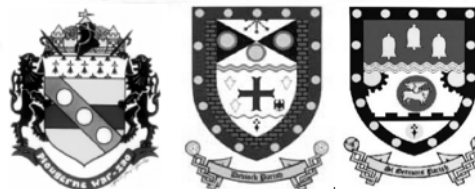


NUT TREE

February 2023 Volume 37 (11)



Nature Notes - Two Tales from Winter

A few days before Christmas and the challenging dry, icy conditions have been swept away by equally unwelcome southerly gales and heavy rain. I decide to take the path along the river rather than use the local lanes for an early walk. It is less exposed surrounded by trees in the valley and, although the swollen river is running high, I hope that the path is passable. A few birds are calling but they remain hidden or create silhouettes in the ominous gloom above. No chance of a kingfisher in these conditions. Glancing downstream, I glimpse a dark sinuous shape emerging from the water, just its head and back at first facing upstream and towards me. I am a few metres away from an otter. It disappears and for a few seconds I turn my gaze upstream and downstream hoping I have not lost the moment. Thankfully, the otter re-emerges close to the far bank shielded by a fallen log. I move tentatively to obtain a better view and now it is mostly out of the water tackling the white remains of a fish. Further splashing and hiding before I realise that there are two animals, playful siblings. A further dive and they are gone as I catch sight of a solitary tail emerging from the river as they pass downriver. All over in a couple of minutes, this chance encounter with an iconic mammal has raised my spirits and vindicated my choice. Buoyed by this experience, I continue my walk along the path and move closer to the coast. In the more open surroundings, I struggle in the gale-force wind. Bird calls are replaced by the collective moaning of creaking trees, whilst the background roar of the thunderous waves grows step by step. The rain is now horizontal and I am happy to reach the safety of the bus-shelter. Time to dry out and enjoy.

Not yet the middle of January and everyone has had enough of the unforgiving rain. The valley is flooded and the footpath struggles to function especially at the northern end. As the river wrestles with the top of the bridge, trees stand hopeless in this temporary wetland and adopt a primeval appearance. It would not surprise me to see an alligator, but a mewling Buzzard spoils the moment as it circles above. Wood Pigeons are content in the tree-tops, but smaller birds are ominously absent save the

persistent Robins. As I peer into the watery vastness, I note a few Mallards swimming contentedly amongst the trees, no longer confined to ponds and river which have coalesced. The fast current is still visible, even audible as the river races to the sea, but for the ducks it is a rare freedom to enjoy this extension to their habitat away from the usual dangers. On my return, I pause at the ditch besides the path hopefully to witness an annual event. Sure enough, a few clumps of frogspawn are there, a real sign of the mild weather. There is some movement and I count four frogs too. For them there is no lack of water, but I hope they survive any low temperatures that are forecast.

Alan Payne

Deviocck Parish Council

There will be two meetings in February: Thursday 9th (Full Council) and Thursday 23rd (Planning Committee). All meetings take place at the Zone, Downterry Methodist Church; social distancing and reduced capacity will continue to apply. See Agendas for details prior to each meeting.

SW Ambulance defibrillator training: A defibrillator training session will take place at the Smugglers Inn pub in Seaton on Saturday 4th February 2023 at 11.30am. The session will last approximately 1.5 hours and is open to all: residents, visitors and local businesses, so please feel free to come along.

Changing Places Toilets: The Parish Council will shortly be sending out tendering documentation to interested contractors and modular building suppliers for work to begin on the CPT.

Reporting: A reminder about Cornwall Council's reporting page on its website (www.cornwall.gov.uk/report-something/), allowing residents to report anything - from potholes and blocked drains to hedges obstructing the highway - and upload photos. Our Cornwall Councillors and the Parish Council also do a lot of reporting, including where risk is greater, such as fallen or damaged trees, flooding, etc. The Parish Council's website has links to specific Cornwall Council reporting pages; just click on the *Contact* tab, then *Report a problem*.

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, go to our website at: www.deviocckparish.org.uk/. The Parish Clerk can be contacted Mon-Fri by email at clerk.deviocckpc@btinternet.com. From February, the Parish Office in Downterry will be open on Wednesday afternoons, 2pm-5pm.

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.

St Germans Parish Council

A Happy New Year to you all. Over the Christmas period we have made some progress. The lease has been signed for the Tideford playpark. The contractor for the Tideford playpark renovation and updating has been agreed. Earthwrights of Dartington are preparing items and should arrive to start on site around the middle of February. We will keep you posted as work progresses. The clothes collection bin will be temporarily removed but rest assured it will return.

The “No Footway” signs on the Polbathic to St Germans road, have been installed which should help keep the pedestrians safer.

The notice boards have been tidied and we would remind all that they are for Council use and local organisations so other items may be removed.

The Council is in need of new Councillors in both Polbathic and St Germans and the advert is out for a replacement Clerk. If you are interested, you can find us on the web site or come along to a meeting. The next meeting is 27th February at Polbathic Village Hall at 6:30 pm

Nigel Witton

News from our Churches

The Benefice has been busy working with the Diocese on the Parish Profile and thinking about the type of priest we will need ahead of advertising the post. If all goes to plan, we hope to see a new priest in place this autumn, working across the thirteen churches of the new Benefice which will include Torpoint.

This month we will have a visit from the Rt Revd Philip Mounstephen, Bishop of Truro as he joins us for a United Benefice Service at St Mary's, Sheviock on 5th February at 10:00am. February also sees the start of Lent with Ash Wednesday on 22nd February. Keep an eye on our Facebook pages and weekly email for details of the Lent course which will be on the theme of Generosity.

The Rt Revd Hugh Nelson, Bishop of St Germans will lead the Easter Day Service at St Germans when the whole Benefice will come together to celebrate.

Revd Laura Bushell Hawke
Curate, St Germans Group with Antony and Sheviock

The Zone - The Methodist Church by the Sea

On February 13th at 3.00pm our monthly Service will be taken by Mr Bernard Melling. All are welcome.



Every Wednesday we continue to have our weekly coffee mornings, and we are now part of the Warm Welcome project, so we will be there between 10.00am and 12.00 noon and you 'pay as you can'. We look forward to seeing you.

Elsa Guilfoyle Chapel Steward

St Germans Methodist Church

A belated but very happy and peaceful new year to you all. How good it was to be able to spend Christmas with our families again and also worship more freely in our churches. Apologies for a cancelled carol service but, because of the icy conditions, it would have been too hazardous to venture out. We were, however, able to share with our friends at both Donderry and Craffhole the following week.

We are open as usual for worship each Sunday in February except for the 26th when all the churches in our Circuit will join with Saltash Wesley Church for a combined service at 10.30am.

On Saturday 18th February we will hold our monthly coffee morning. All proceeds will be sent to help Shelter Box work. Please come and help support this vital aid.

We will also be joining for Bible Study with Craffhole Methodist Church on Thursday 2nd and 16th of February. Please call 01503 230403 for further information.

Steve Gerrard

Editorial

A very Happy New Year to all our readers. It doesn't take much foresight to predict that 2023 is going to bring more uncertainty and new challenges but The Nut Tree will, I hope, continue to provide some familiar comfort that, despite all the 'noise' around us, some things here in SE Cornwall don't change too much. We may even try a new font once in a while; but whilst elsewhere in the county rockets are heading for orbit (nearly) and nationwide the core costs of living are seemingly headed on a similar trajectory, you can be reassured that we'll keep trying to keep you informed of what's going on locally in Deviock and St Germans Parishes, free of charge and without the intrusion of politics or commercial interest. That said, we do have to watch costs too. I have had to abbreviate a few contributions this month to fit our standard page count. We do want to include as many contributions as possible from the widest range of clubs, societies, groups and individuals so, particularly if you're a regular contributor, please do your best to keep things short, sweet and to the point.

Quay Lane Surgery

Patient Participation Group (PPG)

February can be a bleak time and this winter has become particularly difficult for many. Community warm spaces are being provided in our villages offering free hot drinks, snacks and good company. Warming up and knowing you are not alone, can make all the difference.

Thank you to everyone who supported the PPG 2022 Christmas raffle - it raised a wonderful £500 which will provide medical and ancillary equipment to enhance care services and patient experience at both surgeries. We will keep you up to date with how this money is utilised.

If you would like to know more about how the Patient Participation Group represents patients and works together with the practice - you can contact me by email or write to Debbie Todd, Practice Manager at Quay Lane Surgery, St Germans PL12 5LH for more information.

Claire Croft, Chair quaylaneppg@gmail.com

Practice News

The surgery is still experiencing an unprecedented demand on their appointment system. This does mean that the wait for a routine GP appointment will be longer.

Injured or unwell? Use the right service **NHS**

Self-care	Pharmacy	NHS 111	GP	Minor Injury Unit	A&E
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grazed knees• Sore throat• Coughs & colds Visit nhs.uk for self-care advice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Headaches• Upset stomach• Aches & pains• Bites & stings	Visit 111.nhs.uk or call 111 for advice and support 24 hours a day 7 days a week	Call your GP for symptoms that won't go away	Urgent but not life-threatening <ul style="list-style-type: none">• sprains• fractures• burns	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unconscious• Breathing difficulties• Stroke• Heart attack• Heavy bleeding• Severe burns

#ChooseWell

We kindly remind you that on the day appointments with the Duty Doctor are for 'urgent' medical treatment only and should not be requested for routine care or common conditions that can be managed with self-care and over the counter remedies. These can include cough, cold, sprain, strain, sore throat, sinusitis, earache, constipation and headaches.

Contact the surgery if your symptoms don't or won't go away. It would really help the Duty Doctor, if you have an urgent need that cannot wait, if you contact the practice in the morning.

Debbie Todd, Practice Manager



A big THANK YOU to all who have contributed to our village's fundraising campaign supporting our local Liskeard and Looe Food Bank inc Rame & Torpoint. The very enjoyable concert organised by Whitsand Harmony choir in mid-December raised £2,323.45 and a further £721.31 has since been banked, post concert and via the DaSRA Appeal. DaSRA Treasurer, Raj Chotai is building a close relationship with the team at the Food Bank and liaises with them every month before buying the items which are identified as priority needs for the Food Bank. This approach enables bulk buying which, to date, has enabled purchases with a retail value of £1802.64 to be bought for £1181.40 - a saving of 35%. The Food Bank values this commitment to monthly purchases as it secures a regular supply of the most requested items which can change depending on donated stock. It is clear that the need for Food Banks is not reducing, so we are asking residents to continue donating as they feel able - with cash/cheques via the DaSRA Post Box in the Shop or by bank transfer. Full details, including a breakdown of monthly donations and expenditure on purchases delivered to the Food Bank are on DaSRA's website. www.dasra.co.uk/campaigns/liskeard-looe-food-bank-support Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Our Ukrainian families, some of whom have lived in Downderry or Seaton for 9 months, are now facing a new challenge. It is necessary to find a way to transition from their current, temporary host-housing arrangements into more permanent accommodation. It is possible to do this as one mother and young daughter have successfully found a new home, new school and new job in Exeter, but it is not easy. The housing crisis is affecting everyone, not just Ukrainian refugees. There is a severe shortage of affordable rental properties in Cornwall, including in our area. Social housing and emergency housing options are very VERY limited. We are appealing to anyone who has, or knows of, potential rented accommodation that could be made available either in Downderry, or possibly Torpoint, where two of our Ukrainian women have found jobs. One priority is to find accommodation in Downderry from 31st March to 25th July for a mother and daughter so that the child can complete her school year at St Nicolas School. This would be more of "light-touch" hosting as all the necessary paperwork etc is in place; there is advice and support available to anyone who is able to host a family or rent accommodation. If you think you can help, please email leanneronk@yahoo.com.

DaSRA's Artists Calendar 2024. In producing three annual calendars to date, DaSRA has celebrated the talents of local artists through their paintings. In 2024 we are thinking of extending the visual arts to focus on photography. As ever with our calendars, the focus will be on local views, photographed by local residents. The timetable will require us to receive jpgs by mid May so that we have copies printed and ready for sale for the summer season. At this stage, we are keen to assess the level of interest from residents, so if you are interested in submitting digital prints to be selected as one of the 12 photos for the calendar, please do send us your contact details. We will then be in touch with you with a more specified brief. Email info@dasra.co.uk

DaSRA's website www.dasra.co.uk is a source of information for all residents. Our aim

is to give residents an easy reference to events, resources, and issues of interest in everyday living in Donderry and Seaton. One click can take you to Local Links, community organisations and activities and events, contact details in emergencies, Neighbourhood Watch Alerts and county and parish councils' websites, plus much more. Do take a look: if you want residents to know about your community activities, do email us info@dasra.co.uk

Laura Done, Chair 01503 250911

Neighbourhood Watch in partnership with DaSRA



Last year's Neighbourhood Watch Flower Boat project was well received with 3 boats installed: one at Seaton on a verge to look good and dissuade illegal parking, the second in the Memorial Garden to bring colour and peaceful enjoyment and a third opposite St Nicolas School to dissuade illegal parking, be a welcome to our villages and to contribute to the education of our children. Our thanks must go to the volunteers who have supported the project with construction, planting and watering during the driest summer since 1976!

This season we plan to install an additional boat at the junction of Trierieve and Top Road. We have obtained a grant from South West Water to install water butts in order to reduce the amount of water drawn from the mains. We hope to progress the installation of butts prior to the dry weather! We are now relying on donations and would be most grateful of any contributions or offers of sponsorship. This can be done via a donation in the DaSRA Post box in the Donderry shop; please mark envelope NeighbourWatch and give contact details if you would like acknowledgement or do email info@dasra.co.uk

Crime update. The good news is that we live in a very low crime area so it is understandable if our guard is down but scams can infiltrate our everyday lives. For example, Amazon is a trusted global platform, and used by so many. Scammers take advantage of that relationship. The latest list from Neighbourhood Watch lists so many scams in the name of Amazon, all designed to encourage victims to make a payment or enter personal details. There are too many to list here but you can find details on <https://www.dasra.co.uk/neighbourhood-watch>. Suffice it to say, the best way to protect yourself from fake Amazon scams is to never provide personal information over the phone and don't click on links in suspicious emails. If it seems too good to be true, it probably is!

We picked this latest scam affecting mobile phones from Radio 4 Money Box. Thieves observe you inputting your phone pin code. They then mug you for your phone and use the phone to access your mobile banking app. The best advice is to use facial recognition on your phone, and don't use the same pin for phone and banking app. Also don't store all your passwords on the Notes on your phone.

Contact me to find out about joining Neighbourhood Watch to get up to date information or visit our page on info@dasra.co.uk

Nigel Jones NW Co-ordinator



Firstly, I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year. I sincerely hope you had an enjoyable Christmas and that 2023 is kind to you all. I was mightily impressed with all the lights in the village and the Christmas trees that directed Santa to all our houses, provided you'd been good of course! Congratulations to Alison Pengelly for answering the question from last issue correctly; The date in which the village traditionally had a fair was 20th May. So, the chutney and chocolate go to her, along with my thanks for entering the competition.

Nigel has set up the blog to capture 'A year of Hessenford', however, Facebook is not allowing access via its platform, so we will load pictures to both blog and Facebook and if any of you have photos too, please add them or send them to us, as it would be fantastic to have a visual catalogue of the people, flora, fauna and events of this year.

It was nice to catch up with a number of village residents at the Coffee, Cake and Chat last week. These mornings are now reverting to the 2nd Saturday of each month, with the next being on February 11th. I am hoping there will be a cease-fire from the rain by then, otherwise I will have to don my speedos and bodyboard down to the Church Hall and to be honest, no one wants to see that! With the inside of my wellies now permanently wetter than an otter's pocket, I am looking forward to warmer days and lighter evenings, that will be approaching stealthily upon us. The Tug-of-War season is not far off and my personal training towards that starts now. That involves infiltrating the Copley Arms to gain some extra weight through consumption of Pork Scratchings and Tribute whilst discreetly assessing the competition!

The current weather has the potential to flood certain areas, so if anyone requires help filling sandbags and damage control, I am certain the village will pull together to assist those who need it. Also, should anyone want me to include anything in future articles, please let me know. You can ping me an email at jamesparkinson194@gmail.com and I will gladly oblige.

The competition question this month is: The Commonwealth War Graves Commission has 3 names of soldiers that are commemorated in Hessenford churchyard. What are their names? Until next time, keep safe and hopefully I will see you for coffee, cake and a chat on the 11th Feb, if not before.

James Parkinson

Hessenford Church Hall

Our Church Hall is a flexible space with large garden available for hire to anyone. Great for parties, BBQ's, exercise classes, meetings - hirers do not need to have any connection with our churches. We have a fully equipped kitchen and 2 loos - one with easy access. The Hall is very reasonably priced with concessions for many. Book online at www.hessenford.com.

Fiona Bristow (241008)

More Free Gentle Yoga Sessions Coming Up

Thanks to Warm Space funding from the NHS, free Gentle Yoga sessions with Casey are set to continue into February and March 2023.



The sessions have proved to be really successful, and we have enjoyed having a good stretch, getting a bit more flexible and calming our busy minds. Current sessions are running on Tuesdays at Eliot Hall from 10.30am – 11.30am until Tuesday 31st January, with 45 mins of Gentle Yoga (this can be done seated or standing, yoga mats are provided) followed by 15 mins for a hot drink and a chat at the end. We will continue in the same way for the next 4 dates which are:

Tue 7th February, 10.30am – 11.30am

Tue 14th February, 10.30am – 11.30am

Tue 21st February, 10.30am – 11.30am

Tue 7th March, 10.30am – 11.30am

If you'd like to book a place, or have any questions, please contact Casey on 07913 684253. We hope to see you there!

Laura Chapman, Volunteer Cornwall

St Germans Thursday Club

We have been looking forward to our Thursday Club's 50th Birthday Party and have been finalising our plans. Each of us has been asked to bring some edible treat - some sweet and some savoury. We have a "treats list", to balance the offers, so we won't end up with just cheese straws and no cupcakes(!) or whatever...

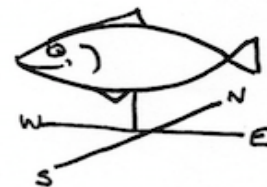
A special guest related to our founder, Cicely Nancekivell, has been invited.

Dear Thursday Club members, on Thursday 9th February, if you wish please bring any photos, clippings or any other memorabilia of the Club's past years. In past years we've had trips to garden centres, Tavistock, Truro and Wadebridge; talks, quizzes, and demonstrations - eg, chocolate truffle making, and flower arrangement. Music to entertain us from handbell ringers, small choirs, and ladies and gents with ukuleles. We wish to hear from, and invite, previous members, and anyone whose relative might have been a Thursday Club member in days gone by. Please get in touch.

The second February meeting, on the 23rd, will look ahead to our future activities in the hall, and outings. The annual membership remains just £10. Visitors and potential new members welcome. Enquiries to Jenny Putt, 01503-230766.

Sue Cousins 230106

Downderry and Seaton Village Hall Events



Please note, due to this year's Panto the Village Hall will not be available for use by regular hirers and other Village Hall Groups from Sunday 5th to Sunday 19th of February. Also, the Snooker Room will not be available for use from Thursday 9th to 2pm on Sunday 19th February.

Film Night Saturday 4th February doors open 6.30pm for 7.30pm start - Fisherman's Friends One and All (Certificate 12). Come and see the Fisherman's Friends sequel. The price is £5 on the door. There will be a licensed bar, snacks and ice creams.

Little Breakfast Saturday 25th February 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.

AGM Friday 10th March doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start - If you would like to propose changes to the Constitution and Rules, stand, or nominate another member to join the Committee or to become a Vice-President, see below for where more information is available. The deadline for receipt of all proposals and details of candidates is noon on Wednesday 8th February 2023. The AGM Agenda and details of the meeting will be published on Friday 24th February 2023.

Film Night Saturday 11th March doors open 6.30pm for 7.30pm start - Ticket to Paradise (Certificate PG-13) - A man and his ex-wife race to Bali, Indonesia, to stop their daughter from marrying a seaweed farmer. As they desperately try to sabotage the wedding, the bickering duo soon find themselves rekindling old feelings that once made them happy together. The price is £5 on the door. Reserve your seats before midday on Friday 24th February using the contact details below.

Downderry and Seaton Associations and Groups Event Saturday 25th March 5pm to 8pm - Are you involved in an organisation/association/group/activity that is looking for new members, volunteers or just want people to know you exist and how to get in touch? If so, we would like to invite you to take part in our second Associations and Groups Event. We will be inviting residents from Downderry and Seaton and the surrounding area to this free event so they can find out what is happening in our area. To book a table (no charge) see contact details below.

For more information about the above events see posters around the area, go to our website www.downderryandseatonvillagehall.co.uk or Facebook Group, email downderryandseatonvillagehall@gmail.com or telephone 01503 250412.

*Mandy Smith
Secretary, Downderry and Seaton Village Hall*

Eliot Hall Community Centre St Germans

Come and enjoy a hot drink and a toasted teacake with us on Saturday 11 February 10 am - 12 midday. We look forward to seeing you. Looking ahead, our next Table Top Sale is on Sat 22 April. We are taking bookings for tables (£5) now - please contact Peter Daw on 01503 230505.

Briony Woods

Downderry Memorial Gardens – Gardening Morning

We are a local group of volunteers who look after the gardens by meeting once a month on a Saturday morning (10am to 12 noon). Cornwall Council help by supplying a CORMAC gardening trailer full of garden tools and green waste sacks. If you would like to join us, please just turn up to one of our events and wear suitable clothing and shoes for gardening. Dates for 2023 are: 11th March, 15th April, 13th May, 10th June, 15th July, 12th August, 16th September and 14th October. Hope to see you then.

Volunteer Gardening Group

St Germans Gardening Club

We all have the Spring to look forward to. The snowdrops and daffodils are already poking their heads through. On the 15th February, in the Eliot Hall, St Germans at 7pm for 7:30 pm we have Jeremy Wilson talking about the scented garden, fragrant plants, and the camellias he grows at his nursery near Slapton. The club is open to all who have a gardening interest but do not necessarily have any great expertise. We are a friendly, open and inclusive group. For further information look at our website - Google 'St Germans Gardening Club' - or phone Roger on 01503 230629 or Liz on 01503 230431. Best wishes to all our current members for 2023. Looking forward to seeing you on the 15th.

Roger Whitehead



Downderry and Seaton WI

Happy New Year to you all (better late than never). Thank you to everyone who attended our events in November and December. The Four Corner Day saw us learning four new crafts, we will be organising a further Four Corner Day later in the Spring with four different crafts - keep an eye out for adverts and social media to check out what you could be learning to make this year. We are busy organising our speakers for the 2023 meetings, there will be lots of different topics and speakers, something for everyone. Some monthly meetings will be open to everyone, again keep an eye on the notice boards and social media for further information. Date for your diary first and third Wednesdays of the month there is a lunch at St Nicolas Church. Organised by the church you can come along for a chat and a hot lunch, pud and tea/coffee. Volunteers provide the food with the WI helping out on the third Wednesday. Finally, if you are new to the village and would like to come along to one of our meetings, we meet at The Zone, 2pm on the second Tuesday of each month, you are very welcome. We also have monthly craft meetings, a book club and can be found gardening around the villages from time to time.

Julie Green, Secretary

Downderry and Seaton Drama Group Panto 2023
proudly presents

RAPUNZEL



Come and let your hair down !
Downderry and Seaton Village Hall

At 2.30pm on Sun 12th February then
7.30 pm on Wed 15th, Thurs 16th and Sat 18th
February

£8 - Adult £4 - Under 16

Ticket sales by email: dasdramagroup@gmail.com or by phone to Cathy Jaycock
01503 250885 or at the DD & S Village Hall Box Office which will be open:
Sat 4th Feb 6:30 - 7:15 (coincides with Film Night)
Tues 7th Feb 1 -3pm
Fri 10th Feb 10-12am
Sat 11th Feb 11-2pm

***Most think this cold spell has come from the East but here in Polbathic, we
know the real reason.....***

The Polbathic Players present

THE SNOW QUEEN
by Helen Gard



Feb 2nd, 3rd, 4th 2023 at 7.30pm.
in the Polbathic Village Hall.

Tickets available from St Germans Shop, Tredinnick Farm Shop, Widegates and
'The Lookout' in Looe. Adults £7, children £3.50

***Come one, come all and play a part
in helping to melt the Snow Queen's heart***

Join our facebook page 'Polbathic Players Amateur Dramatics Group'
for further updates

This amateur production is by arrangement with Noda Ltd

Devioc Activities Group at the Zone

With all our activities we offer hot drinks & snacks on a “pay as you can” basis.
Supported by Volunteer Cornwall.

Craft café and art group. Mondays 2pm-4pm. Bring your own art or craft project or have a go at our taster sessions. Interested in inkle loom weaving? One to one tuition available, no previous experience nor materials needed. Come along on a Monday and see what’s involved.

Our AGM is on February 6th at 12.30pm All past participants welcome.

Tree of Life Dream Catcher Taster Sessions

13th Information from Project Linus-making blankets for children in need.
20th Rainbow wall hanging & key chain
27th Visit from Quay Lane Wellbeing Hub
Coming soon: Art, Mosaic & Enamelling tasters

Craft cafe contact: Sue via webstersue62@gmail.com.

Art group contact: Tricia via ppcjadams@yahoo.co.uk

Table tennis. Wednesdays 6pm-8pm all levels welcome, all equipment provided. Contact: Maggie via magiluv2sing@gmail.com

For information on children’s and family activities contact Leanne at leanneronk@yahoo.com

Viv Parker

A big thank you from the Monkey Sanctuary (including The Monkeys!)

Thank you to all who ventured out in the cold in order to support Wild Futures and join our Christmas carol sing-a-long outside The Conch in Donderry on Friday 16th Dec. Around 40 people joined in the festive singing, it was a lovely friendly atmosphere, great fun, and raised just over £60.00 for the monkeys! Everything raised from the evening will go towards Wild Futures' Save our Sanctuary appeal. Thank you to everyone that joined and to The Conch for allowing us to host the sing-a-long.

If you would like to donate to this local charity you can text SOS to 70560 to donate £10 or if you prefer you can go to our website www.wildfutures.org/donate and donate there. And why not pay us a visit when we reopen for February half term. Thank you again!

Frances Carthew-Davies (Registered Charity No:1102532)

Community Bus News.

DATE		DESTINATION	DEPART	LENGTH OF STAY	FARES SINGLE	FARES RETURN	
February							
Thursday	2	Liskeard	9.30 am	2 Hours	£2.00	£4.00	
Friday	3	LOOE	11.30am	3 Hours	£2.00	£4.00	
Tuesday	7	Plymouth	9.30 am	4 Hours	£3.00	£5.00	
Thursday	9	Liskeard	9.30 am	2 Hours	£2.00	£4.00	
Tuesday	14	Plymouth	9.30 am	4 Hours	£3.00	£5.00	
Wednesday	15	TRURO	9.30 am	4 Hours	£5.00	£10.00	
Thursday	16	Liskeard	9.30 am	2 Hours	£2.00	£4.00	
Friday	17	TRAGO MILLS	9.30am	3 hours		£4.00	
Friday	17	Tea and Cakes at St Nicolas Church, £2.00			3.00pm		
Tuesday	21	Plymouth	9.30 am	4 Hours	£3.00	£5.00	
Thursday	23	Liskeard	9.30 am	2 Hours	£2.00	£4.00	
Friday	24	Colwith Vodka Distillery tour, plus Duchy Nursery	9.30 am	4 Hours	£10 tour and tasting, . plus £6 bus		
Tuesday	28	Plymouth	9.30 am	4 Hours	£3.00	£5.00	

A Happy New Year from the DOWDERRY Community Bus to all our passengers, supporters and volunteers. We look forward to welcoming you on board again soon.

This month in addition to our regular weekly services to Plymouth (every Tuesday) and to Liskeard (every Thursday), we will be visiting Looe on Monday February 3, Truro on Wednesday February 15, and Trago Mills on Friday February 17. The usual departure time for our services is 09.30 starting from Broads Yard, DOWDERRY with all the normal pick up points along the way. **Please note** that the Looe service departs at 11.30, to allow time for a leisurely lunch and any shopping with a return time of 15.00.

Our excursion this month will be on Friday February 24 to the Colwith Farm Distillery, near Lostwithiel, where they distil gin and vodka from their locally grown potatoes, and use botanicals to create their special flavours. On the tour you will see how they prepare the mash, distil (numerous times!), rectify gin and hand bottle their spirits. After the tour and tasting, the trip will continue to the Duchy Nursery with its extensive garden centre, shop, and café.

Users from St Germans please note we are offering a new service to reach Liskeard **every Thursday**. We have changed our route to run through St Germans at approximately 09.45. This also means we can offer the opportunity to all passengers from DOWDERRY to drop off and pick up at Kernow Mill. Passengers will need to book in advance to ensure a seat by calling our booking tel. no. 01503 250944 (details below). Those passengers, who have a bus pass, will be able to use them on this service as well as on the Tuesday service to Plymouth. We are able to pick up in Polbathic and at two stops in St Germans at the railway station and opposite the shop. The route to Liskeard is along Bag Lane to Windy Ridge and past Kernow Mill, and then on to Liskeard. Please note there will be a **new departure time back** from Liskeard of 12.15 from the public car park, as before, behind the Co-op.

There will be a Friends of the Bus tea and cakes meeting at St Nicolas Church, DOWDERRY at 3pm on Friday February 17. For all passenger bookings 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.

Kevin Done

Downderry Community Bus 300 Club



Happy New Year - Only £12 each year and you may possibly win at least £20 each month. Just give me a phone call and I'll set you up immediately.

December 1st. No. 171 £20 Jules Jaycock 2nd. No. 49 £15 Mark Hufton and 3rd. No. 177 £10 Ursula Bennett.

January - 1st. No. 23 £20 Caroline Frith 2nd. No. 105 £15 B&J Johnson and 3rd. No. 94 £10 Leslie Keeble.

Jo Woodley (01503 250489)

St Germans & Area Public Transport Group

There are three major topics for you to think about: public transport needs shown by our survey, community buses, and trains. We're looking for new members to help with ideas about public transport generally, and you may have some specific thoughts - do get in touch if you want to chat about possibilities (a.cousins345@btinternet.com).

Community Buses. We've been told recently by Cornwall Council and Plymouth City Bus that there are no plans to revive a Go Cornwall bus route through St Germans. You'll see above that the Downderry Community bus continues to thrive, and will continue to call at St Germans and Polbathic (Tuesdays to Plymouth, and Thursdays to Liskeard). A number of people have been finding that very useful.

Public Transport Needs. We garnered lots of ideas from the survey in the summer, and need to build on those in order to develop plans for local areas, so that buses, community buses and trains work as an integrated system. This is happening already in some areas of Cornwall, and we would very much welcome anyone who can help work out local plans. For example, there were people in various places like Downderry and Crafhole, as well as Millbrook, who said in the survey that they need to get to St Germans station. It is important to find out further details about the times and the frequency they need to travel, their destination and their return journeys. The same goes for using public transport to other destinations. It would be useful to get information which could become the basis for building up new integrated services.

Trains. The current St Germans station timetable started in December. You can generally find copies at the station, in Downderry Stores and in St Germans Community Shop. Get in touch if you need one. The latest news from GWR is that they have to adhere to the government mandate in the process of resolving the industrial action. There continue to be new developments on the rail network, and progress is being made - slowly - to lessen the carbon footprint. For example, some of the older diesel trains are being phased out and more trains are being converted to being battery-driven. Although there is a commitment to maintaining timetables so far as possible, government funding is being reduced, and 'efficiencies' are therefore having to be made in the coming months and years. Thus, it sounds as though the May timetable is unlikely to bring improvements.

Alan Cousins 01503 230106

Downderry Bread and Babes Group

Bread & Babes has now settled into 2023 and we have got a few big, exciting plans for the year. We're delighted that Bread and Babes is one of the Warm Welcome activities now being offered at The Zone this winter. The money was awarded by Volunteer Cornwall to Deviock Activities Group (DAG) and means we can now offer "Pay as you Can" for Bread and Babes sessions (normal cost is £3 per family) until the end of March 2023. If you're finding the winter hard and need somewhere warm and welcoming to take your little one, come and join us at the Zone on Thursdays (term time) from 9.30am - 11.30am. We will continue to do craft, children play, eat... and the adults chat! For February, we have crafts planned to celebrate Valentine's day and Shrove Tuesday (on a Thursday) plus others.

Michelle Davies

Rita's Rota

February 2023 Dates

- 1 10:00 Coffee Morning (CZ)
- 2 19:30 Panto "The Snow Queen" (PoIH)
- 3 19:30 Panto "The Snow Queen" (PoIH)
- 4 11:30 Defib Training (Smugglers Inn)
18.30 Film Night (DSVH)
19:30 Panto "The Snow Queen" (PoIH)
- 5 10:00 United Benefice Service (SMS)
10:30 Joint Service (SGMC)
- 6 12:30 DAG AGM (CZ)
- 7 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
10:30 More Free Gentle Yoga (EHSG)
- 8 10:00 Coffee Morning (CZ)
- 9 14:30 St G Thursday Club (EHSG)
19:30 Deviock PC Full Meeting (CZ)
- 11 10:00 St G Tea and Teacake (EHSG)
11:00 H'ford Coffee, Cake & Chat (HCH)
- 12 10:00 Sunday Service (SGPC)
10:30 Joint Service (SGMC)
14:30 Panto "Rapunzel" (DSVH)
15:00 Monthly Service (CZ)
- 13 14:00-16:00 DAG Craft Café (CZ)
- 14 10:30 More Free Gentle Yoga (EHSG)
14:00 D'derry & Seaton WI (CZ)
- 15 10:00 Coffee Morning (CZ)
19:00 St G Gardening Club (EHSG)
19:30 Panto "Rapunzel" (DSVH)

- 16 19:30 Panto "Rapunzel" (DSVH)
- 17 15:00 Friends of CB Tea and Cakes (SNCh)
- 18 10:00 Coffee Morning (SGMC)
19:30 Panto "Rapunzel" (DSVH)
- 19 10:00 Sunday Service (SNCh)
10:30 Joint Service (SGMC)
- 20 14:00-16:00 DAG Craft Café (CZ)
- 21 10:30 More Free Gentle Yoga (EHSG)
- 22 10:00 Coffee Morning (CZ)
18:30 Ash Wednesday Service (SMS)
- 23 14:30 St G Thursday Club (EHSG)
18:30 Deviock PC Planning Meeting (CZ)
- 24 09:30 CB excursion - Colwith Distillery
- 25 10:00 Little Breakfast (DSVH)
- 26 10:00 Sunday Service (SGPC)
10:30 Joint Service (Saltash Wesley Ch)
- 27 14:00-16:00 DAG Craft Café (CZ)
18:30 St Germans PC Meeting (PoIH)

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

Entries for Rita's Rota should be sent to nuttree.editor@yahoo.com by 17th of the preceding month. **Rita**

Disclaimer : The Editorial Group accept no responsibility for views expressed in any edition of Nut Tree. Nevertheless, we will try to be as accurate as possible and seek similar factual correctness from our correspondents.