



## TREBETHERICK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

### Winter 2025 Newsletter

The TRA Committee would like to wish all our members a very happy New Year.

North Cornwall missed most of the heavy rain and strong winds which affected Wales, North-West England and Scotland in late December and early January, although our New Year weather was depressingly dull and damp. Storm Éowyn hit the UK on 24 January. This was the UK's most powerful storm for over a decade, with a wind speed of 100mph recorded at Drumbalin in Lanarkshire. Once again, North Cornwall escaped the worse of it - the red warning areas of Northern Ireland and Scotland being badly affected.

Of the many shipwrecks in our area this one of 1939 can still be visited. Probably not for very much longer as there's very little left but the rusted remains are easy to reach from off the footpath at Trebetherick Point. The HMS Medea was being towed from Portsmouth to a breaker's yard at Newport, Gwent when it broke its towrope in a gale off Trevoze Head on the night of January 2<sup>nd</sup> 1939, drifted into the mouth of the Camel Estuary and grounded on Greenaway rocks. Searchlights from the Trebetherick and Port Isaac coastguard teams lit up the scene, where the crew of the Medea were huddled on the bridge. The teams fired six rockets with lines towards the Medea with the sixth being successful and the crew of four were taken off by breeches buoy, a fifth member of the crew had previously been lost overboard.

Local Jenny Oaten tells how her husband Brian was born in Trebetherick in the same storm! She tells how "The storm was so strong that the Trebetherick coastguards told us they had to crawl on hands and knees to get to a position on Greenaway where they could fire their rocket breeches buoy rope-based rescue devices. They had to call for Port Isaac coastguard back up who had bigger rockets"

HMS Medea was built in 1915 as HMS M22, a M15-class Monitor warship with a crew of 69. It was converted and renamed around 1925 as a minelayer, and then in 1937 as a training ship. Captain V S Rashleigh presenting the Board of Trade Shield for the most meritorious service of 1939 by any Rocket Life-Saving Apparatus Company, to Coastguard Macdonald, of Port Isaac, and Volunteer R S Male, of Trebetherick, for the rescue of the four crew.



This photo of the wreck appeared in the Cornish Guardian newspaper on Thursday 7 March 1940. In the background are the LSA crews, and police officers who assisted at the rescue. Many thanks to Andrew Leigh for his recent Facebook article.

## TRA Committee

In 2024, we welcomed several new members to the TRA Committee following the retirement of several Committee members. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to our outgoing members Henry Herzberg and Michael Somers. Not only have they been stalwart members of the TRA Committee for many years but they, along with Priscilla Baxter, were key in the inception and management of the Daymer Bay Community Interest Company (CIC), which has run the Daymer Bay Toilets since Cornwall Council 'washed their hands of them' some years ago. If it had not been for these members, the toilets would have closed.

Susie Hoddell has also decided to retire from the Committee. We would like to thank her for all her contributions, and in particular her help with the catering for the annual AGM and Summer Party. Susie's retirement means that we are actively looking for at least one new Committee member. If you are interested in joining the Committee, please contact the Honorary Secretary.

The current members of the Committee are:

Chair - Simon Smith  
Honorary Secretary- Jonathan Beard  
Membership Secretary - David Stevens  
Treasurer - Brian Morley  
Council Liaison - Julian Webb  
Chair Daymer Bay CIC - Ed Green  
Local News and Newsletter - Endellion Sharpe  
Website and Art Show - Clare Oakley  
Environment - Des Hobson

Contact details:

Enquiries and Events - [traenquires2022@gmail.com](mailto:traenquires2022@gmail.com)

Honorary Secretary - [trahonsec@gmail.com](mailto:trahonsec@gmail.com)

Membership Secretary- [tramemsec@gmail.com](mailto:tramemsec@gmail.com)

Website: [Trebetherick.org.uk](http://Trebetherick.org.uk)

## Daymer Bay Toilets

The Committee of the Daymer Bay Community Interest Company is deeply saddened to report the tragic death of Joe Herzberg last October. Joe worked tirelessly over the last six years to support the ongoing operation of the Daymer Bay toilets, showing incredible dedication to overcome the day-to-day problems that occur to ensure this vital facility remains open. The Trebetherick and wider community will miss him greatly, and his dedication to our common cause.

We are pleased to announce that Ed Green (Chair) and Brian Morley (Finance Director) have had productive discussions with local businesses and residents regarding the future of the public toilets at Daymer Bay. As a result, we are confident that the toilets will remain open through 2025 and hopefully well beyond. Our goal is to establish a consortium of local businesses to cover the majority of the annual costs. We hope to provide more detailed information by the time of the TRA AGM.

To improve service and reduce maintenance issues associated with the old Propelair flushing system, we will be transitioning to a conventional flushing system. Additionally, we have engaged a new cleaning company to enhance cleanliness and upkeep.

We welcome contributions to support the maintenance of the toilets. If you are able to make a one-time donation or set up a standing order, please find the bank details below:

Account Name: The Daymer Bay Community Interest Company

Account Number: 82639337

Sort Code: 55-70-45

## News From Around Trebetherick

Work to renew the electricity cables down Daymer Lane has been continuing apace. A trench from the electricity substation by the water trough down to Church Lane has been dug and filled in roughly. Tarmac will be applied to provide a smooth surface in due course. They found trying to be understanding of people who wanted to up and down the lane was delaying the work and have now closed the lane during the day from Monday to Friday. Overhead electrics are planned for 12 February when there will be no electricity down Daymer Lane during working hours. It is hoped the work will be complete by 14th February.



Underground ducts for a Full Fibre Broadband Network are being installed from the top of Daymer Lane, down Worthy Hill and along the roads towards Pityme and the Clock Garage in Rock. There will be road closures from 17 March to 4 April. Not all these roads will be closed at any one time but there will be restricted access while these works are being undertaken, although access to affected properties will be maintained throughout. When possible, the roads will be reopened when work is not in progress but there may be times when there are open excavations necessitating overnight road closures.

The suggested diversion is via Polzeath, towards St Endellion and then around to St Minver.

A large landslip on the corner of Daymer Bay during the last storm nearly closed the SW Coast Path between the Car Park and Fishing Cove Field. The slip was reported to the Council and the SW Coast Path Association, and the Council have now erected a security barrier along the edge of the path until it can be repaired. This section of the path was already of concern because loss of hardcore resulted in a large pool every time it rained. This probably contributed to the slip. There is just enough space to move the path a few metres away from the cliff edge but reinforcement of the path edge may well be required in the future.



Cornish Choughs have recently been spotted foraging on the St Enodoc Golf Course where the groundsmen have recently cleared another large area of blackthorn. Blackthorn is an invasive species and does need to be controlled, but its thickets do provide a vital protective habitat for nesting birds such as stonechats and linnets. We do hope that the Golf Club will replace the blackthorn with appropriate sand-dune ground cover and more coastal trees, which will provide a habitat and food for many species of birds and butterflies as well as reducing the risk of soil erosion.



Clapper Yard Gallery, which is the studio of potter Penny McBreen, is also exhibiting paintings by Janet Shearer. Clapper has a sale on, featuring works by both artists. You can find the gallery on the right-hand side of the road from Wadebridge to Bodmin, between Egloshayle and Sladesbridge, just before the entrance to Trelawney's Garden Centre. The Bodmin branch of Homebase on Launceston Road is scheduled to close on Sunday 16th February. Lots of bargains on offer if you are quick!

## **The Three Churches of St Minver**

A new Guide was published last October, seventy-five years after the first edition of The Three Churches Guide in 1949. Full of interesting historical and archaeological information, and acknowledging the many legends surrounding our churches, the Guide is beautifully illustrated with colour photos and lovely drawings – a fascinating read. Copies are available in all three churches: St Minver, the parish church, our own St Enodoc (North Chapel) and St Michael (South Chapel); for a suggested £5 donation (or just take one away!).

## **St Minver Community Hub**

Building a new Community Hub is quite a challenge. Although the initial schedule indicated completion of the building in December 2024 this was always a very tight schedule as building work only commenced in March 2024. Due to bad weather, minor design changes, and a necessary change of building contractor due to health issues, the project has been delayed. However, these issues have been addressed, and progress is being made with an anticipated completion date of late Spring.

There are exciting times ahead and we hope you will come and participate in the various events and activities that are now being planned in detail. We are pleased to announce the recent appointment of a Community Hub Manager Rachel Beadle. Rachel is presently based at the Mini Hub. If you would like to meet her or discuss anything Hub related, please feel free to contact her via her email: [rachel@stminvercommunityhub.org.uk](mailto:rachel@stminvercommunityhub.org.uk) or call her on 07786 072405.



We are pleased to announce the opening of a Podiatry/Chiropody Service. It is available at the Health Hub, by appointment only, on Wednesdays 9am - 5pm. Victoria Gill BSc (Hons) Podiatrist MRCPod is providing the service. As an experienced podiatrist, and active member of the local community, Vicki has returned to St Minver Health Hub offering a range of foot care solutions including, but not limited to, the treatment of corns, callus, cracked heels, ingrowing toenails, nail cutting, foot pain, plantar fasciitis, routine diabetic foot checks, and regular diabetic foot care. For appointment availability please contact Vicki Gill:

Tel: 07511 029345, Email: [VictoriaGillPodiatry@gmail.com](mailto:VictoriaGillPodiatry@gmail.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/VictoriaGillPodiatry](https://www.facebook.com/VictoriaGillPodiatry)

Funding has been obtained by St Minver Community Hub CIO for specific digital-based projects. This funding has enabled a digital history group to be established which is open to all who have an interest in the history of the parish of St Minver and want to see it preserved. If you are interested in joining the group or have some questions or information you would like to share, please contact Rachel Beadle.



## National Coastwatch Institution

On 1st January 2025 NCI Stepper Point was renamed as NCI Padstow. The idea was first put to the committee at the beginning of 2024 and it was unanimously agreed that this would be a good move and that we would use the rest of the year to consult our members, other maritime and local organisations and anyone else who might have an interest in this decision. There were no negative responses from anyone regarding our intention to change names – indeed HMCG, the RNLI and Padstow Harbour Master all thought it was the right decision. I am pleased to say that at our AGM on Thursday 21st November 2024 the resolution to change the name was passed unanimously with no abstentions or votes against. The station has now been completely rebranded and the feedback from visitors to the station has been 100% positive.

We believe that the name change to NCI Padstow will have particular benefits to our fundraising and new member recruitment and will also bind us more closely to Padstow and the local coastal communities of Rock, Trebetherick and Polzeath.

Peter Goodman, Station Manager NCI Padstow

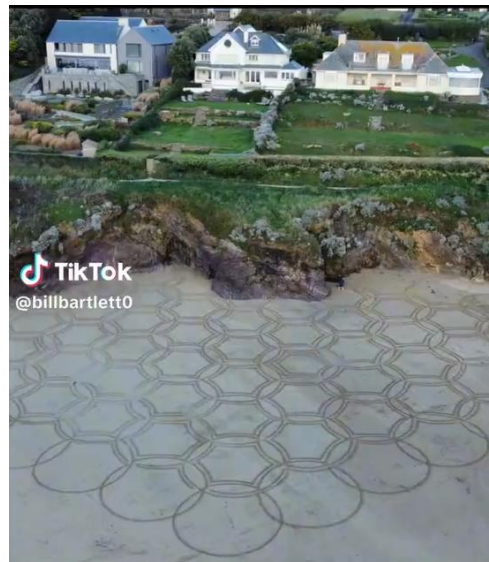
Tel: 01841 520073 Mob: 07774 235220 Text: NCI to 70450 to donate £5

Website: [www.nci.org.uk](http://www.nci.org.uk)

## North Cornwall Walks & Beach Art

Bill Bartlett is a retired teacher with over 40 years of teaching in various subjects, including Information and Communication Technology and English. He is a global wanderer whose teaching career has taken him all over the UK as well as Australia, USA, Morocco, Thailand, Cambodia, Kenya, and Bangladesh.

Bill has always been a keen walker and photographer. After retiring to Polzeath, he now organises guided tours of the local beaches and coast paths. He is also into geometric beach art and hopes to run a Polzeath Beach Art festival in the future.



Bill is currently piecing together the history of our local area. If you have any information that could fill in the gaps or add another layer of detail, then please let him know. He would also be grateful for any old photographs of the surrounding area, if you'd be willing to contribute them to the project.

Mobile: 0748 646 1998

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

Website: [www.northcornwallcoastpathwalks.co.uk](http://www.northcornwallcoastpathwalks.co.uk)

## **Future Dates for Your Diary**

**TRA Annual General Meeting:** 17 April 2025 – Maundy Thursday

**TRA Easter Beach Clean:** Saturday 19 April 2025

### **St Endellion Easter Festival 2025**

General booking for tickets opens on 15th March for this year's Festival, which takes place 12th - 20th April: [www.endellionfestivals.org.uk](http://www.endellionfestivals.org.uk)

On Saturday 12th there's a 'Come & Sing', free to all – choruses from Mendelssohn's Elijah, starting at 10am at St Endellion, with the performance at 2pm that afternoon – just turn up in good voice!

**TRA Summer Party:** Saturday 23 August 2025

## **Quiz**

Can you make a (rather appropriate!) anagram of Daymer?

**That's the end of this 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](mailto:traenquiries2022@gmail.com) or [trahonsec@gmail.com](mailto:trahonsec@gmail.com)**

**For membership and subscriptions, please email [tramemsec@gmail.com](mailto:tramemsec@gmail.com)**