

Issue no 85 May 2018

Sing Into Spring!



See Page 28 for details of South Petherwin's exciting new choir



After the scarecrow trail there will be a suffragette cream tea in the village hall with a bouncy castle and mug painting for the children. Fancy dress is optional but the tea will be served by ladies in suffragette costume and we would love to see a few RAF pilots or WW1 soldiers!

The family football match will start at 6.30pm on Tuesday 22nd May at the school. A children's game will be followed by an adults match. So come along and watch South Petherwin's answer to Cristiano Ronaldo

A Parish Walk for all the family to Tregadillett and back via the footpath. Meet at the Village Hall at 2pm on Sunday 27th May. Or start at the Hall and cycle via the road and meet the walkers at the Elliot Arms later.

South Petherwin Scarecrow Festival will run from Saturday 19th May-28th May. The aim of the festival is to have fun and meet other parishioners. But it is also to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1. votes for women, and the formation of the RAF. So come along to some or all of the events and make this a week to remember All events are free except for a small charge for bingo and the cream tea. For more information about any of the events contact Phil Parsons on 07737008416 Sue Vernon on 01566 77264

The Scarecrow Trail will be the main event of the festival. It will start with a scarecrow making workshop in the village hall on Sat 19th May-no need to book, just turn up. Scarecrows should be based on the centenary commemorations of the end of WW1, votes for women and the RAF or any other centenary you know about! Entry forms need to be completed by 24th May. They will be judged on 28th May by anyone who wishes to walk the trail and score their favourite. The trail will start from the village hall at 2pm and end there with a suffragette cream tea and children's activities.



FESTIVAL EVENTS DIARY

19th May—28th May 2018



Saturday 19th May Village Hall	Scarecrow Making Workshop	10-12.00
Sunday 20th May Church	Special service of WW1 commemoration	11.15
Tuesday 22nd May School	Family Football Matches	6.30pm
Wed 23rd May Village Hall	Parish Annual Meeting	7.30pm
Thurs 24th May Methodist Hall	Tea and Toast	8.30-10am
Friday 25th May Village Hall	Family Bingo	7-9pm
Sat 26th May Methodist Hall	WW1 Exhibition	2-5 pm
Sunday 27th May Methodist Hall	Coffee and Worship	11am
Sunday 27th May Village Hall	Parish Walk	2pm
Monday 28th May Village Hall	Scarecrow Trail Sufragette Cream Tea	2pm

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Mobile Post Office—Here at last!

Driving past the Methodist Chapel car park on

Friday 13th April, I glanced across to see a red blur – yes, the Mobile Post Office had arrived, despite the inauspicious date! The delay in starting on the original date was due to system problems, but all is well now.

Unable to stop that day and say hello, I hot-footed it there the next Tuesday and met both Darren Wills and Vivienne Adams. Vivienne will be looking after the van full time and Darren heads up the post office in St Breward, the branch the mobile post

office is connected to. Once they have completed their visits for the day, they will take everything back to St Breward by 3.30 to be processed the same day.

There is nothing the mobile post office cannot do or offer, apart from things like passports, TV licenses or car tax etc. You can withdraw cash and they also carry some Euro's. Other currencies can be pre-ordered. They already have a small selection of newspapers and



magazines, and they intend to add some stationery items to this. They will be in South Petherwin Methodist Chapel car park every Tuesday and Friday from 12.45 to 13.45, apart from bank holidays.

NEW!!

Please note that the Post Office will be monitoring the usage of the mobile van, so as usual it is a case of use it or lose it! You can call the post office van with queries on 07999 936473.

South Petherwin Cricket Club

South Petherwin are looking forward to a great season. The first Team are at present in Division 3 East and are aiming for promotion back to Division 2, after being in the league since 2013. The second team are looking for a top 4 finish in Division 6 East. The seconds are always happy to welcome new players, so if you are not getting a game at your club or you fancy trying cricket, give us a ring.

Training takes place at the cricket club on Wednesdays at 6.30pm. Why not pop along to watch and have a cup of tea. weather permitting there should

be a game every Saturday.

Contacts:

 Nick Gerry
 2nd Team
 07428527767

 Jacob Masters
 1st Team
 07891115713

 Derek Clements
 07810493583



Parish Council Update By Rebecca Frame



The Parish Council are very pleased to have now filled all positions on the Council. Councillors Rachel Jeffery and Sue Vernon

were co-opted in March and Councillors Steven Rogers and Amy Trehane were co-opted in April. In addition, Councillor Dawn Rogers was co-opted as Vice-Chairman at the meeting in April.

The roll of Councillors of South Petherwin Parish now reads: Councillor Phil Parson (Chairman) Councillor Dawn Rogers (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Adrian Finnimore Councillor Rachel Jeffrey Councillor Roger Kneebone Councillor Chris Powesland Councillor Steven Rogers Councillor Michael Screech Councillor Amy Trehane Councillor Sue Vernon Rebecca Frame (Clerk)

The Parish Annual meeting will be held on 23rd May in the Village Hall. This is a chance for organisations to report on achievements of the last 12-months and also an opportunity to hear proposed plans and aspirations. We look forward to hearing from all the clubs, organisations and support networks within the Parish and we very much welcome

everyone interested to attend. Refreshments will be available from 7pm and the meeting will start at 7.30pm.

It has been confirmed that a SpeedVisor sign at the southern end of Daws House will be deployed as a precursor to a

possible permanent Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS). The SpeedVisor will not display the speed limit and will only monitor vehicle speeds but after a period of time the LED will be activated and again the speeds will be monitored.

Capturing vehicle speeds during the 'monitoriIng' and 'display' phases will allow Cormac to collate data which will inform their decisions regarding other speed reduction measures.



In other news, some may have noticed that the village toilets have been closed. Rest assured that this temporary measure has been undertaken pending repair work to ensure the facility remains safe.

Finally, as the weather hopefully improves, have fun at the South Petherwin May events 19th to 28th May.

parishcouncil@southpetherwinpc.org

Introducing our new Parish Councillors



Amy Trehane is 24 and the youngest Councillor on the parish council. She was brought up in South Petherwin where her dad is a farmer. She is eager to become more involved in parish life and bring a younger perspective to council discussions.



Sue Vernon is well known in the parish and has been the inspiration behind many projects including renovating the village hall, the Golden Jubilee events in 2012 and the Queen's 90th birthday. She has lived in South Petherwin for over 13yrs



Steve Rogers moved into the parish in 1987. His children went to the village school. He works as a transport manager for a local firm and has a great interest in local issues. He is looking forward to seeing how the parish council works and being involved in policy making



Rachel Jeffrey will be recognised by many families in the parish as the head of South Petherwin Pre School. She says she wanted to be on the council to become more involved in local issues and help improve facilities for families.



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We now have places for funded two year olds. For more information call Rachel on 01566 779476 Charity Number: 1024955



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Farming Round Up

After the long cold and wet winter the local farmers were hoping for a warm and early spring to plant crops and prepare for first cut silage and turn out their cattle early. This wasn't to be.

But as soon as temperatures warmed up in late April the ploughs were working and fertilisers sown. As the Magazine goes to print the Spring Barley is all planted and growing. First cut silage is being taken of the fields and cattle are outside grazing.

Although there is a slight nervousness in the farming community of a repeat of that known mythical drought year 1976. The Oak is out before the ash which could suggest a splash! Or it's just going to be what it's going to be; The Weather!!



Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

An active NHW householder is one who knows what to do when a crime or other emergencies occurs, knows their neighbours, and is willing to help them, observe the unusual and is willing to report it and take sensible precautions for their home and personal security. Police contact details can be found in the `Useful Tel No`s section` on page 17

Co-ordinators; The Village Helen Masters 775545 Tiny Meadows Richard Beacham 773614

Tregaller Lane and Tremeale Mary Stoneman 773375
Tregaller Lane and Tremeale Crispin Earle 774038
Daws House Andrea Foster 779181
School watch Gillian Sleep 773300

If you are interested in joining the scheme please contact any of the above. We need new co-ordinators to cover estates and outlying areas of the parish.

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Tea & Toast

The Tea & Toast was conceived out of an idea to provide a warm, friendly and relaxing place for all those who drop children off at South Petherwin School. It is open to all parents, grandparents, carers and gives an opportunity to chat over a cup of tea, or filter coffee, whilst having a slice of toast and tasting some homemade jams.

Tea & Toast started on 22nd February and is held at **South Petherwin Methodist Sunday School room every Thursday, during term time, from**8:30 to 10:00 am.

We are truly thrilled with the response so far and have had very encouraging feedback from the community and the mum's and children who attend. Our numbers are steadily growing, which is encouraging, and we have been truly blessed by the relationships that have started to develop. As we broke for Easter, each child was given a chocolate rabbit and the mum's an Easter card. We would like to thank all those who have supported this new venture.

Do come and join us, even if you are not dropping kids off, as you will be made to feel most welcome.

From the Tea & Toast team.

PS: Watch out for our scarecrow as we celebrate with the community during the centenary events week.



Sharing a joke at Tea and Toast

Dates for Your Diary



Lunch Club

Monday 28th May at 12.30 Monday 25th June at 12.30 Methodist Hall Wendy Smith 782204

Coffee Morning

10.30-12 Saturday 9th June Saturday 14th July Methodist Hall Tony Smith 782204

Ronald and Frank

Tessa Baker writes about two young soldiers from South Petherwin who were killed during the second world war. Their names are on the war memorial by the church. Tessa shares her personal memories of these brave young men



Lancaster Bomber

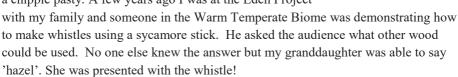
Ronald Creber is remembered on South Petherwin war memorial. He joined the R.A.F. Volunteer Command and became a sergeant. In February 1944 he was serving as a rear gunner on a Lancaster bomber when it was shot down over Berlin and all the crew were killed. Ronald was buried in Berlin. He was the youngest of seven children and three of his brothers also served in

HAN THIS THAT A MAN LAY

the forces.

Ronald grew up at Strand Cottage. My family lived in the farmhouse opposite. Ronald loved children and when he was on leave he often played with us. He would swing us all around in the Plat, climb the hollow oak at the end of the lane with us, amuse us in the cottage garden and make us whistles from sycamore and hazel twigs.

Grannie Creber came down to the farm every morning to collect milk in a white enamel jug. She taught me to make a chipple pasty. A few years ago I was at the Eden Project



The second name on the war memorial is Frank Hicks who was killed in Sicily in



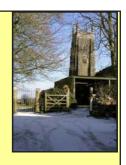
July 1943 and buried in Syracuse war cemetery in Italy. Ronald Creber and Frank Hicks were cousins. Ronald's mother, Alice, was a younger sister of Frank's father, Robert. Ronald and Frank were both born and brought up in South Petherwin.

CHURCH NEWS St Paternus Church (Cof E)

By Clare Beacham

Quiz Night... A Date for Your Diary!

Our next Quiz Night will be held on Friday 22nd June. These nights are growing in popularity and are attracting people from South Petherwin, Launceston and the surrounding area. Come



along and discover for yourself a night of fun in your local community! It will be held in the Village Hall and will start at 7.30pm. Teams can be any size, up to a maximum of 6 people. There will be a charge of £3 per person. Don't worry if you can't put a team together, come along anyway and make up a team with other people on the night! Nibbles will be provided, please bring along your own alcoholic or non -alcoholic drinks. There will also be a raffle. Proceeds will go towards church funds.

Thy Kingdom Come

St Paternus Church will be taking part in the global prayer movement "Thy Kingdom Come" between the $9^{th} - 20^{th}$ May. Prayer stations will be set up within the church for people to use as part of this event.

Sadly we say Goodbye to

John Willcocks who passed away recently after a short illness. After John's family settled at Landlake he attended South Petherwin Primary School and Pennygillam Secondary Modern School. After leaving



school he went up to Hampshire and London where he learnt his trade as a 'Saw Doctor'. On his return he set up his own business Landlake Sawmills. His quality of workmanship was very much appreciated by all those who had commissioned him. He was a very knowledgeable, kind man and would help anyone out if he could .In his spare time he enjoyed playing cricket, had an interest in scramble bikes, and would watch Plymouth Argyle play. He will be missed by many.

Mary Stoneman

The Really Useful Page

<u>WHAT</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>WHERE</u>	<u>WHO</u>
Methodist Lunch Club	12.30 28th May 12.30 25th June	Methodist Hall	Wendy Smith 782204
Methodist Coffee morning	10.30am Sat 9th June Sat 14th July	Methodist Hall	Tony Smith 782204
Knitting	Most Thursdays at 2pm	West Petherwin Farm	Muriel Parsons 773027
BIMBO's (over 50's keep fit)	Every Monday (except B/hols and lunch club dates) 9.30am	Methodist Hall	Vi Brook 779243
Bell ringers	7.30 pm Mondays	St Paternus Church	Nigel Parker 773233
Skittles	7pm Tuesdays	Village Hall	Peter Northmore 778744 Vi Brook 779243
Bingo	Last Wednesday of the month 2pm	Village Hall	Pat Locke 774671
Table Tennis	10am Tuesday mornings	Village Hall	Sue Vernon 772640 Tony Bawn (U3A) 777125
S. Petherwin Cricket Team	Weekly practice and fixtures	S. Petherwin Cricket ground	07810 493583 07973 909556

Mobile Post Office



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Email; enquiries@cornwall.gov.uk

Cornwall Councillor: Neil Burden 01566 782286 nburden@cornwall.gov.uk



Rubbish and Recycling Collection Dates

Rubbish is collected every **WEDNESDAY** in the village of South Petherwin but see Cornwall council website (details below) for other areas in the parish.

Recycling is collected on alternate
WEDNESDAYS. Next recycling dates are
16th and 30th May, 13th and 27th June
_For more information go towww.cornwall.gov.uk

Oil Syndicate

Contact Ann Nicholson 01566 779254

Email agnhexworthy42@gmail.com

Church Services

St Paternus Church (C of E)

Sunday worship at 11.15 (no service on 5th Sunday of the month)

Rev Heather West 770649

Church wardens; Deborah Adams 774244 Barbara Cobbledick 772559

Methodist Chapel

Sunday Service at 11am

Minister; Rev Jo Smart 782921 Steward; Tony Smith 782204

South Petherwin (Wind Turbine) Community Fund

Your Fund-Your Money

For application form contact the secretary peternorthmore1@btinternet.com tel—778744

> Next trustees meeting Wednesday 4th July

Useful Numbers

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Email:

101@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Environment Agency—Emergency Hotline 0800 807060

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Crime stoppers 0800 555111

South Petherwin Parish Council

The Parish Council meets on the second Wednesday each month at 7.30 pm in the Methodist Chapel Hall. It is open for anyone to come and listen in.

Parish Councillors are:

Chairman: Phil Parsons Clerk: Rebecca Frame email:

parishcouncil@southpetherwinpc.org

Councillors:

Michael Screech, Adrian Finnimore, Roger Kneebone, Dawn Rogers, Chris Powlesland, Sue Vernon, Amy Trehane, Rachel Jeffrey and Steve Rogers

Useful Information

The Little Red Bus (Launceston Community Transport Partnership) covers South Petherwin area on Thursdays. For information, ring 777960

Village Hall: To hire hall, contact Alison on 777561 or Phil on 773125

Methodist Hall To hire hall, contact Wendy Smith 782204

HALF MARATHON SUCCESS FOR M.E.

When I set out to raise money for Invest in M.E. Research (IIMER), my target was £500. Sluggish at first, but with generous sponsorship and momentum, donations rapidly soared and soon jumped to over £700. I felt incredibly excited, training hard to prepare for the Tavy 13 half marathon in March. Unfortunately the dastardly 'Beast from the East' ransacked Dartmoor with treacherous snowfall that weekend, so the event was cancelled. Training plans slumped into chocolate comfort as I reluctantly sought out an alternative race to honour my fundraising pledge.

Happily, the resourceful organisers of Tavistock Athletics Club found another date in April, so enthusiasm propelled me back off the sofa; yet with these wobbles and a few other setbacks, I was admittedly underprepared for the mighty and relentless hills of this race.

The weather on race day was bitterly cold and windy as I pinned on my bib number with frozen fingers and feeble dread. Nevertheless, will-power, fellow runners, crowds of people and thoughts of M.E. sufferers propelled me through, from the adrenalin bursting start line, along the dappled railway line, climbing to Dartmoor in gusty rain showers and back across the golf course with legs of stone. At the top of one arduous moorland hill, my bagpiper friend boosted us up by playing glorious highland tunes (some broke into a jig - I could only manage jazz hands at this point).



I vaguely noted the spectacular views, the wonderful marshals gave me a high five and water, with cheers to "keep your head up!" but my resolve was slipping as I lurched like a flailing porpoise down the last three miles, Oblivious to cars, mossy pavements and trippy manhole covers, sporting a gurning grimace of pain.

Then the finish line clock flashed 2 hours 12 minutes - a modest but astonishing time considering I'd stumbled up the steepest hills; soggy-socked and stiff, I grinned at my medal with a euphoric sense of triumph. Back at home, pizza, chocolate and Guinness were devoured and after three days of bow-legged shuffles, I sent the IIMER a grand total of £950.10. I dedicate this event to Roger and the millions of other M.E. sufferers.



Thanks so much to those who donated and supported me. ALL donations to this appreciative charity go directly into biomedical research. My page is still open - please do feel free to top it up! www.justgiving.com/brightmargins.

Cherry Pyke







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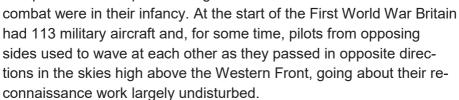
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Celebrating 100 Years of The Royal Air Force 1st April 1918 –1st April 2018

The Royal Air Force was formed on the 1st April 1918 when powered flight and aerial compat were in their infancy. At the start of the



However, it was not long, before airmen started taking revolvers, grenades and, eventually, light-machine guns into their cockpits. In two-seater aircraft the pilot often flew the plane while his observer took pot shots at the enemy. By the spring of 1915, aerial battles were escalating as more aircraft from both sides in the conflict began to see the value of fighter planes. At this point, both the Army and the Royal Navy had their own aircraft through the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) and the Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) respectively. Many Army personnel, tired of life in the trenches, volunteered for the new flying roles,



No 1 (F) Squadron is the RAF's oldest unit

even though the life expectancy of pilots could often be measured in months or weeks and sometimes days.

As young men took to the skies, in Sopwith Camels and other aircraft, there were early dogfights between rival pilots and they soon began to keep records of their victories, or "kills". Those pilots who successfully shot down five or more enemy aircraft became known as "aces" and, as their total "kills" grew, so too did their fame. By early 1916 aircraft were becoming more sophisticated and by the start of the Battle of the Somme, in July of that year, the RFC had succeeded in gaining a clear air supremacy

At that point the RFC had 421 aircraft in total along with 14 balloon and four kite-balloon squadrons. The RAF was formally created on the 1st April 1918 through the amalgamation of the RFC and RNAS and was controlled by a new Air Ministry. By the end of the Great War, on the 11th November 1918, military experts were totally convinced of the merits of aerial power. The future of the RAF was secure and, within a year of the war ending, the "junior service" as it is known because of its late arrival on the scene, had 4,000 combat aircraft and 114,000 personnel. Today the RAF remains the world's oldest independent air force.

100 years of the RAF will be celebrated at a range of nationwide events the highlight of which will the RAF100 Parade and Flypast in central London on 10th July where thousands of servicemen and women will take part in a parade on The Mall followed by a historic flypast of up to 100 aircraft. There will also be RAF100 Aircraft Tour where you can get up close to a range of aircraft in cities across the UK between 17th May and 16th September, a RAF100 Baton Relay visiting 100 sites associated with the RAF in 100 days and a season of Airshows as RAF100 takes to the skies. Details can be found at https://www.raf.mod.uk/raf100

Come and find out more about the aircraft flown by the RAF at South Petherwin Memory Day 26th May and the Scarecrow Festival 28th May and construct your own peg Bi-plane.

Rebecca Frame

Group Travel

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2018 COACH EXCURSIONS

22nd MAR - MYSTERY TOUR
10th APR - OLYMPIA
18th - 24th APR - SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS TOUR
28th APR - TOBY'S GARDEN FESTIVAL, EXETER
12th - 13th MAY - WINDSOR HORSE SHOW OR LONDON
22nd MAY - KILLERTON HOUSE & GARDENS
19th JUN - HELFORD RIVER CRUISE

2nd - 6th JUL - LLANDUDNO TOUR 21st JUL - EXMOUTH SEA CRUISE 4th AUG - COUNTRYFILE LIVE 17th AUG - ROSEMOOR FLOWER SHOW 21st AUG - DARTMOOR ZOO 25th - 26th AUG - DORSET STEAM FAIR 31st - 2rd SEP - BURGHLEY HORSE TRIALS

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School News By Helen Masters



Well finally the end of the building works is in sight! Classes1 and 2 are finished and the children are making good use of the extra space. Our Class 2 toilets have been fully renovated and the hall is almost ready for us to move in to and looks huge. This will make a vast difference to every day life. The children will all be able



to eat lunch together, classes will be able to have P.E. lessons in the hall and whole school gatherings and performances will be much more comfortable.

Another piece of good news is that our Class 4 teacher, Miss Jo Wills, has been shortlisted for special educational needs teacher of the year. We are all very proud of her: She won!

"To be shortlisted is a substantial achievement, so if you know any of them, please give them your heartfelt thanks and your congratulations. These remarkable individuals are an inspiration to us all, they are changing lives and giving young people in Cornwall incredible support and encouragement - far more than is on their job description." Nicky Baron, EMPRA (Education Marketing and Public Relations Association)

The PTA's next project is renovating the library. They have set up a crowdfunding page raise funds for new books and furniture. Please take a look:

https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/south-petherwin-primary-school-library



Meet South Petherwin's newest resident......

Beautiful baby Esme Glendinning.

Born on 8th January 2018. A sister for Jack and Benji.

Congratulations to all the family!



Gardening Matters

It has been a very slow start to the gardening season. The cold weather has held back many new shoots and seedlings.



Jobs in May

- Harden off annuals and vegetable crops raised inside, before putting them outside from the end of May.
- Plant out sweet peas and make sure they have adequate support as they grow.
- Slug pellets mixed with horticultural grit can be sprinkled round the base of plants like Hostas, Delphiniums and Echinacea.
- Put plant supports in place for tall growing perennials, and use twine to tie in the shoots of clematis, climbing roses and other summer flowering climbers.
- Plant summer bulbs such as Lillies and Gladioli.
- Replace the top few inches of soil in permanent containers with feed enriched compost.
- Sow courgettes, squashes, pumpkins and cucumbers as these like warmth of 18 degrees to germinate.



• Spring flowering shrubs such as Camelia, Kerria japonica, Viburmum, Ceanothus and Forsythia can be pruned and deadheaded after flowering.

Happy Gardening!

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SING!



Sing! South Petherwin's new community singing club.

Meeting every Thursday evening between 7pm and 9pm at the South Petherwin village hall, Sing! is intended to be a relaxed club where people can get together to sing, socialise and have fun.

The organiser of the club, Sam Davies, says, "I really love to sing, and I wanted to find somewhere to meet new people to sing with. I was looking for something a bit more relaxed than a choir that was casual and fun. When I

more relaxed than a choir that was casual and fun. When I couldn't find anything that met my criteria, I decided to see if there was any interest in the local area. Initially, I had a few responses, and having been up and running for 6 weeks now our numbers are steadily growing. We have a great bunch of people from various backgrounds and with different levels of confidence when it comes to singing in a group.



We're open to anyone over 18 who would like to come along, and the first session is free so if you'd like to give it a go, we'd love to have you!" Sing! is a great opportunity to exercise your vocal cords and make new friends. Whether you're looking to improve your confidence or just sing for fun, Sam wants to hear from you! Come along for a free taster, (sessions are £2 per person thereafter) or alternatively, call Sam on 07590371796 if you'd like to know more.



Hidden Symbols.....

How many of us often walk by certain features and places without looking at what is hidden or just not seen? This granite gate post is set within the village but firstly where is it? And secondly do you know what the symbol on it means? Please let us know if you have the answers. It's just for fun!

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When is a bluebell not a bluebell

By Kaye Montgomery



Native Bluebell

One of the joys of childhood is to wander along country lanes, through woods and fields, learning to identify the wild flowers you find around you. You quickly learn to spot many of the common ones, but if you start to look more closely at them you sometimes find that there is more to the identification than you first thought.

There has been a lot of discussion recently about wild places being invaded by garden escapes, cultivated plants that have seeded themselves outside the garden and are hybridising with native plants. The danger is that the original wild plants are overwhelmed by the garden varieties and we lose some of our native types. In particular this concern has been felt about bluebells and the prevalence of Spanish bluebells introduced as garden plants.

One of the glorious sights of an English spring is a wood carpeted with blue, especially if the trees include the light

green leaves of beech, and we do want to preserve our native bluebells with their nodding delicate flowers. If you look closely at the flowers you can distinguish the differences between the native bluebell



Spinish Bineven

(*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) and the Spanish bluebell (*Hyacinthoides hispanica*).

The stem of the native flower droops at the top, with the flowers appearing on one side of the stem only, and inside the bell of the flower the stamens are cream. The Spanish bluebell is a sturdier plant, the stems are erect and the flowers are widely spaced all round the stem, with blue stamens.



Dog Rose



Field Rose

In the summer a common sight in our hedgerows is the wild rose. Again closer examination reveals that they are not all the same. The dog rose (*Rosa canina*) bears variable pale pink flowers on strong arching stems. The similar field rose (*Rosa arvensis*) has white flowers on a low scrambling shrub.

Wild strawberries come in two varieties with a more significant difference. The plants initially look very similar, but the barren strawberry (*Potentilla sterillis*) has rounded leaves, flowers with sepals clearly visible between the petals and tiny insignificant fruit.

The popular wild strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*) has more pointed leaves and, very importantly, produces delicious small strawberries, which provide welcome refreshment on a country ramble.



Barren Strawberry



Wild Strawberry

Farmer's Prescription!

The press love the stories about the farming industry using too many medicines on the farm animals thus causing resistance for humans. For the average mixed beef and sheep farmer they can only use these type of medicines on prescription from the local vet and must record what they treat.

One example would be Optilox a medicinal ointment to treat young lambs born with ingrown eyelids. As with human medicines it has the name and quantity to be used attached to it. Unlike human medicines it has the an additional safety information 'Meat and Milk Withhold Period'. This tells the farmer after treating the animal when it is safe to go for human consumption. The medicine in this example will have a minimal effect but it will be used to treat several lambs. It's

often said that,"farmers are more likely to go and see the vet than the local GP"! I wonder if you could put the two together!!



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Business	Advertiser	Page
Painting & decorating	Adrian Davey	27
Furniture & Joinery	Andrew Hosking	12
Primary age tuition	Angela Colmer	8
Tree maintenance	Bees Trees	19
Hairdressing	Bliss Hair Studio	9
Bookkeeping Services	Caroline Harris	4
Vets	Castle Vets	4
Newspaper	Cornish & Devon Post	36
Plumbing & heating	David Elcock	29
Cornish Stone Wall specialists	DB Walling	30
Plumbing & heating	Dowson's Plumbing	26
Oil Fired Boiler Specialist	Elite Heating Services	8
Boilercare	ESG Boilercare	22
Property maintenance	George Bateman	9
Mortgage Consultant	GBFC	34
Travel & coach hire	Group Travel	22
Hidden Valley	Hidden Valley	31
Landscaping & gardening	Hine Landscaping	11
Lawnmower service & repair	Jack Rich Mower Service & repair	30
Wholesale Butchers	Jaspers	30
Financial advisor	Jonathan Blake Money Management	23
Sawmills/wood constructions	Landlake Sawmills	26
Cattery	Lovaton Boarding Cattery	27
Chimney sweep & vac	Melanie Young	27
Footcare	Mobile Foot Care	11
Hairdressing	Nic Parker Mobile Hairdresser	29
Solicitors	Parnalls	12
Trailer Centre	PRJ Engineering	9
Chimney Sweep & stove install	R Mears and Son	11
Kitchen & bathroom fitting	Radford Plumbing	12
Gardening	Round & Round the Garden	29
Garage sales, service & spares	Ruby's Garage	23
Pre School	South Petherwin Pre School	8
Slimming World	Val Philp	19

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For more information contact

Helena Northmore on 778744 or Ali Barham on 777561.

Then come to one of our meetings (next one in July) and see what we do.

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