South Petherwin Parish Magazine

Issue no 127 *May/June 2025*



Parish Council

At the Annual Parish Council meeting, which is held before the start of the normal May meeting, Phil Parsons was elected as Chairman and Mary-Ann Screech as Vice Chairman. John Ashdown, Marie Lewis, and Julie Barlow were appointed to other key roles on the Council.

A member of the public expressed heartfelt thanks to both the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee for the wonderful celebrations held to mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day. Special thanks were extended to Darly Craft of Wright Contract Services for helping to sponsor the event, as well as to all the volunteers who contributed to its success. For more details see pages 14 & 15.

Looking ahead, the Council is hoping to host another commemorative event on August 15th to mark VJ Day—the day that signifies the true end of the Second World War. Although often overlooked, several parishioners have expressed a desire for the Council to recognise this important date. Discussions are already underway, with plans expected to be finalised at the June meeting. It is also hoped that the new flagpole will be in place in time to proudly fly a special 80th VJ Day flag during the event.

The Council overseeing the Wind Turbine Grants awarded funds towards the upcoming Flower Pot Festival event, as well as for the installation of a new seat outside the Village Hall.

Due to the Village Hall being fully booked on Wednesdays, it was agreed that all future Parish Council meetings will be held at the Chapel Hall.

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held in the Methodist Church Hall on **Wednesday 28th May from 7pm**. This includes reports from local organisations as well as the Parish Council, and there is an open forum session for all parishioners.

To contact the Parish Council: Parish Council Clerk (Linda Coles): parishcouncil@southpetherwinpc.org

Parish Council Chairman: Phil Parsons Tel 01566 777179 mobile 07737 008416, email philparsouthpetherwinpc.gmail.com
Parish Council Vice-chair: Mary-Ann Screech
Other councillors: Julie Barlow; Maria Lewis; John Ashdown

Parish Council

The Wind Turbine Grant form can now be downloaded from the parish website www.southpetherwin.com.

The Parish Council meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7pm.

Please note that all regular meetings from June 2025 onwards will be held in the Methodist Chapel Hall.

Welcome to the May/June issue....

Thanks to Phil Parsons for the striking image of the flag with all the poppies that graced the village hall. This was beautifully put together by a team of volunteers. Olive Stevens had the idea of parishioners knitting and crotcheting a plethora of poppies for VE Day and Remembrance Day. The response was amazing with contributions from about 14 people (thanks go to Julie, Sylvia, Denise, Phyllis, Pat & her daughter in law, Olive, Alison, Julie, Margaret, Julia, Dorothy, Lynn & Elaine. Apologies if anyone has been missed). 480 poppies were used for VE Day. Olive has 420 poppies set aside for Remembrance Day, but wants to have 1000, so please carry on crotcheting! The VE DAY celebrations were a great success: see pages 14 & 15 for more details.



Many thanks to the Parish Council who now handle the wind turbine grant funding. The magazine applied for and was granted enough money to cover the print cost for three issues of the magazine. Without grants and advertising revenue, the magazine could not exist, so thank you for your donations and to our grant funders and advertisers.

We hope that you enjoy the magazine. There is lots to read, including a new wildlife page (see page 22).

Alison Barham, Editor



The first two weeks of April were sunny and warm, perfect for the young lambs and their mothers, whilst the cows grazed in the meadows as calving time fast approached, and the fields became incredibly dry. The spring barley was drilled into near perfect soil conditions, so the April showers forecast for the rest of the month will be most welcome to get things growing, as the early part of this farming calendar continued to be benign.

On the Plusha front, I had a good meeting with Lee Quinney and the project manager, who will be taking responsibility for the re-evaluation of options to get a grade-separated junction constructed at Plusha. It was encouraging to hear that Cornwall Council and National Highways are working together to complete the work and, in due course, develop the business case to push for funding from the Department of Transport.

On May 1st, the Cornwall Council elections came and went. I feel extremely privileged to be returned as your Cornwall Councillor. On behalf of my family and myself, I would like to say a big thank you for all the support we received leading up to the election and to everyone who turned out to vote. We genuinely appreciate it. With the election now behind us, hopefully, things will settle down a little, allowing us to catch up with the farm work!

On May 6th, I attended County Hall for an Induction Day and signed the acceptance papers. This will be followed up over the next few weeks with various mandatory training sessions that newly elected councillors are expected to undertake, ranging from planning to the code of conduct. There is much to go over again!

With Reform having surged in Cornwall and now being the largest group on the Council, it's going to be an interesting period. Next week, we will see a new administration formed. Whoever is in charge needs to address the housing crisis and provide housing for local people where the need is desperate. We need to support job creation to drive forward economic growth, which has been stagnating, while continuing to deliver essential services at an affordable cost.

We are blessed to live where we do, but challenges remain. We must do what we can to protect our identity, history, and heritage while embracing change in a way that's sympathetic to our people and the environment!

Email: cllr.adrian.parsons@cornwall.gov.uk

FRIENDSHIP LUNCH

Friendship Lunch at The Frog and Bucket for our parish seniors @ 12.30 on Thursday 22nd May, 26th June & 27th July

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Birth of an exciting new theatre company!

The last couple of months has seen the birth of **Teylu Theatre Company**, which will be loosely based in the Liskeard area – Liskeard already has a couple of youth theatres but no adult ones, so it will be a welcome addition to the area & beyond. Peter & I are members and have found the enthusiasm and excitement for this new venture quite amazing. There has been a lot of support, including offers of help and rehearsal spaces amongst many others, coming from unexpected places. There are already well over 50 members of the company, many of whose faces a lot of people will recognise from elsewhere!!

Teylu TC are already planning a pantomime for the end of the year, besides a play in the Autumn and a Halloween event, and since our last meeting no doubt other ideas have been added to the pot. But… Teylu TC is also versatile & somewhat nomadic – for instance they have been asked for a few actors to help out at two music festivals at Port Eliot in the summer. If you have, or know of, an event that would be enhanced by stories acted out or if a dramatic presence would maybe encourage a greater attendance at some event, do get in touch with Teylu**…. info@teylutc.co.uk.**

By the way, Teylu is also about socialising & having fun as well as acting! Help will always be needed in many areas such as set building, helping to create or fashion costumes or decorations etc. etc., baking and just supporting the actors in every way possible. Anyone wishing to be part of this lively and energetic company will be very welcome and will be able to find some way to help that suits them.

On the evening of May 10th, there will be a Quiz evening in the Millennium Centre in Pensilva, open to all – why not go along and get to know a little more about Teylu.

Why Teylu for a name you ask? Teylu is Cornish for Family, and that's what we are – one big friendly and supportive family of like-minded people, many (but not all) of whom love to act.

I will keep you posted about the dates of productions as and when they are available during the year.

Hope to see lots of you in the coming months. *Sue Vernon*

South Petherwin Village Hall

Forthcoming events:

BINGO: Friday 30th May & Friday 27th June
Booking is essential. Contact John or Claire as per details below.
Doors open 6.15pm - Eyes down @ 7pm

Parish Walk & lunch Contact Olive Stevens 07480 576535 or Julie Barlow 07899 803196 (see page 25 for more details)

Book exchange café with talk by Rob Tremain, local historian 12th June 2-4pm

Pilates: Thursdays 6-7pm and 7.15-8.15pm
Contact Andrea Roberts andiec@yahoo.co.uk

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Contact Julie Barlow on 07899 803196

Want to hire the hall? Fully fitted, large screen TV, free internet. Ideal for parties! **Contact: Alison on 01566 777561 or John on 01566 471299**

To join the committee, please contact the Secretary **Claire Ashdown on 471299 or email claire.ashdown@live.co.uk**

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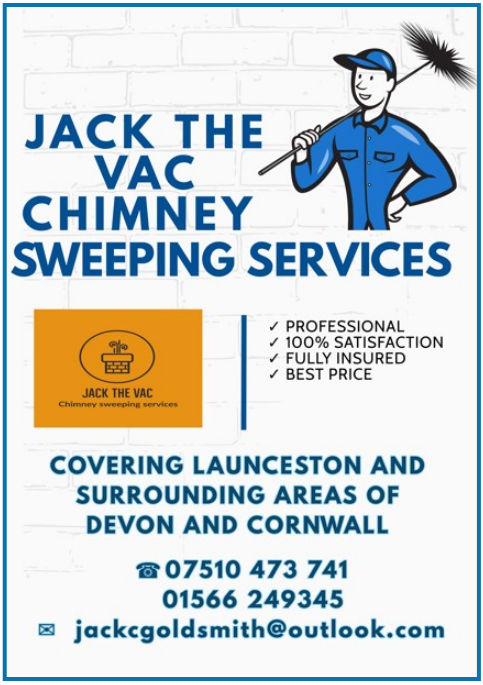


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30th July	Tiverton Canal Barge & Bickleigh Mill
5th August	Legoland (book early for tickets)
13th August	Plymouth Firework Championships
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VE DAY 2025

VE Day Celebration Tea Thursday 8th May : It was a time of reflection, 80 years since the end of World War II in Europe. From the Blitz through to D-Day and beyond the nation suffered the unrelenting horrors of war. Remembering the loss of loved ones but above all honouring the fallen who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

A street party themed celebration in the Village Hall brought the parish together. It was wonderful to see young and old enjoying themselves, embracing the spirit of the day.

A huge thank you for the generous donations in support of the Royal British Legion, a total of £115 was raised.

"WE SHALL REMEMBER THEM"







A personal perspective on the London VE Day Parade

The 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe was marked by a Parade which was truly memorable, more so on this occasion because our grandson, Matthew, was involved as part of the Royal Marine Band contingent.

Growing up, music was always his passion which culminated in joining the Royal Marine Band, following in the footsteps of his maternal grandfather.





Claire Ashdown

Parish Council cream tea Saturday 10th May:

"My dear friends, this is your hour. This is not victory of a party or any class. It's a victory of the great British nation as a whole". These were the words Churchill used to address the nation on May 8th 1945 VE (Victory in Europe) Day. It was with this spirit that local residents gathered to celebrate the 80th VE Day celebration Cream Tea at the village hall on Saturday 8th May. The hall decorated with its display of flags and the crotcheted & knitted poppies all helped to symbolise the need to remember and celebrate the freedom this day brought to Europe — but not the Far East. That part of the war was still going on and it would take nearly three months before war ended.



Commenting on the afternoon Cllr Parsons said, "So good to see so many people gather talking and enjoying a Cornish cram tea and we raised £110 in donations to go to the Royal British Legion. Well done and thanks to all the volunteers. ".









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South Petherwin Cake & Rakers Churchyard News



After making quite a lot of progress earlier last year, activity slowed down over the winter months. Cormac, who carry out the grass cutting, had staffing issues at the end of last year and so the churchyard missed its final cut. As a result, it's all been a bit wilder than we would ideally have liked.

The summer meadow, edges and paths have now had their first cut, and the contractors did an excellent job. They trialled a new cutting machine that was much gentler on the site than the ride-on mower previously used. By the time this goes to press we will have had our first rake of the year, and it should all be looking pretty good.

The next cut will be the spring meadow section in late June, and the summer section will be left to flower and set seed. For anyone new to this project, there is a poster up in the church porch explaining the management of the site, and we would be delighted to have more volunteers to help at the next cake and rake in June (there's always cake!); please do get in touch via email or our website if you're interested.

Karen Harry (South Petherwin Cake and Rakers)
Website: https://spcakeandrakers.wixsite.com/wildlife
Email: spcakeandrakers@gmail.com



Flowerpot Festival 2025
29th August—6th September

For more details see page 23



Launceston Medical Centre Patient Participation Group (PPG)

What's it like being ..... A Patient Advisor at Launceston Medical Centre?

The Patient Participation Group (PPG) for Launceston Medical Centre (LMC) is open to anyone and aims to facilitate a two way exchange between patients and LMC and support the work of the centre. We have planned a series of interviews with the staff at LMC to help us in our aims.

The recent changes to the triage system used when patients ring in made us wonder how that had changed things for the team answering the phones.

We were not surprised to hear that it is incredibly busy and we were amazed at how many different tasks a Patient Advisor is involved in every day. It's certainly not just about answering the phones! Here's what we heard from the Patient Advisors.....

"The Klinik system for on-line forms opens at 8.15am and closes at 2pm or earlier if there are no more appointments available that day. The telephone lines and reception open at 8.30am. The first calls come through immediately and we start answering them. It never stops for the rest of the day.

The Klinik system has been operational since Spring last year and has really reduced phone waits for those who still need to call. Generally patients seem to like the new system as they know that the forms are reviewed by the Duty GP who will make the decision regarding the next steps for them. After reviewing the form the GP might then ask us to make appointments or arrange a follow-up which we do as well as answering all phone calls that still come in.

We completely understand that for a variety of reasons some people cannot access Klinik or are unable to get someone to do it for them. So we will take them through the form and fill it in with them while they are on the phone. Sometimes we have to arrange to call them back to do this if the lines are particularly busy.

The medical practice is contacted throughout the day by patients asking about test results, hospital referrals, medical certificates etc. We are also able to make bookings for clinics and appointments that are not with a doctor or a paramedic.
As well as this, many agencies need information from the surgery e.g. the medical examiner, Cornwall Council, social workers, social care agencies, adoption agencies, district nurses, to name just a few. We handle all these calls too, while ringing, emailing and texting patients as needed.
We work as a team swapping between these tasks and staffing reception, helping each other out to keep waits to a minimum.
We come from a variety of backgrounds and have a range of life experiences before working at the medical centre. Each Patient Advisor starts by shadowing another team member and as their knowledge and confidence builds up they start to take over more tasks. Ongoing training makes sure we are on top of the systems and procedures.
Between us the team is available to help patients from 8.30am to 6.30pm when the reception shuts.
The best part of the job is being able to help people and the worst part of the job is knowing that demand often exceeds the amount of appointments we can offer. We feel the frustration and worry that this causes and sometimes it's hard not to take what people say personally. We also have to ask for as much information as possible to pass on the Duty GP. We aren't being nosy, its just that the more information we can give the easier it is for GPs to decide the next step. The triage process is central to everything we do - the most in need get seen first. You would want that for yourself and for those you care about. We try everything we can to get the patient what they have asked for: we believe it is our mission to help them access the service they want and need. It is very hard for us when we can't do that to a patient's satisfaction.
Although there are stresses and a big work load we have a great team that supports each other and we get a huge amount of satisfaction from helping our patients."

The PPG are very grateful for the time the team has given us and are so impressed by the professionalism, empathy and hard work of them all. We hope this has given you an insight into the work of the centre.
If you would like to be part of the Patient Participation Group you can find more information on the medical centre website and also our noticeboard inside the centre.

Dates to remember

Thursday 22nd May	Friendship lunch see page 4	The Frog & Bucket	Claire Ashdown 471299	12.30
Sunday May 25th	Parish walk and lunch	Church & hall	Olive Stevens 07480 576535	11am
Monday 26th May	Friendship Group see page 28	Methodist Hall	Joan Whale 772847	2-4pm
Friday 30th May	Bingo night see page 9	Village Hall	John Ashdown 471299	7pm
Saturday 7th June	St Paternus Church coffee morning	Village Hall	D Adams 774244	10-12
Weds 11th June	Parish Council meeting	Methodist Hall	Parish Clerk see page 2	7pm
Thursday 12th June	Book exchange café & talk	Village Hall	Olive Stevens 07480 576535	2-4pm
Thursday 26th June	Friendship lunch see page 4	The Frog & Bucket	Claire Ashdown 471299	12.30
Friday 27th June	Bingo night see page 9	Village Hall	John Ashdown 471299	7pm
Monday 30th June	Friendship Group see page 28	Methodist Hall	Joan Whale 772847	2-4pm
Saturday 5th July	St Paternus Church coffee morning	Church	D Adams 774244	10-12
Weds 9th July	Parish Council meeting	Methodist Hall	Parish Clerk see page 2	7pm
Every Monday	Bell ringers	St Paternus Church	Sue Vernon 772640	Evening
Every Tuesday	Table Tennis	Village Hall	Malcolm Tulip 01566 451154	10am
Every Tuesday	SING!	The Frog & Bucket	Sam Davies 07950 371796	7.30pm-9.30pm
Every Thursday	Pilates	Village Hall	Andrea Roberts andiec@yahoo.co.uk	6-7 & 7.15-8.15pm

Directory of useful numbers

Emergency: police, fire, ambulance, coastguard	999
Police (non-emergency). Email 101@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk	101
Non-emergency medical calls	111
Crime stoppers	0800 555111
Environment Agency emergency hotline	0800 807060
South West Water	0344 346 2020
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Trading Standards	0808 223 1133

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Cricket Club - minute.culling.nosedive - C159X
Daws House Tregaller Lane (Stenlakes) - chap.respected.metals C159X

Parish Council - see page 2

St Paternus Church - see page 20 for information on services

Church Warden Deborah Adams	01566 774244
Brian Davis	01566 782936

Methodist Chapel - Sunday Service at 11am

Minister Rev John Haley	01822 833634
Stewards Michael Noakes/Mary Stoneman	01566 773440/773375

Hall hire

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Methodist Hall Mary Stoneman 01566 773375

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Cornwall Councillor

Cllr Adrian Parsons email cllr.adrian.parsons@cornwall.gov.uk	01566 782296

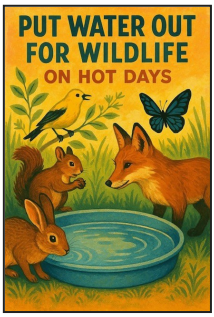
THE WILDLIFE PAGE by Mel Bees

After the dear Alan the partridge episode it became apparent that many villagers love wildlife , so I thought we should have a dedicated wildlife page where we can share photos and sightings of the wonderful creatures that share our village. Also, there will be seasonal advice and tips to help and encourage wildlife to our gardens .

This spring has been very dry, this has a great impact on all wildlife at a crucial time when many have young to feed . Birds need water , not only to drink but species such as swallows rely on it to bind the mud together to build their nests.

Foxes and badgers eat a lot of worms - as the ground dries the worms go deeper, making it harder and harder for them to find food. This means they are travelling further In their search for food, putting themselves at risk on our roads, sadly leading to lots of orphans.

Hedgehogs and other small mammals are struggling to find puddles to drink from. What you can do to help .....



Place clean, shallow bowls of fresh water on the ground daily.

Bees and insects need a small bowl filled with pebbles for them to perch on to safely drink.

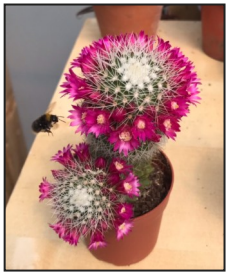
You could also offer food, cat food for hedgehogs, peanuts for badgers , dogfood for foxes.

Keep a careful look out on roads for any animals, especially at night.

If you ever see wildlife needing help you can phone our local vets who can put you in touch with local rescue centres.

This is a photo only taken on my phone of a Red Kite. I have seen it in the village for the last 3 years. At the pub, up by the school, in the woods , it's always around . We had only ever seen one, but this year there has been two soaring together. They pair for life , so hopefully there may be young this year or next. Easily identified, even when high in the sky, you can see its forked tail and longer, thinner wings than a buzzard with white bands underneath. You will definitely know when you see it. Keep a look out in the skies.





This is my favourite photo this week (left) of a tiny bumble bee feeding on the flowers of a cactus in our polytunnel. Just beautiful.

Flowerpot Festival 2025

29th August—6th September



Not long to go until this year's Flowerpot Festival, which will run from the end of August into early September, sponsored by the Village Hall.

There will be similar activities during the week as last year, and at the Craft and Produce Show in the Village Hall on Saturday 6th September, the winners of the best flowerpot displays will be announced, with prizes available.

Below are winners and runners up from last year to give you some inspiration.

The schedule for the Craft & Produce Show, which will have more categories to enter than last year, will be available in the July issue and earlier on the website, so keep an eye out.

Please contact Alison for more details on **alisonbarham21@gmail.com**

















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St Paternus Church (C of E)

Upcoming Events

Every Wednesday midweek service at 11am. Eucharist with Reverend Sean Clancy.

Eucharist (2nd Sunday)	Sunday 11th May	9.30am	With Reverend Sean Clancy
Eucharist (4th Sunday)	Sunday 25th May	10.15am	With Revd Canon Olive Stevens and Dr Brian Davis
Village walk and buffet lunch	Sunday 25th May	11.00am	In the village hall (joint village hall and church event)
Annual Parochial Church Meeting	Tuesday 27th May	6.30pm	All welcome
Coffee morning (1st Saturday)	Saturday 7th June	10 to 12	Tea, coffee, bacon sandwiches
Eucharist (2nd Sunday)	Sunday 8th June	9.30am	With Reverend Sean Clancy
Eucharist (4th Sunday)	Sundy 22nd June	10.15am	With Revd Canon Olive Stevens and Dr Brian Davis
Coffee morning (1st Saturday)	Saturday 5th July	10 to 12	Tea, coffee, bacon sandwich
Eucharist (2nd Sunday)	Sunday 13th July	9.30am	With Reverend Sean Clancy
Eucharist (4th Sunday)	Sunday 27th July	10.30am	With Revd Canon Olive Stevens and Dr Brian Davis

Church Warden – 01566 782936
Facebook: Saint Paternus Community South Petherwin

Parish Walk & lunch Sunday 25th May

The walk starts at 11am from the church, followed by lunch at 12.30 in the village hall (suggested donation £5).

Please book by contacting Olive Stevens on 07480 576535 or Julie Barlow on 07899 803196. Please advise of any special dietary requirements, e.g. gluten free, when booking

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GARDENING MATTERS

Ella Payne **Email: samnellap@gmail.com**

May is the month for vibrant green growth and wonderful tree blossom. The wild bluebells and cowslips are making a beautiful display. A very busy time in the garden and this long dry spell of weather has been very welcome.

Jobs in May & June

- *Sow vegetables such as carrots, spinach, beetroot, kale, parsnips and peas directly into prepared soil.*
- *Sow runner beans and climbing beans in pots/trays ready to transplant out at the end of May with a support framework in place.*
- *Keep summer bedding and tender vegetables protected from frost until the end of May, then acclimatize them to being outside by hardening off.*
- *Support growing perennials and climbers.*
- *Feed agapanthus in pots with a liquid feed regularly to help them to flower.*
- *Feed tomatoes and cucumbers in the greenhouse with a regular liquid feed to help produce more for longer.*
- *If you are away during a dry spell, group containers together in a shady spot.*
- *Hostas are emerging, but so are the snails. Check plants in the evening and put any pests on the compost.*
- *Prune spring flowering shrubs such as camelias and forsythia.*
- *Clip spring flowering heathers with shears to remove spent flowers.*



SOUTH PETHERWIN METHODIST CHURCH

Methodist Church Friendship Group

Preparing this article at the start of May in beautiful weather, it seems so long ago that we met on a wet and miserable afternoon at the end of March. We were pleased that so many members braved the elements to join us. We decorated parchment 'stained glass windows' and wreaths to decorate the chapel for Easter Day and, together with the spring flowers, we had a bright, welcoming church for our Easter celebration service.

The Easter Day service was led by Henry Stanbury, the organist was Mary Stoneman, and the congregation sang some beautiful well-known Easter hymns in celebration of this special day for the Christian faith.

By the time our next Friendship meeting was held, Easter was long gone. Instead, we took the opportunity to welcome everyone with a quiz! This was a picture quiz of items around the home from a different aspect. Once we got started most of us managed to identify all but a couple of really 'mystery' things – who knew that a book spine would catch so many out!



As usual we thank everyone for their continued support, to Joan for her wonderful baking, and Linda for her help with refreshments (and that job often forgotten when everyone else goes home – the washing-up). If you are free on the afternoon of the last Monday of the month we would be pleased to welcome you at 2.00pm.

Angela and Michael Noakes

May 5 - 11 was Hedgerow Week, reminding us to take care of our hedges.
It is important to take time to celebrate our surroundings, and consider the complex system of nature that exists in harmony with us, if we let it.
That includes the trees growing within hedges. The ash is a typical hedgerow tree, providing habitat for over a thousand wildlife species. 20% of ash trees are expected to be tolerant to disease, and current guidance is to leave dying trees, unless causing danger, and if felling is necessary, then trunks/branches can be left as deadwood to continue offering benefits as a wildlife habitat
Britain is shaped by thousands of miles of hedge; providing wildlife with a sheltered and bountiful habitat network; protecting agriculture, whether livestock or crops; creating living boundaries in our urban centres; and bringing greenery, capturing carbon, and delivering more than a little beauty to our rail lines and roadsides.



More than 275 libraries nationwide are providing hedgerow related materials and resources for little ones and big kids alike – with hedge-y bookmarks to take away, activity booklets, and information to help you identify the happy hedgerows in your neighbourhood.
Lavinia Archer

Do you know what these are?
I was walking through a field beside the river Avon in the South Hams recently & came across these two abandoned carts. They are made of solid wood on an iron frame, with beautifully made wooden wheels. They look as though they would have been pulled or pushed along by a person, not a horse. There is a shelf right through the centre from front to back. They are not far from a Devon village.



Does anyone have any idea what they may have been used for back in the day? *Sue Vernon*

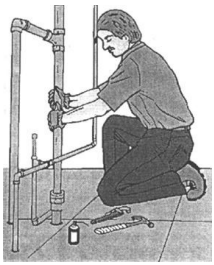


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Where is heaven?

Some years ago, I had the privilege of visiting the BBC Radio Theatre in Broadcasting House, London. Opened in 1932 and originally named 'The Concert Hall', the Radio Theatre housed a great Compton organ (sadly now in storage), the first of the BBC Theatre Organs. The following year, George Thalben-Ball, who by virtue of his Cornish heritage became a bard of the *Gorsedh Kernow* (Ylewyth Mur), took part in the inaugural concert. Since then, comedy programmes, including *What's my line?*, *Just a minute*, and *I'm sorry I haven't a clue*, have been recorded in the theatre and other musical artists such as David Bowie, Jeff Lynne, Ed Sheeran and Paul Weller have performed there. I asked my friend, an electronics engineer, who had been working on the organ, 'between the theatre and my radio at home, where does the sound go?'



BBC Concert Hall (1930s)

My friend, who is not only a brilliant engineer but also has a gift of explaining complicated things simply, replied, 'at the transmitter the sound input modulates (or shapes) radio waves which travel from the transmitter's aerial by electromagnetism through the electromagnetic field to the receiver. The transmitter needs to be powerful enough for the radio waves to reach your receiver, and the receiver needs to be sensitive enough to pick up those waves. It can then convert them into sound again.' Of course, every illustration has its limits but that helped me reach a more modern understanding of heaven. It is beyond the places that I can visit but nevertheless it exists – not 'above the bright blue sky', as the Victorian hymn taught children to think, but beyond the here and now (transcendent).

Two great Christian festivals that we should properly celebrate over the next few weeks are Ascension Day (29 May) and Pentecost (8 June), which many of us grew up calling 'Whitsun'. The story of the Ascension of the Lord Jesus (Acts 1:1-11) wrestles with the problem of where the risen Jesus is now. The simple answer is 'in heaven'. It is a story that is an exercise in 'imagining the unimaginable'. I believe that Jesus is beyond the here and now (in heaven), but I don't think of heaven as being above the sky. The story of the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-13) helps us to understand the presence

of Jesus with us now. Rather like the radio waves, the important thing is that the transmitter is powerful enough (I have no doubt about that) and that we are receptive to the presence of God working in the world and in our lives by his Holy Spirit. Prayer, devotional reading, thinking carefully about what we have read, and Christian worship are all ways of showing that we are ready to receive God's word of love and grace in our hearts.

I am very grateful to Alison Barham and the editorial and production team of this wonderful magazine for inviting me to write for it. This is my fifteenth and last article as my responsibilities in the Launceston Area Methodist Circuit end soon and I have a farewell service at Trebullett on Sunday 8 June at 4.00 pm (tea following, of course). My purpose for the last three years has been to fill in, half-time, to help cover the national shortage of ministers. Happily, a new minister, Revd Oseias Da Silva, will begin on the first Sunday in September. He comes to Cornwall from São Paulo, Brazil, by way of previous appointments in Tewkesbury and Walthamstow.

John Haley
(Revd Dr John M. Haley, MA, is a minister in the Launceston Area Methodist Circuit. His responsibilities include South Petherwin Methodist Church. He is currently in conversations with the Tavistock Methodist Circuit about helping with the work there from September, probably at Rock Methodist Church, Yelverton).

FARMING NEWS

The old saying "oak before ash, in for a splash" suggests a dry summer. May has proved to be a combination of hot and dry weather enabling grass to be bailed as hay. Probably the earliest hay crop in small bales for the parish. While rain has fallen there is a nervousness in the farming community of the ghost of 1976 ('drought year') returning. **Phil Parsons**



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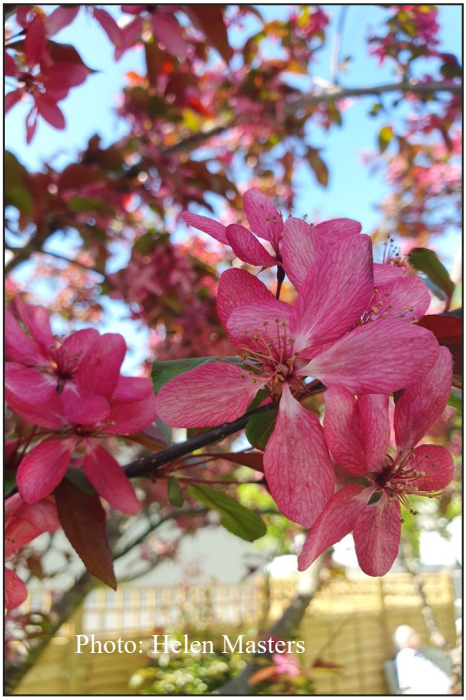


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We have been enjoying our start to summer term and the lovely, sunny weather which has come along with it. We kicked off our start to our last term of the school year with a Year 5 and 6 visit to the Imperial War Museum London, followed by a tour and talk through the Houses of Parliament at Westminster. The children had a fantastic day exploring these parts of London, learning lots along the way.

And by the time you read this article, our Year 6 children will have completed their End of Key Stage 2 assessments (SATs). A big well done to them. We are very proud of how hard they have worked over their time with us and hope they enjoy their last half-term with us before making the move to Secondary school.

We welcomed lifeguards from Bude RNLI in early May. The children were thoroughly engaged as the reminded themselves all about safety around water and to do if they or a friend were in trouble.

We were also very grateful to Charlotte Tait, who is volunteering with us while she studies her degree at Marjon University, for teaching our Year 3 and 4 students some British Sign Language during deaf awareness week.

We are looking forward to the remaining weeks of the summer term and would like to draw your attention to the date of our school summer fair which will be held on Saturday 28th June from 11am.

South Petherwin Pre-School

We are so happy to be in our new pre-school and have enjoyed using all the space. We have welcomed some more new children at the beginning of this term and they are settling in well and making new friends.

We have been reading the story 'What the Ladybird Heard.' and doing lots of activities to help us learn about the animals in the story. We loved making our own ladybird biscuits. The best part was decorating them and of course eating them! We have made ladybirds by printing with potatoes, cutting and sticking with paper and with buttons and playdough.

We have programmed beebots to move around the map of the farm and we have even had special visitors to the pre-school…… We loved saying hello to Jenny the pony and the chicken! Our next story we will be reading is 'The Little Red Hen' so that we can talk about what grows on the farm and how that ends up on our plate. We will also be attempting some growing of our own in the garden.







NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Local Co-ordinators:

Tregaller Lane and Tremeale: Mary Stoneman (773375)
The Village: Helen Masters (775545)
Tiny Meadows: Richard Beacham (773614)
Daws House: Andrea Foster (779181)
School watch: Gillian Sleep (773300)

If you are interested in joining the scheme please contact any of the above

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SOUTH PETHERWIN CRICKET CLUB

AS WE HAVE ONLY JUST STARTED THE SEASON THERE ISN'T MUCH TO REPORT, BUT HERE ARE OUR HOME FIXTURES FOR MAY & JUNE.

FIRST XI SATURDAYS

24TH MAY VS MENHENIOT LOOE
31ST MAY VS SALTASH
14TH JUNE VS CALLINGTON 3S
21ST JUNE VS BOCONNOC

SECOND XI SATURDAYS

7TH JUNE VS SALTASH 2S
28TH JUNE VS ROCHE 3S

LADIES XI (PLAYED ON SUNDAYS)

25TH MAY REDRUTH
8TH JUNE TRURO
22ND JUNE GRAMPOUND ROAD

SATURDAY MATCHES START AT 1PM. LADIES MATCHES START AT 1:30PM WE WOULD WELCOME ANY VILLAGERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO COME AND WATCH.

ALL STARS (CHILDREN AGED 5-8) ARE ON FRIDAYS FROM 16TH MAY TO 4TH JULY 6.00 TO 7.00 PM.

OUR SATURDAY TEAMS TRAINING SESSIONS ARE ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AND OUR LADIES TRAINING SESSIONS ARE ON A FRIDAY EVENING. NEW PLAYERS AND PEOPLE WHO WOULD LIKE TO TRY OUT ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

ANY QUESTION'S & ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT US ON SOCIAL MEDIA, SOUTHPETHERWINCC@OUTLOOK.COM OR 07891115713.



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