

Trengilly Singers triumph at Music Festival Pauline Garman



The Trengilly Singers of Constantine with recent awards including the Edgar Kessell Gold award for the Choral Championship at the Cornwall Music Festival. Photo: John Danning

The Trengilly Singers, under musical director Melanie Uren, were presented with the 'Bolitho Shield' having won their class for mixed voice choirs of 30 or under, achieving marks of 87 (distinction), an excellent performance technically and artistically.

The choir then went onto compete for the prestigious Choral Champion-

ship Edgar Kessell Gold Award against Heyl St. Piran Singers, Mousehole Male Voice Choir and Perranarworthal Community Choir. The adjudicator Michael Johnson praised the choirs for their discipline, focus and commitment and awarded the Championship to the Trengilly Singers. The choir was accompanied by Colin Ellison.

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A glorious late Spring day...

The sun is shining, but there is a cool breeze; everywhere looks naturally joyful and colourful – bluebells, azaleas, camellias, forget-me-nots, and campion. We have already forgotten the dark days of winter, but I hope you can all remember our **village Christmas lights** and how joyous and colourful they looked!



Fundraising has begun to ensure the village looks magical again this year. We were invited to be part of the village “Easter Bunny Hunt” in April and our stall of knitted crème egg cosies, beautiful felt hens, and hearts raised £138. Big thanks to the Monday Craft Group who worked solidly for several weeks to produce such pretty Easter gifts. I have a stall outside my house with books and Bric a Brac on sunny days and so far have raised £29. It all adds up, but we do have expenses.

Our target this year is to raise £2,000. This covers the necessary, if not boring, things like storage and public liability insurance as well as purchase of the many new different lights (cannot reveal but it is going to look amazing!). We have a full programme of events over the next seven months and we hope to see you at some or all of them.

We began on May Bank Holiday Mon-

Tracey Clowes, Christmas Lights Team

day with a Book and Bric a Brac stall at the Bus Stop opposite the Spar shop. In July (date to be confirmed) three private gardens in Bridge will be open for one Sunday afternoon with one selling yummy afternoon cream teas. To help with limited parking we will provide a car ferry service from the Bus Stop opposite the Spar during the afternoon. Entrance to the gardens is free but on exit we would love a donation to the lights!

Throughout August, 'Teas Under the Trees' is back every Wednesday from 2.00pm – 4.00pm on the grass opposite the church. We have also been invited to take part in the Vicar's BBQ on 20th August and, as always, we will be selling Hotdogs on Halloween on the grass opposite the church on 31st October.

The big event is always the switch-on and to make it even more special this year we have organised a village lantern parade. We will be working with Year 4 and 5 from Constantine school on Monday 27th November making willow lanterns and then we shall parade from School to the Bus Stop on Monday 6th December at 6.45pm. Anyone can join the parade - just bring your torch or lantern. As always mince pies and hot mulled wine will be available whilst the switch-on is happening.

There will be other events so please look out for posters around the village and if you have an idea of how to raise funds, please let me know. We are always open for some fun. In the meantime, many thanks for all your wonderful comments about last year's lights and for your continued support.

How does this ap-peal to you?

Constantine Bell Ringers

Hearing church bells ring before Sunday service (and on practice night!) is an essential part of village life, which would be all the poorer without them. But, as in many towns and villages up and down the country, the continuity of this almost exclusively British tradition depends on the dedication, loyalty and reasonable fitness of a tiny handful of ringers.

Here at St Constantine, we'd therefore dearly like more people, young or not so young, to join our 'band' and learn to become fellow bell ringers. After all, what other unique 400 year-old team activity keeps you fit, exercises your mind and can introduce you to new friends? And we have a good laugh!

Ringing is well within the capabilities of most people: young or old; male or female. After just a few initial half-hour one-to-one sessions with experienced teachers to learn the basics, and then attending several subsequent practice nights, learners can usually begin ringing with the rest of the band.

You don't have to be particularly strong, know anything about music, or even be or become a churchgoer. Instruction is carried out safely under close supervision and begins with a trip up the tower to see how the bells work, followed by some explanation and demonstration of technique, before having a go yourself on the end of the rope. There's no obligation to continue if it isn't your 'thing', but once you've tried it you'll probably want to do more!



Our practice nights are on Tuesday evenings from 7.45 to 9.00pm and all are welcome to come and watch. However, if you would like to have an introductory one-to-one 'taster' session, ***please telephone Jane Mann, Tower Captain, on 01326 375502 or e-mail randjmann@yahoo.co.uk***.

Constantine History Group

Don Garman

March meeting

Lawson Tickell, Business & Visits Manager at RNAS Culdrose, related the station's history to members of Constantine History Group.

Culdrose, named after one of the farms previously located on the site, was established in 1947 following a survey and selection in 1942 as the Royal Navy's second air station in Cornwall. The base is also known as HMS Seahawk, but at the time of its opening, HMS Chough was also considered. However, this bird species was becoming very rare.

Lawson set the development in context of the history of flight in the Royal Navy, which dates back to 1909. The first Naval airfield on the Lizard area was the airship base at Mullion during World War 1. Initially, planes involved in anti-submarine warfare were based at Culdrose, but by the late 1950s they were being replaced by helicopters, which could carry loads, move people, undertake air sea rescue as well as conduct anti-submarine warfare.

Culdrose today provides training for air-crew, observers, engineers, fighter pilots and deck crew. Current focus is training for the introduction of new aircraft carriers.



April Meeting

Peter Searle, a member of the Falmouth History Archive, introduced members of the Constantine History Group to a Falmouth dynasty of photographers who over four generations recorded scenes in the town and surrounding area. The history archive is fortunate to have a collection of 1500 images, which provides a valuable research facility.

In 1860, William Osborne came to Falmouth from St Austell to help build Falmouth Station. He settled with his wife in the town and established himself as a carpenter. One of his ten children, Earnest, developed an interest in photography and gained an apprenticeship. On completion, the opportunities of the USA attracted him and he gained experience

in a number of partnerships before he and his Irish wife settled in Falmouth and set up shop in Arwenack Street.

The business grew and eventually employed 32 staff. In 1983 Brian Osborne died and his brother Maurice retired and unfortunately younger members of the family were not prepared to continue the business. The recording of the local area by the Osborne family over a century or so thus came to an end. The record left behind includes images of the "Paris" aground off Lowland Point in May 1899 and Robin Knox-Johnston's return from his circumnavigation.

Peter provided a history of the family before sharing some of his favourite Osborne images.

2017 Brass Band Extravaganza!

Constantine Silver Band

The village of Constantine is again preparing for a busy weekend of brass and voice entertainment organised by Constantine Silver Band, culminating in their 36th **'Brass On Grass'** spectacular.

This most popular weekend event in the Band's busy Calendar begins on Saturday 15 July at 7.00 pm. For this year's concert, again we have a strong youth content, with the ever popular Constantine

School Choir, Samba Band, Ukulele Band, Mabe School Choir plus Constantine Silver Band and Youth, all providing a varied evening of song and music.

The evening sets the mood for the most entertaining event in the Band's year as they stage the much-awaited original 'Brass On Grass' evening on Sunday 16 July. Camborne Town, Helston Town, St Keverne, Lanner & District Silver Band and Constantine Silver Bands will parade through the village at 6.30pm for the concert which starts at 7.00 in the marquee. This will be the 36th 'Brass On Grass' and is the highlight for many supporters who have attended all the evenings since it began in 1981. This hugely popular event has given much pleasure and enjoyment to a large section of the community who have enjoyed the wide variety of bands over the years.

Massed bands spectacular

We anticipate a very special evening of varied musical entertainment with something for everyone as we have some of the best bands, not only in Cornwall, but in the wider South West. Returning again by popular demand will be Camborne Town, Helston Town, St Keverne and Pendennis Brass who will each play their own programme, joining together for the finale with spectacular Massed Band renditions. This



year the evening will be compered by Donna Birrell of Radio Cornwall. The singing of Trelawny & National Anthem will be led by Melanie Uren.

Both events will be held in the marquee on the recreation ground. Parking is free. Refreshments. Easy access for disabled persons.

Admissions: £3.00 on Saturday and £8.00 on Sunday. Children accompanied by an adult £1 on Saturday and £3 on Sunday.

Constantine Arts Society

Many in the village may wonder what we are up to every Tuesday in the Church Hall.

We currently have 75 members of varying ages all working in different mediums from water, acrylic, oil, pastel and just pencil and crayon. We also have some very talented craft workers in ceramics, jewellery and wood work

We have our own website:
www.constantineartsociety.co.uk
 where members' work can be seen and our activities advertised including workshops with professional artists.



We have just donated £1,000 to the Church Hall committee to go towards the painting of the ceiling professionally. The members themselves painted the walls over the Easter break to ensure that the Hall is spic and span for the village and our exhibition.

We are busy preparing for our 42nd Annual Exhibition to be held in the Church Hall from 22 July until 12 August.

There is currently a waiting list for new members, but should you wish to have more information, please visit our website: www.constantineartsociety.co.uk.

Constantine School Carry on Camping!

Helen Bancroft

Trips and camps are the order of the day at Constantine School now the days are longer. Our Year 3 and 4 classes had a wonderful experience camping in the YHA Snooze Pods at the Eden Project. Apart from exploring the gardens and biomes by day and by night they had great fun den building, making potions, sculpting, following trails and eating the amazing food from the restaurant! Two of the three days were amazing; sadly



the third was cut short as a sickness bug swept the group – by the end of the school week only 19 out of 42 children made it back into school!

Soon Year 2 will be camping in school with trips to The Lizard and Years 5 and 6 are off to the Scilly Isles for a fabulous week of fun and adventure on land and sea. We just hope that the weather is kind; especially on the Scillonian crossing as we've had enough sickness for one year!



Parish Council Update

Charlotte Evans

Please note that full minutes can be found at www.constantinecornwall.com/council

Election 4 May 2017

Eight candidates were nominated for election, which led to uncontested election to the Parish Council on 4 May.

The new Council took effect from 9 May 2017 and is now looking to co-opt three members. If you are interested in being co-opted onto the Council, please contact the Clerk:

Mr C.F.P.Chapman

e-mail: colinchapman@lineone.net

Telephone: 01326 221648

Or write to: Chy Lean, St Keverne Road, Mawgan, Helston TR12 6AY

Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council, Thursday 20 April

During Public Question Time, Mrs Purdy again raised the question of creating extra parking on the Penbothidno estate by using the wide (unkempt) grass verge. Because the verge in question belongs to Cornwall Council (not the Parish), she was advised to keep in touch with CCIr Bastin.

CCIr Bastin reported that as a result of a peer review, the future composition of the Strategic Planning Committee will better reflect the geography of Cornwall, with the number of members also being lowered to 15. A further recommendation, which allows Ward Members to put a case to a Planning Committee but not to vote, has also been adopted.

Seworgan Defibrillator:

In Parish Matters, members noted that Friends of Constantine Surgery have contributed £1,000 towards the cost of a defibrillator for Seworgan, to be installed in the Council-owned old telephone box. The community itself has raised funds for the electricity connection.

Recreation Ground:

Countryside Contracting has been hired to make repairs to the chain-link fencing, which is expected to be complete by early June. It was also agreed to make the repair and future use of the pavilion building an item on the agenda for the next meeting.

Welcoming Stones:

Suitable stones have now been selected from Boshan Quarry and the wording 'Constantine Welcomes You' was agreed.

Planning matters covered in the April Meeting can be viewed in the full minutes at:

<http://constantinecornwall.com/wp-content/uploads/2017.04-April-20-1.pdf>

Future Parish Council Meetings in 2017

June 8, July 20, September 21,
October 19, November 16
& December 14

Get out and about with Helford marine group

The next three months are all about getting out and enjoying the beautiful area we live in with the Helford Marine Conservation Group activities and events.

Sunday 11 June - 2.00-4.00pm

Wildflower Walk with Keith Spurgin

Join like-minded people for a walk through Bosloe, over the hay meadows to Porth Saxon then up the Carwinnion Valley. With the aid of renowned local botanist Keith Spurgin we will be looking at all the flowers on the way and taking in the spectacular views out to the mouth of the Helford. Meet at Bosveal (Durgan) NT Car Park. Cost £4, HMCG members and children free. Booking essential. Contact Sue Scott 01326 3409621 or coordinator@helfordvmca.co.uk.



Angie Gall searching for seaweeds

grass beds. Booking essential as snorkeling places are limited. Bring own equipment and wet suit. Cost of barbeque £5. For information contact Sue Scott 01326 3409621 or coordinator@helfordvmca.co.uk.

Sunday 25 June - 12.00-3.00pm

Rockpool Photography

Expensive cameras were once essential for rockpool photography, but now all you need is a smart phone or a compact camera to capture images of the sea-shore and its critters. Meet at Durgan Slipway and discover from photographer Tony Sutton just what you can achieve. Booking is essential, please phone Tony on 01326 2116117.



Dave and Tony cooking up a barbeque

Saturday 17 June - 3.30-6.30pm

Snorkel Safari and Barbeque

We are holding our mid summer barbeque and get together on the beach at Durgan, Helford River. Just come for the food, but if you fancy a snorkel as well, marine experts from the Cornwall Wildlife Trust will be leading a tour of the eel-

Sunday 23 July - 10am to 1pm**The Big Seaweed Search**

An important event as the Helford Group joins in with the Marine Conservation Society's Seaweed project of recording 14 particular seaweeds. It's a great way to start learning about seaweeds and how to take part in a simple survey. With Angie Gall and Sue Scott at Prisk Cove. Meet at Mawnan Church, Old Church Road, Mawnan. TR11 5HY. Contact Sue Scott at 01326 340961 or coordinator@helfordvmca.co.uk

Tuesday 25 July - 1pm to 3pm**Rockpool Ramble**

Prisk Cove is known for having some of the most amazing rockpools. Explore the hidden world of crabs, fish, sea anemones and strange shellfish with marine expert Ruth Williams from Cornwall Wildlife Trust. Meet at Mawnan Church, Old Church Road, Mawnan, TR11 5HY. Please wear non slip shoes that you are prepared to get wet. Booking is essential. Contact Sue Scott (*see above*).

Saturday 19 August - 9.30pm 11.30pm
Night Rockpooling

This is a really exciting event and as the title suggests it takes place after dark. Crabs and other crustaceans are more active at night and sleeping fish can be found amongst the seaweeds. Sorry, no children under 12, and others must be accompanied by an adult. You will need a head torch, wetsuit boots, wellies or waders, reflective clothing or vest, and spare warm clothes. Leading the expedition at Durgan Slipway will be Matt Slater Cornwall Wildlife Trust. Booking essential. Contact Matt 01872 273939 ext 251.

GWEEK PLAYERS AUDITIONS
for next play 'Hay Fever'
by Noel Coward

To be performed 15-18 November
2017 in Gweek Village Hall

There will be a read through of the play at the WI Hall, Constantine at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 20 June. Wine and nibbles will be provided.

The first audition will be held in Gweek Village Hall at 7.00 pm on Thursday 22 June.

The second audition will be held in Gweek Village Hall at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 27 June.

Rehearsals are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from the beginning of September. Sunday rehearsals (usually from 4.00 pm) are 12-26 November. The play will be directed by Sandy Tyndale-Biscoe.

The cast consists of 4 men (1 aged around 20) and 5 women (2 in their 20s).

Anyone interested in being involved (as actors or backstage) will be most welcome, particularly male actors in their 20s and 30s.



The Constant Times CONSTANTINE CALENDAR

June 2017

Wed (every) – Todlins. 9.30am. Tolmen Centre.

Thurs (every) – Port Navas Art Group. 1-4pm. Port Navas Village Hall. Contact Ron Prior on 340566.

Fri (every) – Fitness Fusion. 11.30am. Tolmen Centre.

Tues (every) – Yoga. 6.30pm. Tolmen Centre. Contact jess@yogagrace.co.uk

Thur 8 – Constantine Cottage Garden Society (tbc). 7.30pm. W.I. Hall.

Thur 8 – Constantine Enterprises Company & Tolmen Operating Company AGMs. 7.00pm Tolmen Centre.

Thur 8 – Parish Council meeting. 7pm. The Vestry, Constantine.

Sat 10 – Farmers market.

Sat 10 - Gospel Choir in Constantine Church 7.30 p.m. Tickets available from Liz Pearce 340012 or Liz Moore 340703

Mon 12 – WI meeting @7.15pm.

Sat 17 - Lizard Open Garden 10 - 5 pm in aid of Cornwall Hospice Care.

Mon 19 – Constantine One and All Club. Trip Coastal. £10. Sally Coot 340050.

Thur 22 - History Group. 11.15 Bodmin and Wenford Railway: train trip, pasty lunch and guided tour around sheds with Richard Clowes.

Sun 25 - Save the Children Open Garden & Cream Tea, Trenarth Manor, by Kind permission of Lucie Nottingham. Contact Tessa Thomson (250378)

Tues 27 -.Ladies' Circle. 2.15pm. W.I. Hall.

July 2017

Wed (every) – Todlins. 9.30am. Tolmen Centre.

Thurs (every) – Port Navas Art Group. 1-4pm. Port Navas Village Hall. Contact Ron Prior on 340566.

Fri (every) – Fitness Fusion. 11.30am. Tolmen Centre.

Tues (every) – Yoga. 6.30pm. Tolmen Centre. Contact jess@yogagrace.co.uk

Mon 1 - Port Navas Trek. Annual charity walk, organised by The Save the Children Fund. Start at hall 10am for 8 mile walk, 11.30 for 4 miles. Tea in the hall from 3pm. Donations welcome. Further information, contact Mel 341484 or Roger 340718.

Mon 3 – Constantine One and All Club. Trip Brixham. £10. Sally Coot 340050.

Sat 8 – Farmers market.

Sat 8 - Save the Children Tea by the Water. 3-5pm. By kind permission of Tiffa Meadows. Tickets from the Committee

Mon 10 – WI meeting @7.15pm.

Thur 13 – Constantine Cottage Garden Society (tbc). 7.30pm. W.I. Hall.

Thur 13 – Transition Constantine Meeting. 7pm. The Queens Arms. Chris Hussey 340007.

Sat 15 - Constantine Garden Society Annual Show 2.00pm Recreation Ground.

Sat 15 - Constantine Silver Band, Choirs and Youth Concert. 7.00pm Recreation Ground Marquee. £3 / £1 children.

Sun 16 - Brass on Grass massed bands - parade 6.30pm, concert at 7.00pm. £8 / £3 children.

Thur 20 - Parish Council meeting. 7pm. The Vestry, Constantine.

Fri 21 - History Group 18.30 Winston Graham Walk and Perranzabulo Museum. Guide: Karin Easton, Curator

Sat 22 - Mon 31 - Constantine Arts Society Annual Exhibition, Church Hall.

Sun 23 - Trenarth Gardens open 2-5pm in aid of Cornwall Wildlife Trust.

Tues 25 - Ladies' Circle. 2.15pm. W.I. Hall.

Sat29/Sun30 - 'The Search is the Treasure' An inspiring exhibition of original works created by one family of artists (ceramics - fused glass - photography - sculpture - poetry). 10am - 4pm. Port Navas Village Hall.

August 2017

Wed (every) - Todlins. 9.30am. Tolmen Centre.

Thurs (every) - Port Navas Art Group. 1-4pm. Port Navas Village Hall. Contact Ron Prior on 340566.

Fri (every) - Fitness Fusion. 11.30am. Tolmen Centre.

Tues (every) - Yoga. 6.30pm. Tolmen Centre. Contact jess@yogagrace.co.uk

Tues 1-Sat 12 - Constantine Arts Society Annual Exhibition, Church Hall.

Wed 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 - 'Teas Under the Trees' 2-4pm opposite the church. In aid of Constantine Christmas Lights.

Thur 10 - Constantine Cottage Garden Society (tbc). 7.30pm. W.I. Hall.

Thur 10 - Transition Constantine

Meeting. 7pm. The Queens Arms. Chris Hussey 340007.

Sat 12 - Farmers market.

Mon 14 - WI meeting @7.15pm.

Fri 18 - History Group 18.30 Penrose Estate Walk with Greg Cross, National Trust Ranger

Sun 20 - Village BBQ and Fun afternoon, games for young and old. Organised by Constantine Church. Donations for the BBQ welcome, but not essential. Come and have some fun.

St Constantine Church Services

Sun 4 June 10.30am Whit Sunday Holy Communion.

Sun 11 June 8.00am BCP Holy Communion. 10.30am Holy Communion.

Sun 18 June 10.30am Prayer & Praise

Sun 25 June 8.00am BCP Holy Communion. 10.30am Holy Communion.

Sun 2 July 10.30am Holy Communion.

Sun 9 July 8.00am BCP Holy Communion. 10.30 Holy Communion.

Sun 16 July 10.30 Holy Communion.

Sun 23 July 8.00am BCP Holy Communion. 10.30 Holy Communion.

Sun 30 July 10.30 Combined Service at Constantine.

The times of services in August have yet to be confirmed. Please look out for notices and posters with the details when they are known.

Everyone very welcome and coffee is served after the service.

Liz Moore

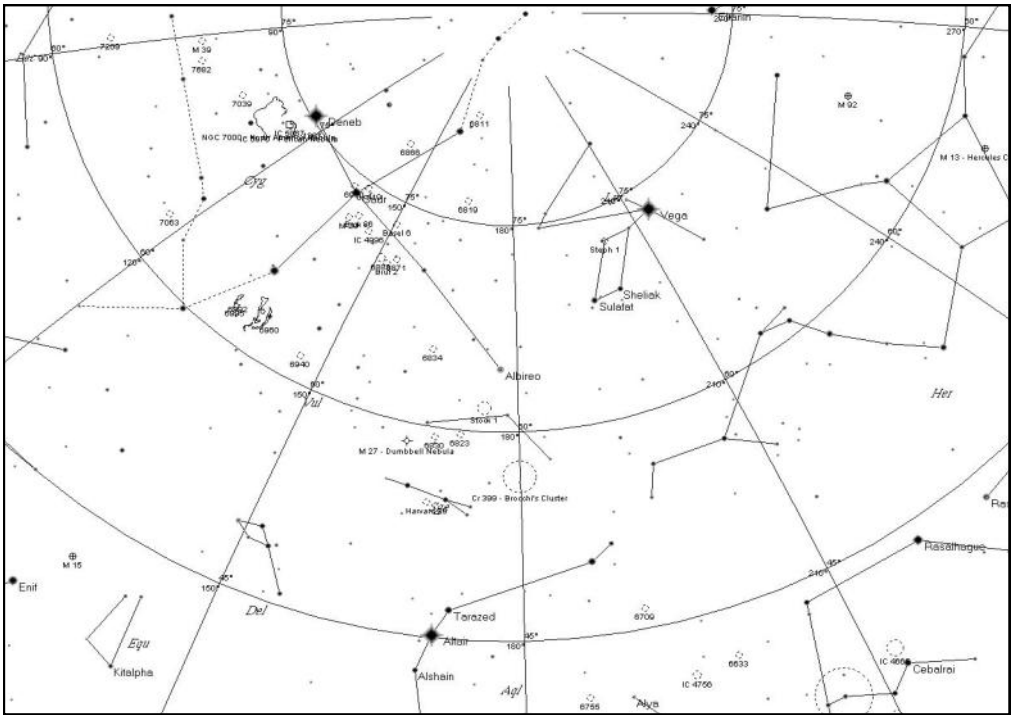
Night Sky

Robert Beeman

The Sun is now approaching its highest position in the sky giving long days and short nights with the Milky Way dominating the night sky. At this time of year we are looking into the centre of our galaxy. If you can find a very dark site with a clear southern horizon, see if you can see the distinct fork in the Milky Way quite low down on the horizon.

Almost due south at about 60 to 70 degrees altitude the three bright stars, Vega, Deneb and Altair form the summer triangle. The westernmost star Vega is a blue white dwarf main sequence star. Only 25 light years away, it is the basis for colour and brightness comparisons with all other stars. Just to the east and slightly above Vega is the “double double” star. To the naked eye this is a double star system. With an amateur telescope, each is a double star system in its own right, and with more complex instruments a fifth star can be determined. The entire system is really quite close at 161 llight years.

If you have a telescope of at least 80mm aperture, seek out the Ring Nebula M57 which lies between the two lower stars of Lyra, Sheliak and Sulafat. This is a planetary nebula 1100 light years away and was formed when a Sun sized star reached the end of its life as a red giant and expelled its ionised contents into the interstellar medium. At the centre of the nebula there is a white dwarf which illuminates the dust and gas forming the ring.



Night Sky (*continued*)

For most of this period Saturn will be low on the southern horizon, compare the colour with Antares nearby to the west. Venus will be an early morning object low in the eastern sky. Given the few planets that are easily available, have a look at the Moon. Ideally chose a night soon after new Moon or a week after full Moon and concentrate on the terminator, the line between the dark and illuminated surfaces. This often gives good views of the relief and texture of the Moon's surface which are difficult to see when the Moon is full.

The August highlight is the Perseid meteor shower which peaks 11/12th and 12/13th of the month, but the Moon will be close to the radiant, the direction from which they appear to come. Try and find a spot shaded from moonlight and look towards the south or southwest and you should at least see the brightest meteors on a clear night. Last year we counted nearly 50 from midnight to 1am so see if you can beat that but be prepared for a long night as a)the hourly rate is not constant, and b)neither is the overall shower intensity as this varies from year to year.

Wishing you clear skies.

Garden Society Annual Show Saturday - 17 July

Liz Pearce

The Constantine Garden Society Annual Show opens at 2.00pm on Saturday 17 July on the Recreation Ground - a lovely family afternoon with the local brass band and cream teas in the marquee.

If you would like to enter an exhibit in the show, simply pick up a show schedule from one of the shops in the village and complete the entry form, returning it as appropriate. There is no entry charge.

If you grow anything, make anything or bake anything, why not join the village tradition by entering it in the show? You may be surprised how well you do! In recent years we have had winners of all ages from 1 to 104, so you are never too young or old! Even make it a competition with your friends and family.

Photography has become very popular and it's easy to have a go. No names are on the exhibits so unless you win, no one knows it's your photo (unless you enter a

picture of yourself!). Also, the number of men exhibiting in the home produce section has increased year on year with some excellent results, so come on lads, let's see what you can do, and girls show them what we can do!

Admission is only £2 - children free, so do come along.



Winner of last year's Floral Art, Liz Moore

W.I. Meeting Reports

April

"Funny Job for a Woman" was our talk by Penny Praille, which after only a few moments we thought must be The Best Job for a Woman!! It was men who were questioning Penny when they found she was the ships agent working for a shipping company around Greece's 32 ports.



From small luxury cruisers with 110 passengers to large cruise ships with several thousand, from medical translator to loading passengers and ship's equipment, Penny and her staff were responsible and all were impressed with the calm organisation by a "mere woman". Perhaps it was unusual in the 1980-90s, but Penny recommended all young females interested in languages and travel to consider this route, having had such fun and meeting many interesting passengers. For Penny, work had been a pleasure.

May

"Shopping Through The Ages", by Lesley Robinson, began with the gentlemen of wealthy households travelling to London at least once a year with a shopping list from their wives covering bedding, furniture, clothing etc. In the 1680s The Duke of Hamilton travelled from Glasgow

to London for his wife and 13 children. Women did not travel alone for shopping on the "dangerous & hazardous" roads. Risk of robbery and accidents were an every day occurrence. Horse-driven coaches took 3 days to travel just from Bath to London. There were 20,000 sophisticated independent shops in London during that time, the wool markets were the best in Europe, and Spittalfields was renowned for the best silk fabric.

The most lavish spending was seen at Court with King James 1 having debts of £200,000. Ante-suppers were a tremendous waste of food with tables laden to be "viewed" by guests on arrival! This was followed by entertainment, during which the tables were cleared, the food thrown away and another banquet supper with exactly the same food was laid out for the guests to eat!!

The coming of the railways into the heart of London made the cost of travel cheaper and bought department stores into the city. Small shops like haberdashers and market streets were redeveloped in the 1830s when the first department store was opened in Regent Street. Most Stores would take credit



Barbara Willoughby

payments so were rather expensive, with the exception of Harrods who would only take cash and their goods were cheaper! Harrods had the first "moving staircase" (escalator) to encourage shoppers to go to the upper sales floors. Before 1911 Bond Street shops only sold exclusive men's wear and no buses were allowed in the area, only carriages.

Love it or loathe shopping, we can now shop without leaving home and in America you can now load a picture of your face onto a model and then "try" clothing on "the model" to see if it suits you! Such is the progress of shopping for the last 400 years. Lesley was thanked by member Carol Pearce who admits to enjoying shopping but not on computer. A very enjoyable look at the history of shopping.

Dates were then given for our Birthday Outing at Falmouth Pavillions on Monday 3 July, Craft Club every Monday except Bank Holidays. The village Cake Bake for Cornwall Hospices raised £285. The next WI meeting on Monday 12 June will be with Tracey Eustace talking on Mature Fitness and the competition will be "A Healthy Flower Arrangement" to include some fruit or vegetables.

Visitors are always welcome. Our meetings are on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7 15pm. Just pop in or telephone Barbara Willoughby (Members Register) 01326 340083 or Liz Moore (President) 01326 340703 - we look forward to meeting you.

For WI Hall hire contact Liz Moore.

LANELLEN ARTS Presents....

The Search is the Treasure

An inspiring exhibition of original works created by one family of artists.

You are invited to explore this new and exclusive collection of original works by ceramist and glass artist Hazel Thomson, poet and photographer Phil Thomson, and 3D designer Adam Thomson.

Where will the journey take you?

Light refreshments available.

29 – 30 July 10 – 4pm

Port Navas Village Hall

BOSAHAN STORAGE

(close to village)

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CARAVANS, TRAILERS**

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Constantine Cottage Garden Society

Howard Bolt

March Meeting

Gary Long, the Head Gardener at Trewithen gave an illustrated talk on 'China, its plants and places'. Gary is only the third Head Gardener in the last 100years. He has visited China on a number of occasions, recently attending the International Camellia Society's Congress in Chuxiong, Yunnan Province. He has traced the footsteps of famous 18th century plant hunters and has received the award of International Camellia Garden of Excellence on behalf of Trewithen Gardens.

In his talk, Gary explained about the vast areas of China and the time it took to visit various places of interest to plant specialists. He mentioned that bamboo,

which has a multitude of uses, can grow 120ft in a year and can be seen growing 'before your very eyes'. Vast areas of camellias were ripped out due to the introduction of rape for its oil. However, the government has now realised that the camellias are a great tourist attraction and has started replanting. Fortunately, due to prevailing conditions, methods of reproduction are very successful. The techniques used do not work in Cornwall.

To emphasise the huge scale of life in China, Gary gave an example that at the 2012 Camellia Congress, there were more than 1million visitors! His talk was lively and interesting and not just for plant lovers!



Camellia 'Donation'

April Meeting

Carol Richards from the Camborne and Redruth Fuchsia Society gave a practical talk on 'Fun with Fuchsias'. Carol has been secretary of the Fuchsia Society for the last 20 years.

She pointed out that fuchsias are very adaptable plants and may be grown as show specimens through various forms to hedging. Fuchsias originated in the Southern Hemisphere and evidence has been found of their growth on all landmasses from the Arctic to Australia/New Zealand. Species, native to New Zealand, are notable for their blue pollen.

Carol demonstrated how to take cuttings using a 'pickle jar propagator', how to prune in order to grow 'standards', how to develop a circular shape of 'show plants', and the best way of developing Bonsai Fuchsias.

The meeting closed after a sale of ready rooted cuttings and small fuchsia plants ready for growing on.



Carol Richards (right)

Celebrating Wild Lizard in June

National Nature Reserve

Continuing its celebration of the extension of the Lizard National Nature Reserve in 2016, the National Trust and partners Natural England and Cornwall Wildlife Trust, are continuing their series of events until the end of June 2017.

Track down elusive nightjars by their bizarre churring calls, peer into ponds to discover dragonfly nymphs and newts, join botanists to marvel at the glorious spring flowers carpeting the cliffs and get to know why the Lizard Peninsula is such an important place for wildlife and a mecca for naturalists. With events appealing to all ages and interests, there's bound to be a wildlife adventure to suit!

1 June. Bug Bonanza. 10am to 12noon. Natural England, High Bochym Rural Workshops TR12 7AZ. Search for incredible insects and bugs. Family friendly event. No need to book. For more information email: realwildthymes@gmail.com

3 June. Birds and Butterfly Walk. 11am to 1pm. The Lizard Village Green. A great opportunity to get to know some 'winged wonders.' No need to book. Sorry, no dogs.

3 & 24 June. Evening Nightjar Walk. 9pm to 11pm. Goonhilly Nature Reserve car park TR12 6LQ. This fascinating bird puts on a fantastic aerial display and makes some bizarre nocturnal churring noises. A night time walk is not to be missed. Booking essential, call 01326 291174

9 June. All at Sea. 7pm to 8.30pm. The Barn at Poltesco, Lizard Rangers' Base TR12 7LR. A talk on marine life along the Cornish coast from Sue Sayer of the Cornwall Seal Group Research Trust. Booking essential, call 01326 291174.

11 June. Open Farm Sunday. Noon – 4pm. Tregullas Farm, Lizard Village. Join all the fun down on the most southerly farm. Meet the animals, climb aboard a tractor, farmers market, cream teas and more. Free entry.

17 June. Kayak trip with Lizard Adventure. 9.30am to 12.30pm. Mullion Cove

TR12 7ES. See the coastline from a different perspective and hopefully see seals and other wildlife. Beginners welcome, all kit and tuition provided. £45 per person. Booking essential, please call 07845 20 40 40.

23 June. Marvellous Moths I. 9.30pm to 11pm. NT car park at Kynance TR12 7PJ. Join 'Atropos' editor, Mark Tunmore, for a moth-trapping session. Booking essential, call 01326 291174. Unfortunately, no dogs allowed.

24 June. Marvellous Moths II. 8am to 9.30am. NT car park at Kynance TR12 7PJ. Join us the morning after the moth-trapping session to meet some of the species we caught the night before. Booking essential, call 01326 291174.

25 June. Guided walk round Windmill Farm. 9.30am to 12.30pm. Windmill Farm TR12 7LH. Explore the reserve and the fascinating wildlife that lives there.

28 June. Guided walk on the Lizard National Nature Reserve. 10am to 11.30am. Wildlife Watchpoint at Lizard Point (TR12 7NU). En-route see some of the choughs, seals, wild flowers and other wildlife surrounding Lizard Point. No need to book. £2 adults. Dogs on leads welcome.

For full details of these events, visit www.the-lizard.org.

Mullion Harbour Day

National Trust and Lizard Adventure are delighted to be hosting Mullion Harbour Day again this year on **Saturday 1st July 11am – 4pm.**


Join us for a free fun-filled day at Mullion Harbour. Activities for all the family include harbour games, kids activity tent, fancy dress raft race and other 'watery competitions'. There will also be free kayak taster sessions, craft stalls, a BBQ, licensed bar and live music. This year's fancy dress theme is 'coastal creatures'. Prizes for the best dressed person and for the 'best dressed' raft (as well as for the winners of all the races of course)!

Please put 1st July in our diary and get your rafts at the ready. Bring swimming togs and a towel and join


For more info visit: <https://www.facebook.com/MullionHarbourDay/>

National Trust and Lizard Adventure



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Port Navas Village Hall

Midsummer Magic

Wednesday 14 - Friday 23 June

11am - 5pm

Locally made arts and crafts for sale

Afternoon Tea at Treviades Wollas, High Cross

Sunday 2 July, 3.30pm onwards

Enjoy afternoon tea in an English garden, the home of Mrs Patricia Cross, and be entertained by the Ukulele Orchestra of Constantine.

Tea, assorted sandwiches, cakes. Pimms.
Tickets £5 from Tiffa 340340 or Pat 340123

Summer on the Helford

5 - 14 July 11am - 5pm

Beautiful display and sale of paintings, photographic art and handicrafts.

Regatta Coffee morning

Wednesday 26 July 10am-12 noon

Janet Judge's Summer Exhibition

Private View Friday 4 August 6-8pm.

Then open daily until Sunday 13 August

Port Navas Regatta

Saturday 5 August 4pm

Summer Barbecue

Saturday 19 August 6pm

Our annual barbecue with excellent food, expertly barbecued. No booking necessary, just turn up. £7, under 10's half price.

The Turning Year

Friday 25 - Monday 28 August 10am - 6pm

Local artist Mel Chambers is back with her annual exhibition in Port Navas! This year takes you through the magic of the turning year with its array of cascading colours and beauty. As the seasons flourish and Mother Earth moves through her never-ending cycle we are reminded of the magic held in this adventure called LIFE!

Original paintings, Raku fired ceramics, Alchemy tiles and homemade flapjacks - A delight for every sense!

Something interesting to say?

*If you have any community news or want to talk about a particular subject, e-mail **constant.times@gmail.com***

The Constant Times

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**DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER /
OCTOBER 2017 ISSUE: 11th August**

CONSTANTINE CHURCH HALL

***To book,
please now contact
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on
01326 340236***



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