



# NUT TREE

November 2022 Volume 37 (8)



## Nature Notes

In mid-October there are many examples of the transitional nature of autumn. As I look out to sea early one morning there are still hundreds of Gannets despite the ravages of bird flu. Time will tell whether the whole population has been badly affected and for how long. The odd corpse still occurs on the beach, but further out bodies are an unwelcome distraction in fishing nets. The number of gulls is increasing but the Fulmars that bred on our cliffs have gone. There are still a few Balearic Shearwaters and Kittiwakes to be seen. The former will soon fly back to the Mediterranean whilst the latter move into the open ocean. The odd diver from the north has already flown by and their numbers will build up over the winter.

Away from the coast as I return home, the trees along one road are alive with birds unperturbed by the drizzle. Blackbird, Collared Dove and Jackdaw share the same wire in a tolerant mood. Below in the foliage, the tits and finches are more belligerent as they chase each other around profitable positions. There are plenty of excited calls from birds but actual birdsong is much diminished now. The obvious exception is the Robin which sings its wintry anthem loudly from a favourite perch. Then the movement of a tiny bird catches my attention. Frustratingly, for a few seconds, it hides from view. Patience prevails however, as the bird obligingly shows itself. It is a Firecrest, a winter visitor and a jewel of a bird, which I usually see in October as the species moves west into milder climes. In the following minutes I come across a couple of other migrants, a Blackcap and a Chiffchaff, much commoner than the Firecrest. They may stay for a while or move on, but all three are part of the local fauna for the next few months as they pass through our gardens.

Later in the afternoon, along the coast above the rock armour, the sun emerges and the brief warmth encourages a couple of migrant Clouded Yellow butterflies to take flight. On settling, this species rests with closed wings and almost disappears from view. It

has been a good year for the butterfly and this particular grassy site is a favourite haunt. Each year individuals will have flown from southern Europe. They will attempt to breed here and overwinter, but rarely succeed in wet and cooler Britain. There is also a Holly Blue, sunning itself on the slope. This butterfly has two broods each year, the caterpillars feeding on holly in spring and ivy in autumn. A Kestrel hovers close by, seemingly happy to show off its hunting prowess just metres away, its body quite still between fast-beating wings.

Nearer home I have been keeping an eye on a wasp's nest, but I notice that the buzzing audible over the last few weeks is now reduced. Around the large patches of ivy in the hedgerow, there are fewer autumnal Ivy Bees hovering around the source of nectar, but they are easily outnumbered by the Honey Bees. Changes will continue over the next few weeks as we move closer to winter.

*Alan Payne*

### **St Germans Parish Council**

You may have noticed that entire Country of Wales and now our County Council are changing advice on speed limits in villages. The trial areas have proved very successful. This is because statistics show that a pedestrian hit by a car at 20 mph has a one in ten mortality rate when hit at 30 mph four in ten and when hit at 40 mph it is eight in ten.

Changing the speed sign will not reduce speed alone. The Parish Council have commissioned a feasibility study for the village and we would like to know your views on the proposals. To this end we have booked the Eliot Hall on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> of November from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m. This is not a consultation on what we have decided but we are genuinely seeking your opinions before any proposal reaches the next stage as we want to know what is acceptable.

There will be large posters of plans and Councillors will be there to take down your views. This is your chance to influence the way forward so do not miss it. There will be posters put up as a reminder nearer the day.

Tideford already has a 20mph limit on Church Road but we have asked for speed monitoring to take place to get statistics on the problem before we look further.

Tideford play park documents have not arrived but we are looking at quotes at the moment to plan the way to restore the facility to normal use.

We have a vacancy for a Councillor in St Germans if you are at all interested, please get in touch. Due to the change of Clerk, the phone will now be operational on Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 until 12:00. The address and email remain the same.

*Cllr Nigel Witton*

## Deviocck Parish Council

There will be three meetings in November (to take place at the Zone, Dowederry Methodist Church): Full Council 10<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm; Planning Committee and Finance & General Purposes Committee 24<sup>th</sup> November from 6.30pm. Social distancing and reduced capacity will continue to apply. See Agendas for details prior to each meeting.

Highways Expressions of Interest: The Parish Council has put forward two funding requests for the parish, concentrating on diverting (predominantly summer) traffic from narrow lanes onto main routes into Dowederry and Seaton.

Keveral Lane resurfacing: Cormac has confirmed that work is due to start after an existing project has been completed, which is anticipated to be early in the New Year.

Proposed sewage treatment works, Hessenford: South West Water has agreed to give a public presentation to residents, as requested by the Parish Council. Date to be confirmed.

30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Twinning visit to Plouguerneau, Brittany: The Chair, Cllr Mark Gibbons, attended the event on behalf of the parishes in response to an invitation from the Mayor of Plouguerneau. Cllr Gibbons joined members of the St Germans and District Twinning Association and their counterparts in France to celebrate this important milestone.

Consultation: Dogs on beaches ([www.cornwall.gov.uk/council-news/environment-culture-and-planning/dogs-on-cornish-beaches-consultation-launches](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/council-news/environment-culture-and-planning/dogs-on-cornish-beaches-consultation-launches)) consultation closes 28<sup>th</sup> November.

Planning: To comment on a planning application, search online for ‘cornwall council planning applications’. Any comments posted on the Cornwall Council Planning site are viewed by the Parish Council’s Planning Committee. See Agendas for applications due for discussion at the next Planning Committee meeting.

For any other Parish Council business and news, please take a look at our Minutes. See the website at: [www.deviocckparish.org.uk](http://www.deviocckparish.org.uk) for Agendas and Minutes and any important announcements.

As the Parish Office is remaining closed until further notice, please contact the Clerk via email if you have an enquiry ([clerk.deviocckpc@btinternet.com](mailto:clerk.deviocckpc@btinternet.com), Mon-Fri).

*Karen Pugh,  
Parish Clerk*

## **Deviock Parish Council Loan Fund**

The Council provides interest-free loans (up to £1,000) to local organisations for specific projects (subject to terms and conditions). Please contact the Clerk or one of the Councillors if your organisation thinks it could benefit from this service.

### **Priority Services**

A reminder from the May edition of Nut Tree that Western Power has a Priority Services Register, whereby vulnerable residents can make Western Power aware of any health issues or conditions they have. This will enable power supply and/or assistance to be prioritised according to need in an emergency. Please register here: [www.westernpower.co.uk/customers-and-community/priority-services/priority-services-register](http://www.westernpower.co.uk/customers-and-community/priority-services/priority-services-register).

### **News from our churches**

The Benefice of the St Germans Group with Antony and Sheviock is experiencing lots of changes as we start to move to a new way of doing mission and ministry. In late October the Parochial Church Councils (PCC) met with Archdeacon Kelly to discuss how the Benefice will merge with the Torpoint and Rame with Maker Benefice. This will make a Benefice of 13 churches and 7 PCCs being served by one full time priest.

We have a long way to travel before everything is finalised and there will be a lot of consultation with the churches and wider community before it happens. Many more details are to follow.

Our first Alpha Course got off to a flying start in September in St Germans and I am pleased to say that as a result we will be running another course in January. This will be a daytime course held in the warmth of St Nicolas, Donderry with coffee and cake.

Advent and Christmas are really not far away, our Advent course starts on Zoom on Wednesday 23 November at 7.30pm, do email me for a link if you would like to join us. We will be exploring reconciliation and peace.

Our Facebook pages and websites will carry all the details for our Advent and Christmas services, you can also email me to sign up to our weekly newsletter.

God bless

*Revd Laura Bushell Hawke*  
*Curate, St Germans Group with Antony and Sheviock*  
[RevLauraBH@gmail.com](mailto:RevLauraBH@gmail.com)

## The Zone - Donderry Methodist Church



Sunday November 13th at 3.00pm - Holy Communion with The Reverend Jonathan Budd.

Wednesdays 10.00am-12pm. Please note that we are now going to be open for two hours each week as part of the Warm Welcome Project (see the Deviock Activities Group entry later in this edition). Come and join us for coffee, chat, and company.

*Elsa Guilfoyle*

## St Germans Methodist Church

Hello from the chapel at St Germans. As always happens at this time of the year our diaries are filling, our church diary notwithstanding.

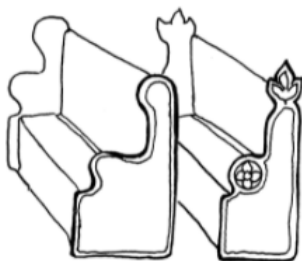
On the first Sunday of the month we are to have a joint service with the other two Lynher group churches, Craffhole Methodist church and The Zone, Donderry. This service will be at our Methodist church in St Germans and will be led by Mr Geoff Williams. The following Sunday is Remembrance Sunday and a joint service with the priory will be held at our chapel at the earlier time of 10am. followed by a short service at the War Memorial beginning at 10.50am.

Other activities this month include our coffee morning, this time for Little Harbour Children's Hospice which will be held on Thursday 24th November instead of the usual Saturday slot. Please come along and support this worthy cause.

On Sunday 27th at our usual time there is a local arrangement service. This will be followed by a faith lunch for Advent Sunday. Please come and join us.

We have a forward notice for December. On Saturday 3rd December we are once again having our Christmas Craft afternoon. This will begin at 2pm and will give you the opportunity to try a variety of crafts and make something special for your home. There are tables of crafts for children and adults. Please come and have a go or just watch the fun (and mess) and enjoy light seasonal refreshments. There is no charge but donations will be welcome towards costs.

Rather a lot to take in this month but I did warn you that our diaries are filling up. We look forward to seeing you.



*Steve Gerrard*

## Quay Lane Surgery - Patient Participation Group (PPG)

Having recently funded the new ECG machine at Quay Lane Surgery we will be out and about raising funds again at various village events over the coming weeks including a tabletop sale in Eliot Hall St Germans on 12th November.

Without a Christmas raffle at the surgery being possible this year, we plan to have a fabulous hamper to raffle at the Priory Craft Fair on the 26th November - we hope you will look out for us and please come along and say hello to our wonderful fundraising team.

If you would like more information about the PPG and what we do - please contact me by email or write to the Practice Manager at Quay Lane Surgery, St Germans PL12 5LH.

*Claire Croft, Chair [quaylanepgg@gmail.com](mailto:quaylanepgg@gmail.com)*

## Quay Lane Surgery - Practice News

We have received positive feedback about our new telephone system to include:

*'I have found the new telephone system far less frustrating when ringing the surgery for an appointment at 8.30am'.*

*'It is easier to get through to the practice on the telephone and saves repeated re-dialing'.*

Being cloud based means we can access statistics to include the number of inbound and outbound calls daily and average call times. These were the statistics for a random week during the last month:

Inbound calls received into the surgery	Outbound calls made from the surgery	Total % of patients contacting the surgery	Average call time
1100	408	24.7%	2m 21sec

When we tell patients that demand is high and that we are incredibly busy, we are not making it up! These figures highlight just how high demand is. Almost a quarter of our entire surgery patients contacted the surgery just in one week, and the surgery team also made over 400 calls to patients. Due to demand, we are experiencing longer waits for routine appointments with the GPs. Please think twice about whether you need to contact the surgery or book a GP appointment.

Can you treat your new condition with over the counter - medication first?

Ask to see our Physio if you have joint, shoulder or back pain or have a sports injury?

Ask to see our Social Prescriber if you need help completing forms for benefits?

If you are not sure what condition you have, or how severe it is, you can either ring 111 or use the NHS 111 symptom checker. The checker will answer questions about your main symptoms, help you find out when and where to get help and arrange for you to be contacted by a Nurse, if needed. To use checker go to [www.usesetherightservice.com](http://www.usesetherightservice.com).

*Debbie Todd, Practice Manager*

## **DaSRA - Donderry & Seaton Residents Association**

Report illegal parking: DaSRA consistently raises concerns voiced by residents over bad and illegal parking with our local Deviock Parish Council. A recent meeting between Cornwall Council's (CC) Highways and Parking Enforcement team and our County and Parish councillors, gave an opportunity for a greater understanding of each other's challenges and helped to identify some practical steps. Parking restrictions have to be enforced to be effective, and CC has been operating with a greatly reduced team in SE Cornwall this summer, with only 3 enforcement officers covering much of the coast, including our area. CC is hopeful that a recruitment drive will resolve this situation before next summer. In reality, CC bases its assessment of where to focus its officers to a great extent on the number of reports received from the public. At busy times they might expect 20-30 such reports but received only 7 in August and 2 in July from Donderry and Seaton. As a result, CC was unaware of the scale of the problem in our villages. DPC has agreed to notify the enforcement team if particularly high visitor numbers are expected, especially during the summer months and bank holidays, and CC agreed to respond by allocating additional officers, whenever possible. But CC needs to know of the problem. To have effective enforcement it is important that members of the public report violations to attract attention, and resources, to address parking problems in Donderry and Seaton. So, if you see an illegally parked car, or one parked in such a place as to cause a potential incident, do consider going online to [www.cornwall.gov.uk/report-something](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/report-something) to alert Cornwall Council of your concern.

Hot off the presses - A second print run. Jenny Jaycock has recently published a very readable and well-researched account of life in Donderry and Seaton from the early 1950s. Jenny talked to many residents who have shared their memories. Photos showing local landmarks and residents through the years were supplied from Donderry and Seaton Pictorial History Facebook site. Our villages have changed so much, but they remain, at their core, the special place we call home. "Memories of the people of Donderry and Seaton by the people of Donderry and Seaton" is on sale, price £6, at Donderry Stores, or contact Jenny Jaycock via [info@dasra.co.uk](mailto:info@dasra.co.uk).

*Laura Done, Chair, [info@dasra.co.uk](mailto:info@dasra.co.uk) [www.dasra.co.uk](http://www.dasra.co.uk)*

## **Neighbourhood Watch in partnership with DaSRA**

October has been a busy month for our flower boaters and we were fortunate to have a quantity of spring bulbs donated by Cormac. Watch this space next spring!

Sadly, we have received reports of residents being targeted by scammers so below are a sample of the latest scams to be aware of. You can find details of how to report by reading the neighbourhood watch monthly news at [info@dasra.co.uk](mailto:info@dasra.co.uk) or search for the Neighbourhood Watch online site and if you find the information useful you can subscribe and stay up to date via alerts to your in box. Be on the lookout for these scams and remember, If you, or someone you know, has been a victim, report it.

**Friend in Need:** A ‘friend in need ’scam is targeting Whatsapp users. Criminals are posing as friends or family members in need of help. They will text from what they claim to be a new mobile after their old one was ‘lost/damaged’. They will then go on to ask for money to pay an urgent bill/new phone. Recent scams have even initially asked for funds to be transferred to a friend or family member before being sent on to the scammer to give the appearance of an initial low risk payment. One local resident can confirm how authentic this scam is, having responded urgently out of concern for a relative.

**New Omicron Jab:** The new Omicron Covid vaccine is being rolled out, as the UK becomes the first country to approve the specifically tailored jab, ahead of fears for winter spikes. With the rollout for the latest booster, there are concerns that covid related fraud may increase as a result, with criminals targeting potential victims with vaccine scams, not too dissimilar to the ones seen previously.

**Energy Price Cap:** With the severe increase in the energy price cap reported, fraudsters are likely to seize this opportunity to exploit those looking to change energy provider and/or tariffs. Individuals are being warned to be vigilant to new campaigns associated with energy supplies, for examples offers which seem too good to be true or fake rebates.

**Cost of Living Crisis:** With the cost-of-living crisis deepening, scammers will be using the economic downturn to their own benefit. The warning comes as many are due to receive a first instalment of a cost-of-living payment, worth £326. Reports have been received by Action Fraud of fraudsters attempting to exploit vulnerable people with the promise of money saving schemes, including, energy and council tax rebates or by encouraging individuals to apply/ claim a ‘cost of living payment ’via text, followed by an email to gain further information from the victim.

**Fake Santander Email:** Lots of people online have been flagging a fake Santander mobile banking email. The email impersonates Santander’s branding and gives you a sense of urgency regarding your access to banking services, to pressure you into giving away data. Over the past week, use of the search term ‘Santander email scams ’has increased by more than 5000%, showing the spike in people being targeted with this new scam.

**British Gas Fake Email:** Scammers are impersonating British Gas with fake emails tempting recipients to click a link to get a fake energy refund. Although the email looks legitimate, it addresses you by your email address and not your name. This is a potential giveaway that it’s from a fraudster.

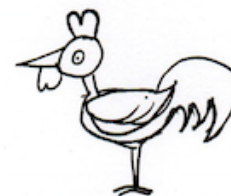
**Premium Rate Number Scams:** This scam tries to trick people who are searching online for telephone numbers of government advice services. It works by displaying an advert for the phone number of the relevant government advice line. But the sting is that you’ll be charged a premium for using this advertised telephone number – in some cases, as much as £20 or £30 a call. You are put through to the right advice line, but you pay a very high and unnecessary connection fee.

*Nigel Jones at [info@dasra.co.uk](mailto:info@dasra.co.uk).*



## Hessenford News

Like a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Lady Whistleblower from Bridgerton, I find myself with digital quill in hand, pondering the best way to present the information I have gathered this month. Please take a moment or two to acknowledge the work Fran Moore has done over the last few years, as the Hessenford Nut Tree writer. I am sure you will tell her when you see her. It is a time-consuming commitment and one she has done with dedication and skill, on our behalf. Thank you Fran.



With the nib of quill dipped in digital ink, I will firstly inform you of the news of the Great Indoors, for it is sweet. Sweet, to match the cakes that will be found at the next Coffee, Cake and Chat (the 3 C's) morning at Hessenford Village Hall on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November. This will take place from 11am - 1pm and will be the perfect chance to catch up and check in with each other and perhaps compare notes on this article, in a friendly group setting!

Outdoors, the hops have been picked, apples scrumped and pressed and the sun safely tucked away in the village shed with the bunting and plastic ducks, ready for next year. The Kiss Gate that has rotted at the top of the village path, adjacent to the cemetery, has been reported. A search to determine who is responsible for its repair is well underway but please don't feel you can't stop for a kiss or short embrace there anyway!

With the dogs of Hessenford having trained their owners to use the poop bin by the church lych gate so well, apologies have been sent for it not having been emptied again. The Parish Council have been contacted to confirm what the arrangements are. I am sure there will be an answer soon, but it may give time for word to spread to visitors that there is a bin which can be used, even if its emptying is currently sporadic, so every cloud and all that! I know that the Parish Clerk will be providing information about the sewerage treatment works, so I will not provide an update on that, as she will be far more succinct than me. I just hope we don't need another bin!!!!

As Remembrance Day approaches, thanks to Jill from The Old Shop, for the weeding she has been doing around the War Memorial. The trees and bushes to the left of the memorial are getting overgrown though, so if anyone with good loppers or hedge trimmer and long arms can help cut them back to reveal the nurse figure, it would be hugely appreciated. I am happy to do it if someone can lend me the equipment and to help me reach, I will remember I am standing on the shoulders of heroes. Jill also tied the soldier to railings to stop it from blowing over. He was in a lot of trouble when he got back to barracks for being late though!

There is always a good turnout for Remembrance Day and I hope this year will be no exception, especially as we are privileged to have a wealth of veterans from across all Services locally, who I look forward to sharing a dit or two with afterwards.

Well, that concludes this inaugural article and I hope I have piqued your interest and captured your attention to some degree. The writing will improve as the weather deteriorates and please feel free to get in touch if you have news to share for the future.

*James Parkinson*

## St Germans Priory Christmas Market 2022



By popular demand the Christmas Market is back. Showcasing local artisans, artists, crafters and charities. Free entry. Come along and pick up some treasures or enjoy the mulled wine and other drinks and nibbles on Fri 25 November from 6pm to 9 pm and Sat 26 November from 10 am to 4 pm.

Any money raised by the Trust will go towards the upkeep of the Grade 1 listed Priory Church. See you there.

*Fiona Bristow*

### **Downderry Bread and Babes**

We have been busy making hedgehogs out of leaves, snails out of sparkly bits and bobs and Awenek Studio's have done a lovely autumn sensory session for us. We have lots lined up for November too: we have Casey coming back to teach us Yoga with children and Awenek Studio's will be with us again. We'd love to see you at one of our sessions, even just to give it a try.

At Bread & Babes we bake, we play, we do craft, we eat... and the adults chat! 9.30am-11.30am, term-time Thursdays at The Zone, Methodist Church, Downderry, PL11 3LE. £3 per family includes bread (homemade) + toppings, tea/coffee and craft materials. First session is FREE so there is no excuse not to give us a try.

Enjoy some quality time with your 0-4 year olds in a structured yet nurturing environment and join in with baking, crafts, imaginative play, gardening and making new friends. The Zone is a beautiful space to play in. We extend play sessions into the garden whenever we can (complete with sea view!). We have a Facebook group for more information or message us with any questions. Bread and Babes Downderry play group 07817945374.

### **Recycling for Charity November**

The November Recycling for Charity collection at the Eliot Arms Pub Car Park will take place on Sunday 20th from 10:30-11:30.

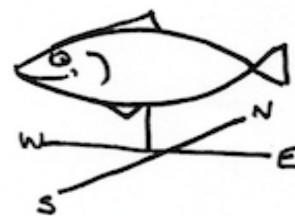
Everyone should have something they can save from incineration and be used for something new. Not only by dropping off with me are you doing this, you are also raising money for charity! The full list of items accepted is on the website <https://south-hill.co.uk/charity-recycling> or come down and see for yourself I'm happy to answer questions.

I look forward to seeing you with your sorted items in November.

*Freddie Brasher*

## **Downderry and Seaton Village Hall**

Coffee Morning Tuesday 8th November 10am to 12 noon - Come along for a chat and enjoy a hot or cold drink with a Toasted Teacake. It only costs £2.50 per person and there will be a Book Stall and Raffle Tickets for that morning's draw. Everyone is welcome, including well behaved dogs on leads.



Remembrance Day Refreshments Friday 11th November 11.15am to 1pm - After the Act of Remembrance in the Downderry Memorial Garden, come to the Village Hall and enjoy a warm drink and something to eat. The food and drink will be provided by the Village Hall and entry is free. However we will be collecting for the Royal British Legion. All are welcome including dogs on leads.

Family Film Matinee Saturday 12th November doors open 1pm for 1.30pm start, all welcome - Lion King. The price is £3 for children and £5 for adults and payment will be taken on the door. There will be a licensed bar, snacks and ice creams available. (Children must not be left unaccompanied.) To reserve your seats, telephone Mandy or Keith on 01503 250412, email [downderryandseatonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:downderryandseatonvillagehall@gmail.com) or complete the online form on our website before Friday 4th November.

Film Night Saturday 12th November doors open 6.30pm for 7.30pm start - War Horse, The price is £5 on the door (Adults only). There will be a licensed bar, snacks and ice creams available. To reserve your seats, telephone Mandy or Keith on 01503 250412, email [downderryandseatonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:downderryandseatonvillagehall@gmail.com) or complete the online form on our website. Walk-ins will be allowed if seats are available.

Little Breakfast Saturday 19th November 10am to 1pm - Come and enjoy a Breakfast Bap of Sausage, Bacon & Egg or the veggie option of Egg & Hash Browns with a hot or cold drink for just £4.50. There will also be a book/DVD sale. Everyone is welcome, including well behaved dogs on leads.

World Cup Football - England v Iran Monday 21st November doors open 12 noon for 1pm start - England v USA Friday 25th November doors open 6pm for 7pm start - Come and see England's games in the 2022 World Cup on our large screen. Entry is free but a donation would be welcome. There will be a licenced bar and refreshments on sale. All are welcome.

Christmas Charities Event Saturday 26th November 10am to 2.30pm - Local charities and non-profit making organisations will be selling their wares and running lots of raffles with amazing prizes. So please come and support them and enjoy some refreshments at the same time, including Mulled wine and mince pies. Entry is free, all are welcome, including dogs on leads.

*Mandy Smith, Secretary Downderry and Seaton Village Hall*

## **St Germans Thursday Club**

A very cheering item was brought to our attention at our last meeting (Cornish Times, 5th October). The great-grand-daughter of Cicely Nancekivell, the founder of the Thursday Club, 8 yr old Emelia from Liskeard wrote a letter to the Queen on her Jubilee. This was all her own work. The reply, which nearly was missed because the family had moved house, and the Queen had died, was a wonderful surprise to Emelia and her family. Emilia's grandmother said, "Extra special I think as one of the last correspondences from Her Majesty."

Our Annual Luncheon will be held in the Eliot Hall, on Thursday 10th November. The time is 12:30 for 1 pm. The next meeting will be in the Eliot Hall on 24th November at 2:30 pm. The doors will be open at 2 pm, should you wish to join us in the usual light exercise of setting out chairs and tables. Refreshments, and a raffle. All welcome, as visitors, or new members. Ideas for future outings, speakers and activities always wanted. Enquiries please to Jenny Putt on 01503 230667.

*Sue Cousins. 01503 230106*

## **Eliot Hall Community Centre St Germans**

Autumn Table Top Sale - Saturday November 12th 10am - 2 pm. Come along to buy those early Christmas presents. Hot drinks, squash and cake will be on sale to keep you going while you shop, and hot pasties will be available at lunchtime. After a short absence, the raffle will be back!

Annual General Meeting - Monday November 7th 7pm. All are welcome at our AGM and we would value your ideas about how we can make the most of our lovely hall in the centre of the village in the year ahead.

*Briony Woods*

## **The St Germans Gardening Club**

We will be meeting on Wednesday 16th November at 7;30pm in the Eliot Hall. Our speaker will be Nick Bacon whose talk will be "Gardening Made Easy". New members and non-members are welcome to attend. Tickets for the club Xmas dinner, which is on Wednesday 21st December will be available for purchase. See more details on the club website - find us on Google (St Germans Gardening Club).

*Roger Whitehead*

## **Whitsand Harmony -“Kick Off Christmas” at Donderry and Seaton Village Hall**

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 7 for 7.30 pm, a charity event in aid of National Coast Watch Institution, Rame. Come and join with your local choir for a festive evening of joyful carols, Christmas favourites and seasonal fun. Admission, including nibbles, £5 on the door. Drinks will be available at the bar.

*Neil Asprey*

## Downderry Community Bus 300 Club

The lucky winning numbers for the month of October:

1st. No.5 £20 Kay Lobo  
2nd. No. 89 £15 Elsa Guilfoyle  
3rd. No. 79 £10 R&M Louvelle



Thank you for supporting OUR bus.

*Jo Woodley - 01503 250489*

## Downderry and Seaton WI



Autumn is well and truly with us and we are preparing for the winter months. The WI are still busy tending to the Broad Yard Car Park garden and the boat at Bridge Car Park in Seaton. The boat is looking great, the hardy planting is still giving us colour. Some of our members are enjoying the beauty of our local beaches and are hoping to keep swimming into the winter months.

Our October meeting saw us welcome Mary Wakeham from Refuge4Pets. This inspirational lady began the charity five years ago and during this time have helped 350 families escape from abusive relationships. The charity is based in Liskeard and covers Cornwall and Devon. They find foster homes for families' pets who don't want to leave their animals behind when they leave their homes. If you would like to help the charity they are always looking for donations to support them. Yes, money is always welcome but they desperately need help with food, bedding, accessories for all domestic animals. They are very short of dry cat food and dog toys, should you find any of these items falling into your shopping baskets please donate them. Do you have anything at home which your pet has outgrown, doesn't like, you don't need anymore? The WI are co-ordinating donations for the charity from our area. We are also hoping to have collection boxes in some of our local establishments, so keep an eye out for those. If you have anything you would like to donate please email us or call Julie 250047. More information on the charity can be found on their website <https://refuge4pets.org.uk>

Our next WI meeting will take place at The Zone on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm, the speaker is a jack of all trades, we will say no more.

If you would like to find our more information about your local WI please email us [downderryandseatonwi@gmail.com](mailto:downderryandseatonwi@gmail.com) We would love to welcome you to our meetings.

*Julie Green*

## DeviocK Activities Group - Warm Welcome Project

From 7<sup>th</sup> November, DeviocK Activities Group will be offering a warm welcoming environment at The Zone with hot drinks & snacks as well as cards & board games & access to sources of support at the following sessions;

Mondays 2pm-4pm with an opportunity to try out a craft.

Tuesdays 9.30am-11.30am with a chance to have a paint.

Wednesdays 10am-12noon for chat & 6pm-8pm for a game of table tennis

Thursday mornings 9.30am-11.30am to join in with the Bread & Babes group.

All these activities will be on a “pay as you can” basis. Depending on demand we will work with other agencies to provide more opportunities for people to keep warm & for company this winter. You might like to become a Volunteer Warm Welcomer - even if it's just one session a week, assisting with refreshments & making people feel welcome. We are grateful to Volunteer Cornwall for the financial support for this project. For more information: Viv Parker ([parkerviv@aol.com](mailto:parkerviv@aol.com) or 250519).

### D.A.G IN NOVEMBER

#### CRAFT CAFÉ EVERY MONDAY 2pm - 4 pm

Bring your works-in-progress, come for a crafting surgery or try one of our weekly taster activities.

On 21<sup>st</sup> November we'll also have a card making session &

On 28<sup>th</sup> the Well Being Hub from Quay Lane Surgery will be with us.

#### SPECIAL ACTIVITY on Saturday 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

#### AUTUMNAL WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

10am-1pm £10 pre-payment required

For more information contact:

[webstersue62@gmail.com](mailto:webstersue62@gmail.com)

To book Workshop contact: [parkerviv@aol.com](mailto:parkerviv@aol.com)

#### ART GROUP

EVERY TUESDAY 9.30am - 11.30am

Come along if you want to start or already paint

Monthly advice from our Tutor Martine

For more information contact Tricia: [ppcjadams@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ppcjadams@yahoo.co.uk)

#### TABLE TENNIS

EVERY WEDNESDAY 6pm – 8pm

For more information contact Maggie: [magiluv2sing@gmail.com](mailto:magiluv2sing@gmail.com)

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

## Downderry Community Bus News

There is a definite festive vibe about the Downderry community bus programme, as we head into the final two months of the year. The excursion on Friday November 25 will be to the Dartington Cider Press Centre with its fascinating mix of galleries, arts and crafts and local foodie shops. A few days later into December and we are planning two trips to the Fowey Christmas market on Saturday and Sunday December 3 and 4. The trips to Fowey last year proved to be very popular. There will also be a trip to Totnes on Tuesday December 13 for late night shopping and the Christmas market. So, no need to worry about present ideas, just come along and join the bus trips.

This month we will also be heading to Looe on Friday November 4, ideal timing for a long lunch, we leave Downderry at 11.30 and return from Looe at 3pm. We are off to Tavistock on Friday November 11, Truro on Wednesday 16, and you can use the bus to get to Trago Mills on Friday November 18.

Next time you need a couple hours in Plymouth or Liskeard, why have the hassle of driving, paying for parking, paying for fuel? The community bus makes the journey from Downderry and Seaton to both destinations every week, Plymouth on a Tuesday and Liskeard on a Thursday. If you have a freedom travel pass, you can travel for free.

For reservations please call Bev Brighton on 01503 250944. For 300 Club and details of the monthly draw call Jo Woodley on 01503 250489. For any other questions please contact Kevin Done, chairman on 01503 250911 or by email at [kevindone@hotmail.com](mailto:kevindone@hotmail.com). As ever, many thanks for your support.

### Services and Excursions during November 2022

DATE		DESTINATION	DEPART	LENGTH STAY	FARES SINGLE	FARES RETURN
<b>November</b>						
Tuesday	1	Plymouth	9.30 am	4 Hours	£3.00	£5.00
Thursday	3	Liskeard	9.30 am	2 Hours	£2.00	£4.00
Friday	4	LOOE	11.30am	3 Hours	£2.00	£4.00
Tuesday	8	Plymouth	9.30 am	4 Hours	£3.00	£5.00
Thursday	10	Liskeard	9.30 am	2 Hours	£2.00	£4.00
Friday	11	TAVISTOCK	9.30 am	4 Hours	£4.00	£8.00
Tuesday	15	Plymouth	9.30 am	4 Hours	£3.00	£5.00
Wednesday	16	TRURO	9.30 am	4 Hours	£5.00	£10.00
Thursday	17	Liskeard	9.30 am	2 Hours	£2.00	£4.00
Friday	18	TRAGO MILLS	9.30am	3 hours		£5.00
Tuesday	22	Plymouth	9.30 am	4 Hours	£3.00	£5.00
Thursday	24	Liskeard	9.30 am	2 Hours	£2.00	£4.00
Friday	25	Dartinton Cider Press Centre	9.30 am	4 Hours		£10.00
Tuesday	29	Plymouth	9.30 am	4 Hours	£3.00	£5.00
November	??	Friends of the Bus, date and event to be decided			See Posters nearer time	
<b>December</b>						
<b>Excursions/Trips for December.....</b>						
Friday	2	LOOE	11.30am	3 Hours	£2.00	£4.00
Saturday	3	Fowey Christmas market	9.30am	4 Hours		tba
Sunday	4	Fowey Christmas market	9.30am	4 Hours		tba
Wednesday	7	EXETER	9.30 am	4 Hours	£6.00	£12.00
Tuesday	13	Totnes late night shopping + Xmas market	4.00pm			£10.00

**TO BOOK SEATS TELEPHONE DOWNDERRY (01503) 250944 Mon-Fri 9.00am-5.00pm**

## St Germans & Area Public Transport Group - Public Transport Survey Report

The Survey Report was presented at our public meeting in October, and has been forwarded to bus and train companies, Cornwall Council, Parish Councils, Community Rail Network and others. We are particularly grateful to GWR and Community Rail Network for funding the survey, and we received generous donations also from the Cornwall Council's Community Chest (via County Councillors Kate Ewert and Armand Toms), St Germans Community shop, and from Parish Councils. Thanks very much to all those supporting the survey and many thanks to the fieldworkers who helped to gather responses to the survey, whether on-line or on paper.

401 responses were analysed. We have information from respondents, regarding village or hamlet of residence, ages, size of families, car ownership, employment status, health and mobility. The survey gives us data on patterns of public transport use - bus, train or both; destinations, purpose, time and frequency and the use of St Germans station - including travel to and from the station, parking etc. We also gathered important data about how people get information about trains and buses (times etc) and how that could be improved (e.g. real-time displays at bus stops). There was overwhelming support for a future integrated transport system, as an alternative to car, and people were positive about how often they would use such a system.

The next steps are to feed the survey results (and follow-up data) back to bus and train operators, councils etc and to ask for their responses. We will share these results with the general public, the public transport users. Our group will continue to work for better parking at St Germans station, we'll still print timetables, and will be seeking to develop better bus timetable information, with a possible facebook page.

One of the survey respondents advised that we should *"innovate slowly, and have people involved in the scheduling who actually live in the area (or know it well)"*. We think this is great advice: our plan is to create profiles of use and demand by 'age' and 'geography', and to set up focus groups with those that were under-represented in the survey. We will explore existing integrated public transport projects in the UK and try to develop a prototype for integrating public transport in our area based on existing bus and train services, as well as community buses. This, we think, will include drawing on a range of different funding pools and volunteer groups. Perhaps routes and volunteering should be organised in terms of age and demand? Key routes might be a Plymouth to Peninsula night bus, a Peninsula region bus, Peninsula train links, schools links, groups and clubs links – alongside 'special trips' and more widely advertised 'dial a bus'. BUT all this will need to be done in consultation especially with passenger transport businesses and with potential users. Ambitious? Yes, but we can give it a go!

**Thus, there needs to be wide consultation with all the stakeholders to establish the feasibility of new approaches. The full survey report can be seen on [www.dasra.co.uk](http://www.dasra.co.uk) Local links Travel. If you are interested in any aspect of this please get in touch: ([a.cousins345@btinternet.com](mailto:a.cousins345@btinternet.com))**

*Tracey Blogg, Alan Cousins 01503 230106*



## Simple Ways to Save the Planet

Trees are amazing. They breathe in carbon dioxide, and give us oxygen in return. They provide shade in hot weather, and shelter in wet. What is there not to love about a tree? But how often do we really stop and observe, and appreciate them?



All trees host a variety of life, from insects, to birds, small mammals, ferns, mosses and lichens. Some will be specialists; they may not support a wide range of species, but for those they do they are essential. Others, like the oak, are superheroes, hosting a massive 342 different species of invertebrate, and offering 600 years of wildlife value - 200 growing, 200 at maturity, and 200 as it slowly dies and provides habitat rich deadwood. The ivy that trees support also is a wildlife superhero, with flowers offering late pollen and nectar to the ivy bee, which has designed its life cycle around the ivy flowering period, and for many other pollinators. Later ivy seeds are valuable winter feed for birds.

Sadly, many of our trees are sick; the pathogen *phytophthora ramorum* has destroyed larch plantations and many fine conifers, and ash die-back is now so prevalent there will soon be very little ash left in our hedges and woods. Droughts and other extreme weather events bought on by climate change are putting stress on our trees. So how do we connect more with trees? What can we do to protect them?

A friend had an inspired suggestion that if every person were to informally adopt a tree or two, this would be wonderfully beneficial. There would be no need to own this tree. Simply chose a tree near to where you live, in a park or a hedge, and start to observe what you see. Get up close. At this time of year you may find abandoned nests. Where wood has been damaged can you see insects? What visits the tree? What is growing on it?

Spend some time with your tree. Draw small details, or write a bit of poetry or prose. With all art forms it doesn't matter if it's good or not - it's about the doing and the creativity that provides connectivity. If your tree is a young sapling you could keep an eye for drought stress and give it a bucket of water every once in a while. For an older tree, become its protector. Moving forward preserving what we have is an enormously important factor in tackling climate change.

Of all the fruit trees, the apple has the greatest wildlife benefit. If you don't have an apple tree in your garden, but have space, do think about planting one this winter. Now is also a good time to order bare rooted hedge plants.

So, pick a tree and adopt it this winter. Watch it as the seasons change. Make a note of when the leaves come out, and when the last ones drop. How many species of flora and fauna does it support? When does it flower? A healthy tree is a gift that keeps on

giving, and getting to know one really well is a pleasure that is readily accessible to all.

Here are a few of my favourite tree facts:

- Many trees are monoecious. This means they have both male and female parts on the same tree. The hazel is a good example. Look in spring for tiny red female flowers along the stem, that will be wind pollinated by the male golden yellow catkins.
- Historically the elder was known as the mother tree. Every part of the elder has beneficial medicinal qualities.
- Sweet Chestnuts were introduced into the UK by the Romans, who used their fruit to make flour.
- The holm oak is named after the ancient word for holly, on account of its evergreen leaves.
- The Fortingall Yew in Perthshire is the oldest living tree in the UK, believed to be between 2000-3000 years old. Locally, in Dartington there is a yew that is over 1500 years old.

*Lizzie Stroud*

## **Hessenford Hall**

Just a quick reminder that Hessenford Church Hall is available for booking for your own use. The Hall has a large lawn and full kitchen facilities and at £12 per session offers great value for your party, meeting or other event. Book online at [www.hessenford.net](http://www.hessenford.net).

*Fiona Bristow*

## **Cornwall Council Online Planning Registers - Forthcoming Outages**



The Cornwall Council online planning register will be unavailable for various dates in November due to an upgrade. There will be two periods of downtime in preparation for system upgrade.

On Friday 4th November 5-8pm there will be updates to the online planning register which will mean information will be unavailable.

From Tuesday 8 November at 9am the online planning register will be unavailable due to an upgrade. This will be until 6pm Thursday 10 November 2022.

Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience caused

## **Tamar Valley Area of Natural Beauty (AONB)**

Do you have a few hours to spare? Perhaps you fancy a new challenge or would like to put your skills to good use?

If you'd like to meet new people and help the Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to stay special, find out more about becoming a Valley Volunteer.

Sammy Fraser, Community & Volunteering Officer for the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme, says: "There is a range of volunteering opportunities for you to get involved with here in the Tamar Valley. Felling, coppicing, strimming, clearing and bird-ringing demonstrations, try your hand at bird or bat-box building and take part in nature surveys. We're looking forward to meeting new people who can join our brilliant team of Valley Volunteers."

Please contact Sammy Fraser for further details 07522 709428 or by email at [samantha.fraser@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:samantha.fraser@cornwall.gov.uk).

- The main aim of the Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) team is to protect and enhance the natural beauty of this special area.
- It is a partnership of Cornwall and Devon County Councils, South Hams District Council, West Devon Borough Council, Plymouth City Council and Natural England.
- The AONB team supports the work of the Tamar Valley Partnership – a forum of government and non-government bodies working for the Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- Natural England helps protect our finest landscapes – Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coasts and National Parks – through legislation.
- We must all work together to protect our finest countryside.
- For further details please contact Charlotte Dancer (Information & Communications Officer) by emailing [cdancer@tamarvalley.org.uk](mailto:cdancer@tamarvalley.org.uk).

# Rita's Rota

## November 2022 Dates

- 1 09:30 - 11:30 DAG Art Group (CZ)
- 2 18:00-20:00 DAG Table Tennis (CZ)
- 4 11:30 CB to Looe (CB)
- 5 10:00-13:00 DAG Wreath Making (CZ)
- 6 10:00 Morning Worship (SNCH)  
10:30 Joint Service (SGMC)
- 7 14:00 - 16:00 DAG Craft Café (CZ)  
19:00 EHSO AGM (EHSO)
- 8 09:30 - 11:30 DAG Art Group (CZ)  
10:00-12:00 Coffee Morning (DSVH)  
14:00 D'derry & Seaton WI (CZ)
- 9 18:00-20:00 DAG Table Tennis (CZ)
- 10 12:30 StG Thursday Club Annual Lunch (EHSO)  
19:30 Devioc PC Full Meeting (CZ)
- 11 09:30 CB to Tavistock (CB)
- 12 10:00-14:00 Autumn Table Top Sale (EHSO)  
11:00-13:00 H'ford Coffee, Cake & Chat (HCH)  
13:00 Film Matinée - Lion King (DSVH)  
18:30 Film Night - War Horse (DSVH)
- 13 10:00 Joint Service (SGMC)  
10:45 Act of Remembrance (TRBL & TC)  
10:50 Remembrance Svc (War Memorial St G)  
10:45 Act of Remembrance (DD Memor'I Gdn)  
11:15-13:00 Remembrance refreshments (DSVH)  
15:00 Holy Communion (CZ)
- 14 14:00 - 16:00 DAG Craft Café (CZ)
- 15 09:30 - 11:30 DAG Art Group (CZ)  
Mobile Library:  
St Germans - Alms Houses 09:45 - 10:05  
St Germans - Quay Road. 10:15 - 10:50  
Downderry - Inn. 13:55 - 14:35  
Seaton - Car Park. 14:45 - 15:05
- 16 09:30 CB to Truro (CB)  
18:00-20:00 DAG Table Tennis (CZ)  
19:30 St Germans Gardening Club (EHSO)
- 18 09:30 CB to Trago Mills (CB)

- 19 10:00 - 13:00 Little Breakfast (DSVH)
- 20 10:00 Sunday Service (SNCh)  
10:30-11:30 St G Recycling for Charity (EA)  
14:00-20:00 St G Traffic Consultation (EHSO)
- 21 12:00 World Cup Football (DSVH)  
14:00-16:00 DAG Craft Café - Card Making(CZ)
- 22 09:30 - 11:30 DAG Art Group (CZ)
- 23 14:00-20:00 St G Traffic Consultation (EHSO)  
18:00-20:00 DAG Table Tennis (CZ)
- 24 10:00-12:00 Coffee Morning (SGMC)  
14:30 St Germans Thursday Club (EHSO)  
18:30 Devioc PC Planning & GP Meetings (CZ)
- 25 09:30 CB to Dartington Cider Press (CB)  
18:00 - 21:00 St G Priory Xmas Market (SGPC)  
18:00 World Cup Football (DSVH)
- 26 10:00 - 16:00 St G Priory Xmas Market (SGPC)  
10:00 - 14:30 Xmas Charities Event (DSVH)
- 27 10:00 Sunday Service (Shevioc)  
10:30 Sunday Service & Faith Lunch (SGMC)  
16:00 Advent Service (SGPC)  
18:00 Advent Carols (Shevioc)
- 28 CC 'Dogs on beaches' consultation ends  
14:00-16:00 Craft Café & Wellbeing Hub (CZ)
- 29 09:30 - 11:30 DAG Art Group (CZ)
- 30 18:00-20:00 DAG Table Tennis (CZ)

**CZ Downderry Coastal Zone; CB Community Bus; DSVH Dderry & Seaton VH; PoIH Polbathic Hall; EA Eliot Arms StG; EHSO Eliot Hall StG; HC H'ford Church; HCH H'ford Church Hall; SGMC St G Methodist Ch; SGPC St G Priory Church; SNCh St Nicolas' Church; SNS St Nicolas' School; TC Tideford Church; TRBL Tideford RBL Hall; WVH W'gates V Hall**

Copy for Rita's Rota should be sent to [nuttree.editor@yahoo.com](mailto:nuttree.editor@yahoo.com) by 15<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month.

**Rita**

**[nuttree.editor@yahoo.com](mailto:nuttree.editor@yahoo.com)**

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