

The Constant Times

Also on-line

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 3
JUNE/JULY/AUGUST 2022

Fancy a trip to France.....?



Would you like to spend a few days meeting the people of Pont-Croix in Brittany this September?



Constantine & Gweek Twinning Association, which has been exchanging visits for many years, has again been invited to organise a visit to our twin community in Brittany, Pont-Croix. Now, grandchildren of the original twinning members can carry on the tradition. This is a chance for anyone to travel - a single person, a couple, or a family.

We have made many good friends around this small medieval Breton town over the years and they are again very keen to welcome old and new friends from Constantine and Gweek this year.



If you would like to find out more about going on this trip, please contact Mary Owen on 01326 250700 or 07814 898997.

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Call-out for old Constantine village photographs

Sally Coot & Tracey Clowes

Do you, or someone you know, have any photographs of Constantine Village taken in the 1950s and 1960s? Particularly needed are shots inside shops, farms, around Fore Street, local businesses and events which we would like to use to illustrate the many stories we are collating for the history/memories book of Constantine.



So please look through your old photo albums or get that box out of the loft and see if you have any old photographs of good quality you think we could use. We do not keep the photographs, but will scan them and return within a couple of days. Everyone who helps with the preparation of the book will receive an acknowledgement in the final copy.

*If you could help in any way **please contact Sally Coot on 01326 340050.***

Many thanks.

Teas Under the Trees

Wednesdays in August 3rd 10th,
17th, 24th,
2.00pm - 4.00pm
On the grass opposite Church

Constantine Foodbank

***To obtain food in an emergency
telephone Rev Stewart Turner on
01326 340259***

**Food is available 9.00am – 5.00pm
Monday – Friday.**

For non-emergencies, telephone Penryn and Falmouth Foodbank on 01326 618575 during opening hours Monday 11.00am - 1.00pm and Thursday 2.00pm - 4.00pm, or at any other time, leave an answerphone message with your contact details and we will telephone you during Foodbank opening hours. In this situation we will ask you to obtain a red voucher (if you have not already been given one) from one of the following agencies:

**Constantine School tel 01326 340554
Constantine Surgery tel 01326 340666
Rev Stewart Turner tel 01326 340259**

Your request will be dealt with in strict confidence.

Food can be collected from the Vestry (small cottage building) at the back of St Constantine Church or in an emergency, delivered.

Donations of food can be either dropped at the Church Vestry on **WEDNESDAYS** between 9.00am – 10.00am or by contacting Rev Stewart on the telephone number above.

*The Foodbank is run by The Trussell
Trust in association with
St Constantine Church.*

Constantine Farmers' Market is back!

Zoe Rawlence

The Farmers' Market is back !
In a bigger venue
In Constantine Primary School hall. We opened in April and will be there on the first Saturday of each month.
Doors open 9.30 until 12 noon.

This is the market with a differ-

ence. You will find not only food and craft stalls and a cuppa and cake cafe run by the PTA, but also a Transition Constantine area which will be about building resilience and sharing skills and resources. We are always looking out for new ideas, but for starters there will be a clothing and toys swap, skill-sharing stalls to get advice on fixing your

bike, or mending and refurbishing clothes. There will also be a freecycle board where you can advertise giving and getting stuff for free, rather than putting it into landfill.

This will be a space to make and meet friends - and if you want to discuss ideas and concerns about climate change and our community.



So come along to see what's on. And if you want to use freecycle - have the details of your item ready to write on the freecycle board. Bring clothes to swap, clothes to mend and bikes to fix!

And if you would like to have a stand at the Farmers' Market, or would like to volunteer as a helper, please contact Transition Constantine zoerawlence@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you soon!



Full programme resumes at Constantine W.I.

Liz Pearce

The W.I. is back in full swing, with our usual clubs and those organisations that use the W.I. Hall. We are awaiting the fitting of new double glazed windows, which we hope will help conserve heat in the building.

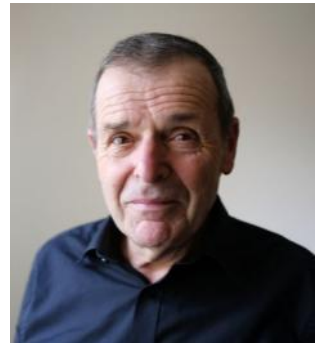
W.I. meetings are proceeding as usual. The latest talk was from Geoff Davis, recollections of a Cornishman, which was both entertaining and informative and for some of us older members, memories of Cornwall as it was when we were growing up. Geoff included some songs and jokes. We all had an enjoyable evening of light entertainment, while supporting his charity CLICSargent. He surprised us all by telling us his previous occupation was as a Vicar.

Our next W.I. Meetings will be on:



- 13 June at 7.15 p.m. Talk will be given by Shelterbox
- 11 July at 7.15 p.m. Talk will be on natural dyeing
- 8 August meeting will be at 12.15 p.m. Our annual lunch this year is at Merthen Manor hosted by Mary Vyvyan

Anyone who would like more information or who would like to try us out, please don't hesitate to contact me. Liz Pearce 01326 340012



Geoff Davis

Ready for a Rockpool Ramble?

Join Helford Marine Conservation Group for a rockpool ramble at Prisk Cove, Mawnan Smith, on Saturday July 16th. The Cove is well known for its fascinating rock pools and marine expert Ruth Williams will be helping you discover this hidden secret world of crabs, fish, anemones and strange shellfish. An amazing way to spend a Saturday afternoon. The event, from 2pm to 4pm is free, but booking is essential via bookings@helfordmarineconservation.co.uk.



Spiny Starfish at Prisk, photo by Hana Backland

We are meeting at Mawnan Church in Old Church Road prior to walking to Prisk Cove. You will need non-

slip rock scrambling shoes that you are prepared to get wet, or wellies or wetsuit



Jewell Podiatry is an established Podiatry clinic based in Falmouth. We also cover Home Visits in Constantine and surrounding areas.



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Coffee Morning raises £1,340 Liz Pearce, Church Social & Fund Raising Committee

A well-attended community Homes & Gardens-themed coffee morning was held on 7th May at the Parish Church. Organisations in the village were invited to have their own stalls, alongside those of the Church. Save the Children, The Constantine Cottage Garden Society, The Port Navas Arts Society, The Carnival Committee and Deena all took up the invitation.

It was a lovely sunny morning and the event attracted a large number of people, many taking in the Farmers' Market at the school, and then coming on to us. Also, several groups of cyclists called in throughout the morning, took their chances on the Hook a Duck game and enjoyed cake and coffee. All the participating stalls were delighted with their extra income and the church raised a whopping £1340.00.

Well done and thank you to all those who donated stuff, grew stuff, made stuff and gave of their time, helping to make the Homes & Gardens Coffee Morning such a success. It was all very much appreciated.



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From the Vicarage (for the last time)

Rev Stewart Turner

It is with mixed emotions that I am announcing my retirement at the end of July. My last service as your parish priest will be at 10:30am on Sunday 26th of June and I will then finally finish on the 31st of July.

However I will be staying in the Vicarage until early next spring before finally moving back to our old family home in Penryn, which means that in the interim I will still be available to take some services and look after the pastoral needs of the community.

Whilst I am looking forward to my retirement, I will miss being your parish priest. It has been a privilege and a pleasure serving our amazing community in this capacity over the last eleven years. I can't say it has all been "plain sailing" and there have been a few squalls along the way, but in the main it has been a great joy leading our church and sharing in so many peoples' lives in the good times and the bad all of which has given me an amazing sense of fulfilment.

My association with Constantine, through my wife's family, goes back around fifty years and given the fact that I have made so many friends in the village and that I will only be just a few miles down the road means that God willing, I will still be around for a long time to come.

My one true sadness is that I will not be replaced. As I said in a previous article, the Church of England and the parish structure is undergoing a radical process of change. There has been a vicar in Constantine since 1258 and now in 2022 after 764 years I am the last of that very long line.

Notwithstanding these changes the church will remain open as now and



although there will be fewer clergy-led services, regular worship will continue as will weddings, funerals and baptisms. I will continue to assist the PCC with the Matthew 20:28 project which involves the re-ordering of the inside of the church which will secure the future of the building for many years to come, not just as a place of worship but also as a centre and focus for

community life.

I have no doubt that all the changes that are happening within the church and our world have filled an awful lot of people with dismay and dread, and I share those sentiments. However despite all these changes the one thing we need to do more than ever is to pray and hold fast to the message that Jesus came to bring us. It's a very simple message, which sadly, humanity and the church has made very complicated with all its man-made rules, doctrines and theologies. Jesus really only told us to do two things and they were to love God and love each other. All the other things he told us were how we should go about doing those two things. It's not difficult to understand, you don't need an "Ology" and it's not rocket science but it is very difficult to put into practice, especially because, as we all know, some people are much easier to love than others. However if we try hard to do what Jesus told us, and if when we get it wrong, we try even harder, then our lives, our community and our world will all benefit and will be happier, richer places for it.

May God bless and keep you all.

Stewart

Parish priest for Constantine with Gweek

Gweek Players' Summer Studio

Vanda Trotman

Gweek Players are braving the unknown this summer and have decided on a new venture which they have christened Gweek Players' Summer Studio. Summer Studio plays are short plays with a minimal set, which this year will be performed in the round on the floor of the Hall with small tables set around the action to provide a more intimate atmosphere.

This year's Summer Studio consists of

much, much longer than she cares to remember. They will be performed at end of August.

To find out more about our Summer Studio and to keep up to date with everything going on with Gweek Players, take a look at our website (gweekplayers.co.uk). You could even put yourself on our mailing list, and get priority booking, advance notice of events, updates and all the chat.

We look forward to seeing you *in the Studio!*



The poster features a dark background with several bright blue spotlights shining down from the top. The text is centered and reads:

Gweek Players' Summer Studio

An evening of two one-act plays

No Exit
by Jean-Paul Sartre

The Happy Journey to Trenton and Camden
by Thornton Wilder

Creating more opportunities to showcase our talented membership and focus on the DRAMA in our new 'pop-up' studio productions.

In the top right corner is the Gweek Players logo, which consists of a stylized green and white face icon above the text "GWEEK PLAYERS".

two one-act plays: *No Exit* by Jean-Paul Sartre, and, as a stark contrast, *The Happy Journey to Trenton and Camden* by Thornton Wilder. But this is studio work, so no one needs a theme to make them hang together. *No Exit* takes a hard look at the inbuilt self-destruct buttons which seem to exist in so many human relationships as three ill-matched people find themselves forced together. *The Happy Journey* is exactly what it says: A joy-filled, jolly trip from A to B, taken by a family of four as they visit another family member. Both plays will be directed by Vanda Trotman, who has been a member of Gweek Players for



The advertisement has a white background with a black border. The text is as follows:

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OfSTED judges Constantine Pre-School 'outstanding'

In case you hadn't heard...

It is with great excitement and pride that we start the Pre-School entry this time around with our OUTSTANDING OfSTED news! Constantine Pre-School was awarded this, the highest possible grading, in March and of course the team have been walking on

cloud 9 ever since! It was truly rewarding for staff, parents, carers and the community to officially announce what we all see: Constantine Pre-School is **outstanding!**

It would be very easy to quote the whole report, but please do have a read if you've not had a chance already; it is a thoroughly glowing review and shows yet again how hard the team work, and how wonderful the children are! ***"Staff plan an extremely enabling environment, which promotes high curiosity and children's deep engagement."*** What more could you want?

Back in Time to finish the year...

What a fun start to the Summer Term! Pre-School have travelled back in time to the Stone Age, exploring fossils and bones in



role as archaeologists, digging for dinosaur bones and making clay pots and tools. The children (and adults!) have enjoyed imagining what it might have been like to be early humans, and have had fun in the woods with face paints and a lot of pre-historic energy! The children have continued to relish learning about the world around them. They have planted and cared for lots of seeds and seedlings, looked after caterpillars and watched the magic that is their transformation into a butterfly, all whilst continuing to enjoy their wonderful outside area and the beautiful woods. These have been even more spectacular recently, with their carpet of blue underfoot, and the entrancing greens of the emerging beech leaves overhead; how very lucky we are!



Ella Curtis

A fresh new look...

You may have seen in passing that the children and adults are now kitted out with smart new jumpers, t-shirts and hats. Over the past few months,



with the help of the incredibly talented Trish Wigmore, Pre-School has developed a new logo. With



an original design from Pre-School's very own Charlie, Trish generously gave an awful lot of her time to create a beautiful badge-style logo for the (optional) uniform. The

amazing team at Juko Print Penryn then expertly transformed said logo into our lovely new uniform, and we think you'll agree, it looks great. We couldn't recommend Juko Print enough, please do pop in if you're looking for a dream logo team! The next step is to update our logo on the building, so watch this space!

Still to come...

Sunday 5th June - the BIG picnic (12pm onwards) Constantine Pre-School will be running a craft table as a part of this event, making May flower crowns with foliage and flowers collected from the woods.

Wednesday 29th June - Sports Day! We are thrilled to be holding our Sports Day at the recreation ground on this date, with huge thanks to the Parish Council for

making this possible. There will be food, fun and games, so look out for more information soon!

And finally...

Huge thanks to everyone that came along to our Spring Fair. It was wonderful to get together again and although the day was chilly and a bit grey, there was a lot of fun and laughter, all whilst contributing valuable funds to Pre-School. Thanks to Roskilly's for providing the tasty ice creams at a discounted price, and to Slice Pizza for serving up some delicious delights! Thank you also to Constantine Primary School for the loan of the field for the day, it was the perfect place for it! There were also so many members of the Pre-School community who turned up to help. From facepainting and serving (and making!) many delicious cakes and



cups of tea, to helping on one of our stalls, we are **so** very grateful for your support and the event could not have happened without you. THANK YOU!

It has been another fantastic year at Pre-School and we can't believe it is nearly time to say goodbye to some of our older children, and welcome new faces. We look forward to hearing all about their adventures at 'big school' and would like to wish everyone a super summer break!

Constantine Cottage Garden Society News

Peter Wilson

As summer approaches once again, it is pleasing to feel the warmth of the sun coming through and those petulant easterly winds diminishing. As the soil warms and the daylight extends, our flowers begin to put on the show we all expect when we start our gardening year in mid winter. Our early fruit and veg being harvested, which seems to be more poignant as food and living costs rise steeply. It seems ironic that old friends contact me asking about gardening and how to work an allotment; individuals that I would never have thought would take the hobby that has been my passion for so many years.

One of the main topics of conversation is why won't my seeds grow. This intrigues me and it's concerning when you delve into various articles, and online podcasts, where seed producers blame the compost, compost manufacturers decry the horticulturalists for incorrect usage and it is us the poor gardener left scratching our head seeking answers wondering what we did wrong.

My own experience this year, is actually better than last year. So maybe with the right seed the right compost and right conditions it just all falls into place.

On this subject, I was delighted with the contributions that our members made towards



the garden society stand at the church sale on 7th May. With the excess seedlings and divided plants given freely, we filled two tables and the floor space in front. A total of £140.40 was made for the garden society - a fantastic result.

To the members who took time out to set up on Friday evening and for the sale on the Saturday, I wish to say 'Thank You'. Although few in numbers, it was a great result, by those involved. These pictures show our tables pre sale.

The jubilee planter is to be placed on the junction outside the primary school. It will be filled with our red, white and blue colour scheme for the queens jubilee weekend.

May I please also remind villagers that a prize will be awarded by the garden society for the best planter or hanging basket with the same colour scheme.

Let us hope we have an enjoyable summer period where we can all be proud of our heritage and raise a toast to Her Majesty the Queen on her Platinum Jubilee.



Tolmen Centre Summer Programme

Box Office: 01326 341353 tolmen@constantinecornwall.com

As well as hosting some of the Jubilee events (described elsewhere), the Tolmen Centre has two exciting musical evenings on offer before our summer break. On **Sunday June 12th** we have international visitors, the Canadian duo **Madison Violet**, famed for their heart-wrenching song-writing and luscious harmonies. The Independent says "Heartaching harmonies and tunes make Madison Violet a must-see act."



On **July 2nd** we are privileged to welcome back stellar cabaret/jazz singer **Barb Jungr**, with a programme of Leonard Cohen and Bob Dylan love songs - as you've never heard them before. Barb is able to re-interpret these great songs with an intensity and passion that has to be seen and heard to be believed. "A true musical alchemist. She is truly a marvel, who should not be missed"- ★★★★★ The Telegraph. Barb is used to performing in venues such as Ronnie Scott's, but she loved her last visit to The Tolmen Centre and is pleased to be coming back. She deserves a big and appreciative audience.



June / July

Rae Gray Exhibition

"I live in the Cornish countryside where I spend my summers searching for insects, collecting feathers, sun bleached skulls and interesting looking rocks – I love to share my love of nature through my art."



**Wednesday June 8th 7:30 pm
Belfast**



Buddy is a boy on the cusp of adolescence, whose life is filled with familial love, childhood hijinks, and a blossoming romance. Yet, with his beloved home caught up in increasing turmoil, his family faces a momentous choice: hope the moment will pass or leave everything they know behind for a new life. Tickets £5.

Friday June 10th 6:30 for 7.30 pm

Unlost: *A journey of self-discovery and the healing power of the wild outdoors*



Local author and adventurer Gail Muller talks about her adventures on the 2200 mile Appalachian Trail, and how the experience helped her to heal both mind and body. For fifteen years she struggled with musculo-skeletal issues and chronic pain. In 2019, after years searching for cures for her physical and mental health, she realised it was time for a profound change. Includes finger food and a bar, book sales and a quiz. Tickets £5

CAN YOU HELP?

We are looking for more people willing to provide overnight bed and breakfast accommodation for our visiting artists - musicians mostly, with the occasional poet or actor. This might be on a commercial basis, or more informal 'home hosting' whereby we offer you free tickets or a small payment in exchange. If you live in or near Constantine, have a room or two to spare, with either en suite or separate bathroom facilities, and might be interested, please give Dougal a ring on (01326) 341356. Thank you.

Constantine School News

We have a new revamped website.

www.constantine.kernowlearning.co.uk

The Friends of Constantine School

have been recruiting new members to help with fundraising and they have been doing an amazing job so far.

- Farmers market tea and coffee = £161.99
- Egg Tombola = £172.35
- Bunny raffle = £258.38

Fantastic efforts that total £592.72! This enables us to add the sparkle to our school. The FOCs funded this fire pit for Wild Things, our forest school club. The children love using it.



Swimming

It has been great that swimming has been able to continue this school year when some classes have missed out for 2 years now due to the pandemic. Year 4 are currently swimming on a Friday at RNAS Culdrose and it will be Y3's turn very soon. We haven't taken

Year 3 children swimming for many years due to the pandemic and pool closures for the last three years, so we are very excited about this.

Mrs G has been busy campaigning with Pendennis Leisure to promote the reopening of Ships and Castles so other local schools have somewhere to learn to swim. Even more exciting is looking at a longer-term vision for Falmouth and Penryn in a bigger, better and specially designed leisure centre and facility for the future. Please share your thoughts with her if you have great ideas. It is important that those who live in a county surrounded by the sea have the opportunity to learn to swim and also enjoy other pursuits.

Paralympian

We had a wonderful visit via Teams from Talan Skeels-Piggins and he was amazing! Mrs Gilbert read his book called: The Little Person Inside, to us and then she contacted him and invited him to speak with us as we had a lot of interest in his story his life and achievements.

Not only is he a double World Champion, European Champion, he is also a Winter Para-athlete and he has so many achievements since losing the use of his lower body from the chest down following an accident. He showed us some videos of him sit skiing and he races at speeds of up to 83mph and he can also ride and race motorbikes! Is there anything this man can't do?

The other thing we learnt about him is that he used to come to Constantine Primary School and sit in the same hall that we were sitting in listening to him. He also lived across the road from school as a boy. Constantine really does produce champions.

You really must read his book to find out more!



Cags Gilbert, Head of School

**Music**

Kenwyn class, Y4, learning to play ostinato rhythms in music with Miss Reel; first clapping them and progressing to using drumsticks ☺ This is great fun and we are lucky to have the expertise from Penryn College music department delivering our KS2 Music curriculum.

PLANT Life

Lerryn Class are busy exploring Plants in their Science topic this term. So far, they have planted sunflower seeds and strawberry plants. Growing we also have; mint, courgettes and peas!



They even have avo-cado seeds and a mango seed of which they are observing growth and changes.

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Constantine School news (Continued)

Sport

Each term we take part in a variety of sports events. Some are competitive, some are festivals and others are opportunities to have a go at something different. We aim to give all our children a range of these opportunities before they leave us in Year 6 as well as in school competition to reach their personal best. This term the competitive league is touch rugby and our players go to Penryn College every Wednesday after school. We have had four matches so far and have lost one, drawn one and won two. They look fabulous in their newly designed sports strip that displays the Olympic values stood alongside our Coach, Matt:



National Tests

As no child in Y6 truly had "completed their programme of study" due to the days of "in school learning lost" it seemed somehow inconceivable that we had to complete the end of KS2 SATs in May. However, our wonderful pupils did it and we are so proud of them all. We are aware here at Constantine that each and every one of our pupils' talents and successes cannot be measured by a one-off test in a "SATs week". They enjoyed some well-earned ice lollies after completing the third maths paper:

Summer Term excitement

We have three school camps planned, an end of year performance: 'Oliver with a Twist', Jubilee celebrations and our first Sports day in three years with spectators to look forward to. We love the Summer Term here at Constantine Primary School!

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Constantine History Group visits Charlestown

Don Garman

Members of Constantine History Group joined local historian, Lyndon Allen, on 19 May to learn about the history of the Georgian harbour of Charlestown developed by local solicitor Charles Rashleigh.

Rashleigh had interests in the nearby tin and copper mines and wanted a safe harbour to export the ore and import timber and coal. Polmear Cove prior to 1879 was a cove which was used by some vessels that beached to unload, but in south easterly gales they were at the mercy of the elements and several foundered.

Rashleigh employed Smeaton to develop the harbour in 1791 and an intriguing water supply was provided to maintain a floating harbour. This involved constructing a leat and reservoirs which ran for several miles from Luxulyan. Regular maintenance was required from an engineer. Today the system no longer works and sea water is pumped into the harbour to maintain a level. Not only did the leat provide water for the harbour but it also powered several waterwheels and factories on its journey. Today, the harbour is poorly maintained and the tidal gate needs replacing.

Lyndon made a point of saying that every observed feature had a purpose. The wide road down to the harbour enabled clay carts drawn by six horses to pass each other whilst a wide section of pavement was the site of the weighbridge for carts both loaded and empty. Another widened area with troughs (now used as planters) was the feed station for the horses on their way back to the clay pits. The cobbled area in front of the Rashleigh Arms was made from the ballast carried by empty ships arriving to load and formed the floors for storing copper and tin ore of which there were several.

A hive of industry, the population of 3000



was housed in the small cottages cheek by jowl with the places of work. There was a foundry, blacksmith's and wheel wrights workshops and a rope walk. It would have been noisy, dusty and no doubt a pall of smoke hung over the village as the largest clay dryer in the world was built close to the harbour. The dried clay was transported a short distance underground to the waiting ships. Despite being a World Heritage Site much of the dry has unfortunately been demolished for housing.

Many of the homes housed seamen, some of them ships' captains and famous for their exploits. The estate manager was at one time Noel Coward's uncle.

Changes in ownership took place when Charles Rashleigh was declared a bankrupt owing to unfortunate circumstances. A firm of lawyers and bankers to whom he was in debt, became the owners in 1825 until the Crowder family sold in 1986 after 163 years of ownership. This sale led to significant changes as most of the tenanted properties were sold and the community destroyed. The export of clay ended and later in 2012 the fishermen were banned from using the harbour. A further change of ownership of the harbour took place recently and many of the tall ships seem to have left.

Lyndon's knowledge and stories were fascinating and enjoyed by all.

More from Constantine down under

Dianne Griffin

While I have a lot of family photographs, there is only one of Constantine immigrant Benjamin Bowden and three of Emma (Trethowan) Bowden. I do not know how old they are in these pictures. Benjamin died when he was 60, in 1902, and Emma died many years later. Emma wore shoulder length tight curls to the end of her life!

Below is a picture of the Wesleyan Church in Agery, a small farming community about 11 miles from Moonta, which was built in 1885 on an acre of land belonging to, and donated by, Benjamin Bowden. It seated 150 people. Prior to that, a church service was held every Sunday in the sitting room of a private dwelling house, belonging to Mr William Matters. They were close neighbours of the Bowden family.

I believe that both the Matters family and the Howlett family also offered to have the church built on their land, but Bowden land abutted some wasteland which was deemed essential for safe road access and to accommodate many horse-drawn vehicles. It was poor land up there. An acre of Yorkes Peninsula land did not yield anything like an acre of Cornish soil! Over 500 people attended the laying of the foundation stones. The church is still standing, but was closed in 1970.



Constantine Farmers' Market

First Saturday of the month -

Constantine Primary School

9:30 am - 12.00 pm

*Fresh bread, meat, fish, veg, craft stalls,
yummy cakes, tea and coffee, bike repairs,
childrens' crafts, plants.*

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Following the
recent show-
ing of the
Patagonia



Community Energy film at the Tolmen Centre, folk who have an interest in energy issues may find these forthcoming local events of interest.

- **Fri to Sun: 3 -5 June - Kernow Transformed: Holfield: music and workshops.** - (not a lot to do with energy, however!)
- **15 June - Environment Day: Penryn Campus.**
- **Sat 18 June - Climate and Sustainability Event: Mabe.**
- **Climate change and other films screened by Transition at the Tolmen Centre will resume in the Autumn.**

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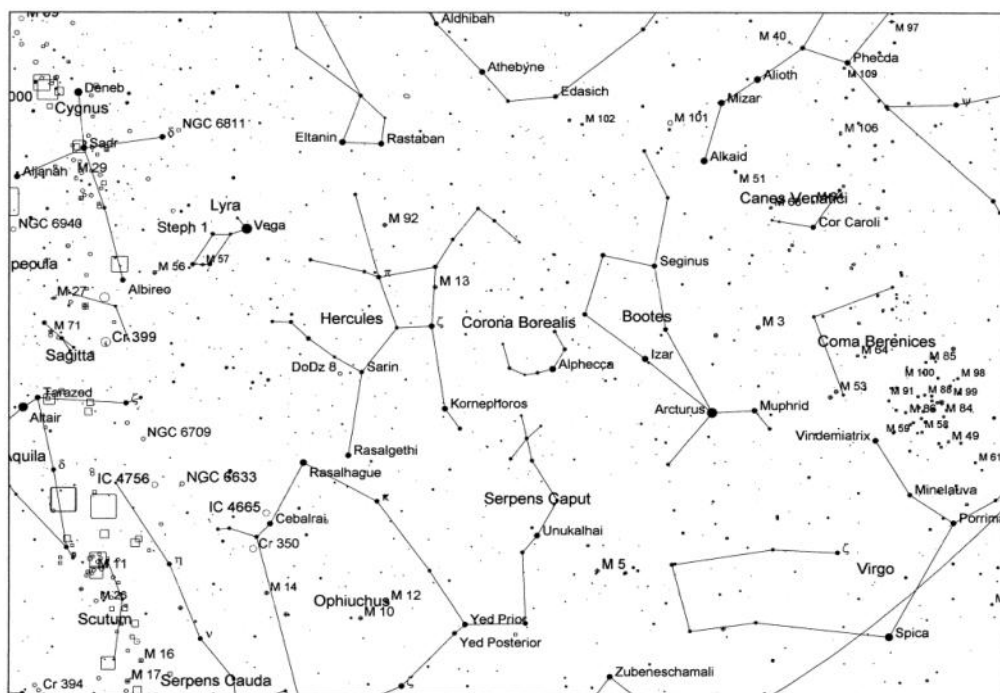
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Night Sky

In June we do not experience much darkness as some form of twilight persists throughout the night which does not help when trying to find fainter stars. All is not lost as the constellations of Bootes and Hercules have plenty on offer. Bootes, the Herdsman is home to Arcturus which is the fourth brightest star in the night sky, an orange red supergiant. Move up the eastern side of Bootes to the double star system of Izar and Pulkherima, an orange giant and blue main sequence star respectively. In a small telescope you will need high magnification to split them. Hercules, the fifth largest constellation in the night sky, contains two globular clusters, M13 and M92. M13 is the brightest globular cluster in the night sky and M92 may well be the oldest. Both are binocular objects and will show a collection of densely packed stars. M13 is 25,000ly and M92 a further 4000ly away.

As June moves into July observing conditions improve, and if you have a good southern horizon look for Antares in Scorpio, a red hued star often called the "Rival of Mars". Later in the month look for the teapot shaped constellation of Sagittarius and from a dark site you should be able to see the dense star clouds at its spout. In this direction we are looking at the centre of our galaxy which is also the lair of a black hole which has caused a great deal of excitement in the astronomy world having been recently imaged.

July sees increasing meteor activity with a number of radiants in Capricornus and Aquarius. The first shower are the alpha-Capricornids from the 3rd July to the 15th August. These can be very bright fireballs but the hourly rate is only about 5 an hour. The parent comet is Comet169P/NEAT.



Robert Beeman

More prominent are the Southern delta Aquarids from the 12th of July to the 23rd of August, the peak being on the 30th July. The hourly rate is approximately 25 an hour. The parent comet is Comet96P/Machholz.

The Moon for both these showers is a waxing crescent moon so conditions are favourable. August brings the Perseid meteor shower from the 17th of July to the 24th of August, with the peak being 12/13th August which is close to full moon so conditions are not favourable, still worth a try though. The meteors are debris from Comet 109P/Swift-Tuttle which produce fast meteors with persistent bright trails and occasional bright fireballs.

The planets available in this period are early morning objects with timings ranging from 0400hrs in June to 0500/0530hrs in August;

21st/23rd June Mars and Jupiter will be in the ESE. On the 26th/27th June Venus and Mercury will be in the ENE.

19th July sees Jupiter in the SE, 21st/22nd July Mars and Uranus in the ESE and on 26th/27th July Venus in the ENE.

15th/16th August Jupiter will be in the SSW, 19th/20th Mars will be in the SE and on 24th/26th Venus very low in the ENE.

When looking for or at planets in the twilight just before dawn be aware of the imminent sunrise. *On your chosen observing dates check the time of sunrise and cease observing a good 10 minutes beforehand to give yourself a margin of error.*

Wishing you all warm evenings and clear skies.

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

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