



Winter 2023 Newsletter

A happy New Year to everyone – last year's drought has finally come to a definite end thanks to a relentless procession of South Westerly storms.

First of all, here are some important dates for your 2023 diaries:

Annual General meeting

To take place on the evening of *Maundy Thursday 6th April* at the Perceval Institute in St Minver. Formal proceedings will start at 6.30pm and last for about an hour. Members are warmly invited to come along at any time from 5.30pm for drinks and nibbles, and to meet fellow Trebetherick residents. AGM papers will be emailed to you 3 weeks in advance, with the opportunity to add items to the Agenda.

Easter Beach Clean

The usual Easter beach and footpath clean-up will take place on the same day and time (*Easter Saturday, 8th April* from 10.00-12.00) as the defibrillator training session (see below). Clare and Jonathan Beard will have gloves, bags and pickers for you to collect at the top of the steps to the beach. There will be Easter Egg treats for all so bring family and/or friends.

Defibrillator Training session

The defibrillator funded by the TRA is now in place on the wall of Daymer Bay Beach Shop, by the entrance to the car park, kindly hosted by shop owners Tony and Noelle Bayliss. A free training session with Alan from Duchy Defibrillators, has been organised by Gus Grand. The training lasts 90 minutes and will take place on *Easter Saturday, 8th April 2023* between 10.00 and 11.30. Come along and learn how you might just save a life! If you are intending to attend, please email Jonathan so we can have an idea of how many to expect:

jon.d.beard@gmail.com

Summer Party

This will take place on Bank Holiday *Saturday 26th August*, 6-8pm, in the wildflower meadow below Undertown, by kind permission of Guy and Annabel Wilson. More information nearer the time.

And here are some of our main news items:

TRA Committee and Website

There have been some changes to the TRA Committee. Endellion Sharpe, who has been the Chair for a very long time, has stepped down to be replaced by Jonathan Beard and Simon Smith sharing the role. The Committee would like to thank Endellion for her commitment, as she has been exceptionally active in her period in office in developing a record of the history

of local houses and their families, keeping everyone updated with local politics, as well as being the instigator of the annual summer parties.

The Committee is always looking for new members. It meets four times per year, with most meeting being held on Zoom, and so the work is not particularly onerous. Any TRA member who is interested please contact Jonathan Beard: jon.d.beard@gmail.com

The TRA website has also undergone a redesign, although our website address remains unchanged: <https://trebetherick.org.uk> The new website contains information about the area, useful links, contact details for various Committee Members, previous newsletters and details of forthcoming events, including those mentioned above.

Trebetherick Stores – Update

The new owners, Jonathan and Judith Armstrong, write:

“We’d both like to thank everyone again for their support in getting the shop re-opened. Anyone who has been in the village in the winter will have seen that the shop has been completely redecorated outside – we have stayed with the traditional blue and white but smartened everything up and restored the woodwork. There’s also a local family living in the flat above the shop. We’ve been working hard to get the shop itself ‘tenant ready’ and we hope to have some good news to share shortly about the new shop tenants and their plans. It will be quite an upgrade when it opens up again with a new ceiling and floor – even if it looks a bit worse at the moment as we upgrade the water and electricity supplies.

We have had a setback as some of you know with the proposals for year-round double yellow lines. We know that many people have written to Cornwall Council, to St Minver Lowlands Parish Council and Scott Mann MP and we’re grateful for your support. As far as we know no-one in the village was consulted about these plans despite both Councils knowing about the plans to re-open. We think these proposals won’t just impact on the shop, but they’ll also lead to traffic being displaced throughout the village including putting more pressure on Daymer Lane. We’re also worried that that the new ‘Clearway’ which is proposed will increase traffic speed through the village, which seems at odds with the proposal being considered by Cornwall Council for a blanket 20mph speed limit for all residential areas in the County. Cornwall Council seem now to accept that they have not met their obligations in putting the scheme together and being transparent about it but we’re waiting on their decision now as to whether the restrictions will be put in place.

Despite the setbacks we’re still hoping to have the shop open for the summer – and sooner if we can. We’re happy to keep people updated via the TRA Newsletter, or if you use social media you can follow our progress on the Trebetherick Stores Twitter account here:

<https://twitter.com/TrebStores> or <https://www.instagram.com/trebetherickstores/>

Thank you all again for your kind wishes.”

Jonathan and Judith Armstrong

Appeal for new Directors to join the Board of the Daymer Bay Community Interest Company (CIC)

The TRA set up a Community Interest Company in 2016 when, to save money, Cornwall Council closed approximately 200 public toilets, including those at Daymer Bay. Following some essential alterations to the building, particularly the installation of water saving toilets, the CIC signed a lease with Cornwall Council and reopened the Daymer Bay toilets on 1st April 2019. Since then, despite many problems, including drain blockages, vandalism, the need for many repairs, and the covid pandemic, the CIC have managed to keep the toilets open and, with the help of some generous donations from TRA members, have run an effective business without financial loss, supported by donations to cover the shortfall from entry charges.

The CIC is run by a group of eight Directors, four of whom are now youthful octogenarians, and another who has recently resigned. The three principal executive Directors all fall into the youthful elderly category and so it is time now for us to appeal to a few of the younger members of the TRA to offer to step forward and join the board of Directors so that they can be trained up to take on the roles which some of us, including me, wish to relinquish in the next twelve- eighteen months.

None of the Directors receive any payment for the work they do; it is all done on a voluntary basis. The difficult and unpleasant day-to-day practical problems are dealt with by Joe Herzberg who is contracted by the CIC to deal with all the operational and cleaning matters. Therefore, the work of the Directors is not onerous; it is essentially to deal with overall strategic and financial decisions. The most useful experience for those considering responding to this appeal are Board experience, legal training, accounting skills, or technical experience in mechanical engineering. None of these skills is essential, but any one of them would be useful.

Please don't hesitate to email henry@henryherzberg.com if you are interested in joining the Daymer Bay CIC Board.

Footpaths and Footpath Signs

Several years ago, the TRA identified a number of problems with the footpaths around their local area. This included:

- Missing 'Public Footpath' signs where footpaths met roads
- Missing way markers along footpaths (marked with yellow arrows)
- Many overgrown sections and some obstructions caused by landowners
- Dangerous stiles and bridges

We also realised that although residents might know where a footpath ended up, many holidaymakers had no idea and either ended up in the wrong place or off a footpath completely. We think that footpaths are very important for residents and holidaymakers because of our narrow roads that often have poor visibility with no verges or footways for pedestrians to avoid oncoming traffic.

We have therefore instituted a remedial action plan which includes:

- Volunteers to cut back overgrown footpaths, aided by St Minver Lowlands Parish Council workers.
- Liaison with the CCC Countryside Access Team and local landowners regarding removal of footpath obstructions and repair of dangerous stiles and bridges. The dangerous bridge at the bottom of Lower Hobby Field had been kindly replaced by Hartley Hore, from Restharrow Farm and the rotten stile replaced with a kissing gate courtesy of the Trustees of Trenain Farm (see picture below). These two improvements have greatly improved pedestrian access to St Enodoc Church.
- Raising funds through art exhibitions and subscriptions for 10 new footpath signs with direction indicators, which have recently been installed around the local area by Parc Signs from St Austell (see picture below).



Wadebridge Sports and Leisure Centre

An upbeat article in the current issue of The Link (Winter 2022) reports a huge increase in visitor numbers and membership – thoroughly vindicating the takeover of this important community asset by the Friends of Wadebridge Leisure Centre (FOWLC). You may recall that they formed a Community Interest Company which successfully bid for the Cornwall Council contract to run the Centre, and officially took over on 1st September 2022, with some financial help from the TRA. Their website www.wadebridgeslc.co.uk gives full details of the charges, timetable and activities on offer, which include swimming, squash, badminton, table tennis, soft play for children and adult fitness classes. Special mention is made of teaching children to swim, vital in our coastal area for safety and enjoyment in the water – statutory lessons for primary school pupils and extended to younger secondary school students who missed out during Covid. TRA members have generously responded already to the WLC's appeal for funds, as recorded in our Autumn 2022 Newsletter – thank you! Since then, the enormous hike in energy prices has blown rather a hole in the Centre's budget, and they are now planning to install renewables, both solar PV panels and solar thermal tubes. Good for the planet, as well as the Centre. Information on how to donate to this invaluable local cause can be found on their website, address above. Dropping a note to Scott Mann, MP for North Cornwall could also be helpful, urging him to persuade the government to include public sports centres and swimming pools in the category to get additional help when the present energy price cap ends on 31st March 2023, given the health and wellbeing benefits they provide. His email address is scott.mann.mp@parliament.uk

Environmental Update

Beach and Dune Erosion

The winter storms have wreaked havoc with the dunes along our side of the Camel Estuary. The waves during one storm surge in late November, which coincided with a high tide, threatened to wash away the fencing protecting the dunes behind Daymer Beach (see photo) and swept away 8 metres of dune and the footpath from the dunes beyond Brea Hill (see photo). The debate about whether the daily dredging of sand from the Estuary is responsible for the problem is ongoing but we continue to be largely ignored by Padstow Harbour Commission!



St Enodoc Golf Club

The Golf Club undertook a massive clearance of wetland and woodland in early December, apparently with the aim of improving water flow along the stream so they could increase the amount that they pump from the stream up to their reservoir, which they use for watering their greens in the summer (see photo). The unfortunate consequence of this increased water flow is that the ponds lower down filled with silt and then the path over the stream collapsed! (see photo). Perhaps they need to learn the lessons of water capture by upstream wetlands and introduce some beavers?



Dark Skies

Residents have complained about excessive use of outside lighting in the gardens around Trebetherick. These may be pretty, but they are damaging to wildlife such as bats, who avoid these lit areas, which ironically attract many insects like moths to their death, upon which they feed. This causes a 'vacuum' effect which can lead to starvation. Excessive light pollution also affects our ability to see the stars and Milky Way in our splendid dark skies. It also sets a bad example when we have all been asked to reduce electricity consumption. Please would you ensure that any outside lights are not excessive, are directed towards the ground, and are turned off when not in use.

Cornwall Devolution

The government and Cornwall Council have negotiated a proposed Devolution Deal, which if accepted would hand over *“more funding to invest in Cornwall's future and more control over the decision-making that affects Cornwall's residents and businesses”*. The Council believes that The Deal would help deliver the 'shared vision for a cleaner, greener, fairer and more inclusive Cornwall' by 2050, in line with the Cornwall Plan 2050 created following an extensive listening campaign beginning in 2020.

The key points of The Deal identified to achieve this are:

- to grow a creative and innovative carbon zero economy
- to address the housing crisis
- to improve Cornwall's transport connections
- to protect and enhance Cornwall's natural environment and landscape, its culture, language and heritage, including support for Cornish distinctiveness
- to improve health services

However, as a condition for granting the devolution deal, the government requires Cornwall Council to change its governance arrangements – specifically to move to a directly elected Mayor. This would be an additional post to the current 87 elected Member seats on the Council. The Mayor would appoint a Cabinet from the elected Members of the Council, just as under current arrangements the Leader of the Council does now. The Mayor would provide a single point of accountability to the people of Cornwall, and serve as an ambassador for Cornwall at national and international level to attract more investment into the county.

This is only a very brief summary of the proposed Deal and its potential impact. To find out more, and to take part in Cornwall Council's consultation on the governance changes to a directly elected Mayor, you should visit the website: www.letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/bigdeal

New Parish Priest

The North Cornwall Cluster of Churches has appointed Revd Craig Marshall to be priest in charge of the parishes of St Kew, St Endellion with St Peter's Port Isaac, and St Minver with St Enodoc and St Michael's Porthilly. He comes to Cornwall from Yorkshire, where he was Rector of the Benefice of Lower Wharfedale in the Diocese of Leeds. Revd Marshall will be licensed by the Bishop of Truro, the Rt Revd Philip Mountstephen, 7pm on Tuesday 28th February, at St Endellion Church.

Bill Nimmo is continuing in his role of the Commissioned Service Leader at St Enodoc and the Committee would like to thank him for his support for the stile on the footpath to the church being replaced by a kissing gate.

In Memoriam

Longer-standing TRA members will remember Jonathan Stedall, TV documentary producer and director, who sadly died in October aged 84. Jonathan became a very good friend of Sir John Betjeman, Poet Laureate 1972-84. He was responsible for the BBC TV films *'Summoned by Bells'* in 1976, based on Sir John's verse autobiography of the same name published in 1960, and then *'Time with Betjeman'* broadcast in 1983 the year before Sir John died at his home in Trebetherick. Happily, both these productions are now available on BBC iPlayer; both feature our wonderful corner of Cornwall which Sir John had known and loved since childhood. Jonathan himself was a Trebetherick house-owner for a little while, first Whitebays and then Daymer Dunes. He subsequently remained friends with many people locally and often visited the area. May he rest in peace.

That's the end of this Winter's Newsletter.

If you have any questions, important news or wish to let us know about a problem in our area, then please email TRAenquiries2022@gmail.com

For membership and subscriptions, please email m.somers113@gmail.com