

# St. John Newsletter

*A Publication of the St. John Village Trust*

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

August 2022

## Editorial

As usual at this time of year there is less to report, so the newsletter is 'thinner' this month. Below, we have finally got the information board and councillor Kate Ewart together in the same space! Page 2 is all about the Church: Chris Mills with the Deanery plan to increase attendance and so save the churches from closing. Also, an advert for the 'soup and pud' lunch and the 100 club winners. Page 3 Wildlife Watch is all about ducks and butterflies with some lovely photos from Lynne and on Page 4 we have St John Walkers reporting all about a walk that never took place!!! This left half a page spare so I took the opportunity to commemorate one of my favourite Sculptors who has sadly died.



He is generally not that well known but I thought you might enjoy seeing some of his work (Google him to see more...). Page 5 has Alison's chosen poem, the usual snooker changes and something to make you smile (hopefully!)

I have been trying to put the Queen's Jubilee Celebration pictures on the websites Gallery page, with limited success due to 'Wordpress' upgrading their format... However, I think we should be able to view them now [www.stjohnincornwall.org.uk/gallery](http://www.stjohnincornwall.org.uk/gallery)

Until next time, take advantage of the good weather and enjoy yourself - because no-one will do it for you!

Dave.

## Parish Council Report

Not a lot of news this month, but a picture below of our excellent County Ward Councillor Kate Ewart down at the ford with the new St John's Lake information board. We were delighted that Kate funded this from her personal very minor works budget (which all CC councillors have) and enabled the project team Kath, Sue H and Howard to improve the environmental information. Kate is a highly effective representative of your interests and we would encourage parishioners to approach Kate to discuss any items of concern relating to Cornwall Council. In September, or October, we hope to commence filling and levelling the turning area on this side of the ford, a prelude we hope to generally improving the attractiveness and natural beauty of the area (hopefully a picnic table in the future).



The next PC meeting is on Thursday 6th October at Freathy Sports & Social Club, where all parishioners are welcome.

Del.



The 'On The Way' Deanery Plan has been agreed so we are 'on the way' to becoming more fruitful and sustainable churches. If we don't do something about it soon, many of our churches will be empty after our generation has gone.

During the early stages of the process, the normal life of the church will continue in the usual way, overseen by the PCCs and the Deanery. The initial work will be carried out by an Implementation Team who will support churches through the changes. This will be overseen by Archdeacon Kelly, and led by Rev Chris Painter, our Rural Dean. The team has already begun meeting, and though we may not, at first, see evidence of what is being done, the necessary planning will be taking place. They promise us regular updates on the progress, and I will pass on this information to you too.

The purpose of the plan is to reach the missing generations with the good news of the faith we share. In order to do that, we will need to find new ways to connect with our communities, whether in church, in the village hall, or anywhere else, in an accessible way. If there are any suggestions of how we, the Church, can serve the community, please let us know. Thank you again for your support and let's pray that we become 'fruitful' and 'sustainable' for the way ahead.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the next Soup and Pud Lunch on 3rd September.

Chris Mills  
church warden

### 100 Club Winners-

For July are:

Jean Stevens.....£20

Bet Fowler .....£5

Lewis Wilton .....£5

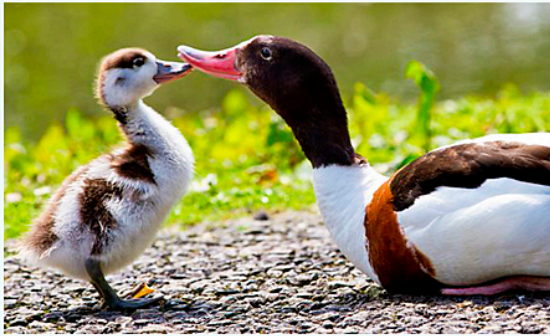
The numbers were drawn by members of Wednesday's coffee morning.

Hope all is well.

Ray.



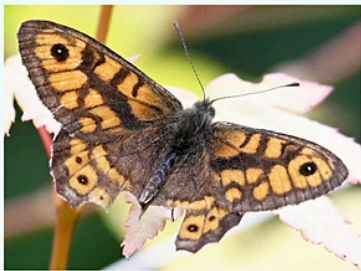




The "new chick on the block" has been released, flying confidently into the air above St John's Lake. It had remained a difficult individual throughout its stay. Full marks to Lynne for her patience and persistence. Did you recognise the ducking? It was a Shell Duck our largest duck species. The prefix "sheld" being an old English word meaning "pied".



Shell duck



Brown Wall

It's time for the **Big butterfly Count** again. It runs from the 15th of July to 7th August and organised by Butterfly Conservation. It requires you counting all species of moths and butterflies you see in a 15-minute period.



Common Blue

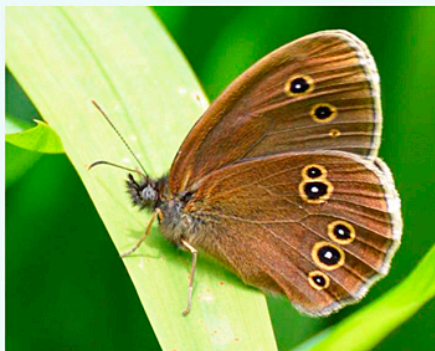


Ringlet

You can download a free identification App or poster. Last year sadly showed the lowest figures recorded so far with an average of 9 species compared with 11 for the previous year.

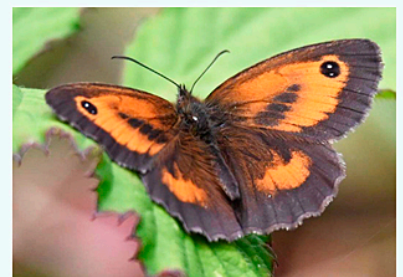


Speckled Wood



Ringlet

If you want to encourage butterflies in your area, Meadow Browns, Gatekeepers and Skippers like to eat tall wild grasses as well as caterpillars, whilst a nettle patch can support Red Admirals, Small Tortoiseshell, Peacock and Commas. Holly, Ivy and Trefoils are good too for the Blues.



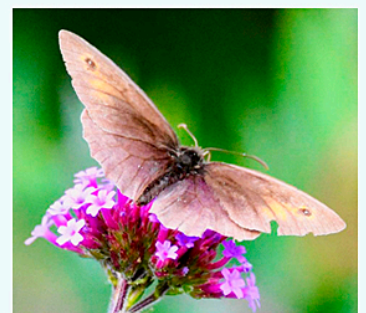
Gatekeeper



Meadow Brown

These stunning photos were taken by Lynne in her field and garden.

Kath.



Meadow Brown



## St. John Walkers

Here's the report for the walk that didn't happen!

The July walk, which we undertook for Megan and Bob, was due to take place during the heatwave.

We thought we had found the ideal location - a cafe for coffee at the start, a linear walk by the coast with wild flowers in abundance, a delicious pub lunch on a terrace overlooking the sea at the halfway mark to avoid walking in the midday sun, and then a gentle amble back.

Should have known it was too good to be true!

Having cleared it all with pub staff, we double checked and were told the pub was closed on Tuesdays - disaster!

A reconnoitre at another nearby pub found it closed early and didn't serve food if there were staff shortages.

So we fell back on staying local and emailed around to ask opinions. All but one valiant soul, John, were either away or unable to come anyway.

Result - the walk that didn't happen.

We were at the Village Hall on the Tuesday morning, just in case someone turned up and someone did - Ralph. Somehow his name had not been on our email list and we duly covered ourselves in sackcloth and ashes to apologise.

Hope we have better luck next time we plan a walk!

Linda and Sue H

*As usual there will be no walk in August. John McCollough will lead the September walk, details to be announced nearer the time.*

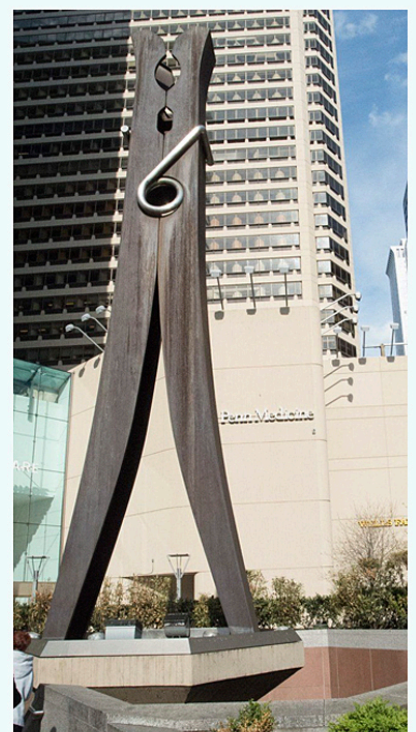
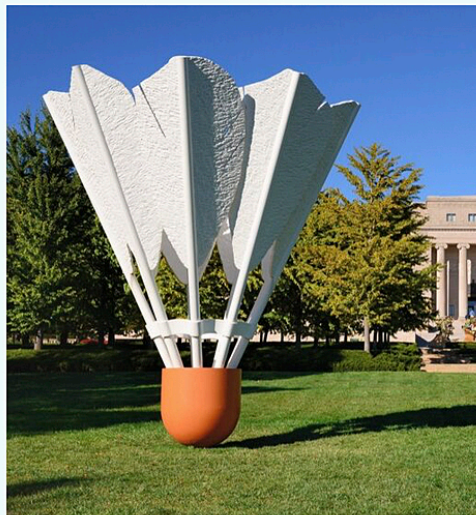
*Hope you all have a good summer.*

Sue



**Claes Oldenburg**, one of my favourite Sculptors, died last month aged 93. He believed that public sculpture should not just be bronze statues of men on horses... and so set about making monuments out of everyday clutter, thereby making open city spaces whimsical, humorous and enjoyable.

Dave.





## Poets Corner



### Ducks' Ditty

All along the backwater,  
Through the rushes tall,  
Ducks are a-dabbling,  
Up tails all!

Ducks' tails, drake's tails,  
Yellow feet a-quiver,  
Yellow bills all out of sight  
Busy in the river!

Slushy green undergrowth  
Where the roach swim -  
Here we keep our larder,  
Cool and full and dim!

Every one for what he likes!  
We like to be  
Heads down, tails up,  
Dabbling free!

High in the blue above  
Swifts whirl and call -  
We are down a-dabbling  
Up tails all!

*Kenneth Grahame*



*caught my eye -  
thought you might like it!*

### Staying putten

*To The Times*

My mother taught in schools in rural Ontario in the 1930s, an area populated by Scots and Irish who brought their native lilt and twangs with them to Canada. She tried very hard to get the children to stop saying "putten" for "put" without a great deal of success.

One day, she wrote a sentence on the blackboard with the word "putten" in it, and asked the class what was wrong with the sentence. A hand shot up. "Miss, ya've gone and putten putten wherr ya shoulda putten put."

*Judith Margaret Steiner,  
London N6*

## Snooker



### Ladder



### Highest Break

David Greenhalgh	30
Steve Wick	25
Pete Debono	22
Chris Trevitt	22
Richard Dolton	18

David Greenhalgh

Chris Trevitt

Pete Debono

Steve Wick

Chris Morris

Del Richards

Brian Bird

John Tanner

Richard Dolton

Chris Huke

Paul Tanner

Ray Salter

Bob Keys

Howard Everard

Farewell to Jackie Murfin of Brambles Barn.  
Hope all goes well for you in Fleetwood.  
I will try to do the "tree thing" later in the autumn.

Kath

*One for Johnny Cash fans...  
(Folsom Prison Blues)*



## and finally.....

When someone hands you a flyer, it's like they're saying, "Here, you throw this away"...