The Constant Times

also on-line

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 5 NOVEMBER, DECEMBER & JANUARY 2022

Santa's back to switch on village Christmas Lights

Following a hugely successful 2020 pre-Christmas road trip visit from Santa, vou can imagine how overjoyed the Christmas Lights Team were when Santa once again confirmed by Email (Efor Elf!), that having had such a wonderful time seeing everyone out on their front doorsteps or in gardens last year, he would love to repeat the trip all over again.

Knowing Santa's busy worldwide schedule in December, the 'Christmas Lights Team' have pencilled in Wednesday 8 December from 6.00pm onwards for tree switch-on and the Santa tour. As last year, Santa will be accompanied by a number of his elves riding on the back of a beautifully designed trailer, as sadly Rudolph will be staying back in Lapland 'pawing' over Google maps, overseeing the repainting of the sleigh and resting in preparation for his epic December 24 journey.

Starting at the corner of Trebarvah Rd, Santa will pass the main bus stop stopping briefly to switch on the large village tree and then the route will take him down Fore Street and around Penbothidno. back up Fore Street into Bowling Green and then back along Trebarvah Rd.

In preparation, the Christmas Lights Team will start putting up the lights display around the village from Sunday 21



November. Christmas trees and fairy lights for Fore Street gardens, Port Navas, Seworgan, Brill and St Constantine Church, will arrive from 10.30am on Friday 4 December.

There will be no large gathering as we have had in pre-Covid years for the tree switch on at the bus stop, but we really hope that as many people as possible can be outside their houses to welcome Santa on 8 December.

If you would like to lend a hand putting up Christmas lights around the village and helping make our village once again look magical for the festive season, then please contact Tracey Claus tel - 01326 340279.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas!

Also in this issue...



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Face-lift for W.I. Hall

Liz Pearce

A new machined oak floor has been laid in the building, which makes the floor so much easier to clean and keep in clinical good order, especially in these COVID19 pandemic times. Also the guttering has been replaced and two water butts added, so that we can recycle water for our outside needs, like the watering of flower containers and external cleaning jobs that need water. We are all very pleased with our renovated hall.

We have also commissioned a new 4seater bench in memory of Beaujolais Cavendish, one of the founder members of our W.I. who died recently. This bench will be situated at the front of the building



and we hope will be used by the community, perhaps breaking their journey's to the doctor and back, or just for somewhere for a sit and chat with friends in the sunshine.

Constantine W.I. Autumn Agenda

- 8 November Liz Wells Beautifully handcrafted in Cornwall. Tragedy that evolved inbeauty, handcrafted soy candles and reed diffusers.
- 13 December Christmas event.
- Christmas Market sadly cancelled, but those who have already made gifts intended for sale at the Christmas Market will be able to display their items for sale around the Church.

Anyone wanting to join the W.I..or just try us out as a guest, please contact Liz Pearce, President 01326 340012. lizpearce1@hotmail.co.uk

Bosahan Woods - Use of Air Weapons

Chris Hussey

In the last month there has been a report of an individual using an air weapon within the Bosahan Woods. This is clearly a very reckless activity, given the large numbers of walkers, children and dogs to be found in the woods, as well as the potential impact on wildlife. The Bosahan Woods Management Group has not and will not give permission for such weapons to be used in the woods. Should you see anyone with an air weapon in the woods, you can be sure that they are unauthorised, and therefore

committing an offence. The public paths through the woods count as a 'public place', and according to the Crown Prosecution Service website: "Possession of an air weapon ... in a public place (s 19 Firearms Act 1968) ... carries a maximum sentence of 6 months imprisonment...". Using a weapon away from the path would count as 'armed trespass' - a statutory rather than a civil offence - with a potential sentence of 3 months imprisonment or a fine of up to £2,500.

Looking after the Tolmen - calling for volunteers Tracey Clowes

The second phase of the Tolmen 'Love Me Restore Me project', the replacement of the main roof and guttering, is complete. With the help of grants and generous donations we have been able to undertake some very essential and major renovation work at the Tolmen Centre, and our project is now slowly but lovingly moving into Phase Three, repair and renovation of twenty-two windows. We still have a small amount of grant funding ring-fenced for window work and this will include the reputtying and painting of the large upstairs window which you see as you pass the Tolmen, and the replacement of the downstairs window to the left of the main door. This work will require professional tradespeople.

(be it for a one off job or on a more regular basis) then please, email cectoc54@gmail.com, or why not join us for our Tolmen Clean-Up Day on Saturday 8 January between 09.30 and 12.00. Examples of regular maintenance jobs are:

- Work in the garden to include weeding flowerbeds and treating the garden furniture
- Washing down paintwork and cleaning windows
- Prepare and paint garden doors, windows and fascias of toilet block
- Repairing an area of damaged plaster
- Replacing rotten sills, repairs & repainting of ground floor windows
- Repair and repainting of external doors
- Prepare and paint external ceiling under front porch area



Further essential but smaller scale projects are ongoing every day when you are looking after a Grade 2 Listed Building, and this is where we would like to ask for your help. If you, or anyone you know, would like to volunteer to help us maintain the Tolmen Centre

- Paint Guild Room ceiling
- Varnish front porch bench seat
- Paint entrance gates

The Tolmen Centre is run solely by volunteers for the benefit of the Community.

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Constantine Emergency Foodbank

Tracey Clowes

Housed in the small vestry building behind St Constantine Church, the Foodbank has been operating every Wednesday between 10.00am – Noon since the start of the first lockdown in 2020. It is run by the Trussell Trust

(www.trusselltrust.org) in partnership with St Constantine Church.

The Foodbank provides a minimum of three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food to people who have been referred in crisis as well as support to help people resolve the crises they face in life.

How it works: individuals, School, Church, businesses donate non-perishable in-date food. We are so enormously grateful for the support we have received over the last 19 months. Donations can be dropped at the Foodbank on a Wednesday morning or be left at other times in the grey plastic box next to the building. We are lucky in Constantine as



we often benefit from fresh food grown in allotments or gardens. We also welcome donations not just of food, but of personal hygiene products such as deodorant, sanitary towels, shampoo, toothpaste, toilet rolls, washing powder, washing up liquid, dog and cat food. These are handed out as much needed extras to the food supplied. Each week the Penryn Trussell Trust print a list of Foodbank needs in the Falmouth Packet

All food donations are transported to the main Trussell Trust Foodbank in Penryn where volunteers weigh in the food, sort it to check that it is in date, then box it up following a nutritionally informed list. The boxes are then bought back to Constantine ready to be handed out to anyone referred to the Foodbank.

Constantine is an interconnected community where we all support each other. The Foodbank partners with a wide range of care professionals such as Constantine Surgery, School and Church, who are able to help identify people in crisis and give them a Foodbank voucher to access the emergency food.

People bring their voucher to the Foodbank where it can be redeemed for three days emergency food.

Ending hunger is about more than food. The Foodbank provides compassionate practical support to people in crisis to tackle the root causes that lock people into poverty and build peoples resilience so they are less likely to need the Foodbank in the future.

Constantine Foodbank is open every Wednesday 10.00am - noon.

Twenty's Plenty

The most significant concern raised by all the villagers in Constantine, Mabe and Mawnan as I talked to people over the last few weeks is that of traffic speed and inconsiderate road use.

I have spoken before about my plan to introduce 'Twenty's Plenty 'to all rural villages and single-track roads. This concept may seem a little difficult to enforce but this could be achieved with some lateral thinking such as gateway pinch points. There would also be opportunities at these pinch points to have roadside planting with plants that encourage pollinators and to again emphasise the idea of village and community.

Post Covid we need to learn from what has happened - our communities have never been more cohesive, with a will to make things happen. We need to reduce emissions - we want people to get cardio-vascular exercise - we want people to have positive mental health. All this can be achieved by changing our behaviour and either walking, cycling or even horseriding to get from A to B.

Working from home where ever possible would mean cars would have limited use and the activities mentioned above would become the mainstay of our transport and wellbeing. This is all very radical you may say but it's the reality we need to prevent Climate Chaos. Controlling our future use of all vehicles must be addressed and agreed by all communities.

John Bastin, CC



Local plans can be put forward and added to Neighbourhood Plans (NHP). The long term value of Twenty is Plenty to a community would be so positive and vital for future sustainability.

I am a great believer in 'bottom up' community evolution where local people decide what happens to them not the other way around where communities feel powerless as change cascades down from the top. I hope that in the near future we can have public discussion and support for the thinking above, so that the dream can become a reality. The 30 mph limit we currently have, was introduced in 1934 — its value now has little worth in our modern society and needs to be revisited.





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Constantine Cottage Garden Society

Peter Wilson

The borders in Autumn are a shadow of their former selves, the leaves are turning, there is a nip in the air; some see it as a blessing, the heating goes on a time for relaxation, time to put your feet up with a nice cup of tea. Others push on continuously tidying and clearing our gardens in preparation for a new season. We have been lucky this year with the warmer weather extending well into October a bonus for us all.

This week has also seen the Garden Society recommence its winter programmes of meetings. It was lovely to see some of the existing members returning, but also the new members who we welcome with open arms. We hope that you will enjoy your time with us at the Society. New members are always welcome and no subs will be charged until the AGM in February.

Our inaugural talk was by Roger Hooper from the Cornwall Butterfly Conservation Group, which is part of the National body of the 'Butterfly Conservation'. They are committed to working towards, a world where butterflies and moths can thrive and be enjoyed by everyone forever.

Roger gave a most passionate talk with some beautifully photographed species, detailing the life and habitats that are required by the various types of butterflies. Who would have thought that the study of butterflies and the angle they keep their wings at, could possibly influence the absorption of heat in solar panels. The dedication of the volunteer conservationists, who counted over 150,000 common Brown butterflies and how they have analysed the symbiotic relationship between ants and caterpillars, who reside hand in glove to feed and nurture one another throughout various stages of life.



As one of our busy pollinators, they are threatened not only by Climate change, but Human intervention too. As temperatures rise those butterflies that need colder climates are slowly migrating to more northerly regions and as Humans remove the natural forage needed by certain species, the threat to butterflies becomes an ever more increasing problem.

As gardeners we need our pollinators, we must welcome them into our gardens and look to offer them every opportunity to thrive. Also as gardeners, Roger provided a valuable tip currently and successfully being used by farmers for companion planting nasturtium adjacent to your brassicas. The nasturtium becomes a sacrificial plant with the bugs obviously favouring their taste over our valuable crops...thank you for the tip, Roger.

The next meeting is Thursday 11 November 2021 at 19.30.



Helford in Antiquity

Christian Boulton, author of the book 'Five Million Tides', which brings to life the incredible history of human activity around the Helford, will be talking about his connection to the river, via zoom on Saturday November 13.

The talk, organised by Helford Marine Conservation Group, begins at 7.30pm. The zoom link is free for HMCG members and under 18s. For everyone else the fee is £5. For more details and to register an interest please contact book-ings@helfordmarineconservation.co.uk

'Five Million Tides' celebrates the story of the Helford from the Stone Age to the dawning of the 21st century. The Helford was one of Europe's most significant waterways during the Iron Age and Roman periods. It was

of Europe's most significant waterways during the Iron Age and Roman periods. It was also once a thriving seat of Celtic Christianity, but ultimately it would become synonymous with lawless seafarers.

Christian has lived close to the shores of the Helford River for over 30 years. His wealth of knowledge will delight those interested in the surprisingly rich human history of this very special place.



Save the Children

Unfortunately, the Constantine Save the Children shop will be closing next January. New premises are needed urgently, otherwise it will close for good. If anyone has a garage or other suitable space, please contact Ann Mullaly on 07703 222270.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee



https://www.royal.uk/platinumjubilee-central-weekend

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee will be from 2 – 5 June 2022. Constantine Parish Council invites members of the community who might like to celebrate this occasion in some way to express that interest by contacting Councillors or e-mailing the Council at parish.clerk3@btinternet.com.

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Constantine Preschool - back in the swing of things!

Ella Curtis

Following the summer holidays, Preschool were thrilled to welcome back new starters and some familiar faces too! Although graduation was delayed slightly because of a Covid closure right at the last hurdle, the post-poned celebration was wonderful and the staff were ready and raring to go come September!

The children have been enjoying a brilliant first topic, "All About Me." This has been a great way to get to know new children a little better, but has also provided an opportunity for every child to get to know themselves a little better too! In line with the very topical and relevant theme of mindfulness, the children have learnt to explore their emotions with help from engaging and beautifully written



picture books like "The Colour Monster." Acknowledging that all feelings are okay at this young age will hopefully prepare the children for how to manage them when they appear. The children have enjoyed yoga and other activities to further explore how to support their friends (and themselves) if their emotions are a little muddled.

The children and the Preschool team have also been observing how the seasons change and have been enjoying looking at how Autumn has started to appear, bringing



new colours, sights and sounds with it. They have been on scavenger hunts looking for signs of Autumn, and have been budding bakers, foraging for blackberries and bringing home delicious crumble to share with those at home! As always, Preschool feel incredibly privileged to have the woods and their fantastic Forest School on their doorstep. We have all enjoyed getting back into the woods, and all that they have to bring. The children have created giant murals, mapping out the woods and beautiful nature around them, and have benefitted from lungfuls of fresh air and a lovely leg stretch to punctuate the week! There are still many things to look forward to in the up-and-coming months. The magic continues after half term too, with a look at Cornish Mythology; perhaps some Piskies will be spotted in the nooks and crannies of the village!



Making Space for Nature in Constantine

Antonia Mulally

On Saturday 11 September a group of Constantine residents spanning the ages set to work transforming a strip of coarse grass verge into a wildflower-rich haven for pollinators.

The verge at Trebarvah Road lies beside the play park on the main route to school, meaning that this meadow will give children the opportunity to experience a more diverse environment around them. The team involved hope that the area will show others how easy it is to bring a bit of colour and buzz to previous 'green deserts.'



The volunteers prepared the area through manual removal of coarse grass cover and soil surface scarification. They then sowed native wildflower seeds such as meadow buttercup and oxeye daisy. It is hoped that these will start to bloom next spring. The area will be managed with mowing over the winter to hold-back pernicious weed growth, whilst it will be left uncut for a long flowering season throughout the summer.

Blithe Spirit by Noël Coward, Gweek Players 16 - 20 November

Gweek Players are delighted to be staging this classic 1937 comedy by Noël Coward at Gweek Village Hall.

The play is set in 1937, a time when one dressed for dinner and sipped dry martinis. The flamboyant socialite and novelist Charles Condomine invites Madame Arcati, an eccentric medium and clairvoyant, to conduct a séance, hoping to gather material for his next book. The scheme backfires when he is haunted by the ghost of his annoying and temperamental first wife, Elvira, as she tries to sabotage Charles's marriage to Ruth, his second,



much younger wife, who cannot see or hear the ghost.

Noël Coward was an English playwright, composer, director and actor best known for his comedies and musical style. The author of over fifty plays in a writing career spanning half a century, he is ranked as one of the most influential English cultural figures of the twentieth century.

Tickets are now on sale at the CRBO (01726 879500). The ticket price of £10 includes our usual delicious desserts (unless government guidelines at the time prevent us from doing so). The ticket price of £11 includes a dessert and an electronic programme.

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Sustainable design from new Constantine architectural studio

Welcome to STUDIO/gather on Bowling Green! Many of you might' have noticed over the past few months the wooden structure taking place at Oatlands which has now been completed and is the new office space for Julian & Mel as they launch their new Architectural studio!

For many locals the name 'Gather' might bring connotations of past festivities held in the village. In a way, the practice feels that the idea of bringing people together, ideas, crafts and skills in one place is a perfect fit for a young, emerging design company aptly named 'STUDIO/gather'.

Having cut his teeth in a number of award winning architect practices in Brighton, Somerset and Cornwall, Julian brings a vast level of knowledge, technical skill and creative design thinking that comes from working on a wide variety of projects. A chartered Architect with a passion for true sustainable design and he practices what he preaches on every project great and small which led to the design and build of his own garden studio.

Built from 100% recyclable, recycled and renewable materials the studio appears to be floating on large granite coins reminiscent of agricultural saddle stones collected directly from the local quarry, the walls are formed from wood using locally felled and milled larch cladding and the roof is made from 100% reusable black wriggly tin. Insulated with wood fibre insulation and finished internally with a mix of exposed ply and OSB. This gives the building a rusticated external look whilst having a modern, clean line interior.

Joining Julian in the office is his partner Mel (studio manager) their dogs, Sam & Fennel and their cat Basil and on occasion the real boss, their 18 month old daughter Marula! To find out more about the studio, our projects, design principles and sustainable ethos then go to www.studiogather.co.uk.





Glebe Woodland workday

Community volunteers hard at work constructing a dead hedge along the edge of the clearing in the Glebe Woodland. Sixteen people gathered in the October sunshine to sort and stack downed wood, remove invasive laurel, clear paths and enjoy each other's company. The workday was the first held since the community took on the lease of the two-acre parcel in June, under the auspices of the Constantine Enterprises Company. Future plans include more hedging to provide habitat and to clear areas of dead wood, and a gradual restoration of the ornamental pond. If you are interested in joining Transition Constantine for the next workday please email

Caitlin DeSilvey



Stitch in time

Our sewing club meets every Tuesday morning in the lower Vestry. To join please contact

Jane Mann 01326 375502 randjmann@yahoo.co.uk













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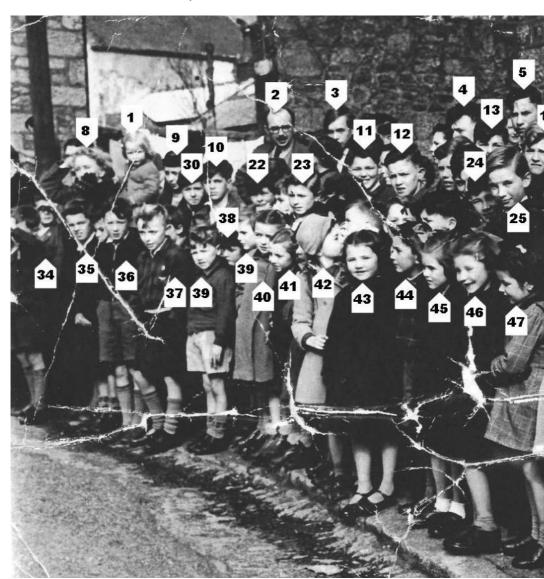
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Can you put names to these (mostly) young faces, and those on the second picture on page 13, taken at the 1952 Constantine Feast? Sally Coot is researching for the Book of Constantine and would love to hear from you if you recognise yourself, a relative or friend. Some have been identified already (see opposite) but please contact Sally on 01326 340050 or email sallyandalfie@icloud.com with numbers and names of any others.







2 Mr Woodhall (teacher)

5 Alan Winn

6 Malcolm Symonds

7 Mr Pengelly (teacher) 8 Mrs Pascoe (teacher)

11 Colin Warren

12 Russell Pascoe

15 Mrs Rowe (teacher)

23 Clive Tredwen

40 Yvonne Roberts

27 John Collins (Job's Water)

28 Robin Guy

31 Melvyn Hocking

35 Dougie Down

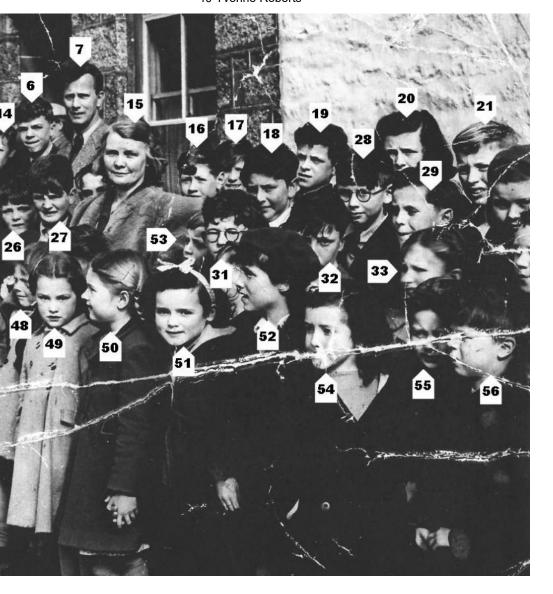
36 Brian Spargo

43 Carol Agnew (nee Williams)

45 Angela Hall

46 Mary Thomas

47 Sally Coot (nee Phillips)



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WHO

DOYOUTHINK THEY WERE?

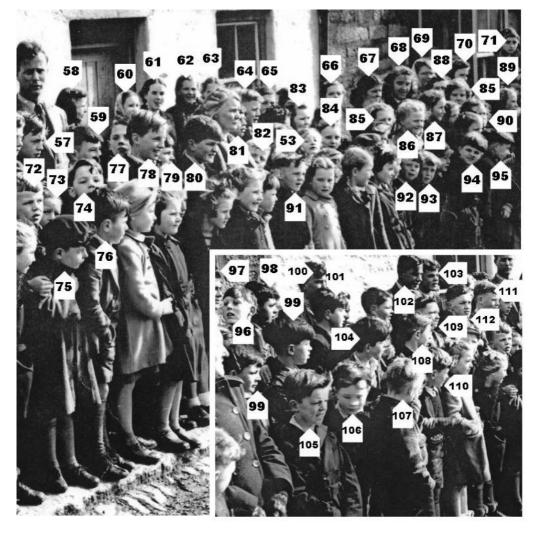
This second photograph was taken from a different angle so there are some additional faces, especially those on the right hand side. Again, a few have already been identified (opposite), and some may be duplicated (sorry), but Sally needs to know if you recognise any of the other numbered (or even un-

numbered) faces. Contact Sally on 01326 340050 or email sallyandalfie@icloud.com with numbers and names.

53 Vera Tredwen 57 Glen Warren 59 Tony Thomas 66 Jocelyn Andrews 68 Joan Trewin 76 Derek Hocking 77 Dougie Hooper 78 Eric Rashleigh 83 Villetta Coombes

87 Joyce Tresidder 92 Colin Williams 93 Alan Williams 94 Vaiden Chapman 96 Nigel Bruton 97 Ronnie Curnow 111 Roger Boudin

86 Margaret Williams



What's on at the Tolmen Centre Nov-Dec 2021

Dougal Jeffries

Our autumn programme got off to a flying start with a lively gig from Penzance-based folk band The Odd Folk, and this was followed by evenings of poetry (John Hegley), theatre (Owdyado), dance (Antigone) and literature (Patrick Gale via webcam). The fortnightly Tolmen movies have also resumed. It's been wonderful to see our audience return, and the Tolmen cafe up and running again, even if we are still somewhat socially distanced and more or less masked.

The rest of the autumn programme is full and varied. Scottish Celtic powerhouse Talisk on November 9th is already sold out.



Next comes Hannah Maxwell with her onewoman show IAmDram. Outstanding young Irish folksinger Daoiri Farrell appears on November 19th, and the ever-popular Budapest Cafe Orchestra come a week later - tickets are selling fast. On December 5th we are privileged to have maestro pianist William Howard playing Schubert (and yes, a grand





piano on the Tolmen stage), and the following week the father of soukous guitar, Kanda Bongo Man, with his 7-piece band for an unforgettable evening of song and dance music. The official programme ends with the inimitable Squashbox Theatre's 'Christmassy Christmas Show' to delight children and parents alike. Tolmen movies for November and December include First Cow, Local Hero, and The Truth. Our current series of art exhibitions has featured Clare James and Rae Gray, and from November 1st Jo King's work will be on show.

As well as these events we are pleased to see the Tolmen being used for various privately-organised functions, including a fundraiser for refugees on November 7th, a talk and book-signing by local author Jeni Whittaker on November 12th, and the Trengilly Singers' concert of Christmas music on December 8th. Look out for details of these events on posters and social media.

As well as all this activity on the artistic and cultural fronts, the Tolmen Centre remains available for hiring for private functions, classes and gatherings of all sorts. For enquiries please contact Tracey on 340279 or Dougal on 341356.

We wish you all a happier and less anxious festive season than last year, and look forward to seeing you at the Tolmen Centre.

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Constantine School news

We had a great start to the Autumn Term and now have a record number of pupils here at Constantine Primary School. When I started teaching here (many years ago) there were 87 children on roll and we have expanded to seven classrooms over the years and are almost full now with 193 children! We are very fortunate to have such amazing families in and around this community who choose to bring their children to Constantine village, making our school the wonderful and vibrant school that is thriving as a result.

Our website curriculum pages give you a lot more insight into what we get up to. You can guarantee that our curriculum has remained both broad and balanced throughout the last crazy two years.

Sports at CPS

It has been amazing to get back to sporting events and matches against other schools as we have missed this for too long now. Our sports teams have had a great start so



far with our netball team and football teams have played the following primary schools so far: Mylor, Flushing, Mabe, Perrranarworthal and Kennal Vale. Our football team have won four matches and lost one and our netball team are, so far, undefeated.

Mrs Foster our SENDCo, did an amazing

job in September when she completed her first ever triathlon in Falmouth. She has been training for months and she did an amazing job and raising money for cancer research



and also for some play therapy sessions in school to help our pupils with all she raised on our behalf. We are very proud of her. Other staff have also been keeping fit but running two miles a day, every day, swimming round St Michael's Mount and also completing half marathons and the Gylly Endless Summer Swim- Fantastic!

We are delighted to be back in the pool and are very fortunate to have kept our slot at RNAS Culdrose. This is the best pool in Cornwall and we are the only school who use it! We have been working on our four strokes, self rescue techniques and also training for the annual swimming gala that is coming up. We teach a range of abilities in each class and are fortunate to have four fully qualified members of staff who teach us each week. When we have worked hard we always enjoy jumping off the 3.5m boards. The incentive is that we must be able to swim 50m before we can do this though!

Class visits locally

Several classes have visited the church already this term, admiring the structure, windows and beauty of the building, as well as learning about its history and the materials it is made out of.

Pupil Responsibilities

Many of our children apply for responsibilities in and around our school. We have two Team Captains for each of our three colour teams. Traditionally our three teams are named after circumnavigators. Our Red Team are named after Dame Ellen MacArthur, Blue Team, Sir Francis Chichester and Green Team, Sir Robin Knox Johnson. This tradition goes back many, many years to when some of our grandparents were learning in this school. We love the fact that on sports day our parents and grandparents cheer for the team they were once in, as we try to keep a record and ensure children from past families are in the same team as their relations.



We also have office duty monitors and these children hep answer the phone, sort the recycling and even give school tours. Our Kids Council members are representatives from each class who meet regularly to improve school life and they also work hard to raise money for certain charities and promote looking after our environment.

We have PE and equipment monitors an assembly monitor, librarians and

Cags Gilbert, Head of School

wake and shake leaders who lead the physical fitness at the start of each day. Now we have a lot more freedom when outside we have reverted back to our Friendship Bench monitors and these children lookout for the wellbeing of others. They are on duty every playtime and help if ever you need someone to play with or you need help finding a fiend. These four give up one day a week of their playtime to help others:

Heart Start



In Year 6 we have been learning what to do in an emergency. So far we know how to check for dangers, a response and call for help, check the airway and breathing and put someone in the recover position if they are breathing normally. We are moving onto cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, treating bleeding and dealing with heart attacks and choking. These are great skills to have in case we need them one day.

Visits to school

Magic Jon came in and treated us all to a day of magic maths. He is so entertaining and clever. He did tell us a few secrets and we were able to try and copy what he was

(continued overleaf)

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Constantine School news (continued)

showing us. It must take him hours to do his tricks so well.

An artist from Falmouth Art Gallery came in to visit and tell us all about local artists. We did some brilliant painting and our work is now on display in the corridor. Hopefully you will get to see it one day soon when we can invite you all back into school.

Adi Pocket Poem

I've got a poem Small and thin, That sits in my pocket And does its thing Of being backwards Short and fat And sitting in the rim Of my old checked hat.

Yum-yum, Mrs Moyle



These pupils are enjoying the Thai fish curry they made with Mrs Moyle who has now retired from school and is greatly missed. She has helped so many children learn to read in her time, she has taught us to sew and knit and we will really miss her cooking lessons. We have made some of the most wonderful dishes with her over the years and we will be cooking her recipes for ever more we hope. We wish her well in her retirement and hope she will pop into school now and again



Meeting Community Needs

As a follow up to the survey carried out about the future of the Church Hall, and in order to meet the community needs expressed in that and from the wishing trees at two Constantine Community Days, Transition Constantine set up a workshop to explore how needs could be met.

On Wednesday 8 September Transition Constantine hosted a successful workshop in the Church with all the existing venue providers in the village – the Tolmen Centre, The WI. the Social Club, The Cricket Club, the School and the Church.

The session was led by Jackie George, a Business & Finance Specialist (Grants). Her summary of the workshop was:

- It highlighted what amazing support / activities there are.
- It will enable the community to know more about what is on offer in the village through the updating of the website.
- A community event to be held to bring everyone together.
- It has produced a list of wishes of the community that aren't currently covered which could be used as supporting evidence for future potential providers.
- It has facilitated a quarterly meeting to take place. The next meeting is at the Cricket Club in December followed by a March meeting at the WI Hall.
- It proposed an approach the Parish Council be made to request an update on the Church Hall status.

This is seen as the first of many meetings – and hopefully a collaborative way of working to provide 'Constantine's Community Centre'.

One of the aims of the workshop was to find out what needs the community has that may not be being met by the existing venues, and hence create a stronger case for keeping the Church Hall as a community asset. It is important that people in the

Transition Constantine



community approach venues to ask for activities they want to see - like a folk club or table tennis club. The role of the existing providers is to work together to see which venue is suited to a particular request.

Since the workshop Parish Council has received the pre-planning advice given to the Glebe in reference to their application to convert the Church Hall into housing. The response to the pre-application can be viewed online: https://planning.cornwall.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do? key-

Val=QPUS5PFG0JW00&activeTab=sum mary The pre local planning officer supports the principle of converting this rural building to residential use, and the single dwelling would be the preferred option. Neither would there be opposition to the toilets being moved or the car park being re sited to below the picnic area, although its proximity to the grade 1 listed church may prove to be an issue. He also pointed out that the Glebe Trust may meet local opposition to their plans as a result of the survey that was carried out in the village, where the majority of people who responded wanted to keep the Church Hall as a community asset and did not want a car park located below the teas-under-the trees space

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Night Sky Robert Beeman

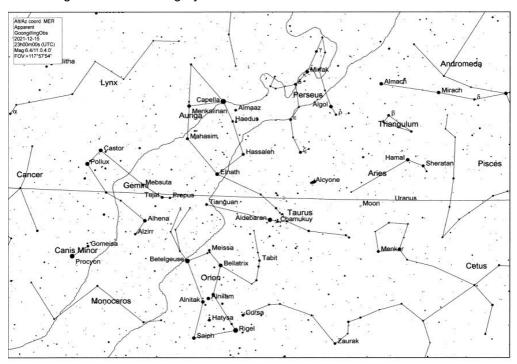
In early November Mars may be glimpsed in the morning twilight but soon becomes lost near the Sun.

At the end of December Venus can be seen for a short period in the evening sky. Jupiter is moving eastwards and will be visible in the evening sky as will Saturn although closer to the horizon. By mid January both Jupiter and Saturn will have set by early evening. Uranus will be in Aries, almost due south. You may be able to find it with the naked eye but binoculars will help.

The annual Leonid meteor shower takes place between the 15th and 20th of November. This shower has a 33 year cycle of peaks and we are currently between peaks but some should be seen appearing to come from low in the ENE. There is a full Moon on the 19th, close to peak activity which will interfere.

Look out in the evening sky for the "Heavenly twins" Castor and Pollux in Gemini, two bright stars almost vertical to the horizon. The upper star Castor is of interest as to the naked eye it appears as a single whitish star. In a small telescope and good conditions it will split into two blue/white stars. Larger telescopes will reveal a third fainter red star in orbit with the other two. Further study has shown that these three stars also have twin stars; quite a complex system. The "feet"of the twins rest in a fairly dense part of our Milky Way so there are many stars around this constellation and a considerable number have been found to be double stars.

The Geminid meteor shower occurs 13th/14th December which are the remains of the asteroid Phaethon so are more than the usual cometary dust and therefore give quite bright meteors. The radiant is just above Pollux so if the weather and time permit Gemini has a great deal to offer. Again the Moon will slightly interfere.



The Quadrantids usher in the first meteor shower of the year between 1st and 6th of January with a peak on the 3rd. This shower has a high maximum of 100 per hour but with a very narrow peak, look out for blue/yellow meteors appearing from the northern sky. This is the only meteor shower not named after the constellation from which it appears to radiate; the constellation Quadrans was to the east and above the Plough but being so faint, fell out of use a considerable number of years ago. The radiant is close to the last star on the handle of the Plough, Alkaid. The Moon for once will not interfere.

As the cold nights lengthen there is plenty of time to appreciate a glittering array of winter stars as the procession of Auriga, Taurus, Gemini and Orion march across the eastern sky. The Square of Pegasus moves south westwards. By midnight the star clouds of Perseus will be high above. Much of this constellation including the brightest star Mirfak is a giant association of hot blue and white stars about 500-600ly away from us.

There is a Comet about, C/2021 A1 Leonard. This is a long period comet which has previously orbited the Sun, the orbital period being 80,000 years approximately. On this occasion it is making one pass too many as once past perihelion it will be ejected from the Solar system. In mid November it will be high in the ENE midway between the Plough and Leo. It is predicted to have a magnitude of 9 so will require powerful binoculars to see it. By the first week of December it is forecast to have a magnitude of 6 or less which puts in range of naked eye viewing but better with binoculars. On the 6th of December at 0400 it will be in Bootes close to Arcturus which should help one find it. By mid December it will be below the horizon .In summary, there is a short window of opportunity to see Comet Leonard. Comets are a bit unpredictable though so would suggest that if you are keen to have a try in mid/late November before it brightens do an internet search for C/2021A1 Leonard for the latest data. Good luck.

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Constantine History Group

September meeting

Members of Constantine History Group held their first outdoor meeting for many months at Port Navas to learn about the development of this Georgian harbour in the late 1820s and the changes it subsequently experienced owing to economic, technological and social shifts over a period of almost 200 years.

Don Garman, the Collection Coordinator of Constantine Museum, brought along photographs and documents from the museum's collection to illustrate some of the developments and changes.

Members were taken back to 1821 when the area was known as Cove and the only houses were the surrounding farms and manors mostly of medieval origin. However, changes were soon to be made by a local entrepreneur, Jonathan Mayn, whose father had purchased the small estate of Ponsaveren in 1780. George IV was on the throne and the agricultural revolution and the first industrial revolution were underway, whilst locally mining and quarrying activity was developing. Movement of heavy goods needed to be by water owing to the poor road transport and, as yet, no significant rail network. Jonathan improved the road from Constantine, built the quay road, the upper quay, a lime kiln, pub and in 1832 a rest room for sailors with a chapel above. The completed quay was soon let to a Penryn granite merchant. Under William Mayn's ownership the lower quay was constructed in 1865 and the quay master's cottage. Vessels up to 163 tons brought limestone and coal and loaded granite and mine products.

By 1899 granite shipments had ceased and were replaced by coal imports. The oyster station adjacent to the lower quay opened 1904 and industrial buildings associated with the harbour activities gradually changed their use and became homes. During the 1920s trip boats arrived from Falmouth setting the scene for present day leisure use. By the mid 1950s controversial salvage work led to the sale of the lower quay to the Duchy, whilst the upper quay, which for some while had been in use as a yacht yard, saw a yacht club established in 1958.

October meeting

Lloyd Pond, formerly Assistant Harbour Master in Falmouth and the author of 150 years of Falmouth Harbour Commissioners, shared his researches with members. Lloyd provided an outline of Falmouth's development as a port prior to the establishment of the Falmouth Harbour Commissioners on September 5th 1870. He then selected events during the next 150 years. This included the establishment of a harbour police force who in 1884 were responsible for apprehending three crew of the yacht Mignonette (sunk south of the Equator) for the heinous crime of cannibalism. This event brought the press to Falmouth in droves.

It was explained that as a Trust port there are no share holders and any profit is ploughed back into the port and also benefits the community. Benefits have included firework displays, the Red Arrows, discounting for marine events and most recently supporting sailing for young people by assisting the Royal Cornwall Yacht Club to purchase dinghies.

Questions by members included bunkering, use of the port by cruise ships, the possibility of dredging in the future, how charges were levied on vessels for pilotage and entering the port's jurisdiction, and the past relationship with Gweek when it was still welcoming freighters.

A donation was made in lieu of a fee to the Mission to Seafarers.

Don Garman

History Group programme 2021/22

(Subject to change)

19 November - AGM at 19.00 followed by 'Trafalgar – the leeward column' *Professor Jan Pentreath*

21 January - 'Quirky Cornwall – a pastiche' *Kingsley Rickard*

18 February - 'Wheal Kitty and Goonglaze' – the story of St Agnes' greatest tin mine. *Roger Radcliffe*

18 March - 'Wheal Vor ' *Tony Bennett* **8 April** - TBA

All talks will take place in the WI Hall at 19.15 except for the meeting on November 20 which will be preceded by the AGM at 19.00. Only attend if you are healthy and Covid free, Lateral flow tests before attendance are recommended. Sanitiser will be provided, we will endeavour to spread seating and masks can be worn if you so wish.

WI Soup & Pud dates

Monday October 25 - Festive Soup & Pud Monday November 29, Monday January 31 12 - 1.15pm

Come and join us for a warming bowl of soup followed by a scrumptious pud and tea or coffee. All for only £4

Everyone welcome





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Submission Deadlines:

Deadline for news items, event dates and other submissions for the February/March 2022 issue is 15 January 2022. Please send to: constant.times@gmail.com or deliver to the Layout Editor at Comfort View, Well Lane.

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