

GWENNAP PARISH

NEWSLETTER

AN BLU LANN-WENNAP DERIVADOW

SUMMER 2022 ISSUE 55



photo by Mary Richards

Inside:

CROFTHANDY
SUNFLOWERS
Bees and Weeds
Recipe
Cusgarne School

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Our Meeting dates for 2022 are:

12 July
9 August
13 September (Crofthandy Village Hall)
11 October
8 November
13 December

Chair's Blog

I write this blog from a holiday cottage on the edge of Dartmoor where I am staying for a few days. My neighbours are a couple from Surrey who are spending every possible moment sitting outside so they can take in the view. The beauty and serenity are quite a contrast from their normal experience of built up environment and planes flying in and out of Gatwick Airport.

This makes me grateful again for the privilege of living in a rural parish but also reminds me of the difficulty in balancing the need for development, specifically 'affordable housing,' and maintaining the open spaces in the countryside which are key to our quality of life.

If and when such applications are received by the Parish Council, they are determined on objective planning grounds, an important factor of which is the Neighbourhood Development Plan. I know this is an emotive topic for many but I want to reassure everyone that each application is decided on its individual planning merits not individual opinion! We understand the arguments and the strength of feeling but, in the end, it is not a matter what I or anyone else on the Council may think. It is decided on national and local policies and criteria. It is important to also remember that the Parish Council is only a consultee and the decision rests with Cornwall Council. Although we agree with them on most planning applications, that is not always the case!

In my Report to the Annual Parish Meeting, which is on the website, I reflected on the difficulty of the Parish Council to get projects done within the limited time available to councillors, as the day to day tasks can quickly fill the diary. There is a myth that community initiatives have to be 'run and done' by the Parish Council. The truth is that outside our statutory responsibilities, we are a facilitator and enabler. If you have an idea which will make life better in the Parish and the time and energy to take it forward, then please don't hesitate and we will give what help we can.

I enjoyed my attendance at the latest GPEG workshop which heard from Cornwall Council about the new waste and recycling arrangements which come into force from 1 April 2023. Please follow the link to the presentation. Numbers are still small so I would encourage you to join an initiative which seeks to make a difference now and for future generations.

Finally, every time I think about the Jubilee picnic last month, I can't help but smile. It was truly fabulous and testament to a lot of hard work and a great deal of faith! How wonderful to see so many people from the community in one space at the same time. Many people have already been thanked but I should mention the kind support of Pete's Pasties, Burncoose Nursey and the Warrior Garden Centre.

For those taking the opportunity to have time away over the summer, whether Dartmoor or Dubrovnik, I wish you safe travel and hot weather!

Onen hag oll

Richard Williams

JUBILEE PHOTOGRAPHS by. Phillip Roscorla





SUNFLOWER COMPETITION

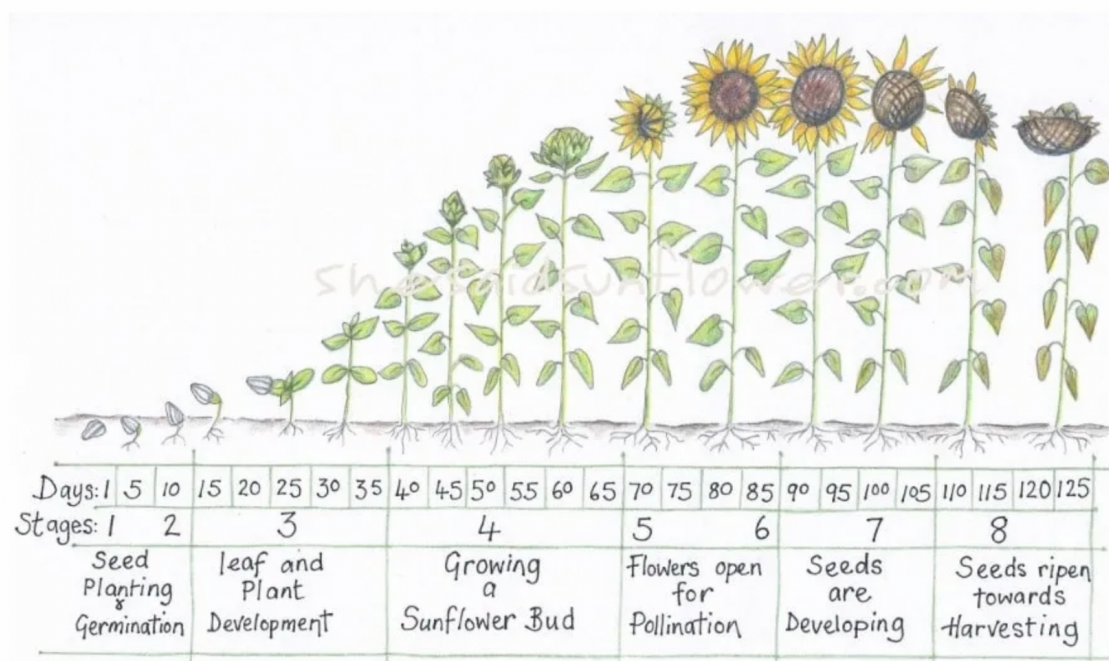
INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PLATINUM JUBILEE SUNFLOWER COMPETITION

ON THE LAST DAY OF SEPTEMBER
LET US KNOW HOW TALL IT IS
e-mail A PHOTO OF YOURSELF NEXT TO YOUR SUNFLOWER TO:-
clerk@gwennap-parish.net

THE FIVE TALLEST WILL WIN A £10 WARRIOR GARDEN CENTRE
VOUCHER

Sunflower Timeline Growth Chart

The chart below represents a visual representation of the 8 Sunflower Growth Timeline stages as a quick reference guide for you. I hope it helps



Pollinators in Decline

by Lou Hitchens.



Insects are essential for life as we know it. Without them our world will undoubtedly grind to a halt. It is estimated that over 50% of all insects are declining and a third are endangered in the U.K.

If, like myself, you are of a certain age memories of car windshields being splattered with numerous flying bugs was commonplace. It just doesn't occur now - ever; why?

This is in the main due to habitat loss, chemicals, pollution and climate change. The rise of industrial farming has had an enormous negative impact on all wildlife and insects. One element of insect decline is the increased use of all types of pesticides, herbicides, fungicides and fertilisers. Sadly it is only the government who can put regulations into law to reduce this lethal cocktail that is damaging our insect population.

By 2025 the government will ban the use of glyphosate, far too late in many people's opinion. Many countries have already done so. Glyphosate is most commonly sold as the formulation "Roundup / Weedol / Pathclear" also found in many "own brand" products of many retailers. Glyphosate is a general purpose herbicide killing any plant it touches and is used in agriculture and domestically. The manufacturer claimed it was non-toxic to wildlife and broke down quickly in the environment. This is blatantly untrue. It is detected in sea water, rivers, reservoirs and our own drinking water. This causes a huge problem for aquatic life, insects, birds and of course humans..

In my opinion it is unforgivable that the government is allowing the use of this chemical in agricultural practise and in the domestic situation. Glyphosate is in our water supply and food chain, in the U.K. the majority of people will have minute quantities of it in their urine sample!

Horrorifying However, we are fortunate in that Cornwall Council are an enlightened authority. Since 2016 they have pledged not to use potentially harmful pesticides on land which it owns or manages.

The only instances where glyphosate is used is in the case of invasive plants such as Japanese Knotweed or if damage to buildings would ensue.

What can I do to help reverse the decline of insects??

Just stop using herbicides / pesticides / fungicides. Search for natural or organic alternatives, there is a great deal of information available.

Always read the labels, many "own brand" herbicides contain glyphosate. Let nature take its course.

It won't happen immediately but ladybirds, lacewings and hoverflies will come along and feast on your "pest" problem. If you use harmful chemicals you will kill the "good guys" along with the "bad guys" making the situation worse for future years.....a vicious circle.

For every "pest" there is a predator willing to do the work for you.

Join GPEG.....Gwennap Parish Environment Group and get involved in actions that will improve our area for wildlife, insects, yourselves and the planet.

Make your garden a haven for pollinators.

Join the charity Buglife and / or Bumblebee Conservation. Check out Cornwall Wildlife Trust for lots of useful information.

Reduce your mowing and see what wildflowers emerge, take part in "no mow May". Let part of your garden re wild.

Learn to love dandelions and other "weeds". Ensure the plants you buy are in fact bee friendly, sadly, some garden centres sell plants already laced with herbicide.

Do some research and try to buy only organic plants and seeds.

If we could put all of the UK gardens together they would cover a greater area than all of our Nature Reserves combined. We do have the power to restore so much lost biodiversity.

Let's just do it.....!! Happy re wilding, we owe it to future generations.

Lou Hitchens

CUSGARNE SCHOOL

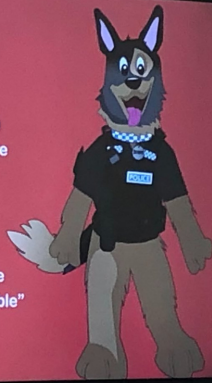
It has been a busy few weeks at Cusgarne school, the children have been visited by the RNLI who talked about beach safety and gave the children the opportunity to sit in the beach truck that patrols our local beaches, some children were lucky enough to even turn on the sirens! This was a super visit as the children had recently taken a visit to Gyllngvase Beach on the train from Perranwell station, they visited the gardens to draw the flowers and plants, had an icream and even paddled in the sea.



Anti social behaviour is...

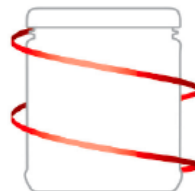
Behaviour which causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more people not in the same house.

Any behaviour that causes a detriment to the community and is persistent and unreasonable"



The Police also visited to discuss safety with children and talk to them about anti-social behaviour and its impact on our local community. This was a week long course of sessions with our local police officers, covering all aspects of safety within our community and discussing local community issues.

The children in KeyStage 2 are also busy practicing for their end of year production 'The Beauty Within' the children are singing, acting, dancing and learning their lines in preparation for the production which will take place in the last week of term.



SMOKED HADDOCK PASTIES **(makes 6)**

This recipe is for all of you who love making Cornish pasties as the method is time-consuming but no more so than the preparation for the traditional version. The pasties are a tasty, lighter alternative that are delicious hot or cold and make a great addition to a summer picnic. They also freeze very well.

Pastry

600g/1lb 5oz plain flour
300g/10½oz lard, cut up
¼ rounded tsp salt
Cold water to mix (approx 6–9 tbsp)

Filling

150g/5oz leek
150g/5oz onion
225g/8oz peeled potato
425g/15oz smoked haddock
25ml/1fl.oz white wine or cider vinegar
25g/1oz cold butter cut into very small pieces
25g/1oz mature cheddar, roughly grated
½ tsp freshly ground black pepper
1 scant tsp salt
1 small egg + 1ge pinch of salt for glazing

Preheat oven to 200°C/180°C fan/400°F/Gas 6
2 *lightly greased baking sheets*



Make the pastry by putting all the ingredients, except the water, into a food processor or mixer and blend until they resemble breadcrumbs. Add the water gradually until the pastry comes together and is flexible to the touch. Bring together into a ball and either wrap in clingfilm or a plastic bag. Chill.

Cut the leek, onion and potato into 1cm/½" dice. Cut the fish into 2.5cm/1" pieces. The size is important as you want everything to be perfectly cooked at the end of the baking time.

Mix all the filling ingredients together in a very large bowl.

Roll out the chilled pastry on a floured board to 5mm/¼" thick. Using a 19cm/7" small side plate as a template, cut out 6 rounds. You will probably need to re-roll the pastry to get all 6 out.

Divide the filling between the 6 rounds. Moisten the edges of the pastry then pinch them together to seal. This can be tricky if you want the join at the top as the edges tend to come apart but keep at it. Alternatively you can just fold the pastry over the top of the filling and seal at the side as per a traditional Cornish pasty. Crimp the edges and place on the greased baking sheets.

Whisk the egg with the salt until the white and yolk are completely mixed. Brush the pasties generously with the egg glaze.

Bake in the pre-heated oven for 35 minutes. I like to serve these with a large mixed green salad tossed with a lovely flavoursome French dressing.

SUE HUBBLE
www.hubbles.co.uk

Cusgarne and Frogpool Women's Institute

Our WI year just gets busier and busier. What a pleasure it was to serve over two hundred cream teas to parishioners at the Gwennap Parish Jubilee celebrations. There was a very happy atmosphere in the kitchen at the playing field and it was lovely to see old friends and meet new people. All the scones were home made by our members and although we were sad to run out of jam and cream, we hadn't expected so many people to come along. At the next platinum jubilee, we'll make even more scones! Thank you to everyone who came in for a tea and a chat and to all who baked and served on the day.

Staying with the jubilee, four of us took part in the banner parade in Truro recently. Our banner has only been made within the last few years and it was only its second outing. It is now on show in the Parish rooms for visitors to see and still needs some titivation in the way of ribbons and some coloured cords and will look even more special when it is fully completed.

Some of our members are busy making crafts for an entry into the craft section at the Stithians show on 11th July. The theme is of course the jubilee and Gerry is making a corgi, Sandra a greetings card, Sue a celebration cake and Liz a small flower arrangement. We have our fingers crossed for a prize even though it is our first time of entering.

We have enjoyed some thought-provoking speakers this year. Our members are now more aware of what happens to our waste and how the recycling is dealt with when it is collected thanks to a representative from the Council.

A close neighbour of many of us is Linda Sandercock who visited us last month to tell us all about her "paid holiday in the WRNS". Linda had many amusing stories of her time as a driver in various locations including Gibraltar which sounded quite idyllic. We were all very interested in her souvenirs and hope that she will return one day and tell us more.

In July we have a floral art demonstration with our President Sue's "At home" in August. The guest speaker that evening will be Trevor Smitheram who has some wonderful local knowledge of Hayle and is going to introduce us to the old Cornish dialect which should be fun. September will see our annual harvest auction and we are hoping to hold a bingo night which will benefit our chosen charities which are Blood Bikes and Cornish Hospices. Please look out for posters nearer the time and come along and help us raise some money for these worthy causes.

We are very lucky to have more new members join us recently and would like to give a big welcome to Anne, Sue H and Sue P and look forward to getting to know them. Our group welcomes anyone who identifies as female. You can attend the first three meetings for free and then we would offer membership on a pro rata basis.

If you would like to join us we meet at the Parish Rooms at Pulla Cross at 7pm on the first Tuesday of the month. Please contact Sandy on cusgarneandfrogpoolwi@gmail.com for more details.



Julie and Rita taste testing a Jubilee cream tea.



Sandra, Gerry and President Sue at the Truro Jubilee banner parade.



Mary, Judy and WI husband Peter enjoying a cream tea at the Gwennap Jubilee celebrations

Defibrillators



There are 5 Defibrillators (AED's) in the Parish:

The Cornish Arms, Frogpool.

The Parish Rooms at Richard Jory Playing Field.

Croft handy Village Hall.

Gwennap Church Hall

Bissoe Bike Centre.

Many thanks to Ray Humble for looking after the AED's and to Cornish Metals for a grant to replace the batteries.

Frogpool Methodist Church

Minister Revd. Elizabeth Harris
Tel: 01209 820077.
elizabeth.harris@methodist.org.uk

Sunday Morning Services 10.45 a.m.

Please check the Notice boards for further information.
Currently face coverings are optional and sanitizer is provided on entry. Please be considerate of each other.

Coffee Mornings

are held in the Sunday School hall from 10.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon each month

Thursday 28th July
Thursday 25th August
Thursday 29th September
Thursday 27th October

Come and enjoy a cup of great coffee or tea, a slice of cake and meet other members of your community.
Bring & Buy Stall.

Beetle Drive with Cream Tea

Open to everyone, from 2.30pm:
Wednesday 13th July
Wednesday 17th August
Wednesday 14th September
Wednesday 12th October

Frogpool's Harvest Festival Service

Sunday 25th September 10.45am

September Harvest Supper

Monday 26th September 6.00pm
followed by sale of perishable goods for charity.



St. Wennapa Church Gwennap

Regular monthly Services at 11.00am
1st Sunday Holy Communion (Book of Common prayer)
2nd Sunday All age Worship
3rd Sunday Holy Communion (Common Worship)
4th Sunday Matins (Service of morning prayer)
5th Sunday Holy Communion (Common Worship)

There will be no service at Gwennap on Sunday July 31st.
But there will be a combined Service at St. Day at 9.30 am for all five churches in the cluster.

Gwennap Ladies Guild will meet in the Church Hall on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 2.30 pm except for August and December. On our July meeting on 26th Roger Hooper will be giving us a talk about Butterflies. In September we shall welcome Jules Moore to talk to us about the Honey bee. The 25th October will be a craft afternoon and on the 22nd November we will have a demonstration of Floral art by Ian Facey-Macloud. A good interesting program to look forward to. Do come along and join us. New members are always very welcome.

Saturday 23rd July Coffee Morning and cakes and crafts sale for Ukraine
10.30- 12.30 in the Parish Rooms, Richard Jory Playing Fields, Pulla Cross
Hosted by The Coffee Stop and Gwennap Guild.
Please bring your friends to support this fund raiser.

Our secretary:

Vi McPherson 01872 862151 if you would like to contact her

Back at last:-

GWENNAP SUMMER CONCERTS 2022 in Gwennap Church
Every Wednesday July

7.30 - 9.15 Refreshments and Sales table.

July 13th Mabe Ladies Choir
July 20th St Stythian's MVC
July 27th Four Lanes MVC

A Flower Festival in the church is planned for July - no date fixed yet.



THE COFFEE STOP

We meet every Tuesday 10-11.30 in the Parish Rooms, Richard Jory Playing Field.
Coffee tea and biscuits and chat. Open to everyone.
Each year we support a Cornish charity, all money is from donation for our coffee etc.

Vanessa 01209820355



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CROFTHANDY VILLAGE HALL



It has been some time since I last contributed to the Parish newsletter and have now been asked to do so again. Crofthandy has not changed a lot in appearance over the years, but like many other small hamlets in its social patterns it is a much different place. In my lifetime the year was once punctuated by events such as the Village Tea Treat, the Harvest Festival and Christmas Services in the chapel. Then running constantly throughout the year was the Youth Club and the Sunday School, the very glue that bound people of the village together. We all tend to look back with fondness on those days but there seems little time or hunger for them to return in the modern world. We now have to live in a very fast-moving tech driven society where the whole world and its' problems are constantly in our homes. The world is now a small place they all tell us, yet we have never been further apart.

So back to the village, we still have a fantastic village hall run by a volunteer group of villagers that I would like to again publicly thank for all their hard work. One of the reasons small events no longer take place on a regular basis is the lack of volunteers who are willing to take on a long-term commitment. The Classic Motorcycle Show returned this year from a two-year absence due to the pandemic. A great day was had despite inclement weather. Fortune favours the brave - so the committee said let's go for it, we have lived too close to the woods to be afraid of the owls, and the weather was kind to us. This year we are modernising the Hall by fitting solar panels and installing L.E.D. lighting throughout the building. Doing what we can to combat the energy costs and helping the environment! This should confirm the Hall as a viable asset for the village and the Parish for many years to come.

There has been some building of houses in the village and plenty of individual improvements, good to see some signs that people want or need to stay in the village. It can be very difficult to fit modern buildings into an infrastructure that has evolved over hundreds of years, finding the balance is important. People who have grown up in the village and whose children wish to do the same create a real need for housing as do people wishing to move into the village from elsewhere. We have to grow at a sustainable rate, or we will run the risk of losing what character we have .

The parish has historically been slightly fragmented so in an effort to address this the Parish Council is holding two of their monthly meetings at the Crofthandy Village Hall, working towards an old format of years gone by visiting some of the village halls and meeting places throughout the Parish. We have regular art classes on Tuesday and Pilates on Fridays, many other groups such as dog training, radio club, vintage vehicle, majorettes, use the Hall on a "as and when needed" basis.

Steve Trelease

Steve Trelease, Chair 07979395461
Booking secretary, Chris West 01209 822577





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