



TREBETHERICK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Summer 2025 Newsletter

Weather Watch

Like much of the UK, this Spring in North Cornwall was the sunniest and warmest on record. Sunshine was 125% above average and the temperature was 1.5 degrees C above average, and this has led to some spectacular sunsets.

It was also one of the driest Springs on record (70% below average) and this trend has continued during the first half of the Summer. Consequently, our reservoirs are only 69% full, although the situation is better than the last drought year in 2022, when the reservoirs were only 56% full. At present, there are no restrictions in place, but everyone is being asked to conserve water, avoid unnecessary garden watering and be very careful with cigarettes and barbecues because of the fire risk.



Nature Watch

The weather has been very favourable for flora and fauna including butterflies, swallows, house martins and soft fruit including strawberries, blackberries and plums. A flock of Cornish Choughs were recently spotted on the St Enodoc Golf course, until they were scared off by a drive from an enthusiastic golfer! This was the largest flock seen since they recolonised the UK and they have been seen around several times since.



Daymer Bay Toilets

Ed Green, Chair of the Daymer Bay CIC Writes: As a result of a very generous donation, we are pleased to report that the legacy Propelair flushing system has now been replaced with standard flushing loos. The Propelair system was installed, with the encouragement of Cornwall Council, when the Daymer Bay CIC took over management of the loos in 2018 after Cornwall Council decided to close approximately 200 public toilets due to lack of finance. The vacuum technology used much less water than a conventional system, with the expected added advantage of less frequent emptying of the septic tanks because, like all of Trebetherick, there is no mains drainage. Water and its disposal were the major running costs, and so this seemed like a no-brainer. However, it turned out that the Propelair system needed a much steeper fall of pipes from the loos to the septic tanks to operate properly, resulting in frequent blockages which needing clearing. The new replacement system should get over this problem.

All the facilities were re-opened at the start of July 2025. The CIC team have been monitoring the loos closely since that point and the new infrastructure has been performing well. Due to the generosity of local businesses and TRA members and given the significant costs of maintenance and repair of the coin operated entry machines which were often vandalised, we have decided to provide free access to the loos over the course of the summer period. We intend to continue this policy going forward, provided we can continue to manage the maintenance costs of the loos appropriately and continue to benefit from generous support from local businesses and residents. Our core focus for the remainder of the year is to continue to make small improvements and repairs to other aspects of the loos, and to explore the conversion of the Daymer Bay Community Interest Company (CIC) into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) to enable the organisation and its donors to benefit from Gift Aid.

If any member would like to contribute towards the running of the toilets, either with a one-off donation, or with a monthly Standing Order (£20 suggested), the Bank Account details are as follows:

Account Name: The Daymer Bay Community Interest Company

Account Number: 82639337

Sort Code: 55-70-45

If we are successful in converting the CIC to a CIO, we will be able to reclaim Gift Aid up to two years in arrears

Local News

The transfer of E J Watts, butcher in Rock for many years to Philip Warren of Launceston, has now taken place. The Warren's business is similar to what we are used to from Watts – primarily locally-sourced meat, much from native breeds. Please support our local shops and give them a go!

The current issue of The Link (no.244 Summer 2025) has a selection of fascinating old photographs, some on display in the clubhouse at the St Enodoc Golf Club in Rock. Bill Bartlett, our local beach artist has also put together a Timeline for Polzeath from 1935 onwards, although he doesn't mention when the road bridge across the stream by the beach replaced the somewhat rickety-looking footbridge depicted! You can get The Link from many of the local shops, including our own Trebetherick Stores.

Cornwall to Brittany

Our Honorary Secretary, Jonathan Beard and his intrepid crew recently spent 5 weeks sailing their gaff-rigged Shrimper 21 'Tykki Dyw' (Cornish for butterfly) from Rock to Lorient in SW Brittany and back – the overnight crossing taking over 30 hours each way. Before departing they had a farewell picnic upriver in Cant Cove and left just before a storm came in from the Northwest!

Cornwall and Brittany share a strong heritage because both regions were inhabited by Celtic tribes who traded with each other, tin being an important export and Falmouth and St Malo both being significant ports. Their languages, Cornish and Breton, are closely related as are their flags - the white on black cross of Cornwall being reversed for the black on white cross of Brittany. Tykki Dyw was made very welcome in Brittany, possibly because we fly a pennant with the Kernow flag on one side and the Breton flag on the other from the top of the gaff.



The SW corner of Brittany is called Cornouaille. This can be explained by the settlement of Cornouaille by migrant princes from Cornwall who created an independent principality founded by Rivelen Mor Marthou, and the founding of the Bishopric of Cornouaille by ancient saints from Cornwall. In the 5th and 6th centuries there was a mass migration of people from Cornwall to the region of France known as Armorica (Brittany and Normandy) to escape persecution by the Anglo-Saxons. The names Cornwall and Cornouaille are derived from *Corn-Wealas*. The first element is from the Latin name for the *Cornovii* tribe meaning 'peninsula people', and from the Celtic *Kernou*, 'horn or headland'. The second element is the Anglo-Saxon suffix - *Wealas*, from *Walh*, a word used by the Anglo-Saxon Germanic speakers for 'a non-Germanic foreigner'.



Wadebridge Leisure Centre

Alastair Jones, Chief Executive writes: Following the threat of closure by Cornwall Council and the community coming together to prevent it, Wadebridge Leisure Centre became a non-profit Community Interest Company in Sept 2022 and was granted a 125-year lease by Cornwall Council. We provide affordable access to a range of activities that improve the health and wellbeing of the residents of Wadebridge and the surrounding parishes. Over the last three years we have transformed the centre into a thriving hub that welcomes everyone. Financially, we have gone from strength to strength, and our aim is to build reserves of circa 5% of revenue. However, we are not there yet, and we have relied on external support for the major repairs to the fabric of the building and equipment we inherited. Since 2022, we have received grants to improve the centre and restore it to full working order. Although the roof was refurbished prior to 2022, we have discovered that the ceiling in the main sports hall requires some major repairs. We have surveyed the area and the current estimate for the task is £30,000. We hope to carry out this work in October half term and have already secured grants of £22,500. So that we can achieve our goal, I am hoping that the TRA and its members will support us in raising the final amount of £7,500. As an individual you can also donate via the link below:

<https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/donation/support-wadebridge-sports-and-leisure-centre>

Drawing on Deep Time: Beach Art Below Brea Hill

Bill Bartlett writes: I'm your local beach artist and for the past eight years, I've had the privilege of using the vast, sandy canvases of our local coastline to create large-scale, ephemeral artworks. While much of my work is based on Polzeath beach, there's a particular stretch of sand that holds a truly special place in my heart and most of it is nestled beneath the watchful gaze of Brea Hill. This area offers a unique environment for my art. The sand itself is often perfect to work on, providing a smooth, expansive surface. And from the top of Brea Hill, the views up and down the Camel Estuary are simply breathtaking, offering the perfect vantage point for capturing these fleeting creations from above. This year, during the very first Beach Art Festival that I ran for a week based in Polzeath, we even dedicated one session specifically to creating art here on Daymer Bay under the Brea Hill.



The process of creating these large-scale designs has become a form of meditation for me. Even when I double the size of a piece, knowing my way around the circles and reference points allows for a fluid, almost intuitive flow. Yet, the beauty of beach art is its impermanence. The sand here, as magnificent as it is, "does not stay for long before the water comes back in over it." It's a reminder of nature's relentless cycle.



But beyond the fleeting beauty of the art, this particular stretch of coast holds secrets of deep time too. It's surprising to think that a few feet below this very sand lies evidence of an ancient forest. Sometimes, when the sands are shifted by a strong tide, you'll see the trunks of trees emerging from a well-preserved peat bed – remnants of a forest floor from 4,000 to 6,000 years ago. This was a time when hunter-gatherers were giving way to early farming

communities in Cornwall, and an ice age had locked up vast amounts of seawater, dropping the sea level so significantly that the ocean could have been a mile or so away from this inland woodland!

It's a privilege to create on such a dynamic canvas, connecting the ancient past with the present, even as the tides ensure our masterpieces are returned to the sands, ready for the next inspiration.

wnbartlett@gmail.com

Future Dates for Your Diary

TRA Summer Party

Saturday 23rd August from 4 to 6pm on the Wildflower Meadow below Undertown - What3Words: [photos.smarting.crystal](https://www.what3words.com/photos.smarting.crystal) Access to the meadow is via the track leading down from Daymer Lane or up the footpath beginning near the 12th green of St Enodoc Golf Course. Refreshments and nibbles are free to all members. Guests and friends are very welcome (£5 charge per head). Please bring a chair if you wish to sit and some pound coins for the raffle.

Summer Beach Clean

There will be a TRA Beach Clean on Sunday 24 August between 11am and 1pm (low tide). We will be at the car park steps with gloves, bags and pickers. Prizes for everyone!

Quiz Questions

Answer to Spring Quiz Question: *Gladiolus Byzantinus* flowers profusely in Trebetherick gardens at this time of year. What is its Cornish nickname? Answer: *Whistling Jacks*.

Summer Quiz Question: There are several houses on both sides of the top road in Trebetherick which runs down from the St Moritz Hotel towards Trebetherick Point. Near the top on the right is a house called Higher Paqueese, and down by the corner opposite Clouds' Hill is Lower Paqueese. Obviously, a Cornish word, but what does *Paqueese* mean?

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

The Editor of the Newsletter welcomes articles of local interest.

Please email him: trahonsec@gmail.com

For membership and subscriptions, please email: tramemsec@gmail.com

Website: Trebetherick.org.uk