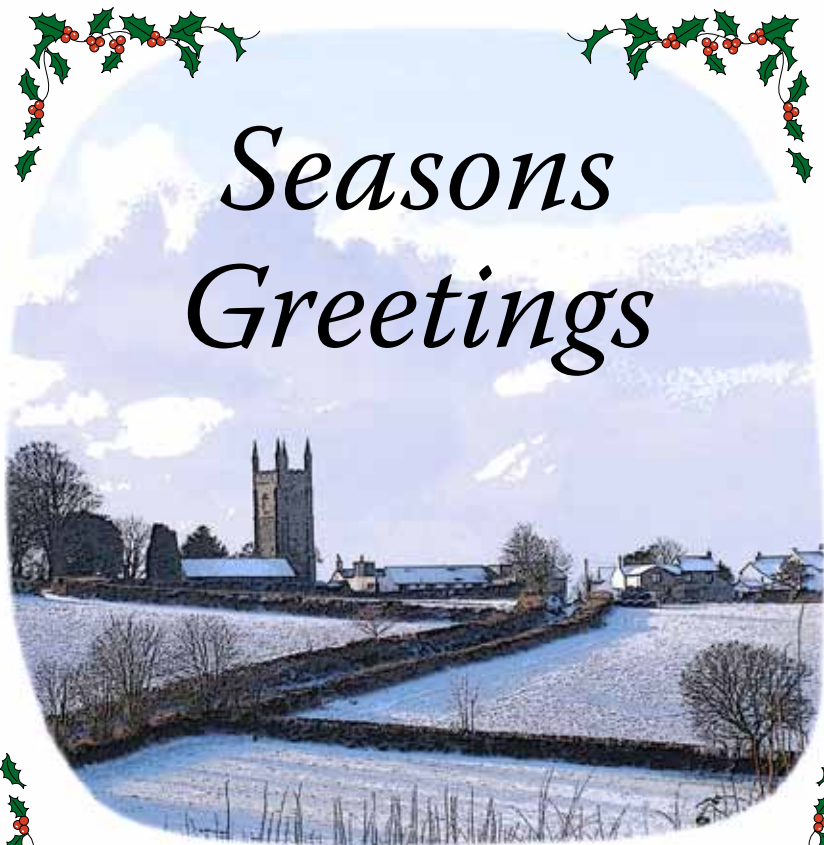


# Pillaton Village News

Issue 162 November 2012

*Seasons  
Greetings*



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## Pillaton Village News

No. 162 November 2012

A few days ago Dave Dolley kindly dropped off a carrier bag full of old copies of the Pillaton Village News that date back to the very first issue. Together the different editions form a fascinating archive about the life of the village over twenty years ago. On flicking through the old copies I came across this very unsettling item, which formed part of the Neighbourhood Watch article for February 1989.

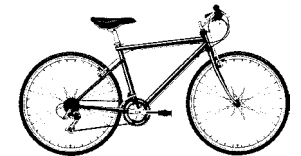
To the best of my knowledge the mysterious man in the woods has never been identified; the case never closed and probably to this day still lies dormant on the files of Devon and Cornwall Police awaiting advances in forensic science.

However, after the passage of all these years I think now is the time to come clean and make a full confession so that the gentle folk of Pillaton can sleep easily in their beds once more.

Around early 1989 I was serving in HMS Arethusa. In between spells of being away at sea I had taken on the project of trying to build a new rockery in the garden. Having regularly fished the Lynher I knew some of the rocks in the bed of the river are nicely rounded and would be just perfect for a rockery. Late one afternoon in early 1989 I headed down to the river armed with a couple of sacks on the lookout for some likely rocks - furtive or what.....

My wife noticed the article, but by then I was away at sea again and hopefully safe from extradition on charges of purloining rocks.

Next copy date 7<sup>th</sup> January 2013 - full details on page 23 and in the meantime Seasons Greetings to all readers of the Village News.



### The Man in the Woods

A few weeks ago two of our dog walking ladies were confronted by a man behaving suspiciously in the woods which are adjacent to the fields beside the Kissing Gate, on the road to Clapper. They were alarmed at his behaviour which involved apparent digging and the transfer, either to or from canvas bags, of something. We do not know what. On seeing the dogs and the ladies, this guy faded into the woods in an attempt to evade them. The ladies, deciding that discretion was the order of the day, rounded up the dogs and left. The incident has been reported to the police and to our Community Policeman Con. Chris Rogers at Callington. I report this to our readers so that you may be forewarned. I have on occasion had to remind small children that they have been too far from home.

----oOo----

Robin Dwane  
Editor

# PILLATON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 19 September 2012

### ATTENDANCE

Cllrs. Dolley, Hoskin, D. Floyd, S. Floyd, Martin and Harris.

### APOLOGIES

District Councillor Egglestone.

### CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

Mr Roger Warne was co-opted as a Councillor by ballot. Mr Johnson and Mr Heap were thanked for their interest and advised that there was an election of the whole Council in 2013.

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

### PUBLIC FORUM

There were two members of the public present.

### MINUTES

The Minutes of 18 July 2012 meeting were accepted unanimously.

### MATTERS ARISING

In response to a complaint from Mr Ian Edwards regarding cars parked on pavements Cllr Harris undertook to request a second visit by the Police authority to examine the problem.

### TELEPHONE BOX

The Council resolved to consider using the telephone as a place for book exchanges. Cllr Martin promised wood for shelving and Cllrs Dolley and Warne agreed to examine the box and decide how to install the shelves.

### MUSHTON LANE REPAIR

The Council decided to urge District Councillor Egglestone to actively seek the repair of the lane on the Pillaton Parish side as the St Mellion side had been completed. Cllr Harris volunteered to raise the matter at the next Community Network Area meeting.

### PLANNING PERMISSION None.

### FINANCE

The Bank position of current account £1,727 and deposit £855 was noted. The following payments were authorised; payments from Capital grant £262, Village Hall rent £24 and Stationery £54.81.

The Council considered the cash position which indicated a reserve of £1,900 at the year end.

### FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNITY AREA NETWORK

Cllr Hoskin explained how the last meeting had discussed the privatisation of services by Cornwall Council and it was agreed that Pillaton Council host the next area meeting.

### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Martin said he would obtain the updated Parish Plan review.

The Council agreed the disposal of the broken strimmer.

The Clerk was asked to request Highways to clear the drains at Tiddlers Well.

*Chairman Mr Dolley*

## YOUTH COUNCIL

Pillaton Parish Council wish to support the formation of a YOUTH COUNCIL. The purpose of the Youth Council would be to enable the Youth of the Parish to have their voice in the affairs and plans of the Village. The Council would meet every three months together with a Parish Councillor to express their views.

If you are over 14 years of age and are interested in such a commitment then please apply in writing to:

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# PILLATON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 17 October 2012

### ATTENDANCE

Cllrs. Dolley, Hoskin, D. Floyd, S. Floyd, Martin, Warne and Harris.

### APOLOGIES

District Councillor Egglestone.

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Martin declared a personal interest in cars on pavements.

### PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

### MINUTES

The Minutes of 19 September 2012 meeting were accepted unanimously.

### MATTERS ARISING

1. In response to a complaint from Mr Ian Edwards regarding cars parked on pavements Cllr Harris reported that the second visit by the Police authority to examine the situation had resulted in no adverse comment from the Police. It was decided to write to Mr Edwards explaining that the Council had taken full action within its powers.
2. The Council agreed to use the telephone as a place for book exchanges. Cllr Martin volunteered to provide wood for shelving and Cllr Warne undertook to install the shelves both actions at no cost to the Parish.
3. The Council noted that District Councillor Egglestone was actively seeking the repair of Mushton lane on the Pillaton Parish side.

### YOUTH COUNCIL

The Council approved the formation of a Youth Council and agreed to advertise the proposal in the Village News (*see Page 5*) and web site.

### PLANNING PERMISSION

It was agreed that there was insufficient information in the planning application for conversion of a barn at Tremoan to comment.

### FINANCE

The Bank position of current account £1,639 and deposit £3,137 was noted.

The following payments were authorised; payments from Capital grant £168.42, Village News printing via Kernock Park £29.86 and donation from Kernock Park to Cornwall Air Ambulance for Village News.

### FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNITY AREA NETWORK

Cllr Hoskin explained how the last meeting had dealt with recycling issues.

### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Martin said he would undertake the updating of the Parish Plan review.

It was understood that any monies arising from large solar panels installation and intended to benefit the local community went to a central Cornwall County fund.

The Clerk was asked to draw Highways attention to the pavements in Briars Ryn damaged by roots.

It was noted that the Council had no control over the height of the stiles in the Parish.

The Chairman reported that he had met the Environment Agency at the fallen tree in the river and been assured the matter would be dealt with by the Agency.

*Chairman Mr Dolley*

	<p><b>PENTILLIE CASTLE</b> St Mellion, Saltash, Cornwall. PL12 6QD</p> <p>Sunday 16th December 2012 4pm</p> <p>Tickets : £10 Adult, £5 Child, £25 Family (2 adults 2 children)</p> <p>To book tickets visit <a href="http://www.pentillie.co.uk">www.pentillie.co.uk</a> Or call 01579 350044</p> <p>Join Moonstone Theatre Company for a candle lit walk through the grounds of Pentillie Castle. A time traveller will guide you through the story of the Nativity and bring you back to Pentillie Castle for carols, and refreshments.</p>
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Web: [www.angelagreenhough.co.uk](http://www.angelagreenhough.co.uk)

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## PILLATON VILLAGE HALL

Below are some ideas/suggestions we have had for fund raising for the Village Hall for next year:

**Valentines Dinner -**  
Thursday 14 February 2013

**Big Lunch -**  
Sunday 30 June 2013

There will possibly be some entertainment with the above to take place in Pillaton Park as this was a very successful event which was held as part of the Jubilee Celebrations.

Other suggestions are as follows and dates will be given in the next edition of the Pillaton News:

**Skittles Drop In & Barbeque**  
Fun for all the family.

**Wine Tasting Evening** (possibly in the Autumn)

Please watch the notice boards for further details of all the above.

*Sue White*



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## PILLATON WI

### SEPTEMBER MEETING

The well attended meeting began with a riot of laughter and chat as members gathered after the long summer break. Liz, our president was forced to shout at the meeting, to gain order as the tinkling of the order bell was drowned in the deluge of greeting. The meeting proceeded with the usual business, signing of past minutes, talk of items from County News and the circulation of the menu for the next, harvest supper meeting.

The speaker was Ann Moxley, who spoke of her experiences of childhood internment in Shanghai, under the Japanese from 1937-1945.

Usually experiences in our childhood say deeply impressed within us, more vivid than more mundane experiences of the present day, so it was with our speaker. Ann was a tall, unassuming lady who spoke of her experiences at close quarters with an enemy, expanding her vivid childhood reality and placing it in the context of the historical upheaval.

A child of missionary parents and grandfather, who first went to China in 1887, where she and her siblings were born and was obviously a country she had a great affinity for. Ann and her family seemed to have to survive the constant turbulence of warring factions, the upheaval fleeing evacuees, flood, lightning strikes and the final internment in Linghua camp in Shanghai. Shanghai in those days was totally different, no skyscrapers just marshy countryside!

Ann illustrated her talk with family photos, hand drawn maps of the camp, paintings and drawings done by the inmates and some official photos of the buildings the prisoners were housed in. We were told of her family's arrival at the camp on a number 22 bus, where the amalgamation of the former cavalry barracks and a school were to house 2,000 inmates. The new life was made endurable by the usual British efficiency that emerges at the most difficult of times. Ann's architect father was billeting officer, not an enviable task. Water was brackish and had to be boiled (to make it drinkable) at a special charcoal burning hut called Waterloo. Crops were grown to supplement the meagre rations, as hunger was always a problem. The prisoners became good at adapting to survive keeping chickens, pigs and goats, though the milk demanded by the Japanese guards had pee added, so they rejected it. The windowless buildings and tin roofed buildings were very cold in the winter,

and with a grossly inadequate diet, life must have been very difficult.


Education was not neglected as the camp was home to experts on all subjects who gave talks, and taught the children too. There was no paper except the inside of tinned food labels, but so excellent was the teaching that children got their school certificates and were later accepted for university.

The end of the war was marked by the Instrument of Surrender, followed by the liberation of the camp by the Americans, before finally returning to Britain on the RMS Arana, where a letter was read out from the King.

The talk was littered throughout the little anecdotes and points of note, to bring history to life. It was indelible experience for Ann who was interned at nine and released at twelve and a half years old. Ann has retained contact with her fellow inmates, with a reunion on the HMS Belfast in 2005 and she said she would like to return to China some day.

*Jan Simms*

*Pillaton WI is a friendly group and welcomes new members. Come along and meet us! If you would like to know more about Pillaton WI, please contact Ann Henderson on 01579 351289.*

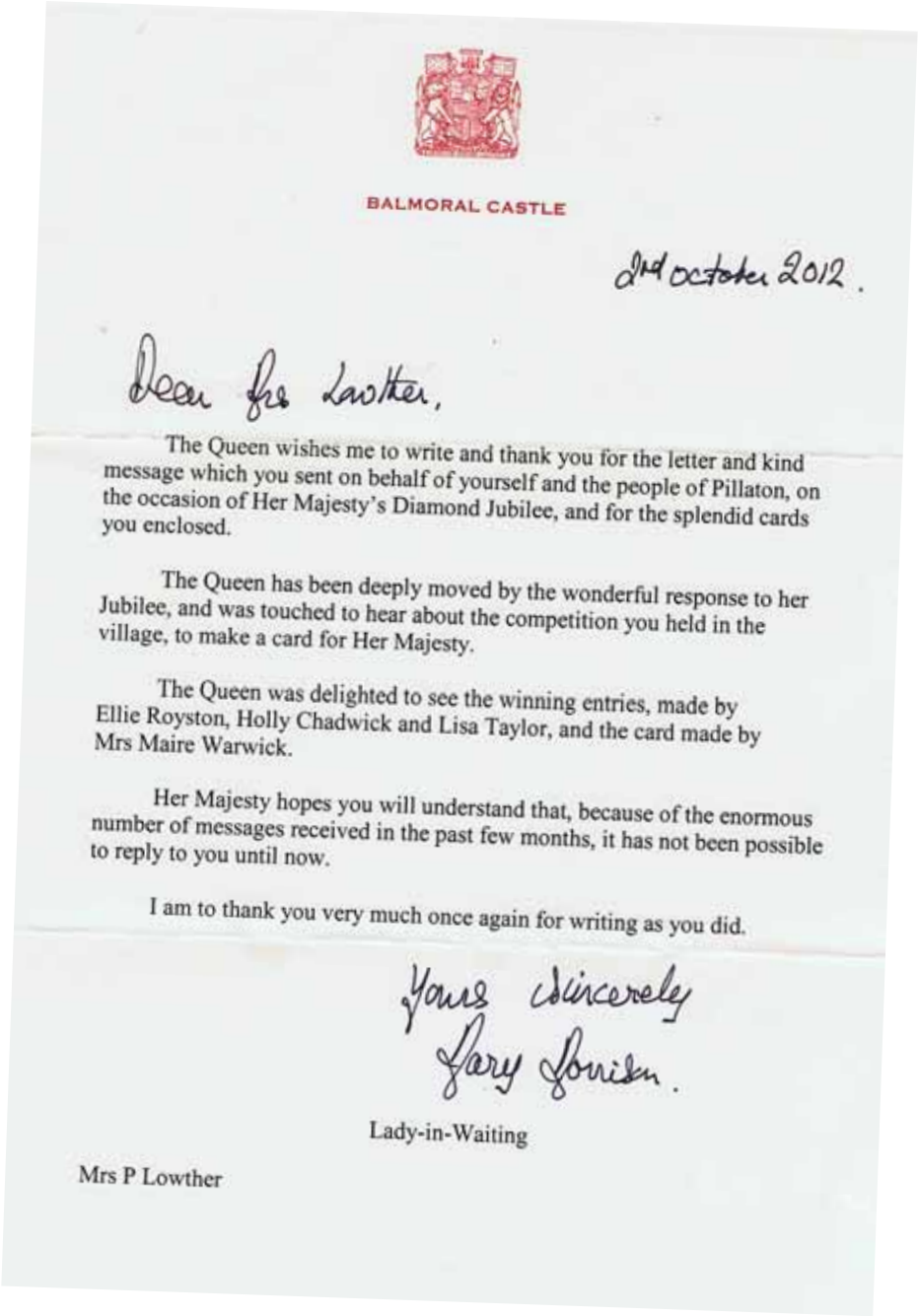


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# JUBILEE CARD COMPETITION

Back in June, as part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, a competition was held to design an Anniversary card. After the judging, Pam Lowther sent the winning entries to Her Majesty and has now received a Thank You letter from Balmoral Castle (see opposite). There were 60 entries in all, mainly from St. Mellion School, plus two adult cards.

The four winning cards that were forwarded to Her Majesty the Queen are pictured below.





## FRUIT CASE

The 'season of mists and mellow fruitfulness' rapidly changed into unseasonal mud and soggy fruitlessness, which really depressed the few hardy gardeners who were desperate to tidy, clip back and tidy their gardens for winter.

Planning and planting for the following year seems almost criminal when you can still see the garden through the rain, with leaves everywhere and fruit trees needing to be pruned, and flower pots merrily bowling along the paths, and my lawn (which escaped its last cut) looking as though it could provide grazing for a herd of Herefords.

I have managed to pot up a range of bulbs, in the comfort of the greenhouse, radio on a nice cup of tea in my 'Head Gardener's' mug and Mabel dashing out between her sessions of daydreaming but you cannot really 'get at it'.

The colder mornings have brought exciting scents to light which keeps Mabel busy, mousing beneath the shrubs, and as fast as I fill in one of these open cast mining ventures of hers, another appears in a new area of the garden. The base of trees makes an ideal location, location, location, for the upwardly mobile mice, as the soil is dry and well protected by roots. I do have a feeling the "Brambly Hedge" series has been available for Mabel's reference, as a book passed from my daughter's childhood to her own sons, and often left open on the floor. The main drawback to her hunting hobby is the trail of mud throughout the house, unless I manage to catch her and bath her feet and nose, no always easy as she is well aware of the twinning of digging and bathing! Mabel has a renewed appreciation in the garden since her brief visit to the kennels. Kit hill has such a wonderful rabbit ozone and view, to satisfy the most discerning of terriers. The superfluity of smells is augmented with 'new dogs on the block', and though Mabel is not permitted to join the 'twilight barking', I do let her greet the day with barks when she tours the perimeters in the morning, repelling all boarders, and checking for evidence of cat trespass and violation of the pond. I never let her bark for long, though she often barks in response to others, and it is interesting to hear there is now a new Dane baritone to counter balance the falsetto of the Yorkie, in the Row.


I am pleased that the jubilee planters are hanging on, I do hope they stay, and are refilled with suitable planting throughout the year. The new notice boards look splendid and add a touch of class to the village. I see the telephone box is being done up, getting ready for a new role as a book exchange hopefully the door will fasten tight against the rain.

The disadvantages of daily dog walking in this soggy, boggy and cold weather are obvious, the benefits do not become apparent until you have donned the

waterproofs, boots and the works, got out there in the muck and noticed what is really happening. Once you are away from the sympathetic smiles of motorists, who don't stop to chat in the gloom. Walking away from the village you begin to become absorbed in a world of detail, motorists fail to see. You can inspect at close hand the effects of rain on the leaves.

I recall when we moved here from Sussex some years ago how brightly coloured all the birds appeared, they seemed almost tropical compared to the little brown jobs (sparrows, etc.) all seemed to fizz with colour...and then I realised it was the RAIN .....they were constantly washed clean! Sussex is a relatively dry county, on free draining chalk. The difference was noticeable. The early wet has sogged the leaves, even still on the trees, reducing the range of colours, but leaving sufficient for enjoyment. Hawthorns tremble almost naked, drooping with carmine fruits; large shining laurel leaves briefly holding raindrop pearls; the fine wire of cobweb with a thousand sparkling rain beads. It is all delicious for the eye. All the colours are heightened and glazed in the wet, there is so much to see. A real feast for the eyes.

My guinea pigs do not appreciate the weather, they are still out on grass, but their runs have been covered with clear plastic and bubble-wrap, green house style, their individual 'snug' houses have a bedroom filled up with a mix of hay and straw, and their lounges have a sawdust floor when the weather is really wet they like to retrieve chunks of carrot or apple and bring in inside and much away in the warmth. The piggies have a routine up early to eat grass, sing good morning for their tit-bits, sleep, nibble around lunchtime the provided fresh leaves, sleep, and charge about like loonies late afternoon...then to bed. They always chatter to me if they see or hear me in the garden; it is rather endearing.



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*Jan Simms*

## DAMAGE AT THE CHURCH IN PILLATON

It is with great sadness that I have to report that our beloved church has been violated. One day in mid October, someone felt the need to remove a section of the leaded window at the back of the church beside the organ and, in so doing, did irreparable damage to it. The solid iron supporting rod was then bent outwards at right angles with enormous force. It must have taken quite some time to wreck the amount of damage that was caused. This is the first time in living memory that anything like this has been done to our church. We cannot see that anything from within the church was tampered with or stolen, so the reason for the damage is a complete mystery to us all. Our PCSO, Tom Cornwall has looked at the damage but has not received any other similar reports from local churches.

The window was quickly boarded up by our master craftsman window restorer, Alan Endacott, who has made a new window which has already been fitted. You would be hard pressed to see which is the old and which the new!

Sadly, we are unable to claim on insurance as the cost is below our reserve so the full cost will have to be taken from church funds –in the very year when we are so short of funds as a result of the Cherry Feast being cancelled.

We should all pray that the person who was so driven to do this terrible deed can receive help and guidance to help him or her with whatever troubles them. It is not the action of a rational person as there was unlikely to be anything of monetary value in the church and therefore they must have been desperate. I would have thought it unlikely to be anyone who lives locally who would be driven to do something like this and I sincerely hope so.

*Tony Rowe*

St Mellion with Pillaton  
Parochial Church Council  
Chair of Fabric Committee



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### DIARY FOR THE BENEFICE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>CHURCH</u>
25 Nov	Sunday	0930 Matins	St. Dominic
		0930 Sung Mass	Pillaton
		1115 Sung Mass	Landulph
27 Nov	Tuesday	0915 Said Mass	St. Mellion
01 Dec	Saturday	1000 Christmas Coffee Clack The Rectory Room	Cargreen
02 Dec	Sunday	<i>Advent Sunday</i>	
		1000 Benefice Mass	Pillaton
04 Dec	Tuesday	0915 Said Mass	St. Mellion
08 Dec	Saturday	1000 Christmas Coffee Clack Rectory Room	Cargreen
09 Dec	Sunday	0930 Sung Mass	St. Dominic
		1115 Sung Mass	St. Mellion
11 Dec	Tuesday	0915 Said Mass	St. Mellion
12 Dec	Wednesday	1900 Nine Lessons & Carols (Mince Pies & Wine)	Pillaton
16 Dec	Sunday	0930 Toy Service	Pillaton
		1115 Sung Mass	Landulph
		1600 Carols Around the Tree Mulled Wine and Mince Pies	St. Mellion
18 Dec	Tuesday	0915 Said Mass	St. Mellion
19 Dec	Wednesday	1200 Christmas Pasty Lunch Rectory Room	Cargreen
		1800 Nine Lessons and Carols	St. Dominic
23 Dec	Sunday	0930 Sung Mass	St. Dominic
		1000 Sung Mass	Gunnislake
		1115 Matins	Landulph
		1115 Sung Mass	St. Mellion
		1830 Carols	Gunnislake

## BENEFICE CONTACT DETAILS

For all enquiries regarding Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals or any other Parish Business please contact:

Canon Wilson on 01822 832518

Messages: Betty Reynolds (Secretary) 01579 351069

E-mail: [stmellionwithpillatonpcc@btconnect.com](mailto:stmellionwithpillatonpcc@btconnect.com)

The Benefice Office in St Mellion Church Hall is open on Thursdays from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon, or by arrangement with the Secretary.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>CHURCH</u>
24 Dec	Monday	<i>Christmas Eve</i>	
		1130 Sung Mass	Calstock
		1600 Carols	Gunnislake
		1700 Christingle	St. Dominic
		2330 Midnight Mass	Pillaton
25 Dec	Tuesday	<i>Christmas Day</i>	
		1000 Benefice Mass	St. Dominic
		1000 Sung Mass	Calstock
30 Dec	Sunday	0930 Matins	St. Dominic
		1115 Sung Mass	Landulph
		1115 Matins	St. Mellion

## GIFT TO CHURCH

We are so blessed in our community by the kind hearted and generous people who live in our midst. I have always been embarrassed by the fact that our vicar and any supporting clergy have had to sit on really hard seats scantily covered by, frankly, scruffy pieces of material. I mentioned this to Ann Barnicoat a couple of weeks ago and, in the twinkling of an eye, she has produced two sumptuous cushions which would be the envy of any place of worship in the country. They have been completed and have been donated as a gift from Ann to the church.



*Tony Rowe*

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Deadline for copy: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2013

Publication date: Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2013

Copy should preferably be sent to my office e-mail address at [dwane.design@btinternet.com](mailto:dwane.design@btinternet.com) in the form of a Word document or simply text in an e-mail. If you do not have access to the internet, hard copy is perfectly acceptable (typed or handwritten) and should be delivered to me at 9 Barton Meadows. Images for the Village News can be in virtually any digital format or as hard copy for scanning.

Any queries please call Robin Dwane on 01579-351560.

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