

St Dominick

PARISH NEWS

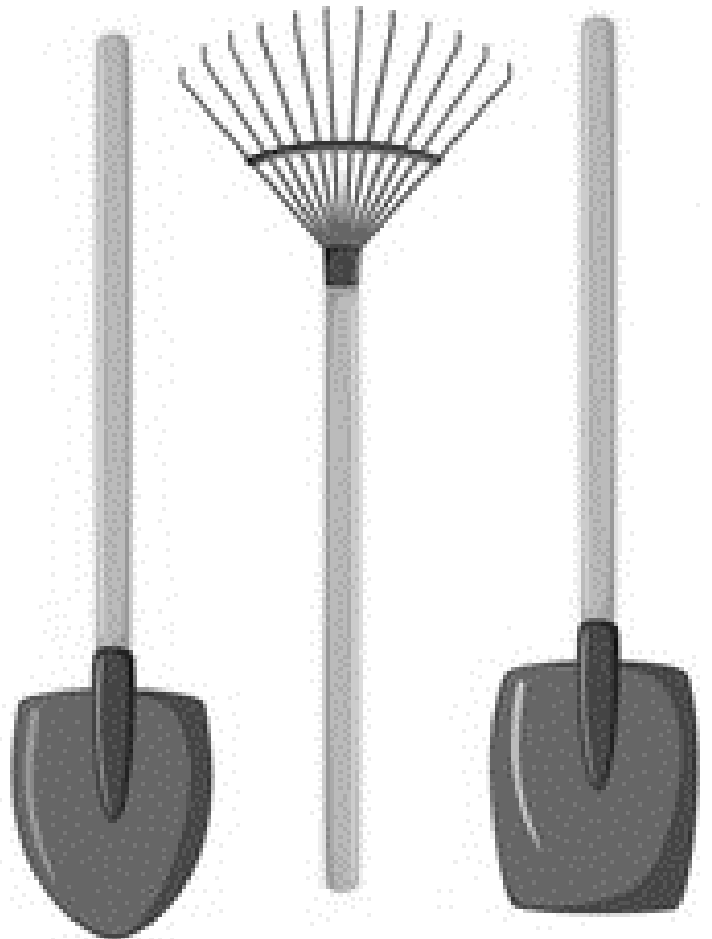
No 229 MARCH 2025

March Gardening notes

Spring usually begins to show itself in March and as the daylight hours increase there is every chance to get busy preparing seed beds and sowing seeds.

First early potatoes can be planted, traditionally by St Patrick's day. It is wise to plant just one row at first as these can be protected from frost more easily. In about 90 days they should be ready to harvest. The remainder of your seed potatoes can be planted at 2-3 week intervals.

Any broad beans or peas that you have grown in pots can be planted out into the ground now. Direct sowings of broad beans and peas can also be made now as well as sowings of Swiss chard, beetroot, spinach and radishes. Shallots and onion sets can also be planted, but



all this will depend on the soil temperature being warm enough. A good way to judge this is to follow nature and if you see the weeds germinating in your plot this is a good sign that the ground is ready.

In the flower garden sweet peas can be sown outside and herbaceous perennials such as geraniums and oriental poppies can be planted, as can summer bulbs such as lilies and gladioli. Snowdrops can now be divided and replanted and it's a good time to split the clumps of older herbaceous perennials if they have outgrown their existing space.

If it's mild and you begin lawn mowing (if you ever stopped) don't cut it too short to begin with. Don't mow if you have bulbs such as crocus and daffodils planted in your lawn, wait at least six weeks after flowering to allow the leaves to photosynthesise and feed the bulbs. Also, if it is mild, bare patches in the lawn can be seeded now.

In the greenhouse salad plants, maybe tomatoes, lettuce, cucumbers and peppers can be sown.

In your wildlife pond be on the look out for frogs, newts and toads as they return to spawn but don't be tempted to move spawn to other ponds as this can spread amphibian diseases and invasive pond weeds. This is important because there is a noticeable decline in frogs and toads in particular.

Also important is to continue to feed birds with nutritious foods as they prepare for nesting, however, try to avoid feeding on flat surfaces on a regular basis to prevent the spread of the disease that is affecting song birds at the moment, particularly finches.

So as the gardening season gets underway it gives a good opportunity to enhance our gardens for wildlife by doing such things as growing nectar rich plants and berry bearing shrubs as well as creating wild areas, compost piles and supplying suitable food, water and shelter for wildlife.

Our gardens are becoming even more important as havens for insects, butterflies bees and all wildlife in general (even moles).

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St Dominick WI

The Exciting Calstock Roman Digs in more detail!

Back in July 2023, members of the St Dominick WI met with Dr Chris Smart, an Archaeologist based at the University of Exeter, at a site near to the Church in Calstock, to find out about the remarkable discoveries that have been made there during a series of excavations. The team of archaeologists from the University of Exeter started their work on the site in 2007 and discovered a Roman Fort, large enough for around 500 soldiers that would have been housed in 10 barrack blocks. This was a permanent military base or garrison dating back to AD 50 to 80. The fort at Calstock is one of three forts currently known about in Cornwall. The Calstock site was chosen by the Roman army to build a Fort because of its strategic location, providing a view up and down the River Tamar from it's elevated position on a prominent ridge and also allowing access to a low fording place on the river bank. The fort was square in plan,

measuring 170m by 170m with an internal area about the same as three football pitches! It was defended by two ditches, each 4m across and 2m deep, and a rampart around the perimeter, perhaps over 3m high with watchtowers above it at regular intervals. Several digs took place over time, in 2009, 2011, 2019 and 2022, each time new exciting discoveries were made. Chris explained that the Roman rubbish pits located outside the fort were the best places to glean information about the activity within the fort. Amongst other finds were: a pair of tweezers, the sole of a shoe, an iron dagger inlaid with silver and a vast array of pottery. A particularly rare find was a gaming token made of local slate (one of only seven known about) that shows an engraving made by its owner, representing the gable end of a Roman garrison building!

The rich archaeological discoveries made here, show that this landscape was occupied for at least four thousand years with the first settlers dating back to Early Bronze Age (c. 2200 -2000BC). There is evidence of Late Iron Age, 350-500 BC and also Medieval and Tudor occupation in this area. We are hoping that Dr Chris Smart may return to give a talk about the Medieval and Tudor periods, fingers crossed!

If you are interested in more in depth details, Dr Smart has written a booklet and he has been kind enough to share the link with us so that you can read about the fascinating work and finds that were made on our doorstep in Calstock.

[https://www.exeter.ac.uk/v8media/research/projects/archaeology/Calstock Roman fort booklet 2024 edition.pdf](https://www.exeter.ac.uk/v8media/research/projects/archaeology/Calstock%20Roman%20fort%20booklet%202024%20edition.pdf)

Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday 12th March at St Dominick Parish Hall, 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start. Visitors are welcome to come along and meet us all. (£5).

The talk for this evening will be Mercy Ships by Ruth Croome. This is also our 79th Anniversary and there will be drinks and nibble!

Friends of the Church - Enjoy your Church Space.

Our village is named St Dominick after our Patron Saint. It is logical therefore for our Church to have been dedicated to St Dominica in 1259AD. She had come over from Ireland some 570 years earlier in 689AD (*or, to be 'religious neutral' for AD, read CE Common Era*).

(Since the Gregorian calendar has superseded other calendars to become the international standard, members of non-Christian groups may object to the explicitly Christian origins of BC – Before Christ and AD - Anno Domini).

It is always great to see the Church full with over 150 people. We have seen this twice this year, once for the Will Keeting candlelit concert and then for Norma Chapman's funeral. It does seem to be true that the Village comes together in the Church for important experiences in their daily life like weddings, funerals, carol services and harvest festivals (after all, we are an agricultural community). It is a shame we do not offer the same respect when it comes to a Sunday service, as our Victorian ancestors most certainly would have done!

The Will Keeting concert was a great success as he kept us mesmerised with his music and his amusing patter between numbers. The audience appreciation with their loud applause said it all. Thank you so much Will and to your guests, the True Foxes, for keeping us engaged in listening to your professional performances. So many of you have let it be known that our Church space is really appropriate for this kind of experience. It takes a lot of organising behind the scenes by our very good helpers in the village, and for that we cannot be more grateful than to say thank you, thank you and thank you again; particularly as we raised £640 on the night for the much-needed Church Funds.

If we are to put on more entertainment in Church, whether it is folk, jazz or classical music, theatre or poetry reading or whatever, we cannot do this without increasing our number of helpers from the village or elsewhere. We cannot (or perhaps should not) expect our existing helpers

to give more of their time and effort. Managing the Craft Fairs and other Church duties has reached saturation point and should not be allowed to be watered down.

If any of you reading this plea would like to show willing and have the appropriate skills to help in putting on other 'shows', please don't hesitate to contact Jessop Price at pricejessop@gmail.com.



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Church Lent Group

The Lent course this year is called 'Growing Good' to help us discover the gifts and resources within our local communities. We are combining with all the Churches within the Kit Hill Area and they will be held on zoom from Sunday March 9th at 4pm and on Tuesday and Wednesdays in Callington Church. It will be a good opportunity to meet others in the

wider community. Further details from Clare Lee,
clareleepcc@btinternet.com

Toddler Group, St. Dominick

There is a free weekly toddler group for children below school age accompanied by their carer. It is held in the Parish Church where there are 2 areas used for play with plenty of space for those that are mobile to run around and explore, especially useful in bad weather and they can not get outside.

The young get to see and mix with others of a similar age whilst the adults chat away with a drink and biscuit. We are informal with volunteer helpers from the village and Church.

We are open most Thursdays from 9.30 to 11.30 and all are welcome.

Concert Postponed, St Dominick

The concert by Callington Community Gospel Choir is postponed from March 28th until September 12th when we look forward to welcoming them to the Church. Further details will be announced in due course.

SAVE THE DATE!

By kind permission of Mr and Mrs J Price, Halton Quay;
Kay and Jessop are having an OPEN AFTERNOON
To raise funds for the Friends of St Dominick Church
SATURDAY 17th May 2025 from 2.00 - 5.00 pm

Entrance £5 to include Refreshments

Parish News Front cover

We are looking for a designer for the front cover of the Easter Parish News. If you would like to enter simply email your entry to ourparishnews@gmail.com or drop a copy into the village shop. There are no rules! Keep an eye out on Facebook for more information.



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St Dominic Parish Council to be dissolved

Ok, that's probably overstating the situation slightly but on Thursday 1st May 2025 all seats on parish and town councils in Cornwall are due for election, St Dominic is no exception. This means that all existing parish councillors effectively stand down, as their four year term of office comes to an end. Anyone who then wants to stand as a parish councillor in the

newly formed Parish Council must complete and submit a nomination paper to Cornwall Council.

St Dominic has ten seats on its Parish Council. If ten or less nomination papers are received then the election is uncontested and no formal ballot is required. Conversely, if there are eleven or more nomination papers received, an election will be called for May 1st.

So who can apply? Simplistically, anyone who is at least 18 years old, a British citizen and is either:

a registered elector for St Dominic

or has occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in the parish area

or whose main place of work is St Dominic

or who has lived in the parish area or within three miles

(for full details of who can and who cannot apply see the link below).

The nomination papers will be available from the shop around the 7th March and the Deadline for delivery of nomination papers to Cornwall Council is 4:00 pm Wednesday 2nd April 2025.

If you are interested in becoming a parish councillor feel free to talk to any existing councillor or Jim, the Parish Clerk, for further information.

You can also find full details here <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/the-council-and-democracy/elections/elections-and-referendums/2025-cornwall-council-and-parish-and-town-council-elections-1-may-2025/> (Including link to obtain nomination papers)

Interested? Why not give it some thought?

Alan Cox, Chairman St Dominic Parish Council

Councillor Andrew Long attended a Q and A session prior to the Parish Council meeting to update those parishioners who have not been offered Fibre Broadband. He has raised the issue with Cornwall Council and is intending to circulate a questionnaire to establish who in St Dominick Parish would like Fibre Broadband but have been told they will not be able to be connected. If you would like further information or are interested in having Fibre Broadband please contact Councillor Long or Carolyn Wilkins (email: carolyn@kellypark.net).



ST DOMINICK DIARY

March 2025

Parish Church services

- Sunday 2nd 3pm Cornish Evening Prayer at Halton Quay
- Sunday 5th 10am Ash Wednesday, Holy Communion at Pillaton Church
- Sunday 9th 10am Holy Communion
- Sunday 23rd 10am Contemporary Celtic Worship
- Tuesday 25th 9.30am Holy Communion

Toddler Group

Thursdays: 6th, 13th 20th & 27th

From 9.30 to 11.30, Free, informal play and chat, open to all under school age with an adult.

For details of Services in other Churches of the Benefice please look at the 7 Link on the following website [Tamar Valley Benefice \(google.com\)](http://TamarValleyBenefice.google.com)

Oversight Minister: Revd Andy Atkins
kithillvicar@gmail.com 01822 762335

Churchwardens:

Mrs Clare Lee clareleepcc@btinternet.com 01579 351381
Jessop Price pricejessop@gmail.com 01579 350049

Methodist Services. Sundays

- March 2nd 3.00 pm. Dr Martin O'Connell
- March 9th 3.00 pm. Revd J Park
- March 16th 3.00 pm Local arrangement
- March 23rd 3.00 pm Revd S Reed
- March 30th 6.00 pm. Revd Tim Wilkinson

St Dominic Resident's Questionnaire Feb '25

St Dominic Parish Council is the first layer of local government and we are keen to understand the needs and views of the residents in the parish. Please help us all by completing this questionnaire:

1	What do you like most about living in the parish of St Dominic?	
2	How would you like to be kept up to date about Parish Council plans and news?	E.g. Facebook page, Parish News, noticeboards, other...
3	Have you ever looked at the St Dominic Parish Council website? stdominicpc.org.uk	
4	Do you use Lovell's recreation field and Play Area?	
5a	Do you have any issue or not with parking in the village?	
5b	If you have had a problem with parking in the village can you explain where this happened?	
5c	Do you have any suggestions to deal with parking issues in the village?	

6	Are you aware the Parish Council awards grants to groups and organisations within the Parish?	
7	If you could change one thing in the parish of St Dominic what would it be?	
8	Is there anything else you'd like to make the Parish Council aware of regarding living in the parish of St Dominic?	

Please continue overleaf if necessary.

To help us understand who is replying to our questionnaire would you mind telling us;

- Your postcode:
- Your age group (circle): 18-30 31-45 46-60 61-75
over 75
- How many people live in your household?

Please return the completed questionnaire to the

St Dominick Community Shop

Or email to gillian.brown@stdominicpc.org.uk by 31st March 2025

MARCH

- Tues 4th Hobbies - Parish hall 1pm - 5pm Just turn up with a hobby.
- Wed 5th Parish Council meeting. Parish Hall 7pm. All welcome
- Thurs 6th Every Thursday in the winter Wreckers Morris Dancing. New members welcome
- Fri 7th Mobile library - Parish hall 11.45am – 12.05pm
- Wed 12th W.I Parish Hall
- Thur 13th Wreckers
- Tues 18th Hobbies - Parish hall 1pm - 5pm Just turn up with a hobby.
- Thurs 20th Wreckers
- Thurs 27th Wreckers

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Tues 1st April Hobbies
- Sat 19th April Easter Egg hunt
- Thurs 1st May Council elections
- Thurs 8th- 10th May Church Craft fair
- Sat 17th May Plant Sale - Parish Hall please plant seedlings to donate
- Sat 17th May Kay and Jessop Garden Open Afternoon
- Fri 12th Sep Gospel Choir - Church



Sat 13 th Sep	Autumn Show – please start preparing
Mon 6 th Oct	Harvest Auction
Nov 6-8 th	Church craft Fair
Nov 29 th	Christmas tree light switch on
Dec 7 th	Loveny Male Voice Choir – Parish Hall

St. Dominick Hand Bell Ringers Fridays 7.30 Contact Robin Wood 01579 350 767

St. Dominick Community Shop (Village Hall car park) 01579 350841
Open Mon-Fri 8.45-5.30. Saturday 9-5.30. Sunday 9.15-11.30

Post Office Friday 9-12pm – please note the updated hours.

Fish van and other services see shop article

Parish Hall bookings contact: lornabc@talktalk.net 01579 350776

Items for the Diary page to: ourparishnews@gmail.com by the 15th of each month.

St Dominick Community Shop

The last couple of months has been very much about the Shop getting back into the swing of business as usual so thank you for your custom as always. We have been introducing new products in the fridges, freezers and on the shelves which it seems many of you have discovered and are enjoying. We continue to work hard to keep our prices as low as we can with different products to suit different budgets so it's always worth a browse around the Shop.

Thanks to all those that took part in our Valentine's competition to guess the weight of the box of chocs & sweets. Congratulations to our winner

Mary Scofield who won the lovely box and its contents. The correct weight was 819g or 1lb 13oz

Here's what's coming up in March:

Cheese of the month – watch out for more information on our cheese of the month for March. If you have any ideas about what you might like to see added to our expanding cheese range, do let us know and we can check with our suppliers.

Tuesday 4th March – it's pancake day! The Shop will have all the ingredients you need to rustle your pancake plus toppings – lemon, Nutella, chocolate sauce, fresh or tinned fruit etc

Week 3rd - 9th March – it's British Pie week a celebration of the great traditional pie and the Shop will be taking the opportunity to showcase our range of pies so make note of the date and treat yourself to a pie!

Fridays 7th & 21st - the Pengelly's fish van will be in the car park between 10.30 – 11.30 offering their normal great range of fresh fish (weather permitting for the boats). If you would like to order, please call 01503 262246 or email orders@pengellysfish.com by no later than 1.00pm on the day before (Thursday). If you cannot collect your fish from the van during the time it is here, we are happy to keep it in the bottom of one of our fridges so you can collect later in the day.

Sunday 30th March – it's Mothering Sunday and you can find cards & gifts in the Shop to give to that special Mum in your life. We will also be running our lucky draw competition – one that the children can play. Put the name of the mother you want to nominate into the box, and we will draw a lucky winner for a prize. Competition closes on Saturday 29th at midday.

Every Friday – the Post Office service is available between 9.00-12.00 midday. A reminder that you can withdraw or deposit money in your bank account as well as posting letters and parcels.

Every Saturday – you can get hot pasties – steak, steak & gravy and cheese & onion as well as sausage rolls from our pasty warmer between 10.00-1.00pm. If you would like to order in advance, please let one of our Volunteers know by no later than 5.30pm on the Thursday before.

Monday 31st March – we will be closing early at 3.00pm to undertake year-end stocktake. We apologise for any inconvenience.

A reminder that we have now launched our Christmas Club. This is a good time to join up, get saving and take advantage of the products exclusively discounted in December for Club members only. You can pick up an application form and further details in the Shop.

The Shop is still offering a hamper making service so if you are thinking about Easter presents, a gift-wrapped hamper of Cornish foods might just fit the bill. Also, a good idea for birthdays and other special occasions.

We are planning to produce a four-photo village postcard to sell in the Shop this spring & summer, so we need a selection of photos that represent the area and come from local people. All ideas welcome. Once we have a selection of pictures, we will be asking people to choose three views that best represent the landmarks and rural beauty of this area (one photo will be of the Shop). Further details can be found in the Shop.

That's it until our April article which will include our Easter events. As always, we look forward to seeing you in the Shop very soon.

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Parish Council Meeting February

An email was circulated prior to this meeting because Councillor Long had an engagement to go singing and could only stay a short while. Because of this he offered to attend at 6.45 to answer questions regarding the Voneous broadband saga and also to speak to a parishioner who had written with several questions regarding speeding, footpaths etc. when we arrived there were a lot of people surrounding him, he had obviously called the meeting earlier (probably) regarding Voneous which was well underway. I didn't understand what it was all about, not being privy to it, nor hearing the beginning but I think he finished with telling them to keep on campaigning. I believe there is to be an article in this newsletter from the group. [Page 9]

The other parishioner didn't attend but the questions were raised later in the meeting.

When the meeting opened officially at 7.00 the group expressed thanks to councillor Long for following up on their concerns. Then they mostly left, leaving a member of the public and four others. All councillors were present.

Councillor Long reported that the roadworks at Saltash which you have been warned about for weeks has now been delayed until the summer.

There was no update on the Meadows planning, which is due to be decided on the 17th. A councillor commented that bearing in mind the new Government's policy which is to build several thousand more properties in Cornwall, we have had those fourteen approved three times already, does that mean forty two off our total? Another appeal has gone out for building land.

They had received a letter from Marazion council who were asking for support of them bringing a complaint against Cornwall planning department. Whilst our council have had numerous complaints themselves it was pointed out to them by the clerk they had not actually put in any official complaints and had no paper trail, so they couldn't help.

The footpaths in the woods etc are in need of clearing since the storms, trees etc., it was agreed to put this off until the weather improved a bit. A parishioner had complained about the footpath at Peppers which is ongoing. They are still trying to get help from the council. The parishioner also complained about Stockwell lane/Back lane being muddy. They thought some wellies might be in order. The same person also suggested a pavement/footpath from Stone cross Cottage to the bungalows to avoid this lane. Councillor Long had previously reported that Cornwall council were £1billion pounds in debt, so this was put on the waiting list.

The questionnaire didn't arrive last month but we are hopeful of it this time. Councillor Brown apologised and said her computer/broadband had been out of action. [See centre pages 😊]

Three members of the public remained.

A request for a donation towards monitoring road safety on the Callington Launceston road invoked a long discussion, partly as it was referred to by road number and it took a minute for them to realise which road it was. Anyway, I think £200 was agreed. On the subject of road safety the parishioner who wanted a pavement had also suggested a speed monitoring campaign. Councillors Fry and Brady supported this vigorously, Councillor Brady for Tipwell and Councillor Fry between his house and the shop. It was suggested that this could be done via satellite picking up Satnavs so the clerk is to find out. The member of the public, who was new to the meeting, said this only applied to commercial vehicles – he said this quietly to me, not out loud. I have no idea. Not too sure how many people use their satnav on the main street either, but I suppose they might have forgotten to turn it off.

Another person left.

The picnic tables at Lovells need attention, showing signs of rot. Councillor Fry offered to do a refurb on them. He hasn't been able to erect the junior goal posts as the ground has been too soft to get a vehicle up there without damage. Waiting for dry weather.

Only one person left now but he made lots of notes.

The new £1000.00 gate into the field by the shop looks nice, a good job been done.

I don't think anything has been heard from the person who wanted to plant apple trees at Lovells, the National Trust are supportive of this and have recommended the best rootstock, early maturing so that people can eat the apples and not store them. It was suggested someone go up there with secateurs to find the last lot under the brambles.

AOB councillor Potter said he had cleaned the information board at Halton quay so you can now read most of it, but it's locked and the inside wants sorting as well. Councillor Wilkins seems to be in charge of a key. Councillor Greene said, not apparently for the first time, that where it

says “You are here”, you are not there at all, and is it intended to confuse a foreign invasion coming up the river? No answer.

Following the national trend one of the benches, or maybe two, is to be a “Happy to Chat” bench. If you sit on one of these there will be a sign that says this and people know you are not sitting there for a bit of peace and quiet. This was suggested by another parishioner who kept getting chatted to whilst waiting for his wife to finish her shopping whilst on holiday and eventually a lady told him why people kept talking to him, which he was happy about, so you know what to do when you see someone on them. Not sure whether its to be outside the shop or at the bus stop.

Lastly South West Water are just checking their accounts to make sure the parish council don't have any accounts outstanding and if everything goes to plan the refund you have been reading about- that used to be a bill- will happen.

Next meeting Wednesday 5th
March 7.00 parish Hall.

The chairman had learned a new word “To spuddle” which means to work tirelessly without achieving anything, or to work feebly and ineffectively because your mind is elsewhere and you haven't quite woken up. He therefore thanked everyone present for not spuddling and we went home.

CHURCH HALL FOR HIRE

St Dominick Methodist Church

Suitable for:

Committee Meetings,
talks and social events (no
alcohol)

children's groups
dance, music, and drama
rehearsals

Main hall, kitchen, servery
accessible toilets

Contact Betty Behennah
01579-350318

Stop Press: The junior goal posts are now up for all to use 😊

Who'd Have Thought It

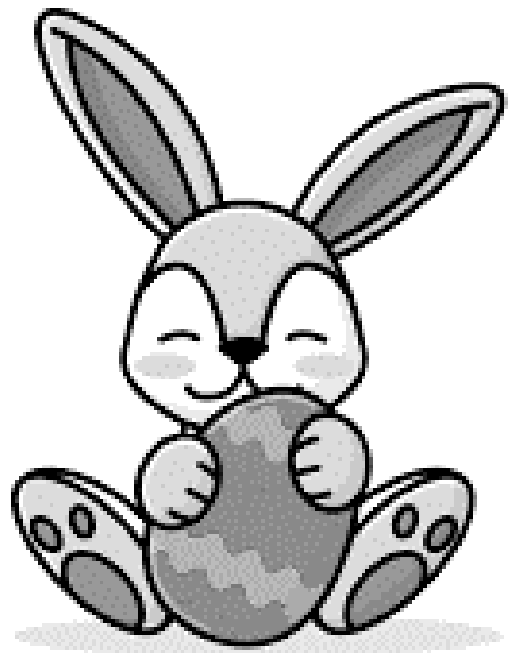
We've all been missing the pub and by the time you read this it will hopefully be up and running. Also hopefully you will all have been in to say Hello to Paul, Emma, Harry and Joe, the Tarplee family, who are returning to us and running the pub as well as the Rifle Volunteer at St Ann's chapel.

A lot of you will remember them, I think they left in 2018 or thereabouts, but several won't, so go along and see what's on offer, the village needs a pub (and a shop and a church) so it would be nice to show support.

St Dominick Easter Egg Hunt

St Dominick Festivities Group invite you to the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday 19th April from 10.30
Free Coffee and Cake
Raffle

Easter bonnet competition for all ages and we are pleased to announce that this year the competition will be judged by the Rev. Tim Wilkinson, Minister for Callington, Tamar Valley, Stoke Climsland and St Dominick. We look forward to welcoming him to this fun event.



This year the Hunt/coffee morning will follow the usual timeline - the doors open at 10:30am for free coffee and cake and then once we feel that everyone has arrived we will announce the Hunt in Lovells. Please wear appropriate clothing because the hunt will be in Lovells Field whatever the weather. Entrance into Lovells will be via the new Community Gate by the Shop. Please don't enter Lovells before the announcement somewhere after 10:46am.

Local Trader	Trade	Contact No
Dave Apps	Chimney Sweep	07596 707617
Sam Deacon	Plumbing, Bathrooms & Kitchens	07468 566795
D.Wilkinson Antiques	Antiques & House Clearance	07974 812876
Paul Doney	Building Contractor	228698
Debbie's Care Services	Personal Care, Bathing & All Household Duties	07779 483230
Elliot's	House & Garden Clearance	350345
Fiona Wiltshire	Mobile Hairdresser	07990 587098
Jane Matthews	Gardening Services	07986 306112
Patricia Gillings	Practitioner in Holistic Massage	07585 508163
Kath Gylby	Home Help and personal care	01579 683575
Michael Grundy	Retired Solicitor - Will writer	351467
Nathan Behennah	Painting and Decorating	07955 207962
Pest Doctor	Pest Control Services	350345
Trehill Farm Produce	Producers of Traditional Meat	350410
Rob Williams	Window Cleaner	384435
ShakeFitness	Personal Trainer & Fitness Class Provider	07492 887119

Please mention the Parish News when contacting any advertiser.

ADVERTISING IN THE NEWSLETTER

- Please contact the Parish Clerk.
- Directory of Local Traders: £40 per year (10 editions)
- Box Ads: £40.00 per year and guaranteed to be included in 8 of 10 editions. Any other advertisements: by negotiation.
- Advertisements to be paid for in advance.
- Advert withdrawn if payment is not made within 30 days