

# trio





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A BIG thank you to  
Jenny Balfour-Paul for this  
month's front cover photograph

**TRIO COPY DATE FOR  
DECEMBER - November 27th**

Trio is issued eleven times a year and is  
available in Secrets and the Co-op,  
Port Isaac, or by post - £21 a year in the UK  
To subscribe please send a cheque, made  
payable to Trio, Calenia, 3 Trewetha Lane,  
Port Isaac, Cornwall PL29 3RN  
To advertise in Trio telephone  
01208 880905

Published by Sam & Dee Littlechild  
Tel: 01208 880905  
email: triopi@mac.com

The publisher does not necessarily hold  
the same views as those expressed by  
contributors and reserves the right to  
refuse or alter material supplied.

## TRIO Children's Christmas Competition

### A Port Isaac Christmas

We are looking for a poem or a picture  
about Christmas in Port Isaac.  
As always, the competition will  
be divided into two age groups -  
up to 7 years old  
and 8-11 years old

and, as always, there will be prizes.  
Your entry has to be in by **NO LATER THAN November 26th**

## Easy ways to support your Village Hall



You can support Port Isaac Village Hall every time you shop online. If you are shopping on Amazon just do it via **Smile Amazon** and choose Port Isaac Village Hall as your charity. For every Amazon purchase you make you raise a little bit of money for the Hall ... and if we all do it it will end up being a lot of money, which in this year when we have no income will be really useful.

Shopping at loads of stores via **Give as you Live** works the same way. Go to the Give as you live website and choose Port Isaac Village Hall. There are loads of shops that are part of the scheme including Boots, Ebay, M&S, Sainsburys, Booking.com, ASOS, Debenhams, Argos, the list goes on and on.

## Your Christmas Greeting in Trio

Whatever happens over the next few weeks, it's going to be a very different Christmas for everyone. But one thing will still be the same. You can still put your own personal or business Christmas greeting in the special festival issue of Trio that comes out on December 4th.

This year there will be no charge for this service. Just let us have your message - hand it in at Secrets or put it through the letterbox, send it in the post or email it to triopi@mac.com

The absolute latest date for receipt is November 24th.

**Merry Christmas!**



So, when you feel ready you can start reusing your Village Hall subject to all the Covid-19 rules and regs. We have a risk assessment in place and have prepared some guidelines for users. We have sanitising stations and are doing everything that is necessary to keep you all safe. At the moment, the maximum number in the hall at any time is 36.

So call Dee on 01208 880905 if you want any info on what you can and can't do in the Hall! And if she doesn't have an answer she has a contact who does!!



This was a real local project. A huge thank you to: James McDonnell and Martin Thomas, Steve and Mike Hewett and their boys, Pat McGrath (Cornish Plumbing Solutions), Pete Lethbridge Stainless Steel. Phil Sleep Flooring, Martyn Dingle, Roy Speakman, Paul Honey, Howdens, Jewsons, Western Supply, Allen Valley Slates, Topps Tiles and G Climo & Sons.

### **An exceptional local team**

## **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU CO-OP**

We do know how lucky we are to have such a supportive Co-op in our village. They support all causes and the support given to the Village Hall is exceptional. For the past few years the Hall has been lucky enough to be one of the three charities chosen for customers to support and all the money raised has gone towards our extension and renovation. The final round of funding for this project has now come to an end and it ties in very well with the completion of our major project.

We are overjoyed that we have again been selected for the next round. The application criteria was very different this time so, based on the success of the Community Cafe and the fact that the Golden Circle has closed, we applied for

### **and another Co-op thankyou**

We are delighted that we have also been lucky enough to have been given a £500 grant from the Co-op Members' Coronavirus Fund.

This donation has been put towards our Covid-19 Sanitising Stations around the hall.

Thank you again Co-op.

### **THE BOOKSHELF**

And a final "don't forget" - the used book shelf in the Co-op supports the Hall and the Playgroup. If you have any books to donate just take them up to the Co-op and put them on the book shelves near the cash point.

All the money put in the pot goes towards making your Hall better for you.

funding to support a wide range of activities, entertainment and transport for the older members of our community. The first payment won't be until the spring and we are really hoping that by then life might be beginning to get back to some sort of normal and we can start to arrange some events. If there is something that you have always fancied doing or learning or watching please let us know ... it might be something we haven't thought of and can include.

You do need to re-register your Co-op card to the charity of your choice and you can do this online - if you are having problems have a word with Craig instore, he is always happy to help.

**REMEMBER,  
YOU CAN  
SUPPORT  
PORT ISAAC  
VILLAGE HALL  
WHEN  
SHOPPING IN  
THE CO-OP ...  
helping us to  
make the  
activities in you  
Hall better for  
everyone  
TOGETHER WE  
CAN MAKE  
THINGS  
BETTER**







## CREW NEWS

At 14:41 on Tuesday 20th October, Port Isaac Lifeboat was tasked to reports of some abandoned surf boards just off Epphavan Beach with no apparent surfers in their vicinity.

*The Pride of Port Isaac (Goeth Porthusek)* launched and made headway. On arrival to the scene it was apparent that the boards had been anchored to a buoy whilst the owners played in the nearby surf break. Immediately the volunteer crew were greeted by two gentlemen on a wet bike. The owners were well known to the crew and were able to confirm all was well and the call was a false alarm with good intent.

Lifeboat crew reported back to Falmouth Coastguard and returned to station where they refuelled and readied for service. Thanks to all who responded.

## COMMITTEE NEWS

We had our first committee meeting since lockdown on Tuesday 20th October and this was an online Zoom meeting.

It was lovely to see each other again after so long and we had lots to catch up on! Our discussions focused on how we can raise money in these different times as our main fundraising events of the year, Lifeboat Larks and the Harvest Festival auction, have been unable to go ahead.

We've got some ideas for potential online fundraising ahead of Christmas but we started small with the sale of our Christmas cards at the Port Isaac Community Farmers Market. *Just Shellfish* were kind enough to have a table with our cards there on Sunday and we almost sold out!

*Megan Rees*

### Housekeeper/Cleaner wanted

We are looking for a new Housekeeper / Cleaner for a large property in Port Gaverne sleeping 14, with a Friday changeover day. Ideally would suit a couple or two people with previous experience.

**For further details please contact  
Jerry Ratcliffe:  
[jerry@jeremyratcliffe.co.uk](mailto:jerry@jeremyratcliffe.co.uk)  
07767 266063**

# PORT ISAAC

## Christmas Farmers Market



Everyone welcome

## WELCOME

to Port Isaac's Christmas farmer's market, bringing local goodness to the people. Come and buy your local produce, food, drink, crafts, and so much more

**Near the Main Carpark  
Trewetha Lane**

**November 29th**

**10am - 4pm**

In support of Port Isaac charities

We hope you have been enjoying our Sunday markets. The September one was baked in glorious sunshine, with a lovely atmosphere, helped by lots of new suppliers and goodies. The October one was just as good.

On November 29th we would like to welcome you to Port Isaac's first Community Christmas Farmers Market!! This is shaping up to be a full and festive one with Christmas produce, meat, bakes, preserves and maybe even some mulled drinks. We are also adding in extra stalls for arts and crafts, perfect for local Christmas shopping. We will be extending the market hours from 10am to 4pm for this event as we know many of you like to do the rounds a couple of times! You will also have the option to pre-order meats and produce for Christmas; Please see our facebook page for more info on this.

This will be our last market until March 2021. A huge thank you to all involved and for supporting this community project and, as always, we welcome any Feedback from you, our village. Equally if you would like to have a stall in this Christmas market, we would love to hear from you.

We would like to say a very special and heartfelt thank you to our anonymous donor for her incredibly kind and generous donation to the Farmers' Market. We can't thank you enough and are blown away by your generosity and support. We will be putting this towards a semi-permanent structure so the market can continue in those prevailing Atlantic winds!

Finally, this has been a very difficult year for many. Christmas isn't going to be any easier and will be potentially isolating and lonely. We are looking and planning to see how we can bring a little Christmas foody cheer this December. If you would like to get involved, we would love to hear from you.

All that's left to say is we look forward to seeing you all at Port Isaac's Community Christmas Farmers Market! Warmest seasonal wishes,

*Alice, PICFM chairman*

## Doc Martin Fund update

The fund currently stands at £15,686

Grants have been given to :

**Port Isaac Primary School** -£10,000 to support the Nursery and After-School Club

**Port Isaac Heritage** - £7,000 for new display boards and installation

**Port Isaac Illuminations** - £1750 to support the displays of Christmas trees and ongoing renovation

**Liam Benz** - £1000 for the bird boxes and feed

**Duchy Defibrillators** - £534 for the maintenance of the defibrillators sited outside *Secrets* and at Trewetha

*Janet Townsend*



## Scott Mann writes ...

Fisheries was front and centre in Parliament recently as I welcomed the package of three fisheries consultations launched by DEFRA. The first is on strengthening the economic link for English licensed fishing vessels, to help ensure economic benefits for many of our coastal communities, including plans for an increased landing requirement of up to 70% into UK Ports; this is great news for many people in North Cornwall.



The second consultation is on proposals for how the new fishing opportunities that the UK secures in negotiations will be split between Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England in a way that is fairer and much more profitable for fishing communities across our four nations. Finally, I congratulated the Department on its proposals for how England's share of those new opportunities will be distributed across communities. I hope that we will see greater benefits for many of our coastal communities and our hard-working fishermen and fisherwomen.

Concerns have been raised over the past few weeks that the 'scallop wars' we saw a couple of years back in the English Channel seem to be restarting, with many of our boats being targeted by the French. There is concern in the fishing community in Cornwall that, as we get to the crunch point in negotiations, much of their gear might be towed off and dragged due to the realisation that, if we do not reach a deal, there might be challenges for some continental fishermen.



A HUGE THANK YOU to Ellen, Rosie, Debs, Linda, Nicky, Cherry, Amy, Faye, Martin and Karyn for "offering" to light up and decorate our new Xmas trees at Hillson, Mayfield, Lundy Road, Silvershell, New Road, Hartland and Tintagel Terrace plus all the other locals who want trees. This years turn-on will be a gradual thing ... as trees get decorated they will be lit up, just to bring a bit of colour and festive spirit to our village.

The "trees" will be on site during the first week in November so as soon as possible they'll be lit. The harbour and bottom of the village will be done last week of November (weather permitting).

This year especially, we need to see lights around our village to bring a bit of "light" relief in these difficult times.

*Mr L, the Christmas Lights man!*



I also want to talk about recreational angling. I am hopeful that we might reach a point where we have a catch-and-release bluefin tuna fishery around the coast of the country. I am grateful for the work that DEFRA is doing with the Angling Trust on developing a vision statement for recreational angling in the UK. The Government know that I have an ambition to create a world-class fishery and wide recreational opportunity for fishing off the North Cornwall coast.

I have heard on many doorsteps in North Cornwall that we need to repatriate our territorial fishing waters, which were sacrificed on the altar of the Common Fisheries Policies as we entered the European Union. The Government must continue to be robust in the trade negotiations, and they will continue to have my full support.

During this difficult time my team and I are working hard to support constituents. If there is anything I can do to help you, do not hesitate to get in touch via [Scott@ScottMann.org.uk](mailto:Scott@ScottMann.org.uk).

I am also running virtual surgeries, please email me for a Zoom meeting, or if you would like to talk over the phone via 01208 74337.

**DON'T FORGET, THIS YEAR'S  
FIREWORKS AT PORT  
GAVERNE ARE CANCELLED  
DUE TO COVID 19**



# THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2020

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, the Royal British Legion has suggested that we can all play our part in raising vital funds for all who have given their lives and those still suffering. They suggest that we buy a poppy (in our case at the Co-op) and place it in our windows. Along with poppies, all the other Poppy Day merchandise will be for sale in the Co-op.

As explained last month, there will be no service at the War Memorial, just the laying of wreaths. However, another way to

show your very personal support is to paint a Remembrance Poppy on a pebble and place this on our War Memorial. Pebbles can be placed at any time.

Sadly numbers are also limited at our Remembrance Service in St Peter's. If you would like to attend please contact Rev Elizabeth Wild (see below).



## Memories Matter ...

Can you pinpoint your first ever memory? Perhaps it's something vague, like the smell of your mother or the feel of a pushchair. My first memory is just a snapshot: an upside-down flash of turquoise tiles and streams of bubbles. When I was four I accidentally plunged into a swimming pool, nearly drowning, and it must have been enough of a shock that the image burned itself onto my brain. It's funny the things that stick with you; the moments that years later you can still taste fresh and clear.

Memories matter. They make us who we are. Our memories tell us who and what we love, where we've been, the obstacles we've overcome and the wonders we've encountered. Our memories tell our story.

Which is why events like Remembrance Sunday matter too. They remind us of who we are as a community, of the journey we have been on and the hard times we've won through. They tell us the stories of the people who have gone before, the people who lived and loved and lost in our villages. Above all, they remind us of this wonderful truth: whatever dark times have come, however bad things have seemed, *we have come through them*. In strange, uncertain times like these, that is something worth holding onto.

Remembrance Sunday will look different this year. Covid restrictions mean we cannot welcome as many as we would like into church, or gather by our war memorials. Instead, I encourage you to use the words to gather with your household in your own time at a memorial, and make an act of remembrance together:



**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**  
**8TH NOVEMBER, 2020**

Our Remembrance Sunday Services will have to be different this year. Places will be very limited and we will be prioritising representatives from the local community who normally lay wreaths.

If you would like to come to any of our services, please contact Revd Elizabeth, stating the date, time and place of the church service you wish to attend (Email: elizabeth.wild@nhs.uk Phone or text: 07758 407882).

If that service is already full, we will let you know.

If you are a representative from the local community who would normally lay a wreath, please tell us.

Please note, you are required to wear a face covering in church.

10.30am - St Kew - Remembrance Service  
10.30am - St Peter's, Port Isaac - Remembrance Service  
10.50am - St Minver - Remembrance Service  
10.50am - St Endellion - Eucharist with Act of Remembrance

We will not be gathering at the outdoor War Memorials in Port Isaac, St Ives and St Minver. Instead, you are encouraged to make an individual visit to the War Memorials as a personal act of Remembrance.

Tuesday 10th November - Online - Remembrance Service  
[www.northcormwallchurch.org.uk](http://www.northcormwallchurch.org.uk)

## An Act of Remembrance

### Speaker:

Let us remember before God, and commend to his safe keeping, those who have died for their country in war; those whom we knew and whose memory we treasure; and all who have lived and died in the service of the peoples of this world.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;

age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun, and in the morning:

We will remember them.

*Everyone: We will remember them.*

*Hold two minutes silence.*

### Speaker:

They were young, as we are young,  
They served, giving freely of themselves.

To them, we pledge, amid the winds of time,

To carry their torch and never forget.

We will remember them.

*Everyone: We will remember them.*

### Speaker:

When you go home tell them of us and say,

for your tomorrow we gave our today.

*Rev Rose Jones*

# Happy 10th birthday



Back in the good old days, 2019 to be precise, we were busy planning lots of exciting events to celebrate our tenth birthday. An added bonus was the proposed revamp of St Peter's Church and the exhibition space we are so lucky to have in our beautiful seaside church.

And then early this year all our lives were changed in ways we never could have foreseen and, along with the rest of the world, our plans had to follow suit.

After ten years of both visitors and locals being puzzled by the name PISCES, we had already decided on a bit of a rebrand. Since the beginning our website had been called Port Isaac Heritage and we realised it would just make sense to change our name to that. So that's what we did.

For a couple of years we had been talking about a new book and lockdown was a bit of a blessing in disguise. All that time indoors ... and so *The Real Voices of Port Isaac* was born and quietly launched in August. A quiet launch is not how we like to do things but we had no option ... and to be honest sales are doing really well and mostly by word of mouth. One reader likened the book to "holding a piece of Port Isaac in your hand" and we hope it will be the best "Port Isaac" Christmas present on the market!!

Another achievement is our totally revamped and updated our website – [www.portisaacheritage.co.uk](http://www.portisaacheritage.co.uk). You can enter any word into the search engine and everything that Port Isaac Heritage has, which is related to that subject, is available. This makes it a valuable research tool as well as providing an in-depth look into the real Port Isaac. Plus every *Trio* ever published is on the website and included in the searches.

Since the new website launch we have been so surprised at the number of people who have been in touch from all over the world, either asking for help with their family history research or giving us extra information to add to our archives. One such request is the amazing reunion you can read about on page 11.

Finally, last but certainly not least, we are now getting ready to take our place back in our lovely new space in St Peter's Church when it re-opens. We have been so lucky and an enormous thank you to the Doc Martin Fund for giving us

£7000 towards new display stands and lighting for our ongoing programme of exhibitions and we hope to launch before Christmas.

Who would have thought that our birthday year could have turned out so well!!



**the best Port Isaac Christmas presents**

## The Real Voices of Port Isaac

available from our website SHOP -

[www.portisaacheritage.co.uk](http://www.portisaacheritage.co.uk)

along with our previous books,

*A Taste of Port Isaac, A Second Helping of Port Isaac and the Trevan Book*

**ALL PRICED £10 a copy**

also available at *The Pottery, Secrets, Fresh from the Sea and Trevathan Farm Shop*

alternatively, send a cheque for £14.50, made payable to *Port Isaac Heritage, to Secrets,*

Fore Street, Port Isaac, Cornwall PL29 3RD

[www.portisaacheritage.co.uk](http://www.portisaacheritage.co.uk)

## Port Isaac Stay & Play

Many thanks from Port Isaac Stay & Play for the £88.43 raised from the book sales in the Co-op.

We're using it for Halloween sweets for the village children, some resources for the Village Hall when we return and something exciting exciting coming up for Christmas!

## A Little Ray of Sunshine!

With the various levels of lockdown in place since March, there have been many penalties to pay. High on the list are the natural family connections made at births, marriages and funerals. The first and last of those can hardly be postponed, and those souls departing this world are, by the practicalities enforced, often tragically short-changed in terms of a celebratory farewell.

But into darkness there comes light, and for Nina Oliver, September 26 was not only her 90th birthday, but also the day she finally met her great-grandson for the first time. She'd been patiently waiting since his birth in mid-February. Her unsurprising verdict? "He's 'andsome!"



Rowena Oliver and Frank Wolstenholme



# Websites of the month ... the night skies

As we approach the shortest day we are being rewarded with long nights and some of the recent night skies have been amazingly clear. One evening the moon was in a 'waning crescent' phase ([moonphases.co.uk/moon-calendar](http://moonphases.co.uk/moon-calendar)) and you could see the whole moon illuminated by just the crescent "the new new moon, with the old moon in her arms" in the words of the old folk song Sir Patrick Spens [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir Patrick Spens](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir_Patrick_Spens) (see picture below). The stars and planets have also been very clear. In last month's *Trio* column we were in underground Cornwall, this month it all in the sky.

A list of key astronomers from Cornwall has been put online by the Society for the history of astronomy [shasurvey.wordpress.com/astronomers-cornwall](http://shasurvey.wordpress.com/astronomers-cornwall) where 19 are listed. One that caught my eye was John Somer - here is what the website has:

*"Somer, John (d. after 1409), Franciscan friar and astronomer. Before 1384 he was warden of the priory at Bodmin in Cornwall, from at least and was attached to the Oxford convent (1380-95). It was at the request of Thomas Kingsbury, the provincial minister of the Franciscans in England, that in 1380 he composed his Kalendarium for Joan of Kent (d. 1385), the mother of Richard II. A calendar with astronomical tables attached, covering the four Metonic (nineteen-year) cycles for the period (1387 – 1462)."*

And you can see a picture of his Kalendarium here [tinyurl.com/John-somer](http://tinyurl.com/John-somer). All the entries are interesting and have links to other sites worth visiting.

Cornwall today has some observatories and the websites have a lot of detail. Quite how much they are in business at present, with the coronavirus regulations is uncertain, but there is lots of information and some great photographs. The first with a comprehensive website is The Tolcarn Observatory <https://tolcarnobservatory.com> and is in Coombe, St Austell and there are some great pictures of the telescopes and the settings on the site. This was built and set up (out of his own pocket) in 2015 or so by Dr Grant Mackintosh and has introduced many schoolchildren to the delights of stargazing. Its mission is to:

- promote the enjoyment of astronomy and closely related branches of science
- make astronomy accessible to all, regardless of knowledge or background
- encourage those with an interest to do so, to develop their knowledge and practical skills

- provide a relaxed environment in which members can share their knowledge

Another is called the Caradon Observatory based on the edge of Bodmin Moor [www.caradonobservatory.com/](http://www.caradonobservatory.com/) and has some great pictures of the Milky Way. It was a key support for the successful bid by Cornwall Council to get Bodmin Moor as the first UK Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to IDA Dark Sky Park Status [tinyurl.com/Bodmin-dark](http://tinyurl.com/Bodmin-dark)

The final one is the Roseland Observatory [www.roselandobservatory.com](http://www.roselandobservatory.com) also near St Austell and as it says on the website: "The observatory was started by Clive Purchase in 1998 to prepare for the Cornish eclipse in 99. This was very successful apart from the cloud." Again, it has a strong educational focus.

And there are some websites and apps that make identifying what you are looking at much easier. A sky chart from the magazine Astronomy Now is quite good as you can put in your location and the date and time and get a clear picture of what's out there [astronomynow.com/uk-sky-chart/](http://astronomynow.com/uk-sky-chart/)

And for smartphones there are a few nice apps. The first is one that tells you when you will be able to see the International Space Station [tinyurl.com/ISSspotte-app](http://tinyurl.com/ISSspotte-app). This is nice as you can see quite a bit of detail of the ISS with a good pair of binoculars. The other app I would recommend is StarMap Pro <http://www.star-map.fr>. You can point this at the sky and see all the stars and planets. It is a very powerful programme and has lots of possibilities, but just for knowing what you are looking at is very good. I took the background picture to this article of the constellation of Orion with my phone using NightCap <https://nightcapcamera.com> which gives you good control over long exposures. I should have used a tripod, but you can still make out the stars!

Tony Wainwright



# Remembering Joanna Brown

Almost a hundred years ago on August 12th 1924 at the British Hospital in Quetta, in what is now Pakistan, Captain Ralph Tobin and his wife Stella welcomed their first child, Joanna. Her father was serving with the *10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles* stationed at the garrison town of Quetta just a few miles from the border with Afghanistan.

Joanna's early years were spent in the relative comfort typically enjoyed by a British Officer's family in colonial India with servants, a cook, groom and an Indian nursemaid. Early photographs show her as a chubby little person with a mass of dark hair in the arms of her mother and Aya and peering over the side of a very smart pram. When she was older she attended a school for European families where she was able to mix with children of her own age. Pictures in her mother's album show her growing up wearing the obligatory solar topee (a sun hat) playing with her dolls, what must have been her first bike and the family dogs.

However, life changed dramatically in the early hours of May 31st 1935 when, at the age of 10, she was awoken by her father who carried her out into the garden. Quetta experienced what is considered to be the deadliest earthquake in South East Asia of the 20th century and between 30,000 and 60,000 people died as a result. The town was in ruins and it was the army's job to coordinate the response. Many of the dead were piled into carts for mass burial and on one such cart her father's eye was caught by a movement, one of the occupants was still alive. There is a good chance that he saved this woman's life.

Soon after this Joanna was sent to England to attend St Mary's Hall School in Brighton where she boarded, spending most holidays in the care of a local family. When her time at school came to an end, Britain was at war and she joined the Wrens. She enjoyed this period of her life - maybe something to do with all the young men in uniform she was meeting. She was attached to the staff of an admiral and mentioned boarding *HMS Belfast* with a message for the captain. She also learned to roll and knot newspapers when preparing a fire - something son John still does.

After the war she joined her mother to live in Hove, attended secretarial school and joined other commuters on their daily travels to work in London. Then came a period which was rarely discussed when Joanna met and married her first husband, James and in the early 50s obtained the tenancy of the *Golden Lion* in Port Isaac.

It was during this time that she caught the attention of a young fisherman, Harold Brown. They fell in love and subsequently married. Their first son, Julian, was born and they moved into her in-law's chalet in the garden of *Lenharen*. The family then moved to *Brook Cottage* in Middle Street. Joanna was immensely proud of her cottage and although money was very tight, managed to furnish it in her own impeccable taste.

John and Jeremy arrived shortly after with life settling into a pattern with Harold at sea most days and Joanna being there for her three young children. Between them they provided a very happy childhood for their boys who all look back on these times with great fondness. She managed to combine raising a family with developing a social life. Two of her particular friends were Sylvia Reece and Di Hawkins. Saturday lunchtime drinks with her friends in the pub became a regular fixture. A cottage pie and a rice pudding were always prepared and left to cook in the oven for the family's lunch while she enjoyed a drink or three with her friends. Shrieks of laughter from the group during these sessions could often be heard from the road outside the *Lion*.

Joanna was devastated when the family home was flooded in the early 60s. Fortunately the insurance covered the damage and what had been a traumatic experience turned into a blessing as they were able to get the house as they wanted it. She was so proud when showing her enlarged sitting room to people who called and her Boxing Day party became a fixture on the social calendar.

In the summer on fine days she and her friends took it in turns to prepare afternoon tea which was carried down to the beach. Jeremy remembers a silver teapot and tiny wafer thin cucumber sandwiches with the crusts removed. Certain standards had to be maintained!

Joanna learned to drive the family car and was then able to take herself to Wadebridge for hair appointments and shopping. She enjoyed this independence but was never a confident driver. The car was kept in what is now the *Carriage House* in Middle Street and John remembers, at the age of 16, being asked to drive the car as far as the post office because she was nervous about meeting a car coming down.



In the early 80's, Julian's remaining kidney packed up and he had to be hooked up to a dialysis machine twice a week. First this involved travelling to Plymouth where she learned how to operate the machine and to connect Julian. He looks back with great admiration for how his mother coped with the technical and highly emotional aspect of this. Eventually a successful transplant improved life for everybody.

As the years went by Harold and Joanna seemed to grow ever closer, taking more holidays and travelling together. Their three sons married and had children of their own. Family get-togethers became lively affairs with an increasing number of grandchildren. Lisa, the eldest grandchild, called her Momma and the name stuck. These were happy times.

In early 1999 the bottom fell out of her world. The love of life, Harold, with whom she had shared 45 years of marriage died suddenly and without warning. A large part of Joanna died at the same time. Although she tried to continue life as normal with drinks with her wide circle of friends and spending time with her ever growing family, life had lost its meaning. However, in her 80's and recovering from an operation with Julian and Helen she attended a New Year's Eve party with Midge at the *Port Gaverne Hotel*. She hadn't returned by 1am and her worried hosts discovered that she'd gone on to another party. There was no stopping this woman.

As time went by, life in her own home became impractical and she moved to Windmill Court where she greatly appreciated the company of the other residents and staff.

Everyone who knew Joanna will have their own memories of a very special woman; days when everyone was "Darling" and a gin and tonic was never far away.





# North Cornwall Book Festival news

The North Cornwall Book Festival is postponed until 7th - 10th October 2021 and until then we are providing online content for you to view in the form of a series of short films. They are 5-15 minutes long and contain interviews with many of the authors who were due to attend in 2020 and who we hope will be with us in 2021. The authors talk about their new books and other wide-ranging points of interests. They can be found on [www.ncornbookfest.org/north-cornwall-book-festival-at-home](http://www.ncornbookfest.org/north-cornwall-book-festival-at-home) or look for North Cornwall Book Festival at Home on YouTube, Facebook, Instagram or Vimeo. They include:

**Patrick Gale** The festival's artistic director introduces the series by walking us to the Richard and Judy shed to talk about his novel-in-progress: an evocation of Charles Causley and his mother.

**Rachel Joyce** This film focuses on novelist, actor and dramatist Rachel Joyce who talks from her shepherd's hut in Gloucestershire about her latest novel, *Miss Benson's Beetle*, what led her to write a proper adventure story about women and the strange experience of seeing a novel published during a global lockdown.

**Louise Doughty** Louise Doughty's particular brand of thoughtful, feminist-inflected psychological thriller had already won her many fans in the literary fiction market, as had her hugely popular column on how to write a novel in a year, by the time the television of her Apple Tree Yard saw her work reach millions.

**Lisa Woollett** Cornwall based photographer, Lisa Woollett is an inveterate beachcomber and mudlarker. Her entrancing memoir, *Rag and Bone*, shows how this sets her firmly in a family tradition of scavenging and recycling and will ensure that you will never again cross a beach or expanse of estuary mud without constantly looking down!

**Philip Marsden** Polymath, traveller and sailor Philip Marsden sails from his Cornish home on the upper Fal to the far distant Summer Isles in his latest book, mapping out not only his voyage but those of his intrepid predecessors and the extraordinary edge-of-the-known-world mythology that has grown up around these often tiny outposts of humanity.

**Sophie Ward** Actor Sophie Ward has delivered a truly mind-bending first novel, *Love and Other Thought Experiments*. Rooted in the touching story of a female couple embarking on motherhood but also facing the challenge of brain cancer, it playfully uses long established philosophical fables to stretch her human material this way and that.

**Paul Mendez** Debut novelist Paul Mendez has scored an instant hit with *Rainbow Milk*. It tells two wildly contrasting stories which seem to have no connection at first: how a young Jamaican couple come to sail to the UK on the Windrush to make a new home in the Black Country and, in the present day, how a young gay man of Jamaican heritage is "disfellowshipped" by his Jehovah's Witness congregation and family and loses then finds himself in London.

**Petroc Trelawny** When the BBC Radio 3 presenter chaired two memorable events for the North Cornwall Book Festival in 2019 it was a delightful surprise to learn he was writing a memoir about trains and his Cornish boyhood. Here he takes us on his bike ride to the studio, talks about lockdown and gives us a sneak preview of that memoir.

**Rosanne Hodin** North Cornwall Book Festival has always had a commitment to supporting local writers as well as inviting in big names from further afield, and you can't get more local, or charming, than Rosanne Hodin. Just as lockdown hit back in the spring, Rosanne published *Raising Goats and Girls*, a sweet and funny memoir of how, after "an orderly childhood and misspent youth" she took the madcap decision to relocate her then young family to a Cornish smallholding.

**Eleanor Anstruther** Eleanor Anstruther, descendant of the Dukes of Argyll, gave a new meaning to airing dirty linen with her debut novel, *A Perfect Explanation*. It's a fictionalised account of how her father came to be sold to her great aunt Joan for £500 and this grim, sometimes funny tale of motherhood and inheritance is set in a faintly terrifying clan where "heritage dictates and heritage always wins".

**Edward Parnell** Revisiting the scenes of a fenland boyhood overshadowed by tragedy but also quickened by a love of nature, Edward also explores the haunted landscapes associated with a succession of peculiarly uncanny English novels.

**Kate Werran** Historian Kate Werran lays bare a hushed-up ugly incident in Allied relations during WW2 when friction between black and white GIs stationed in the Cornish town of Launceston flared up into an armed uprising which led to a hasty court martial, lingering resentment and sharply divided loyalties.

**Amanda Craig** Amanda Craig's funny-ouch fiction has drilled down into the tensions and ambiguities around second home ownership. Soon after the triumphant publication of her latest, *The Golden Rule*, which begins as a Cornwall-based female retelling of *Strangers on a Train*, she speaks to us about lockdown in her North Devon hideaway, her deep love of Cornwall and her concern for its rural communities in the wake of Brexit.

**Please share this information with your friends and thank you for your ongoing support.**



# Reunited after 75 years



When people have a query about something on our *Port Isaac Heritage* website - [www.portisaacheritage.co.uk](http://www.portisaacheritage.co.uk) they can send it via the 'Contact Us' link, where it is sent to me and Dee. On September 12th, we received an email from Ian Rowles. He had seen a picture on our website of his mum Brenda Heaps (*now Watson*) and her lifelong friend Ursula Gear (*now Wade*) who were evacuated here in 1939. They stayed with Harry and Harriet Leverton, who lived in one of the council houses in Trewetha Lane. The picture included their 11-year-old daughter Yvonne Leverton (*now Cleave*) and was taken by Yvonne's sister, Ann, on the land behind those council houses, then open fields, but now the houses and gardens of Hartland Road.

Ian said Brenda and Ursula are both going strong and enquired whether Yvonne was still alive. I was delighted to tell him that Yvonne was very much still alive, and gave him links to recent videos on our website of Yvonne, with Joan Murray, regaling us with their delightful stories of old Port Isaac. He came back and said his mum and Ursula would like to get in touch. Brenda now lives in Bognor Regis, and Ursula in Bicester, so after consulting with Yvonne, contact details were exchanged. We were keen for *Port Isaac Heritage* to get another evacuee's story placed on record, and I asked Brenda about the journey down and what life was like for them here. Her lovely letter told the evacuees' tale ...

Brenda and Ursula were both pupils at Lionel Road School in Brentford, about 7 miles west of Central London. Evacuation was done mainly in whole school groups, so most of the early evacuees to Port Isaac came from Lionel Road School. Brenda was 8 and Ursula was 9 when they were evacuated to Port Isaac, having been firm friends since starting at the school together. They left by train in that first wave of evacuee children from the London area, just a day or two after war started in September 1939. Brenda recalled that no-one seemed upset (except the mothers) as they said their goodbyes. Wartime security meant both children and parents had no idea where they were actually going. That stock wartime phrase, 'somewhere in England' was likely to be the best they got to any enquiry. All the children seemed to think it was just like a school outing! Parents were given a list of essential clothing and underwear the children were expected to take. Some of those from poorer families had only the bare minimum, with many just having a pillow case for their few items. Brenda was more fortunate, having a small suitcase for her things. The obligatory gas mask in its cardboard case was an essential to be carried at all times. Heartless officialdom decreed toys were not allowed, but Brenda's mum slipped her teddy bear, 'Binky', inside her coat, a companion that is with her to this day.



*Brenda pictured today with her evacuee suitcase and gas mask ... and Binky the teddy*

On the long journey down they were given snacks and drinks at one or two stops on the way. Their first night in Port Isaac was spent at the old *Castle Rock Hotel*, and in the morning the children trooped down to the Village Hall and sat down quietly to be 'chosen' by the local people.

Planning the children's evacuation, known as Operation Pied Piper, began in 1938 and was ready by summer 1939. The exact details of their final allocation to new homes was left to local officials. There are many examples throughout the country of evacuee children arriving in the reception area to be almost hawked round door to door, with brothers and sisters being split up as someone would only want to take



*Yvonne, Brenda and Ursula during the war years*

one child. Sometimes more evacuee children arrived than were expected, so they were just allocated to people who might not actually have been willing to take any children in the first place (*there were potential fines for refusal to take evacuees*).

Arguments with the official trying their best to place the evacuees would be carried out on the doorstep right in front of the children. All this would be a traumatic start for a young child all alone in the very best of circumstances, and this was wartime.

Brenda and Ursula's experience was very far from that, and from first-hand accounts that have been recorded, neither was it the case for other evacuees who came to Port Isaac. They all received a genuine Cornish welcome from local people 'doing their bit' to help the war effort and protect these vulnerable children.

Brenda and Ursula were always together, so were waiting in the Village Hall hand-in-hand. Brenda remembers a nice lady, Ann Leverton (*Yvonne's 19-year-old big sister*), arriving to take them up to meet their surrogate parents. The Levertons lived in their recently built council house on Trewetha Lane (*now number 21*) and then on the very edge of the village. Brenda recalls being upset a lot at first when she missed her mum and realised they were not going home the next day. But after settling down, they loved Port Isaac and the sea. Parents were allowed a free train ticket once or twice a year to see their children. During their week's visit, the Leverton's Cornish hospitality extended to parents too. They were always very kind to the girls, and Brenda stayed with 'Auntie' Harriet and 'Uncle' Harry until she was 13½ and the war had almost ended. Ursula had to return home in late 1940 following the death of her father in the Army Officers' Hospital in Brighton from injuries received in the First World War.

*continued overleaf ...*

continued from previous page ...

Schooling for the evacuees was quite spasmodic. They shared the school with local children, the locals being schooled in the morning, and the evacuees in the afternoon. Their own teachers arrived with the children, being mostly elderly ladies brought back from retirement. The headmistress from Lionel Road School came too. She was a Miss Hattersley, a large statuesque tall person, and very strict. The children were all scared of her. They soon had many local friends to play with, both in school and outside. They learnt to swim with the other kids and roamed all over the villages nearby. This was a freedom she sorely missed on returning to the blacked out and seemingly unsafe streets of West London.

Brenda remembered Jack Rowe, and his mum's popular sweet shop where coupons were taken each week for the sweet ration. Unsurprisingly, the rationing of sweets was never popular with the children. She also remembers his pal 'Little Billy' Brown. I sent Bill a copy of Brenda's letter and she was delighted to receive one from him, so they are now back in touch. She was friends with Nesta and Eileen Sweet, as well as the Honey and the May children, and kept in contact with Mark Prout for a few years after the war until she met her future husband.

Yvonne and Brenda have now exchanged letters and spoken to each other. Yvonne remembered Brenda and Ursula well, recalling Brenda as a very pretty girl. She told me that her dad used to cut the children's hair in a shed at the back of the house and recalls that some boys used to come and have their hair cut just for a chance to see and, perhaps, share a word or two with Brenda, in the hope something might spark.

I had thought Ian Rowles was just down the road from his mother, so was surprised to learn he was in a school in the Netherlands, where he is a teaching assistant for a year 6 class (*10 and 11 year olds*) at the AFNORTH International School in Brunnsom. This is about 12 miles north east of the Dutch town of Maastricht alongside the Belgium border, a few miles from the German border to the east, and over 470 miles east of Port Isaac. The school primarily teaches children of NATO forces in the area.

His pupils were currently undertaking a project relating to World War 2, particularly the Blitz and evacuees. As a former evacuee, Brenda had already been helping them out in answering their questions about her experiences, even dressing up as an evacuee with the actual gas mask still in its original box (*see photo on previous page*) that she took to Port Isaac, together with 'Binky' her teddy bear. On October 4th, Ian advised that, before the half term break, the class were going to have a Google Meet (*another video conferencing app similar to the Zoom app we have heard so much about in this year's locked-down times*) to talk directly to Brenda, and it was hoped Ursula could join in. He asked if it were possible for Yvonne to join the Google Meet so that the children could talk to her too and witness the reunion. Caroline Cleave confirmed that Yvonne was delighted to hear the news about the possibility of a virtual link up and, even at 92, was still game for trying out this new marvel.



Yvonne, Brenda and Ursula today



The children sent a list of their questions to Yvonne, via Ian and Caroline, so she could prepare her answers. Sadly, technical problems got in the way of the online Google meet reunion, and only Brenda was able to take part. Fortunately, Caroline had recorded several short videos as back-up and had sent them to Ian the previous night. The children were so taken with the thought that someone they have been studying and talking about for over a month and whose whose picture they have come to know so well, was actually taking time to talk to them. When her videos were shown to the socially distant class, they were enthralled and broke into spontaneous applause at the end and wanted to watch them again. They actually saw Yvonne's videos three times!

Things Cornish did not end there, as the children looked up how to make yummy Cornish pasties and are studying Caroline's wonderful artwork with its often fishy theme. The children had put together a fine World War 2 display on the blitz and evacuees, with Yvonne's old evacuees picture included. Caroline had also done a short video walking through our narrow streets down to the harbour, which the children especially loved. Ian said they have all vowed to visit Port Isaac one day, and we should look out for little international tourists from AFNORTH School. Yvonne was delighted to hear Ian's report of the children's lesson, which would have been a very different experience to the ones she and the evacuees would have had all those decades ago in our small village school overlooking the harbour and beach.

It was a delight for me to play a part in such a heart-warming story of the reconnection of these former friends as well as the pleasure of helping youngsters in another country receive first hand evidence from former wartime children to further their education. Hopefully, Yvonne, Brenda and Ursula may all be able to meet in person sometime soon.



Yvonne's  
Videos on  
screen at  
AFNORTH  
School

Malcolm Lee



# 'tis quick and simple ... again!

Now the year is on the wane there's more time sat in front of the fire ... sounds like a good idea to me. So enjoy these easy recipes.

## SHAKSUKA

this dish has Middle Eastern flavours that compliment its vibrant colours.

*Serves four*

4tsp cumin seeds  
2 red onions, sliced  
1 yellow pepper, sliced  
800g chopped tinned tomatoes  
4eggs  
Salt & pepper  
Crusty bread



### METHOD

1. Toast cumin seeds in a DRY pan over medium heat till they start to pop.
2. Then add splash of olive oil and the onions.
3. Once the onions start to soften add the peppers and tomatoes.
4. Season generously and simmer till sauce thickens.
5. Make small craters using back of a spoon and crack eggs into them.
6. Place a lid on the pan and continue to simmer till the egg white is cooked but yolk is still runny.

And the best bit is mopping up all them juices with handfuls of crusty bread.

Here's my version of the french classic, the

## CHICKEN TARTIFLETTE

I've tweaked the recipe to make it a bit more substantial.

*Serves four*

12 new potatoes, 3mm slices  
4 chicken thighs, skin removed, boned and diced  
1 onion, sliced  
8 rashers smoked streaky bacon, diced  
4 cloves of garlic, sliced  
4tsp plain flour  
200ml milk  
4 small handfuls of grated cheddar  
Couple handfuls of spinach  
Olive oil  
Salt pepper

### METHOD

1. Preheat oven to 190°C
  2. Cook sliced potatoes in boiling water for 10 mins and drain.
  3. Season chicken and fry in oil for about 5 mins.
  4. When chicken starts to brown, add onions and bacon.
  5. When bacon crisps up, add garlic and cook for 2 mins.
  6. Then add flour and cook out over medium heat for 5 mins.
  7. Gradually add milk forming a sauce (whisking continuously).
  8. When milk is all in, add most of the cheese and remove from heat.
  9. Throw in spinach and transfer into ovenproof dish.
  10. Arrange the potato slices on top and sprinkle with the remaining cheese.
- Cook in the oven for 25 mins or until golden.

**Well, I don't know bout you lot but I'm bleddy hungry!**



and from Mrs L ...

## Sheila's Lemon Meringue Pie

This is one of my childhood favourites, so I have stolen the recipe from my Mum I have given you the modern measurements in brackets (and a tip or two). Back in the dark ages (just after the war) she used to serve this at her "Candlelight Suppers" and if I was helpful and cleared the table and tidied up I would get a piece of this lovely pie. There may even be one or two of you around who got to go to one of these suppers all those years ago!!! (she's gonna kill me!!)

### Pastry Case

6 oz (150g) plain Flour  
3oz (75g) Butter  
1tsp (5ml) Castor Sugar  
Pinch salt  
1 egg Yolk  
1 dsp (10ml) Cold water

### Filling

1 Lemon  
4oz (100g) Castor Sugar  
2 egg Yolks  
1 oz (25g) Cornflour  
½ Pint (10fl oz) water  
1 oz (25g) Butter

### Meringue Topping

3 egg whites (conveniently left over from all the earlier egg yolks)  
3 oz (75g) Castor Sugar

*To make pastry base (go buy some ready made pastry from nearest supermarket - Kim):*

Rub flour and butter together, stir in sugar and salt. Beat egg yolk and water together and add to dry ingredients, mix with hands for as little time as possible to bring the pastry together, roll out on floured worktop and line a 7-8 inch (18-21cm) flan dish (*removable bottom helps with the removal later*) cook at 200° for 15 mins.

*To make the filling:*

Cut the lemon into four pieces and place in the liquidiser, together with sugar, egg yolks, cornflour and water. Blend for 1 minute at maximum speed. Pour through a sieve into a saucepan, pressing well with the back of a spoon to get all the liquid, add the butter and cook the mixture, stirring constantly until it thickens, cook for 2-3 minutes still stirring, remove from the heat and allow to cool, when cooler fill the pastry dish.

*To make the meringue:*

Place all the egg whites into a (*very clean*) mixing bowl and whisk on maximum speed until thick, add the sugar a tablespoon at a time and whisk some more (*this is the stage when you should be able to hold the bowl upside down over you head as it should be stiff peaks*). Pile the meringue on top of the now cool lemon pie, spreading it around and pull into peaks - make sure you bring the meringue to the edge of the pie covering all the lemon. Place in the oven at 180° degrees for 5-10 mins until the meringue peaks are starting to go golden brown.

## Planning Applications

Members considered these planning applications and made the following responses to Cornwall Council:

1. PA20/06449, *Stargazy Inn, 1 The Terrace, Port Isaac* – demolition of existing staff accommodation and the construction of a two-storey side extension, single storey rear extension with minor external alterations.

Members objected because they felt they cannot approve where permission is sought on land not in the applicant's ownership and where the landowner has raised an objection.

1. Furthermore the proposal doubles the size of the kitchen, but makes no assessment of the adequacy of the current extraction, which given the proximity to neighbouring dwelling is required.
2. Members note the access amended in PA18/02910 from 17.020.004 to 203 to exclude access via Tintagel Terrace, which raised issues for Highways is restored in drawing 203 to access 3 parking spaces.
3. Members are sensitive to the objections raised ref overlooking and amenity issues.
4. Parking spaces are considered in this area under extreme parking pressure to be inadequate for the number (7) of new accommodation rooms the proposal adds.

However, members support the principal of a 2 floored extension, but not the addition of the problematic rear extensions. NDP Policies: 6 G (a) (c) (e)

2. PA20/07662, *Cartway Cove, Port Gaverne* – the addition of a 550 x780 mm rooflight to front north east elevation of Cartway Cove. Members supported the application.
3. PA20/07994, *5 Roscarrock Hill, Port Isaac* – Non Material Amendment to Application No. PA19/01461 dated 8th April 2019 for the Proposed partial demolition, extension, renovation, remodelling and structural repairs namely the Re-alignment of cliff edge fence and reconfiguration of associated landscaping works and demolition of existing block shed. Members supported in principle, however the amended plan: 111/04/01 REV. A, the Key is silent on the boundary treatment of the lower terrace (4). Members request a condition that the boundary treatment does not include glazed panels. NDP Policy 6a (e) refers. The Harbour: proposals will be supported where they maintain the existing dominant material pallet, and (f) avoids the inappropriate use of extensive glazing.
4. PA20/08149, 18 Middle Street, Port Isaac – removal of outbuilding and replacement with domestic garage and garden store. Members supported the application and confirmed they are in agreement with the Historic Service comment: *'Details of the proposed slates should be submitted for approval and should match colour of adjacent buildings. The killas stone proposed should also match existing buildings.'* A further condition is requested requiring all hanging and roofing slates are nailed not clipped. NDP Policy 6b refers (b) Maintains conformity with the existing roofscape (f) reflects the existing dominant colour palette, and where appropriate ... 'recreates authentic details'

## Planning Applications Approved by Cornwall Council –

- i. PA20/03005, Land Adj to the Old Vicarage, Trewetha Lane, Port Isaac – proposed construction of a dwelling.
- ii. PA20/04169, 3 Overcliff, Port Isaac – widening of narrow concrete single parking space at front of property. Removal of low slate boundary wall on west side of rear garden and replace with 1m horizontal stainless-steel balustrade with steel posts. Construction of a new wall along the end of the rear garden. Erection of two areas of 30 cm high decking in rear garden. Replacement of dark grey stone chippings path along east side of house with paving slabs
- iii. PA20/03005, Land Adj to the Old Vicarage, Trewetha Lane, Port Isaac – proposed construction of a dwelling
- iv. PA20/07316, St Peters Church Rooms, Fore Street, Port Isaac – non-material amendment in respect of decision notice PA18/08182

(Conversion of church rooms to two family homes) – Addition of 2no flues to the rear of the building

- v. PA20/06534, Little Beside, Land Adj. to 8 Lundy Road, Port Isaac – retrospective change of use of independent holiday/residential accommodation to an independent dwelling

## Miscellaneous Items

1. Cash collections from WCs – this has now been moved “in house” and is being dealt with by Ms Clare Jon and Cllr David Raynor.

2. New Road Shop – the current lease on the shop expires on 31st December 2020 and tenders for a new lease had been invited, with a closing date of 21st October. It is hoped to make a decision as to the new tenants shortly.

3. Website Accessibility – changes had been made to the style of the agenda and future Minutes to ensure compliance with the Website Accessibility Regulations.

## Meeting Dates

At the time of writing Meetings of the Parish Council have been cancelled indefinitely during the current Coronavirus pandemic. Members will be conducting the usual business of the Parish Council via email. Members of the public may still comment on any item listed on the “virtual” agenda which will be issued a week prior to the second Monday of each month.

Gillian Thompson  
Parish Clerk / RFO

Email: [stendellionpc@gmail.com](mailto:stendellionpc@gmail.com)

Website: [www.stendellionpc.com](http://www.stendellionpc.com)



## STAFF VACANCY

The Federation of Boscastle and Port Isaac CP Schools,  
Hayfield Road, Port Isaac, PL29 3RT  
☎ 01208 860494 ✉ [secretary@port-isaac.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@port-isaac.cornwall.sch.uk)

### Port Isaac School

#### Teaching Assistant (Band 2) – Nursery/Early Years

Grade 6 – £17364 – £18416 PA per rate (depending on experience)  
(Pay award pending)

19% hours p.w. (Part Time variable hours contract)

Are you an experienced, inspirational and dedicated Early Years Teaching Assistant who is flexible in your work approach? We have an exciting opportunity for you to join our small village nursery team as we extend our provision to cater for 3 year old children.

Governors of our friendly and vibrant small school are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and highly motivated Early Years Teaching Assistant to assist the lead of our Nursery class. You will work in collaboration with our Early Years teacher, Nursery leader and the rest of the school team.

**Hours of work:**  
19% hours per week (Term time only)

**Week:** 8.30am – 12.30pm 1.00pm – 3.30pm  
**Term:** 8.30am – 12.30pm 1.00pm – 3.30pm  
**Fri:** 8.30am – 12.30pm 1.00pm – 3.30pm

We welcome visitors to the school prior to interview. Please phone or email to make an appointment.

**Closing date:** Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November  
**Shortlisting:** Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November  
**Interviews:** Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November  
**Start Date:** Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2021

For an application and/or please email: [secretary@port-isaac.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@port-isaac.cornwall.sch.uk)

We are committed to safeguarding children and the successful applicant will be required to undertake an enhanced DBS check and will be assessed against the Children's Disqualification Regulations. You will be required to subscribe to the DBS update service annually.

Applicants should be aware that Boscastle C.P. School and Port Isaac C.P. School have federated. The successful candidate will be employed by the federation and can therefore be asked to work at either school.



# LEST WE FORGET

## Remembering Six First World War Casualties

On putting together a series of articles for the World War One exhibition in 2014 about those casualties recorded on our war memorial, it was particularly striking that six of them had earlier emigrated to Canada and Australia. When their home country gave out the call, they all enlisted in the Imperial Forces to serve and ultimately die in France. Three emigrated to Canada; **Thomas Hill**, **Robert Masters**, and **Stanley Remick**, and three to Australia; **Richard Mitchell Bradshaw**, **George Honey**, and **Isaac Broad Remick** (*Stanley's brother*).

*The emigration of large numbers of people, principally men, from Cornwall is known as the Cornish Diaspora, with the colloquial name for such emigrants being cousin jacks. The greatest period for emigration was between 1850 and 1914, and it has been estimated that well over a quarter of a million people left for jobs abroad. Stereotypically they would have been hard rock miners whose livelihoods disappeared as the price of metals fell and mines closed. Such people were very much in demand to exploit those newly found minerals within the Empire. There were emigration agents at the major ports and mining areas, whose job was to find the best workers for the overseas employers, who would pay the agents a commission, as well as sponsor the worker's fare.*

*Those early years were on sailing ships to an unknown land, with only the agent's blurb to give you an idea of what you were in for, and they were hardly likely to have painted anything but the rosiest picture. For those early migrants, conditions on arrival may well have been basic, and the likelihood that you may never return to Cornwall would have been high. Wives were left behind, and letters home were few and far between and those would take many months to travel between Australia and the UK.*

*By the 1880s, there were steam driven purpose built passenger ships crossing the oceans to a specific timetable. The large numbers of passengers led to a significant reduction in fares, from a cost equivalent to a year's income or more in the 1850s to a few months income by the early part of the 20th century. The Emigrants' Immigration Office opened in 1886 to provide information on the opportunities for life in the British Colonies, and elsewhere. It was run by a voluntary committee, and partly funded from grants by the Colonial Office. Soon after its opening, leaflets to assist prospective emigrants began to appear in public libraries, town halls and post offices.*

*At the beginning of the 20th century, better and faster communications meant that the earlier generation of 'cousin jacks' could get a letter home to relatives and friends, giving them a true picture of what it was like. The decision to undertake such a journey was obviously going to be much easier if you had reliable information and knew that a friendly face and a proper Cornish community would be there to greet you in this unknown land. With the reduction in fares, whole families could move to take up that new life, rather than just the breadwinner.*

Of the Canadian contingent, **Thomas Hill** was the first to leave the UK, departing from Liverpool on September 15th 1906 on the SS Luciana to New York, travelling steerage (3rd class). He had much further to go after clearing the doors of Ellis Island to enter the USA, as when he joined the Canadian Imperial forces in March 1916, he was to be found in Somerset, Manitoba, around 1,400 miles north west of New York. Even today, this is a one horse town of less than 500 people in the Canadian prairies. His 1901 census occupation was a stone mason, but on the ship's manifest he recorded it as a bricklayer, and when he joined up he listed himself as a painter.

**Robert Masters** left Bristol on April 3rd 1912 aboard the RMS Royal Edward bound for Halifax Nova Scotia. He travelled with his younger brother Fred, where they both had second class tickets, so clearly had a bit more money than the typical emigrant in steerage. When he enlisted 4 years later, he was in Edmonton, Alberta, about 2,300 miles NW of Halifax, where he gave his occupation as labourer. On the boat over, both he and his brother gave their trade as farming.

**Stanley Remick** left Plymouth on May 3rd 1912 aboard the SS Corinthian bound for Halifax. He enlisted at Montreal on September 18th 1915, some 500 miles west of Halifax. He is the only one noting former military service. This was 4 years' service in the Territorial Force known as Cornwall Fortress Engineers, which was set up in 1908. The 1911 census records

he was living in Falmouth with the occupation of carpenter, and Falmouth was the



HQ of that force. On enlistment he gave the same occupation and, with his previous military expertise, was placed in the Corps of Engineers.

The first to arrive in France was **Stanley Remick**, on April 2nd 1916. He was in 2nd Canadian Division, so would have seen action on the Somme in the Battle of Mount Sorrel June 2nd-13th 1916 and the Battle of Flers-Courcellette September 15th-22nd. This latter battle was the first to involve tanks, so Stanley probably saw this historic event. His final engagement was in the Battle of Thiepval Ridge September 26th-29th, where he was killed by a high explosive shell on the first day of that action.

**Robert Masters** arrived in France November 15th 1916. His medical records show he was wounded by shrapnel in his left knee in March 1917, and the following month he received another shrapnel wound at Vimy Ridge. This was on his arm and 2" by 2½" and ¾" deep (sufficient to lose a matchbox!), but the doctor blithely records it was 'not painful'. Following actions at Hill 70, Ypres, Passchendaele and Scarpe, his luck ran out on September 2nd 1918 when he was killed in the attack on the German Drocourt-Quéant Line.

**Thomas Hill** arrived in France February 2nd 1917. He joined his unit on February 24th, where they were holding the line 2 miles north of Arras. Thomas was killed little over a month later on March 29th. The unit's war diaries for that day reports very heavy enemy shelling following a raiding party into their territory. It is likely he was killed in that retaliatory bombardment.

There is a memorial to **Robert Masters** and **Thomas Hill** in St Endellion Church, being an ornate font cover inscribed 'A.M.D.G. In Revered Memory of Thomas Hill & Robert Masters Who gave their lives for their country in the GREAT WAR 1914-19 "The men were very good to us & we were not hurt" "They were a wall unto us both by night & day" 1 Sam. XXV 15 16.' Information on who had it made is not to hand, but there are two likely candidates: Elizabeth Hill, Thomas' sister, and William John Masters, oldest brother of Robert. Elizabeth married Thomas Kent in 1917, and in 1939 she is recorded as living at Trevathan, where Thomas was a horseman. William John Masters was shown as Robert's next of kin, his parents having died in 1917, and was living in Trelights in 1911. In August 1919 Robert's arrears of pay, totalling C\$587.72, was paid out, presumably to his next of kin. William John was himself a war invalid and might have used this money to fund the font cover. He died in October 1959 and is buried at St Endellion Church.

Of the Australian contingent, **Isaac Broad Remick**, always known as Ike, was the first to emigrate. He left Plymouth January 23rd

*continued overleaf ...*

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1909 on the RMS Paparoa, where he is described as a mariner just like his father, Isaac Broad Remick senior. In the 1901 UK census he was working as a mate on a vessel in the Royal Navy dockyards in Glasgow. The passenger list shows he was booked for Wellington, New Zealand, but he embarked at Hobart, Tasmania on 9th March 1909. He enlisted on August 20th 1916 at Kalgoorlie, where he gave his occupation as a miner. Kalgoorlie is about 350 miles east of Perth in Western Australia, and 1,500 miles NW of Hobart. It is famous for its huge gold fields, so perhaps Ike had been trying his hand at prospecting. Once in the Australian Imperial Force, he arrived back in the UK in January 1917 for training and went to France in May 1917. In the Battle of Polygon Wood in September 1917 he received gunshot wounds to the back and neck and was not returned to his unit until January 1918. On April 22nd 1918, his 12th Battalion was ordered to take the village of Meteren in northern France, and it was in this action he was killed.

**Richard Mitchell Bradshaw** was the youngest of nine children, and left London aboard the SS Otranto on 13th October 1911, arriving in Fremantle, Western Australia on November 14th. He went with his brother John and their family. In the 1911 UK census, Richard was described as a coast fisherman, like his father, and John was living in Port Gaverne where he ran a market gardening business. When he left on the Otranto, Richard described himself as a farm hand, with John a farmer. In January 1916 Richard joined the Australian Imperial Force at Casula, now a suburb of Sydney, right on the eastern side of Australia. He was in 30th Battalion, which embarked at Sydney in April 1916, arriving in Plymouth in June after a month in Egypt. He was in France in September 1916, where he would have been in the Battle of Polygon Wood. Between December 1917 and the end of February 1918 he had several bouts of Trench Foot, a common wartime affliction caused by immersion in unsanitary water for prolonged periods. In the early hours of August 8th 1918, 30th Battalion was waiting to spearhead an attack up the Morcourt Valley as part of the 'hundred days offensive'. Richard was one of the 55 casualties that day, having received a gunshot wound to the chest that proved fatal on August 11th 1918.

**George Honey** married Richard Mitchell Bradshaw's sister Ann in autumn 1912 and they embarked from London December 20th 1912 bound for Fremantle. In 1913, they were joined by Ann's sister Mary and her family. They all settled in a town called Beechboro, West Guildford, now a suburb of Perth/Fremantle. George was actually the first to sign up, enlisting at Perth recruiting office on July 12th 1915, shortly after he had become a father to James William Honey. He left Australia as part of 32nd Battalion in December 1915, and, after a spell in Egypt, arrived at Marseilles, France on June 23rd 1916. Although the most inexperienced Australian division in France, they were chosen to spearhead the attack in the poorly planned debacle known as the Battle of Fromelles. In just a few hours, the Australians lost 5,313 men, still the greatest daily loss of Australian lives. 32nd Battalion lost 90% of its strength, and George was one of them.

As you walk past our War Memorial, spare a thought for all the men who are honoured there. They made the ultimate sacrifice to preserve the freedoms we enjoy today. Think also of the hopes and dreams of these six young men as they left our shores behind in search of a new life, little imagining they were to be so cruelly cut short in the Flanders mud.

Remember them.

*Malcolm Lee*

## St Peter's Church ... our first service in 2020

Our first service in 2020 was held on Sunday October 18th, but with Covid restrictions we were not able to celebrate with a glass of wine or even a coffee. From November 1st, apart from Remembrance Sunday, services will be held at 9-30am every Sunday. There will be no need to book in advance to attend the normal services as we can under Covid regulations accommodate 32+ in the congregation.

The sewer and water connections have now been made and Back Hill reopened. After the builders left site the hard work then began to prepare the church for reopening. There was much sweeping, mopping and polishing to be completed and hopefully in November the church will be opened daily for everyone to see what has been achieved.

It will take time for Port Isaac Heritage to restart their exhibitions which will add to the overall effect and hopefully draw visitors to spend time in St Peter's.

My thanks to everyone who helped with this project.

*Pat Pearson, Chapel Warden*



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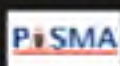


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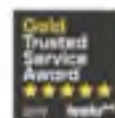
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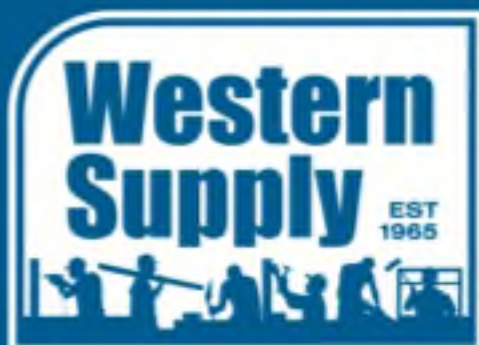
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Martyn 07773303265

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**Mobile Post Office** - in the Main Car Park - every Wednesday 12noon-1pm