



ISSUE 62
Mar/Apr 2022

MABE *Matters*

news • views • events

**WE'RE
BACK!**

Community newsletter distributed free to all households in Mabe Burnthouse and surrounding area.
Funded by Mabe Youth and Community Project and Mabe Parish Council • Printed by Booths Print, Penryn

MABE MATTERS **RELOADED**

Hello to everyone from your new editorial team!

We hope you like this first edition since the relaunch. Thanks to everyone who has contributed content - it's incredible to read about what has been happening in the village during these last two challenging years via the Mabe Emergency Group and others, and it's also fantastic to be emerging from this difficult time to see just how much is going on in the village.

While Mabe Matters has been "off air", a huge amount of work has been going on behind the scenes with the Neighbour Development Plan which you can read about on page 3. But as we take up the baton as the new editorial team, we want

to take a moment to express thanks and appreciation to Amanda Wills who was editor for 8 years and established Mabe Matters as a vital part of the fabric of Mabe. You can read her handover piece below.

Mabe Matters is your village newsletter. Please do consider sending in something for the next edition about your life, your business, your concerns, your dreams, your hopes, and yes, even your gripes. All contributions are much appreciated.

Janet and Heather

janetlcave@yahoo.co.uk
hdunning111@gmail.com

A VERY FOND FAREWELL TO AMANDA WILLS

Amanda writes:

"It is with a mixture of sadness and relief that I hand over the reins of Mabe Matters. Sadness because it has been a large part of my life for almost 8 years, relief because I know that I am leaving it in good hands and moving on to serve the community in a different way - as a Parish Councillor.

Being editor gave me a unique insight into the life of the parish and brought me into contact with some amazing people who volunteer so much of their time trying

to make Mabe a better place. Before I go though, I would like to thank the rest of the team, the editorial board and the distributors, without whom MM would not be possible."

Mabe Matters is your village newsletter. Please do consider sending in something for the next edition about your life, your business, your concerns, your dreams, your hopes, and yes, even your gripes. All contribution are much appreciated.
(Email addresses above)

AMANDA WILLS

Parish Councillor

Amanda grew up in Falmouth, and after completing a degree in Marine Biology and a PhD in Chemical Engineering she moved back to Cornwall, where she met her husband Richard and moved to Mabe in 2004. They have two sons, William and Jack, who attended Mabe school and then Penryn College. Amanda now works with her father and brother, organising academic conferences worldwide in the field of Minerals Engineering.

When Amanda arrived in Mabe, she joined the Community Hall Committee; she has a strong belief that if everyone plays a small part in a community then the community will flourish for the benefit of all. To this end, she also volunteered at Mabe School running an after school hockey club, was the editor of Mabe Matters for almost 8 years, is on the Christmas Lights Committee, plays a part in the annual panto, and helps out with Bloomin' Mabe. Maybe it was inevitable that she would eventually join the Parish Council?!

Amanda thinks that people would benefit from the parish council making the whole process of being a councillor more transparent "so that

people know what is involved, as it is a bit of a mystery". Many people are unaware of what is involved, the time required, what the role is in its entirety and what decisions can be made. "You give what you can", Amanda explains and advises, "not to feel guilty if you can't give more".

She would like to attract more people to engage with the life of the parish, to become active parishioners and join committees, including the parish council. Maybe we need a, "get to know what councillors do event?", she says. She also has the opinion that we definitely need more younger people and parents/guardians of younger children involved on the council level in order for it to truly reflect the parish.

Amanda's wish list for the future is to get the 20mph zone completed and implemented and for the NDP to be effective and used when further developments are proposed. She feels very strongly about keeping Mabe's identity as a village, rather than a suburb of Penryn. Like many others, she doesn't rule out direct action in the heart of the village to get the work done to curb the "rat run" use of our village roads. This is where all of the community can come together.



Despite the continued restriction of the Covid pandemic the Mabe NDP steering group have continued to work hard to deliver an NDP document that reflects the wishes and desires of the majority of Mabe residents.

We must remember that it is primarily a planning policy document that will be looked at and which will carry significant weight when planning applications are looked at by developers, large or small. It is not designed to stop development, but direct future development to reflect the community aspirations.

It is not a social statement and cannot deliver or have an effect certain aspects or areas of concern, that have consistently been voiced by the community at face to face meetings or that have resulted from the questionnaire. Things like roadway improvements, that are covered by national legislation for example. Additional cycle ways or the provision of schools and schools, medical facilities or improvements to transport services are beyond what the plan can deliver, but are things we can help to improve, by indicating support for such schemes and directing where any monies the parish receives as a result of future development is directed.

For those who are unaware of its existence, detail of the draft policy document is available on the mabendp.com web site and can be accessed direct or via the link on the parish council web site mabeparish.

com. We also have a facebook page Mabe Neighbourhood Development Plan.

The Draft Policy has undergone a six-week consultation, which started on 15th January 2022, with an open public meeting at the MYCP hall in Cunningham Park, which was attended by members of the community throughout the afternoon. Once the draft policy is amended and updated it will be returned to Cornwall Council for further comment and then submitted for an official six-week consultation period and assessed for legal conformity, before being presented to Government inspection.

The final step in the process is a referendum, where the parish have the opportunity to vote for or against the proposed policy. Obviously, we are keen for you to vote for, as lots of the community members have put considerable time and effort into the project over the last three years.

In order to pass the inspection, our draft policy is required to demonstrate where and how we have reached our conclusions and to demonstrate that we have wide spread support.

We have been told that people value our open country side, that they do not want any more large-scale development and that traffic speed and on street parking are issues they would like the NDP to address. It is not too late to comment yourself and you can do so by visiting our web site mabendp.com. The draft Policy heading gives access to the various draft policy documents and the Community comments page allows you to make a comment. Or email at: ndpmabe@gmail.com

CHYAN COMMUNITY FIELD

Roots and Seeds/Organic Allotments
Community growing project • *Fridays*
Free • Lunch cost donation
10am - midday

Chyan Festive • *Sundays*

Yoga • Gardening • Meditation • Circus
Group lunch provided • 11am - 3pm
Cost £5/10 depending on income.
Uniting families, all ages and abilities for wellbeing, skills and friends

BTEC in Performing Arts • *Tuesdays*

Information: office@swampcircus.co.uk
Various classes for children and adults
See www.circokernow.co.uk
or [Ticketsource/swamp-circus](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/swamp-circus)

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HALL

Councillor Surgeries • *Saturdays*

Come and meet your councillors face to face to have a chat and make suggestions about your parish
Sat Mar 5th • Sat Apr 2nd • 10am - 12pm



PLATINUM JUBILEE WEEKEND

Thursday June 2
LIGHTING OF THE BEACON

Sunday June 5
THE BIG LUNCH • Venue TBC

Anyone who would like to help with either event email Amanda on:
amandawills.mabepc@gmail.com

M.Y.C.P. HALL

Byrne Black Belt Academy • *Mondays*
Contact: 078160649179

Slimming World • *Tuesdays*

Contact: Pam Mundy 07503945600

Slimming Classes • *Tuesdays*

If you want to know more or for the latest offers available, please either email me on: pamela_mundy@btinternet.com or message me on mobile: 07503 945600
Groups Run Every Tuesday at Mabe Community Hall, Cunningham Park 4.30pm & 6.30 pm

Embrace Dance Fitness • *Wednesdays*

• **Zumba Gold** 9.45am - 10.45am

• **Pilates** 1.00am - 12.00pm

Contact: 01326378730

Email: hello@embracedancefitness.co.uk

Huffa Puffa's • *Thursdays*

Contact Trish:

01209697905 or 07814911406

Brownies

Weekly Brownies meeting held during term time. For more info please contact Melissa Dale at melissaafs@hotmail.co.uk

DARK SKIES EVENT

TALK AND A WALK • *Mabe School*

Mon 14th Mar • 6pm

Learn about light pollution and the negative effects on birds and insects plus what Mabe is planning as part of the Dark Skies national park in Cornwall

Confirmed speaker • Dr Jon Bennie, *Ecologist, University of Exeter (confirmed)* - the importance of dark skies in the natural world • 15 - 20 mins

Two other speakers followed by a short walk around Mabe.

Bring a flask and snacks, so we can sit and enjoy the evening skies from a high point.

PROFILE OF YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS IN THE SPOTLIGHT MICHELLE WILKINSON *CHAIR*

Michelle is five years into her position on the parish council and after the last elections in May '21 was voted in as Chair. "It is an opportunity for problem solving and a way of giving back to the community", she says. Her mother was a parish councillor and her great grandfathers were Mayors of Liverpool so it is in her blood.

Michelle was state educated and went on to gain an Arts degree in Sculpture. She has also been a freelance photo editor for the Times and Telegraph. She is married to Mark and they have 2 children. They run an airline interiors manufacturing business.



In her first four years on the parish council Michelle has worked on getting the Memorial Garden installed and improving the communication between the disparate and active interest and working groups we have in the parish. This is always ongoing as new people arrive in our parish bringing new ideas, needs and requests. Michelle sees participation by all as a very important element in upholding and preserving the Cornish sense of community.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan has been important where the more recent developments at Antron Way and Coronation Cottages could have been challenged if the NDP had been in place as it can help enrich the community and protect it and from some of the elements within the proposed developments. During the lockdown Michelle has been impressed with the Mabe Emergency Group where volunteers gave their time to help others

which she sees as "a levelling process" where people have found the opportunities to knit the community together. Presently she is working to encourage this spirit and keep that vision and activism going where attachments are formed which makes for a stronger community.

A future opportunity for this is the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June which needs volunteers for arranging the lighting of the Beacon on Saturday the 4th June and the proposed meal for the parish. A decision of where this will be held is imminent and needs further input from the parish council and residents.

Michelle's hobbies include painting, Art in general and she spends time building stage sets for the theatre company WildWorks and for Truro school. She would like to encourage the return of our Mabe Shindig and to include an annual Scarecrow competition beginning with the Jubilee celebrations.

Michelle would also like to welcome all those who have arrived in Mabe since the lockdown began and when our last issue went out. She wants to remind everybody that the University facilities like the cafes and grounds are also for the use of parishioners and can contribute to ways we can provide services and activities for the 10 - 16 year olds in the parish through the ongoing improving relationship with the University. Finally, Michelle wants to thank all those who worked tirelessly on the Neighbourhood Development Plan giving up so much of their time to commit to completing it.

REVD CANON ANDREW STEVENSON

I was first ordained in 1997 and trained alongside Fr John Savage one of your previous Vicars. Those of you who have long memories will remember me regularly taking services at St Laudus in the early 2000s. I have been Priest in Charge at St Peter's Flushing since 2008 and was made an Honorary Canon of Truro Cathedral in 2015.

I have always been a Self-Supporting Priest (SSM); my secular profession is as a Civil Engineer and for many years I worked for County Highways in various roles, finally ending up as Head of Highways and Infrastructure. I left the Council three years ago and I am now Operations Director for WDM which is a highway technology specialist working all over the UK and in the USA and NZ.

When Fr Steve announced his retirement, and due to my previous association with St Laudus, I offered to come and take some of your church services and also be your clergy point of contact. The Revd Johanna Clare

has made a similar offer to St Michael's, Ponsanooth.

As I live in Truro and have a full-time job and I am also Priest-in-Charge of Flushing, I will not be anywhere near as visible as Fr Steve but I will do whatever I can to help St Laudus continue to be a place of importance in your community.

My phone number is 01872 241880

and I can be emailed on:

stpeters.flushing@gmail.com

ST LAUDUS • CHURCH SERVICES MARCH / APRIL

Sun 6 Mar	Holy Communion	11.15
Sun 13 Mar	Morning Prayer	09.30
Sun 20 Mar	Holy Communion	11.15
Sun 27 Mar	Mothering Sunday	10.30
Sun 3 Apr	Holy Communion	11.15
Sun 10 Apr	Morning Prayer	09.30
Sun 17 Apr	Easter Day	11.15
Sun 24 Apr	Holy Communion	09.30

TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE *Open for new referrals*

Falmouth Age Concern have now set up a telephone befriending service to replace our face-to-face visitor one. This service has been rolled out and a team of 50+ volunteers is in place and making calls to our clients. We also have a waiting list of around 10 new volunteers ready and able to help.

Due to an increase in demand, we are now planning to roll this service out to other older vulnerable people from outside our area - where there is an urgent or significant need - and have made the decision to cover, by telephone, the whole of Cornwall. We have also decided to extend our service to include other lonely, isolated adults, not just the elderly. Clients are being phoned regularly - in some cases every day.

The primary purpose is to alleviate loneliness and anxiety and improve mental health through regular telephone contact but our volunteers are also acting as a signposting service so that if they identify a need that isn't being met (shopping, prescription collection, practical help etc) they can assist the person in need to get the right help from the right organisation.

Volunteer have been asked to use a 'three tier' procedure (self-referral where the client is given a number to call, volunteer referral where the volunteer accesses the right help and, finally, referral via the Falmouth Age Concern office where the need is complex). Client consent is always obtained to pass details on (phone, address etc). Our volunteers are all DBS checked

and have been given a list of agencies from whom help can be obtained.

Falmouth Age Concern are working very hard to co-ordinate the massive (and very welcome) level of volunteer support that has been forthcoming and also to manage the increasing number of requests from the elderly and their friends and relatives. We are working closely with other

organisations to help fulfil peoples' needs wherever possible.

If your organisation is aware of an elderly or vulnerable person who might need a telephone call for some emotional support, then please email us at falmouthbefriending@btinternet.com.

For urgent enquiries call 01326 313620.

ASTRONOMY WATCH *by Rob Beeman*

Ursa Major the Plough will be high in the night sky at midnight in early March, the two front stars Dubhe and Merak, the pointers, lead to Polaris the pole star. The second star of the plough's handle Mizar has a fainter companion star Alcor which is just visible with the naked eye. Close to Mizar and Alcor is M101 the Pinwheel Galaxy for which you will need a 100mm telescope. There are a pair of galaxies bright enough to be seen through binoculars in the far north of the constellation, Bode's Galaxy (M81) and the Cigar Galaxy (M82). M82 is almost edge on to us but M81 is tilted at less of an angle, these galaxies are about ten million light years away and are interacting with one another.

To the south west, Hydra, the sky snake, the tail is low in the south and winds its way upwards towards the west. About half way along Hydra is a solitary star, Alphard, very similar in colour to Arcturus. The Chinese called Alphard and its neighbours "the stars of the red bird". Above Hydra in Cancer the Crab is M44, the Beehive Cluster. This is a naked eye object in a dark sky. Of the approximately 200 stars about 40 should be visible in binoculars. This cluster is nearly 580ly away and we are seeing light emitted at about the time of the Battle of Agincourt.

April brings the Lyrid meteor shower, the radiant is close to Vega. The prediction is for 10 to 20 per hour and they peak on the morning of the 23rd of April, but are around



in reduced numbers from 16th to 25th April. Unfortunately it looks as if the Moon will wash out all but the brightest.

Planets are a bit scarce in this period but by Mid March, given decent skies Venus, Mars and Saturn should be visible in the early morning sky but Saturn will be very low so it may be difficult. On the March 28th at about 0630BST Venus, Saturn and Mars will be better placed being joined by a setting last quarter Moon. Jupiter is too close to the Sun to be visible in March.

You might get a glimpse of Jupiter in Mid April in the eastern sky just before sunrise but be careful. Venus, Mars and Saturn will be close by to the west.

Wishing you clear skies.

A REALLY BIG THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY HALL from Local Slimmers

With Lockdown being such a challenging time and many locals feeling the pinch in their waistlines reopening up our Slimming World Groups back to real life meetings was so important.

With the Support of our local Mabe Community Hall we managed under government rules and guidelines to achieve this safely and now the groups are growing ever stronger and many members are feeling the benefits of the New Year and great feeling they get with Slimming World while losing weight.

Even the benefits of losing just 10% of their bodyweight can have a huge impact on their health and some

members have been delighted with their new slimmer feeling. With eating healthily and not feeling like you are on a diet as most say, they love being back in the group meetings and the support from their friends and other members in the same position wanting to improve their health and lifestyle.

If you want to know more or for the latest offers available, please either contact me on:
pamela_mundy@btinternet.com,
or on mobile: **07503 945600**

**GROUPS RUN
Every Tuesday
Mabe Community Hall
Cunningham Park
4.30pm & 6.30 pm**



MYCP HALL

As well as being open for our regular groups we are also open for new bookings.

Whether it's a new group, a reunion, anniversary or birthday of any age, the community hall in Mabe is an ideal place to hold your event. Available most weekends for parties it can accommodate up to 120 people (80 seated comfortably).

Slots are also available throughout

the week for regular bookings. Prices start from £30 for a 2 hour party booking, £7.50 per hour for subsequent hours. This includes use of the chairs, tables and fully equipped kitchen.

Rates for other users are available on request.

Call **Rachelle on 01326 375938** or email **mabeycp@gmail.com** for further information.

STUDENT COMMUNITY WARDEN SCHEME EXPANDS

Following the success of last year's pilot launch, the Student Community Warden Scheme has expanded to now include Penryn and Mabe.

Run by Falmouth and Exeter Students' Union (The Students' Union) and funded by Falmouth University and the University of Exeter, the scheme promotes neighbourly behaviour and supports good community relations. This collaborative approach helps students be active citizens within the community, encouraging positive relationships between long-term and student residents, as well as assisting the local councils to improve the local environment and behaviour in residential areas.

The 2018 pilot saw student wardens patrol some of the most heavily populated student residential areas of Falmouth. It was a real success; students met with residents, listened

to concerns, logged complaints, shared advice, and initiated campaigns. They also took part in community events and activities, including litter picking, fundraising activities, and supporting the local food bank.

Gwen Scolding, The Students' Union Community Engagement Coordinator: "This is an exciting time for the Community Warden scheme. We're looking forward to building on last year's success by increasing our initiatives, reaching more areas, and by promoting a friendly and cohesive community for all that live, work and study in the locality."

The Student Community Wardens will be introducing themselves to Mabe residents in the new year.

Email the Warden Scheme on:
communitywardens@thesu.org.uk
and to find out more visit
thesu.org.uk/community

THE MABE CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

The Mabe Climate Action Group meets at the The New Inn at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of the month. It was formed in response to the Parish Council's declaration of a climate emergency in 2019 and since the last update in 2020 we have created a community food and wildlife-friendly planting group, Bloomin' Mabe, and the community energy group (MACE).

There has been a lot of research done on a community energy scheme, and this year we are planning events in the parish where experts can offer

advice on domestic energy efficiency and renewable schemes.

We also discuss wider issues such as sustainable transport, light pollution, farming, water quality etc. In fact, a discussion about sustainable communities at one of our meetings led to the rebirth of Mabe Matters!

If you have an idea for a project to help us reach Net Zero in the parish, or would simply like to chat about some of the issues around climate change, do follow us on Facebook and come and join us in person at the pub.

MABE MEG-A-STARS

MEG, (Mabe Emergency Group) was formed in April 2020 shortly after the start of the first Covid pandemic lockdown with a response team from the Parish Council, St Laudus Church and MYCP charity. Its aim was to provide support, comfort and information for the people of Mabe during the lockdown.

Through social media and word of mouth, the small group soon grew to a willing band of volunteers and donors, and the sense of community was overwhelming. Local businesses were also keen to help and MEG received generous support from The New Inn, Mabe Stores, Rose Valley Flowers, our County Councillor and Asda.

In the first lockdown, volunteers helped to deliver prescriptions, collect shopping and check in on members of the community who needed to shield or isolate themselves. They delivered food parcels and foodbank vouchers to families who found themselves in difficulty and once a month managed to deliver pasties to Mabe Luncheon Club, many of whom were living alone. They also delivered food parcels and foodbank vouchers to families in difficulty.



In the summer MEG delivered bouquets of flowers and hand-made cards to our carers and key workers who had been nominated by the community, and at Christmas delivered 36 parcels of goodies to people who were forced to spend Christmas alone. Flowers, cards and gift boxes were all donated by local residents.

Although the restrictions are fewer now and people feel more able to venture out for work and social activities, MEG continues to monitor the situation and is always there if help is needed. They are currently working to reinstate the luncheon club for the senior members of our community who feel ready to return to eat together and those who still need their lunch delivered at home.

As well as being able to support some of the more vulnerable members of our community, MEG were astonished at the generosity of local people. One lady bought a meal for a family at the New Inn! The success of MEG was due to fantastic local generosity of gifts, food, money and time. Mabe really is a MEG-a special place to live! Find Mabe Emergency Group on Facebook.

Jackie Frost

A CAMEL FOR KEY WORKERS

During the recent lockdown period a camel has emerged from Antron Way. It has been collecting cash and distributing sweets to the children in this area of the village on Thursdays at 8pm during the clap for key workers.

The camel has been controlled by Jackie Williams suitably dressed as an Arab, not your average sight in our village, but

through the kind donations of locals, £225 has been added to the collective amount of £4,000, raised by the Sea Shanty Festival CD, produced by John Warren and the Falmouth Town Team, and sold during the recent on line virtual festival. The camel and Jackie would like to thank all the kind support at Mabe and especially the oasis break at, Penveen Close.



DEMENTIA UK COFFEE MORNING

The Dementia UK Coffee Morning was a great success raising a marvellous £1,465. The hall was awash with plenty of Christmas cheer, helped by the competitive spirit created around the sjoelle table - a contest ably run by the Brownies! Thank you so much to all those attending and helping push the funds to such a significant amount. A big thank you to all our wonderful helpers, too!



THANK YOU
We raised a
marvellous
£1,465
for Dementia UK

Bloomin' Mabe

If you have appreciated the sight of the new planters by the bus stop on Treliever Road and at the bottom of Antron Way, you will have been enjoying the efforts of a new group of volunteers in the parish: Bloomin' Mabe. We are a branch of the Mabe Climate Action Group and our aim is to encourage more people to grow their own food, to increase biodiversity (and therefore food for wildlife) throughout the parish and to share our knowledge with each other. Growing more food locally reduces food miles and plastic waste, and tastes better too.

We formed at the start of 2020, when pondering how best to give trees to households around the parish. We decided that most people would appreciate a tree from which they could actually pick something to eat, and as we had some experienced tree grafters in our midst, our Apple Tree Grafting Project was born. A committed group of volunteers collected grafting wood from local orchards, bought rootstocks with money from the Parish Council and managed to graft 100 apple trees before we all went into lockdown. Over the following months our baby trees grew happily in their temporary homes and were ready to give away by the following spring. Fifty-one households are now the proud owners of young apple trees, whilst a further 25 trees are waiting to be planted in public spaces around the parish.

We then had a seed swap in April, at the bus shelter, with more donations than we could give away, followed by a very successful plant sale in May in the pub car park, which raised over £150. We returned to the car park in October to hold our first local produce sale.

Looking forward to this year, there will be a seed swap in February, and a plant



Some of our young apple trees in their nursery bed.

sale in May and we have plans to try and increase the biodiversity and grow food in many public spaces in the village. You may already have noticed wild strawberries and rosemary growing in the land behind the bus shelter, and there are bulbs and wildflowers growing along the verge on Church Road and in the Memorial Garden opposite Mabe Shop.

We always need more helpers and we are particularly keen for people to come forward and 'adopt' our planters; not just by weeding them, but harvesting the fruit and herbs too. If you have an idea for a space which needs a planter, just get in touch.

You can find us on Facebook or drop me an email: tessakingsley10@btinternet.com



David Fields built four lovely planters from wood which was funded by Mabe Parish Council. They have been planted with herbs and fruit for us all, and plants to attract wildlife.

EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES WITH BF ADVENTURE AND VIA FERRATA CORNWALL

Highly valuable National Citizen Service programme for 16-17 year olds

At BF Adventure we're currently recruiting 16 and 17 year olds to join our exciting National Citizen Service (NCS) programme for Summer 2022! The 2 week programme sees young people enjoying adventurous activities (canoeing, coasteering, climbing, Via Ferrata, raft building, bushcraft, catapult challenges, zip-lining and more), learning invaluable life skills, taking on new challenges, making friends and making a difference in their community. This is an incredibly fun opportunity for young people to stretch their comfort zone, boost mental wellbeing and achieve new things. The programme is also highly valued by employers, colleges and universities.

Participants can choose to enrol for either the 11th to 22nd July wave, or 25th July to 5th Aug - both programmes are identical and the first week includes a residential on-site at BF Adventure! Weekends are not included.

The programme costs £50 per person, with bursaries available and it is open to all 16-17 year olds including those with additional needs. To sign up visit wearencs.com - any questions can be sent to: NCS@bfadventure.org.

Adventure childcare at Via Ferrata Cornwall this Spring Holiday!

BF Adventure's social enterprise Via Ferrata Cornwall is running its Adventure Holiday

Club for 6-13 year olds! With a wide range of age specific challenges, we have children coming back time and again to experience



something new. Choose from rock-climbing, zip-lining, catapulting, bushcraft, paddlesports, archery, raft-building, coasteering in the quarry and adventure team-building games! Simply drop them off for half a day or a whole day to make friends, develop confidence and try something new. No two days in a week are the same! Book online here: viaferratacornwall.co.uk/holiday-club/

Via Ferrata activity is open from 9th April

The Via Ferrata is an epic high wire adventure that sees participants journeying through granite quarries by scaling cliff faces, wobbling across the high wire bridge and soaring through the air on one of the most scenic zip wires in Cornwall. So much more than just an adrenaline rush, this adventure is the perfect way to conquer fears, make amazing memories, try something unique and push your limits! Book here: viaferratacornwall.co.uk/via-ferrata/

Café, nature trails and wild play area

The Café, run by The Cornish Barista, is open, along with the nature adventure trails. We now also have a wild muddy play area for those aged 10 and under - come and check it out! viaferratacornwall.co.uk/cafe-with-wild-play/

MABE PRIMARY SCHOOL

MRS J. JENKIN
HEAD TEACHER

I have been at Mabe Primary School for two years now and what a two years that has been. The last time that I wrote in your magazine I was introducing myself in the hope of meeting so many of you in person! I joined the Mabe community in Jan 2020 and sadly within 9 weeks the school had to close for the first lockdown. Nothing has really been totally normal since then. We are however at our closest to normal with the country moving back to plan A.

Many of you will know that the school is currently carrying an Inadequate judgement which was awarded by Ofsted in June of 2019. Since this time the school has joined the Kernow Learning Trust and has been closely supported and monitored by the trust ever since. I then arrived in January 2020 and we started on the road of building this school back to 'Good' which it so deserves.

We are being regularly monitored by Ofsted and I have experienced four positive visits from them since being here, two virtual on Teams and two in person. All inspections have had really great outcomes and the school has been recognised for all of the brilliant work that it is doing.

One of the main objectives has been for us to re-write our curriculum. All of the staff here have worked so hard on this project and have produced some exciting teaching and learning plans. These plans are underpinned by our new Mabe values:-



Motivate, Assist, Believe, Excite. These values guide us to provide, not only a broad range of stimulating experiences for our children, but also a curriculum which encourages, challenges and inspires our children so that they thrive on the provision in each, and every, year group up to Year 6 and leave as confident, well-rounded young people, equipped for the next stage of their educational journey.

We have developed an exciting curriculum which includes some amazing opportunities for the children, I wish I had all of these when I was at school ! These include:- , yoga, zumba, climbing, sailing, surfing, paddle boarding, various trips out, bike-ability, learning to play the ukulele, kite making, camps for Years 2, 4 and 6, lots of guest visitors in from around the world, school council, eco warriors, supporting some children to go to school in Uganda, even adopting a Donkey from the local Flicka Foundation and much, much more. Now that the restrictions have lifted I must take this opportunity to say how proud I am of our staff team who have not only worked tirelessly to keep this school on track during a tough couple of years but for all of their heartfelt passion and energy in supporting me with the new vision for Mabe Primary School and its journey back to good. Exciting times ahead for us all.

A PLEA TO THE COMMUNITY IN MABE.

The MYCP endeavour to provide facilities for residents of the village and its surrounding area. Together with the Mabe Parish Council we have managed to upgrade the playpark to an exceptional standard that is being enjoyed by many.

Unfortunately a mindless few seem set on ruining the facilities for all.

We have had several recent incidents of vandalism including significant damage to the wooden uprights on one of the new swings that left it in a dangerous condition. A further incident saw the perpetrators dig



up buried cables and destroy the protective cover that had been installed to keep it safe.

If you see anyone acting suspiciously around the park please report them to the police, in the hope we can ensure they are caught and prevented from causing further damage.

Damage caused in two separate recent cases of vandalism.



EGGCITING TIMES IN CURLEW CLASS *Julia Pearce*

As part of our 'Animals including Humans' Science theme, Curlews, our Year 2 class, have been learning all about life cycles. In order to make our learning real, we had the pleasure of hosting an incubator full of 40 chicken eggs. This was provided by the awesome Darcy Pascoe and her brood of hens. After a week of diligently turning the eggs each morning and afternoon, we discovered that 33 of them were developing embryos. Darcy used a special 'candle' machine to discover which eggs had been fertilized and were starting to grow.

At the time of writing, we await the birth of our chicks with great eggcitement! We would like to say an enormous thank you to Darcy for all of her time and enthusiasm.

These first hand experiences cannot be beaten!

Darcy brought the lovely Peach and Cream of the Mille Fleur breed to visit us. Peach provided some of our incubator eggs.



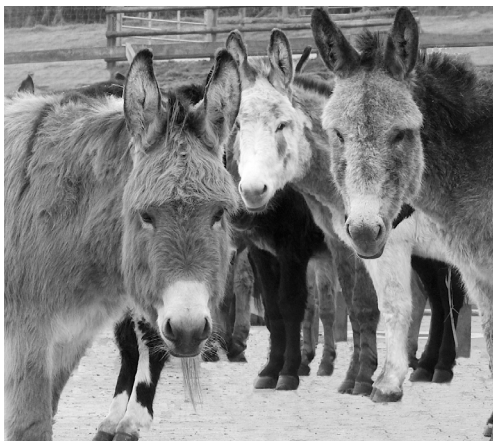
AN UPDATE FROM THE FLICKA FOUNDATION!

Despite the ongoing (seemingly never ending!) situation with Covid-19, things have been as donkey business as usual since we last checked in with you. Our precious residents need dedicated, full time care year round, but they require extra attention and supplementary

feed in winter when the weather is colder and the grass stops growing in the paddocks. Our Main Herd are currently enjoying "Humphrey's Parc", which is a large area of hardstanding that makes a huge difference for them in winter. Donkeys are very susceptible to foot diseases when they are kept

on wet ground in damp climates like ours, but now they are able to enjoy outside space and fresh air year-round, even when we have to shut off their paddocks!

We have also been busier than ever dealing with serious welfare cases over the past few months and have rescued 20 donkeys in that time. Every single one of them has arrived in very poor condition, having suffered years of neglect or abuse... Recent arrivals include Topaz, who was around 100kg underweight, Bonnie who was being ridden despite her being very thin and acutely lame and Rosebud who's life had not been a happy one until we rescued her. Their stories are heartbreaking, but they are all safe and receiving the care and treatment they desperately need now. At the time of writing, however, there are more donkeys in desperate need relying on us, so we are always busy planning and preparing to receive our next rescue case.



Meanwhile, we are delighted to report that our Herd of Hope (who we rescued from appalling conditions in an emergency during lockdown this time last year) have come on in leaps and bounds. Arthur and Applejack are now happily settled in their forever 10* foster home receiving love and care in abundance.

Applejack has transformed from a small, frightened, emaciated donkey into a healthy, strong young boy. He is a very friendly, cheeky donkey who also loves cuddles and stealing work tools whenever he gets the chance! The girls, Strawberry, Snowdrop, Dorothy and Beatrix, remain

at our sanctuary where they continue to recover, physically and psychologically, from their ordeal. Dorothy is the bravest, but it will take time for them to trust us, as they will always carry the trauma they sadly endured. They have come such a long way from the thin, frightened donkeys who arrived with overgrown and twisted feet however. They all love the freedom of being out in their paddocks, rolling in the mud and having dust baths, just as donkeys should...

As you may know, our financial reserves took a huge hit when we were forced close to visitors for over a year and fundraising continues to prove difficult during the ongoing pandemic. With over 100 hungry mouths to feed and expensive veterinary care bills to pay for all these new arrivals, we are so grateful for your ongoing support and we hope to see you soon. We are planning our special annual Mother's Day event for spring - watch this space!

A WARM WELCOME!



This is the 'new team' (well, new since our last issue) at the village shop. Karthi, Logesh, Brad, Carole, Charlie and there's Darren. They took over the shop in August 2020 and are very eager to hear from all their customers about what they would like the shop to have on its shelves. Plus they are offering a variety of community services like running a delivery service for those who cannot get to the shop.

Karthi and Logesh have two children aged ten and seven and live in Threemilestone. Both of them are so happy with their team of staff who are "spot on" because they are always there to help customers and listen out for suggestions of what to stock.

MABE PANTO

We are hoping to revive Mabe panto for a summer performance. If you would be interested in getting involved, either performing or helping backstage, please

Presently they are open from 6am – 8pm and they hope it will be open until later in the summer. They love the community, view everyone as customers and are planning a shop refit with new branding. There is always room for local products and for example they stock Orchard Farm apple juice. Plus they display individual's locally produced items from stained glass ornaments, candle wax and greeting cards.

So pop in for a coffee, carry on using the post office, have a chat, give some feedback and then next time stock up with the items that you may have asked them to provide. The village shop is often the hub of community and there's always notices up of what's going on and services that are provided.

contact Jackie: 01209 861697 or j.frost384@btinternet.com

Existing members - we'll be in touch!

CHYAN CULTURAL CENTRE www.chyan.org

A Place to Celebrate Connection, Community & Creativity

Chyan is a stunning 26-acre permaculture project & community farm in rural Cornwall. Composed of rewilded areas, apple orchards, woodlands, springs and streams, community areas, event spaces, eco-accommodation and performance spaces.

Chyan is a very special place that inspires and informs all those who interact with the space.

We are committed to sustainability and earth care as well as social justice, education and community.

Chyan Community Field is a 2.2 acre project owned by a charitable trust which hosts various educational groups, children's groups, courses and allotments. <https://chyan.org/chyan-community-field/>

Chyan Plen is our partnership project for health, wellbeing and skills for life. The Plen works with community

partners to deliver training in organic growing and physical performance skills. It is also a large performance and training space.

Pure foods: Hand produced organic apple juice, apple cider vinegar and other products from produce the apple orchards on our land.

<https://chyan.org/produce/>

Chyan Cultural Centre is a retreat centre and event space – we have 2 large yoga studios which can also be used for other events, a 12 bed hostel for residential courses.

Chyan Camping is our beautiful, wild, ecocampsite with compost loos and solar showers.

<https://chyan.org/camping/>

Spa Soma is an eco-spa composed of a natural, spring-fed swimming pool, woodfired hot tub and woodfired sauna.

<https://chyan.org/spa-soma/>



MEETING REPORT

Monday November 18th – Monthly Meeting

Mabe Garden Club welcomed Elizabeth Reeves to their meeting to learn about "Gardens and Gardeners of War Graves". Elizabeth had more than a passing interest in the subject as her husband, who she met at horticultural college, had followed in the footsteps of his father and brother to become a war graves gardener himself. This led to lengthy periods living and working in France, Germany and Belgium on numerous of the many sites that the War Graves Commission still manage.

We were given a fascinating insight into the founding of the commission by Sir Fabian Ware who at the age of 45 was too old to fight, but became the commander of a mobile unit of the British Red Cross. Saddened by the sheer number of casualties, he felt driven to find a way to ensure the final resting places of the dead would not be lost forever. His vision chimed with the times and was eventually given official recognition, with its work starting in earnest after the armistice. The task was enormous with over half a million known graves and a further half a million casualties with no known resting place. The Commission set the highest standards for all its work; three of the most eminent architects of the day – Sir Edwin Lutyens, Sir Herbert Baker and Sir Reginald Blomfield

– were chosen to begin the work of designing and constructing the cemeteries and memorials. Rudyard Kipling was tasked as literary advisor to recommend inscriptions. Equality was established as the core ideology, with all the fallen treated equally whatever their rank; a principle that has held firm to this day.

Elizabeth illustrated her talk with many moving photos of the cemeteries themselves and surprised us with the inclusion of pictures from far closer to home – war graves that are here in Falmouth, Buddock, St Gluvias and Mylor, which don't always get the publicity of their continental counterparts. With some delightful anecdotes we were introduced to some of the more colourful characters that worked for the Commission, shedding a light on their work and the challenges that the organisation itself has faced over the years – right up to the current day.

This was an inspiring and interesting talk, made all the more poignant by the sacrifice of the individuals concerned and the timely illustration that when our nation works together in difficult circumstances, it can achieve so much.

Elizabeth received a vote of thanks from Val Bidgood and a hearty round of applause for bringing this subject to our attention.

CORNWALL COUNCILLOR REFLECTIONS

Who would have thought in the early days of 2020 that we were about to be thrown into a world more akin to a Science Fiction drama?

Cornwall Council responded to the ensuing first lockdown with a fast reorganisation that saw both Staff and Councillors working from home. With the second and third wave this was still the situation but now a normal programme of meetings carried on in the virtual world of Microsoft Teams and Zoom.

Although strange at first, there are now clear protocols to allow democracy to be seen to be done. That said however, this method of communication does put pressure on all participants to be open and transparent, just as they would be in a face-to-face situation.

Some Meetings at Cornwall Council are now back to face-to-face status but only for voting members. A hybrid system is now in place where non-voting participants still join by virtual link.

As always, all these Council meetings are live-streamed so that the public can watch what is said and voted on.

My role had its challenges locally; the main difficulty was meeting with people. However the use of the telephone and e-mail still provided a clear pathway for communication. Interestingly this is also the case with Council officers who, as previously mentioned, are still working from home. I have nothing but praise for the help and support I still get even though it may take just that little bit longer.

I have also been able to work with the Parish Council and offer support where needed, and again, face to face meetings have resumed

following Covid safety advice.

Praise is also very much due for the village and surrounding area itself. So many have risen to the challenge of social isolation, and loneliness. The way in which people took up the challenge and made food and medication deliveries to those who were forced to 'isolate' because they were vulnerable was beyond belief. A webpage also allows community interaction.

So, what of the future?

It is difficult to say how long this pandemic will go on, even with the support of vaccines. When will the virus

move from pandemic to endemic status?

The so called 'New Normal' does however offer us the opportunity to rethink how we do things and at the same time remember that the challenge of Climate Change has not gone away. Climate Change has sadly been eclipsed by our current situation but still has the potential to cause greater global devastation than the Covid pandemic.

We must not forget how the Covid challenge made the community stronger, and each member was equally valued.

Cornwall Council is reviewing the way it works. It has been realised that locally driven action works best for local people. It has been also realised that Council staff working in their own localities have an incredibly significant impact on the Council's Carbon Footprint. New Hubs will soon be announced to facilitate this.

I have great hope for the future but only if we learn from the past few months and realise that we need to radically rethink not only how we interact with each other but also with our environment and planet.

John Bastin

