

The Golant Pill

taken every two months...

Three cheers for Easter!



The three prizewinners of the Junior Bonnet Competition brave the wind and the cold!
L-R: Freya Silcocks (2nd), Megan Dean (3rd) and Hugh Elworthy (1st)

EASTER 'EGG' SUNDAY

With downpours before and after the events, we were lucky to get a couple of hours when it didn't rain. Although it was cold, a good crowd turned up at *The Fisherman's Arms* to enjoy themselves.

The Decorated Egg competition started proceedings and the ingenuity and innovation shown was amazing. The junior section was won by Melissa Weatherall, and Patrick Towell was triumphant in the senior section.

The Easter Bonnet competition followed and the designs were a sight to behold. The youngsters section was won by Hugh Elworthy, while Dorothy Rickwood came first in the senior competition. The judges must have had a soft spot for the more mature lady because Gwenda Towell came third, also after many years of trying!

Thanks go to the Judges, all of whom have asked to remain anonymous to deter any reprisals!

After this came egg rolling down Fore Street. Some

cheating goes on (one culprit was caught having enclosed his egg in wax – I won't name him but he knows that we are on to him!) but everybody is a winner with a huge choice of eggs and chocolate bars.

Then the game of skill – egg throwing. Simon Funnell and Greg White, who both drew on their cricketing experience with an excellent display of catching, won the event. They received the Golant Egg Cup, which they agreed to defend next year.

Thanks especially go to Steve and Anne-Marie of the pub for providing the prizes for the competitions and the raffle, and to Vilma & Robert Dunley for their huge supply of Easter Eggs and chocolate bars. Thanks also to all of the others who kindly donated Easter Eggs for prizes.

Maurie Parsons, alias 'The Prat in the Hat'

See pages 3 and 5 for more of Mike's photographs and page 5 for a list of all the winners.

From the Editor

Events on Easter Day somehow summed up the way of life in our little village: the weather had continued to be absolutely foul and the forecast for the day was not encouraging but it did not deter people from decorating hats and eggs and turning up at *The Fisherman's Arms* in true party spirit. The judges had the worst job. How does one sort out winners amongst such clever, imaginative & artistic entries? Everyone from tots to oldies had a great time. Blow the weather! Well done to the organisers who put so much time and effort into the festivities and to those who gave all the prizes.

One of the many people who has commented about the *Golant Pill* loves it for 'it's quirkiness'. There's great interest in the little happenings. Please don't be shy about giving me information for the Gleanings page— no matter how short; even one-liners will be welcomed.

It's great to have Alice Hunter back after her illness. She's firing on all cylinders again! Both she and Jack Elworthy have worked together admirably to produce the *Sandbanks* page. In fact, they ran out of space and we've had to fit an article by Melissa Weatherall elsewhere. Thanks to all our younger contributors— keep it coming. If we need to have two pages for you in future, fine!

Tom Ross has written a response (p7) to our items in the previous *Golant Pill*. I hope that he and I will be working together in future to attempt to answer people's concerns about the sewage system.

It's a pity that the press release from the European Union (p6) has come so late and space could not be found for fuller coverage. Your response to such a radical change will be interesting.

In the very first issue of the *Golant Pill* I suggested having someone who could inform us about birdlife in our estuary. In response, on page 10, Barry Campbell-Taylor has written a most fascinating report about terns. I hope this is the first of regular contributions from him.

The spring equinox has passed, the clocks have gone forward, the weather *is* improving and we've a lovely summer to look forward to.

Come what may, we'll have fun in this village no matter if someone thinks we're a load of 'simpletons' (see somewhere in this newsletter about what someone had posted on the website).

Mike Harris

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The Editorial Team reserves the right to reject material or comments considered to be inappropriate or offensive.

Please note that the **Copy Date** for the next issue is:

Friday, May 23rd

Articles, letters & news can be sent by email:

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St Sampson's Parish Council

Thankfully the problems with the sewage treatment pumps are being resolved and although far from being perfect are now operating again. Our thanks to Tom Ross for the many hours of work he puts in on our behalf, trying to get answers from SWW on the technical errors still to be sorted out.

The question of the provision of affordable housing in the parish has come to the fore again. There was a larger than usual number of people present for the public participation session before last Thursday's council meeting, who wished to discuss issues raised by the receipt of a letter from the Taylors. They are proposing to donate land in 'Harry's field' near the church in order for there to be built up to four affordable houses. A great many concerns were raised as well as the need for such housing being expressed by several young villagers. The council felt that there is a need to gain more information from Restormel Council's Affordable Housing Planners – and such was the level of interest in this issue that an Open Meeting with the Planners has now being arranged to take place on 23rd April at 7pm in the Village Hall, where all can come along, hear what they have to say and ask questions.

The Council is looking for a Car Park Warden for 2008.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on May 15th at 7.00pm. Formal notices & Agenda will be posted nearer to the date.

Sue Reardon, Chairman, St Sampson Parish Council

Council Meetings are held in the Village Hall on the third Thursday of each month except December. The Meetings begin at 7.30 pm, but there is an informal period for Parishioners' participation at 7.15 pm. Any items for inclusion in the main Meeting's Agenda must be lodged with the Clerk at least 7 days before the meeting.

EASTER DAY IN GOLANT



Flower Power!



Skill on the Hill!



Easter Bonnets were Grand in the Bandstand!

Gorgeous Golant Gardens

On Saturday 10th May and Sunday 11th May, Golant is once again taking part in the Daphne Du Maurier Festival by opening up about a dozen gardens to the public. Tickets will be available from *The Fisherman's Arms* on the days concerned, at £3 each, and the gardens will be open from 12 noon to 5.00 pm. Cream Teas will be available at a few of these gardens, and the programme will give all the details. Proceeds will go to the Church Fabric Fund, to help with the huge cost of putting the tower into the same condition as the rest of the church. Please do come and support - whatever the weather!

A 'Miscellany of Garden Puzzles' Competition will be available to test your wits & horticultural knowledge (£1). Win a £10 Garden Token!

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Kevin Tomlinson - Saturday 26th April

The enclosed leaflet gives you details of Kevin Tomlinson's second show (*'On the Edge'*) to be booked at Golant Village Hall. His first, *'Seven Ages'*, was so well received that I am certain that word got around and even more people will come to this event. His showmanship, memory and humour will guarantee a great night out.

Cornish Lads – Saturday 7th June

Following the success of their previous shows *'The Cry of Tin'* and *'Unsung Heroes'*, Cornwall Songwriters present *'Cornish Lads'*, a celebration of the mining landscape of Cornwall and the Tamar Valley. The writers sing their own songs and thoroughly enjoy participation in the easy-to-pick-up choruses. Audiences will leave the performance humming the tunes and thinking of the men and women that made the Cornwall of today and shaped the mining landscape of the world. Tickets from *Mike Freemantle* (01726 816454)

AND NOW A CRY FOR HELP

For the past couple of years or so Siobhan and Colin have kindly offered visiting artists their hospitality, but are no longer able to continue. In order to support the Village Hall they have generously undertaken this without making a charge.

There is, however, an agreed payment for B&B plus provision of a light meal before the performance.

I have always thought that there were others in the village who could help out and enjoy the experience of hosting entertainers who perform in the village. In order to spread the load (which is only four events each year) I would like to hear from those who would be willing to add their name to a list of people willing to offer such accommodation.

Mike Freemantle, 14 Polmear Village, PAR, PL24 2AT
Tel: 816454 mikeatpolmea@yahoo.co.uk

FOLK MUSIC AT THE YOUTH HOSTEL

Catfish 'n Fiddle Folk

A Folk Music session is held on the last Sunday of every month at The Youth Hostel, Penquite House, Golant from 8pm to 11pm. Admission is free and all are welcome. Come to play or sing (or both), or better still just come to listen. Bar (real Ales), Tea/Coffee, Soup & Bread available.

Next sessions Sunday 27th April, Sunday 25th May
Enquiries to Iain on 01726 832395

THE GULL - some news of a Cornish Apple Variety

As I reported earlier, Pam and I took a collection of local apples for identification to the Trelissick Apple Day last October. Most proved to be fairly well-known varieties but one turned out to be something of a rarity. I had been told by the owners that it was a *Cornish Gull*, but I could find no references to that variety in the few textbooks I have, or online at the National Fruit Collection, Brogdale. Initially the experts were unable to name it, although it is a very distinctive apple, being dark green and very conical in shape, like a pear, but with its broadest part at the stalk, and tapering away to the 'eye'. After some searching we found a reference to *Gull*, a Cornish variety first recorded in 1934, but seemingly lost since. This caused a little flurry of interest and both Barry Champion the head gardener at Trelissick, and Keith Goverd, a horticultural consultant from Bath, expressed

interest in coming to look at the tree and take grafts for propagation. The name, it was suggested, came from the shape of the fruit, not unlike a gull's egg, which is so shaped so that it does not roll off the ledges where they nest.

Early in February, with the owner's consent, cuttings were taken; these will be grafted onto rootstock and if successful will be available for planting in the autumn. Barry hopes to plant samples at Trelissick, Tresillian House where John Harris is the head gardener, and at Cotehele, where the National Trust has just planted an orchard. This, he hopes, will provide a variety of environments, and at least one should prove suitable. I have been promised some trees to plant here in Golant, a replacement for the owners, one for my own garden, and perhaps a few spare if anyone else is interested.

The tree belongs to the group known as 'tip bearers' whose blossom and hence fruit are borne on the end of the branches, rather than on spurs from the branches. Inept pruning will mean no fruit in the following season. The fruit is sweet and keeps well, up to Christmas and the New Year I'm told. So the *Gull* joins *Captain Broad* in being associated particularly with Golant, although it could be growing unrecognised elsewhere, and hopefully the variety is now guaranteed a healthy future.

I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to Anita and John Fuge for much help with my survey, and, posthumously, to Anita's grandfather who planted this tree when he was head gardener at Torfrey House.

Advance note regarding this year's October Apple Day at Trelissick. We hope to visit this event again; any one with trees to be identified should contact me well before the event, and in the meantime try to make a note of the date at which the tree comes into blossom. Good photos of the blossom and the tree would also be useful in enabling identification, and on the day we need four apples and some leaves to take along.

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UNDER MILK WOOD

The play reading of 'Under Milk Wood' by Dylan Thomas was heard at the Village Hall recently.

The amusing story of a mythical village set in Wales, was set up for us by bold narrative from John Jenkin and Simon Funnell, who explained the village history, and introduced all the characters.

Although the story was originally written for radio, we were helped by a vast array of costumes to identify every person. Apart from the narrators, we had nine cast members covering more than thirty roles! Accents varied in intensity, but all warmed to their tasks and achieved great rapport. Facial expressions too helped to underline the brilliant narrative of Thomas in his description of the characters and the lives they led!

A very successful evening, held in a 'bistro' setting with wine & nibbles taken in a very relaxed atmosphere.

Congratulations to all for a courageous production.

Robert Dunley

EASTER DAY IN GOLANT



Hat Chat!



The Prat in the Hat!



The Bloke & the Yolk!

Easter 'Egg' Sunday Competition Winners Decorated Eggs

Adult:

1st Patrick Towell 2nd Viv Hawker

Under 14s:

1st Melissa Weatherall 2nd Hugh Elworthy 3rd Alice Hunter

Easter Bonnets

Adult:

1st Dorothy Rickwood 2nd Judith Campbell-Taylor
3rd Gwenda Towell

Junior:

1st Hugh Elworthy 2nd Freya Silcocks 3rd Megan Dean



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***** STOP PRESS *****

Win in Europe for Cornish

As we go to press, details are being released stating that the pressures over many years by Mebyon Kernow and other Cornish organisations to gain official recognition of the Cornish language by the European Parliament have borne fruit- at last! The official report recommends that Cornish should receive the same parity as Welsh, Gaelic and other Celtic languages. Actions to be completed over the next ten years include: Cornish to be a major subject being taught in schools in the county and all new signposts to include both English & Cornish names. There is a downside, however: some names in Cornwall have been anglicized over the centuries and, in the opinion of the European Committee, *must* revert to their Celtic roots.

There are 153 proposed changes of name on the EU list. eg Bugle will become 'Tanwyn' (white country), Fowey will revert to 'Foy' and Golant must be called 'Pol a Rilfo'. (We are not the only place being required to change its name by any means). Beroul, the twelfth century writer, refers to our village as 'Pil-a-rilfa'; 'Golant' was a later development. 'Pol a Rilfo' literally means 'pool from a rivulet or rill' which, it could be argued, makes some sense when one thinks of Water Lane! The implications are far reaching.

The new 'Guide to Golant' is nearing publication, and a decision will now have to be made about its title and various entries within it. More major irritations will be experienced by parish, district & county councils- the mind boggles!

The EU press release points out that there will be ways to appeal against these proposals. However, if the legislation is adopted we shall all have to get used to writing and speaking the ancient name of our village: **Pol a Rilfo**.

Mike Harris



Noah's Ark

In the year 2008 the Lord came to Noah, who was now living in England and said, "Once again, the earth has become very wicked and over-populated and I see the end of all flesh before me. Build another Ark and save two of every living thing, along with a few good humans."

He gave Noah the CAD drawings, saying, "You have six months to build the Ark before I will start the unending rain for 40 days and 40 nights."

Six months later, the Lord looked down and saw Noah weeping in his yard, but no sign of the Ark. "Noah!" he roared. "I'm about to start the rain! Where is the Ark?"

"Forgive me, Lord," begged Noah, "but things have changed. I need *Building Regulations Approval* and I've been arguing with the *Fire Brigade* about the need for a sprinkler system. My neighbours claimed that I should have obtained *Planning Permission* for building the Ark in my garden because it was development of the site, even though I explained it was only a temporary structure. We then had to go to appeal to the *Secretary of State* for a decision. Then the *Department of Transport* demanded a bond be posted for the future costs of moving power lines and other overhead obstructions to clear the passage for the Ark's move to the sea. I told them the sea would be coming to the Ark, but they would have none of it. Getting the wood was another problem. All the decent trees have *Preservation Orders* on them, and we live in a site of *Special Scientific Interest* set up in order to protect the spotted owl. I tried to convince the environmentalists that I needed the wood to save the owls, but no go! When I started to gather the animals, the *RSPCA* sued me. They insisted that I was confining wild animals against their will. They argued the accommodation was unsuitable and too restrictive, and it was extremely cruel to put so many animals in a confined space. Then the *County Council*, the *Environment Agency* and the *Rivers Authority* ruled that I couldn't build the Ark until they'd conducted an *Environmental Impact Study* on your proposed flood. I'm still trying to resolve a complaint with the *Equal Opportunities Commission* on how many disabled carpenters I'm supposed to hire for my building team. The *Trade Unions* say I can't use my sons; they insist I have to hire only accredited workers with Ark-building experience. The *Commission for Racial Equality* is insisting that I must invite applications from all the ethnic minorities, and use positive discrimination, if necessary, to ensure a balanced human group on the Ark. To make matters worse, *Revenue & Customs* seized all my assets, claiming I'm trying to leave the country illegally with endangered species. I have now discovered they have 'mislaid' all my records, including the CAD drawings. So, forgive me Lord, but it would take at least ten years for me to finish this Ark."

Suddenly the skies cleared, the sun began to shine, and a rainbow stretched across the sky. Noah looked up in wonder and asked, "You mean you're not going to destroy the world?"

"No," said the Lord. "*The British Government* beat me to it!"

SEWAGE TREATMENT IN GOLANT

The following notes represent an attempt to clarify/ refute various statements in the Feb/March edition of the Golant Pill. In order to help non-engineers understand the technology I will attempt to outline the two treatment processes considered for Golant.

RBC unit

A rotating biological contractor (RBC) is classed as secondary treatment. It is a biological purification system in which settled sewage from primary treatment is digested by micro organisms (naturally occurring bacteria) to lower biological oxygen demand (B.O.D) and remove harmful organisms. RBCs are essentially rotating disc septic tanks and use atmospheric air for digestion.

Membrane unit

A membrane unit is classed as tertiary treatment and when working correctly delivers a higher quality of effluent. They consist of a bioreactor using high-pressure air for agitation and digestion. The reactor is pressurized by a feed dump to force clean liquid through internal micro pore membrane filters. They are used for water desalination and are less tolerant of salt water than RBCs in sewage applications.

Both of these systems require a screen or grit trap and primary treatment to remove the grosser contaminants. The Golant sewage treatment works (STW) has a combination of primary and secondary treatment in one unit.

Statements:

1. *"The pump failure was due to the siting of the RBC units"*

Having seen the pump internals it is clear that the failure was due to a combination of salt-water corrosion and grit erosion. There was also some cavitation damage implying that the pumps had been run with suction blockage. SWW have requested a manufacturers report and I have asked for a copy and requested a status report on the piping system down stream of the pumps. The pumps would not have failed so quickly or have taken so long to fix if: -

- a. The laterals had been fixed before start up
- b. A significant quantity of rain water had been removed from the foul sewer,
- c. SWW had correctly specified the pumps, bought spares for the pumps and cleaned out the grit trap in front of the pumps.

The pump failure and resulting tanker traffic in the village had nothing whatsoever to do with the location of the sewage treatment plant.

2. *"an in-village membrane unit was the correct solution for Golant, producing a higher quality output, take up less space, involve no high pressure pipeline and very little pumping costs"*

Such a membrane system would consist of: -

- a. High pressure pumps with the same capacity of the existing units
- b. A separate in-village primary treatment system (a membrane unit will not tolerate grit) involving mechanical scrapers and wheelie bins full of raw sewage contaminated sludge. No doubt there would have been a SWW non-functional odour control system for this unit.
- c. A high pressure high tech bio-reactor including a noisy high pressure air compressor running 24 hours a day
- d. Two separate banks of high-pressure filters (one on line, one back up) operating at approx 5 atmospheres pressure that are far less tolerant of salt water than RBC units. The filters require regular chemical cleaning (hypo chlorite solution) particularly if contaminated with salt water i.e. more tanker traffic venting to atmosphere in the centre of the village. How long this filter unit would have operated before requiring cleaning is difficult to calculate but as about 10 tons of seawater per tide were entering the system until the laterals were fixed I suspect it would be weeks rather than months. This membrane system has a 140-metre high-pressure sewer compared with 800 metres for the current system and pumping costs of £4000.00 per annum compared with £6500.00 for the current system. The £2500.00 difference is offset by the power usage of the air compressor (approx £500.00) and cleaning costs (assuming no salt water ingress) of £1500.00 per annum. This system would have required regular preventative maintenance (a foreign concept for SWW) to keep online.

In my opinion, the above system would have been far more disruptive to village life than the system we have now.

When the Parish Council was faced with the difficult choice of technology and site selection the final choice (after full screening and costing of several options) was limited to the following

Either a high pressure pumping station, a long high-pressure sewer and zero pressure low-tech RBC units with integral primary treatment, or, a separate primary treatment unit. A high pressure pumping station with a short high-pressure sewer and a high tech high-pressure membrane filter unit. The Parish Council had been misinformed (by a factor of 8) over the tanker traffic and had to balance the risk of tanker traffic against leakage in the longer sewer. In my view the Parish Council made the best choice for the village.

In conclusion, the article in the Pill and your editorial comment in particular is essentially recycled technical nonsense, does nothing to inform the village and by taking unjustified issue with Cornwall County Council and our MP for supporting the current system (the very people whose help will be essential if we are to have any success in forcing SWW to fix this mess) is particularly unproductive. The real issue that would have made interesting reading was the fact that the tankers were venting raw sewage contaminated air at ground level and had non-isolatable sight glasses. SWW had failed to correctly specify the pumps (we were told they were salt water resistant) and order vital spares for these pumps.

Tom Ross

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

This is a private inquiry from a small family seeking a permanent home with close access and/or views of the River Fowey or its tributaries. If you are contemplating selling your property now or in the foreseeable future, we would be most grateful to hear from you. It would be a cash purchase with no chain. We are not in a panic and could meet an early completion or timing to suit your convenience. We do not mind how many bedrooms or the condition, our priority is the proximity to the water for our little family to mess about on the river, learn the ropes and find their sea legs, so to speak. Your full confidence is respected.

Mr & Mrs Brian Bunclark
11 Meadow Park, Shebbear, Beaworthy, Devon EX21 5QJ
Telephone: 01409 281315

A LAUGH AT OURSELVES?

Spotted in the village website guest-book recently: "This village seems totally obsessed by sewage treatment! How crude and wrong and a total reflection on the simpletons which dwell in this Dibley-like community."

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OLD GOLANT



This old postcard, owned by Jimmy Fisher, of Island House, Golant, was originally posted 65 years ago!

Seasonally appropriate to this Newsletter issue, it is postmarked **28 APR 43** and sent, with a **Par** postmark, 'To Muriel in Amersham, Bucks'. It reads:

'This is a picture of a little place we visited today, about three miles from here. We are having good weather but rather chilly. The banks are covered with flowers, and the colours are much richer than in our part of the country.'

An interesting observation!

Jimmy Fisher is always interested in purchasing **old photographs and postcards of Golant** to add to his large collection. He may be contacted at:
23 Moorland Road, Par (Tel: 813810)

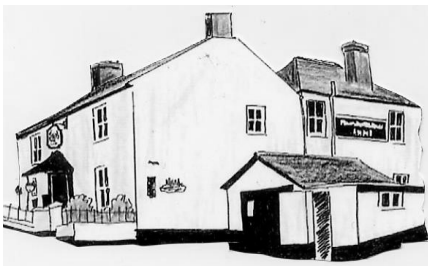
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sandbanks

The kids' insight on Golant

Hi everyone, I'm back!!!! I would like to say a big thank you to Jack for filling in while I was ill. I hope that you enjoy this Easter issue!!
From *Alice* (sub editor)

Skiing

As you may or may not know, I've just got back from skiing. Luckily I have returned without any injuries despite going down three black runs! I am very grateful indeed to everyone who offered me a job to earn some spending money. It was extremely kind of all of you! I am still available for any small jobs anyone has, which will be very appreciated. Thanks.
Jack Elworthy

Easter

It was my 9th year of egg rolling this year and it is still as fun as fun can be. I was wondering if anyone knew who invented it and when it started. Also if anyone had any photos from years ago it would be nice.

By *Hugh Elworthy*

My brother's new saxophone

Oh no, my brother's got a saxophone!
It came in the post just a day ago,
And already I'm half deaf.
All I hear night and day is root-at-toot-a-tooty-way,
It's driving me mad but what can I do?
Mum says his musical talent is shining through.
I say I'll leave the house,
I'll do a runner if he doesn't stop playing today.
Dad says I'm being cheeky- "GO TO YOUR ROOM!
You remember your violin don't you?
It was screech all day and squeak all night;
You could get no peace.
So, alright if you think this is torture.
You're being selfish, think of others."
Uhhhh! So I go to my room, wait an hour,
Open my door and a torrent of noise hits me.
My sister is standing there in the hallway blowing a recorder,
And I think to myself- not another budding musician!!!!!!
By *Alice H*

This poem was read by me on 'Radio St. Austell Bay.' I am a regular on their show but we are always looking for new recruits, so if you have a poem or story you would like to bear on air, give me a buzz on 01726 832206. It's great fun!!!!

FLOODS



A few weeks ago when I woke up early for school, I opened my curtains and was shocked to see an extraordinary sight. The green had become a lake and the tide was still surging in!

Forgetting breakfast, I woke my brother Joe and in a flash we were down by the park. The water was so high you couldn't see the flood path and the green was so flooded you could have swam on it. The park was submerged too.

Me and my brother splashed around for a bit and then walked over towards the quay, but the water was so deep we couldn't even reach the flood path. In the distance we saw the canoes drifting out of the boat house.

Joe tried to walk to them but he fell into the water and got his school clothes soaking wet. I found this hilarious; unfortunately Dad did not!!

By *Alice and Joe Hunter*

LIFE ON THE FARM IN MARCH

March is a busy time on the farm because we are preparing the ground for Summer. This includes Rolling, Spreading Slurry, Dung and Fertiliser, and later in the month Ploughing and Sowing.

We are also Fencing and checking gates and hedges ready for the Cows and Bullocks to come out for Summer, which, if good weather continues, won't be long, so look out for them in the fields.

By *Dan Palmer, Leyonne Farm*

Children's Gleanings

The boys from Lankelly RFC are heading off to Bournemouth on Saturday the 29th of March for the biggest children's rugby tournament in England. So I would like to say 'Good Luck' to everyone at Lankelly.
Jack E.

See page 14 for an article written by Melissa Weatherall about how she made the Easter Garden for St Sampson's Church.

TERNs

The Terns on the estuary have, for some years, delighted us. Not so delightful are the evil smelling and hard to remove parcels, which they deposit on our boat. However, the glory of these graceful and elegant creatures easily compensates and we always look forward to the arrival of these birds, affectionately known as water swallows, in the spring.

I was saddened to see not a single Tern during the summers of 06 & 07 and have been trying to establish why that should be. The bird's favourite food, the sand eel, seems still to be plentiful, climate change should, if anything, help them, and the shingle beaches which they prefer for nesting haven't changed.

My enquiries are often made difficult as many locals refer to the little black-headed gulls, which are present all the year round, as Terns. However I have established that the bird seems to have been absent throughout the county. On the Hayle estuary, concerned wildlife enthusiasts have installed groups of dummy roosting birds on historic nesting beaches, in an attempt to encourage the return of this popular bird.

I believe that 'our' birds are the *Common Tern* and, occasionally, the *Little Tern*. Both are summer visitors and each has a distinctive black cap and swallowtail, though the *Common Tern* has a red bill whereas the *Little Tern* boasts a yellow bill. I intend, in future, to try to provide data to the various bird study organisations and would, therefore, appreciate any information, especially sightings of arrivals, in Spring.

What a terrific place Golant is for bird lovers! We have been thrilled to see Marsh Tits, Black-Throated Divers and Shell Ducks. We love to watch a Barn Owl, hunting the land behind our home and are given huge pleasure by the antics of the Cormorants (are they actually Shags?).

Any information will be gratefully received.

barry@campbell-taylor.fsnet.co.uk 01726 832326



The Common Tern

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 St Austell
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Service Day & Night

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Please send your artwork or copy as required together with an appropriate crossed cheque made out to 'The Golant Newsletter' to Robert Dunley, Rose Cottage, Golant, PL23 1LD or telephone 01726 832807 for more information.

Artwork/Copy may be emailed to
golantpill@yahoo.co.uk

County/Borough Councillor's Report to St Sampson P C Meeting on Thursday 21st February 2008

There was a meeting in Fowey Town Hall last Monday on the progress with Unitary. I understand that not much that was new was learned but people were able to ask questions. I was unable to be there as I felt it more important that I attended the Cabinet meeting at Restormel to ensure that the Squire's Field issue was resolved finally as Fowey wished. All was well, fortunately. As you will know now, the Par Beach site sale was stopped, also, which is proof that if communities can show enough strength of feeling for or against any issue they can be listened to. The introduction of parking charges for Blue Badge holders has been delayed until the guideline for the number of disabled spaces is met.

From May 2008 the Borough Council will be carrying out enforcement of on-street parking restrictions in conjunction with its off-street car parks, until May 2009. The Police will continue to police traffic flow.

Cornwall is the last county to be hit by the Post Office closure programme. The list of 60 POs is due to be published on 31st March next and a 6 weeks consultation period will commence 15th July. A final decision on closures will be made in October. The list is compiled by computer which does not take into account rivers, hills etc. So there should be scope for saving some, but this will be at the expense of others (60 have to go). Criteria is 1 mile – Urban, 3 miles – Rural.

Biggest issue this week is the setting of the Council Tax. The ruling party at County Hall pushed through their 4.94% increase, whilst Restormel ratified a 3.5% increase. I pointed out that RBC will stand out as the big-spender against other Districts who have settled for 2.5%. Objection raised against the Police increase of over 7%, which is likely to be capped.

An extraordinary meeting was held at County Hall yesterday calling for a cross party group to visit Whitehall to press for improved funding for Adult Social Care. The Liberal Democrats' rest of house once again passed their amendment which was to delay any action until June.

Sally Bain



BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS

Dorothy Sylvester, a regular member at St Sampson's and a subscriber to this newsletter, recently celebrated a very special birthday (the next one up from 'three score & ten') and Colin Hunter will soon be clocking up 40 yrs.

DOUBLE CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Robert Dunley and Maurie Parsons who recently journeyed to Drapers' Hall in the City of London to receive their Livery Awards from the newest and one hundred and eighth Livery Company, the Worshipful Company of Security Professionals. Robert was a founder member and first Treasurer of the original Guild, and Maurie is now on the Court (Governing Body) in charge of membership.

SPECIAL AWARD

Congratulations to Anthony Harrison, owner of the Boathouse. Restormel Borough Council has nominated *The Boathouse on the Quay* for an LABC South West Region Built in Quality Award. Each council in the region can nominate up to two properties for an award, and the Regional Finalists will be put forward for the National Built in Quality Awards. *The Boathouse* is in the Best Conversion category, and the other property nominated is a *Single New Build* in Newquay. The awards Ceremony will take place in Torquay on the 18th April. The project, which has involved the building of a second storey designed by Anthony, is nearing completion and he pays tribute to the painstaking skills and patience of James Fuge, Alan Barker and Jason Snell.

A DOUBLE TRIUMPH FOR PIRAN!

Canoeist Piran Shelley, from Castledore has more big wins to his name! Formerly a member of the Fowey River Canoe Club, Piran now races for Richmond Canoe Club, and with fellow club member Nanette Kelly, has recently won the Mixed Doubles event in the 'Waterside Series' of four races. These are all based around Newbury and the Kennet & Avon Canal.

Race A is over 13½ miles and includes 20 locks, whilst Race B is 19 miles with 19 locks. Race C is 23 miles, with 35 locks, and the longest Race D, covers 34 miles, also having 35 locks. At each lock, the paddlers must run around them carrying their canoe & paddles.

Their total time over the four races came to 13 hours 12 minutes & 43 seconds. This beat the record set in 1994 by Brian Greenaway, who is also a past member of the Fowey River Canoe Club, and his partner, by 2 minutes 16 secs.

In last June's issue, we reported Piran's win in the Devizes to Westminster race with his partner, Tristram Turner. Over Easter, Piran has won this race again! With Nanette they battled through hail, snow and mist to come 9th overall, but 1st in the Mixed Doubles category in a record time of just over 22 hours. Prior to the race there was a twofold problem: Nanette broke a little finger and a promised canoe did not materialise.

PAR BEACH

Tywardreath & Par Parish Council wishes to thank everyone in the area for all the support given in the fight to halt the sale of the freehold of Par Sands Caravan site. They are working now on a plan to regain control over the whole of the Par Beach area. If they want any more active support from us in the future, they know that they can rely on us.

GOLANT VILLAGE WEBSITE (www.golant.net)

The webmaster can be contacted in any of the following ways:

Email– barry@campbell-taylor.fsnet.co.uk Telephone– 01726 832326 Post– 4 Riverview Terrace Golant PL23 1LL

GOLANT BOAT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION (BOAT WATCH)

At the Boat Watch social evening on 28th March all members were offered the opportunity to security mark their marine equipment prior to the start of the boating season. Now, Boat Watch would like to extend this facility to all readers of *The Golant Pill* who may wish to mark up any equipment of value that they may have such as TVs, computers, cameras, bikes etc.

PC Tim Rowe, a member of the Boat Watch committee, has kindly offered to obtain some UV Pens for this purpose and has given the following advice for their use:

- a. Both marine and household equipment should be marked on a part that is least exposed to the sun.
- b. Items should be marked in a dry area as any mark will fade quicker if it gets wet.
- c. Mark your items with your postcode, the number of your house or the first three letters of your house name.

Because the UV marking is invisible to the naked eye it will not spoil the look of your equipment. Moreover, all Police Officers in Devon and Cornwall carry UV torches and routinely scan all and any equipment they suspect has been stolen. These pens are available **On Loan** from:

Mike Harris (833897) or Robert Gore (832425)

There have been no thefts or vandalism reported on this stretch of the river in the last two months but the recent strong winds have again taken a toll of boat covers, sails etc.

Robert Gore

GOLANT QUAY USERS' ASSOCIATION

The recent high winds have caused a few boat berthing problems. A lot of boats have shifted and pulled their anchors and one boat broke free and landed on top of another. We would ask all members to check their boats regularly.

The bridge works continue to be delayed, with the latest official date being the 30th March for scaffold removal and then two weeks for foundation work. The good news is that we get paid compensation!

The two anchor weights that made the temporary frapes by the slip have been moved into the Pill to create the stern anchor line by the road. Many thanks to John Varco for shifting these for us.

We continue to repair the quay walls and now the stairs have developed huge voids behind them. The slip has been cleaned ready for the Easter rush although the weather is a bit cold for most.

Boating debris is beginning to accumulate along the beach area and we would ask members to take away their rubbish.

Peter Edwards

POLICE CONTACT NUMBERS FOR INFORMATION

NBM Golant / Fowey / Lostwithiel / Luxulyan / Lanlivery
08452 777444 - Police Central Switchboard - advice & reporting non urgent incidents/crime

'999' - Urgent police assistance (offenders still present or life/death situations)

0800 555111 - Crime Stoppers - To pass anonymous information.

Email- tim.rowe@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

If anyone spots a problem on the river, please contact one of the following:

- ▶ Harbourmaster's Office 01726 832471
(Out of hours transferred to Duty Officer)
- ▶ Mike Harris, Chairman of Boatwatch 01726 833897
- ▶ Robert Gore, Deputy Chairman 01726 832425

CORNWALL COUNTY COUNCIL

**ST SAMPSON'S TERRACE, GOLANT-
ROAD FROM FORE STREET TO RAILWAY**
Temporary Prohibition of through traffic

Cornwall County Council gives notice that the use by through traffic on the above road will be prohibited because of **essential rail track work** from:

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For further information contact:

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Tel: 01924 372957

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bang on the studio door!**

News from St Sampson

A large number of people attended the church for services during Holy Week. To recall Christ's entry into Jerusalem, the congregation were presented with the traditional palms. At noon on Good Friday a hundred came to hear the telling of the death of Jesus. For this, most of the music of the ever popular 'The Crucifixion' by Sir John Stainer was sung, interspersed with readings from the gospels. The choruses were sung by the combined choirs of St Sampson & St Fimbarrus; the soloists were Glyn Jones (tenor), who had kindly agreed to travel from his home in Taunton only to return for another engagement that same evening and Simon Funnell (bass). The choir was conducted by Sheila Funnell who is a great grandchild of the composer.

The feedback from a large number of those who attended was very positive and enthusiastic. The narrative had been brought to life and raw emotions had been touched. Young and old in our church had been faced with the terrible events that took place nearly two thousand years ago. Everyone was full of praise for the splendid performance of the soloists and choir.

A very large number of people ranging from very young to fairly (!) old attended the Family Communion on the morning of Easter Day. The seasonal hymns always go with a flourish as they did on that occasion. Though the weather outside was icy and forbidding, the message of Easter with its hope for new life brought comfort to those who had braved the elements to join in the service. After the drab look of Lent and Holy Week, when the church was stripped of all decoration, the building glowed! The flowers looked absolutely fabulous thanks to all the skills of our arrangers. The flowers always last for a week or two so, please, go and have a look. Plans to have an Easter Garden made in a local school had not materialised and we were very grateful to Melissa Weatherall (& her mum and grandmother, of course) for producing one within a few hours. That's in the porch. The church is open every day.

Whilst you are in the church, have a look at the painstaking work of John East. He has finished incorporating the medieval parts of the old 'Bishop's Chair' into the reading lectern. He is now on the last stage: fixing the last two panels depicting the Corpus Christi in a frame over the vestry door. Special security measures are being undertaken following the advice of an expert in such matters.

The Annual Parochial Church Meetings take place on April 20th starting at 7pm. The first meeting is to elect two churchwardens. Greg White is not standing this year. He has done a marvellous job for a number of years for which we are most grateful. Meanwhile, we hope that someone will come forward to take his place.

The Churchyard

The weather has affected our spring display badly. Even when the sun has shone the celandines have failed to open very much because of the strong, cold winds. The primroses are not as prolific as normal and the camellias, especially those in the lower area, have suffered really badly. But what a show of crocuses we had in the Memorial Garden!

The path to the new graves in the Lower Churchyard was very slippery and dangerous for the recent burial of David Scantlebury.

As a result the PCC decided to level the grass path along its length. We are most grateful for a gift of £200 from the Thursday Kitchen and an anonymous gift of £250 to go towards this project which we plan to carry out very soon.
Mike Harris

Women's World Day of Prayer

This year's Women's World Day of Prayer was held on Friday 2nd March at St Sampson's Church with participation from parishioners of St Fimbarrus Church, Fowey and other neighbouring churches.

The service was prepared by the women of Guyana, a country situated in the NE of South America. Guyana is an 'Amerindian' word meaning 'Land of Many Waters.' Culturally it is Caribbean. Its national motto is "one people, one nation, one destiny." Many of the men in its 750,000 population work in Canada and USA to send money back home, so women take on the day to day responsibilities of everyday life. From the rainforests natural medicines are obtained but the wood is exported to Asia for processing, so there are few jobs. There is gold in the rivers and rocks but the method used to extract this and other minerals have resulted in cyanide and mercury poisoning. Only 15% of people live beyond 55yrs, but children do receive free education up to the age of 14.

Inside the church there were a large number of palms, a Guyanese flag and a table on which fruit, plants, coconuts and pulses were displayed. This included a special Guyanan cake, made by Yvonne Bennett.

Because palms play such an important role in Guyana, every part being used, each person was given a palm cross. The service was led by Carol White, who welcomed 60 ladies & one gentleman, and the music played by Sheila Funnell, who did a splendid job, particularly in leading us into a 'round' for 'Rejoice in the Lord always.' Both Golant and Fowey provided readers throughout the service involving all denominations, and Barbara Shaw sang two solos beautifully.

Midway through the service Carol welcomed our speaker, Briony Goodwin-Hudson, who, together with her husband, the Revd Peter, had spent a number of years working in Chile. She not only gave an insight into the beauty of the country with lakes, snow capped mountains and volcanoes, but of the instability of the political scene e.g. relatives who disappear, and women having to queue for two days for bread even when they were pregnant, sometimes resulting in the loss of their babies. Briony used the reading from Luke Chapter 10 about Martha and Mary to help us see what was important in our spiritual lives. She told us, too, about an International Bible Study group which she set up for women in Chile, and how this brought solace and help to many in different aspects of their lives.

At the end of the service a collection was taken resulting in £161 being raised for charities supported by The Women's World Day of Prayer movement. Everyone then enjoyed a splendid tea, prepared by the ladies of Golant.

Janet Gore

St Sampson's Church Flower & Cleaning Rota

April 6th	Jacky & Trish
April 13th & 20th	Kate & June
April 27th & May 4th	Ruth & Gill P
May 11th & 18th	Paddy & Jill
May 25th	Gillie & Sheila

Village Hall Report

The cheese and wine evening with Simon Funnell's talk on 'Tristan & Iseult' proved to be very popular and we thank Simon for that. Please do support the next Carn to Cove show 'On the Edge' with Kevin Tomlinson on Saturday 26th April.

There were a good number of people who attended a reading of 'Under Milk Wood' by Dylan Thomas. A cast of eleven brought to life the events of a day in the life of a small Welsh village and their interpretation was much appreciated by the audience.

Thank you to Mary Jean & Peter Stone for cleaning the steps into the village hall which were becoming dangerous and for repainting the white lines.

Recently every piece of electrical equipment in the hall was PAT tested (done annually) and a certificate of Electrical Portable Appliance Testing issued. We are grateful to Vilma and Robert Dunley for adding a microwave to the kitchen appliances.

You will be pleased to know there has been some progress on the 'Bats.' John Kaczenow, an independent adviser, visited the hall on February 7th with his colleague Jessica Hutchinson. Having donned protective clothing and boots, they spent about 30 mins investigating the loft. John reported plenty of bat droppings and one corpse. This was a brown, long eared juvenile that most likely died of starvation last summer. Subsequently, John has sent a comprehensive report on his findings, including the rules and regulations relating to bats, their biology and the methods of survey. In his opinion the roof space is not a hibernation roost; it is more likely to have been used as a nursery. The adults arrive in March and leave in October. The good news is that the roof can be done in winter, but obviously this is not so good weather wise. The committee is having a special meeting to discuss this in April, and after discussions with the builder, a date can be fixed for the re-roofing.

Our **AGM** takes place on **Tuesday 22nd April at 7.30pm**. Please do try and attend as it is always good to hear your views and suggestions.

One of our main fundraising events takes place on **Saturday 24th May 10.30am-12.30pm** which is the **Plant and Book Sale**. Last year there was a marvellous response from the village both in donation of books and growing of plants etc, and many people came and supported on the day. Good quality books, DVDs, CDs and Tapes can be put in the hall between 4 & 6pm on Friday 23rd and it would be helpful if we could have the plants (labelled if

possible) by 10am- the hall will be open at 9am. Also on sale will be range of cards and gifts to original designs by Karen Hamnett.

For the children's activity this year we have decided to ask them to take a photo, do a drawing/painting or write a poem of a flower or vegetable or book. We should like these submitted a few days prior to the sale so we can make a nice display for the 24th. There will be prizes in each age group- under 5s, 5-11yrs and 11 yrs and over.

Please ensure that your name and age are on the back of your entry and give it to Estelle Van den Broek, Siobhan Harper, Mary Jean Stone or Janet Gore. *Janet Gore*

The EASTER GARDEN and how it was made



Firstly, the cave was made out of chicken wire and papier maché, painted & covered with stone, slate & lichen. A rectangular stone with strips of cloth across it was placed inside the tomb. The background was painted with clouds, hills & flowers & covered with sticky-back plastic. Three crosses made out of twigs were added. The pond was a lid with water in, sprinkled with flower powder & water lilies painted on with nail varnish. The path was made out of a plastic milk bottle, slate glued on & flower powder scattered on top. Behind the tomb was a moss-covered jam-jar which was made to look like a pear blossom. If you would like to make a dove like ours then you need to gather some feathers, which you use to form your dove, which needs to be tied to a branch with cotton. At the last moment, fresh flowers of different sizes were gathered from the garden, including daisies, violets, primroses, dandelions, pear blossom, a bit of aloe vera and azalea, with Christmas tree branches and pine cones which made the trees.

It was now the fun bit where we got to start planting and arranging. After doing so, we felt it was worth it.

I enjoyed the bit where I got to eat the lollies so that we could use the sticks, which also helped global warming, as we recycle them! Mike found a round, flat stone to place in front of the tomb.

I would like to say thank you to Mum, Granny & Mike for helping me do this. *Melissa Weatherall*



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Auntie Paddy's Recipe Corner

I am sitting writing this with the heat turned up! Outside, the wind is howling, and the worst gale for many a long day is raging. I can't think of anything more appropriate as the recipe for this issue than a good warming soup.

One that Vilma suggested and had everyone guessing at the ingredients, was this delicious recipe.

LEEK, PARSNIP & GINGER SOUP

This quantity serves 4-6 people

30ml/2tbsp Olive oil
 225g/8oz/2 cups leeks (sliced)
 50g/2oz fresh root ginger (peeled and finely chopped)
 675g/1½ lbs/5 cups parsnips (roughly chopped)
 300ml/½ pint/1¼ cups dry white wine (optional)
 1.2litres/2pints/5 cups vegetable stock or water
 Salt & pepper (to personal taste)

1. Heat the oil in a good sized pan. Add the leeks and ginger and cook for 2-3 minutes until the leeks start to soften.
2. Add the parsnips and cook for about 10 minutes until they begin to soften.
3. Add the wine, if using, and stock or water, and simmer for about 30 minutes or until the parsnips are tender.
4. Purée in a blender or food processor until smooth. Adjust the soup if necessary by adding more stock or water until it is the right consistency; it should be thick, but pour easily. Season, reheat and add your preferred garnish. I suggest a swirl of cream or fromage frais or paprika.

Paddy Shelley

Marie Curie Field of Hope Coffee Morning

Friday 11th April 10am-12 noon
 in the Parish Hall, Browns Hill,
 Fowey
Bring and Buy All Welcome

ADVERTISERS

Most of our advertisers have renewed their subscriptions for another year, and we have acquired some new ones. We are most grateful for their support.

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Have you a friend or relative who would like a regular copy of this newsletter? It costs only £5 (£10 overseas) to have the six issues per year of *The Golant Pill* sent by post.

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CALENDAR OF VILLAGE EVENTS

APRIL

Wednesday 2nd	9.50-10.10am	Mobile Library	End of Green
Thursday 3rd	12-2.30pm	Thursday Kitchen	Village Hall
Saturday 5th	pm	Grand National Race	Fisherman's Arms
Sunday 6th	9.15am	Holy Communion	St Sampson's
Tuesday 8th	8.00pm	Last Quiz Evening	Fisherman's Arms
Thursday 10th	12-2.30pm	Thursday Kitchen	Village Hall
Sunday 13th	9.15am	Holy Communion (Sung)	St Sampson's
Wednesday 16th	9.50-10.10am	Mobile Library	End of Green
Thursday 17th	12-2.30pm	Thursday Kitchen	Village Hall
Thursday 17th	7.15pm	Parish Council meeting	Village Hall
		<i>The public are invited to take part until 7.30pm</i>	
Sunday 20th	6.00pm	Evensong followed at 7pm by the	
		Annual Parochial Church Meetings	St Sampson's
Tuesday 22nd	7.30pm	Village Hall Committee AGM	Village Hall
		<i>All Welcome</i>	
Wednesday 23rd	7pm	Open Meeting with Restormel Planners	Village Hall
Thursday 24th	12-2.30pm	Thursday Kitchen	Village Hall
Saturday 26th	7.30pm	Kevin Tomlinson-On the Edge	Village Hall
		<i>Tickets from Mike Freemantle- 816454</i>	
Sunday 27th	9.15am	Holy Communion (Sung)	St Sampson's
Wednesday 30th	9.50-10.10am	Mobile Library	End of Green

MAY

Thursday 1st	12 -2.30pm	Thursday Kitchen	Village Hall
Saturday 3rd	9.00pm	Live music- Dave Stickland	Fisherman's Arms
Sunday 4th	9.15am	Holy Communion	St Sampson's
Thursday 8th	12-2.30pm	Thursday Kitchen	Village Hall
Saturday 10th &	12-5pm	Various Golant Gardens open	Village
Sunday 11th		<i>Programme £3.00 from the Fisherman's Arms</i>	
Sunday 11th	9.15 am	Holy Communion (Sung) Pentecost	St Sampson's
Wednesday 14th	9.50-10.10am	Mobile Library	End of Green
Thursday 15th	12-2.30pm	Thursday Kitchen	Village Hall
Thursday 15th	7pm	Annual Parish Council meeting	Village Hall
		followed by a Parish Council meeting	
Sunday 18th	6.00pm	Confirmation service led by the	
		Bishop of St Germans <i>Trinity</i>	St Fimbarrus
		NB Not Evensong	
Thursday 22nd	12-2.30pm	Thursday Kitchen	Village Hall
Friday 23rd- Mon.26th		Beer Festival	Fisherman's Arms
Saturday 24th	10.30-12.30	Plant & Book Sale	Village Hall
Saturday 24th	9.00pm	50s & 60s Live Music-Tory	Fisherman's Arms
Sunday 25th	9.15am	Holy Communion (Sung)	St Sampson's
Wednesday 28th	9.50-10.10am	Mobile Library	End of Green

FUTURE EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE

Saturday 7th		Cornish Lads	Village Hall
		<i>A musical show reflecting the mining landscape of Cornwall and celebrating the men and women who made the Cornwall of today</i>	

AUGUST

Saturday 9th		Village Carnival	
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If you have any item you wish to be entered into this Calendar of Village Events, please contact Janet Gore (832425), the Parish Diary member of our team, by the Copy Date shown on page 2 of this Newsletter, & we will try to include it.