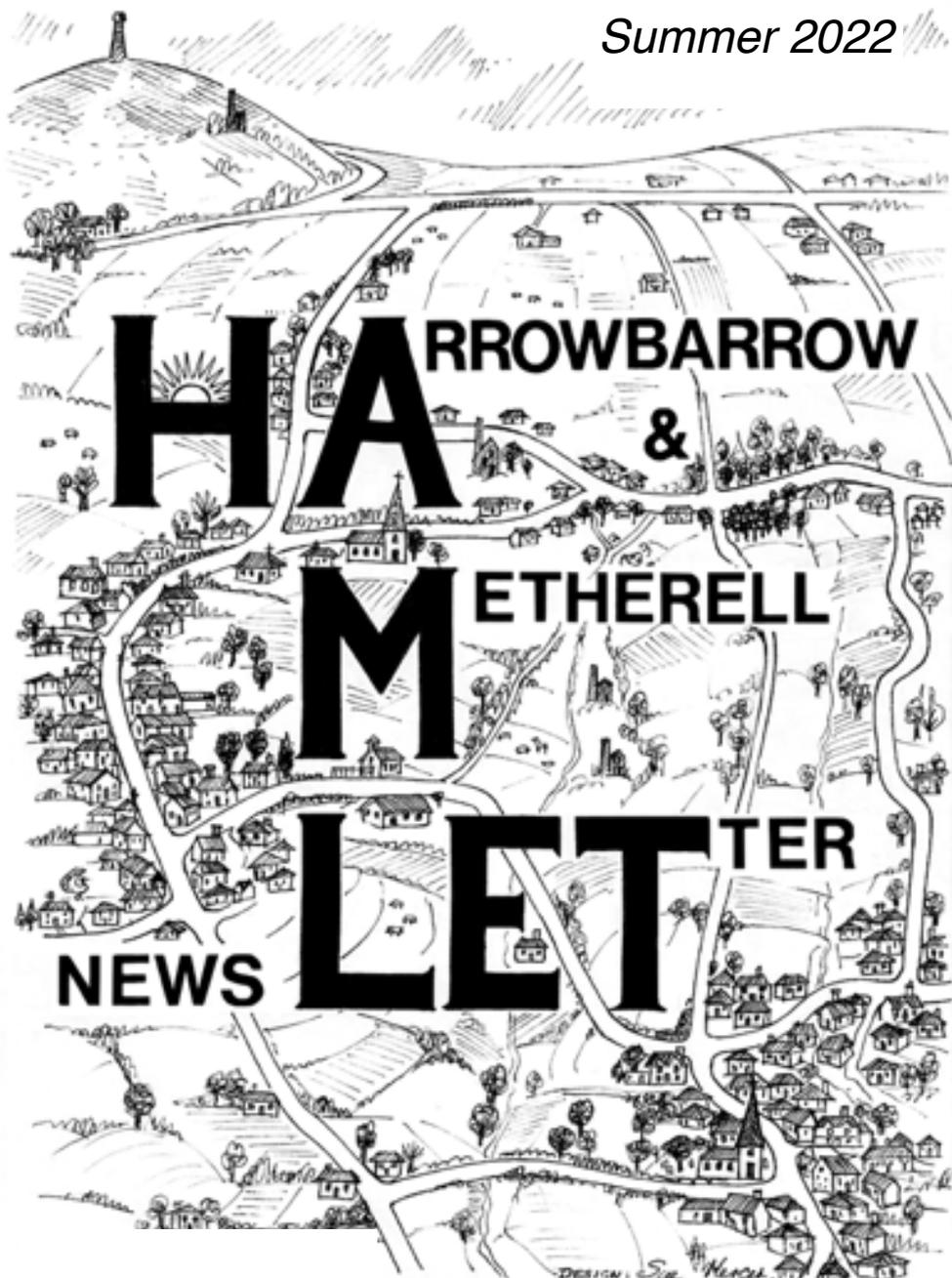


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WANTED !

New CHAIR of HALL MANAGEMENT Committee

The Hall Management oversees the day-to-day running of the hall on behalf of the owner, the Community Association i.e. YOU ! A new chair needs to be appointed as the current Chair is resigning. The task involves working closely with the C.A. to ensure the hall is a place people want to hire and to continue the on-going improvements to keep it fresh and relevant. Bi-monthly meetings of about an hour are usually all that is needed. It is a challenging job but not hugely time consuming and has a lot of job satisfaction. You will control a small budget supported by a committee and other volunteers.

John Roberts, Chair

Please be in touch with John to get additional details or apply for the post:
01579 351911 / cleavedesign.john@googlemail.com



Please note the recent change of **Village Hall Bookings Secretary**

Karen Ward

karen.willowview@gmail.com (01579 351971)

Please contact Karen during reasonable hours,
preferably not at weekends. For details of charges, facilities etc.
see the village website

Hamlet

To include a piece in the next (Autumn) **Hamlet** please contact
Sally Eccles: sallyeccles1@gmail.com / 01579 350329 - by 1st September
Events for October / November / December 2022.

New Residents

If you are new to the area and would like a WELCOME PACK with details of local businesses, groups you can join and other useful information, please contact Jean Miller 01579 351081/jean.g.miller@btinternet.com. And **thanks** to the unsung heroes:- Jean, who produces the packs, and the Welcome team members, for providing this much appreciated service.



Community Association AGM Report 23/05/22

Chairman Chris Miller reported it had been a slow process getting the Village Hall fully running again, with people still reticent. He was pleased that the equipment received from Carn to Cove was in place (projector in Games Room and automatic screen in the main hall) with special thanks to Alan Sturt and Simon MacLennan for getting this done. Chris then thanked all committee members, especially the officers, for so generously giving their time and expertise over the last difficult months. Chris was sad to report that Rex Snuggs, a stalwart of the Community Association, had recently died. He will be sorely missed.

The Protocol for Covid-19, in place since July 2021, was discussed. In view of all restrictions being lifted, all agreed that the original licensed seating numbers that had been reduced by a third be reinstated - but to leave signage up in the hall as a reminder about keeping everyone as safe as possible. This decision will go a long way to supporting the big events that had been restricted since July 2021 (bands, parties, weddings).

Hall Management: John Roberts reported that the hall had weathered the Covid storm financially due to the claiming of substantial grants to cover losses. He was concerned that the rising cost of living would have knock-on effects for the Village Hall and its users though new hire charges from 01/04/22 were received by hall users with no-one dropping out. Ongoing discussion centred around obtaining a premises license for alcohol which would be a money-spinner for the hall and alleviate the effort of obtaining restricted TENs licenses (5 a year) for individual events. We need more volunteers for the role of supervisor. John thanked his team but reported that due to health issues he had to stand down as chairman of the Hall Management Committee. He would continue in post until a successor is found. John was thanked for stepping up to the plate 6 years ago and for his commitment to the Community Association

Social Committee: Eileen Sturt reported that events had been planned almost monthly and continued in the hope that more attend, with a variety needed to attract younger people. The new streaming facilities had been used. Carn to Cove events remain popular, with the two excellent 'Shylock' and 'Vinland', the latter attracting young families. Peter Gill treated us to 'Tales of Noel Coward' and returns in November on the day before Armistice Day for a WWI talk. This year's May Day was almost back to the pre-Covid atmosphere, enjoyed by young and old, with ice creams, face painting and china-painting proving hugely popular. All were looking forward to the planned 4 days Jubilee Celebrations.



Hamlet: Jean Miller reported that the newsletter's main function is to inform villagers of local events and news, with the team encouraged from time to time upon receiving praise for articles. The committee was thanked for their commitment. Sally (editor) and John Eccles were thanked in particular and Jean also thanked the volunteers who deliver *Hamlet*. Advertisers continue to pay an annual £40 which helps to fund the Welcome Packs on offer to new residents, with the **Welcome Team** back to delivering them personally. Created in 2006 to inform and hopefully involve new residents in village activities, it remains popular. From March 2020 to May 2022 a record 46 Welcome Packs were delivered !

Film Club: Eileen reported it suffered badly during the pandemic, with members not coming despite Covid rules and social distancing being in place. The club ran at a loss and it was decided to suspend it until May this year. New members are needed to make it viable. Thanks to Carn to Cove (plus our showing of a Cornish film made for the G7 conference) who provided an electric screen for the main hall and a ceiling-mounted projector for the Games Room. Thanks were expressed to Jean and Chris for mounting the Projector and to Alan Sturt, Simon Maclennan and Linda Beth Murphy for wiring it all. The equipment is for use by the community and should be requested when booking the hall.

The Officers and Standing Committees were returned for the ensuing year. Remember you are most welcome to come and see how the committees work before you commit yourself to joining one of them. Please call one of the officers below to arrange a visit to their meeting.

Harrowbarrow & Metherell Community Association from May 2022 Officers and Individuals

Chairman Chris Miller - 351081 Vice Chairman John Roberts - 351911
Secretary Jean Miller - 351081 Treasurer Verona Davis - 351034
Bookings Secretary Lorraine Palmer - 350911
Temporarily Karen Ward (Bookings) 351971 & Jill Roberts (Invoices) 351911

Sub-committees

Hall Management Officers:

Chairman (acting) John Roberts Secretary Karen Ward - 351971
Treasurer Jill Roberts - 351911

Social Officers

Chairman Eileen Sturt - 350639 Minutes Secretary John Roberts - 351911
Treasurer Jill Roberts - 351911 200 Club Mandy Parkes - 350241

Hamlet Film Club Officers

Chair & Secretary Eileen Sturt - 350639 Treasurer Hilary Dent - 350626

Hamlet Officers

Chair Jean Miller - 351081 Editor Sally Eccles - 350329

Advertising Anita Nash - 350853

The Welcome Pack

Co-ordinator Jean Miller- 351081

**Next (Quarterly) Meeting of the Community Association:
Thursday 29 September 2022**



Harrowbarrow & Metherell Social Committee - Eileen Sturt, Chair

What a treat to get back to work although resumption of 'normal service' has been slow since our return to hosting events. May Day was a welcome success with lovely weather and the maypole dancers and school choir bringing along their parents to buy them chips, ice creams and cake, to play games with them and patiently wait in the queue for the 'Face Painting'. The Yard Sale too was blessed with fine weather and was reasonably well supported.

During the long awaited Platinum Jubilee weekend, the Trooping of the Colour and the Party at the Palace were shown on the big screen. The re-convened Friendship Club's cream tea was open to all. The 'Big Lunch', following a Service at the Church and procession to the hall to the tune of the Floral Dance, played by two school musicians Matilda and Alannah on their cornets and Robin Roper on his accordion, took place in less than perfect weather. Nothing daunted, lots of games were played in the afternoon, indoors. It was very disappointing that so few villagers came along but those who did really enjoyed themselves.

The Big Quiz, postponed from February until June 25th, thanks to a resurgence of Covid, will have been back to its brain-teasing and hopefully well supported by the time this Hamlet is printed and distributed.

The school is celebrating its 150th Anniversary this year and the Social Committee will be offering its congratulations as well as any assistance needed for research or events.

Over the summer months, the **Film Club and the Friendship club will continue but the Social Committee is taking a break from organising events.**

The boules court and table tennis table are available for use by anyone at any time completely free of charge. Why not bring the family, have a picnic?

Advance notice. A professionally run **Murder Mystery is booked for Friday October 7th.** Further details nearer the time. Tickets will be available at the Post Office in Harrowbarrow from Mid September. **Peter Gill** who entertained us royally last January with his tales and songs of Noel Coward is returning on **November 10th** with an appropriately timed talk ' **Meet Tommy Atkins**', a World War one soldier. Plans are also afoot for a ' different ' village Christmas this year. Watch this space!



Hamlet Film Club

The *Film Club* resumed in May after stops and starts due to the pandemic. Starting the club originally was a step into the unknown but we have built up a membership which enabled us at least to cover our costs and a little bit more for a rainy day. Sadly the rainy day did arrive in the form of Covid. Understandably our members were unwilling to be exposed to any possible infection source despite our stringent precautions so our income ceased. We struggled on for a few months, using up our reserves until we had to call a halt until this May.

In May *The Perfect Candidate* gave us an insight into the lives of women in Saudi Arabia. It was a film well worth watching but, with only nine in the audience, our hire costs for the film and the hall outweighed our income by over twenty pounds. An unsustainable loss.

The next four films have been chosen by members from a C-film list. With the retreat of Covid, widespread advertising on social media and posters across the villages, we can hopefully return to solvency. Please try and come, we don't want to lose the club.

21 June *The Last Bus* : actor Timothy Spall's character journeys by local buses from John o' Groats to Lands End. A topical subject for Harrowbarrow & Metherell, thanks to Malcolm Rowe's epic journey!

19 July *Westside Story*: the title of this classic speaks for itself.

16 August *Tracks*: A young woman goes on a 1,700-mile trek across the deserts of West Australia with four camels and her faithful dog.

20 September *The Old Man and the Gun*: based on the true story of Forrest Tucker's audacious escape from San Quentin aged 70 in a unique string of heists that confounded authorities & enchanted the public.

Lunch Club

Summer Dates: 11 July, 12 September.

There are still places for new members. If 60 plus and live in the Hamlet distribution area, you would be very welcome to join. We continue our search for someone with catering experience who would be willing to lead a team of volunteers so that we could go back to having fortnightly meals. For more information about the role, phone *Jenny Snuggs* on 01579 350546

Art for All

in the Village Hall fortnightly: Monday 2 to 4 pm

A friendly group, we help each other and enjoy the occasional workshop run by invited local artists.

Drawing, pastels, ink, acrylics, watercolours, water based oils, charcoal and mixed media. We all enjoy trying out new skills! It is a special time set aside to paint or sketch in company and enjoy a chat and a cuppa.

Summer sessions: 04 & 18 July, 01 August.

Beginners are most welcome.

Please contact Jean Miller on 01579 351081 for more information.

Happy 21st Birthday

Short Mat Bowls Club !



Come along and join us at the village hall with two 'taster' sessions free ! Formed in 2001, the club was named 'Hamlet SMBC' after the village newsletter. We play on Wednesday evening and Thursday afternoon, with members coming to either or both. Two

mats for up to 16 players. The club welcomes new members who either have or have not played before, with club bowls available until players decide to buy their own. In the summer, Wednesday evenings are put on hold, but Thursday sessions continue all year. Membership p.a. is £20 plus £1 per session.

Please contact *John Eccles* (Chair) if you'd like to play, 01579 350329



Harrowbarrow and Metherell W.I.
(Monthly Meetings held at 7.30pm in the Village Hall)
20 July:- Work of the Police & Crime Commissioner
17 August:- Italian Cooking Demonstration
21 September:- Harvest Supper & Auction 6.30 for 7 pm
(contact Secretary *Kathy Thomas* 01579 350659)

'Out & About' Walks

2 pm, 2nd Wednesday each month. Walks start at the village hall car park



In 2009 the group began regular walks on public footpaths and trails to explore the countryside and our heritage, observe flora and fauna, and enjoy the fresh air and company of other walkers. Using a small grant from the Health Promotion Service, twenty Out & About Walks leaflets were published and are on sale in Harrowbarrow P. O. at 25p each. We do hope that you enjoy the companionship of others on regular walks around our beautiful Tamar Valley. Well-behaved dogs on static leads are very welcome. Be prepared for any weather and wear stout walking shoes.

Contact Jean on 01579 351081 jean.g.miller@btinternet.com

'Knit & Natter Group'

(Village Hall games room, 1st Friday of each month, 2 - 4pm)

Summer dates: July 1st, August 5th, September 2nd

If you enjoy knitting, crochet, sewing, craft of any kind, or just like to chat, please come and join us. In the past, our group has made various items and contributed to many events in the village. We've also entered (and won) the Calstock Parish Christmas Tree Festival and hope to get the opportunity to enter again this year! To join costs £5 to cover room hire and, dependent on how many members attend, lasts around 6 months.

A warm welcome, tea and biscuits awaits!!

Please contact *Margaret Willson*, 01579 351208, if you have any questions.



SHAME's 'Witches Galore'

'Back in the Spotlight' by Frank Ellwood

After a break of over 2 years, SHAME put together three short plays under the title 'Witches Galore'. Filling the roles was an exacting task but, after some arm twisting and sleepless nights for the directors, we ended up with full casts. Personnel having prior commitments and Covid scares left us feeling under-rehearsed but, once the curtain went up and the adrenalin responded to the laughter of a live audience, the performance outshone anything seen at rehearsals.

A big thank-you to my fellow directors, the cast, costume department and everyone behind the scenes who helped get the show up and running. Thank-you to the audience - I only hope you enjoyed the experience as much as we did!

Shortly we will be reading through the pantomime LAND OF DREAMS in the hope that 17/18 February 2023 will once more see a full production. Our pool of actors has been depleted, with some experienced thespians indicating a wish to stand down from on-stage work. Thank-you to them. It just leaves me with a plea to anyone who would like to get involved either on stage or behind the scenes to get in touch with a member of SHAME or ring me on **07786338061**.

.....and from theatre critic Ed!

Congratulations to the above for their diverting and finely directed medley of comedies. It takes a couple of dozen and more individuals to put on such a well-oiled evening of entertainment, thus proving to the appreciative audience the enduring style and panache of the performances that SHAME members continue to offer.

Though not acting this time, Rick Stead was in hearty post as Stage Manager, whilst Lighting and Sound Effects were expertly laid on by Simon Maclennan and Linda-Beth Murphy, with particular effectiveness in the large-screen video 'The Scottish Play' depicting the three Weird Sisters (directed by Ms Tall and acted by stalwarts Ms Rose, Ms Garrard and Ms Palmer, with cauldron provided by Mr Tall.) In the opening mini-play 'As They Like It', the Bard's (Mr Rowe's) efforts to give gravity to the history of the murderous Scottish King were seriously undermined by three of the King's Men's actors, led by the lascivious and loud Mr Burbage (Mr Trinder), backed by his two minions John and Henry (Mr Roberts and Mr Ellwood), all attired in doublet and hose, with the admirable encouragement of hostess Meg (Ms Rock) whose way with words inspired not only her audience but the Bard himself.

After a short interval, during which hot and cold beverages were made available by Jill Roberts, Anita Nash and teams, the audience was plunged into the niceties of committee shenanigans, chaired by the formidable Will (Ms Reid), served tea and cakes by browbeaten spouse Patrick (Mr Trinder who also directed) and supported by an array of other members, ably led by Andrew (Mr Ellwood), happily not this time in tights! As Hamlet is a family publication I will not go into the reasons for the final rout: sufficient to indicate that it did not literally involve man's best friend in spite of Hortensia's (Ms Sturt's) innocently giving the game away! I sincerely hope that the scandalous outcome of 'The Coven's Convention' does not deter any likely volunteers from joining any of **our** villages committees!



Special mention as always to the redoubtable Prompt (Ms Dent) whose services happily seemed not too much in demand.

'Battling On' by W.I. member Joan Tall

On a sunny May morning, following in the recent footsteps of no less august a person than Princes Anne, Harrowbarrow & Metherell W.I. were shown around part of the 124 acre site of Merryhue Farm near Callington.

We had chosen Merryhue as our charity and were there to present Nikki, the founding director, with £150. The charity, aptly named Battling On, is unique to Cornwall, and works with the Armed Forces Covenant Trust Fund and local Veterans to develop a programme of activities which improves mental health and wellbeing. The catchment area covers East Cornwall and West Devon including Plymouth, and works closely with many charities and organisations with the aim of improving the lives not only of Veterans, but also disadvantaged young people and adults.

Nikki enthusiastically told us of their diverse work. The rich range of habitats means that wildlife like otters, fallow, red and sika deer, kingfishers, barn owls and badgers have found sanctuary there. As a working farm staffed mainly by volunteers, livestock includes Swiss Valay Black Faced sheep, alpacas, pigs, ducks, geese, chicken, peacocks and our own particular favourites, the endangered species French Poitou donkey. Indeed, the four month old 'Wonky Donkey' with his long legs and braying voice completely captured our hearts.

This is truly a unique enterprise. We had a wonderful time petting the animals and marvelling at the range of projects available. The atmosphere is relaxed and inclusive and above all provides a safe space for a variety of disadvantaged people. We urge you to visit.

PEOPLE... ..PEOPLE... ..PEOPLE

Best wishes to Lorraine and John Palmer for Lorraine's recovery from her recently diagnosed illness and for which she is having ongoing hospital treatment.

Welcome to new residents:

Tim and Lisa Cusack at Roseberry Cottage, Harrowbarrow from Mid-Devon

and to

Ross Hann and Marie Honey at 3, Sunnyside, Harrowbarrow from Buckland Monachorum.



Condolences to Jenny, family and friends on the death of *Rex Snuggs aged 92*. Born and bred in rural Hampshire, for the whole of his working life, apart from National Service in Cyprus, Rex stayed with the company Serck Radiators. After many promotions, he became South of England manager, finally to be based in Plymouth which was when he and his family moved to Harrowbarrow, with Catherine, his youngest of three daughters, attending the local schools. Sadly his first wife Joan died, after which he and Jenny happily got together and tied the knot,

becoming one of the 'go-to' couples in the village. Rex was a huge supporter of all things community-wise. Initially very involved in fund-raising with Wesley Wilton and team for the building of the village hall, organising countless theatre and day trips, he was a long-standing member of the Hall Management Committee. He also had a role in the early days of the Hamlet newsletter as the person in charge of advertising, and was a village hall supervisor for a number of years. A stalwart as treasurer of the Cancer Research UK local committee, in 2008 he received an Honorary Fellowship 'Flame of Hope' award for 30 years of service. Indeed, we all remember his convivial hosting of the all-day breakfasts which he and Jenny so generously put on in their bungalow or helping at the annual auctions. The number of raffles that Rex organised was an inspiration! In his later years, he continued his membership of the Lunch and Film Clubs and was always a jovial and supportive attendee at events held in the village hall.

Dr Geoffrey Potts sadly passed away in April, having been a resident of Harrowbarrow for the last 50 plus years. He worked for his entire career at the Marine Biological Association in Plymouth. During his time there he contributed to many marine conservation matters. His greatest achievement was the creation and establishment of the National Marine Aquarium. Through his life he was a prolific writer and artist, saying he always thought best with a pen in his hand. He was an avid shot and attained a British record at Bisley and shot on the British team in France and Spain. He lived life to the full, making an impact on the many people that he met. He is survived by 3 sons and will be missed by many. His trusty black Labrador Megan will be taken care of by his eldest son.

Can you help? *Robin Roper* has a pipe organ in pieces to install in his packing shed and needs all sorts of skills to install it. If anyone has time and might be interested in helping, please telephone him 01579 350826. Later on, he hopes to put on recitals with his Allen Organ.

Good luck to all our young people taking exams and to those who will be moving on to pastures new after the summer holidays.

An Uncertain Future for Local C of E Churches by Revd Peter Bellenes
As a retired clergyman living in Harrowbarrow, I am rather anxious about the plans of the Church of England to retreat from the countryside. The local example is the deanery plan which will halve the number of local churches around Calstock and Callington of which there are currently ten - Callington, Calstock, Gunnislake, Harrowbarrow, Linkinhorn, South Hill, Stoke Climsland, St Dominick, St Mellion and Pillaton. The plan would be for Callington to be the main church with three or four subsidiary parish ones, and five or six closed.

The Bishop of Truro maintains this has been a bottom-up exercise from the diocese but, in reality, discussions have been led and firmly guided by two diocesan advisors. Any suggestions that do not fit with the diocesan ideal are not permitted. So any plan results from discussions having being shoehorned into the tight-fitting shoe of the diocesan plan '*On The Way*'. What is particularly disturbing is that local churches are being cut while a vastly increased bureaucracy in Truro Diocese grows and grows. This is why I have joined the group '*Save The Parish*', a national group with a Cornish branch. '*Save the Parish*' are trying hard to let people know what is happening via articles in the press.

Now many readers will not be churchgoers but there are those who, if not members of the congregations, value a place of quiet, a spiritual hub.

As the poet Philip Larkin wrote:
*A serious house on serious earth it is,
 In whose blent air all our compulsions meet,
 Are recognised, and robed as destinies.
 And that much never can be obsolete,
 Since someone will forever be surprising
 A hunger in himself to be more serious,
 And gravitating with it to this ground,
 Which, he once heard, was proper to grow wise in.*



The *Tamar Valley Community Mini-Bus* needs some more help to keep going.

Staff shortages, holidays and illnesses have reduced one-off and regular trips of late. Good, steady drivers who are licensed to drive a mini-bus, with a bit of time on your hands, why not volunteer? A chance to meet new people as well as help provide a massive service to the community!

Call **Carol** 07977486915 for information.

July/August Regular Runs (Call **Carol** to book a place)

Launceston Shopping: £2: Wed: 9.30-2.00: July 6th, 20th. Aug 3rd, 17th, 31st

Coffee Morning & Post Office: £1: every Thursday: 10-12

Callington Library: £2: Thurs: 1.30-3.30: July 21st & Aug 11th

Tavistock Shopping: £2: every Friday

Saltash Shopping: £2: Wed 9.30-2.00: July 13th & 27th, Aug 10th & 24th

July/August Trips & Outings (Call **Mavis** to book a place: 01822 833412)

Afternoon Tea: £5: Tue: July 5th & Aug 2nd: 1.30-4.00

Trago Mills: £2: Tue: July 12th & Aug 9th: 10-4.00

Truro: £5: Mon: July 18th & Aug 15th: 9.30-5.00

Westward Ho! : £8: Tue: July 19th: 9.30 -5.00

Totnes: £7: Mon: July 25th: 9.30-5.00

Pub Lunch: £5: Tue: July 26th & Aug 30th: 11-4

Kingsbridge: £8: Tue: Aug 16th: 9.30-5.00

Kingsand/Cawsand: £6: Mon: Aug 22nd: 9.30-5.00

Bird Sightings by Geoff Roberts



I open the back door to the garden mid-morning and to my surprise hear the call of a male Cuckoo - and just down in the field below! The only disappointment is not seeing it; bonus, I see one later up on Kit Hill.

This is such an exciting time of the year, with the summer migrants returning - Swallows, Swifts and House Martins to name a few - and the chance to see chicks which have fledged and departed their nest into the big wide world (though they do not venture far at this stage). Fledglings are easily recognisable as their feather colour is not quite complete and you see the adults still supplying them with food.

One visitor to the garden I have had more of this year is the Stock Dove. This dove can easily be wrongly identified as a young Wood Pigeon, which has similar markings on the nape, an incandescent streak, but later a **white** patch develops on the latter. Stock Doves have other differences as well and the more often you see them the more easily you will be able to distinguish one from the other.

Thank you to all of you who have been sending me your bird sightings. Keep an eye out for that surprising, unexpected garden visitor. It **does** happen and remember - enjoy your birding !

SATURDAY 16 JULY : HARROWBARROW & METHERELL ANNUAL SHOW

In memory of Helen Hayward

Show Opening 2.15pm, Prize giving & Auction of produce 3.45pm

Exhibits to be staged Fri 15th 6.30-8pm or on Show Day 8.30 to 9.45am

Find the Schedule of Classes, Entry Form, & Rules with this Hamlet



Please Note: The Community Association are pleased to donate a new Memorial Cup in honour of Rex Snuggs which will be an award for the 'Most Amusing Photograph', a class which is extra to the printed schedule.

Also The Millennium Cup, donated by Rex and Jenny in 2000, is being renamed the *Helen Hayward Cup* in honour of

Helen who died in 2021 and whose massive commitment to the Show will always be remembered.

One of the positive sides of the pandemic is that more of us turned our hand to doing more in the way of growing vegetables or flowers, nurturing pot plants or improving in art, photography, cookery, sewing or wine making. Young or old, there is plenty of scope to show off skills in the show so do consider taking part, however small.

It would be a great help if competitors bring entries to the hall early Friday evening as Saturday morning is busy with setting up followed by the judging. If you still have a cup, please return it (cleaned) to the hall on Friday evening or return it to a committee member.

Please show your support by entering and/or coming along on Saturday afternoon to admire the entries, take tea and cakes, and meet with friends.

We look forward to seeing you! Chair *Steve Matcham*

Calstock Parish Council Update



We had our Annual Parish Meeting in May and were delighted to present two awards, one a Special Award to Darren and Polly Tait of Darren's Cars and the other for Citizen of the Year to Michael Kinger.

Darren's Cars were an enormous help to us when we ran a volunteer scheme in the Covid pandemic, often helping vulnerable people get to medical appointments and picking up prescriptions and food parcels. Whenever she was phoned, Polly always said, "No problem". More recently, Darren's work supporting the Ukrainian crisis has been outstanding, with plans for another trip to take basic supplies to refugees. Darren and his team have been able to help bring some families to the parish and are hoping to do this again shortly.

Michael Kinger has been involved in many community activities for a number of years. He was secretary of Gunnislake Football Club and set up a table tennis club. He has been a First Responder and many local people will have been helped by Michael's calm and efficient manner at all hours of the day and night. Whilst running the Gunnislake butcher's shop both he and Hazel would go out of their way to serve the needs of their customers, making deliveries, holding a Christmas fund, and working long hours, rarely taking a break themselves.

In the Harrowbarrow Ward we will have had three resignations in the last 6 months. As previously reported, John Roberts has stepped down this year after many years of valued service. Theo Brown and Steve Jaggard both recently left the council. We thank them all for the time they have given to the Parish Council. Shortly we will advertise the two vacant posts. Details of your new ward members will later be put on our website.

Tracy Ledger continues to research how to get a speedier Broadband for **the Harrowbarrow area** and we will update you on news as she gets it.

Recently we were pleased to reopen **the bridge in Harrowbarrow Village Hall Playpark** which had to be closed for a short period of time as the timber was rotten.

In other council matters, congratulations to Jim Wakem who was re-elected as Chair for the Parish Council and to John Wells who was elected, for the first time, as Vice Chair.

It was agreed at our Annual Meeting that Full Council meetings would continue to meet on the second Tuesday of the month at the Tamar Valley Centre at 7pm. Other committee meetings will also take place on Tuesday evenings. We are a very busy council, with many committees and sub-committees, including Amenities, Recreations, Finance and General Purposes, Environment and Climate, Burial, Waterfront,

Footpaths, Planning (including a new Planning Strategy committee) and a newly formed A390 Advisory group.

You can contact us on clerk@calstockparishcouncil.gov.uk / 01822 748847.

News from the Parish Archive *by Lynda Harman*

We are pleased to announce the publication of a new book by Jill Lane written on behalf of the archive. Jill has already written about shops and shopkeepers in Calstock, but this time she focused on Albaston, Drakewalls and St Ann's Chapel.

New additions to the archive collection include pictures taken throughout the construction of the Calstock Wetlands Project, kindly given by Peter Thompson, contributions from Albaston WI, and school archive photos from Andrew Hunt, Harrowbarrow School Head.

The archive is getting back to 'normal.' We put on displays at Harrowbarrow & Metherell May Fair and at the Jubilee weekend featuring 150 years of Harrowbarrow School, past jubilees, carnivals and May Fairs in both villages.

On 04 June we exhibited at St Ann's Chapel Jubilee fete in the King George V playing field. We are enjoying 'going on the road' again and on **30 July** plan to be at the **Latchley, Chilsworthy & Cox Park Show**.

Our 'Collecting Memories' project draws to a close though we have just missed our target of 100 memories so we'd appreciate a few more. Contributions can be of any length. Memories of the first lockdown may be fading but contributions need not cover the last two years, they could concentrate on a particular period, just give the 'highs and lows' or general thoughts about coping with the pandemic. Anyone who has already submitted a memory but would like to send an update would be most welcome. Email me or send to: The Farm, Harrowbarrow, Callington PL17 8BA.

We are pleased to have three new volunteers at the archive, but there is room for more as we still have a large backlog of cataloguing. If you could spare a couple of hours a week it would be much appreciated. There is no pressure and always time for a chat. Why not pop in when we are open? You might like to browse through the photographs. Or phone me on 01579 351413 or email: lynda.harman@btinternet.com

Archive opening times

Tuesday 10.00 – 2.00, Wednesday 12.00 – 4.00, Friday 10.00 – 2.00

If unable to make these times, arrangements can be made to visit another time, and remember, if you can't come to us, we will do research for you, for a donation to cover our running expenses.



St Luke's Hospice Open Gardens, Harrowbarrow
with refreshments at the village hall

Sunday 17 July, 11am - 4pm Entry £5

A fantastic way to show your support for St Luke's and the families who so desperately need them in this, its **40th anniversary** year

Open Gardens maps will be available in advance at the shop and the Village Hall on the day with signage in the village on the day.

Parking at the Village Hall

Please consider this an opportunity for a walkabout with family & friends!

Can You help in the Lead-up to 17 July?

After visiting the lovely gardens which generous locals open for the day, a bite to eat in convivial surroundings is always appreciated. Any of the following would therefore be MUCH APPRECIATED : home-made cakes, tray bakes or biscuits; savoury scones, quiches, sausage rolls, or nibbles. *Please let Jo 01579 350333 or Sally 01579 350329 know before the 14 July if you can offer any of the above, and bring along to the village hall before 10.30 am on the day.*

Donations Update

Thanks to Maggie Keen who kindly donated her mother Viola's funeral contributions of £95.

Thanks to Viv and Tony who recently moved from Harrowbarrow to Albaston and who generously donated their small coins amounting to the princely sum of £157.45. St Luke's Community fundraiser sent "heartfelt thanks to the family who made this donation and to Jo, who helped count out and bag up all of the coins"!

Thanks to Brenda Boundy who was pleased that her spring plant sales totalled £195.15. She wishes to thank everyone who supported her through buying or donating plants and reports that she and her sister Maggie plan to pot up a few more for the Open Gardens day on 17th July.

Calstock Footpath Society

Walking and caring for footpaths since 1984

Summer walks:

Saturday, June 25th Lewtrenchard

Sunday, July 24th South Hill

In August, we're staying closer to home.



C.F.S. invite you to join them on their monthly walks in and around Calstock and the Tamar Valley and further afield. The group is full of good humour and members share their knowledge of history, plants and wildlife, so you'll make friends and learn new things. Walks are not strenuous, around 5 miles in length; circular routes on footpaths and quiet lanes; dog-free except for registered assistance dogs. Details with number of stiles, inclines, parking and toilets are emailed to members. Car sharing may also be available. BYO drinks and snacks for the scheduled break.

Yearly membership £6 (or pay-as-you-go £3 per walk). More information on the web site <https://calstockfootpathsoc.org.uk/>



Mary Martin's Open Garden for the N.G.S (website: ngs.org.uk)

Sat 03 & Sun 04 September 10am - 5pm

Ash Barn, PL178BP, opposite Glamorgan Old Mill
(along the road to Cotehele from Bartletts corner).

All money raised goes to the **National Garden Scheme**

£5 p.p. / children free (Regret no wheelchair access)

Homemade teas

A terraced, 3 acre woodland garden, full of mature specimen trees and shrubs, underplanted with old roses and intensive herbaceous planting to provide interest and contrast with box and holly topiary. Narrow, uneven paths and steps give a wild wood atmosphere. New *Grotto* by James gives added interest and atmosphere. Sorry no dogs or unsupervised children owing to the nature of the site which includes an old quarry edge.

Drawn to the Valley Summer Exhibition - 03 to 07 August

Open Studios Exhibitions - 27 Aug to 04 September



This time of the year our artists are extremely busy, with many exhibitions planned. We all love to be outside, taking photos, drawing 'en plain air', being inspired by all the lovely nature that surrounds us here. All this will help us create our artwork for the 'Drawn to the Valley Summer Exhibition', in the Butchers Hall in Tavistock, from the 3rd to the 7th of

August, followed by the annual Open Studios, from 27th August to 4th September. **Look out for more information in the post office.**

Gudrun Taresch

A Request for help re Duke's Lane from Jean Miller

The Calstock Footpath Society monitors the 40 Parish Footpaths and also has an ongoing project 'Lost Paths' which researches past footpaths that might be reinstated as either Permissive Paths or Public Rights of Way. I am involved with a green lane known as Duke's Lane, not strictly a lost footpath as it can still be walked. The proposal is to register it as a Restricted Byway which allows travel only by foot, horse or non-mechanised vehicles. The track runs for half a mile from the A390 nearly opposite the service station to the B road at The Terrace opposite what is known locally as Tancock's Lane. A short stretch from the A390 is paved and provides access to properties below. The track then continues but is not suitable for vehicles. It is of historical and botanical interest with Cornish hedges on each side and was probably established mid-19th century when it would have been about 3 feet wide. Its banks show traces of brickwork and its surface the remains of cobbles. The track appears on the 1862 map produced in connection with the Hingston Down 1856 Enclosure Act when the fields on either side were enclosed. Later maps show it as a road or lane that took precedence over the B road at the lower junction. It has the characteristics of an Enclosure Road:- straightness, of a width to accommodate herded animals and banks to stop them straying into the fields. At present it serves as a useful link with Harrowbarrow and the main road where it can join with other footpaths. It deserves to have its status established and protected.

I plan to do a Hedge Importance Test along a short stretch of the hedgerow to establish its age and biodiversity. Also a species count of wildflowers, shrubs and trees along both sides of the lane.

How can you help? I would like to hear from you if you have walked Duke's Lane in the past and whether you continue to do so.

Also if you notice a problem on any parish footpath, please contact me: 01579 351081 / jean.g.miller@btinternet.com

New bridge enables community and visitors to enjoy Calstock Wetlands and Tamar Valley Discovery Trail again

The footbridge created as part of the River Tamar Walkway & Wetland Project in Calstock was opened officially on 14th June and enables us to enjoy the wildlife that is flocking to the recently flooded wetland area. It is the final piece of the jigsaw in a £3.1 million flood defence scheme, delivered by the Environment Agency, Tamar Community Trust, Calstock Parish Council, Calstock Footpath Society & Tamar Valley AONB. Designed to span the breach through the old flood embankment (now redundant as a flood defence) and to maintain the popular permissive footpath it is an

integral part of the works, maintaining the 1.2km stretch, described as 'a jewel in the crown', of the Tamar Valley Discovery Trail that extends some 35 miles from the north to the south of the Tamar Valley AONB.

Jane Kiely, Chair of Tamar Community Trust reports: "The Trust is delighted as the bridge enables people once again to enjoy this fabulous stretch of the river and the new wetland habitat. It's great to see the wildlife using it - sedge and reed warblers, Canada geese, shelducks, moorhens, heron, little egret and even an otter! Thanks to all our partners on this scheme for the hard work and determination in getting to this stage."

tvhPPG

Tamar Valley Health
Patients' Group



After presenting the many concerns of patients to the practice staff at Callington and Gunnislake, the following answers some of the questions and provides exciting news about dispensing medication.

Can we reduce the time between ordering and collection medication?

Not currently – sickness absence and county-wide difficulties recruiting new staff have meant being unable to return to a 3-day collection time. Our team work tirelessly to keep as up to date as they can. Apr 21-22 we lost 1,408 dispensing hours. COVID caused huge pressure on staff absence with many other knock-on issues. The team put in 1,874 hours of overtime in the last year alone to ensure that the Dispensary/Pharmacy remained open.

It is not always clear that the appointment is at Callington or Gunnislake. We have reminded Reception to confirm these details but please ask if you are unsure.

You only need to make a verbal request and do not need to complete any paperwork to access patient records. Is this true? Yes, a verbal request is sufficient but, as reception staff are directed to fill in the form for our records, we prefer patients to complete the form themselves so that no errors are made, or information missed that was expected.

Can we return to being able to make advance appointments?

All Nursing appointments were always available in advance and still are. Extended hours appointments with GPs are now available on Saturdays (soon to incl. evenings), telephone appointments with GPs, medication review appointments with our Pharmacists, Social Prescriber, Mental Health Practitioner, First Contact Physiotherapist, and acute type appointments with our Nurse Practitioner/Paramedics are all available in advance in the Practice. Patients can use **eConsult** to consult electronically with a clinician at a convenient time, and receive a response by the end of

the next working day. Also the option to book a video consultation, in advance or on the day, with an NHS doctor via the LIVI service.

Can we take prescriptions to a chemist and not to the surgery? Yes, but patients would need to come and collect their signed prescription if it can not be sent electronically to their pharmacy of choice.

When are we going to return to normal? What is the new normal? Are we ever going to return to calling the surgery to be given a specific time to attend the appointment opposed to waiting for a phone call? As we are slowly getting back to pre-pandemic routines, we should be able to go back to pre-booking the appointments not mentioned previously.

However, appointments on the day were always triaged unless they could be booked with another type of clinician.

When are annual medication reviews going to start? How soon can I expect to be seen? We restarted this last autumn; we are still a little bit behind but aim to catch up over the coming months.

Why are patients having to wait outside at Gunnislake Practice, sometimes in bad weather and often for more than fifteen minutes?

Many report that they are ignored. The space at Gunnislake was an issue as we could not have too many people in the foyer due to infection control guidance. That has now changed so more people will be able to come in to the building if they feel comfortable to do so. Due to the backlog of prescriptions, if someone arrives to collect their medication and it has not yet been made up or there is a query, staff must go out the back and action the request. This can be time-consuming dependent on the number of items to be dispensed or if they need to find out additional information from a colleague or the pharmacist. If staff have to go back and forth from their terminal to check a patient's records it is possible that those queuing appear to be ignored. It is certainly not their intention to ignore anyone.

The good news is that the Practice will be installing automated dispensing machines, Callington in late May, Gunnislake in early Autumn. *If you have any questions you would like answered please contact the PPG via the Tamar Valley health webpage or on Facebook.* Sharon Trafford, Chair.

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