder and highest break. And finally, something to try and leave you with a smile as we face our difficult future.

Until next time when it should, at least, be warmer!!

*David Greenhalgh*

## Parish Council



We were delighted to see that Cormac undertook the work promised last year, and did a good job on tarmacking several areas including parking outside the church and by the finger post, and on the passing bay on the summit of Picture Hill. They also widened the passing bay on the road to Antony (under the big tree). There are minor works we are still chasing including CCTV survey of the drains between Marks Cott. and Holly Cott. We have also requested an inspection by CC of some trees in the village for safety reasons.

We have agreed to donate £250 to Shelterbox to aide their humanitarian deliveries to Ukraine. We are also acquiring a "congratulations" banner to be put up from the Royal Jubilee until the end of the year. We have donated £250 to Rame First Responders who, you will know, are a group of dedicated volunteers based in Millbrook and cover our parish. Our contribution will go towards maintaining their emergency vehicle.

They provide an essential service to support the ambulances but they are short of volunteer recruits. Past medical experience is not required as all training is provided through the Ambulance Service. If anyone is at all interested just have a chat with Chris on 822123 (no need to live in Millbrook).

For your information we are supporting Cllr Kate Ewert in a campaign to save the car park at Sharrow beach.

Please continue to report all potholes to CC at **[www.cornwall.gov.uk/reportroad](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/reportroad)** (we would advise you to use the words "significant hazard" to cars or pedestrians, as this is their definition of "48 hour priority").

You will soon notice yellow no parking lines at the road adjacent to the entrance down to Tregantle Beach. The next PC meeting will be our Annual Meeting on 12th May. For those who did not attend our meeting last week the minutes of the last meeting on 17th march will be on the parish website.

*Del.*



## New Year Lunch/Easter Buffet



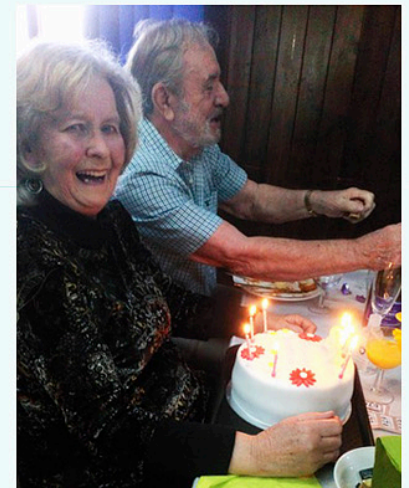
The post-Christmas/pre-Easter Buffet went ahead on the 19th March, despite earlier delays and another local Covid outbreak. It was great to see so many familiar faces and remember those sadly no longer with us.



Howard Everard did sterling work in both sourcing and cooking the cold meats and many thanks must go to all those volunteers, who as usual did most of the 'behind the scenes' hard work, before and after the celebrations. Thanks also to all those who supplied additional flans and desserts.



The event will also be remembered for the celebration of Dorothea's birthday with Bubbly and Birthday cake.



The Hall and new Annexe are proving to be the relaxed and adaptable space to chat with friends that we all hoped for. As the summer weather arrives the paved area and the return of the Boules matches will be a welcome return to normality.

Looking forward, we all hope that Covid will soon be just an unpleasant memory and the planned Events for the coming year will suffer no further unexpected cancellations. In the coming month we can look forward to a Charity Fundraiser for the Ukraine, a Table-Top Sale and Funday on Saturday 16th April, (Contact Carol Neale or Mary Rogers to help or for more information).

Later that month we have a Guitar Concert by Mark Barnwell on Saturday 30th April at 7-30pm, (Tickets still available from Janet Mitchell).

St John Church will hold its AGM in the Village Hall on the 19th April at 6-30 pm.

A gentle reminder from Charmaine Ferguson for those who have still not renewed their membership and also play snooker, that she is still collecting the appropriate contributions.

### Reminder:

The Home page of St John in Cornwall parish council website has a Calendar/Diary and the most up-to-date information on all regular Hall Events and Bookings, as well as our Facebook link. It also has its own section dedicated to regular User Groups and the facilities available.

The Hall is now fully available for future bookings by anyone considering a venue for a private function or public event.

Contact Emma Tanner: [emmatanner02@gmail.com](mailto:emmatanner02@gmail.com) for advice on Hiring)

Bob.



## Notice Board



Many thanks for all those who supported a very successful boule morning on Sunday 20th March. A morning enjoyed by around 20 players, coffee drinkers and chatters alike.



A reminder the next boule will be on Sunday 17th April 11am until 1pm (every 3rd Sunday)



### St John Church Notices



Monday April 19th the Annual Parochial Church Meeting is being held in The Village Hall starting at 6.30pm. Wine and nibbles will be served. Everyone welcome.

There are services every Sunday throughout April starting at 9.15am including  
10th April Palm Sunday  
17th April Easter Sunday

St John Village Hall

The next  
MONTHLY  
COFFEE MORNING  
Will be on  
Saturday  
9th April 10.30am



LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU

ST JOHN VILLAGE HALL

A welcome return to



**MARK BARNWELL**

Saturday 30th April 7.30 for 8pm  
£12.50 pp

A Paella or Saffron Veggie Rice Supper  
will be served  
Please bring your own drink

Mark will be playing an eclectic mix of contemporary, jazz/latin, world fusion and Spanish guitar pieces

**Please ensure you register your food choice  
by 21st April  
contact Janet Mitchell 01752 829225**

## St John Walkers



A small group plus dogs set off from Wiggle car park and made our way inland to Cawsand via the footpath from Wiggle Farm with lovely views down to Cawsand, where we stopped at The Bay for coffees. We returned via the path from Forder Hill to Military Road and thence back to the cars. Most of us drove to The Finneygook where we were joined by five friends for a welcome lunch in the bar.

The next walk on April 12th will be lead by Richard and Alison. Hope to see you there.

Regards  
Sue



## Wildlife Watch

Our summer visitors have started to arrive! Chiffchaffs have been recorded on the Rame and even a Hoopoe at Polbathic.



Chiffchaff



Hoopoe

On the RSPB website you can find the **Arrivals board** showing when common birds arrive, but there are often unexpected species to be spotted.



Baby Swallows photo Lynne Betts



black cap Photo Lynne Betts

The countryside is now flooded with early flowers providing food for pollinators emerging from hibernation, it seems however, that bees are not keen on daffodils and tulips, which begs the question what is pollinating them? Have you spotted any likely candidates?



Tulip



Daffodils

### Greening St John

By now you will have received the excellent and very useful **Rame Green Guide**, produced by the Maker with Rame parish Council. To gauge how useful it has been found to be, the council has produced a brief anonymous survey. Please find time to complete it as very few have done so, to date.

[www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/XCM836G](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/XCM836G)

On a similar topic I have received recently a useful tip from the ReduceWasteNow website; refrigerate your lemons submerged in water and you will increase their “shelf life” to 3 months.



## Wildlife Watch ( cont.)

### Growing Matters

You need to plant your Duke of York seed potatoes soon, if you are entering the "Spuds in a bucket" competition. They are still available at the Village Hall for a few more days.

If you are splitting your Snowdrops and can spare some, we would love to home them in the Village Hall hedgerows. If you need help digging them up please message me at the email below. We are also looking for low maintenance Mediterranean type plants for the flower bed at the back of the hall e.g. lavenders, rosemary (particularly the prostrate form) thymes and Phormiums or anything else suitable please.

[kath.overton@gmail.com](mailto:kath.overton@gmail.com)

### Chest of local gems

There are records of fossil fish having been found in the Devonian rocks down by the ford.

A hydraulic ram located in a "Round house" between Mark's and Trellis cottages, used to pump water from the village streams to Woleston House.



### Hedging our bets at the St John Village Hall



On the morning of the 12th March a small work party gathered at the west end of the village hall, to plant around 15 bare rooted hedging plants, consisting of beech and hornbeam, supplied to us with stakes and guards. They were donated to us by Permaculture Kernow, represented locally by Loobs Dunstone, a support tutor/garden designer working with local community gardens, on the Rame Peninsula.

The plants were sourced/donated by TCV - The Conservation Volunteers. Grateful thanks to all concerned



Also ..... on Thursday morning 16th March 4 jolly gardeners pruned the bottom fence and weeded the bed above the patio, preparing it for planting, good fun but hard work on a lovely sunny morning.

SH



## ST JOHN VILLAGE PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS - Sunday 5th June

The St John Platinum Jubilee Celebrations will take place within the grounds of the Village Hall with a Bring Your Own family picnic, with everyone invited – bring your family and friends for a fun, social afternoon. Free activities for all ages, including a display of children's 'Jubilee' paintings in the hall, Skittles, Table Tennis, Low level children's assault course, Quoits, Badminton, Seaside type board for photos, Flying Rat, Limbo, Giant Jenga, a Victoria Sponge Competition: 3 categories: ladies, men and children, a children's 'Hunt the Corgi', and more..... Full details of all events will be available nearer the date.

**CALLING ALL 'KNITTERS'!** The 'Hunt the Corgi' is for the children to look for knitted Corgis hidden around the grounds, 1 per child to keep. Please can any volunteers willing to knit – or crochet – the corgis contact Liz Miller for a copy of the knitting pattern:- [lizandderek1964@gmail.com](mailto:lizandderek1964@gmail.com), 07745 625774 – Happy Knitting!! Further details in next month's Newsletter.



Beryllyn

### Singing Group.



The singing group celebrated our 8th anniversary with lunch at the Carbeille Inn on February 28th. It was very tasty and a good time was had by all. We started the singing group - NB we don't call ourselves a choir (yet!) - on 24th February 2014. There are approximately 20 members, so if you would like to have a go, it is 10.30 on Mondays. The accent is on fun, with 'some' talking!

Janet.

### St John Church 100 club



This month's winners are:

Chris Mills .....£20

Janet Mitchell .....£5

June Barry .....£5

The numbers were drawn by members of Wednesday's coffee morning in the village hall.

Note that those members who wish to continue that haven't paid, their subscriptions are now due and that if any one else would like to participate there are a few numbers left at £16 each for the year, to contact Margaret Salter, Badgers Mount, St John's Lane.

Ray.



### Take on an Incredible Hike for Children's Hospice South West

People are being asked to lace up their walking boots and take on an Incredible Hike for Children's Hospice South West (CHSW).

The charity has lined up 30 inspiring walking routes across Devon, Cornwall and Somerset for people to choose from – or they can simply pick one of their own.

CHSW Area Fundraiser Zoe Partridge said: "Whether it's a scenic stroll or an epic coast path ramble, grab your walking shoes, hike as you like and show your support for local children and families.

"We really are blessed with some super walking routes in the South West, and with spring now here, what better time to get outside, breathe in some fresh air and explore the beauty on our doorstep?

"Walking has so many positive physical and mental health benefits too, so we think this is the perfect feelgood fundraiser for people of all ages."

It's free to register to take part in The Incredible Hike and participants are asked to try and raise £30 in sponsorship to help CHSW provide vital respite care.

The charity's three hospices – Little Bridge House in North Devon, Charlton Farm near Bristol, and Little Harbour in Cornwall – provide a safe haven of care, support and friendship for more than 500 children with life-limiting conditions and their families across the South West.

The hospices offer respite, emergency, end of life and bereavement care for the whole family, and care teams have adapted their support during the pandemic to ensure a Covid-safe lifeline wherever and whenever families need it, including for the first time ever, in families' own homes.

The charity needs around £1.1m a year to run its three children's hospices, and around 85 per cent is raised through voluntary donations.

"Every penny you're able to raise with your Incredible Hike will make a difference and our fundraising team will be able to support you every step of the way," added Zoe.

"Just visit the CHSW website to register, pick your route and start your Incredible Hike adventure. You'll find lots of easy fundraising ideas and tips on there too, as well as downloadable sponsor forms and links to set up your own Just Giving page in a couple of easy clicks."

For more information or to register, visit [www.chsw.org.uk/hike](http://www.chsw.org.uk/hike)



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



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[caroline.swain@chsw.org.uk](mailto:caroline.swain@chsw.org.uk)



## Poets Corner

"Spring"

Nothing is so beautiful as Spring -  
When weeds, in wheels, shoot long and lovely and lush;  
Thrush's eggs look little low heavens, and thrush  
Through the echoing timber does so rinse and wring  
The ear, it strikes like lightnings to hear him sing

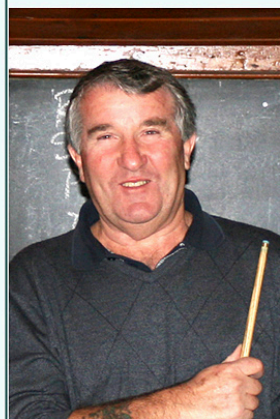
Gerard Manley Hopkins



## Snooker



### LADDER



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

### Highest Break

Steve Wick	25
Pete Debono	22
Chris Trevitt	21
David Greenhalgh	19
Richard Dolton	18

A **big thank you** to everyone who gave me cards and presents for my birthday. Also to charmaine and the committee for my cake and peace lily. I thoroughly enjoyed the lunch and having a general catch-up.

Dorethea.



**Subscriptions** - St John Village Trust Annual upkeep and maintenance subs are now overdue, for those of you who have not paid, please can you drop into Magnolia Villa or pass to a member of the committee, who will forward on to me. £5.00 a head and £10.00 for snooker.



**Ukraine Crisis Appeal** - The Coffee mornings of 09 March, 12th March & 16th March raised £250.00, together with a very generous donation of £100.00 from a cancelled combined 70th birthday party planned for 2020, making a total of £350.00 that will be sent to the British Red Cross.

Many thanks. Charmaine



A busy night at Stone Henge as workers move all the stones forward one hour...



I'M SORRY... I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU WITHOUT YOUR MASK.



PRICE PROMISE  
EVERYTHING  
CHEAPER  
THAN IT WILL  
BE VERY SOON

## and finally.....

I'm writing a book about hurricanes and tornadoes..... It's only a draft at the moment