



A RED ARROWS DAY DREAM



A brilliant August sun shone in a pale blue, cloudless sky as nine scarlet hawk jets roared down the St Mawgan runway and lifted off into the air.

Sitting in the cockpit was Jack Trewella, and this was the proudest day of his life. He was one of the new boys in the famous Red Arrows Aerobatic Display Team. Today he would be performing for his family, friends and crowds from all over Cornwall, flying above his beloved home town of Fowey.

Jack glanced down on china clay hills and pits where his Grandfather had worked all his life. Beyond his port wing the Eden Project biomes gleamed in the sun, and Par docks flashed by under his fuselage as the now tight diamond formation headed out over the sea.

The nine aircraft turned towards the mouth of the Fowey as the team leader, Jock McLean, reminded them that the next twenty minutes needed one hundred percent concentration as the team executed their breathtaking display of close formation flying.

Jack and his team thrilled the crowds for the next fifteen minutes with their different manoeuvres. He then positioned his aircraft up river from the town where he would take part in the daring 'cross over,' where two aeroplanes closed towards each other at speeds of seven hundred miles per hour, passing within feet of one another before roaring vertically into the sky.

Suddenly Jack felt his aircraft shudder and immediately lose power. Black smoke billowed from the tail of his fuselage! Instructions to eject came over the radio, but if he ejected now his aircraft could crash into the crowd.

Wrestling with his controls, Jack managed to keep his stricken aeroplane in the air until he was over the sea. Following through a procedure he had practised a hundred times before in simulated conditions, Jack instinctively ejected smoothly from his now diving aircraft.

Jack felt a sharp but reassuring tug on his shoulders as his canopy opened, and he watched sadly as his Red Hawk jet plunged into the sea in a great fountain of spray. Several seconds later, Jack floated down into the sea, and he was very aware of the coldness of the water on his face. He opened his eyes and peered at the grinning mischievous face of his brother Tom, who was holding a wet flannel in his hand.

"Come on, get up, it's Red Arrows day". Jack leapt out of bed and chased his brother out of the bedroom. Running to the window, he looked across a sparkling River Fowey towards Polruan. Today would be an ace Red Arrows day. He pulled on his tee-shirt and shorts and slipped his feet into his cros.

His dream suddenly came back to him when he saw his scarlet school jersey in the wardrobe. Maybe one day he would wear the scarlet flying suit of a Red Arrow pilot, if dreams come true. "Nah", he said to himself, "Red Arrows don't crash".

Graham Estlick

(Graham's story won a Fowey & Par Library prize recently, and he is to read it on Radio St Austell Bay.)

From the Editor

I didn't want to turn out last Saturday evening to see *Circus Berzerkus* in the village hall. I'd had a busy day and the weather was miserable. But, wow, was I glad I went! It was super to open the door and see so many in the audience. The opening of the show, in my opinion, was a little drawn out, but then it really took off! The responses of the children were hilarious as was the repartee of the comedy duo and the adults who took an active part were brave as well as entertaining. The standard of the juggling was very high. I particularly liked the coloured glowballs being juggled in the darkness— very effective! It was the best show I've seen in the *Carn to Cove* series.

On page 12 we have reported on a recent conversation with John and Anita Fuge- a most enjoyable afternoon. We can only cover a little of what we learnt from them about life in and around Golant in times past. This is, I hope, the first of a number of interviews with local people.

I welcome the contribution of a short story, which we have featured on the cover for a change, and three pictures of the newsletter being read in different parts of the world. How good it is to see that Mike & Lesley Moran are flourishing in their new life in the USA.

We are so grateful to Maurie & Gail Parsons who are organising a Race Evening with all the profits going to print this newsletter. The Village Hall Committee has generously donated £50 and other associations have promised to help. We are *not* in financial trouble but are mindful that the prices of supplies are rising at a disproportionate rate. We are trying to find a way to reduce the amount of toner used. I commend Robert Dunley's measured comments given opposite.

I know it's been very cold and wet but there are signs that spring is just around the corner. The days are lengthening fast and crocuses, camellias and daffodils are beginning to appear. Times ahead promise to be challenging but, I'm sure you'll agree, we've a lot to be thankful for when we stop and stare at this glorious corner of the Duchy.

Mike Harris

From the Treasurer

On behalf of the Newsletter team I must acknowledge with thanks all the kind donations received from both private individuals and our village institutions.

Our laser printer produces excellent copy, and we wish to maintain the quality we have achieved so far. However, it is frightening how the ink cartridges have spiralled in cost; black ink is now 40% more than two years ago! Each copy now costs around £1.20, but be assured that we are running a tight ship on your behalf.

Robert Dunley

'Golant Pill' Production Team

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The Editorial Team reserves the right to reject material or comments considered to be inappropriate or offensive. Views & opinions expressed in *'The Golant Pill'* may not be necessarily those of the Editorial Team.

Please note that the **Copy Date** for the next issue is:
Thursday 26th March
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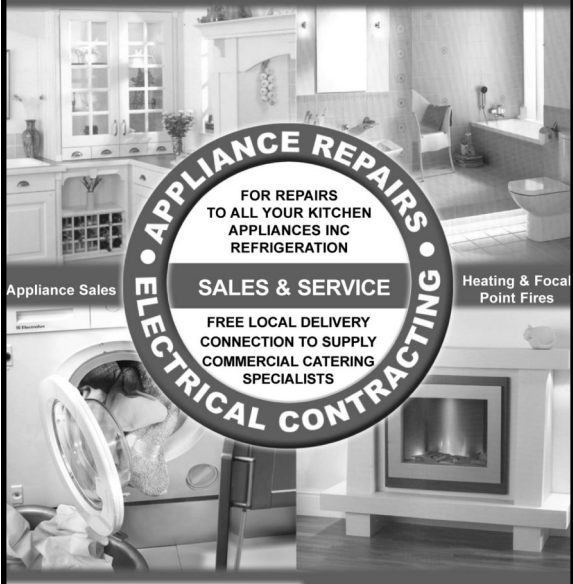
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Village Hall Committee

As we had mentioned previously, we had hoped to decorate the hall after the roof had been completed, but unfortunately due to illness this wasn't able to be done. It is planned that this will happen after the Pantomime and Easter.

However, we have been able to purchase new small tables. Thanks must go to Councillor Sally Bain for obtaining the grant so soon after our application.

We have been aware that the hall isn't always as warm as we would like it, and also, it seems as though the meter money does not seem to last that long. Our Treasurer, Sue Reardon, explained at a recent meeting that the meter had been altered but that was necessary because of the substantial loss from that source. After two quarters on the new rate we are only just breaking even. Our electricity bill is around £200 per quarter. That has caused us to investigate replacing the night storage heaters and to look at heat loss through the windows. Our Treasurer has obtained estimates to replace the windows, and reports that we are looking at a bill of about £2500 to do the job well. Any offers of donations/financial support would be gratefully received.

In the meantime, our thanks to Micky Morgan for his help when the hall pipes froze in January.

We welcome back the Thursday Kitchen starting on 12th February.

Thursday 26th February is a must for your diaries when Maurie and Gail Parsons have organised a race evening with a fish and chip supper. Booking is essential: 833475. Maurie and Gail will be giving the profit to support *The Golant Pill*.

Saturday 21st March is a Carn to Cove production with Tom Bliss in *Tales of Time and Tide*. This has been a very well received Cornish show with song, music and dance. Tickets from Mike Freemantle: 816454.

The next big event in the hall will be the Pantomime *Sleeping Beauty* on **2nd, 3rd and 4th April** which is always so well supported. Book your tickets early from Viviane Barr (832454).

Last time I gave preliminary notice of the Golant Summer Flower, Produce and Craft show on July 11th and plans are taking shape for that. It has been decided to hold another Plant and Book Sale on **Saturday 23rd May 11.30am-1.30pm**. So please save your good quality books and plant your seeds etc. *Janet Gore*

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Megan Elworthy & Alice Hunter were concentrating hard on the skill of plate spinning in the interval of 'Circus Berzercus,' the recent excellent Carn to Cove show in the hall.

TAKING THE PILL 1



Mike and Lesley Moran, former licensees of the *Fisherman's Arms*, were delivered their Christmas copy of the *Golant Pill* by Sue Strode, on a recent visit to West Palm Beach, which is about 50 miles north of Miami in Florida!

Richard Strode

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Colin & Siobhan Harper enjoying the winter sun

Siobhan Harper has decided to step down as a member of the St Sampson Parish Council. Since she became Head of Faculty for Mathematics at Penrice Community School in St Austell, life has become even more hectic for her. There are too many days when she leaves home early in the morning and arrives home late in the evening. On those occasions she does not see her daughter, Megan. She feels strongly that family life is of paramount importance.

Though she, Colin & Megan have lived in Golant for only six and a half years, they has been very involved in village life.

Siobhan has spearheaded the regeneration of the Play Area on the Green. Supported by Estelle & Andrew van den Broek, Debbie Andrews and John East, she planned the buying and installation of the new equipment. Remarkably, by careful shopping around, the project cost only £5250. One quotation was for £15,000! There are plans to add a swing in the near future. Estelle will be researching & organising this ongoing project but Siobhan will remain on the planning group for the time being.

“Being a parish councillor requires a lot of doing,” said Siobhan. “Stalwart members, both past and present, give or have given so much of their time to the village.”

Siobhan has been the Chair of the Village Hall Committee during some very challenging times and will continue in this post. The roof of the hall was stripped and recovered in the autumn of 2008. The building requires regular maintenance and the money to fund such repairs and improvements call for imaginative leadership.

Originally the family were all set to move to Australia. Then they discovered Golant! “We’ve never regretted our decision,” said Colin. “What a place for Megan to grow up in!”

Colin, who built their large catamaran which is moored out in the estuary, recently acquired a dilapidated *Mirror* dinghy. He has renovated the dinghy and plans to teach Megan how to sail during the summer months.

MGH

SIGNS OF THE TIMES?

- Outside a farm: ‘Horse manure- 50p a pre-packed bag or 20p do-it-yourself’.
- In a library: ‘If you cannot read, this leaflet will tell you how to get lessons’.

WHAT THE DICKENS?

Here are the answers to the Dickens anagram competition:

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Get extra ace points | Great Expectations |
| 2 | Violet wrist | Oliver Twist |
| 3 | Don named boys | Dombey and Son |
| 4 | Vicar fiddled Pope | David Copperfield |
| 5 | I saw tot at ice floe | A Tale of Two Cities |
| 6 | No shiny black lice | Nicholas Nickleby |
| 7 | I hope old Roy cuts this | The Old Curiosity Shop |
| 8 | I murder foul aunt | Our Mutual Friend |
| 9 | Rich Sam lost a car | A Christmas Carol |

There were only three entries, all correct. The winning name, drawn out of the ‘hat’ by our vicar, was Janet Gore!

TAKING THE PILL 2

Down under on Christmas Day!!



Mike Beswetherick, good Cornish friend of our editor, and firm fan and supporter of the *Golant Pill*, thoroughly enjoyed Christmas Day at Cottesloe Beach near Perth, with his partner Sheila and her 16 month old grandson Aedan. The temperature at breakfast time was 29°!!

[Where do you take your Pill?!!](#)

If you have any good pictures of where you take your *Pill*, why not send them to us, and we will try to publish them in future issues!

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GOLANT BIRDLIFE

I have never been especially fond of Herring Gulls; raucous, grasping, gimlet-eyed pests that they are. However, a one-legged version who lives on our neighbour's roof has generated a little affection. The bird was first seen, with a tangle of fishing line around its leg, about 16 years ago.

A few days later it returned, *sans* leg, and the roof has been its home ever since. One kind person sometimes treats it to sardine sandwiches and the bird seems to thrive. Only occasionally does it forget its disability and falls over after trying to put its weight on a non-existent leg.

Last Spring, we were delighted to find that he, for we assume it's a he, had acquired a friend, who now accompanies him on his daily rooftop vigil. They take their job of hurling abuse at passing birds very seriously, stopping only to engage in slightly ungainly displays of affection. Apparently, in the summer, she was seen to be presenting him with bundles of nesting material and tokens of affection. His reaction was; to hop it!



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This winter has been a tremendous one for Cornish Twitchers. Rare and exotic species have been seen in abundance. Although most birds were to be seen in the far west, our area has had some interesting visitors, including large flocks of *American Robins*, which were seen around Polruan after being blown over here by Atlantic storms. I often wonder what happens to these accidental visitors; do they have to await another storm, blowing in the opposite direction, to get home?

Spring is just around the corner and we are starting to see and hear the birds' preparations. Heartening, isn't it?

Barry Campbell-Taylor

Date for your Diary!

'Sleeping Beauty' 2nd, 3rd, 4th April

This year's Golant extravaganza is **'Sleeping Beauty'**, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday April 2nd, 3rd and 4th. Huge cast of 24, many Golant children in it, and fun for all the family (Oh, no it isn't!). Please do come along, and bring friends, aunts, uncles, grandparents, grandchildren, those people you met on holiday and swore never to contact again – anybody and everybody! Even bankers are welcome, as long as they pay cash in advance. We need an audience for all three nights, please! Songs to sing, jokes to groan at, dragons, fairies, kings, queens, peasants, film stars, romance, murder, intrigue, elephants, gratuitous violence, fireworks, cross-dressing – you won't know which of these are involved **unless you come and see for yourselves!**

Tickets £6 and £2 for children under 12, from Viviane Barr (832454)



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The kids' insight on Golant

Hi,

Hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year. I hope you have a FAB 2009. It's awful to be back to school isn't it?!

As you can see, we have a cool cartoon strip in this issue- *accidental* devised by 12 year old Charlie, whose grandparents live in the village. Hope you enjoy it!!!

Alice (Sub Editor)

Ice!

The other day on the main hill there was loads of ice! The little streams that run along the sides of the road had frozen over, and trying to get up the hill was made trickier than ever. Meg, Jack and I found it really fun walking up the hill for the bus; we slipped and slid everywhere. There were even icicles hanging from the usually dripping hedges, so Meg and I carried one to school in the comfort of my coat pocket!! When we got to school (my coat pocket was starting to drip by now) we ran to our tutor room, which is used for cooking, and rushed to the freezer. We popped the icicle in (discreetly of course!!) and boasted to our friends. Unfortunately in a few days the ice on the road had melted, but at least we have a memoir of that super fun day!!

AH

Dramatic notice

The rehearsals are going well for Buggy Malone at Fowey Primary School. Everyone has learned their lines (unlike in Sleeping Beauty!!) and I was wondering if anyone had a brown, grey or black trilby hat or a red tie I could borrow...I promise to look after it. It will be a fun show so if anyone wants to come, please see me!!

Hugh Elworthy

Panto Pleasure!

Me and Hugh went with the Cubs and saw St. Blazey pantomime group perform Cinderella in the Keay Theatre in St. Austell. It was really, really good and we both loved it!!

Joe Hunter

LIGHTING A FIRE?

A couple of weeks ago I looked out of my window and saw a fire engine rushing down the hill at great speed. Being the nosy chap I am, I followed it to see what was happening. I reached the quay shaking with excitement as I watched the fire engine struggle up the Cormorant drive. I then got told by someone who was on a boat that the Downs were on fire. I decided that it was getting cold and that I should go home.

The very next day I took out Kira (my dog) and walked up there to discover burnt bracken and a stench of fire.

I guess someone did this, but why?

Jack Elworthy

LIGHTING A LANTERN

Did anyone see an unusual light floating up in the sky on Christmas Day in the evening? My Uncle had bought us some sky lanterns on which each child (7 of us) and each couple wrote a wish for 2009. They varied from hoping to visit our cousins in France the following summer, to a Christmas Day in New Zealand for all the family to stay with my Aunt & Uncle, to eating lots of ice-cream next year.

After a fantastic meal we all went to the village green with new coats and scarves on, where we lit our lanterns and watched them fly high, high and away.

The idea of lighting sky lanterns can be traced back 2000 years to China. They were first used as signalling tools for the military, as the glow from the lanterns could be seen for miles in the desert.

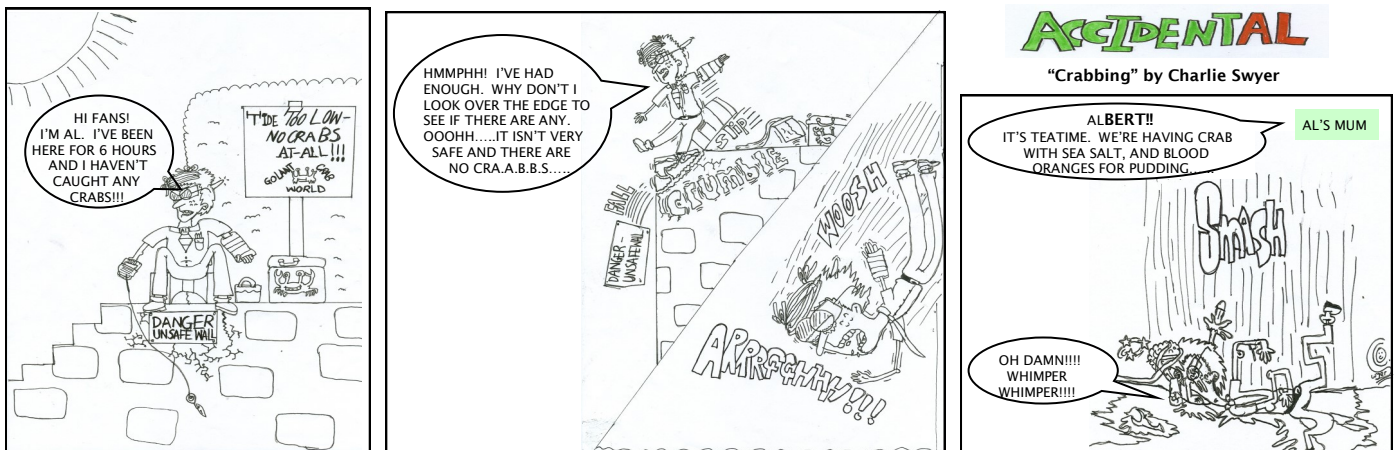
Sky lanterns can rise to a height of over 1000 feet and travel for miles, making a most spectacular and memorable event.

It was a truly magical and breathtaking moment. Thanks, Uncle Dom and Auntie Claire.

Jack Elworthy

We heard tell of some puzzled villagers who thought they had spied UFOs on Christmas Day! Now we know!

Ed



LETTERS & EMAILS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I thought that the village looked particularly festive over the Christmas season, with a lot of householders and the *Fisherman's* decorating the outside of their homes.

It was also good to see a tree on the Green again. Thanks should go to Pam & Stuart Young for the donation of the tree, Vilma & Robert Dunley for the lights and electric lead, Roger Tabb for the loan of a pole to support the tree, Alan Barker & Peter Edwards for erecting it, and especially to Ian & Sarah Laughton for allowing the lights to be plugged in to the electricity in their garage.

I understand that next year's tree has already been identified, so hopefully we will be able to get it up earlier and perhaps have some Carols around it one evening.

Maurie Parsons

Dear Editor,

Here are details for **Lost in Film** for February & March
***La Vie En Rose, Mon 23rd February, Certificate 12A**
 (a portrait of the life of the French icon, Edith Piaf.)

***Happy-Go-Lucky, Mon 30th March, Certificate 15**
 (a light-hearted comedy from British director Mike Leigh.)

Films are shown at the Church Rooms, Church Lane, Lostwithiel. Doors & the bar open at 7pm & the film screening will start at 8pm. Tickets cost £4 & are available in advance from Watts Trading, Fore St, Lostwithiel, or on the door if they haven't sold out. For more info visit www.lostinfilm.org or call 01208 873242.

Kat Smith

Penny Parsons & Naomi de Grey-Warter have both emailed to ask for the following ad to be included in *The Golant Pill*. Penny added: "It does involve some of the village's young thespians!"

Fowey Primary School Presents:
Bugsy Malone

11th, 12th, 13th March: Curtain Up – 6:30pm
 Venue: Fowey Community College

Following the outstanding performance of Midsummer Night's Dream last summer, Bugsy Malone promises to be an entertaining evening out as well as an opportunity to support and encourage talented youngsters from Fowey Primary School. Of Midsummer Night's Dream, Julian Davies, who has worked in Arts Education UK-wide, and was previously responsible for drama in schools throughout a whole county, said "One of the best school performances I have ever seen."

Please put the dates in your diary – tickets will be available from Monday 23rd February either direct from Fowey Primary School or by calling the school office on 832542.

The splurge is on its way....

(See 'Dramatic Notice' on page 6 from a young Golant thespian)

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St Sampson Parish Council

At the January meeting PC Phil Dingle was able to report a welcome absence of crime in Golant, and the one burglary at Castledore had resulted in an arrest being made and many items of jewellery being recovered. Nevertheless, he encouraged us all to be vigilant and keep an eye out on neighbouring properties.

The possibility of an affordable home on Park and Constable was again discussed, and the Parish Council is anxious to ensure a sympathetic design and avoid setting a precedent which would lead to ribbon development. We are all aware of how important it is for young people to be able to live in the village, especially when they work here as well, but we also have a duty to respect the AONB nature of the village. The Parish Council is not, of course, the planning authority, and although we shall do our best to make what we believe to be the right decision for the village, it must be realised that, in the end, we are at the mercy of the planners. If some affordable housing goes ahead, and that was the majority view in the recent survey, then, as I have written before, we cannot guarantee absolutely that other less desirable development will not happen in the future.

During the recent spring tides the sewage system has smelt both at the top of the village and at the junction on Church Hill. I have written a strongly worded letter to the Head of Waste Water Services at South West Water, to the Chairman, and to Colin Breed MP.

The road by the Pill is now being re-laid, and I am sure the end result will be a considerable improvement, although boat-owners will find the kerb height somewhat daunting in places!

For the past two years we have kept the precept frozen, even though our expenses have continued to rise. Obviously we use some of the car park profits to subsidise costs – particularly the Parish Clerk's salary – but we must keep sufficient funds to re-surface the car park and replace the railings. Also, we feel that the best use of this surplus is to enable capital projects to proceed, and to this end we gave £1,000 towards the extra expenses incurred in the re-roofing of the Village Hall. We have already made a very substantial contribution to the playground, and we are now planning to buy a swing for toddlers (probably a further £2,500). We have also agreed to

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buy new bunting for the Carnival as last year's rain left the original bunting looking very drab indeed.

We are asking for the Band D precept to rise from £13.99 to £14.60. I am sure we shall remain one of the four lowest precepts in Restormel, where the average precept last year was £26.12.

Finally, and most importantly, I am sad to report that Siobhan Harper wishes to resign as a councillor owing to the pressures of her work. Siobhan has master-minded the regeneration of the playground, and contributed great common sense and a warm understanding of the issues which face a small village. I thank her most sincerely for all she has done, and invite anyone interested in joining the Parish Council to contact the Parish Clerk, Barry Campbell-Taylor.

Simon Funnell

Parish Clerk details

Barry Campbell-Taylor

4 Riverview Terrace

Golant

PL23 1LL

Tel: 01726 832326

Email: parishcouncil.stsampson@googlemail.com

OLD PHOTOGRAPHS & POSTCARDS

Jimmy Fisher is always interested in purchasing old photographs and postcards of Golant to add to his large collection.

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Artwork/Copy may be e-mailed to
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Golant Gleanings

Congratulations

We are pleased to report that Bevil Luck has been offered a place at Merton College, Oxford. He goes up to read English in September.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery

Following the very successful operation to replace a knee joint in 2008, Kate Renwick has just had the other one done. Her recovery is not quite as rapid as last time but we are sure that we shall soon see her on her frequent walks around the village.

Diana Luck is still very poorly and we do hope that she improves soon.

Good luck

We wish David & Jo Palmer and their children, Lucy & Daniel, success in their new venture. They have decided to sell Leyonne Farm so that David can study to become a mathematics teacher. It's a brave decision considering the present turbulent times in the world's financial markets.

Request

Recently, Sue Reardon found videos of some past pantomimes and decided to put them on to DVD format. Apparently, VHS tapes last for only four or five years; after that, the quality deteriorates quite quickly. Sue is wondering whether there are other VHS tapes around with other recordings because the dramatic society has been going for many years. She would be only too happy to put any such recordings on to DVD- for no charge, of course!

Pub thanks

"Special thanks go to Ruth for painting the new picture for the Pub and to those villagers who commissioned and contributed towards it. We were both surprised and touched by this gift and would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved. Best wishes from Anne-Marie, Steve and Becky."

Arson on the Downs

The Downs were severely burnt two weeks ago. Someone from St Veep saw the flames and called out the fire brigade. It was nearly eleven at night, three fire crews were involved, two this side of the river and another on the St Veep side. There was nothing they could do because at first they couldn't find it; you can't see the Downs from the village, and they couldn't get there with their engines. It appears to have been started deliberately, as several places near the Saints Way had been set alight but didn't burn; others ran all the way to the top path. It is likely that the arsonist will return; please keep a lookout for anything suspicious.

2010 Calendar

Further to our suggestion last year that the *Golant Pill* would like to produce a village calendar, we are now looking at the possibility of one for 2010. Karen Hamnett, the Art/Graphics member of our team, will be organising this, and has the following suggestions for anyone wishing to send in any photos (we have already received some).

- Digital is the better format.
- Bear in mind that photographs will probably need to be enlarged, so the best possible quality will help.
- Landscape orientation is preferred, but not essential.
- If posting, do not put your name on the back of the photos, as voting will be done purely on a numbered, anonymous basis! (but remember to identify yourself to Karen, who will be the only person 'in the know'!)

Please send any photos directly to Karen **by the beginning of July:-**

email- karenhamnett@btinternet.com

post- Bloweys, Downs Hill, Golant

Keep snapping; we need to cover all the seasons!!

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

As I write this piece it looks like a good turnout for Circus Berzercus tomorrow, so I hope that those of you who turned out enjoyed the entertainment.

Forthcoming events for the Spring season are

Saturday 21st March Tales of Time and Tide

Tom Bliss, although living in Yorkshire, has associations with Cornwall and the West Country, and some of his songs may well mention names well known to you. This is a multi-media presentation, multi-instrumental, storytelling, song and dance show – well, perhaps the dancing is an exaggeration.

The enclosed flyer gives a flavour of the event, and I know, from personal experience, that Tom is a super entertainer with an enhanced sense of humour. This will be a great show for all ages.

Saturday 9th May The Secret Six

“What’s this?” you are thinking. This is a two-woman performance by great characters who will bring to life Golant as you have never seen it before. Old-fashioned story telling with a cup of tea, a glass of sherry and a twist (of lemon?).

These two can gossip for Cornwall, and the evening is suitable for all ages.

As usual, tickets and further information from Mike Freemantle: 01726 816454

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.
01726 812262 - St Blazey Police Station

GOLANT BOAT OWNERS’ ASSOCIATION
(BOATWATCH)

Three members of the new committee are members of the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary, including Sergeant Capp, plus one member of the Ministry Defence Police at Devonport! We welcomed, also, Peter Young, a Life Member, who has come out of retirement to act as secretary once more. For the past five years the post was held by Suzanne Edwards and her efforts were warmly praised by the committee. Colin Gibbs, who does more watches than any other member, has also joined the committee.

We now have two mobile phones for the use of watchkeepers. PC Tim Rowe managed to get free ones from both JAG and ASDA; we are most grateful for the support of these businesses. Each phone is linked to a different provider– we all know how difficult it is to get signals from Golant. Also, Sergeant Capp has managed to get a local supplier to give us new fluorescent tabards inscribed *Golant Boatwatch*.

It is likely that there will soon be direct links between other boatwatches throughout the county. We hope to share information particularly as soon as items go missing.

Harbour fees are due next month (groan!). This time a form has been enclosed asking for details of serial numbers of engines etc. This will be passed to the police and will assist them enormously in cases of theft.

Please return such information. It doesn’t matter if you send the form later; maybe at the start of the boating season. After all, not many people go near their boats during the present weather.

We are planning a Spring Get Together; more details in the next issue.

MGH

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

“Upper Deck Marine”

Albert Quay
 Fowey
 01726 832287

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 members

— Also —

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If the Open-Studio Sign is displayed, please ring the hand-bell by the house front door or, up the steps, bang on the studio door!

News from St Sampson

Christmas was a very special time for large numbers at St Sampson. The Nine Lessons & Carols was great! My thanks to the choir for singing so beautifully, to Sheila Funnell for composing and arranging a number of items and, of course, the congregations who sang so lustily at the services. The flowers, which were truly stunning, drew many appreciative comments; many thanks to our flower arrangers. The Christingle service was very well attended; the collection of £60 was sent to the Children's Society.

The repairs to the tower have been boosted considerably by a grant of £25,000 from Sita, the waste disposal company. It is extremely generous of them. There is a slight snag; the rules laid down by H M Treasury mean that we have to give back 10% to Sita. Am I missing something?! The total of grants now stands at £45,500. We have two more requests in the pipeline though the results will be more modest, if successful.

As the estimates are a year old, we are now awaiting the builders to compile new prices. Work must start before the end of March.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 25th when the 6pm service will be taken by the Revd James Funnell, the brother of Simon. He has already been helping us as organist.

Mothering Sunday is on March 22nd. We hope that many families will come along to celebrate on that day.

John East has just finished essential repairs to the stepped wooden platform on which the altar stands in the north aisle. The whole structure merely stands on various piles of stones so a great deal of remedial work on the main structure was required. Thanks, again, John!

It is a great advantage if any gifts from taxpayers, no matter how small the amount, are 'gift aided'. This entails a very short declaration – name and address. We were able to claim back just over £2200 last year which has paid our insurance premium with a little over going to the Fabric fund.

We have reached the end of yet another financial year and the Parochial Church Council has acknowledged the marvellous work of our treasurer, Penny White, greatly assisted by Greg. What a team! The accounts are now in the hands of the auditor.

Mike Harris

The Life of Christ 2009

This will be taking place at Wintershall, near Bramley, Guilford again this year from 23rd - 28th June.

It is a day long, outdoor, lively presentation started ten years ago. Some have called it 'England Oberammergau' although more than just the Passion is covered.

Last year 14,000 people attended so the owners have yet again put their retirement plans on hold!

It is planned to take a group from Golant and Fowey this year. So, if you're interested in a 24 hour excursion to Surrey please get in touch with:

Wendy Earl Tel (01726) 72861.

<http://www.wintershall-estate.com>

St Sampson Flower Festival: 500th Anniversary

During this year's du Maurier week, from Thursday 14th to Sunday 17th May, there will be a St Sampson Flower Festival which will take as its theme the legend of Tristan and Iseult.

It is an appropriate year for such a festival, as 2009 is the 500th anniversary of the dedication of the present building to Saint Sampson. Also, it was in the chapel at Golant that Iseult is said to have laid her rich, blue robe on the altar in thanksgiving for her reconciliation with King Mark. So there is plenty to celebrate.

We very much hope that some will be willing to sponsor these floral displays, perhaps in memory of loved ones, or to celebrate children or grandchildren, or simply as a gift to defray the cost of the flowers.

It is estimated that each display will cost £50, but you might like to share the sponsorship with someone else. Dedications will appear below the displays, and also the names of sponsors will appear in the programme which each visitor to the flower festival will be given – unless, of course, a sponsor wishes to remain anonymous.

We hope to have many displays and fill St Sampson's Church with flowers that will tell the story of this great legend.

Sponsorship is essential to make this possible; if you feel you would like to sponsor this event, please contact Penny White (832315). Donations of any size will be gratefully received.

Morning coffee, ploughman's lunches and cream teas will also be available, so if you would like to help with these, or assist in any other way, please contact Ruth Varco (833319) or Carol White (833404).

Simon Funnell

Church Flower & Cleaning Rota

Jan 4th & 11th	Vilma & Paddy
Jan 18th & 25th	Gillie & Sheila
Feb 1st & 8th	Jacky & Trish
Feb 15th & 22nd	Carol & Valerie

TAKING THE PILL 3

Clarence & Ruth Paull's daughter Suzanne, and son-in-law Richard, went to Krakow for a weekend in January 2009, and as you can see, Richard certainly had a good break!

He broke his ankle/leg slipping in a snow-covered pot-hole on a Krakow street in the former Jewish ghetto.

At least he had something interesting to read on the flight home and lots of space in which to read it!



Suzanne Cosgrave

BACKALONG

Gillie and I popped in to have a cup of tea and a chat with John Fuge and his wife Nita recently. John had just celebrated his eightieth birthday though he couldn't see it as a cause for celebration. Their cottage, *Sea View*, was built in 1838 and was a shop for groceries & bread for sixty years. It then passed into the hands of Nita's maternal grandfather who rented it for a few years before being given it as a reward for faithful service as gardener to the Mills family at Torfrey. There were two greenhouses at Torfrey House in which grapes, cucumbers & pineapples were nurtured, as well as a peach house. A strict Methodist, the only work he would do on a Sunday would be to go up to stoke the boiler for the vinery. In 1946 Nita's grandfather wrote a fascinating account of how he and his wife had developed their cottage through their married years.

John's father had been born in Norway Cottage and he himself was born in St Blazey. Nita's parents had emigrated to Los Angeles where Nita (née Dyer) was born, but she and her mother returned when she was only three and a half. John and Nita were at school together. "I had to drag my anchor from Fowey," said John when they married and they moved in with Nita's mother at *Sea View*.

John recalled that life was hard in those days. As a baby, he was often wrapped up and placed in the prow of the boat as his parents went seine fishing for salmon. The fish were sold to a local shop owner. As John grew up he helped his father with the fishing. His father once caught a record breaking salmon weighing 35¾lbs. Unfortunately, the salmon season didn't begin until the next day but somehow the fish still appeared on the fishmonger's slab. It was common in those days to hear corncrakes and nightjars on the river.

John served as an apprentice boatbuilder at Fowey. "When it was dark we were only allowed one candle to see by. We had to move that candle along to show the mark as we sawed the long planks. We used to start a pulling (rowing) boat on a Monday and we'd be varnishing it on the Saturday." One day he and his boss were caulking a deck at Mixtow. John, wearing corduroy trousers, was carrying the large pot of molten tar to the shed when he slipped and the tar went over his trousers burning several holes. "What's it □ot, boy?" shouted his boss. For ages afterwards those trousers remained in use complete with holes & tar.

After gaining experience with a variety of employers, he went into the Merchant Navy for a time before trying his

hand at mackerel fishing. He helped to make boats for the French & Belgian governments, minesweepers at Charlestown and a fast cruiser for General Browning at Fowey & made improvements to the original design of the Troy boats. For years he made boats where the lifeboat station stands today in Fowey and then had the workshop built at the bottom of his garden.

In earlier years he and Roger Tabb used the first shed on the Beach for making and repairing boats in the evenings and weekends. They had four Tilley lamps to see by "...but only two ever worked properly at any one time."

Nita was heavily involved in village activities. We've shown photos of her taking part in past carnivals. She was on the organising committee when the old school was converted to the village hall, followed by the conversion and refurbishment of the derelict Reading Room— a major project for such a small place. She played the organ every other week in the chapel at Golant (Geoff White's sister, Barbara, or his mother played on the other weeks). On one occasion, Nita played a tune at a service which was not too well known. By the time she had walked home, someone had rung an aunt in Newquay who, in turn had rung her mother to tell her that "Nita has just disgraced herself by playing the wrong tune!"

Both John & Nita recall many characters in the village. Major Roberts, of Torfrey House, drank at the pub twice a day. If the pub was not open when he arrived, he would climb in through a window, open the door to let in other customers and start serving the drinks! He took great delight in walking through the village, a pint of beer in his hand, to greet the Methodists as they returned from their Sunday service.

We look forward to sharing a cup of tea and hearing tales of times past with other villagers soon.

M & GH



John in his workshop in 2001

MGH



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Auntie Paddy's Recipe Corner

Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) falls at the end of February this year. It was the day when foods such as butter and eggs were used up before Lent. Usually it was a light-hearted day with Pancake Races run in many an English village. My source writes that in Olney, Bucks, the 'prize' was a kiss from the Vicar!!

PANCAKES (makes about 8)

3oz/75g plain flour
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 3 eggs
 1/2 pint/275-300ml milk
 1oz/25g melted butter + extra for cooking

1. Sift the flour & salt into a large bowl & whisk in the eggs one by one. Add the milk a little at a time, beating thoroughly until the batter is free from lumps. Just before cooking, stir in the cooled, melted butter.
2. Use an 8"/20cm frying pan, and for each pancake grease it lightly with butter. Heat until the fat just begins to smoke. Pour about 3 tbsp of the batter (rough guide) into the centre of the pan and quickly tilt to & fro to spread the batter evenly. Cook over a high heat for about one minute until the pancake has just set.
3. Toss the pancake (or for the faint-hearted, turn it over carefully with a palette knife & spatula) and cook for about another minute until it is golden brown underneath. For the traditional pancake, squeeze fresh lemon juice over each, sprinkle with sugar and roll up.

For **Classic Crêpes Suzette**, fold each pancakes in half and then in half again to make a triangular shape. Arrange in a dish.

For the **sauce**:

5fl ozs/150ml orange juice, either fresh or from a carton
 Zest of one medium orange
 3tbsp Grand Marnier, Cointreau or Brandy (optional, but not in the Dunley house!!)
 2oz/50g butter

1. Put all ingredients into a pan & heat together to reduce the liquid.
2. Pour over the pancakes, and before serving, heat in an oven or microwave. This is successful even when made the day before. *Paddy S.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Have you a friend or relative who would like a regular copy of this newsletter? It costs only £7.50 (£12.50 overseas) to have the six issues per year of **The Golant Pill** sent by post.

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 Please send the next six issues of the NEWSLETTER by post **(Please print clearly)**
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 Contact Robert Dunley (01726 832807) for further information.

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CALENDAR OF VILLAGE EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Sunday 1 st	9.15am	Holy Communion	St Sampson's
Tuesday 3 rd	8.00pm	Quiz	Fisherman's Arms
Wednesday 4 th	9.50-10.10am	Mobile Library	End of green
Sunday 8 th	9.15am	Holy Communion (sung)	St Sampson's
Thursday 12 th	12.45-2.30pm	Thursday Kitchen	Village hall
Saturday 14 th	7.30pm	St Valentine's Day meal for Golant Romantics <i>Bookings only Tel: 832453</i>	Fisherman's Arms
Sunday 15 th	6.00pm	Evensong	St Sampson's
Tuesday 17 th	8.00pm	Quiz	Fisherman's Arms
Wednesday 18 th	9.50-10.10am	Mobile Library	End of green
Wednesday 18 th	7.15pm	Parish Council Meeting <i>The public are invited to take part until 7.30pm</i>	Village hall
Thursday 19 th	12.45-2.30pm	Thursday Kitchen	Village hall
Sunday 22 nd	9.15am	Holy Communion (sung)	St Sampson's
Wednesday 25 th	6.00pm	Holy Communion <i>(Asb Wednesday: Book of Common Prayer)</i>	St Sampson's
Thursday 26 th	12.45-2.30pm	Thursday Kitchen	Village hall
Thursday 26 th	7.30pm	Race Night with Fish & Chip Supper <i>Booking essential: Gail & Maurie Tel: 833475</i>	Village hall

MARCH

Sunday 1 st	9.15am	Holy Communion (<i>St David</i>)	St Sampson's
Tuesday 3 rd	8.00pm	Quiz	Fisherman's Arms
Wednesday 4 th	9.50-10.10am	Mobile Library	End of green
Friday 6 th	10.30am	Women's World Day of Prayer	St Fimbarrus
Sunday 8 th	9.15am	Holy Communion (sung) (<i>St Piran</i>)	St Sampson's
Thursday 12 th	12.45-2.30pm	Thursday Kitchen	Village Hall
Sunday 15 th	6.00pm	Evensong	St Sampson's
Tuesday 17 th	8pm	Quiz	Fisherman's Arms
Wednesday 18 th	9.50-10.10am	Mobile Library	End of green
Wednesday 18 th	7.15pm	Parish Council meeting <i>The public are invited to take part until 7.30pm</i>	Village hall
Thursday 19 th	12.45-2.30pm	Thursday Kitchen	Village hall
Saturday 21 st	7.30pm	'Tales of Time & Tide' <i>Tickets from Mike Freemantle Tel: 816454</i>	Village hall
Sunday 22 nd	9.15am	Holy Communion (sung) <i>(Mothering Sunday)</i>	St Sampson's
Sunday 22 nd	12-3pm & 6-9pm	Mother's Day Menu <i>Bookings only Tel:832453</i>	Fisherman's Arms
Thursday 26 th	12.45-2.30pm	Thursday Kitchen	Village hall
Sunday 29 th	9.15am	Holy Communion <i>(Passion Sunday; Book of Common Prayer)</i>	St Sampson's
Tuesday 31 st	8.00pm	Quiz	Fisherman's Arms

NB There is no Thursday Kitchen on the first Thursday of each month

FUTURE EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

APRIL

Thursday 2nd, Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th April **Pantomime- 'Sleeping Beauty'** (*See more details on page 5*)
Tickets from Viviane Barr Tel: 832454

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.