

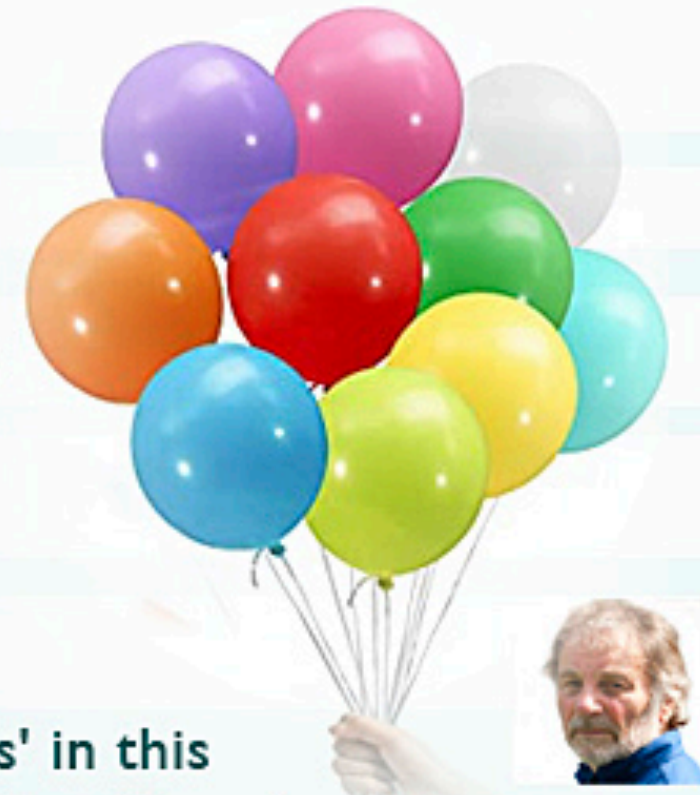


St. John Newsletter

A Publication of the St. John Village Trust

Village Website - www.stjohnincornwall.org.uk

January 2023



Editorial

We keep hoping it will be better than the last one – and maybe one year it will be!!

Below is the Parish council agenda for their next meeting, so if you want to air your views.... and page 2 is chairman Bob's summation of recent events plus Sue's postponed December walk rescheduled. St. John Church information fills page 3, with Chris Mills's reports on the recent 'Soup and Pud' and Carol service etc and Tony Gillies' interesting information about the church. Page 4 starts with some basic information on the Government's Alternative Fuel payments policy which will, hopefully, help you better understand what is being offered and to whom... Also, Berylyn gives us the latest Tai Chi news and Richard announces a delay to the start of the bowls. I also managed to fit in Linda's poem contribution.

On Page 5 it is all 'birds' in this month's wildlife watch and on Page 6 we have Linda's report on the 'Wine & Dine' event that went ahead despite the freezing conditions. Page 7 is the Notice board of future events and 'The 100 club' winners.

Finally, page 8 is all snooker, with my report on the Xmas Doubles Pool competition. It looked like it might not reach the finish line at some points, but we eventually made it to the end.

All we can really do now is hope the situation in Ukraine is resolved and we can perhaps get back to some semblance of what we used to call 'normality'.

And on a personal note, I will be really glad to see the back of 2022!!

Until next time....

All the best,
Dave.



Parish Council

Many thanks to all those people who have kindly complimented the Parish Council on this year's Christmas Tree and lighting. It's not easy to find time just before Christmas to do this so we are very grateful for the village volunteers who came to help us.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at **7.30 pm on Tuesday 3rd January** in the Village Hall to discuss two planning applications, one being a **new building in the St John Inn (PA22/10077)** and the other being a **replacement chalet at Tregonhawke (PA22/10539)**.

This will be an open public meeting.

Del.





Greetings from the Village Hall and all those associated with its Clubs and Events. Hope you all had a great Christmas 'break' and are preparing for a more joyful and prosperous New Year. Despite the freezing conditions on Saturday the 10th December we had a great, if slightly depleted, Wine Evening. Although Santa's beard got tangled in the microphone during the distribution of 'presents'. At which time there were no 'Wise Men' left to be of any assistance to him, but Janet leapt to his aid. Santa sends his thanks!

The Bad News is a reminder that Annual Subscriptions are due in January and will be collected by our Treasurer at our first event, the January New Year Lunch on the 14th January. The Good News is that there will be no dramatic increases in subscriptions or Hall charges: Annual subscriptions up by £1 and the same for per-hour Hiring of the Hall, up to £10.

The restored New Year Lunch will take place on 14th January, see the Village Hall Notice Board for information. Bring your own plates and cutlery! Tickets will be available as usual from Janet Mitchell and our other January Event will be:

"An evening with Gordon Carter, the Saxophonist"

This musical evening promises to be a great one, with ex-marine Bandsman Gordon, already well known to some Hall members, who in July 2022 performed at the Mountbatten Festival of Music in the Royal Albert Hall.

The full range of Clubs and Activities start again in January, for Dates and Times see the Village Hall Notice Board.(and for any last-minute alterations/cancellations see the calendar on the <stjohnincornwall.org.uk> parish web site). These include the usual groups: Singing, In-door Bowls, Dreckly, Wednesday Coffee Mornings, Tai-Chi and Local History starts again on the last Monday of January: 'What do we know about King Gereint and St Aldhelm on Rame in the 8th century.

At this time of year new Members and ideas for new activities are always welcome. If you have friends or neighbours or know someone new to the village, ask them to become a 'Member' and come along to an event and join in. After the Covid years we could all do with some fresh faces and ideas.

Do you have an idea for a new Activity? The Chairman and Trustees are Happy to consider almost anything! Let us know in person or by e-mail; contact with Emma Tanner as below. The Home page of St John in Cornwall parish council website has a Calendar & Diary for information on all regular Hall Events and Bookings, as well as details on our Facebook link. The Hall is also fully available for private bookings by anyone considering a venue for a private function or public event.

Contact

EmmaTanner:emmatanner02@gmail.com
for information on Hiring.

Bob.

St John Walkers



Unfortunately due to adverse weather conditions we had to postpone our December walk around Meavy and Sheepstor, now we plan to do it in January on Tuesday 10th with lunch at The Royal Oak in Meavy.

Next week I will send out reminders to our regular walkers including what they chose for their lunch menu.

We are always pleased to see new faces but please let me know (01752 823253)as the pub did want us to preorder and let them know by Thursday 5th January.

Fingers crossed for a dry, preferably sunny day.

Regards

Sue

Thank you to all those that attended our Soup and Pud. A great time was had by all, and it was lovely to see some new faces and talk to them. We raised £444.50 which was much appreciated and will help pay some of our bills.

The church was packed for the Carol Service, and it was great to see some old friends there and some visitors. The mince pies and mulled wine went down well, and it was a great opportunity to meet and greet everyone. The collection that evening is going to the Food Bank, and we will be sending a cheque for £145.00. Thank you.

The collection of tinned and packet food in the village hall is being supported and I thank you for that and please can you continue in the New Year.

On another note. We have had a huge tree cut down with Ash Dieback and logs are available for the taking. They are easy to split, as my husband will confirm!

All reasonable donations would be much appreciated to help cover the cost so please let myself know, Chris Mills (829212) or Ray Salter (822438). Please help yourself to the wood chippings free of charge but leave the area tidy. Wishing you all a healthy and Happy New Year
Chris Mills

SOME THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT OUR CHURCH

We see our church most days when we pass through the village and most of us are aware that it certainly existed here in 1080, if not earlier. However here are 5 things you may not know about it that I think are interesting.

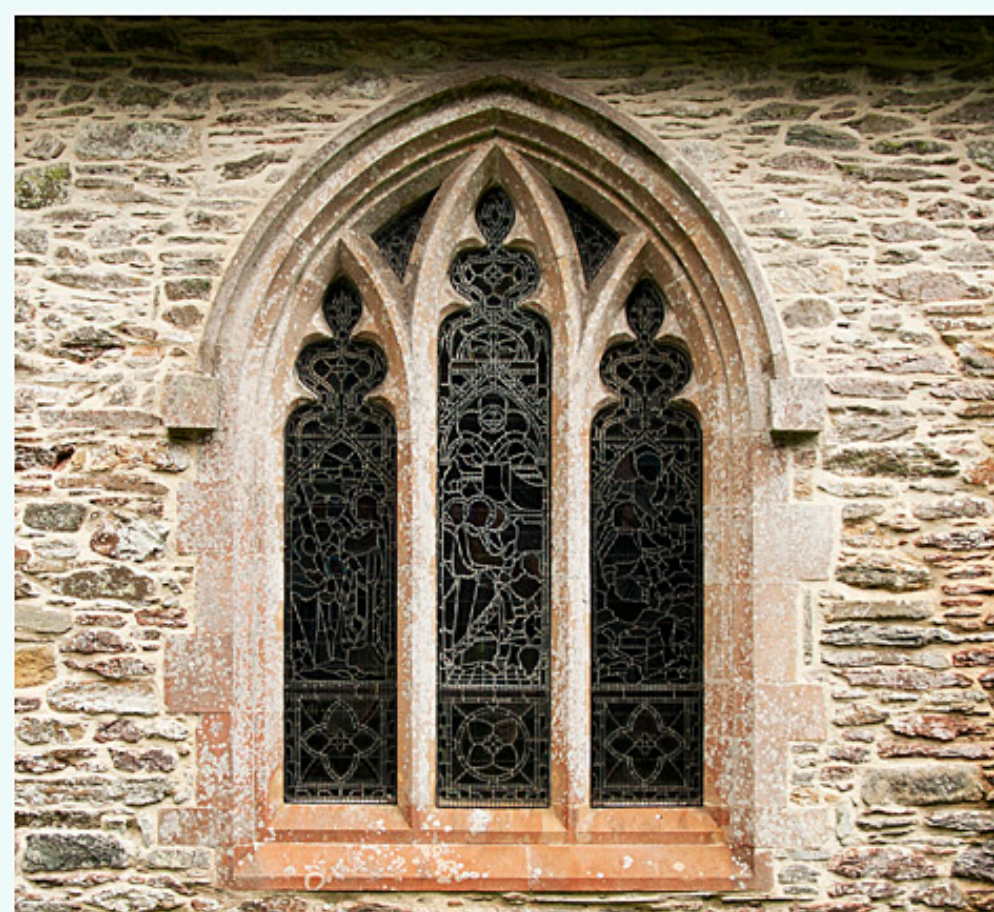
The Porch, was possibly rebuilt in 1605 on the site of an earlier porch in front of the 12th century doorway. The date on the porch of 1605, must however, be viewed with caution. It will be noticed that the date at the gate to the new Churchyard, just opposite the entrance to the Church, is 1905, appears to be worked by the same mason. It is suggested that he mistakenly at first carved '6' for '9' and then inserted the incorrectly carved stone in the porch or could it be visa versa! Is it a coincidence that the new Churchyard was opened in 1906?

The roof slates were bought by local school children in the late 1950s and early 1960s as each was asked to fill a matchbox with pennies and when the matchbox was filled, they bought a slate and wrote their name on it.

The Chandeliers were given by Norman Mashford on the occasion of his son Derek's wedding to Pam in 1965. The chandeliers were originally lit by oil and came from the Chapel at Cremyll (now a private home known as "The Old School Rooms"). Norman Mashford was asked by the then Viscount Edgcumbe to remove the bell from the chapel. Derek's father agreed but only if he could have the chandeliers as payment. Viscount Edgcumbe agreed. The bride's father Reg Stevens and her brother David converted the chandeliers to electricity and installed them in our church.

The East Window above the Altar is in memory of Revd. J.C. Crowley, Rector 1844-63. Have a good look at St John the Baptist depicted in the "light" on the right. See his left foot? The glazier has St John's left foot big toe on the outside. Whoops!

The Green altar frontal is of Coptic origin. The Rector, 1899 - 1904 was of the military family, the Wingates. A younger member of the family was General Orde Wingate who commanded the Chindits in Burma in WWII against the Japanese. The Rector's cousin was High Commissioner for Egypt 1917—1919. When he came home, he brought the frontal as a present for his cousin.



The stained-glass window in the middle of the north side of the nave is a memorial to Revd and Mrs Kirwan. Sometime before coming to St John the Revd John Henry Kirwan was a first-class cricketer playing for Cambridge University, the MCC, and The Gentlemen of England 1836-1842. He was a right arm fast bowler, bowling roundarm. (Overarm was not allowed until 1863). This was well before the famous W.G. Grace played and even before he was born in 1848. His overall first-class career record was 108 wickets in just 18 matches.

Tony Gillies.



Thanks to Richard Dolton for information on 'Alternative Fuel Payments'.

The following is an extract from the moneysavingexpert.com website (Martin Lewis) :-

**Live in Great Britain and use alternative fuels?
You'll get £200 in February - though some will
need to apply**

This one-off £200 grant is for people living in homes in England, Scotland or Wales that use heating oil, have an LPG boiler, biomass boiler or use a similar alternative fuel to heat their home. If you're eligible, this will be paid on top of the £400 support payment (which you'll get from your supplier if you pay directly, or you'll need to apply for it from January as above).

If you pay for electricity directly to a supplier, but use alternative fuels for gas, you should get this payment automatically from your electricity supplier in February.

So you don't need to do anything. We're checking whether this will be paid as a bill credit or as a payment into your bank account and we will update this story when we know more.

If you don't pay for your electricity bill directly to an energy supplier, and use alternative fuels, you'll need to apply for your grant from February. You'll be able to do so via the same online portal as those applying for a £400 grant.

Judith.

Tai Chi



Happy New Year to all.

Unfortunately I have some bad news for all you keen Tai Chi'ers. I chased Al up to clarify the best way forward with the Tai Chi as of the New Year and this time got a reply.

"To be honest Berylyn i have looked at the figures and it would not be viable to continue classes .its been lovely getting to know you all and introducing you to tai chi but I'm sorry i can no long run the class.

If i do get something up and running later on next year i will let you all know."

So I'm sorry to be the bearer of bad news, but if I hear of anyone else who would be prepared to come to St John I'll let you know.

Onwards and Upwards, and wishing everyone a happy and successful 2023!

Berylyn

Short Mat Bowls



PLEASE NOTE: We shall be starting on TUESDAY 17th January at 6:45 to start at 7:00pm not Tuesday 3rd as previously advertised. We'd be delighted to see some new faces just to try out – no need to have any bowls, we have plenty to share.
Hope to see you then. Call me if you have any queries.

Richard 07977214776

The Months



January brings the snow,
makes our feet and fingers glow.

February brings the rain,
Thaws the frozen lake again.

March brings breezes loud and shrill,
stirs the dancing daffodil.

April brings the primrose sweet,
Scatters daises at our feet.

May brings flocks of pretty lambs,
Skipping by their fleecy dams.

June brings tulips, lilies, roses,
Fills the children's hand with posies.

Hot july brings cooling showers,
Apricots and gillyflowers.

August brings the sheaves of corn,
Then the harvest home is borne.

Warm september brings the fruit,
Sportsmen then begin to shoot.

Fresh October brings the pheasents,
Then to gather nuts is pleasant.

Dull November brings the blast,
Then the leaves are whirling fast.

Chill December brings the sleet,
Blazing fire, and Christmas treat.

Sara Coleridge.



Happy New Year all Wildlife Watchers.

Hope you enjoyed your Christmas dinner bird, this is what one of our local birds was having for its Christmas dinner.

Food sources include: invertebrates, mice and vole species, amphibians, fish and even moles and rabbits.

This owl pellet reveals what it was eating locally.

The Tawny Owl establishes and defends rigorously its home territory in late autumn and throughout the winter. It is also the time vocalizations are most common.



The World's largest wildlife survey, the **Big Garden Bird Watch** is taking place from the 27th to 29th January. Are you ready? 38 million birds have been lost from our skies in the last 50 years and these surveys can show important trends. It will take 1 hour of your time during which you record online, birds that land in your garden.

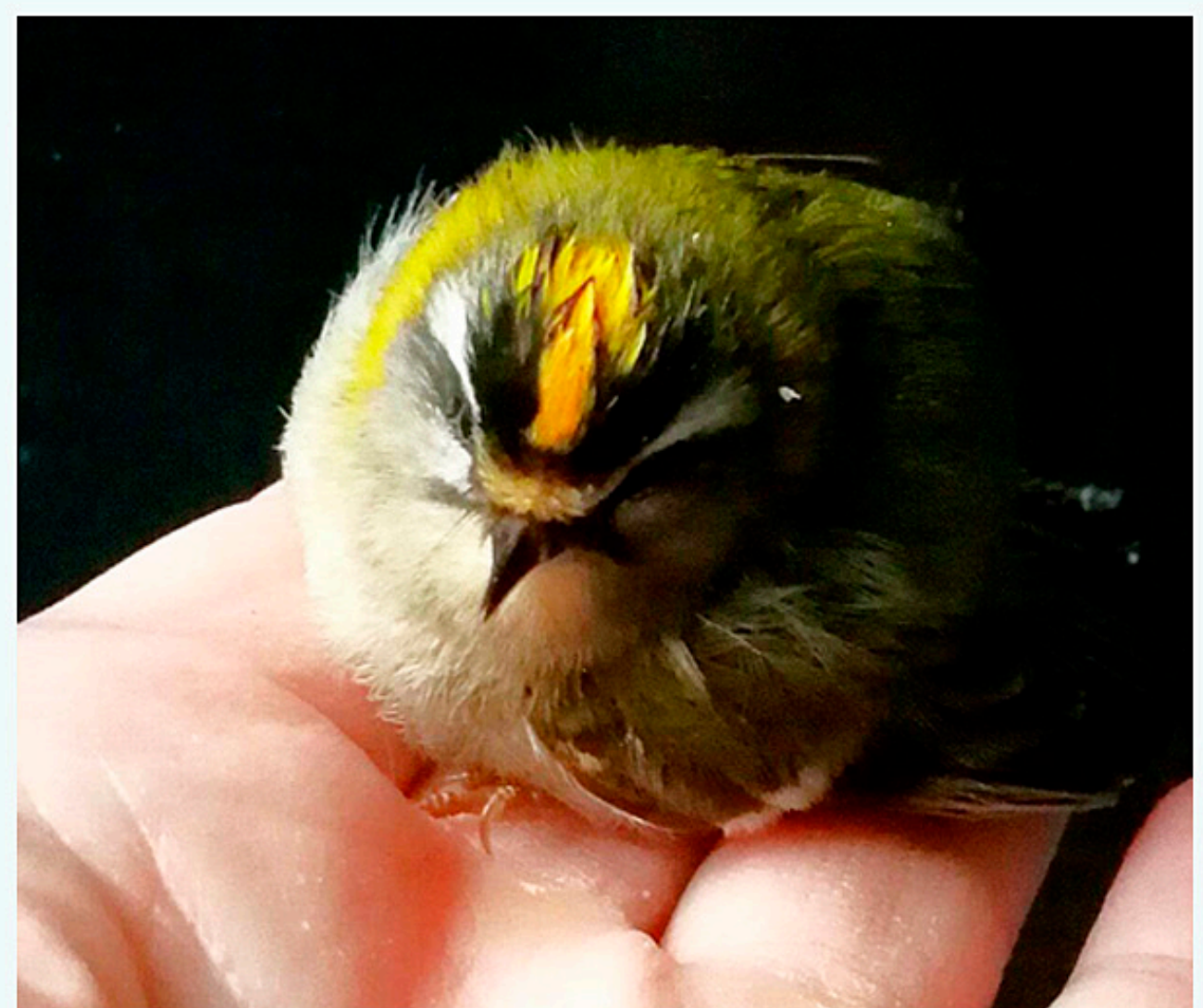
See rspb.org.uk/get-involved.



Blackbirds like fatty bits and mealworms, to tempt Blue tits and Great Tits: seeds, suet and peanuts. And for finches, sunflower seeds and Nyjer. Then watch them flock in.



Tiny Wren like Goldcrests and Firecrests are around at the moment. Although usually migratory, they do overwinter in Cornwall. The latter described as "a restless jewel of a bird" has more black and white on its face, but neither will come to your bird table.



The geese may not be "a-laying" but frogs will be soon. Christian and Linda are usually the first to find frog spawn, the day after the newsletter deadline! Will they be earlier this year? Please let me know together with any wildlife news. (kath.overton@gmail.com).

Kath.



"The weather outside was frightful..."

Rain in the morning & frost in the afternoon had turned St John into a skating rink & a few unfortunate people found it impossible to get to the village hall.



Everyone who made it was treated to excellent wines, courtesy of Charmaine & Christian, tasty casseroles & extras provided by the usual suspects and delicious desserts thanks to Julie.

Here Linda and Judith helping Lewis decide what choices he should make!



And, despite the ice, we all reached our homes with limbs intact. Special thanks to Christian who was well employed walking Ray, myself and no doubt others across icy roads safely to their front doors!! It was much appreciated!(Ed.)

All that plus a bit of Xmas singing and a visit from Santa with his presents.

Special honourable mention here to the Torpointers & those from the far side of the Tamar who had to drive home through freezing fog.

Let's hope the weather is kinder for the New Year's lunch!

Linda.

St John Village Hall

NEW YEAR LUNCH

Saturday 14th January 2023 12.30 for 1pm



Do join us for a sherry on arrival followed by a 2 course buffet lunch with a glass of wine
£12.50 pp

Booking and payment to Janet Mitchell
01752 829225 or 07837 145952

CLOSING DATE for payment JANUARY 10TH

Please remember to bring bowls, plates and cutlery (Glasses & Napkins will be provided)

Please note:

We will be taking the opportunity to collect your
St John Village Hall Trust Annual Voluntary Contributions
(membership)
£6 a head + £10 Snooker membership

St John Village Hall

A musical evening with Gordon & Gavin Saturday 28th January



Tickets £15 pp
7.30 for 8pm
Please bring your own
drink and nibbles
(Glasses supplied)
Please book your place
(with the money)
as soon as possible
contact
Janet Mitchell
07837145952/01752 829225

A relaxed evening of classic pop tunes with
a little bit of swing for good measure.
Together these two friends deliver an
evening of high energy, entertaining and
high quality music, for everyone to enjoy.

St John Village Hall
2023 Social Sessions and clubs

Event	Day & Time	Information	Current cost per session	Organiser / Contact
Singing	Monday 10.30 am - 12noon	NOT A CHOIR! Just a group who enjoy singing!	£1	Janet Mitchell 01752 829225
Local History Group	Monday 7.30 4th Monday in the month	Historic topics of interest to members, with occasional visits	£1	Bob Keys 01752 823119
Village Walks	2nd Tuesday in the month	Meet outside Village Hall 9.30am		Sue Richards 01752 823523
Indoor Bowls	Tuesdays 7pm - 9pm	Weekly sessions	£1	Richard Dolton 01752 823249
Coffee Morning	Wednesday 10.30 - 11.30	Drop in for a chat Coffee/Tea		Judith Greenhalgh 01752 822884
Boule/ Petanque	Every 3rd Sunday in the month 11am - 1pm	Join us for a friendly morning of Boule/Petanque	£1	Sue Huke 01752 822742
Darts		Hopefully resuming later in 2023		Sue Huke 01752 822742
Dreckly Evening	Friday 6 o'clock til 8 pm approx	Social Club Evening BYO drink, glass, nibbles Open to all with occasional food evenings	£1 + Food when applicable	Julie Elworthy 01752 823381 Janet Mitchell 01752 829225
Snooker	As per bookings	Available to members only	Check with organiser	David Greenhalgh 01752 822884
Table Tennis		Available to members only Contact Janet Mitchell 01752 829225		

Please note:
There may be some price increases in the New Year

St Johns Church - 100 Club

The 100 club winners for December are:-

Maureen Bryant£20

Carli Older£5

Carole Amphlett.£5



Xmas Doubles Pool Competition

On Sunday 20th Nov we held the draw for partners in the annexe. Since then matches have been played every week. The two teams that got to the final, which was played on Sat 17th Dec. were Brian Bird & Martyn Bishop against Bob Keys & Dave Greenhalgh. Bob and Dave won 13-4 and the play off for third place was held on Tuesday 20th Dec. This was Pete Debono & Richard Dolton who played Howard Everard & John Tanner. Pete & Richard emerged triumphant 11-8.

I would like to thank all who took part in the competition and hope that you enjoyed the games and the company at this time of year. It was a difficult competition to organise as we had to contend with delays through sickness and Chris Morris (first reserve) offered to step in to cover for Richard's Covid illness, but we managed in the end. I would also like to thank the Village Hall for, once again, sponsoring the prizes.



Winners - Dave & Bob
Runners up - Martyn & Brian.



Third place winners - Richard & Pete

Snooker



LADDER



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

Highest Break

David Greenhalgh	31
Chris Trevitt	27
Steve Wick	25
Pete Debono	22
Richard Dolton	18

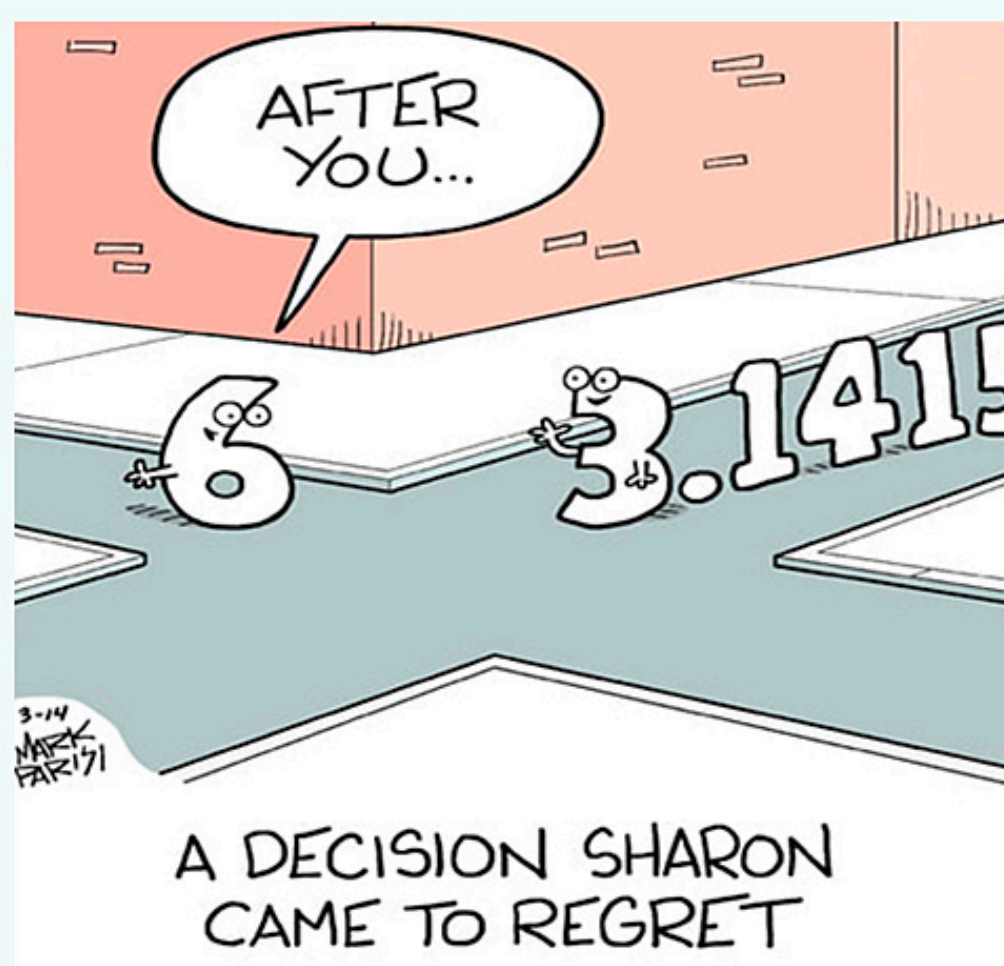
Breaking News



A man was caught watching the real world

**I SEE THE GUY
WHO INVENTED
PREDICTIVE TEXT
HAS DIED**

HIS FUNNEL IS TOMATO



and finally.....

If you watch Jaws backwards it is a heartwarming story about a shark who gives arms and legs to disabled people.