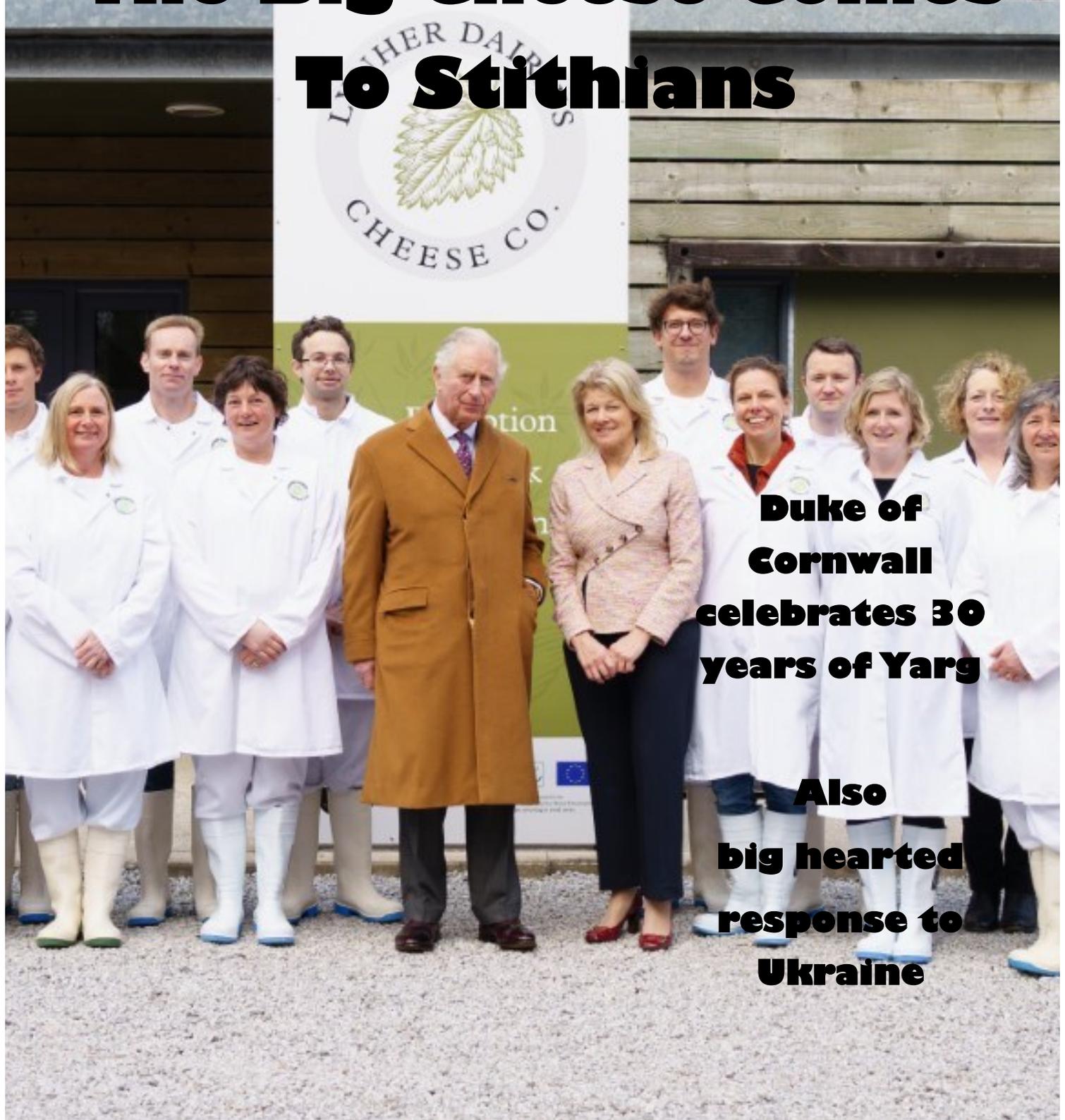


THE STITHIANS TIMES

An Termynow St Stythians

50p

The Big Cheese Comes To Stithians



**Duke of
Cornwall
celebrates 30
years of Yarg**

**Also
big hearted
response to
Ukraine**

April/May 2022

Issue 222

Prince Charles delights with visit to Lyhner Dairies



Day To Remember



Photo: Lyhner Dairies

The invite arrived by email with a caveat of “Strictest Confidence”. Would I, my wife Debby and the Parish Clerk, Jane Richards like to represent Stithians Parish and be presented to Prince Charles on his upcoming visit to Lynher Dairy Cheese Factory, home of Cornish Yarg.

The date, Monday the 7th March 2022 was soon upon us. We arrived at 10.15 and were treated to a tour of the dairy giving an insight into the processes and procedures that go into the specialist cheese production. Refreshments followed until the instruction “Wheels down” was given. The wheels in question belonged to a helicopter that had just landed at the Stithians Showground.

We promptly lined up and awaited the arrival of HRH who, I am pleased to advise arrived in an electric car (Audi eTron). The Prince worked his way down the line of the great and the good until our turn came. Being introduced as the Chair of Stithians Parish Council, the Prince said he had just come from the showground and enquired if we were having a Stithians Show this year, which of course we are?

The Prince was then given a guided tour of the dairy and

there were a few photo opportunities with the dairy staff. The plaque commemorating 30 years of cheese making was then



unveiled and the Prince was presented with some cheese, thus negating the need for him to buy

some in the recently opened shop on site.

Interesting asides included the turning away of 2 delivery lorries by heavily armed police during the visit. One was subsequently advised by Debby on her way to work, that the visit was over, and he could now make his delivery.

Also, despite 3 professional photographers & a TV crew from Spotlight attending no-one managed to take a picture of me and the Duke of Cornwall to show my grandchildren. Oh well, I will just have to show them this issue of the Stithians Times instead.

Phil Blease

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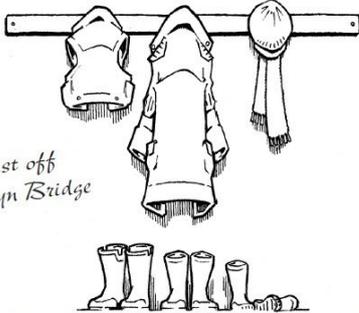
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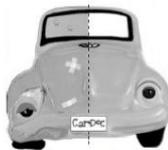
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A cake sale raised more than £800 for Ukraine. Stithians also sent plenty of clothes and essentials to help the refugees from the war.



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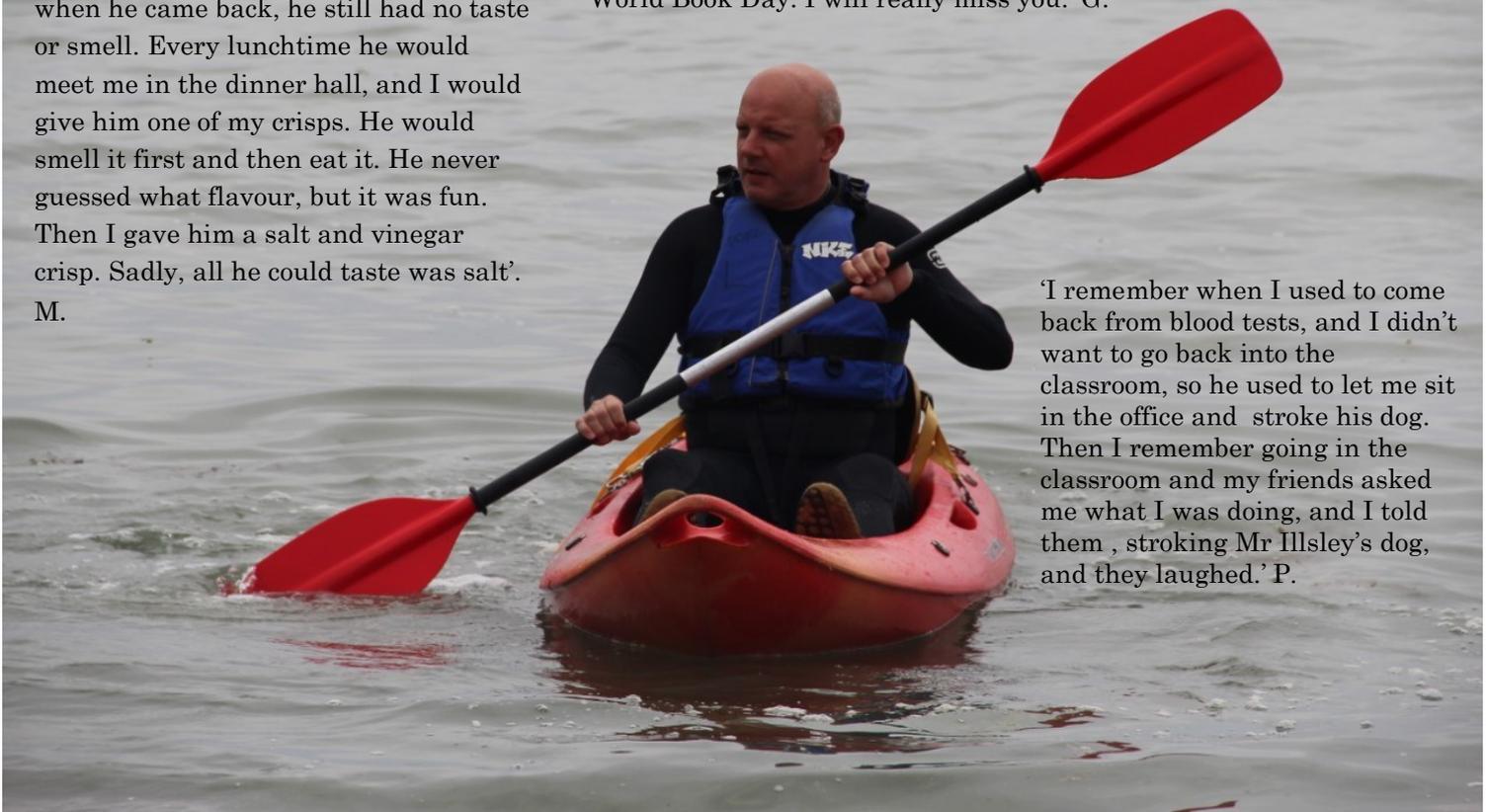
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Bye Bye To Popular Head



I remember when Mr Illsley had Covid 19. It wasn't the best of times but still, when he came back, he still had no taste or smell. Every lunchtime he would meet me in the dinner hall, and I would give him one of my crisps. He would smell it first and then eat it. He never guessed what flavour, but it was fun. Then I gave him a salt and vinegar crisp. Sadly, all he could taste was salt'.
M.

'Thank you for being the best headteacher. I liked it when you came over to our house because your son was about to join the Royal Navy, and your son and you came over to chat about it. Thank you for waiting outside school for everyone to come in , and for dressing up as Jaws on World Book Day. I will really miss you.' G.



'I remember when I used to come back from blood tests, and I didn't want to go back into the classroom, so he used to let me sit in the office and stroke his dog. Then I remember going in the classroom and my friends asked me what I was doing, and I told them , stroking Mr Illsley's dog, and they laughed.' P.

Reflections on the retirement of a 'pillar of the Stithians community'

At the end of term sadly we will be saying goodbye to Mr Illsley after eleven years as head of Stithians School. Finally, he can ignore his alarm clock or head for the beach in his camper van or just put his feet up for the first time in 36 years!

What inspired you to go into teaching as a career?

'I always enjoyed speaking to and helping children. I used to run swimming lessons at the Coliseum in St Austell when I worked as a lifeguard.'

Where were your first jobs?

'My first job was in Farnham, Surrey for four years.

My first job in Cornwall was at Troon School where I was Deputy Headteacher for seven years. I moved to Mabe to become Headteacher and stayed there for seven years. My final move was to Stithians.

What will you miss most about being Headteacher of Stithians?

'The pupils, the staff and the parents. When I moved from Mabe I never thought I would be here for eleven years. I will leave many happy memories having looked forward to coming to work! Odd I know!'

What will you not miss?

'Covid, the ever-changing landscape of the job and managing a very tight budget every year.'

Chair of governors says 'thank you'

Stithians School has been very fortunate to have those final eleven years of Mr Illsley's career. It is sad for him that the last two years have had to be spent tackling the huge problems of the pandemic but, characteristically, he has approached the challenges in his pragmatic, reliable and consistent way, making the difficult decisions, remaining committed to providing the children with the best education possible and leading the wonderful staff team at school.

Mr Illsley and Mr Manley, the Deputy Headteacher with Miss Foster and all the other staff have moved the school forward. The school has remained happy and thriving and increased its reputation for being inclusive and welcoming. There are a greater number of children, better play areas and grounds and even a slightly bigger building.

He is a head with a great sense of humour who could connect with the children and make them laugh, but knew when he needed to be more severe, who liked to dress up when the opportunity arose, and had a brown overall on the back of his door and kept a screwdriver in his drawer for his other role as unofficial caretaker!

He went on many school journeys with the children, once notoriously spending an uncomfortable surfing afternoon in a wetsuit at least one size too small for him, but carrying on regardless!

But also, a head who, in a suit and tie with polished shoes, didn't avoid the less welcome aspects of the job: negotiating Government initiatives and directives, producing the endless amounts of paperwork demanded by the role, or resolving challenging issues in school and out of school and who tried his best to support children, staff and families as much as he could.

Mr Illsley has dedicated his working life to the generations of children who have been in his care.

As Chair of the Governing Body, I would like to thank him for that dedication and commitment and wish him the very best for his retirement.

Cath Cullen

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As one head teacher leaves, another arrives.

Although we are saying goodbye to Mr Illsley, we can look forward to welcoming our new headteacher Ms Ellie MacQuarrie at the start of the new term.

Ms MacQuarrie's passion for providing the best education for the children, her keenness to lead Stithians School and her vision for its future impressed the governors' appointment panel.

Ms MacQuarrie is currently teaching in Cornwall and has had different experiences of leadership roles in Cornwall and Bristol as an assistant head and vice principal.

Ms MacQuarrie's skills and experience will build on the strengths of the school that Mr Illsley has secured. We wish her well.



The Evergreens have been around forever with their meetings in The Stithians Centre, outings to many interesting places in Cornwall and their happy conviviality.

Sadly though the pandemic and dwindling numbers mean the Evergreens have become the Nevergreens with the long standing and hard working committee of Mollie Pascoe, Marlene Brush and Leonard Barter stepping down. They say the Evergreens have run their course and are being closed down.

However, the demise of the Evergreens may be an opportunity for a new friendship club to rise in its place. Would you like to kickstart a club for all ages of adults to meet and chat and have a good time? A way of getting out of the house and saying hello to old and new friends in a welcoming atmosphere?

A meeting will be held in the Hendra Room of The Stithians Centre on Wednesday April the 6th at 2pm to discuss this possibility. Maybe the Evergreens will morph into the Wednesday Club with attractive activities for all.



PARTY in the PARK

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Sunday 5 June

Save the Date! Sunday 5 June will be a day of fun, entertainment and competitions for all the family at Stithians Party in the Park, bringing the community together to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Look out for more information coming soon. Sign up to The Stithians Centre free newsletter to receive regular updates. You can register at stithianscentre.org.uk

Storm Eunice Batters Stithians



High winds and lashing rain. No electricity. No Wifi. Trees toppled. The school closed because of the weather. Luckily no-one hurt in Stithians parish.

Those were the headlines after Storm Eunice battered and bashed the British Isles, sadly taking lives in other parts of the country. The latest in a series of major storms saw record winds of 122 mph off the Isle of Wight.

As usual Stithians rallied. The Neighbourhood Facebook page was inundated with offers of help. People made extra meals for those without power. Others trekked to neighbours for a much needed shower. The church opened its doors to hand out hot drinks. Families played board games!

We were lucky that the worst anyone suffered was from the cold, though in the middle of winter that was bad enough. Big branches broke and trees crashed but no-one was nearby.

And these trees in the photos? One should live. The other will become furniture and logs, helping to heat during any future power cuts.

Denis Nightingale

Success, Sunshine and Savings

In 2021, 48 solar panels were fitted to the roof of The Stithians Centre (TSC), closely followed by 2 Tesla Batteries in October 2021.

It is still early days but here are a few facts and figures relating to the system which may be of interest. Clearly these figures relate to the winter months so we will be reporting again when we have experience of running the system for a full year.

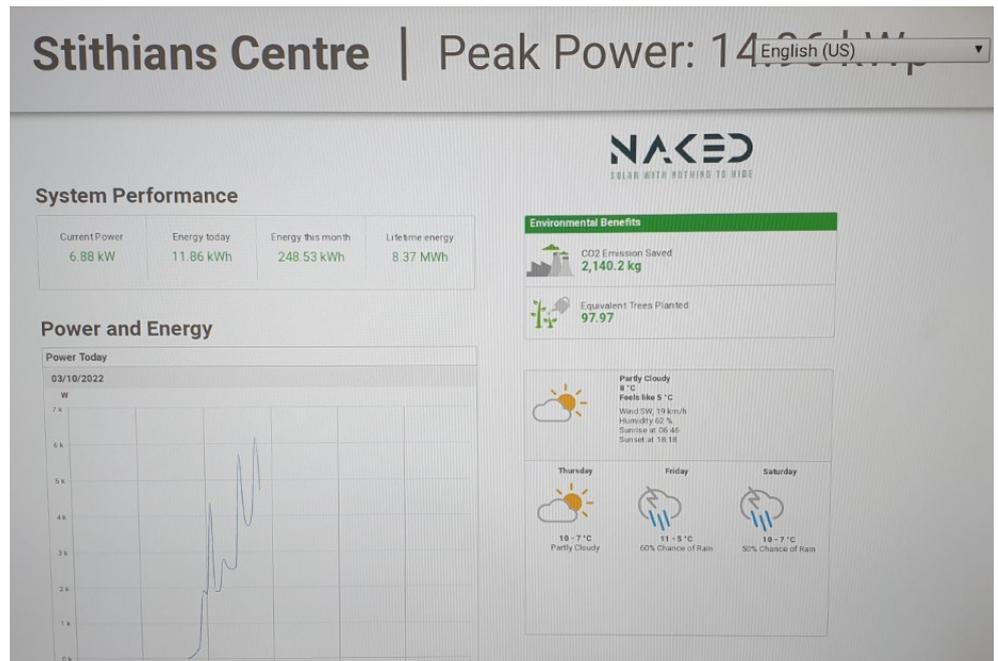
Since the solar panels were installed, we have generated 8.37MWh of energy (imagine a 1 KW electric heater on for 8370 hours or 348 days continuously). This equates to 2138.8kg of CO2 emissions saved or equivalent of 98 trees planted.

The Tesla batteries were only installed in October 2021 which has enabled TSC to store surplus energy generated by the sun and use it at a later time when the sun is not shining. Another massive benefit is that the batteries can be used if we have a power cut.

This was invaluable during the series of storms we endured in February when large parts of Stithians and surrounding areas were without power for a couple of days. TSC was off-line and without the battery back-up we would have had to cancel the February Produce Market, however it went ahead as normal and was well attended as usual.

Since the Tesla batteries were installed 15% of the electricity used by TSC (includes Pre-School) has come directly from the solar panels, 7% has come from the batteries, with 78% coming from the grid. In short during the winter month's we are seeing 22% of our electricity needs being delivered by the sun.

The installation was purchased by a grant from the Community Infrastructure Levy fund which property developers contribute to when certain planning applications are approved. A big thanks for the



incredible work by Brian Piper of Stithians Energy Group (SEG) in applying for and obtaining this grant which involved a lot of hard work.

One of the key objectives of the scheme & SEG is to educate people on what can be done to help address the climate emergency and so the scheme includes displays to provide data and real time monitoring of the system. Of course, recent moves in energy costs mean the pay-back periods for such systems will dramatically improve at the same time as helping reduce people's energy costs.

If anyone would like to see the system up close, feel free to contact me at phil.blease@btinternet.com and I will be pleased to arrange a visit.

In the meantime, we are looking forward to what we are sure will be a very sunny summer and will report back on what that means for our beloved community building.

Phil Blease



Rewilding in Stithians

Kernow Conservation is a group working with local landowners and businesses on wildlife projects in the area. At Trelusback Farm in Penhalvean we have regular volunteering sessions throughout the year which are open to everyone of any age or ability.

Volunteering with us gives the opportunity to learn about wildlife, to spend some time outdoors and to meet other like-minded people from the area and from further afield.

During autumn and winter sessions we mainly carry out habitat improvement tasks, such as scrub removal to protect areas for the rare Marsh Fritillary butterfly or clearing out ponds to provide cleaner water needed for Water Voles, which we will be reintroducing later this year.

Both Marsh Fritillaries and Water Voles are currently endangered, and the work we do at Trelusback is therefore important for protecting and restoring these species.

In addition to Trelusback we work with a few other landowners in the parish and would be keen to hear from any more who may have suitable areas of land that we could help to restore and manage.

During spring and summer, when the weather is better, and nature has sprung back into life, the sessions tend to involve nature walks, surveys and the monitoring of wildlife.

This is an equally important aspect of what we do as it provides information about how wildlife is coping and responding to changes in climate and other environmental factors, and gives the opportunity to learn about a broad range of wildlife such as amphibians, birds, insects, mammals, plants, trees, wildflowers and more.

If you are interested in joining us, either as a volunteer to help with our habitat management and biodiversity monitoring, or as a



Water Vole



Marsh Fritillary

landowner with some land to spare that we can help to restore and improve for wildlife, then please do get in touch. We can be found on all major social media channels, and we also have our own website at www.kernowconservation.org





I am delighted to now be living in the Parishes we have called the Five Saints and to be the vicar.

I began in September and moved in January into the Vicarage, St Day.

Myself with Rev'd Richard and Rev'd Ben, with retired but very active Priests Bridget, Steve and Ian, also Lay Readers Jane and Judith, are a team committed to our calling to serve.

We believe we do this for everyone. We are not a membership church. You belong because you live in the parish.

We minister across the Parishes of Stithians, Chacewater, St Day and Carharrack, with Gwennap.

Only two of that list of names I have shared are paid any remuneration, I offer this as a common cry is 'the Church of England are rich'!

We'll like so many of my farmer friends or those who own their home, perhaps asset rich but cash poor!

The Church of England is responsible for passing on the church buildings we inherit to those

who come after us. I worry that the cost of this is becoming too much.

We are here to pray and mark with you the threshold events of all our lives, birth, marriage, our death. To worship God and hear about His Son.

To be pastorally available and we seek help to know who is isolated, alone, not well.

We perhaps exist now on the margins of so many peoples lives, but our mission is to remain sustainable and fruitful.

I have lived and ministered in Cornwall since 2007, coming to Stithians from Newquay where I was the vicar.

Canon Jeremy (Jem) S Thorold

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90 years old and still singing songs



She was overwhelmed by the love that was shown to her when presented with a really enormous bouquet and decorated birthday cake.

This took place after the practice when the choir stayed behind for a cup of tea, cakes and a good natter. Tea/coffee and refreshments will take place once a month to enable the ladies some social time together.



Stithians Ladies Choir

**Copy date for
next edition**

May 10th

2022

den.i.is@hotmail.co.uk

Stithians Ladies Choir is once again united in raising their voices after many months of being silent due to Covid 19.

What a joy it is to have welcomed several very enthusiastic new members and if the Pandemic allows, all are looking forward to making a joyful and melodic sound for which Stithians Ladies have built their reputation on.

The MD, Bea Geddes is in fine fettle and energetically coaching the ladies back to full singing fitness, which of course involves a lot of fun and laughter.

The main event at the conclusion of the usual practice one Thursday was to celebrate a very special birthday of one of the greatly loved members, Thelma Rolling.

New members are always welcome to join this friendly group of ladies who meet at Carnon Downs Methodist Chapel on a Thursday from 7.30 pm 'til 9 pm.



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The joy of the Stithians Baby and Toddler Group ... meets every Thursday at 1.30pm in The Stithians Centre.

Your invitation to Generation EXPO!

A showcase of all regeneration and renewal projects in the Camborne, Pool, Illogan, Redruth and Mining Villages community network

Thursday 7 April, 11am—7pm

The Stithians Centre

Generation EXPO will showcase the wide range of capital and revenue projects that are happening in the Camborne, Pool, Illogan, Redruth and Mining Villages area that will help regenerate the socio-economics of the people and places.

With 18 exhibitors covering topics such as housing, transport, jobs, education and skills, town centre regeneration, renewable energy, green infrastructure, heritage, creativity, technology, business support and much more! There is something for everyone at this exhibition.

Come along on Thursday 7 April to find out more.

FREE entry. Café.



Alternative venues, 11am—7pm
 5 April, Camborne Community Centre
 6 April, Redruth Community Centre
 8 April, Chacewater Village Hall

Transport - (The way we get around)



Road transport accounts for 23% of Cornwall's carbon emissions. We must reduce this amount as a matter of urgency if we are to have a chance of avoiding catastrophic climate change. .

So, what are the options?

Work from home

If possible, we should work from home, as this might reduce carbon emissions from having to commute to work. However, we must not forget that it could increase emissions from home heating, lighting, computers, etc.

Walking or cycling

Instead of jumping into the car to go to work or to drop the children at school, opt to walk or cycle. It is better for your health and the health of the planet.

For those who think an electric assist bike might be an option, an e-bike promotion is being brought to Stithians. For a period of three to six months it will be possible to hire an e-bike for as little as £10 per week. Details will be published.

Public transport

Because public transport is essential in helping reduce carbon emissions, I was delighted to hear

that, this spring, Cornwall Council, under the Transport for Cornwall (TfC) partnership, will be introducing the first of a series of measures to encourage more people to use public transport.

TfC will introduce lower fares, while tickets for a specific journey are valid for any bus, regardless of operator. Under nineteens will travel half adult fare. Day Town Zone tickets at £3 per adult or £1.50 for under nineteens will be introduced.

In addition, TfC will roll out new technology so that passengers can pay for their journey with a credit card or debit card or phone to Tap on and Tap off. The TfC partnership is working with both bus and train operators to provide one public transport for Cornwall.

Private cars

We all think that, eventually electric cars will be the silver bullet to our transport needs. But this is not necessarily the case.

Electric cars are incredibly cheap to run, we run our small electric car for free during the Summer, charging from home solar panels. However, being cheap to run only compounds the problem of ever-increasing traffic congestion. Yes, electric cars will provide a useful steppingstone. But, ultimately, a very much improved public transport system will be the way forward. It is not sustainable for every person born to have their own private car.

Government

Government raises a lot of revenue from fuel duty, about 58p/litre. This levy will end as electric cars replace petrol and diesel.

Government has been investigating the possibility of charging a price per mile travelled. This could be a fair way forward if



road tax is scrapped and could be a way of restricting car use.

I'm afraid the days when private cars gave us freedom are gone, in part due to increase in the number of people and cars. Incidentally, this year Speed Limiters will have to be fitted to all new cars. This will ultimately, but not initially, automatically restrict the car's speed to the legal speed limit.

I guess, eventually, we will be dialling for an autonomous pod to take us to a transport hub for our onward journey. One thing is for sure: our current way of getting around is not sustainable.

Brian Piper



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Picture: John Colgate



With regard to the Secret Cyclist report in the February/March 2022 issue. I live in the village of Stithians and I also drive along the fairly narrow winding lanes and although I agree with the recent article, I do believe that the cyclists have a duty to protect themselves,

By this I mean that they should be very visible to the motorists and also pedestrians. A large number of cyclists wear black clothing, no high viz vests for most of them so under the grey skies and the trees they are not very visible to the motorist.

Would it not be in their own safety to either wear bright clothing that can easily be seen or, even a better idea, buy a flickering light to the rear and to the front on the bicycle? AQ flashing light really catches the attention of drivers who are then able to take care of the cyclist.

Another thing I would like to mention is the idea that cycles should also have a bell to ring. I have been surprised many times by cyclists passing me when I have been walking along the roads where there are no pavements and having to walk around parked cars, when suddenly a cyclist passes and it is quite a

shock as the sound from the bike is not readily heard and the rider is going quite fast,

If they had a bell which they could sound it would help them and the pedestrians. The last time I bought a bike I was told it correct to have a bell on the bike and should be used when passing people walking.

Lorraine Crumper



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Stithians Methodist Church

February, the Stithians congregation was joined by members of the congregations of Lanner, Ponsanooth, Frogpool, Penmarth, St Day, Carharrack and Carnkie Methodist Churches.

Worship was led by the Rev Elizabeth Harris. Pastor Jenny Lockwood (Lanner) gave the call to worship and Mary Richards (Frogpool), Jeanette Eathorne (Penmarth), and Michelle Manning (Carharrack) read Bible passages.

Prayers were led by Christine Stewart (Ponsanooth), Tom Rowse (Stithians), Susan Pearce (St Day), and John Harris (Carnkie). The



On the morning of Sunday 27th



organist was Colin Anthony. After the service tea, coffee, biscuits and cake were served in the schoolroom.

Looking ahead, Dr Euan McPhee will lead worship on Easter Sunday, 17th April at 10.45 am. The following week, 24th April, is our Chapel Anniversary and Gift Day. The Rev Elizabeth Harris will lead worship at 10.45 am and this will be followed by a lunch in the schoolroom. If you wish to attend the lunch please contact the chapel stewards in advance.

And some advance news. The chapel will be hosting a Cream Tea on Friday, 3rd June to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations and will also have a stall at the 'Party in the Park' on Sunday 5th June.

We should be delighted to see you at services or other events at Stithians Methodist Church.

Tony Langford



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Stithians Methodist Church Services

Sunday, 3rd April 6.00 pm Jean Whetham

Sunday, 10th April 10.45 am Tom Rowse Local Arrangement
Palm Sunday

Sunday, 17th April 10.45am Euan McPhee Easter Sunday

Sunday, 24th April 10.45 am Rev Elizabeth Harris Chapel
Anniversary/Gift Day

Sunday, 1st May 10.45am Maria Williams Local Arrangement

Sunday, 8th May 10.45 am Mandy Jenkin

Sunday, 15th May 3.00 pm Rev Elizabeth Harris. Circuit
Easter Offering

Sunday 22nd May 10.45 am Pastor Jenny Lockwood.

Sunday, 29th May 10.45 am Rev Elizabeth Harris

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Please note different times



Doctor's Surgery 01209 860170

Please ring for an appointment

Wear a mask



Stithians Gardening Club

We meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month in The Stithians Centre from 7pm to 9pm.

All Covid precautions taken.



All welcome



A Right Royal Day In Stithians

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