

St Martin-by-Looe



News



Holland Road
Community Garden
Bug Hotel

Summer 2021

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St Martin-by-Looe Parish Council.
Delivered FREE throughout the Parish.

stmartinpc1@btinternet.com



www.stmartinbylooe.org.uk

**St Martin By Looe
Parish Councillors**

Contact Numbers.



Chairman

Robert Henly 01503 240336

Vice Chairman

Roberta Powley 01503 240650

Parish Councillors

Barbara Reynolds 01503 240520

David Keeble 01503 263525

Andrea Lankston 07503 072894

Simon Lawes 01503 265233

Nigel Cummings 07766 900192 (also Website Administrator)

Parish Clerk & Magazine Editor Charles Hyde 01579 340905
smartinpc1@btinternet.com

County Councillor

Armand Toms 01503 264823 atoms@cornwall.gov.uk

Advertisements

If you would like to include an advertisement in the next edition of St Martin By Looe News please contact The Clerk, Charles Hyde on 01579 340905 or by email smartinpc1@btinternet.com: Costs: £20 for a full page, £10 for a ½ page, £5 for 1/3 page: Contract discounts are available.

The magazine is printed quarterly and has a circulation of 350 copies which are delivered throughout the Parish and is available online.

Contributions

We always welcome contributions from people living in the Parish. If you would like to air your views on a particular subject or have a photograph or piece of artwork for the front cover please get in touch with The Clerk.

Statutory Disclaimer

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Parish Council Update



Welcome to Summer 2021 Edition

It's the 25th May and I still have the heating on! Roll on summer sunshine. With restrictions easing life is slowly returning to our towns and villages and the visitors are starting to arrive, I think we may be in for another busy summer. In this edition you will find a few historical articles as well as the usual recipe and Parish Council reports. The next edition will be published in September, deadline for inclusion mid August.

Planning applications received for consideration

Conversion of a house into two flats and a two-storey front extension (resubmission of application PA20/00591) at Kilmartin, Millendreath: Certificate of lawfulness for residential use at 102 Hillside Villas, Millendreath Holiday Village, Millendreath: Variation of condition 2 of decision 5/74/0760 dated 4th November 1974 (Change of planning permission to 31 touring caravans, motorised vans and tents and 5 static (letting) caravans) to allow not more than 16 static vans at Looe Country Park Caravan & Campsite, Bucklawren Road, No Man's Land.



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Parish Council Update



Donations

A £10 donation was agreed to the Women’s Centre, Cornwall following an appeal for funding.

Holland Road Community Garden

Much work has been done to improve the entrance to the Holland Road estate, County Councillor Armand Toms agreed a grant of £144 towards the project and a further amount of £20 was donated by a householder. Armand also donated a bench which looks great, two trees have been planted and tubs donated by a local resident have been planted with flowering plants. It is hoped to plant spring bulbs in the autumn if funds can be raised. If you can help in any way or wish to make a donation to the project please contact Roberta Powley. The Parish Council wish to thank everyone involved for all their hard work.

Parish Council Election

The election was uncontested so six of our Councillors were re-elected, one former Councillor Lynne Burt did not stand this year and we thank her for all her contributions over the years. We have a new Councillor Nigel Cummings who we welcomed to the Council at our meeting on 13th May in the village hall. Meetings have returned to being in-person but Covid restrictions will apply where necessary.



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Parish Council Update



Millendreath Post Box

The broken post box has been reported to the Post Office who have acknowledged that it needs to be repaired or replaced. but due to Covid restrictions this could take 26 weeks. So watch this space!

Millendreath Telephone Box

BT have informed us that the telephone box at Millendreath is to be removed. The Parish Council have sent an objection, due to the poor mobile signal in the valley which could delay an emergency response.

Parish Council Meetings

Parish Council Monthly meetings take place at the Memorial Hall, No Man's Land at 7.30pm on the first Thursdays of each month, but this may vary so please check notice boards, social media or our website for dates. Requests to speak during Public Participation need to be made to the Clerk 48 hours in advance. Contact details on page two. The next meetings will take place on 10th June, 1st July and 10th September 2021. (Where necessary Covid restrictions will apply).

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Looking Ahead

Despite the weather so far this year we have been quite busy in the garden. Between heavy rain and gale force winds we have managed to cut lawns, fell dead trees, plant and repot some shrubs and flowers as well as planting lettuce, peppers and tomatoes in the greenhouse. Unfortunately, the wind has taken its toll on some tall and tender plants and the low night temperatures have also been a factor, hence the orange and lemon trees have yet to leave the greenhouse.

A positive sign of the months to come has been the number of Bumblebees we have seen on the flowers of plants and fruit - with the most notable of the many types of Bumble being the Garden Bumblebee. It is a large Bee with three yellow bands and a white tail. The Queen nests underground with as many as one hundred



Partridge

workers, most often using the disused sites of small mammals. These Bumblebees can be found in most gardens as their name implies and as nationally, our gardens combined cover a greater area than all the Nature Reserves put together, this makes them a very valuable habitat.

As normal at this time of the year, the bird feeders have attracted many species to visit - some visitors are not the normal type you would expect. Pheasants feeding on the dropped seed are daily visitors, likewise members of the Corvid family, for example Jackdaws, Rooks, Crows, Magpie and the Jay. Of course we must not forget our regular visit from the Great Spotted Woodpecker who loves the nuts and suet block.

Not so common are the number of Mallard Ducks that have been arriving, up to five at any one time – maybe they are attracted by the pond but they spend most of their time under the feeders hoovering up the dropped seed. The female of the group has quite surprising laid two eggs on the lawn, both appear to have been eaten, probably by the Magpies.

On one warm day in May, while having lunch outside, the most surprising sighting of all was a pair of French Partridges in an adjacent meadow slowly making their way to cover. This was the very first time this bird had been spotted from our garden – very exciting – another tick in the book!!

Looking Ahead Cont:

Notable absentees in any numbers to date are Swallows and House Martins – I would have expected to see far more. It could be weather related and hopefully they will make an appearance soon.

House Martin



Photos courtesy
[flickrriver.com](https://www.flickrriver.com)
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Swallow



Given the National situation we still find ourselves in, it would be nice to think that the Summer will eventually arrive and bring some sunny, warm and dry days for us all to enjoy.

David Keeble

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The Chairman of the Parish Council

Annual report.

The past year has been a very different year for the Parish Council and the parish as a whole. This time last year we were just entering the first national lockdown aimed at controlling the spread of the Covid 19 global pandemic and we had to suspend all face-to-face meetings. However, after a couple of months we were able to resume virtual meetings using zoom. My thanks to the clerk for setting up these meetings and to all the councillors who embraced the concept despite some reservations. I look forward to resuming face to face meetings in the not-too-distant future although it would be good if we were to retain the ability to hold virtual meetings when necessary between monthly meetings enabling us to discuss matters such as planning which arise and need a more immediate answer.

Despite these restrictions it has been a surprisingly busy year for the Parish Council. One of the big achievements was to finally see the construction of a purpose-built bus shelter at No Man's Land to give a much safer and well protected space for passengers especially the school children. My particular thanks to the clerk who helped drive this project which was partially financed by his efforts at selling advertising in the Parish Newsletter.

A new pavement has now been constructed to link Holland Road with the main road, improving safety which will be further enhanced when a virtual pavement is marked on the narrow section of road. This leaves a grassed section which is to be developed by volunteers to create a community garden with the addition of planters, trees, shrubs and a bench. My thanks to all those involved in this project which will improve the appearance of the entrance to Holland Road estate. A Christmas tree was again erected at No Man's Land but sadly we were not able to hold a lights-up ceremony due to restrictions. Let's hope we will be back to normal next year.

New dog refuse bins have been erected at the entrance to Looe Country Park and Windsworth. My thanks to those who have agreed to keep these bins emptied.

A new notice board has been provided in Millendreath. My thanks to Councillor Lawes for erecting this so swiftly and professionally. The road at Millendreath and May Lane has recently been resurfaced which is a great improvement.

The Parish Council now has a new website. It is very impressive and was created by local resident Nigel Cummings.

The Chairman of the Parish Council

Annual report.

My thanks to him for such a professional job and for agreeing to monitor it in the future.

This is an election year and a new council will be elected on 6th May with the new Parish Boundaries. My thanks go to my fellow councillors for their support over the year and particular thanks to those councillors not seeking re-election this year. My thanks to County Councillor Armand Toms for the tremendous support he has given us and I wish him well in his bid for the new larger constituency he now finds himself in. Thanks also to PCSO Dave Billings for keeping us up to date with crime in the parish and his help when we have a problem.

Finally, I extend a very big thank on behalf of myself and all the councillors to our clerk Charles for all his hard work to ensure the smooth running of the council in this strange year and for his work in producing the quarterly newsletters for the parish.

Robert Henly 01/04/2021

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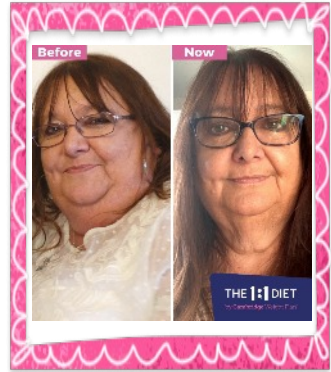


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A little bit of history in print

This was given to me from one of our Parish Councillors, it's part of an article from the Cornish Times about an Annual Parish Meeting on 11th May 1987. Nothing changes!

'The Parish honour man who never missed a meeting in 23 years.'

A man who served the parish council of St Martin by Looe for 23 years, for ten of which he was chairman, and who never missed a meeting, was honoured by colleagues on his retirement.

He is Jack Pengelly who, at the annual meeting, preceding that retirement, was presented with an inscribed pewter tankard in appreciation of his services, by vice chairman Ron Matthews.

Chairman Pengelly had reported a busy twelve months with an almost 100 per cent turnout of councillors at the meetings.

Investigations has been carried out on parish boundaries, bridleways, footpaths and rights of way'.....the article continues to report on planning applications, drainage problems, pollution, speed limits, signposts, toilets, housing stock maintenance and highways issues, with the clerk asked to write to Cornwall County Council.

As parish clerk who has served the parish council since 2006, it made interesting reading as nothing has really changed! Charles Hyde.



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History Snippet - So long, Longcoe

By Jenny Wallis

At Rogationtide our parish used to 'beat the bounds'. They would start at Steps by the Looe River and process up the watercourse to its spring in Springfields. Here they took the shortest route across the hill to follow a watercourse that led down to Hessenford and the Seaton River. Small boys in the company were whipped at intervals to imprint the **Parish Boundary** in their memory - and so preserve the knowledge for all time!

A thousand years later we have maps! The B3253 has ignored tradition and marginalised parts of our northern limits, creating a community at **No Man's Land** that straddles the border with **Morval**. Modern logic has now **moved the borders!**

No Man's Land is in St Martins. The **road** is the boundary of the civil parish. And we have lost **Longcoe!** It has gone to Morval.

Longcoe, the **church wood** in Cornish, was cut down by C17th. The farm grew up where the old church road branched to Morval or Liskeard. The church was run by the Lords of the Manor of Pendrym. They had a dovecote and a rabbit warren near the rectory. Longcoe estate was sold freehold, maybe to raise funds for **Pendrym Manor House**. It was acquired by the **Bullers of Morval** who appear to have sold it to a family called **Debell**, who were **Quakers**.

Charles II imprisoned Quakers and sold them as slaves, so we had a scandal brewing in our midst! In 1690 Philip Debell held Meetings at Longcoe. He had been imprisoned in Launceston for his faith. After the Toleration Act, 1688, Quakers became trusted in business - especially s



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Road, transport and parking	0300 1234 222

History Snippet - So long, Longcoe

By Jenny Wallis

serge manufacture in Looe. They believed that none of their members should be 'chargeable to the parish'. They looked after each other and gained respect.

Philip Debell's daughter, Edith, married **William Cookworthy** of Kingsbridge in 1704. Their son, William, became the founding father of Cornwall's **China Clay** industry. In 1810 John Bray owned a share of Longcoe Farm which is now Grade II listed.

Mary Debell married James **Tuckett**, a grocer, from Somerset in 1751. The **West Briton** recorded a fire at Langos Farm in 1824. John Tuckett was drying flax on a kiln. **Looe Fire Brigade** attended. In 1840, Longcoe was owned by Sarah Tuckett who is buried in the **Quaker Burial Ground** on Barbican Hill. The new turnpike road had by-passed the settlement by this time.

The local **census** returns in C19th show that Longcoe became a home to widows, a pauper, agricultural labourers with young families, the elderly and handicapped. (**William Muchmore**, who was deaf and dumb has a poem on his headstone in the churchyard). People moved there from Bristol, Wincanton, and the South Hams. By 1901 **Mrs H Tremayne**, (nee Buller) of **Morval** owned Longcoe again.

I think we should take our hats off to Longcoe, a principled community that quietly influenced the lives of our parish. But the Quakers wouldn't be impressed. They didn't doff their hat to anyone - or beat the bounds!! So long, Longcoe!

Looe Police Station contact number.

If you need to contact your local Police Station you can use the number below:
01503 266193

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Strawberry Squares Recipe

Courtesy of The National Trust.

Ingredients

For the base

300g self-raising flour

300g light brown sugar

150g butter

For the topping

2 eggs

300g sour cream

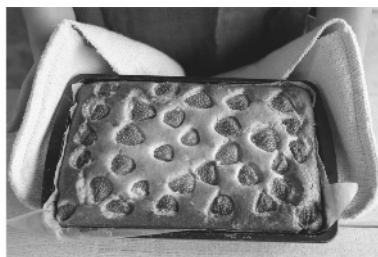
150g strawberries, chopped

Method

1. Preheat your oven to 160°C or gas mark 3, and line a 30cm by 20cm deep-sided baking tray with parchment paper.

2. For the base, mix the flour and sugar, and 'rub in' the butter until you have a sandy texture.

3. Spread half of this mixture in your lined tray and press down gently with a spatula or back of a spoon until you have an even layer.



4. For the topping, add the sour cream and eggs to the remaining flour mix and stir until just combined and with only a few lumps remaining.

5. Pour this mixture over the base in your tin and spread evenly. Top with the chopped strawberries, arranging them evenly over the surface.

6. Place in the oven and bake for 35 - 40 minutes or until golden and set.

7. Once cooked remove from the oven. Let your bake cool completely before cutting.

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Plans for a GWR Railway, can you help?

In order to help one-time local resident Alec Kendall, who is writing a paper about the proposed 1930s GWR railway from Trerulefoot via Hessenford, Seaton and Millendreath to Looe (see sketch map next page), complete with large hotel and leisure resort on the hilltop near Bodigga, I am researching the GWR golf course constructed at Windsworth/ Bodigga/ surrounding properties, completed early in 1937, then abandoned. It is believed that the course was taken over for War Agriculture in WW2.

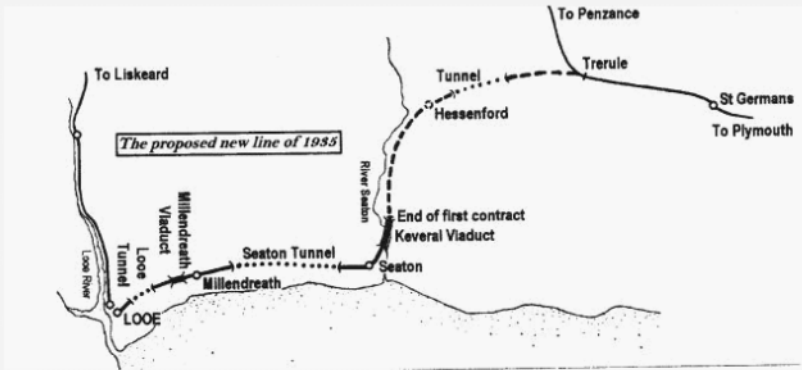
We would be most grateful for any information you can give us, either from your own knowledge or from conversation with those familiar with the course. If you would like to find out more about the project, please email me, Jim Lewis, j.lewis100@me.com or Caroline Petherick: 01503-262671 or carolinepetherick@gmail.com , who has asked for this questionnaire to be published. If you can provide any relevant details on it I'd be most grateful if you'd scan it and email it to me: j.lewis100@me.com

Name and email address _____

1. Do your property deeds have any record relevant to its 1930s purchase by Western Enterprise Limited or the GWR, and the 1950s sale by Metropolitan Railway Country Estates on behalf of the British Transport Commission? If so, would you be willing to tell me about it?
2. Do you know if the course was in regular use before WW2?
3. Do you know if there was a clubhouse/changing rooms/car park, and if so, where these were sited?
4. Do you know where any of the holes were?
5. It looks as though it would have been necessary to cross roads to access different parts of the course. If so, do you know where any of these crossing points were?
6. Do you know of any humps and hollows remaining today as remnants of bunkers etc?
7. Do you know if the course was in use after WW2?
8. Do you know anybody who is likely to have more information about the course? If so do you think they would be willing to help?

Proposed 1930's GWR Route to Looe

An entirely new route was proposed in the 1930's to avoid the Liskeard interchange which was both slow and expensive to work. The branch was to run from near St Germans, via Downderry & Millendreath to Looe.



Many thanks to Ralph Rawlinson

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