

Transition's Community Day brings Constantine closer together

The Editor

People from all parts of Constantine's community came together on Saturday 13 October for a packed day of events, eating and entertainment organised by Transition Constantine to celebrate the village's past present and future, and to share helpful information about the many activities and services it supports.

After the regular Farmers' Market at the Tolmen Centre, the Community Day kicked off with its free 'Big Get Together Lunch' at which every chair, table or other perching spot was taken by the many people and families who brought and shared a vast and varied selection of delicious home-made foods.

Judging by the rapidly depleted self-service table, good food and great company were enjoyed by all!

Whilst we ate, we were entertained by the award-winning Trengilly Singers with a varied programme of pieces, some, like The Owl and The Pussycat, arranged in most impressive choral style. They were followed with a reading by Penbothidno poet Kerry Vincent of 'Sweet Abode', an evocative poem in which a young boy's elderly uncle paints a picture of life in Constantine in years gone by. You can read Kerry's poem in full on page 3.

Cont'd on p2



Photo: Terry Swainsbury

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Constantine Community Day - *Cont'd*

The afternoon's programme of events, activities and displays then got under way at both the Tolmen Centre and in the Church Hall. At the Tolmen Centre a steady

stream of local visitors spent time looking at displays and talking with representatives from Transition, Plastic-Free Falmouth, Falmouth Marine Conservation, AmBos Co-housing Collective, the W.I., Sea Scouts & Beavers, The Constant Times, the soon to be resurrected Who's Where?, and St Constantine Church Group.

The Constantine Museum was also open and attracted 48 visitors and one new volunteer and The Tolmen Centre was the starting point for a village Quiz Trail for youngsters.

Meanwhile the activities and displays taking place at the Church Hall were particularly popular with families and young children. As well as a Repair Café offering to fix faulty electrical appliances, garden equipment and bikes, the Pre-school Stall engaged children in ecological and natural craft activities, there was an art workshop with Jessica Pearson, a Brownies' Stall, Face Painting, a School Stall, and information about Recycling Plastic. There were also displays and information about Ocean Clean Sailing who invite you to come fishing for marine litter, and Electric Bikes.

Despite being a blustery day, the day's events were very well-attended and Transition Constantine's event co-ordinator, Sandra Boreham, thanks all volunteers for their efforts in helping to make Constantine an even more inclusive, caring and environmentally conscious community. Transition Constantine hopes to make the Community Day an annual event in the future.



Photo: Terry Swainsbury



Photo: Terry Swainsbury

Sweet Abode

by Kerry Vincent

*My son walks with my Uncle,
A good chance to off load,
This mile long hike of Constantine,
They share this sweet abode.*

*"Please, Great uncle, tell me" he said,
"Of those days long before me?
When you were only my age
I so love to hear the story!"*

*"T'was a long walk!" he told him
And cold! Had to be braver,
A busy start, up with the lark,
For lessons down Ponjeravah!"*

*"Always a mate to help you out,
To catch you when you fall,
When sneaking up to spy on
All the maids in the church hall"*

*"The years rolled by, we'd laugh and cry,
Walking Trebarvah road,
These nasty outdoor toilets
That so often overflowed! "*

*"Medlins' the butcher", he told him,
'Later, 'Tonkins' the Baker
'Ruberry's' for your car repairs
And Thelma, the dressmaker."*

*Adventures so good in Bosahan woods,
Whilst running through the breeze
My boy, he interrupts,
"I climbed that rope swing with ease!"*

*He tells him of riding his bike,
With friends to the new school,
Next year, he'll be a year six,
Sat on benches in the hall.*

*A zip wire in the park,
He loves playing, being silly,
His trophy from the carnival,
His bike ride to Trengilly!*

*Years will roll by, he'll laugh and cry,
Walking Trebarvah road,
Hand in hand, they understand,
They share this sweet abode.*

*'Jenny's Beef' the butcher
And 'Sallys cakes' the Baker,
Nick down at the garage,
And Nicky, the dressmaker.*

*This modern world, not all it seems,
With broken hearts and shattered dreams,
With wars and riots, loved ones missed,
Global warming, terrorists.*

*Each warm. "Hello", each brief embrace,
Each smile from every friendly face,
They calmly walk at their own pace,
For they are home and they are safe.*

*They finish strolling up Well lane,
Their feet are sore but there's no pain,
He tells him he got the Cane,
But how he'd love to go again!*

*My ten year old so keen to learn,
His Great Uncle, so wise.
He'll have terrific tales to tell,
When he's seventy-five!*

*I'll leave him write that story,
To never be forgot,
To keep inside, with love and pride,
This village we have got.*

'Vice Versa' a first for Gweek Players

Gweek Players are thrilled to be the first amateur company to be given permission to present **Vice Versa** by Phil Porter. First performed at the RSC in Stratford in 2017, this hilarious, madcap comedy, based on the Roman comedies of Plautus, was a huge hit with audience and critics. This "racy, Roman rip-off is a laugh riot" (The Guardian). The play will be performed at Gweek Village Hall on 14–17 November. Tickets available from www.gweekplayers.co.uk or 01726 879 500.

Mollie's 100th birthday marked at art exhibition

Ann Salome

Constantine Arts Society held their 43rd annual exhibition in the Church Hall this summer. As well as the numerous paintings there were cards, knitted items, jewellery, ceramics and photography on show. Visitors commented on the range of work and the diversity of the exhibits. Blessed with the glorious weather, visitor numbers were up and sales were good.



A very special member, Mollie Silver, whom many of you will know, celebrated her 100th birthday during the exhibition. Mollie's family had arrived from all parts of the globe and were present when Rodney Holmes (*Chairman*) gave a speech celebrating Mollie's long association with the art group at the Preview Evening. Mollie, still painting in her studio at home and attending the group sessions regularly, was of course amongst those not only exhibiting, but also selling their work at the exhibition!



Mollie receives a presentation from Rodney Holmes

St Constantine Church

Christmas Fayre



Saturday November 24th

10.00 am – 12 noon

Constantine Church Hall

With Santa and his little helper!

A wide variety of excellent Christmas Craft Stalls and games

Homemade cakes, jams and chutneys

An ideal time to get in the Christmas mood and buy those stocking fillers

Homemade refreshments

All are welcome – we look forward to seeing you

Constantine Cottage Garden Society

Howard Bolt

Eden Project talk

Our first talk of the Autumn Season was given by Ian Martin, who has worked at Eden since 1996 describing himself as a plantsman. He gave a most entertaining and amusing explanation of the changes which have taken place since the conception by Tim Smit.

Ian described Tim as an 'inspirer' who wanted a more exciting project after he had helped open the Lost Gardens of Heligan. The domes were built to provide a showcase for global diversity and human dependence on plants, illustrating the importance of plants for human survival.



Ian spent five years rearing plants from around the World in a local nursery. His team were finding suitable conditions and soils, attempting to keep plants disease free and prepare them for transferring to Eden in 2001.

The relationship between plants and humans was at the forefront in the early days. However, falling attendance numbers have seen the facilities at Eden used for other topics which have helped boost attendance and make the project financially viable.

I got the impression that Ian, the plantsman, was not altogether comfortable using Eden for exhibits ranging

from dinosaurs, climate change, geothermal energy to pop concerts, laser shows and ice skating.

The Eden Concept is currently being contemplated elsewhere in Britain and also in China.

Summer Show 20 July 2019

Advance News: The Photograph Section topics are as follows:-

- Pet Cat/Kitten
- People at Work
- A Garden Container
- Dead Tree
- A Black & White photo-graph – any subject
- Sunset
- Head and Shoulders Portrait
- A Local Bridge
- Bosahan Woods
- Farm Machinery

Neil and Jean Wiseman have moved to Liskeard to be under the care of their family. I have their address and phone number as well as details of an electric mower they have for sale. Howard Bolt 340306.

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Constantine School goes under the sea and up the Nile Sonya Herbert

It has been a real pleasure to welcome all of our new children and their families to Constantine Primary School this term and it has been wonderful watching them settle in to our wonderful school community. We would also like to welcome two new teachers to our school, Miss Davies who is teaching our year 1 class and Mrs Dye who is teaching in years 3 and 4.

This year we have welcomed 25 new pupils into our reception class. Mrs Savage and Mrs Kent have really enjoyed getting to know them and their families. The children have settled in well and have really enjoyed their topic on the Gingerbread Man!

In September the whole school went to the church to celebrate harvest with Reverend Stewart. The service was well attended and we were very grateful for all of the donations made by our families which were taken to the local foodbank.

Kenwyn Class have been really enjoying this terms project which is called, Under the Sea. They have had the opportunity to visit Falmouth Maritime Museum and they really enjoyed learning about famous explorers from the past and the present. They had the

opportunity to learn about Sir Francis Drake and what life on board may have been like during this time.



Tamar Class have been very excited about learning about their class topic which focuses on the Egyptians. We were particularly impressed with some of their Egyptian God portraits which they did using pastels.

To find else what else we have been up to, visit our website and Twitter page.



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07799 380331**

Devon delights on Constantine Ringers' Outing

Peter Binns

On the very fine morning of Saturday 29 September, sixteen bell ringers, spouses and supporters from St Constantine boarded a sparkling OTS mini-coach for this year's Ringers' Outing to West Devon. Ringing at four churches had been arranged with the invaluable help of ex-Constantine ringer Sue Davies who now lives on the western side of Dartmoor.

Our first stop was the church of St Thomas a Becket at Sourton on the very edge of the moor where Sue greeted the group. The fairly light set of five bells rang very prettily, although the exceptionally long rope ends presented the ringers with something of a bell-handling challenge!

After 45 minutes we drove the short distance to the lovely village of Lydford where the church lies next to the remains of the castle, and a pub of the same name. The six bells of St Petrock sounded most impressive, the dozens of competition certificates on the walls testament to the Lydford ringers' expertise.

A very pleasant lunch was then taken at The Castle Inn before retracing our steps to the third tower of the day at Bridestowe. St Bridget's six bells were somewhat heavier to ring (and loud!), but we managed some very presentable 'touches'.

The pinnacle (literally) of the outing was our last stop at the tiny church of St Michael atop Brentor. We all made it up the steep path to enjoy the spectacular 360 degree panoramic view on such a lovely afternoon before ringing the very light but tuneful five bells, probably the ringers' favourite tower of the day.

Thanks again to Jane, Sue and Steve (our driver) for making it such a memorable day.



The building opposite the whisky shop!

In 1835/36 a Chapel was built on land in Fore Street, leased from the Vyvyan family, but was half the size of the present Tolmen building. Growing congregations meant that in 1879 Mr Winn, an architect from Helston, was instructed to draw up plans to enlarge the Chapel, and the building, as we know it today, was constructed. Constantine Chapel was the biggest of all the local non-conformist churches, there were others at Ponjeravah, Brill, Tucoyse, Seworgan, and Port Navas, but all now long since demolished or converted to private residences. During the Halcyon days when congregations could be as many as 400 there was very little difficulty in raising money for improvements. A heating system was installed, the building wired for electricity, old earth closets (toilets) replaced with modern toilets and drainage and, after WW1, a huge organ was installed. Healthy finances and bumper congregations were the norm until well after the Second World War.

However, by the 1990s diminishing congregation numbers, falling income and a backlog of major repairs persuaded the members that they would have to abandon their beloved Chapel and seek an alternative venue for worship. The building was sold at public auction and ownership passed to the newly formed Constantine Enterprises Company (CEC) and became known as the Tolmen Centre. The building was refurbished and a small Museum built onto the side in 2000. No longer a religious building, but still in a huge

The Wesleyan Chapel
Constantine
The Tolmen Centre

sense a meeting place, a focal point for the Village, with a theatre, cafe, art exhibitions, various markets, and classes, run to-

tally by volunteers who, every year, give 1000s of hours of their time. No longer used for Baptisms, Weddings, or Funerals, but for the gatherings which usually accompany such rites of passage. It is a place with history, it is part of Constantine's identity. You can't miss it every time you pass along Fore Street, and even if we never visit we use it as a reference when giving directions!

Many locals can still remember exactly which pew they sat in when attending Sunday service, the Museum holds the 'Cradle Roll' and the Parian Ware font used for Baptisms together with wonderful photographs showing it in use going back to Victorian times.

Eighteen years on and once again we are beginning to see evidence of this magnificent building's age, with wear and tear, especially to the roof, windows, and surface of the car park. The CEC have maintained and improved the building since taking ownership, converting the Chapel area into a theatre space, creating a beautiful garden, redecorating various areas, upgrading the kitchen facilities, replacing windows, and building a new toilet block.

A new roof will now cost in the region of £45,000 – £50,000

Windows - each one in the region of £2,000

New parking space surface in the region of £8,000

The CEC (all volunteers) cannot raise these funds alone and although a small

Tracey Clowes

group of us have been looking at grant applications these need supporting with our own funds, so we are hoping to launch a 'Crowdfunder' campaign in early 2019. I am therefore writing to invite you, the amazing Constantine Community, to help generate the necessary funds to make our magnificent granite building fit for the twenty first century, and to keep it in our Village daily life, by taking part in the Crowdfunder campaign or donating to the project. There will be a launch event,

and a final celebratory get together, both held at the Tolmen Centre. The on line campaign will only last 6 – 8 weeks but the 'Love Me Restore Me' campaign will be ongoing.

Please, please look out for the advertising or contact me, Tracey Clowes for more details of how to help or donate.

Before I close, do you know why we named the building the Tolmen Centre? Pop into the fascinating Constantine Museum to find out more.

Friends of Constantine Surgery

Sara Thomas

Patient Car Service

The Patient car service needs your help! We are looking for a volunteer or volunteers to help run the car service during the times our regular volunteer takes her annual holidays, which is approximately 6 weeks per year.

It is very effectively and efficiently run by Angela Stokes and involves arranging volunteer drivers to drive patients of Constantine Surgery to and from their hospital and surgery appointments.

If you would like any more information and think you might be able to help, please contact me at the surgery on 01326 340666. I will then forward your name and details on to Angela.

Constantine, date to be confirmed.

The session usually lasts between 1 – 2 hours and will be held one evening.

We are very lucky to have two defibrillators in Constantine, one in Gweek and one in Port Navas. The more people trained means more chance of survival.

Dates for your diary

Saturday 24 November

Fund raising social event . A Night at the Races! To be held at Constantine social Club. Time to be arranged and tickets will be available. Flyers will be posted around the villages of Constantine, Port Navas and Gweek.

Wednesday 28 November

Friends of Constantine SURGERY AGM. To be held at Constantine WI Hall, Bowling Green. 6.30 – 7.00 pm. Tea and coffee available. All registered patients are treated as being members of the Friends, so please come along and support us.

Defibrillator Training

If you would like to attend a Defibrillator training session in Constantine, please can you contact Sara Thomas on 01326 340411 (home) or 01326 3404666 (Constantine Surgery) to have your name added to the list. The venue will be the Tolmen Centre,

The Constant Times CONSTANTINE CALENDAR

November 2018

Mon (every) - Constantine Craft Club W.I. Hall.
2.00 - 4.00pm.

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

Tues (every) – Zumba Class 6.30pm Church
Hall, info@ruthiesfitnessclasses.co.uk

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

Weds (every) - Ladies' Craft Group, Gweek Mission Church 10.00 - 12.00.

Thurs (every) – Body Blitz Fitness 6.45pm
Church Hall, info@ruthiesfitnessclasses.co.uk

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

Thurs (every) - Weekly Whist Drive. 7.30 -
10.00pm Constantine Social Club. New whist
players welcome. Call 07557414231 for further
details or just turn up to play.

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

Sat 10 - Helford Marine Conservation 'How We
Do It: the work of the British Divers Marine Life
Rescue in Cornwall' 7.30pm Gweek Village Hall

Mon 12 - W.I. meeting. Chris Blount with "Sounds
of Yesterday" start 7.15pm.

Weds 14 - Sat 17 - 'Vice Versa' Gweek Players,
Gweek Village Hall .

Sat 17 - 'Save the Children' Christmas Fair -
Mawnan Smith Memorial Hall - 10am 12pm.
Raffles, games, tombola, Christmas cards, re-
freshments and much more. Everyone welcome.

Mon 19 - One & All Club. Constantine Social
Club. 2 15 pm Alan Cox .

Sat 24 - St Constantine Church Christmas Fayre.
Church Hall 10.00-12.00pm.

Sat 24 - Friends of Constantine Surgery fund
raising social event 'A Night at the Races!'
Constantine social Club. Time TBA.

Mon 26 - WI "Festive" Soup & Pud. 12 noon.

Weds 28 - Friends of Constantine Surgery AGM.
Constantine WI Hall. 6.30 – 7.00 pm. Tea and
coffee available. All registered patients welcome.

December 2018

Mon (every) - Constantine Craft Club W.I. Hall.
2.00 - 4.00pm.

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

Tues (every) – Zumba Class 6.30pm Church
Hall, info@ruthiesfitnessclasses.co.uk

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

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sion Church 10.00 - 12.00.

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10.00pm Constantine Social Club. New whist
players welcome. Call 07557414231 for further
details or just turn up to play.

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

Thurs 6 – Port Navas Art Group. 1-4pm. Port
Navas Village Hall. Contact Ron Prior on
340566.

Mon 10 - One & All Club. Constantine Social Club
Xmas Bingo 2 15 pm.

January 2019

Mon (every) - Constantine Craft Club W.I. Hall.
2.00 - 4.00pm.

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

Tues (every) – Zumba Class 6.30pm Church
Hall, info@ruthiesfitnessclasses.co.uk

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

Weds (every) - Ladies' Craft Group, Gweek Mis-
sion Church 10.00 - 12.00.

Thurs (every) – Body Blitz Fitness 6.45pm
Church Hall, info@ruthiesfitnessclasses.co.uk

Thurs (every) from 17 Jan – Port Navas Art
Group. 1-4pm. Port Navas Village Hall. Contact
Ron Prior on 340566..

Thurs (every) - Weekly Whist Drive. 7.30 - 10.00pm Constantine Social Club. New whist players welcome. Call 07557414231 for further details or just turn up to play.

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

Mon14 - WI Meeting Mr Dean Evans on The Passmore Edwards Legacy. Competition: Your Favourite Smallest Book. Start 7.15pm.

Sat 19 - Helford Marine Conservation 'The Plight of the Bumblebee and other pollinators' Illustrated talk at 7.30pm at Gweek Village Hall.

Mon 21 - One & All Club A G M. Constantine Social Club 2 15 pm . Also a quiz.

Mon 28 - WI Soup & Pud Lunch 12 noon.

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St Constantine Church Services

Sun 4 November 8.00 am BCP Holy Communion 10.30 am CW Holy Communion

Sun 11 November 8.00 am BCP Holy Communion 10.30 am Remembrance Service

Sun 18 November 8.00 am BCP Holy Communion 10.30 am CW Holy Communion

Sun 25 November 8.00 am BCP Holy Communion 10.30 am CW Holy Communion

Sun 2 December First Sunday of Advent 8.00 am BCP Holy Communion 10.30 am CW Holy Communion

Tues 4 December 7.00pm Helford River Sailing Trust Carol Service

Sun 9 December 8.00 am BCP Holy Communion 10.30 am CW Holy Communion

Sun 16 December 8.00 am BCP Holy Communion 10.30 am CW Holy Communion

Mon 17 December 2.00pm Constantine School Christingle Service

Fri 21 December 7.00pm Village Carol Service (with Constantine Silver Band)

Sun 23 December 8.00 am BCP Holy Communion 10.30 am Family Service – Parish Nativity

Mon 24 December 4.00pm Crib Service 11.30pm Midnight Service – Holy Communion

Tues 25 December Christmas Day 10.30am Family Communion

Sun 6 January Epiphany 8.00am BCP Holy Communion 10.30am CW Holy Communion

Sun 13 January 8.00 am BCP Holy Communion 10.30 am CW Holy Communion

Sun 20 January 8.00 am BCP Holy Communion 10.30 am Remembrance Service

Sun 27 January 8.00 am BCP Holy Communion 10.30 am CW Holy Communion

(*BCP – the Book of Common Prayer, CW – Common Worship)

Everyone is very welcome and refreshments are served after the 10.30am Sunday service. Thursdays 10.00am BCP Holy Communion followed by Ladies Fellowship

Constantine Museum News

Don Garman

Constantine a Hundred Years Ago

The Museum was pleased to put up a display which provided an insight into life in the Parish a century ago to coincide with the Big Lunch and associated activities organised by Transition Constantine on Saturday 13 October.



The Parish was much larger and included parts of what are now Mawnan Smith and Gweek. The largest forms of employment were the granite quarries and farming followed by retail and trades. The 1911 Census records a small number involved in maritime trade, fishing and the Helford oystering.

The eleventh month, the eleventh day and the eleventh hour

The outcome of the research undertaken in 2016 which commemorated Constantine's contribution to World War I will once again be on display from November 1st until the Thursday 13 December. The display includes personal items and examples of munitions as well as photographs and information about those who served and the men and women who made a contribution to the war effort in the parish.

Conservation and labelling

An opportunity to help – during the closure period from January to February the volunteer team will be meeting each Wednesday from the 9th January to 13th February from 10.00 – 13.00 to work on conserving and labelling objects not worked on last year. Why not come along and help and have a cup of tea or coffee. Aprons, gloves and instruction will be provided.

Contact for further information: Don Garman dj.garman@btinternet.com.

Constantine History Group - August meeting

Don Garman

Members of Constantine History Group visited Penlee House Gallery and Museum, Penzance for their August meeting to view the splendid exhibition "Entranced by a special Place – the Art of Lamorna Birch". Members benefitted from an excellent guided tour provided by Zoe Burkett, Education and Outreach Officer.

Samuel John Birch was born in Egremont Cheshire to a working class family. Leaving school at 12 he went to work in a



Constantine History Group - August meeting (cont'd)

mill. Poor health enabled a move to a mill in the Lune Valley which became one of his special places. A self-taught artist, his versatility was remarkable and he first exhibited at the age of 17. In 1892 he moved to Cornwall where he resided until 1955 and soon after arrival changed his name to Lamorna Birch. Associated with the Newlyn school, his work was different as he focussed on landscapes, often brought trees to the foreground and used a v arrangement to draw the eye. His use of colour was also different to the Newlyn school and some of his work clearly shows the influence of the French impressionists.

Port Navas Village Hall Events

Kernow French Speaking Group

Join our friendly & relaxed group on Wednesdays at 3pm until 19 December. First session is a FREE TASTER. For more information contact fernwharri-son@yahoo.com. Facebook: Kernow French Speaking Group

Soup Kitchens

Wednesdays 7 November, 5 December & 9 January from 12.30pm. Soup and Crusty bread. £3. Booking not required.

UFOs, Past, Present and Future

Wednesday 21 November at 7pm. Keith Wilkins has had an interest in Metaphysics since an early age, asking questions like: why are we here, where did we come from and what are we here for. UFOs, their occupants and their messages became part of his journey to find the truth. A controversial subject, but as they say in the X-Files programme: 'The truth is out there'. £7 to include a pasty. Contact Roger on 340718 to book a place.

Christmas Willow Weaving Day Workshop

Saturday 8 December. A great opportunity to learn an ancient craft of willow weaving and create some magical Christmas gifts for friends and family including angels, mini Christmas trees and small wreaths to decorate at home. Price includes teas, coffees and mince pies. Please bring your own packed lunch and .

wear clothes you don't mind getting messy in. Max 10 people. £45 each. Contact Lynn Kentish 07501 684718 or 01759 348480

Lighting the Christmas Tree

Saturday 8 December, 5.30pm onwards. Mulled wine and mince pies, followed at 6pm by the lighting of the Christmas tree and singing of carols led by Constantine Silver Band. Come and marvel at David's twinkly lights, in full colour.

Twelfth Night

Saturday 5 January 6pm. Join us to celebrate Epiphany, turn off the Christmas tree lights, and enjoy a drink with friends. Please bring a plate of food to share.

Poldark

Wednesday 16 January at 7pm. Hannah Darling. Delving into the Cornish mining saga with the stories and characters from the Winston Graham novels, the TV series and the locations featured in and around Cornwall. £7 to include a pasty. Contact Pauline on 250604 to book a place.

Pope's Garden Squad

Join the group and help to keep our community garden tidy. Monday 21 January 10.00 am - 12.00 noon. Gardening and chat followed by well deserved coffee and biscuits! Bring your own gloves, trowels etc.

Constantine Parish Council

Cllr John Andrew

Ordinary Meeting - Tuesday 20 September 2018

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the meeting and invited Mr Chris Gregory, the Land Steward for the Duchy of Cornwall to address the Councillors.

Mr Gregory said he wished to outline the Duchy's proposals to re-establish the oysterage at Port Navas, but more particularly to explain the need to replace the existing depot building. He made the following points.

- i. the Duchy has negotiated the surrender of the Tenancy of the Oyster House and associated oysterage and has been looking for new tenants who are willing and able to farm native oysters and none other.
- ii. a prospective tenant, who has well established oyster farming businesses in Scotland and in Ireland, has expressed his interest.
- iii. however the oyster house at Port Navas has been condemned. Consequently, the Duchy is looking to demolish and rebuild.
- iv. with minor alterations, the plan is to replicate the original building, but the new build will include a flat for a on-site manager on the first floor.
- v. a planning application for the Oyster House must be in place before funding from the EU Maritime and fisheries can be sought – and time is short.
- vi. the Parish Council's support for the Duchy's application would be appreciated.
- vii. the project should take about 45 weeks
- viii. the quay will not be used for the oysterage.
- ix. it is anticipated that the oysterage will employ three or four people throughout the year.
- x. it is anticipated that one truck a week (during the oyster season) will take oysters from Port Navas. He does not expect the road system to suffer.
- xi. Pacific Oysters will gradually be removed from the river.

Cornwall Councillor's report

C Cllr Bastin reported that:

- i. Mr Phil Mason the current head of Planning at Cornwall Council has been appointed to the position of Strategic Director of Economic Growth.
- ii. the Boundary Commission is in the process of deciding the final boundaries for the new electoral wards for Cornwall Council.
- iii. a local boundary review led by Sarah Mason of the Cornwall association of Local Councils will commence in November. (In particular this will look at Parish Council boundaries and make recommendations for their re-alignment. It has been authorised neither by Cornwall council nor by the Cabinet and would therefore appear to be an officer's initiative.)

Parish matters

Welcoming Stones - As everyone has most probably noticed the said stones are now in place, hopefully by the spring there will be an array of flowers around them.

Planning matters

Applications - There were six planning applications in August, four in September.
Decisions - Nine approved.

Bell ringers show Open Tower Morning visitors the ropes Peter Binns

St Constantine Ringers' Open Tower Morning on Saturday 13 October attracted a steady stream of villagers intrigued to find out more about church bell ringing and what it entails.

Captain of the Tower, Jane Mann and members of the St Constantine band welcomed visitors into the first floor ringing chamber where, using a working model, they explained how the bells work. Each one is hung attached to a large wooden wheel around which the rope runs in order to make the bells swing through 360 degrees before sounding, thus allowing sufficient interval between 'dongs' for the other five bells to ring in sequence. The wheel and a 'stay' mechanism also permit the bell to be 'parked' in the 'mouth-up' position ready to begin ringing in sequence.

After short demonstrations, visitors were invited to 'have a go' themselves one by one – under close supervision of an experienced ringer, of course! First holding just the tail end of the rope, they rang 'backstrokes', then swapping over with their instructor to take hold of the 'sally' (the striped furry bit) they rang a few 'handstrokes'.



Around 8 visitors of all ages tried their hand and all did extremely well for a first try. Most hadn't realised that bell ringing doesn't require superhuman strength or musical knowledge. And age is no barrier either, as 87 year-old lapsed ringer Eleanor proved when she joined in with the ringers as if she had never stopped!

St Constantine Ringers hope that their Open Morning will lead to at least some of those who came to 'have a go' joining the band and learning to ring.

However, if you missed the Open Morning but would like to find out if bell ringing is something you would like to take up, do please come to one of our Tuesday evening practices from 7.45pm. No need to make an appointment, but if you would like to talk to someone first, ring **Jane Mann on 375502** or e-mail **randjmann@yahoo.co.uk**.

Night Sky

Dark skies are now appearing a little earlier as the year moves on which makes astronomy easier if a little colder!

There are a number of meteor showers in this period. The first are the Leonids which take place between the 15th and 20th of November and are the debris from comet 55P Temple Tuttle. The moon should not interfere and the prediction this year is for 15 per hour. The best time to view will be after midnight on 17th November through to dawn on the 18th. The radiant (the place in the sky where they appear to come from) is low down on the horizon and will be move from the north east to be almost due south by dawn.

The second shower are the Geminids which occur on the nights of the 13th/14th of December. The radiant lies close to Castor and Pollux, the heavenly twins. The Geminids can be quite bright as they are of asteroid origin rather than being cometary dust. The moon is at first quarter and will set just before midnight so should not interfere.

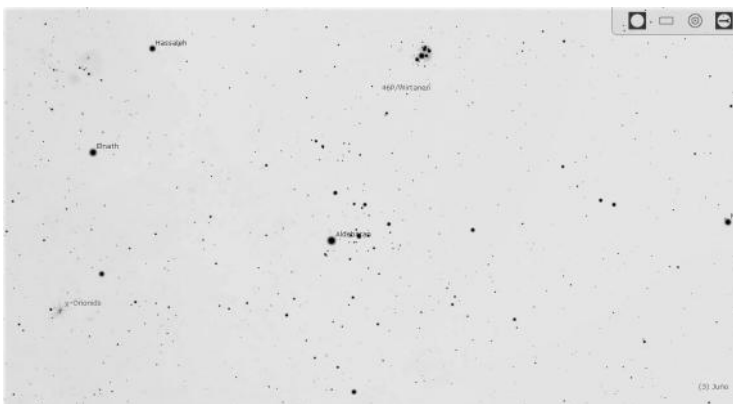
The third shower are the Quadrantids which usher in the first meteor shower of the new year between 1st and 6th of January with a peak on the 3rd. This shower has a high maximum of 100 per hour but

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 lies just below the handle of the Plough on the north eastern horizon. The moon should co-operate as it sets at about the same time as the sun.

Looking south in mid January leads one to the spectacular constellation of Orion which contains a tenth of the brightest stars in the night sky. The seven main stars all lie in the "top 70" of brilliant stars. It is also a good constellation to pick to remember star names; start with red Betelgeuse, across to Bellatrix and then down to the belt stars Alnitak, Alnilam and Mintaka which lie above the Orion nebula which is a huge star factory. At the foot of Orion are Saiph and Rigel, a young star that is twice as hot as the Sun and 50,000 times as bright.

Comet 46P Wirtanen will make an appearance over this period. It has an orbital period of 5.4 years and was the initial target for the Rosetta/Philae lander mission. Due

to timescales Rosetta's mission was rescheduled to rendezvous with Comet 67P Churyumov-Gerasimenko instead. 46P Wirtanen is classed as hyperactive in that is much more active than might be expected for its size. At the end of November it will be low on the



Robert Beeman (*Wishing you clear skies*)

southwestern horizon but by mid December it will have passed up the western flank of Orion and be well placed to view in the early evening. It is closest to the Earth on the 16th December at a distance of 7.2m miles when it will be just below the Pleiades which should help you find it with a small telescope or binoculars. There are some predictions that it could be a naked eye object. By Christmas day will be just above and to the east of Capella and in mid January it will appear to slow and dim as it approaches Ursa Major before disappearing for another 5.4 years.

Planets are a bit elusive as by mid November Jupiter and Saturn are lost from view in the evening but Venus will be low down in the east at dawn. By mid December Venus will be joined by Jupiter in the early dawn sky.

CALL FOR DRAMA ENTHUSIAST

The Tolmen Centre is keen to encourage the revival of a some form of community drama group, and is looking for expressions of interest from anyone who might be willing to set something up. We have had various groups in the past - some for children and young people, others for all ages - and it would be up to you to decide on its structure and timetable. It could be either a volunteer role or a small-scale commercial venture, and could be run by one or more individuals.

If you have suitable experience and commitment and would like to discuss your ideas, please get in touch by sending an email to

tolmen@constantinecornwall.co.uk

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Constantine W.I. report

Barbara Willoughby

'Jewels under the Sea, on our doorstep' with David Roberts from Marine Conservation took us down to the depths around our shores. Who would have thought the waters surrounding The Lizard holds such colourful wildlife with names as colourful as their bodies. Starting with Jewel Anemones, tiny but beautiful, Pink Sea Fan exactly what it says and Candy Striped Flat Worm. Then came the Devil Crab with devilish Red Eyes.

The Cuckoo and Corkwing Wrass which are all born female then some transform into males!!! Pollock which can grow up to 5ft and Seven Arm Star Fish with a spread of 2ft and Lobsters who can live up to 100 years growing to a metre in length.

Wherever you visit, Portkerris, Kennack

Sands there will be all this wildlife and more, and it could be there is evolving bacteria which may be eating plastic. But found on monthly beach cleans with a group of 8 people have been four and a half thousand pieces of plastic in one hour, so there is a long way to go. It was a wonderful view of life under the sea.

Next month on Monday 12 November we look forward to Chris Blount with The Sounds of Yesterday. Competition: An Old Record. All meetings start at 7.15 pm.

Our very popular Soup & Pud Lunch began in October with homemade soups and "Naughty but Nice" puddings in our newly re-roofed hall with freshly decorated internal walls, now ready for Winter. Next date is Monday 26th November for our "Festive" Soup & Pud. All very welcome.

Helford Marine Conservation Group Winter talks at Gweek Sue Scott

Saturday 10 November – How We Do It: the work of the British Divers Marine Life Rescue in Cornwall

Illustrated talk at 7.30pm at Gweek Village Hall. Free for under 18s and HMCG members. £4 for others.

British Divers Marine Life Rescue is a nationwide charity set up in 1988 to train people in how to respond to marine animals in distress using their 24hr hotline. Cornwall is one of the busiest areas where the local team faces some really heart-breaking and difficult situations. Welfare Development and Field Support Officer Dan Jarvis will be sharing their stories, with a special focus on the Lizard, Helford River and surrounding areas. Tea, coffee and cakes available.

No events during December.



Saturday 19 January – The Plight of the Bumblebee and other pollinators

Illustrated talk at 7.30pm at Gweek Village Hall, TR12 6UG. Free for under 18s and HMCG members. £4 for others.

Prof. Juliet Osborne and Dr. Pete Kennedy have been studying bumblebees, honeybees and other pollinators for other 20 years. Their talk will cover the ecology and conservation of these important insects and highlight what is being done to protect and promote their populations in Cornwall. Tea, coffee and cakes available.



Whats On at the Tolmen Centre Nov 2018 - Jan2019



7:30pm Friday 2 November
Constantine Literary Group present

Michèle Roberts

Michèle Roberts is the author of twelve highly acclaimed novels, including The Looking Glass and Daughters of the House which won the WH Smith Literary Award and was shortlisted for the Booker Prize. Her memoir Paper Houses was BBC Radio 4's Book of the Week.

Tickets £5

7:30pm Wednesday 7 November

Loving Vincent

The painter, Sarah Wimperis from Cornwall was among 125 professional oil painters, who travelled across the world to Poland and Greece. They hand-painted 65,000 frames to create Loving Vincent re-telling van Gogh's turbulent life through his pictures. Together with the film screening, Sarah will talk about her experience in helping to make the film.

Tickets £5

7:30pm Saturday 17 November

Moscow Drug Club

1930's Berlin cabaret, Hot Club of Paris, Nuevo Tango, Gypsy Campfire and a range of originals and covers: the Moscow Drug Club have it all, and promise an intoxicating evening. Their last appearance was a sellout so it is advisable to book early.

Pre-show meals available from 6pm but MUST be pre-booked via 01326 341353.

7:30pm Wednesday 21 November

Glory

When Tsanko Petrov, a railroadworker, finds millions of lev on the train tracks, he turns the entire amount over to the police and is rewarded, with a new wrist-watch... which soon stops working. Meanwhile, the head of PR for the

Ministry of Transport, loses his old watch. Here starts Petrov's struggle to get back not only his old watch, but his dignity.

Tickets £4

7:30pm Saturday 1 December

Rocky Shock Horror

The Wardrobe Theatre brings you another of its signature, darkly comic, grownup shows – a loving, playful fusion of the boxing classic with the cross-dressing cult musical masterpiece. A scary-sexy, knock-out comedy that always punches below the belt.

Tickets £10, £8

7:30pm Wednesday 5 December

Isle of Dogs

In the future, an outbreak of canine flu leads the mayor of a Japanese city to banish all dogs to an island that's a garbage dump. They must soon embark on an epic journey when a 12-year-old boy arrives on the island to find his beloved pet.

Tickets £4

7:30pm Friday 14 December

Flamenco Loco with Jaime Cantera

Jaime Cantera (vocals & percussion) and Cuffy Cuthbertson (guitar) are joined by dancers Aneta 'La Polaca' & Claudia Caholin for an unforgettable evening of passionate, fiery flamenco music and dance.

Pre-show meals from 6pm must be pre-booked via 01326 341356.

Coming in January

Saturday 19 January *Luke Wright's new show **Poet Laureate**.*

Friday 25 January *Paper Cinema present **Ghost Stories** - on stage projection/animation plus a live musical score.*

Sunday 27 January. **Sarah Gillespie with Kit Downes** Jazz cabaret duo.

The Constant Times

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Submission Deadlines:

Deadline for news items, calendar entries and other submissions for the

February/March 2019 issue is

15 January 2019. Please send to

constant.times@gmail.com or deliver to the Layout Editor at Comfort View, Well Lane.



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