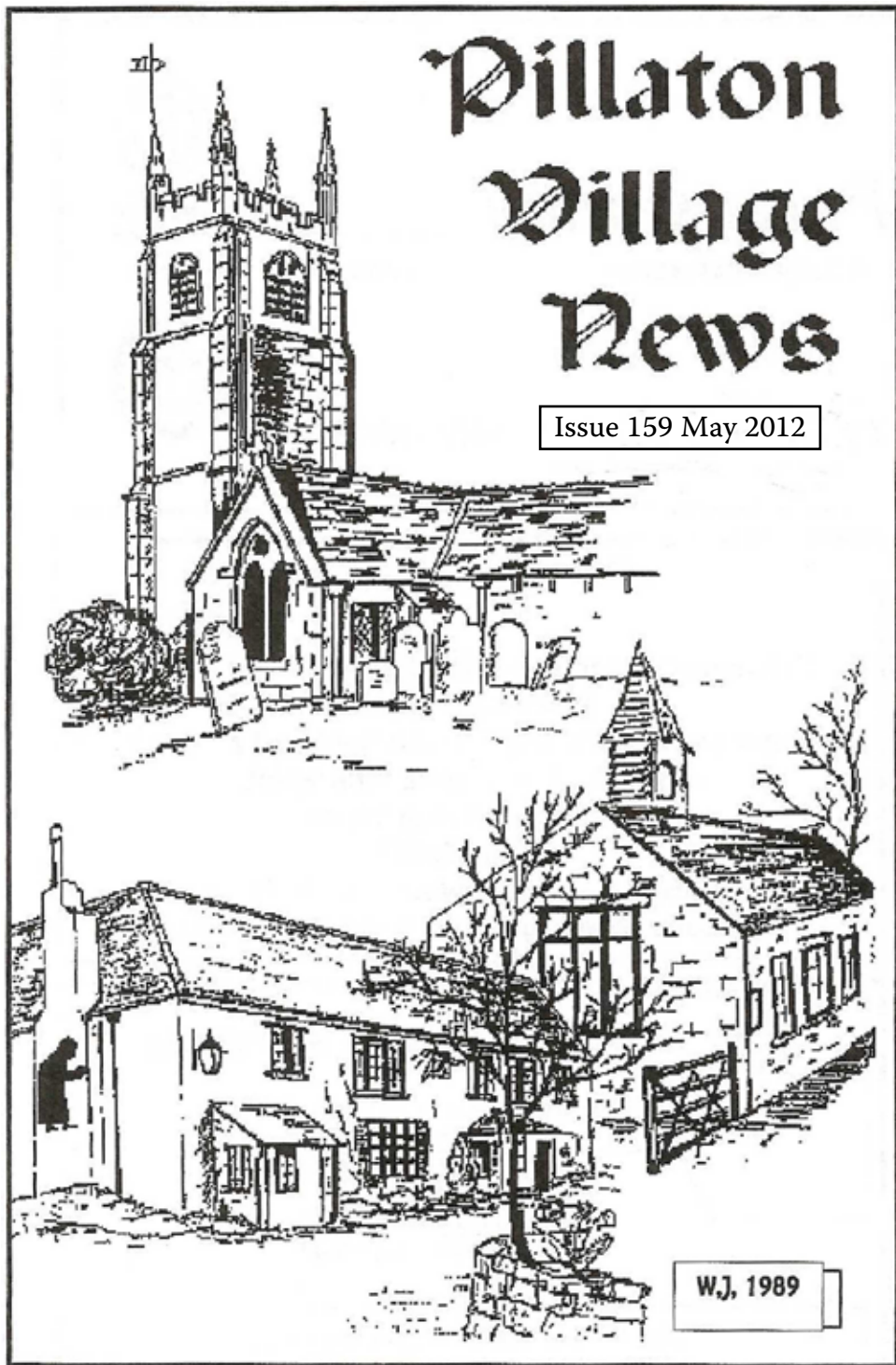


Pillaton Village News

Issue 159 May 2012



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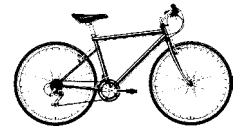
Roger & Geraldine Parkyn : Tel: 01579 384197

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Pillaton Village News

No. 159 May 2012



Well Superfast broadband has finally arrived in Pillaton. According to the BT engineer the Dwane household was the nineteenth in the village to connect up. Like John Wheeley (see village website at www.pillaton.org.uk) I am a little underwhelmed at the speed at which some sites load. The updated Met Office website seems particularly slow, but I suspect this may be more down to the website's own server rather than the speed of connection. Certainly it is now possible to watch the iPlayer in comfort without the picture freezing and that frustrating loading symbol constantly appearing. I can even maintain a consistent wireless connection to my office at the rear of the garage (to prospective clients I describe this as my design suite; to the family it's just the shed).

Whatever the form of broadband, it's all a huge advance on those dark days of dial-up, with first the dialling tone, followed by that strange hissing and crackling noise, before tenuous connection was made and rarely maintained. More akin to communicating with deep space, and although we may be some distance from the telephone exchange, don't for a minute assume I am implying that St Dominick is in a galaxy far, far away.

Next copy date 7th July 2012 - full details on page 27.

Robin Dwane

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PILLATON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 21 March 2012

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

APOLOGIES District Councillor Egglestone

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no member of the public present.

MINUTES

The minutes of the 15 February 2012 meeting were accepted unanimously.

MATTERS ARISING

The Chairman reported that the resurfacing of the entrance area to the Hall had been completed. The Council therefore decided to approve the payment of the Contractors invoice with advice to the PPP to request a guarantee before releasing the cheque.

NOTICE BOARDS

It was confirmed that two notice boards had arrived and Councillors volunteered to erect them.

PLANNING PERMISSION

The Council approved the planning application for the Old Barn at Polborder.

TELEPHONE BOX

The Council had been told that the phone box in Pillaton would be removed because of lack of use and resolved to purchase and maintain the box for a nominal £1.

FINANCE

The Bank position of Current Account £4,657 and Deposit Account £1,503 was noted.

The following payments were authorised:

Jubilee mugs £615, Greenbarnes' notice boards £2,381.87, Village Hall £60, Stationery £43.70, Clerk's expenses £23, Chairman's expenses £40, Willow den £500 and £3,319.92 Calweton Builders.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that District Councillor Egglestone was attempting to have a crash barrier installed and the securing of the milestone at Pillaton Mill by Cornwall Highways.

The Clerk was asked to enquire into any grants applicable to the area arising from the installation of the solar panels at Kernock.

Chairman Mr Dolley

Nicola Greene

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PILLATON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 25 April 2012

ATTENDANCE

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

APOLOGIES

District Councillor Egglestone

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Cllrs Dolley, Edwards, S Floyd and Hoskin declared a personal interest in commenting on the use of the Village hall as a polling station.

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no member of the public present.

MINUTES

The minutes of 21 March 2012 meeting were accepted unanimously.

MATTERS ARISING

It was noted that Cornwall Highways had undertaken to improve the kerb and signage at the bend at Pillaton Mill.

The Council agreed to sign the contract with BT regarding purchase of the telephone box in the village and did not consider it necessary to seek legal advice.

STOPPING UP ORDER

The Council accepted the proposed stopping up order on the verge leading up to Polborder but requested that the fence at the entrance at the top of the hill be erected one meter from the road.

POLLING STATION

The Council decided to respond to the review of polling places and districts by Cornwall Council that Pillaton Village hall was the most suitable site for the area.

PLANNING PERMISSION

The Council approved the planning application for a single storey extension at Bearah.

FINANCE

The Bank position of £2,302 was noted.

The following payments were authorised; D. Whittle mural artist £800 and HMRC £180 for tax deducted from Clerk's salary.

The Council approved the financial accounts and annual return for the year ended 31 March 2012.

FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNITY AREA NETWORK

The Chairman reported on his visit to the previous Network meeting where he had raised the issue of feedback on planning decisions.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that dog bins had not been emptied in the area and that collection of recycling and rubbish was haphazard. It was hoped these were teething problems.

Chairman Mr Dolley



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THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

2nd - 4th JUNE 2012

Timetable of Events



SATURDAY 2 JUNE 2.00 - 6.00 pm

AN EXHIBITION OF 1950'S MEMORABILIA

in St. Odolph's Church, Pillaton.

Memorabilia to be brought to the Church from 10.00 am – 12.00 noon on the morning of 2 June. Please contact Ann Henderson on (01579) 351289 for further details.

ARTS, CRAFT AND PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

in Pillaton Village Hall.

This will run in conjunction with the Memorabilia Exhibition. Please contact Jenny Wheeley on (01579) 351662 if you would like to exhibit.

60th ANNIVERSARY CARD COMPETITION

Please see separate notice opposite. The winning entry will then be sent to Her Majesty the Queen from Pillaton.

Tea/Coffee & biscuits will be available in the Hall from 2.00 – 4.00 pm

SUNDAY 3 JUNE 1.30 – 3.30 pm Pillaton Village Hall Field

THE BIG LUNCH

As part of the celebrations – communities are being asked to hold a 'Big Lunch' so get together with your friends and family, bring your own picnic and drinks.

Musical entertainment will be provided by Dave Truscott and his group 'The Band with no Name'.

3.30 pm An Open Air Church Service will take place after which the Church Bells will be rung.

MONDAY 4 JUNE 2.30 pm – until late

2.30 pm THE UNVEILING OF THE MURAL by Julie M'hand.

The afternoon events will start with Children's games, Fancy Dress competition, making crowns, make a kite in family teams, treasure hunt, pin the crown on the Queen and other games.

From 3.00 – 4.00 pm – CREAM TEA

7.00 pm – HOG ROAST ongoing through the evening

7.30 pm – BARN DANCE

**PLEASE WATCH THE NOTICE BOARDS FOR FURTHER
DETAILS OF ALL JUBILEE EVENTS.**

JUBILEE CARD COMPETITION

The people of Pillaton wish to send a Jubilee card to Her Majesty the Queen. So can you make a card fit for a Queen?

Have a go – open to anyone. Use any medium of decoration.

Card size A5 or A4 folded.

Class A - 16 years and under.

Class B - 16 +

Cards to be with Pam Lowther by Friday 1st June.
(Tel 01579 350252)

The winning cards will be sent to Her Majesty The Queen.

Mon 4th June. As part of the afternoons events there will be a **FANCY DRESS COMPETITION with Royalty or the 1950's as the theme.**

So what will you come as?

Be as creative as you like.

Judging at 3.30 pm.

DUCK RACE – 7 MAY

On Monday 7 May several members of the Jubilee Committee gathered at the venue for the Duck Race - the river had gone from a trickle to a raging torrent in little over a week and was too dangerous for the duck catchers to enter, so it was decided to cancel the race.

Due to the forecast it was also decided to relocate the Car Boot Sale to the Village Hall, this attracted five sellers and the total profit from the sale of Duck Race tickets and the Car boot was £326.47. The money raised will go towards the celebrations for the Queens Diamond Jubilee and the Village Hall. The Duck Race draw was held in the Village Hall at 3.00 pm and the winners are listed below.

We would like to thank all the people who donated the prizes, the car booters, everybody who sold Duck Race tickets and all who supported this event. We would also like to thank Shirley & Dave Floyd for offering the venue for this.

Sue White

| <u>PRIZE</u> | <u>DONATED BY</u> | <u>DUCK NO</u> | <u>WON BY</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| £100 | From sale of tickets | 141 | Richard Lowther |
| Decanter & Glasses | Shirley Floyd | 62 | Fiona Hammond |
| Two Planters | Mr Hamett, Kernock Park Plants | 644 | Jo King |
| Paint Ball Voucher | Ian Edwards | 408 | Suzanne Long |
| Paint Ball Voucher | Ian Edwards | 601 | Stella Baker |
| Bottle of Vodka | Len White | 7 | Ann Henderson |
| Sunday lunch for 2 at Weary Friar | Stella & Steve Weary Friar | 441 | Val Phillips |
| Two pictures by local artist | Ruth Tyrell/Allison Downing | 103 | Tony Jope |
| Hair Voucher £15 | Rachel Hutchinson | 535 | John Stannard |
| Dundee Cake | Shirley Floyd | 276 | Tony Rowe |
| £10 voucher | Waitrose | 26 | Elizabeth Gill |
| Mobile Phone Charger | Tesco | 436 | Ken Lewis |
| 2 bottles Wine | Tesco | 534 | Des Hoskin |
| Quality Street | Shirley Floyd | 386 | Jenny Cook |
| Bottle of Wine | The Weary Friary | 174 | James Clark |
| Bottle of Wine | The Weary Friar | 205 | Ray Hoskin |
| Bottle of Wine | The Weary Friar | 653 | Jo Heap |
| Chocs & Annual | Tesco | 523 | Linda Mavin |
| Chocs & Annual | Tesco | 197 | Mike Keah |
| Duck | Sue White | 531 | Val Tucker |
| Bottle Cornish Apple Juice | Ken Beal | 15 | P. Henderson |

Pentillie

CASTLE AND ESTATE



Our fingers and toes are all crossed for the National Visit England Excellence awards 22nd May! We will let you know how we get on.

2012 Outdoor Theatre dates for your diary! - La Traviata (5 July), The Importance of Being Earnest (19 July), Macbeth (2 August) and the Sword in the Stone (12 August).

Visit www.pentillie.co.uk for details of all summer events - including outdoor theatre, clay pigeon shooting, guided garden tours and the Pentillie Festival of Speed.

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PILLATON WI

Sixty five years of friendship, laughter and pleasure are celebrated by Pillaton WI this year, so the Annual Meeting in March was a good time for reflection on the past and looking forward to the present.

Our usual business meeting preceded the Annual Meeting, giving members the opportunity to sign up for the Group Meeting to be hosted by Pillaton on 26 April, as well as reminding everybody about our 65th Birthday Party on 24 March, Pillaton Gardening Club's Spring Show on 31 March and highlighting the county organised photography day on 29 June. President Liz Llewellyn-Jones also gave us a sneak preview of the interesting programme of speakers lined up for the year 2012-2013, just to whet our appetites!

The Annual Meeting followed, with Treasurer Sue Archer presenting the Financial Statement for the year ended December 2011.

In her Annual Report, outgoing Secretary Pam Lowther outlined our highly successful past year, citing 60% attendance at meetings, and focussing on the coach trip to St Austell Brewery, our Birthday and Christmas parties, the collections organised for the charity Operation Sunshine and the Carol Singing around the village – all reflecting the value of Pillaton WI within both the local and wider community.

We patted ourselves on the back remembering our successful team entry into the Festival of the Spoken Word, which Pillaton has now won twice! Although membership numbers have dropped slightly this year, we still have a thriving group numbering 35.

In her address, President Liz Llewellyn-Jones thanked the committee for their hard work and dedication during the past year. Retiring committee members were singled out for their specific contributions and the new committee welcomed. No elections were needed as there were only enough nominations to fill the vacant positions. Liz emphasised what a fantastic past year we have enjoyed and expressed her hope that the coming year will be every bit as enjoyable. At the time of writing, the key role of Secretary to Pillaton WI remains vacant. This role must be filled to enable Pillaton WI to continue, so every effort is being made to persuade a committee member to take it on.

The meeting ended with a soundly applauded repeat performance by our Festival of the Spoken Word team. Then it was "Chiefly Ourselves" as we all had a go at choral speaking under Liz's direction. An enjoyable way to round off the evening.



The President cuts the Cake



WI members and their invited guests joined together in the Village Hall on Saturday 24 March to celebrate 65 years since the founding of Pillaton WI.

A buzz of conversation greeted us as we arrived at the hall decorated with balloons and flowers and with the welcoming aromas of home cooked food wafting out of the open kitchen door. President Liz Llewellyn-Jones welcomed everybody before Shirley and David Floyd served up a delicious meal, finished off with coffee and after dinner mints.

In a short after dinner speech Liz spoke of the challenges ahead for Pillaton WI, and the need for members to remain committed

to sustaining the organisation in the years to come. She suggested that individuals must accept responsibility if we are to continue to thrive in changing times. She thanked Pam Lowther for agreeing to remain as Secretary for another year to

enable Pillaton WI to continue in existence – it would have been a sad day for the 65th anniversary of its foundation to also mark the year of its demise.

The serious stuff over, we rounded off the evening with Liz cutting the truly beautiful birthday cake, a joint effort by Sue Archer (who baked it) and Helen Edwards (who iced it). Well done to both ladies for such a professional result.

Then, Bottoms Up! We toasted Pillaton WI with a glass of bubbly – long may it continue to offer friendship and company to women in our lovely village.

Anne Henderson

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.

WI MEETING APRIL 2012

Following the usual business section of our monthly WI meeting, we were given a talk and slide show on a wonderful holiday in Antarctica had by Alison, Liz, Trish and Ronnie (a friend of Alison's from afar.)

Before I go on to give you some details of their trip, I would like to ask you to picture a penguin and to think how it stands and how it walks. Hopefully in your mind's eye you are now conjuring up thoughts of a penguin with its wings sticking slightly out from its sides, walking quite stiffly and wobbling from side to side. Hang onto this image until later.

Our four ladies' story started right here in Pillaton when they received a list of required clothing needed to face the Antarctic weather where temperatures were way below zero. The list included thermal underwear, lots of socks, wellies and red very warm jackets. As they were also planning to visit Buenos Aires and Santiago, where the temperature would be considerably higher, 30 degrees plus, they also needed summer clothes. This meant skilful packing as the airlines baggage restriction was 20 kg.

Those of you who know Alison will know that she freely admits to taking everything for all eventualities when travelling "just in case." A very useful person to have around when you need something slightly unusual, but of course this all added to the difficulty of confining herself to 20 kg of luggage. The answer to this dilemma was to wear several layers to travel in – they didn't have a picture showing us the result of this decision but I am sure we can all make a good guess at what they might have looked like!

After an overnight flight they landed in Buenos Aires and went to their hotel. Once there they overcame their lack of sleep and signed up to go immediately on a city tour followed by dinner and the opportunity to see people dancing the Argentinian tango. They also signed up to visit a Gaucho ranch the next day.

The city tour was interesting where amongst other things they saw brightly painted houses, an English clock tower with a Royal coat of arms and the cemetery where Eva Peron is buried. They also saw a giant Ombu tree where it is said that people used to sit and play chess. However on that day, only one man was there dancing the Argentinian tango by himself. This was the forerunner to watching more of this dance during dinner. Liz's description was "Sex on legs, very raunchy and not a bit like Strictly Come Dancing!"

The next day heralded the visit to the Gaucho ranch where there was a choice of transport to go around the ranch. The choice was by buggy or on horseback. Three of the four chose to go by buggy and the fourth, Alison, good old Alison,

decided to give the horse a go and very good she looked too. However when dismounting she caught her foot in the stirrup and had to be helped off by a very good looking Gaucho. Ulterior motive here do you think?

On the following day they had a four-hour flight which took them alongside the Andes to Ushuaia at the tip of Argentina. Their first impressions were how strong the wind was and would Trish be blown away.

Once onboard the ship the first announcement was that seasick pills were available to all. The intrepid four decided to be safe and not sorry and took these. This turned out to be advisable as it was a very rough journey through Drake's passage.

Their first view of the Antarctic they described as "stunning" and their pictures certainly demonstrated this. There were huge icebergs, smaller ones and even some that appeared to be forming cliffs.

The first island visited was Deception Island, a collapsed volcanic cone. The passengers were divided into small groups in order to go by zodiac around the island. Our four were in one of the last groups to go at which time the good weather ceased and the sea became grey and choppy resulting in them having to return sooner than had been hoped to the ship.

The next outing was to Paradise Harbour where again they went in small groups. Here they came face to face with actual penguins and soon learnt the "rules of the road". These were very simple - penguins can do anything and always have the right of way. Paradise Harbour itself they described as being a bit desolate with only a little bit of grass and lichens. Apparently the biggest predators were the mossies living on the penguins.

Getting ready for these trips was a bit of a task. Two pairs of socks, thermal undies, trousers, waterproofs, wellies, coats, hats and gloves were the order of the day. Now, just think back to the image you had of penguins waddling and wobbling as they walked along and transfer this image to that of the ladies well wrapped in their multi-layers. Can you see any similarities? If I had their photo to show you, you would!

So, back to the real penguins and their rights of way. There were areas roped off with notices saying "penguins only." Can they read I wonder? Apparently they were Gentoo penguins and are very friendly. They sit and "chatter" and there were a number of babies who were just balls of fluff. However as they regularly steal each other's nest building materials, Alison described them as "thieving little blighters". There was also one poor lonely Chinstrap penguin looking very sad. No one was sure where he had come from.

April Meeting Report (Cont'd)

Back on board they were able to view part of a range of mountains nicknamed "Una's Tits" after a Falklands office secretary! They also had a demonstration of ice carving resulting in a beautiful ice swan. By this time the sun was shining so it was drinks all round whilst sitting on deck and generally enjoying the ambience.

A later stop enabled them to see Megallanic penguins. These didn't seem to have much of a brain as they took the most difficult path to the beach, which entailed climbing in and out of a ditch and struggling over a tree trunk. However once there they did seem to be more organized. The babies were left in the nursery whilst the mums and dads frolicked in the water. What a wonderful sight this must have been.

Liz, Alison and Trish gave us many more stories of their adventures and certainly made me wish that I had been with them. Their pictures were beautiful and the maps and books that they had with them very interesting. The WI audience enjoyed the presentation very much. So thank you Liz, Alison and Trish.

WI GROUP MEETING

Pillaton WI is part of the Blunts group of WI's consisting of Blunts, Botus Fleming and us here in the village. The group meeting is held annually and this year was our turn on 12 April. Preparation for this event had started some months ago to make sure that we were ready. The event needed a theme so we decided to make this musical and to have the competitions – flower arranging, craft and cookery- to reflect this. So the title for the flower arranging was "Spring, Spring, Spring", the cookery "Oranges and Lemons" in the form of a drizzle cake and craft "In Your Easter Bonnet" in the form of a decorated hat. We also decided that as entertainment we would ask the Larrick Lads, a male voice choir from Saltash, to come and join us.

The meeting opened with everyone singing "Jerusalem", which, with so many of us there sounded wonderful and raised the village hall roof. The first part of the meeting was taken up with various notices and information being given by the presidents of each WI and a WI adviser. Whilst this was happening, the competition judging took place.

The judges were: Floral art – Betty Bray, Cookery – Shirley Floyd and Hats Joyce Moore.

The winners were: Flowers – Sue Archer, Pillaton, hats – Alison Downing, Pillaton and the cake Jenny Miller from Blunts. Phew, thank goodness one of the winners came from another WI!

The flowers were very pretty and spring like, the cake looked moist and inviting and the hat amazing. On the crown sat a tambourine suitable decorated with musical notes. Nestling in this was a nest full of eggs and a little duck just hatching. This duck even quacked and lit up when asked.

Following this the Larrick Lads entertained us with a wonderful selection of songs. They are a male voice choir, led by Paul, but for this event they had one Larrick Lass, Claire who played the flute and is Paul's daughter.

Some of the songs they sung were "There is Nothing Like a Dame", "One Voice", "Rhythm of Life" and "Boardwalk." Claire's solos, accompanied by Paul on the piano were "Pie Jesu" and a song from Les Miserables. It was terrific and everyone seemed to enjoy it.

As a group they are fun and lively and Paul arranges the music to suit their voices. Darren who plays the organ in Pillaton Church accompanied them on the piano. Darren had just become a father for the first time to twins, so he was flying high.

After this it was refreshment time. Many of the Pillaton WI ladies had made various "nibbles" both savoury and sweet, which were arranged very prettily by Rosemary and her gang in the kitchen and passed around to our guests, who were very appreciative.

We ended the evening with a rousing rendition of The National Anthem. All in all it was a very enjoyable evening and now Pillaton WI can relax as it won't be our turn to host this event for another couple of years.

Pam Lowther



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RINGING NEWS

HANDBELLS

The Pillaton and St Mellion Handbell Ringers have once again retained the Cornish Music Festival Trophy by competing in the open handbell ringing class at Truro. This year we rang Bach's 'Air on a G String' and 'Chariots of Fire' by Vangelis. The latter is an exciting arrangement of a well-known melody using several ringing techniques and we thought particularly appropriate for Olympic Year.

Back in February the team also won the Saltash Music Festival Handbell Trophy, narrowly beating the St Dominick team who won it last year, whilst in May we shall be entertaining French visitors involved in the Callington Twinning Association exchange.

Our Wednesday practices continue to be pleasant occasions combining musical challenges with a friendly social evening.

TOWER BELLS

The tower bell ringers recently held their AGM at the Weary Friar, combining it with a nice meal and a few glasses of wine. The Captain, Richard Warwick, reported on another successful year with the ringers continuing to make progress. The new eight bells have attracted visiting ringers from all over the country who have all been impressed with the quality of the peal. He said it was now time to recruit new ringers so that the tradition of bellringing in Pillaton remains strong and asked everyone to spread the word to anyone who might be interested in learning to ring.

Tower bell ringing is a friendly pursuit, suited to all ages. Children can learn to ring as soon as they are tall enough to reach the ropes (we have boxes for smaller ones to stand on!) and there is no upper age limit (ringers in their 90s are not uncommon). It exercises the body without putting too much stress on joints or muscles and most people can learn to handle a bell within a few weeks or months. Once the physical skills are mastered, those who wish to can challenge their minds by learning method ringing – a series of patterns of changes requiring memory and coordination. Tuesday practices start at 7.30 pm and are always followed by a get together in the Weary Friar at 9 o'clock.

Anyone interested in bellringing of any sort can contact Richard or Maire Warwick at Butternhill, The Row (01579 350711).

DOGS

I have recently seen notices around the Village about noisy dogs and have heard about dogs fouling and not legally under control i.e. roaming without their owner. Firstly, the vast majority of dog owners in the Village always have their dogs under control and pick up after their dogs whilst out giving them exercise. However, in case you are the exception I have laid out below current controls under which Cornwall Council can take action.

Barking dogs: Environmental Protection Act 1990

Whilst dogs are allowed to bark, they are not allowed to bark so that it causes a nuisance. It is a matter of fact and degree in each case and factors that may be taken into account include the volume, duration of the barking and the time of day it happens.

If a complaint is made to a Council, they have a duty to investigate it. The Council may serve a Noise Abatement Notice and if the barking continues then they may prosecute under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. The likely penalty is a fine.

Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

It gives Councils the power to make orders regarding dogs in their area providing the offence relates to the control of dogs if it relates to one of the following matters:

- Fouling of land by dogs and the removal of dog faeces
- The keeping of dogs on leads
- The exclusion of dogs from land
- The number of dogs which a person may take on to any land

It is not an excuse, in law that you were not aware of the fact that the dog had fouled - so you can be held responsible even if you did not see the incident, or if it is witnessed whilst the dog is straying.

The Council has the power to issue fixed penalty fines of £80 for the above.



FRUIT CASE

The last month has been bloomin' lovely, and I am already in mourning at the loss of the cherry tree blossom that hung so deliciously over my garden; it wafted as pink butterflies, confetting bed and lawn. I love the floriferous weeks full of camellias, magnolias, and now the rhodos have started. The clematis montana and rubens are beginning to explode their stars of colour in clouds over my back fence. It is almost too much beauty to cope with. I must not allow myself too much gazing as the garden is expected to return some produce in exchange for my efforts, and those boring vegetables have less beauty but more useful attributes.

I (and others) have spent the last few weeks putting in a new pond. My old pond is near the greenhouse and though a welcome distraction from jobs, has become overgrown, overstocked and in need of some radical TLC. Ponds do attract a considerable amount of wildlife, which is wonderful - except when it comes in the form of a heron! His last visit took the biscuit, (or rather a lot of goldfish) and while I appreciate how hungry he must have been to totally demolish my nets, wires and anti-cat bleepers, did he have to eat my favourite shubunkin with the most exquisite patterns?

The new pond has been placed in front of house, visible from the conservatory, and boasts a small waterfall, while the lilies and marginal plants have been re-potted and seem to be surviving the moving experience. It is not just a sleight of hand, but in moving ponds there is a vast amount of stuff, labouring and muck. The waterfall has to be fitted and supported with rocks, and plants have to be moved, just when some of the hostas have started uncurling their leaves. It is quite a job.

The fun begins when you try and catch the fish - if there are any left, as none of them come to the surface to be fed at 9.30 as they did before the heron visited. Apparently he had stood on my roof and picked out the prettiest for breakfast. The old pond was a good quality butyl liner which always leaked after the first heronic visit two years ago; the new pond is a pre-formed shape smaller in volume, but easier to manage and more resistant to piercing with beaks!

We had to half empty the pond (thank goodness I have no sense of smell) and with a huge pike-sized net and a minnow-sized net eventually caught about 60 goldfish and shubunkins, seven frogs, one toad and at least 18 newts. All were washed in clean rainwater in the 'sick-bay' fish tank before being transferred to the new pond. The last four inches of cow-pat consistency slop

at the bottom was cleared by me as the rest of the family, being possessed with perfect olfactory function, decided on a siesta instead. I do hope all those buckets of slimy slop were not as toxic as it looked or my broad bean crop will be annihilated. I did find another 22 fish hiding there too, including one tiny soul rescued from the bean bed! I still have to finish the clean up, reduce the size of the pond and keep it wild, as the frogs will soon hop back there.

The problem of heron and cat proofing has been researched, and I have used a floating pond net which is so much more discreet than the open shaft mine fencing, netting and wires that had failed so spectacularly. The reconditioned ultra sonic catwatch will also help to repel ferals looking for a free lunch.

On the subject of muck, which usually goes with money - what of the new money-saving rubbish contract by our beloved council. Huge vehicles that won't fit, bins and coloured bags that arrive late or not at all! I got my flash bags but the first time they emptied them, my red one disappeared with the contents... that's enthusiasm for you.

I often gripe about the anti-social behaviour of dog owners failing to clear up after their own dogs as it gives us all a bad name - especially as there seems to be MORE dog mess around than ever before. Thank you to the resident who painstakingly re-bagged the Niagara Falls of overflowing poo-bags at the dog bin by the sewage works! Is it three or four full sacks still waiting collection after five weeks? Such a charming entry to our village by the sign, and if this continues we can stack these accumulating sacks in a neat archway, like Noddy's Toyland. Better still we could deliver them to the council as a token of our disgust at their failure to provide an adequate service.

It was sad to hear of the death of one of the Pillaton dogs, run over in the village. It should remind us all that dogs are creature of instinct to which they will respond quicker than any human command. Dogs, I've always felt, should be on a lead, particularly in a village with no pavements.

Lastly, a few weeks ago a healthy, large pet rabbit was causing concern when discovered munching its way through Jenny's flower beds, and nobody knew who owned him. Maybe there should be a register of animals and addresses? He hopped from garden to garden enjoying himself with his more than five vegetable portions a day, and leaving a denuded path behind him!

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DIARY FOR THE BENEFICE

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>DAY</u> | <u>SERVICE</u> | <u>CHURCH</u> |
|-------------|------------------|--|---------------|
| 20 May | Sunday | 1000 Morning Service | St. Mellion |
| | | 1115 Sung Eucharist | Landulph |
| 22 May | Tuesday | 0915 Said Mass | St. Mellion |
| 27 May | Pentecost Sunday | 1115 Pentecost Benefice Mass and Faith Lunch | Landulph |
| 29 May | Tuesday | 0915 Said Mass | St. Mellion |
| 02 Jun | Saturday | 1000 Coffee Clack, Rectory Room | Cargreen |
| 03 Jun | Trinity Sunday | 1000 Matins | Landulph |
| | | 1115 Eucharist With Hymns | St. Mellion |
| | | 1530 Jubilee Service on the Village Hall Field | Pillaton |
| | | 1700 Jubilee Service with the Methodist Church on the Football Field | St. Dominick |
| 05 Jun | Tuesday | 0915 Said Mass | St. Mellion |
| 10 Jun | Sunday | 1000 Matins | Pillaton |
| | | 1115 Sung Mass | St. Dominic |
| 12 Jun | Tuesday | 0915 Said Mass | St. Mellion |
| 17 Jun | Sunday | 1000 Father's Day | Pillaton |
| | | 1115 Sung Mass | Landulph |
| 19 Jun | Tuesday | 0915 Said Mass | St. Mellion |
| 20 Jun | Wednesday | 1200 Pasty Lunch, Rectory Room | Cargreen |
| 24 Jun | Sunday | 1000 Morning Praise | St. Dominic |
| | | 1115 Sung Mass | Pillaton |
| 26 Jun | Tuesday | 0915 Said Mass | St. Mellion |
| 01 Jul | Sunday | 1000 Morning Praise | Landulph |
| | | 1115 Eucharist with Hymns | St. Mellion |
| | | 1800 Benefice Evensong | St. Indract |
| 3 Jul | Tuesday | 0915 Said Mass | St. Mellion |
| 8 Jul | Sunday | Cherry Feast Day | |
| | | 1000 Benefice Mass | St. Dominic |
| 10 Jul | Tuesday | 0915 Said Mass | St. Mellion |
| 15 Jul | Sunday | 1000 Matins | Landulph |
| | | 1115 Sung Mass | Pillaton |
| 17 Jul | Tuesday | 0915 Said Mass | St. Mellion |
| 22 Jul | Sunday | 1000 Matins | St. Mellion |
| | | 1115 Sung Mass | St. Dominic |
| 24 Jul | Tuesday | 0915 Said Mass | St. Mellion |
| 29 Jul | Sunday | 1000 Benefice Mass | Landulph |

ST MELLION WITH PILLATON PCC
HONORARY TREASURER'S SPONSORSHIP 2012

Although the effort this year consisted of three Half Marathons, rather than the full distance, I was becoming so slow, there would become a time when I would have been gathered in by the sweepers and/or back stop St. John's Ambulance or the like along the way.

Therefore, I have completed the tasks without injury, and if you see me treading the tarmac from now on, it will be on a voluntary basis!

Regardless of the above, the Fund is now in excess of £3000 and still moving, for which I am truly grateful. It may well be that some of you were waiting for this moment before responding with your form and donation, or may even have misplaced it. In that case there are spares in Church, or in my car, until 31 December when the year end accounts are prepared.



Although I shall miss the atmosphere of the big event, one has to question the wisdom of ignoring old father time, but with all your help, I shall do similar next year, for we constantly have the responsibility of maintaining our TWO Grade 1 listed Church Buildings for the benefit of this very special Community in which we are privileged to live.

Jim Bennet - Hon Treasurer

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

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Contact: Jim Bennet ACIB.MLIA (Dip)

Honorary Treasurer, St. Mellion with Pillaton P.C.C.

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Tel. and Fax: Liskeard 01579 350067 Mobile: 07979 644990

Email: jim.bennet@foxhollows.co.uk

COPY FOR VILLAGE NEWS

Deadline for copy: Monday 9th July 2012

Publication date: Friday 27th July 2012

Copy should preferably be e-mailed to my office e-mail address at
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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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