

**The St. Ann's Chapel & Drakewalls  
quarterly newsletter, **free** to all local  
residents and visitors**



The cherry tree pictured above has just flowered spectacularly in my back garden, a sign of Spring to come, that's if the rain ever stops. Here's hoping! Let's also hope all those cherry trees we've planted along the main road start to give us Spring colour in the next year or two.

With the increasing amount of new residents and visitors to the beautiful Tamar Valley, in particular to our area, we thought it would be a good idea to include a page of useful local contact details.

Depending on the reaction, if any, I may make this a regular feature. So please let me know if you think we've missed any important contact details or phone numbers.

My thanks to Mr. Chris Clarke for compiling this list.

## Useful contact details

Gas Emergency	0800 678 3105
Electricity Emergency	0800 111 999
Police liaison Officer: (email): joanne.addems@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk	
General Emergency Calls	999
Non-emergency	101
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
South West Water	0344 346 200
Calstock Parish Council	01822 748 847
Parish Archive	01822 833 973
Cornwall Council	0300 1234 100
Our Cornwall Councillor (email): cllr.angus.black@cornwall.gov.uk	
S.E. Cornwall MP Anna Gelderd	07731 848 367
Health Centre	01822 832 641
Health Centre Pharmacy	01822 835 000
Post Office Gunnislake	01822 832 297
Tamar Valley Nursery	07411 649 613
Copper Valley School	Infants 01822 832 550 Juniors 01822 832 685

Your parish councillors for the Delaware ward (St. Ann's Chapel, Albaston, Drakewalls and Delaware) of Calstock Parish Council are:

Roger Alford                    roger.alford@calstockparishcouncil.gov.uk

Gill Boreham                    gill.boreham@calstockparishcouncil.gov.uk

Ken Trapp                        ken.trapp@calstockparishcouncil.gov.uk

John Wells                       john.wells@calstockparishcouncil.gov.uk

We currently have a vacancy for a 5<sup>th</sup> councillor for our Ward (see P. 6)

## Editor's comments

Hello, and welcome to the Spring edition of our newsletter. If you read my comment on the front cover then maybe you, like me, are totally fed up with the weather we've endured in Cornwall so far this year. I think it was sometime in the first week of March when we had our first day in 2026 with no rain... an unenviable record we don't want to repeat.

Now that Spring is finally here our thoughts turn to our Summer Fete. This year's promises to be bigger and better than before. (More on pages 4 & 5).

On a positive note: After 12 years of campaigning we have won our battle to have a fully signalised 'Puffin' crossing installed at the site between the Albaston turn and Crow Lane. (More details of this on page 8.)

Now sadly, some negativity which needs sharing:

The Community Group was born one evening in 2014 in the conservatory at the Rifle, with Neythen Woolford elected as Chair, and me as Vice Chair. The principal topic for that evening was the A390, as attendees were concerned about cars speeding dangerously through our 2 villages.

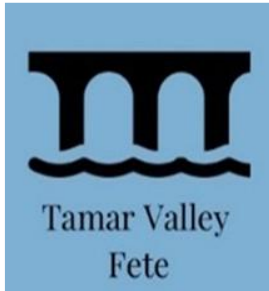
From that early seed the Community Group grew into holding different events, including: coffee mornings, picnics in the park, quiz nights, Christmas and Spring fairs, car boot sales, the scarecrow trail, and even things like litter picking. Most of them, with the exception of our regular very popular monthly **bingo** nights (**next one 26<sup>th</sup> March**), the scarecrow trail, carols around the Christmas tree and the fete (which was an offshoot of the group) have withered to the point where we recently debated winding up the group, as only a small hard core of regulars seem to be interested in getting involved.

The Delaware ward of Calstock Parish Council is as large as some small towns in Cornwall yet, with all the new housing in St. Ann's Chapel (more than 200 since 2018), we just can't seem to get people interested in joining us to help us grow our community activities.

Quite simply, we need new blood - new people with new ideas and the drive to help make things happen. If you're interested in getting involved please contact us via one of the email addresses dotted around this newsletter.

John Wells

19<sup>th</sup> March 2026



## **Tamar Valley Fete @ St. Ann's Chapel**

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July, 12 Noon – 5pm**

King George V Recreation Ground

Honicombe Lane

St. Ann's Chapel

Nearest Post code PL18 9FT

What 3 Words: envisage.fails.artist

The largest event of our year will be taking place on July 4<sup>th</sup>. This the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of our fete will be even bigger & better than last year. It will be well sign-posted if you are new to the area or just visiting.

Last year's fete was very well attended across the afternoon, despite the weather being on the damp and dull side.

As well as access via the Honicombe Lane you can get to the fete by walking along the resurfaced footpath behind the Rifle Volunteer.

Listed below and opposite are some of the things already lined up:

Live music throughout the afternoon.

Hot food and a licenced bar

Tea tent with cakes, teas, coffees, etc.

Ice cream and pasty vans.

Market Street – with a wide range of outdoor stalls

A Classic Car display

At the moment the Devon & Cornwall Police Road Show and Cornwall Blood Bikes are hoping to attend, as is the local Fire Dept., subject to call outs.

We will also be having a Community area with many worthwhile local groups exhibiting, together with local schools, the Parish Archive and lots more.

We will also be running our regular and very popular dog show. (For more information regarding dog show classes please see our Facebook page, details on the opposite page).

There will be lots of things for the children to do at the fete:

- A bouncy assault course
- Zorb ball
- Children's chair-o-plane ride
- Try your strength
- Face painting
- Hair braiding
- Children's fancy dress competition
- Children's Art Competition
- Other stalls will have traditional games

## Prize Raffle

Drawn on the day

Top prize £250

At the time of writing some space is still available. So please use one of the methods below if you would like a 3x3m pitch or more:

Facebook page: [Tamar Valley Fete at St. Ann's Chapel](#)

or email us @: [tamarvalleyfete@gmail.com](mailto:tamarvalleyfete@gmail.com)

## The Tamar Valley Fete Needs **You**

Last year's fete was a success and was enjoyed by many visitors, and built on previous fetes as it has evolved, with better layout and more and more activities. As you will appreciate there is a lot of work involved in planning and holding this event, and last year we struggled with a lack of volunteers, particularly on the day.

### **Can you help us this year?**

**We are seeking local volunteers to help - the more we have the less each volunteer has to do!**

The activities we need volunteers for are:- helping with set up and clear down of the field, taking entry monies, selling raffle tickets, car parking, stewarding on the field, helping layout straw bales, helping in the tea tent and the all-important part: enjoying being part of the fete itself.

**If would like to help us please contact us via our Facebook page or at [tamarvalleyfete@gmail.com](mailto:tamarvalleyfete@gmail.com).**

**We look forward to you joining us!**

Ken Trapp

**Editor's note:** Thanks Ken. Last year I personally spent all afternoon as a car park marshal... and the other volunteers were equally pinned to their allocated tasks because we simply didn't have enough people to help. I think there were 8 of us, and we need double that amount. So please...we need your help!.



Clare Bullimore – Clerk to the Council  
Parish Council Office  
Tamar Valley Centre  
Cemetery Road  
Drakewalls, Cornwall, UK, PL18 9FE

## St. Ann's Chapel, March 2026

There is a vacancy (again) on the Parish Council and this time it is for the Delaware Ward, following the resignation of Ann Moore. We would like to thank Ann for her time with us and wish her all the best.

If you are interested in becoming a Ward Member for Delaware please contact the Clerk to confirm that you are eligible (see below) and why you are interested. We plan to invite candidates to the Council meeting on Tuesday 14 April 2026 so you would need to be available then for a short interview afterwards.

### **In order to be a parish councillor you must be:**

- over 18 years of age
- a British citizen, a qualifying Commonwealth citizen, or a citizen of any other member state of the European Union
- on the Electoral Register for Calstock Parish,
- a local government elector of the parish; or a person who during the whole of the twelve months before nomination as a candidate occupied land or other premises as owner or tenant in the parish; or has, resided in that area or within three miles thereof; or has had a principal or only place of work in that area

### **You must not:**

- be bankrupt
- have, within 5 years, been convicted in the UK of any offence and have had a sentence of imprisonment for a period of over 3 months
- have been convicted or reported guilty of a corrupt or illegal practice by an election court
- been disqualified from standing for election to a local authority

We look forward to welcoming a new football club to St Ann's Chapel. Richard Lipinski runs a vets group in Plymouth and has approached us as he wants to move to Cornwall. Don't worry, he's a dog lover so doggies will still be able to use the recreational ground although we do politely remind you to clear up after them and to restrain them should a match or training session be taking place.

In parish wide news, we have been continuing to support environmental initiatives and are doing what we can to support nature, biodiversity and reduce our reliance on fossil fuels. Two buildings that we own are viable for solar panels and these will be installed soon. We are looking at how we can better manage a field next to our allotments and are considering extending the number of plots and installing a solar array.

We were very lucky to receive a FiPL grant with the help of the TVNL which has enabled us to plant trees and a community orchard on Town Farm Field in Calstock and enable public access into it. It is located alongside the river path, just next to the Wetlands.

We will also be taking delivery of a cut and collect mower, a hay bob and a drum mower all of which can be used to manage land sensitively to encourage nature recovery. These pieces of machinery will be available to be hired out within the Parish and is another collaboration with TVNL.

The Parish Council is also keen to support the work of Drip Drip who are a community group formed out of our concern for the condition of the Tamar. The group aims to take action to try and improve the water quality for the sake of the people who love it and for the wildlife that depends on it. Drip Drip held a People's Assembly in February and we look forward to hearing what plans they have going forward.

*To contact the council about anything please **email:** [clerk@calstockparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@calstockparishcouncil.gov.uk) or write to us at the address above. You can also phone **01822 748847**. Please do use email or leave a voice message . Social media is not monitored every day and comments can be difficult to find in long threads.*

*Your current ward members are: Roger Alford, Gill Boreham, Ken Trapp and John Wells.*

# A390

Excellent news! Just this week we received confirmation that the public consultation regarding installing a signalised crossing on the A390 between the Albaston turn and Crow Lane on the St. Ann's Chapel / Drakewalls border was successful.

Dorothy Kirk started campaigning for a proper crossing in 2014. I've chaired the specially created A390 sub-committee on the Parish Council since 2018, and Ken Trapp gave us added impetus in 2021 when Dorothy and I were being given the run around by Cornwall Highways...but we have won at last!

A whopping 86% of those who took the time to complete the survey agreed that we need a signalised crossing point, although I am slightly surprised that 14% thought it was a bad idea...still it takes all sorts.

We have been fighting for 12 years for this crossing. So to finally get approval for a fully signalised Puffin crossing is as much a relief as a common sense victory for the people.

The current anticipated installation date is August of this year, in time for the new school year start in September; but I will update you if there are any changes to the proposed timetable.



Have **YOU** joined our 100 Club yet?

It only costs £1 a month for a number, and we draw a winner monthly. Half the money raised goes to each month's winner and the other 1/2 goes into our group coffers to fund future local projects and activities. It's easy to join: simply set up a standing order with your bank. We do also take coin of the realm.

Our bank is: Lloyds Bank.  
Account: St Ann's Chapel Community Group.  
Sort Code: 30-98-90.  
Account Number: 18152160.

**Or email: [stannschapel@hotmail.com](mailto:stannschapel@hotmail.com) to set up a number.**

## Bingo

Our ever popular bingo night at the Rifle continues to go from strength to strength.

The next few Thursday nights scheduled are:

**March 26<sup>th</sup>** (if you get this newsletter in time)

**April 23rd**

**May 28th**

and **June 25th**

Eyes down is always around 7:30pm, downstairs in the function room at the Rifle.

Why not come along and join us? It's a good evening.

## Tamar Valley Community Bus

The Community Bus does an invaluable job around the parish, and usually has a full timetable for both day trips and shopping visits to nearby towns, and even goes as far as places like Exeter.

Fares for all their trips are very reasonably priced per trip.

The organisers publish a comprehensive list of trips they run every couple of months. So if you'd like to help or go on one of them please ring:

**Carol** on **07423 176732**.

Or for more information about the regular shopping trips ring or text:

**Mavis** on **01822 833412** (Mon-Fri 10 -5).

## Cornwall Councillor's Report

This last month has been a busy one.

I said goodbye to my friend and colleague Cllr Kevin Towell, who tragically passed away following a battle with a brain tumour. He served his community faithfully for more than a decade, after becoming Newquay's youngest ever mayor. He is a loss to the people of Cornwall. Rest in peace Kevin.

Following correspondence from myself and a number of other councillors, the portfolio holder for transport, Dan Rogerson has recommended that the impending introduction of parking fees over at Kit Hill will not happen now. This is a huge win for everyone locally who uses that area!

I met with Wayne Marshall from St. Luke's Hospice to present a cheque for £722.40, which was raised by the Christmas charity auction for the hospice and other local causes. A huge thank you to all who came along and donated. In conjunction with a number of others, I am currently in the process of laying the groundwork for another charity auction later this year.

I have reached out to Cormac to organise an official date for the relaunch of my Community Cleanup Scheme, where several of us will get together and weed and litter pick our local streets. If you wish to get involved please message me via Facebook.

Having spoken to another representative from Cormac, the closure along Calstock Road should be lifted in the coming weeks.

It was a tremendous pleasure to attend the open day at the Gunnislake Village Hall, I left that day a member of the Gunnislake Tennis Team and as a potential future bell ringer for the Calstock Church!

Best wishes to you all,

Cllr Angus

## Cornish Saffron Cake

My thanks to Mrs. Chris Clarke for this recipe.  
She says it is not the easiest cake to make but well worth the effort.



### Ingredients

1/2 teaspoon saffron strands  
500gm strong plain white flour  
125gm butter – cold & cubed  
125gm lard – cold & cubed  
Pinch of salt  
¼ teaspoon grated nutmeg  
250gm currants  
50gm caster sugar + 2tsp  
1 tsp dried yeast  
100ml lukewarm water  
150ml boiling hot milk.

### Method

- On the evening before you plan to bake the saffron cake, heat the milk until it boils, then pour it over the saffron strands, preferably in a glass bowl.
- Allow this mixture to infuse overnight.
- On the day of baking, mix the dried yeast with 2 tsps of caster sugar and 100ml. of lukewarm water. Stir this mixture and let it sit for 20 minutes until it begins to foam.
- In the meantime place the strong flour and salt in a large mixing bowl. Rub the butter and lard until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs.
- Stir in the currants, grated nutmeg and 50g. of caster sugar.
- Create a well in the centre of these dry ingredients and pour in the saffron-infused milk and the yeasty water.
- Combine everything to form a soft dough.
- Turn it onto a floured surface. If the mixture is too dry add a little more warm water. If it is too wet incorporate some more strong flour.
- Knead the dough for 10 minutes then place it in a clean bowl and allow it to prove for 2 hours. After proving punch the dough down and knead for a few more minutes.
- Place the dough into a lightly oiled 2lb. loaf tin and let it prove for another 45 mins to an hour. In colder weather you might need to extend the proving time slightly.
- Preheat the oven to 180C (160C Fan/Gas 4) and bake the cake for 60 to 70 mins.
- Allow the cake to cool in the tin for a short while before turning out to slice

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If you'd like to advertise please contact me on 07973 358240 or email me:

[johnwells9@live.com](mailto:johnwells9@live.com).

A quarter page like the one opposite costs £20 per issue or £60 for 4 issues. (The 4<sup>th</sup> one is free)

A 1/2 page is £30 or £90 for 4 (one free)

And a full page is only £50 or £150 for 4 issues. (again one free)

Our next issue is due out at the end of June, just before our annual fete.

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