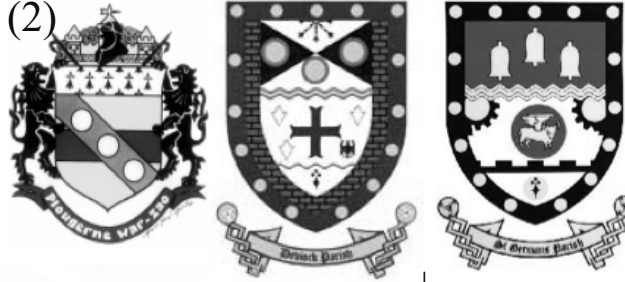




NUT TREE

May 2021 Volume 36 (2)



Nature Notes

Another clear, bright, calm and cold start as I stand in a field overlooking the village. Sound travels far at this time of day. Although there is plenty of bird sound, a local fishing boat attracts my attention but it must be a couple of miles away. This plot has been abandoned and has self-wilded. It's a gem of a place with an uncertain future. The brilliant yellow of the gorse contrasts with the pure white of three-cornered leek, bluebells (albeit the Spanish variety), white-blossomed blackthorn and upright, green-flowered alexanders. Daffodils and grape hyacinths have gone over. Despite the cold, bees and hoverflies are already active.

Among the migratory birds, Blackcaps and Chiffchaffs are well established on their territories, but I am listening for another couple of migrants. The first is the Willow Warbler, a bird that spends the winter in southern Africa and travels over 5000 miles to return here. For me this is as iconic a sign of spring as the Swallow, the first of whom I managed to see locally before the end of March. The bird has a grey-green plumage and is easily missed in trees, except that its song is easy to recognize, a gentle warble that starts at the high end of the musical scale and descends to lower notes. A few years ago, I was fortunate to visit Botswana where the majority of the birdsong was very unfamiliar. On my last morning of the holiday, I stepped out of the hotel to be met with the familiar song of the Willow Warbler. There was no doubt about it and for a few seconds I could have been in England, except it was winter there. You have to admire a bird that measures about 11cm in length and flies that amazing distance twice a year.

Unfortunately, the population of the Willow Warbler in Britain has declined, especially in the south and several earlier walks locally have failed to deliver the song. All of which is odd because a few days earlier I had walked around Siblyback reservoir on the edge of Bodmin Moor and the song was loud and clear. The population appears healthier on the edge of the moor. I continue to listen and in the distance I can just pick out the distinctive song. I don't have to see it, but I'm pleased it's here.

The second migrant expected in mid-April is the Whitethroat. I continue my walk but there is no sound yet. The bird favours hedgerows and its scratchy song may be accompanied by a vertical song flight, so it is more conspicuous than the Willow Warbler. It too migrates from Africa but I shall have to wait another day or two. Before returning home, my attention is drawn to the sound of a jet high overhead, on route from America. It is many months since I travelled out of the country and any future opportunity seems a long way off, even whether it's advisable. For now, I have to content myself with the migratory achievements of local birds.

The next day I follow the same route and suddenly there is the familiar sound of the Whitethroat. It performs its song flight, then settles in full view on a hedge. At least this aspect of life is working as expected.

Alan Payne

Deviock Parish Council

Forthcoming meetings: Full Council (annual meeting) 13th May 7.30pm; Planning Committee 27th May 6.30pm, format to be confirmed. See Agendas for details prior to each meeting.

Public toilets: The men's toilets have now re-opened at Seaton.

Dog fouling: Dog fouling continues to be a problem throughout the parish (not just on the beach but also in residential areas), which unfortunately affects residents' and visitors' perception of our lovely parish. While we appreciate that only a minority of dog owners do not pick up after their dogs, the Parish Council has requested that Cornwall Council provides the occasional service of a Dog Warden in the hope of reducing incidents of dog fouling. In order to reinforce this request, we urge you to report such incidents to Cornwall Council. The reporting form can be accessed on Cornwall Council's website (Enter 'report dog fouling' in the search function).

Planning: To comment on a planning application, go to Cornwall Council's website and enter 'online planning register' in the search function. See Agendas for planning applications due for discussion at the next Full Council or Planning Committee meeting.

As the Parish Office is remaining closed until further notice, please contact the Clerk via email if you have an enquiry (clerk.deviockpc@btinternet.com, Mon-Fri). See the website at: www.deviockparish.org.uk (where Agendas and Minutes are available).

Karen Pugh - Parish Clerk

Deviock Parish Loan Fund

The Council provides interest-free loans (up to £1,000) to local organisations for specific projects (subject to terms and conditions). Please contact the Clerk or one of the Councillors if your organisation thinks it could benefit from this service.

St Germans Parish Council

After what seems a lifetime of virtual meetings; we are, following current Government guidelines, looking towards possibly holding physical meetings again from this month. It will be lovely to take a step towards more normal times. Although people may be understandably cautious about attending meetings, we do, as you know, have a slot for public participation if there is anything you would like to raise or comment on. Look at our website and on the noticeboards for regular updates.

There has been a report of an attempted break-in to a car in St Germans. Incidents should be reported to the police, but there may be little they can do if the culprits are unidentified. Has anyone thought about co-ordinating a Neighbourhood Watch scheme? That can act as a deterrent, can make householders feel more secure, and may reduce household insurance premiums. Someone has to be prepared to act as co-ordinator. Councillor Chilton is co-ordinator for Bethany. She would be very happy to answer any questions you may have. Her no: 07702 005598. There is also helpful information on the Neighbourhood Watch website.

Apparently, there is broken glass on the ground at the recreation field. This is such a shame as the recreation ground committee have worked so hard to make the Rec pleasant and safe for all. Please use non-breakable utensils and take your litter home!

As mentioned in April's Nut Tree, there is likely to be a public consultation about safety on the A38. Don't forget to submit your views when the time comes.

The next meeting is the Annual meeting. 6.30pm. 17th May.

Councillor Patricia Pipe

Editorial

As some light seems to be appearing at the end of the COVID 19 tunnel, commentary will inevitably turn towards analysing the lessons and aftermath of the pandemic. One personal observation is the salutary reminder we've been provided of the merits of listening to the recurring wisdom and hard-won experience of our forebears. I still recall, for example, having the health benefits and other merits of fresh air and open windows, 'catching' coughs and sneezes, regular hand washing, outdoor play/exercise and the impoliteness of intruding in someone's 'personal space' drummed into us as children. Plus ça change! In those days, 'sage' advice was common sense handed down through generations and required no capitalisation, committees, graphs or statistics. Perhaps soon we should remind ourselves of other such pearls of wisdom? A simple start might be to retune ourselves to the cycle of the seasons, listen more to the rhythms of nature and value the natural wealth and treasures we find on our own doorsteps; and perhaps a pay a little more heed to Alan Payne and Lizzy Stroud's monthly contributions to the Nut Tree.

Ed

Parish Council Elections

The Returning Officer reported that the latest time for delivery of notices of withdrawal of candidature having passed, the persons whose names appear in the accompanying lists stood validly nominated and were duly elected without a contest.

Deviocck Parish Council:

Downderry Ward:

BROCKBANK, Helen
CORNWALL, Mark
MILLIDGE, James

Hessenford Ward:

CORMACK, David
ROBINSON, Ann
THORPE, Angela

Seaton Ward:

CANDY, Jim
CROFT, John
PARRY, Scott

St Germans Parish Council:

Polbathic Ward:

BARNES, Stephen

St Germans Ward:

ELLIOTT, Richard
MACKEEN, Graham
SKELTON, Brian
WITTON, Nigel

Tideford Ward:

HODGE, Alan

St Germans Parish, Bethany Ward remains contested. Candidates are:

CHILTON, Pauline
GRIFFIN, Nicola
PIPE, Patricia

News from County Hall

Cornwall Council is currently in 'purdah' pending the forthcoming elections on May 6th. It is, however, an opportune moment to record our thanks to outgoing Cllrs Richard Pugh and Jesse Foot for their regular monthly Nut Tree contributions which have kept us in touch with insights and matters of local interest being discussed at County Hall. We hope they will 'put in a word' in their succession notes emphasising the value and benefits of similar contributions we hope will be forthcoming from their duly elected successors.



Nominated candidates for election as County Councillor for Looe East and Deviock ED are (in alphabetical order):

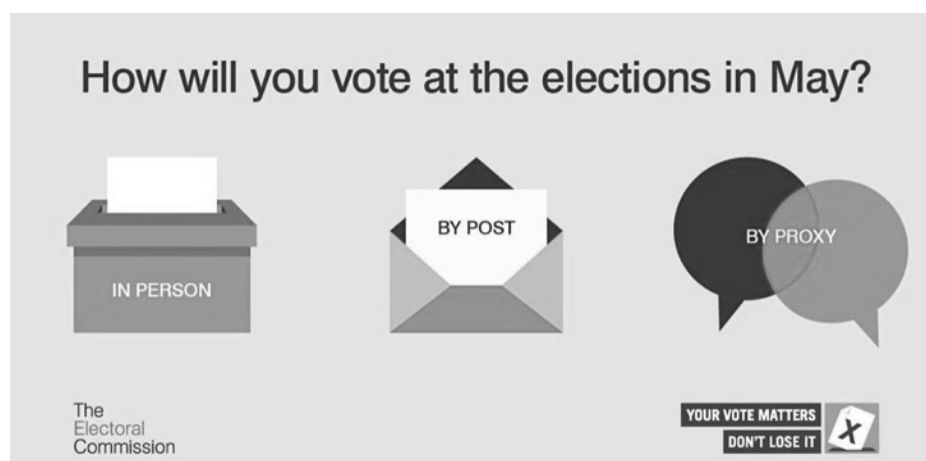
CANDY, Marion	Liberal Democrats
MATTHOLIE, Kevin	Green Party
TOMS, Armand	Independent
YOUNG, Avril	Labour Party

Nominated candidates for election as County Councillor for Rame Peninsula and St Germans ED are (in alphabetical order):

CANDY, Jim	Liberal Democrats
EWERT, Kate	Labour Party
HILL, Tony	Green Party
WILLOUGHBY, Robin	Conservative Party

Polling Stations within the Nut Tree distribution area can be found at:

Downderry Village Hall, Main Road, Downderry
Church Hall, Hessenford
Seaton Beach Cafe, Looe Hill, Seaton
Eliot Hall, Fore Street, St Germans
British Legion Hall, Church Road, Tideford



News from the Churches

We are now looking to open up all our churches for services, but as we don't want to go backwards again with closures, so our plans are cautious and measured to ensure the safety and health of our congregations ensuring we are working under Covid guidelines. Also, we will be looking at reintroduction of some parish events after 21st June.

Our timetable for May is:

Sunday 2nd May Communion at Sheviock & Morning Worship at DOWDERRY
Sunday 9th May Communion at St Germans & Morning Prayer at Antony
Sunday 16th May Communion at DOWDERRY & Morning Worship at Sheviock
Sunday 23rd May Communion at Antony & Morning Worship at St Germans
Sunday 30th United Service at St Germans

All services are at 10.00am. A full list of daily zoom services is too long for Rita's Rota but can be found on the Group Parishes website at stgermansparishes.com. Let us hope and pray that this is a way forward, for both our area and beyond, and people can once more meet together in fellowship and prayer.

Revd Canon Lynn Parker Parker30@hotmail.com

The Zone (Dowderry Methodist Church)

Work is underway to reopen the Zone following our successful Easter Sunday Service. New activities will be piloted over the next few months, as government restrictions ease. The service for May will be on Sunday 16th at 5pm. This will be a Communion Service taken by the Rev Iris Bray. We welcome everyone to join us. There will also be coffee mornings on Wednesday 19th and Wednesday 26th May at 10AM. Please note the change of day and numbers will be limited, so please phone Elsa on 250118 to book.

At the current time we have the following volunteering opportunities to work with us in running & extending our activities to the community:

- Help with the running of the Coffee Mornings on Wednesday mornings at the Zone - contact Elsa Guilfoyle on 250118.
- Work with our Treasurer with a view to talking over the role in September -contact Jenny Mellor on 250392
- Join the team looking after our little garden.
- Assist with bookings & general support for groups and liaise with DaSRA regarding promotion

We do hope that after this long period of lockdown that residents will be keen to become once again engaged in their flourishing community.

Viv Parker on 250519 or parkerviv@aol.com

St Germans Priory Trust - Funding Appeal

The St Germans Priory Trust exists to keep the St Germans Priory open and sustainable, both as a place of worship and to serve the whole community.



The Priory has been here for 800 years and is a Grade 1* listed building of international significance, but that exceptional status comes with challenges in maintaining its use for future generations. The basic costs of the Priory are currently fairly modest at £7000 per year. Due to the pandemic over the last 12 months our income has effectively dried up as events have been cancelled. We have been successful in getting grants, but these have to be spent on specific repairs on the building.

We are therefore having an appeal to raise £7000 to make sure we can pay our basic costs over the next 12 months when hopefully we may be able to resume events again.

If you are able to contribute to The St Germans Priory Trust Appeal, please donate to our account with these details:

Sort Code: 08-92-99

Account number: 65622371

You can also donate by cheque at the following address:

St Germans Priory Trust
c/o Sunrise
Quarry St
St Germans PL12 5LN

Or you can give electronically through the GoodBox machine in the Priory. If you are able to set up a monthly donation we would be very grateful for the regular income, and if you are eligible we can claim Gift Aid to increase the donation. Thank you for any donation you can spare.

Richard Laugharne

Mayflower 400 Quilt Exhibition - The Minster Church St Andrew, Plymouth

From 3rd - 9th June (09:00-16:00) the Minster Church of St Andrew is staging a second exhibition of beautiful quilts that were exhibited in September last year, to give people another opportunity to see the quilts and other creative displays as many people were not able to see the exhibition last year as they were not able to travel to Plymouth. Among the quilts on show are entries from Angela Crook from Hessenford called 'The New Land: Maize/Corn' and another by Caradon Quilters called 'Life at Sea'.

Quay Lane Surgery Patient Participation Group (PPG)

Dr James Moore is retiring on the 28th May 2021 after 34 years as a GP in St Germans. The collection and little book of messages is progressing well, but there is still time if you would like to send a donation or message to us. For more information on how to make a donation - please visit the practice website for details www.quaylanesurgery.co.uk Alternatively you can donate by cheque made payable to Quay Lane Surgery PPG with Dr Moore written on the back please or by cash in an envelope marked "Dr Moore collection".

Messages and donations can be handed in at either surgery, posted to the PPG c/o Quay Lane Surgery, Old Quay Lane, St Germans, Saltash PL12 5LH or emailed direct to quaylanepgg@gmail.com Thank you so much to everyone who has already been in touch. Wishing you all good health and a Covid free road ahead!

Mrs Claire Croft - PPG Chair

Practice News and COVID Vaccination Update

We are currently contacting all patients who are due their second Covid vaccination in date order from when they received their first vaccination. Patients are being invited by text or telephone approximately 11 weeks after their first vaccination. All practice staff are working really hard to get all due vaccinations booked in and will be in touch when it is your turn.

If you had your first Covid vaccination at the Millennium Centre in Pensilva or China Fleet Country Club in Saltash 12 weeks ago and have not yet been contacted to book your second vaccination, please contact the surgery via email at quaylane.surgery@nhs.net or by telephone. If you booked your first Covid vaccination through the national booking system, then you will need to contact the Vaccination Centre who performed your first vaccination if you were not offered a second date.

As we move through the government roadmap from step 2 into step 3 the team will still manage our door entry via our intercom system and we will continue to maintain social distancing within the main and branch surgery. We must follow the very strict protocols set out by Public Health England and NHS England with regard to infection control as restrictions are eased in step 4 and will follow their guidance. We are also in talks and making plans to change our appointment booking system as we start to open up to help manage demand and utilise new ways of working.

The practice website and Facebook page is regularly updated with information about the vaccination programme along with other important practice changes. We thank you for your patience and understanding throughout this time.

Mrs Debbie Todd - Practice Manager

News from DaSRA - Donderry & Seaton Residents' Association

DaSRA needs a Secretary. We know you are out there, so please get in touch and join the Donderry and Seaton Residents' Association team. You know it makes sense. It will only take a little of your time, but your contribution will make a huge difference to how we function. DaSRA seeks to play a key role in the life of our community, but it can't do it without you. Please get in touch. We can talk through what the role involves, and you will see why this is the ideal volunteering opportunity for you. You can call me on 01503 250911 or reach me by email at info@dasra.co.uk. Laura Done, Chair.



Dog Fouling; It is not surprising that people get very upset when they have to face the result when dog owners do not clear up after their dogs. Not only is dog fouling very unpleasant it can be the cause of nasty infections, and who would like their children/grandchildren to fall or walk in dog poo. It is an offence, with Fixed Penalty Notices of £100 - maybe £1000 if taken to court, so why don't people pick-up after their dogs?? Cornwall Council has the responsibility to enforce the law locally, but they can only respond to reports providing evidence of any such incident. Of the 2583 reports CC have received over the last 4 years, 3 came from residents of the Devoick Parish - that's us. If you do see a dog owner who ignores polite requests to pick-up their dog poo - a short reminder 'would you like a spare bag' has been known to work - but if they still choose to walk away, without picking-up, you may want to your report the incident (see Devoick Parish Council entry above for details).

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW): DaSRA has joined with NHW to pass on their Safety Alerts to our local community. Local resident, Nigel Jones is in discussions with Devon & Cornwall Police to become Donderry & Seaton's NHW co-ordinator and, if all goes well, he will take on the role within DaSRA to ensure that matters affecting the safety of our community are quickly passed on. As such, he will supervise the scheme locally and liaise with the police and other partners on information, messages and initiatives. NHW is a community initiative providing a way for local people to play an important part in making their communities safer. The police can't deal with the problems and issues arising from crime and anti-social behaviour alone; they need the help of the whole community.

DaSRA will be posting Safety Alerts on its Facebook and web pages. If you would like to know more NHW, [email info@dasra.co.uk](mailto:info@dasra.co.uk).

Laura Done, Chair, DaSRA 01503 250911

Hessenford News



Well it's new this, new that and new the other this month. There are going to be to be new people in Nos. 3 and 4 St Anne's View but as yet I don't know their names. There are also new dogs in the village, one is living next door to me, but all are gorgeous. With the beginning of the blossom and wisteria there's a feeling of a sense of new growth and future too as the news of Covid numbers seems still to be good.

Then of course there's a new member for the Hessenford Ward of Deviock Parish Council, David Cormack, and two that are standing again, Ann Robinson and Angela Thorpe. If you're new to the village these names won't mean anything to you as we've not had the opportunity to meet up casually as we planned to do on the second Saturday in the month for Coffee, Cake and a Chat in the Church Hall. We may be able to set up some tables outside on 8th May; if the weather's inclement the next is Saturday, 12 June.

All three councillors that I've mentioned above have lived in the village for some time. David and Ann live up Church Hill and Angela along Valley Road. David is ex Navy and has been a leading man in many local pantomimes, which have sadly not been able to carry on during Covid, and fund raises actively for the Fishermen's Mission. Ann has a daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren who also live in the village (with their boxer called Ben) and is married to Stan. You may also have met (or heard) their dog Tommy. Angela is an active fund-raiser for the RNLI, is the programme secretary for Hessenford/Widegates WI and loves sheep. Of course, we must also thank Dug Parry for all the work he's done on DPC for a number of years and hope he enjoys his 'retirement' from what must have been a very time consuming and sometimes onerous role.

It's great to have such helpful people in the village and surrounding area who give up their time to look after the Churchyard/Graveyard/Hall Garden, so thanks to everyone who's offered their services in the future plus Peter and Steve who continually maintain the areas. We also have some modern Good Samaritans in the village in the guise of David and Angela who came to the aid/rescue, whilst litter-picking, of a young man who was knocked off his bike when the motorist who caused the accident didn't stop! It is also nice to see some micro businesses operating from the village. The smell of home baking has been in the air as news widens of Fern Pugh's alter ego as 'The Hungry Hamster' at No. 5 St Anne's View. We welcomed Fern & Ashleigh to the village a couple of months ago. I ordered the selection of three croissants and they were delicious.

Now, when you've eaten too many of the above you may need to go to James' Pilates classes. They are re-starting for the people who've already booked on 21 May. James will start another block after this nearer the summer if lockdown allows. If anyone is interested James can also teach 1:1 as well.

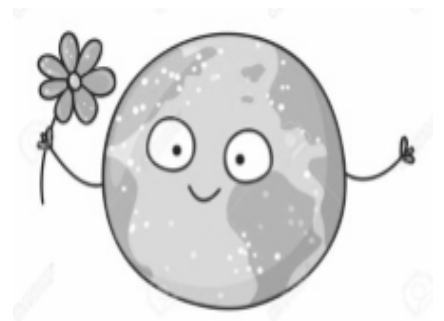
We all hope that Mary, from the bungalow along the road to Seaton, has recovered well enough to come back to the village after her fall and spell in Liskeard Hospital. I'm sure we'd all like to see her able to sit outside when the weather's good enough so that people passing by can say hello. We are all also hoping to see Mike Bradburn our publican back from hospital soon. Our thoughts are with Mike, Di and the rest of the family.

Until next time, look after one another, stay safe and I look forward to us all getting together soon. Oh, and by the way, look out for notifications of a village Art/Craft auction raising money for Myeloma research coming soon as well. Some lovely items likely to be in the sale can be viewed as they are on display in the church already.

Fran Moore

Simple Ways to Save the Planet

Remember local banking? I do. There was a time when we chose our banks according to who had a local branch, or where our parents and grandparents banked. We knew the manager personally. How times change! However with the digitalisation of banking does come greater choice, and there are good reasons for investing your money in the right place.



When you place money into banks or pension schemes you are trusting the fund managers to make wise investments. Traditionally this means where they can make most money. But what if that money is being spent on environmentally damaging fossil fuels and other ecologically unfriendly companies? You may be able to save a wadge of cash for your grandchildren, but if they have no future, what's the point?

The good news is that it is possible to choose banks that specialise in ecological sound investment. Nut Tree rules preclude naming specific examples but a number exist and online research pays dividends which are not purely financial. Local credit unions also keep money local. Most pension schemes have flexibility - why not ask for a green option (but be wary of greenwash) or better still go for a pension scheme that allows you to choose who you invest in. In this way we can ensure our money is spent well; on ethical, wildlife and people friendly projects that won't cost the planet.

And on a tangent, if you enjoy writing and would like to support a great cause, I am running a Nature and the Ecological Emergency poetry competition in aid of the Beaver Trust. The deadline is May 31st. Visit <https://beavertrust.org/poetry> for more info.

Lizzy Stroud

Downderry and Seaton Village Hall

I hope you are well and, like us, looking forward to when we can safely meet again. It is still our hope to reopen the Main Hall and Snooker Room on 17th May 2021, but this has still to be confirmed together with details of the restrictions we must all follow when using Village Halls. However, we are making plans in the hope that the current Roadmap out of Lockdown doesn't change.

May Events. Pop into the Downderry and Seaton Village Hall for a chat and enjoy tea or coffee and a piece of home made cake at our **Coffee Morning on Tuesday 18th and 25th May**. Doors open at **10am until 12 noon** and it only costs £1.50 each. For something more substantial, come to the Village Hall on **Saturday 22nd May** between **10am and 1pm** for a **Little Breakfast** - bacon, sausage and egg buttie with tea or coffee. All are welcome at these events, including well behaved dogs on leads who will also get a little treat. You are invited to attend our **AGM on Friday 28th May 2021, doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start**. The AGM Agenda will be on display in the Village Hall and Snooker Room, our website and local notice boards on Friday 14th May 2021. Non-members are welcome to attend and participate but cannot vote. Membership of the Village Hall runs from our AGM, to the next AGM and entitles you to vote at the AGM, join a Village Hall Group (Badminton, Drama, Short Mat Bowls) and use the Snooker Room. Please support the Village Hall by becoming a member or renewing your membership, at or after, our AGM. More details are available on our website at www.downderryandseatonvillagehall.co.uk.

Celebration Weekend. This year, due to time available to organise and possible restrictions in place, rather than a Carnival, we will be organising a Celebration Weekend with the focus on bringing together the community. This will be a perfect opportunity to come and celebrate with your family and friends, all the missed occasions you couldn't arrange or attend during lockdown. Information about each event will be published once the details have been finalised, but for now, please put these dates in your diary - **Friday 9th July Quiz night, Saturday 10th July Music night, Sunday 11th July Celebration day**.

Hall Hire. We are now taking Hall bookings for one off events/occasions, or, if you want to run a regular event or class and are looking for a suitable venue, please consider the Village Hall. The cost is £10 per hour and includes the use of tables, chairs, kitchen utensils and tea and coffee making facilities, for the serving of light refreshments such as tea, coffee, sandwiches etc. If you wish to use the ovens, hobs and dishwasher there is a further charge of £5 per session and heating is operated by a coin meter. We have the following licences - live music, recorded music, dance performance and for alcohol consumed on the premises. For more details go to our website (www.downderryandseatonvillagehall.co.uk) or telephone Mandy Smith on 01503 250412.

Mandy Smith

St Germans Thursday Club

Many of us have now had our two covid vaccinations - at Pensilva, China Fleet or Plymouth Argyle. I had my second one today at Argyle. The buses were clean and comfortable with 7 or 8 people at most. The windows were open for good air flow.

I had brought a notebook to work on this report in Central Park, but instead, just enjoyed the fine morning, and the scenery. I strolled past lovely trees and flowers, and the children's play park on the way. The signs towards the vaccination centre were many - all large, clear, and well-placed. What a joy to see happy families: children enjoying the park, while one parent, or a grandparent went off to get their vaccination. I joked with a few of the women I passed - who had bright purple-dyed hair! - "oh, gosh, is that the effect that the vaccination had on you?" Luckily, they and their friends laughed!

Many of you have similarly had pleasant experiences of the necessary vaccination trips. What a wonderful institution is the NHS, and its employees. And many, many thanks to all the volunteers at vaccination centres!

Public parks and open spaces - here in our villages, but also in Central Park (where was all the litter?!) are having a spring clean! We read, see and hear in the media that many volunteers are doing litter picks on beaches, streets and parks. Let's hope that the summer ahead will be amazing for everyone's fine civic behaviour in caring for our shared public spaces.

We'll be seeing each other out and about, down at the quay or up to Longfield, if not yet in the Hall. And remember that village memories will always be of interest for sharing, especially with those of us who are comparative newcomers (for me, 27 years here by this August).

Meanwhile be happy, careful and stay well. Keep in touch - phone our Chairperson, Jean Mills (01503-230324), or leave me a note at Merryweather Cottage (just along from St Germans shop).

Sue Cousins 230106

Downderry Bus 300 Club

The result of the 300 Club draw for the month of April..

1st.	no. 4	Veronica Hirst £20
2nd.	no. 80	Janine Badcock £15
3rd.	no. 78	Ann Davies £10

Thank you for your support

Jo Woodley (01503250489)

Downderry Community Bus News

The Downderry community bus rides again. The moment is nigh. Phew! We are planning a step by step reopening. Of course everything is dependent on the state of the coronavirus pandemic, but if the data continue to move in a favourable direction, and as long as the Government continues to follow its current roadmap, we intend to start by reinstating first our weekly services to Plymouth and Liskeard.

We plan to run the first Plymouth service on Tuesday May 18 (leaving Broads Yard at 09.30 with the normal pickup points) followed by the first Liskeard service on Thursday May 20 (also leaving Broads Yard at 09.30). We will start carefully, as we build confidence in the startup, with the safety measures we have all become used to. We will begin with a reduced capacity of a maximum of seven passengers, in place of the normal 15-seat capacity, in order to allow social distancing. The wearing of facemasks, covering nose and mouth, will be obligatory for passengers and driver throughout the journey, as will hand sanitising on entry into the bus.

These first two services will run weekly, times as above. If all goes well, we are then planning to reinstate many more of our services, such as Truro, Exeter, Tavistock, Totnes as well as one-off excursions from late June, all dependent on the Government going ahead with its final lifting of restrictions on Monday June 21. We will come back to you with more information and a proposed timetable for these further steps in the June edition of Nut Tree. As before, seat bookings will be taken by Bev Brighton, but PLEASE take note of the NEW bookings telephone number: 01503 250944.

As our plans develop, further information will be available on the normal noticeboards in Downderry, Seaton, Hessenford and Narkurs, and of course the most up-to-date information source for any changes is the Downderry and Seaton Residents' Association website: www.dasra.co.uk. We are so looking forward to seeing you onboard again. We need your support to get up and running, and with the initial reduced capacity please book seats early. Any questions please to Kevin Done, Chair of the Community Bus on 01503 250911 or by email to kevindone@hotmail.com.

Kevin Done

St Germans & Area Public Transport Group

Government advice for travelling within England before 17 May is that you can continue using the public transport network if you need to travel, but you should avoid making unnecessary trips. You must wear a face covering on public transport and in substantially enclosed areas of transport hubs in England. Travel at off-peak times where possible, and use quieter stations [like St Germans]. All transport support services for disabled people are still available. You can contact providers in advance to understand the COVID-secure measures they have put in place to keep you safe on your journey.

Buses. Don't forget that the 72 bus leaving Plymouth at 5.20 p.m. comes via St Germans (arrives 5.59), and Polbathic (6.01). Cornwall has recently benefited from the arrival of 102 new, cleaner diesel buses (with 75% lower nitrogen dioxide emissions than earlier models). They are equipped with contactless ticketing systems. And here's another piece of good news: bus fares are soon going down! Last year we announced that there would be a reduced fare, government funded pilot scheme for buses in Cornwall. This was put on hold when the pandemic spread: but we've now been told the reduced fare scheme will be starting this autumn. Another possible scheme which would address rural mobility issues in Cornwall is a demand-responsive service (the equivalent of a taxi / mini-bus) to the station which might be well suited to our area covering the Rame peninsula and beyond. It would have through ticketing - just one ticket for the bus or taxi and also the train in a linked journey. Contact us with your ideas about that sort of arrangement.

Trains. A new train timetable begins on 16th May. There will be a few minor changes and a number of major changes which you need to check before travelling. We may be able to produce our normal printed timetable. The greatest changes will be on the weekends - on Saturdays there will be trains from Paddington to Penzance which stop at St Germans at 1034, 1432, and 2040, and St Germans trains going to Paddington at 0748, 0851, 1454, 1629, and 1828. The Sunday trains will be much more frequent: 11 going to Penzance and 10 going to Plymouth. Our experience in the last few months has been that services have changed if the Covid situation worsens.

St Germans & Area Public Transport Group belongs to the Community Rail Network, a nationwide body involving hundreds of people up and down the country. Activities include volunteering, community gardening, food growing and community arts and heritage projects. We have recently sent GWR a list of suggestions about improving the train station: a revival of the car park idea, designated disabled car parking on the approach roads, better signage, greatly improved interchange between buses and trains, toilet facilities at the station, and better arrangements at the station for people with disabilities. If you'd like to get involved with our group, or join our committee, please get in touch (phone me on 01503 230106, or email sgrug@railholiday.co.uk). We have members in Tideford, Donderry, Crafhole, Millbrook etc., and we'd be very pleased to hear from you about how you think bus and train services can be changed and improved. We'd welcome offers of help from people of all ages.

Alan Cousins

Nut Tree Deadlines

As local organisations, clubs and societies begin to plan future social events for the diary and to report the occasions when, once more, you have actually been able to meet and get together, a reminder, please, that the deadline for articles for each Nut Tree is midnight on the 17th of the preceding month. Material for inclusion should ideally be produced in MS Word (.doc or .docx), in paragraphed layout and with minimal formatting. Inclusion of black and white photographs may be possible subject to space constraints.

nuttree.editor@yahoo.co.uk

Save the Children - Rame Branch

Despite COVID, Rame Peninsula branch has sent £600 to Head Office since the beginning of the 2020 lockdown - raised from the sale of plants from Sunnyside car bay in Donderry, plus over £2000 from donations. Plants for sale now include summer cactus such as aeoniums and echeveria, sempervivums, parsley, lemon balm, mint, bacopa and, coming soon, pumpkins, geraniums, nicotiana and more. Pots are always welcome!

Chris Wiseman

Rita's Rota - May

Devioc Parish

- 2 10.00 Morning Worship SNCh
- 3 **EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY**
- 4 Mobile Library 9.45 SG Alms, 10.15 SG Quay Rd, 1.55 IOS, 2.45 Seaton Car Park
- 6 LOCAL **ELECTION DAY 7.00-10.00** DSVH, HCH, EHSG, TRBL, SEATON BEACH CAFÉ
- 8 10.00 Coffee, Cake Chat HCH
- 9 10.00 Communion SGPC
- 13 7.30 Devioc PC Annual Meeting venue TBC
- 16 10.00 10.00 Communion SNCh; 5.00 Communion CZ
- 17 6.30 SG PC Annual Meeting Venue TBC
- 18 9.30 CB Plymouth; 10.00CM DSVH
- 19 10.00 CM CZ
- 20 9.30 CB Liskeard
- 21 Pilates HCH
- 22 10.00 Little Breakfast DSVH
- 23 10.00 Morning Worship SGPC

25 9.30 CB Plymouth; 10.00 CM DSVH

26 10.00 CM CZ

27 9.30 CB Liskeard; 6.30 Devioc Planning Venue TBC

28 7.30 AGM DSVH

30 10.00 United Service SGPC

31 **SPRING BANK HOLIDAY**

CZ Donderry Coastal Zone; CB Community bus; DSVH Derry & Seaton VH; PolH Polbathic Hall; EHSG Eliot Hall St G; HC H'ford Church; HCH H'ford Church Hall; SGMC St G Methodist Ch; SGPC St G Priory Church;; SNCh St Nicolas' Church; TC Tideford Church; TRBL Tideford RBL Hall; WVH W'gates V Hall

Copy for Rita's Rota should be sent to ritasrota@yahoo.co.uk by 15th of the preceding month, please remember to give the time and venue!

Rita

Disclaimer: The editorial group accepts no responsibility for views expressed in any edition of Nut Tree. Nonetheless we will try to be as accurate as possible and desire similar factual correctness from our correspondents.