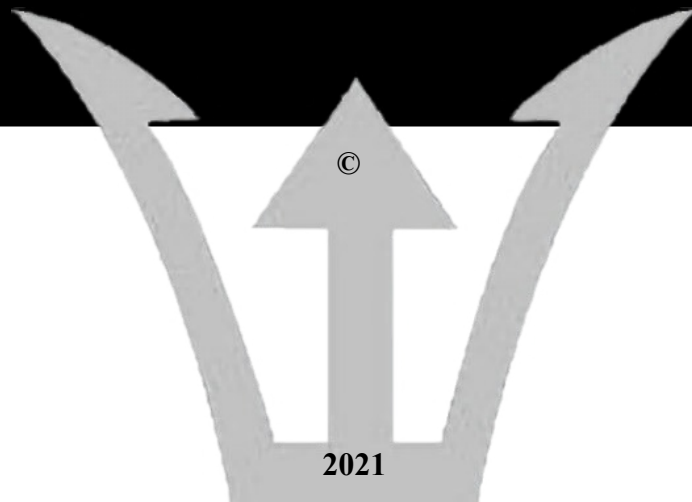


PORTHLEVEN MUSEUM



● Chairman Roy Bradbury presents a town plaque to Mike Carter in recognition of his contribution to the lives of people in Porthleven. Picture – Marko Dutka

PAT ADAMS SCRAP BOOK SERIES BOOK 15 OCTOBER 1998 TO JANUARY 2000

Category	Scrap Books	PLVCM2022.5.1
Category	Collection	PLVCM2022.7.1

THE POST OFFICE PORTHLEVEN

After 10 years we are very sorry to say that our sell by date has long past.

Two old pensioners who have enjoyed being in Porthleven will be handing the business over to a younger couple.

On Saturday, 10th October, 1998 Mr. & Mrs. Chadderton, (Peter and Susan) will be taking over the shop and Monday morning the post office will be theirs.

We would like to say thank you for your custom and friendship during our time here and we are sure Peter and Susan will do all they can to carry on, in a similar way.

For a while we will still be around the village, etc, until we settle somewhere.

Once more, thanks a lot.

TED AND JOAN BONE

Porthleven

STALL: The Porthleven auxiliary of the RSPCA held their last summer stall on the harbour head, and raised £210.

CONCERT: St Keverne Male Voice Choir, under musical director Ruth Martin and accompanist Mrs M Bilkey, recently sang in St Bartholomew's Church, and raised £171 for the Arthritis Research Campaign. Soloists were Paul Brown, Ray Lyne and Fred Carter, and Michael Wearne gave a reading. Guest soloist was soprano Margaret Bird, of Mawnan Smith, accompanied by Ruth Martin. The chair was taken by Mr M Lemon, new president of the local ARC.

METHODIST CHURCH: The preacher at the Sunday morning service was Bill Kitchen, with evening worship led by

Pat Jory, of Ashton. Last week, the church celebrated its harvest festival with the morning service led by Louise Luing, of Goldsithney, and the Sunday school children presenting their harvest gifts, which were later distributed to the sick and aged in the village. The evening service was conducted by the superintendent minister of the Mounts Bay Circuit, the Rev A W Pudner.

CRAFT GROUP: The church's recently formed craft group, which meets on Friday afternoons, is growing in number. Its aim is to make quality goods for sale at the Christmas bazaar. Anyone is welcome to join.

FELLOWSHIP: Members of Porthleven Methodist Ladies' Fellowship enjoyed a talk by Paul Brown, who was also the pianist and accompanied himself and his wife in a duet. Mrs Andrews presided. Refreshments were served by Mesdames Andrews and Trace.

OPEN AFTERNOON: An open afternoon for the local RSPCA was held at the home of treasurer Jean Bryant, at Mill Close, Porthleven, and raised £106. Mrs V Mostyn, of Helston, the county RSPCA chairman, thanked everyone for their support and Mr and Mrs Bryant for their hospitality. There were the usual stalls, raffle and refreshments. Raffle winners were Mrs E Goldenbaum, Mrs I Worrall, Mrs S Robinson, Mrs J Mills, Mrs E Steele, Miss J Pillage, Mrs Nichollas, Mrs V Mostyn, Mrs B Braddon and Mrs D Maddern.

PET SERVICE: A well-attended pet service took place at St Bartholomew's Church, led by the Rev Peter Walker. Guest speaker was Roy Stephens, secretary of the Cornwall branch of the RSPCA, who spoke on its work. He was thanked by Mr Walker. Lessons were read by Julie Janvrin and Sarah Walker. Organist was Mrs L Walker. A collection for the local RSPCA raised £28.

HARVEST FESTIVAL: The sale of produce from St Bartholomew's Church harvest festival, held at the football club, raised £209 for the Joey Appeal. Auctioneer was the Rev Peter Walker.

SALE: A Not Needed sale at St Bartholomew's churchyard raised £105 for church funds.

COFFEE MORNING: A coffee morning at the home of Jill Tilsley raised £100 for St Bartholomew's Church.

Porthleven backs skateboard ban

By Laura Parsons

PORThLEVEN councillors have given their "wholehearted support" to a bid by members of Helston town council for a district-wide ban on skateboarding on the public highway.

Following a meeting last week, Porthleven clerk Elsie Balme has written to Kerrier backing up a request from Helston that the district council consider introducing a byelaw making it an offence to use a skateboard on the road.

The move follows increasing concern in both Porthleven and Helston over near misses involving cars and pedestrians as skateboarders whizz through the streets.

Mrs Balme said Porthleven Millennium Trust was hoping to establish a skateboard park away

from the town centre, which would be similar to facilities in Helston.

"We would like to have a park, but it's clear that doesn't solve all the problems of youngsters skateboarding in the streets.

"I don't think a byelaw would stop the problem immediately, but hopefully it would reduce the number of incidents, until it stopped completely."

At a meeting tonight, Helston town clerk Brian Gooding will tell councillors Kerrier's chief executive officer Geoffrey Cox has replied to their initial request for a byelaw.

Mr Cox is preparing a report on the matter for initial consideration by district council chief officers, before it is placed before the appropriate committee.

Man, 50, attacked in street

A 50-YEAR-OLD man from Helston needed five stitches after being hit over the head with a skateboard in Porthleven last week.

The man, who has not been named, was taken to hospital with a four-inch gash to the back of the head after the attack in Fore Street last Tuesday.

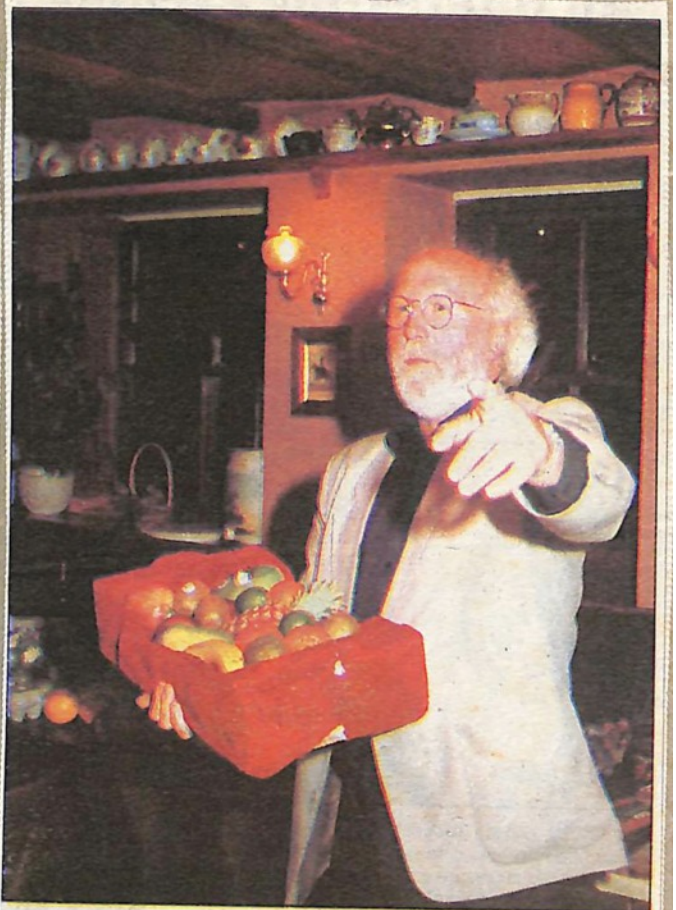
A police spokesman said the man was leaving premises in Fore Street at around 9.30pm when he saw a group of youths skateboarding down the road.

"It seems he told them to stop, an altercation took place, and one of them hit him from behind with a skateboard," said Sgt Lyn Gooding.

"The offender ran off, but there were a number of witnesses who were able to identify him to police."

The youth was arrested and interviewed, and a number of others are also being questioned.

Anyone with further information is asked to contact WPC Butcher at Helston 0990 777444, or ring Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.



"WHAT am I bid?" . . . Father Peter Walker offers a box of fruit for auction

Harvest auction raises £250 for village organisations

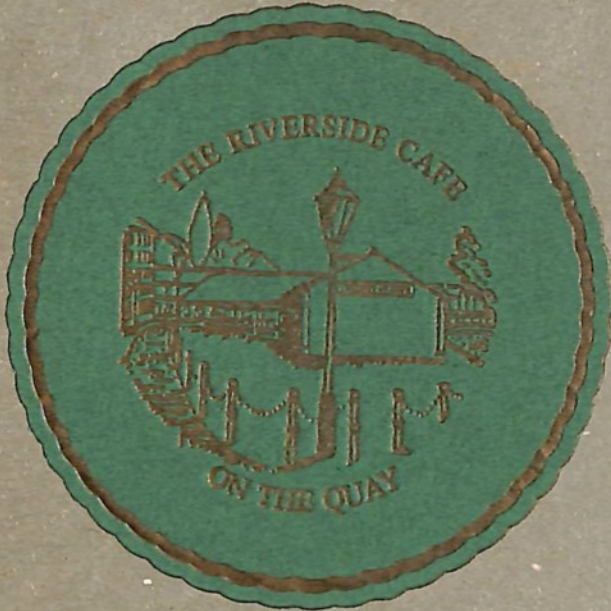
A HARVEST auction at the Harbour Hotel in Porthleven raised more than £250 for the village.

Funds will be divided between the Harbour Lights committee, and Porthleven Town Band, who jointly organised the event.

Father Peter Walker volunteered his services as auctioneer, and had a splendid array of produce to practice on, including a 3ft long pasty donated by the Horse and Jockey Bakery.

Members of the band gave a performance outside the hotel before the auction.

The organisers thanked everyone involved for making the event a success for the benefit of the whole community.



Line dancers from Porthleven get the rhythm going to raise money for the British Heart Foundation

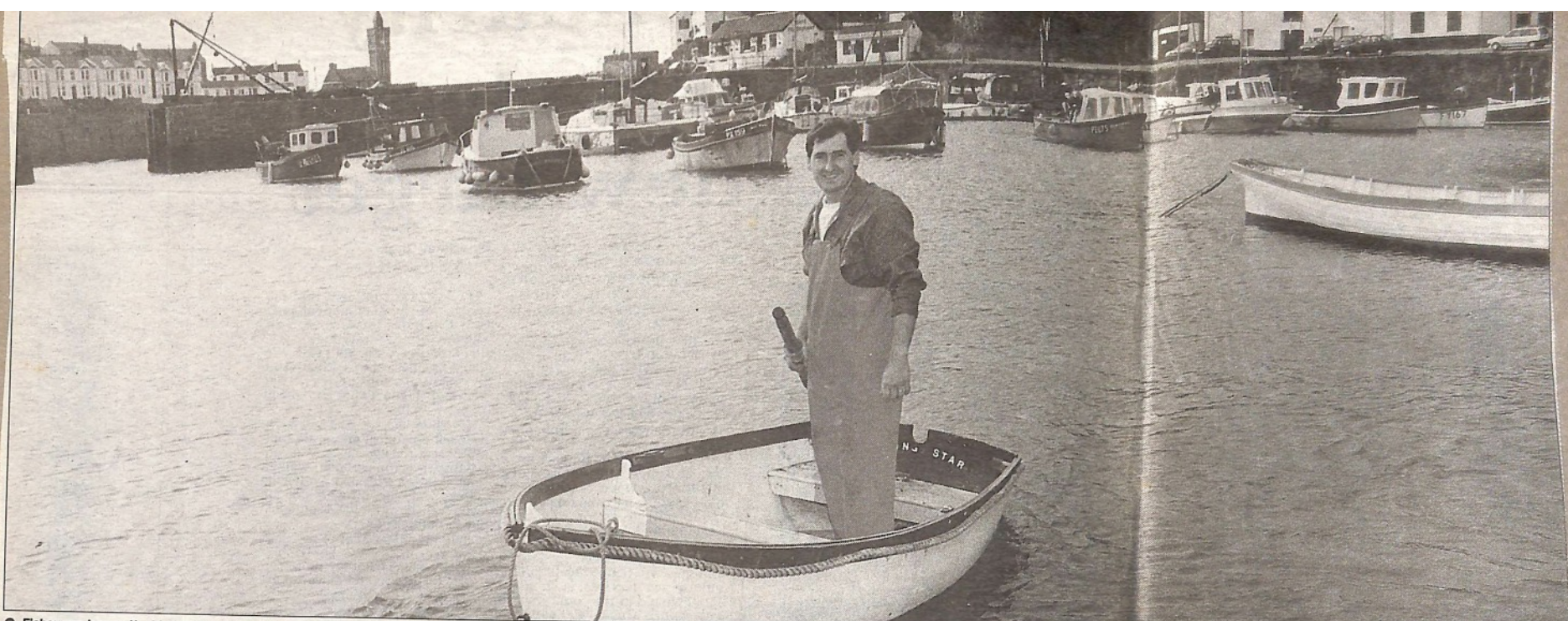
Yeeee....Haaaaa!

PEOPLE all over the country raised money for the British Heart Foundation by simultaneously line dancing – and enthusiasts from Helston and Porthleven were among them.

Porthleven Line Dancers and Silver Spur Dancers of Helston turned out in force, joined by Mary Vyvyan, area organiser BHF in Cornwall. The group made the five-minute line dance part of their weekly programme of line dancing. Mary said: "I have to admit to having two left feet when dancing, so you can imagine how confused I was by the instructions to bend the right knee, hook heel under left knee and tap right heel on the floor in front!" Clearly the group enjoy their regular line dancing, which is a way of having fun, improving health and on this special evening helping others by raising money to fight heart disease.

The Director General of the BHF, Major General Leslie Busk, will be visiting Cornwall to meet and address BHF volunteers and supporters on Saturday.

Anyone interested in attending the event at the Penventon Hotel, Redruth, should contact Mary on 01326 341137.



● Fisherman Jeremy Hosking who has diversified into taking people on coastal cruises and fishing trips.

Emphasis is changing but life still revolves around fishing

PORTHLEVEN is still home to many fishermen, some of whom fish out of the village in the summer months, but move to Newlyn in the winter because of the tides.

Jeremy Hosking is the fourth generation of fishermen in his family, but gave up full-time fishing when his boat was decommissioned.

Instead he spent the summer months this year taking visitors and many local people on daytime fishing trips and coastal cruises on the Starfish, and he is now mackerel fishing during the winter.

His father, Mike, believes there is great potential in the village for more kinds of pleasure trips at sea.

"I'm not sure Porthleven will

ever be a thriving fishing village," he said, "but I think there are lots of opportunities within the tourist industry."

"I don't mean over-commercialisation, but I like the idea of angling trips, shark fishing and coastal cruises."

All kinds of fish, much of it smoked on the premises, is boxed up and sent by mail order all over the country by John Strike's Quayside Fish Centre, on the harbourside.

His business, built up over the last 23 years, is so well known that people think nothing of telephoning the centre to order six lobsters or a couple of brill to be sent by post for a dinner party in London or elsewhere.

The shop, with its vast array of

different kinds of fish, is run by John's wife Vanessa, and his niece Amanda also works there.

"People come to us perhaps wanting something special to cook, or advice, or even just to come and chat," said John.

He said that customers nowadays are far more adventurous in their choices than they used to be when he first started selling fish door to door with a mobile van.

In 1989, John was declared Fishmonger of the Year in a nationwide competition, and regrets the fact that he has not had the opportunity to win the title again because the competition hasn't been run since.

He now has planning permission to convert part of the upstairs of his business into a fish restaurant.

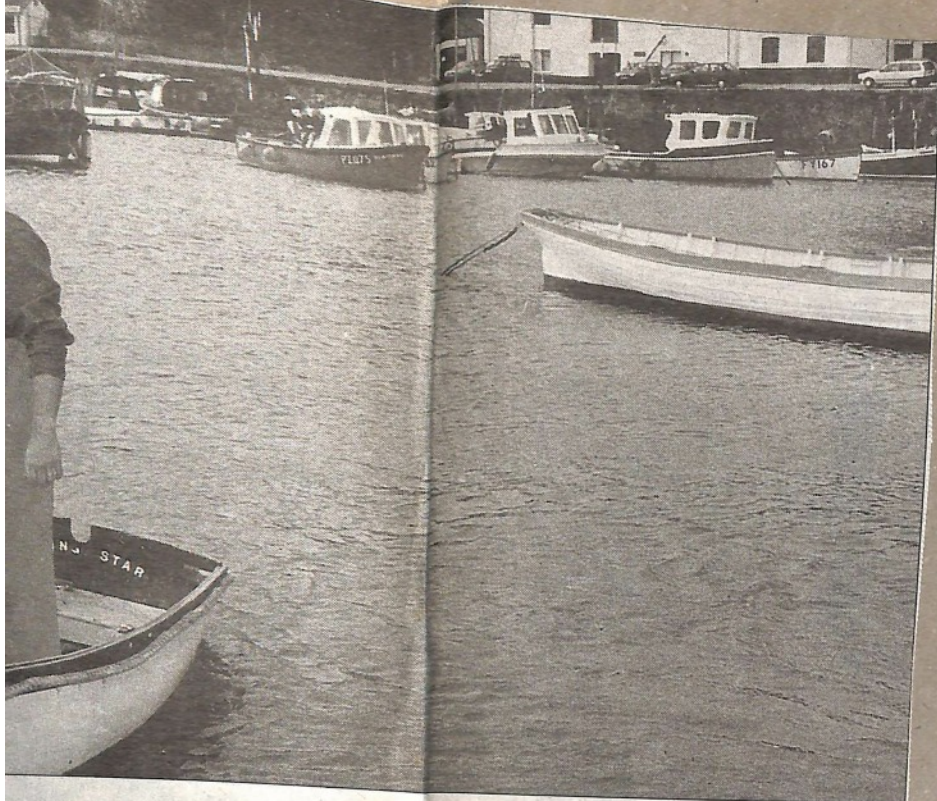


● Top: John Strike prepares another batch of smoked kippers. Centre: Claire Francis shows off some of her collection of hats. Bottom: Artist Jim Tinley, renowned for his paintings of local characters.

**PORTHLEVEN FLORAL CLUB
PROGRAMME 1998**

OCTOBER 1998.

Below: The Rev Peter Walker and head Helen Williams with children of Porthleven School at their harvest festival service.



Visitors love to savour life in Porthleven

By Muriel Cato

UNSPOILT, unpretentious and with a very eclectic population - Porthleven does not have the chocolate box appeal of somewhere like Mousehole or the tourist attractions of somewhere like Newquay.

Yet each year the fishing village attracts thousands of visitors, almost despite itself, as the life of the busy community carries on all the year round, without particularly bending to the tourist industry.

There is always something different to look at in Porthleven, whether it is the waves lashing over the sides of the harbour in bad weather, fishermen on their boats, children fishing by the harbour walls, or the hordes of people wandering about.

It has a wealth of artists and craftspeople who make their living working in the village with the sea as their inspirational backdrop, selling their work all over the country and in other parts of the world, as well as at home in Porthleven.

It also has many thriving businesses, including a growing number of restaurants, craft shops and galleries, and other shops, public houses, a "Wreck and Rescue Centre" and a pottery.

But, most importantly, perhaps, Porthleven has a very strong sense of community.

And that, says head teacher Helen Williams is what makes the 265 children at the village primary school so special.

"They are just lovely, happy children," she said.

A St Keverne "maid" herself, married to John, also from St Keverne, Mrs Williams knows what makes village life so special - and it's still very much in evidence in Porthleven, despite its growing population.

"I feel very strongly that the school is part of the community and the village takes its part in raising its children," she said.

"Whenever we have any event at the school it's not just the parents, but the grandparents who come to see the children.

"We still have lots of extended families in Porthleven and I think that is a real feature of the school."

Elsie Balme, born "regrettably" as she puts it in Helston, has lived in Porthleven since she was 18 months old, and has published a book, *Seagull Morning*, about her childhood in the village.

As town clerk for the last 18 months, her knowledge of the village's history, its characters and its traditions has been invaluable.

It is at times, she says, a "contentious community", with Porthleveners tending to be rather outspoken in their criticism of each other.

But she believes this stems

from the fact that the villagers care about each other and about their community.

Although she loves her job, she would sometimes, she confesses, be just as happy sitting at home writing a book.

She's written historical novels, and is hoping to find a publisher for her latest one.

She also writes poetry, and has just won a nationwide Methodist church competition to write a new hymn.

Her entry, *Lord We Come To Give You Glory*, beat 249 others, and now another competition is running for someone to write the music to fit her words.

Elsie is also senior steward of Porthleven Methodist Church, whose members are currently seeking permission from the Methodist property division to sub-divide the chapel, creating a hall for community use downstairs with worship upstairs.

Last year's town council chairman Maureen Gautrey, was the first woman to wear the chairman's chain of office, something which she said was "a great honour".

She is a comparative newcomer to the village, having moved there from Cambridge nine years ago.

Like many, she first visited Porthleven while on holiday and became a regular visitor making friends in the village over the years, before finally moving there and becoming involved in village life.

Emphasis is changing but life still revolves around fishing

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The window cleaner who is also an artist

THE faces of many Porthleven characters are extremely well-known to the village's window cleaner, Jim Tinley.

When he is not cleaning windows, particularly in the winter months, this former art teacher is painting in his studio upstairs at his home in Harbour View.

An exhibition of his paintings, *The People's Exhibition*, held at Kittow's Net Loft in the village attracted more than 2,000 people, including many locals dropping in to remember old characters from the past.

Jim has lived in Porthleven for 26 years with his wife Sue, who comes from Rinsey originally, who works as a practice nurse in Helston's Meneage Street doctors' surgery.

During those years he has done pencil sketches in the village for tourists and sold many of his oil paintings to holidaymakers and local people.

He has now about to start painting again for an exhibition he is going to hold at the net loft next August, during eclipse week.

The number of visitors to the port was down this sum-

mer because of the bad weather, and that meant fewer sales for well-known hatter Claire Francis.

Her business is based at the Salt Cellar Workshops, alongside willow basket maker Geraldine Jones, and Fiona Kelly, who runs Feeline Clothing.

Claire, who is usually wearing one of her own creations, loves Porthleven and the fact that she can walk by the sea every day, and sometimes hear the waves lashing against the workshop windows as she works.

Artists and craftspeople, however, she believes struggle to make a living in the village. She counts herself as fortunate that she is "just about busy enough" to survive in business in a place she loves so much.

Geraldine, taught to make baskets by a gipsy living at Rosudgeon, loves the fact that Porthleven is not too smart or "prettified", and the life it gives to her and her husband Pete, who is a fisherman there.

"A lot of its appeal is the fact that there are nets on the quay, the roads are bumpy, and it hasn't been submerged by tourism," she said.

Over the years several multi-million pound schemes have been talked about for Porthleven, and work is still going on, through members of the Porthleven Millennium Trust, to bring about improvements through grant aid.

The town council and Trevor Osborne, owner of the Harbour and Dock Company, spearheaded a series of public meetings and weekend workshops in the village to find out what the residents wanted. Although the initiative failed to get the funding it needed at the time, various projects in what is intended to be phase one of improvements, are still planned.

A garden for the public on Frankies Allotment is going to happen, said trust member and town councillor Mike Carter. Other schemes include new seating and litter bins, improved approaches to Porthleven, a possible skateboard park, and a "village office".

One new idea this year, the Discover Porthleven leaflet, funded by the trust, the town council and Kerrier Council, has been a great success with 30,000 leaflets printed and distributed.

OCTOBER 1998

Below: The Rev Peter Walker and head Helen Williams with children from Porthleven School at their harvest festival service.



PORTHLEVEN FLORAL CLUB
GRAMME 1998

A blood-curdling weekend at Porthleven

Was it the professor with the dagger in the drawing room?



□ Dental nurse Sue Lunt, who was closest to guessing the murderer's identity

IT was a case of "what the guests saw" at the Ty Roc Hotel, Porthleven, last week with a murder, the arrival of the police, and the eventual capture of the villain.

The deadly goings-on were all in the name of fun, however, as the hotel played host to a murder-mystery weekend with guests, staff and several local people dressing in 1920s costume to play different characters and track down the "murderer".

The guests were mainly nurses from across West Cornwall, who booked into the hotel for the weekend as a thank you to colleagues and partners for their time and patience in helping to organise recent events for the South West medical nurses association.

Although not the first time that the hotel has hosted a light-heartedly murderous weekend, proprietor Richard Palmer said that the event had been "the best yet".

"They really got into the spirit of the thing, from the effort they put into their costumes and characters, to the fun of the discovery of the murderer," added Mr Palmer.

"We all had a great time, and they are probably the best group we have ever had for one of these weekends."



□ Who dunnit? ... One of these was the murderer



PORTHLEVEN'S Jolly's Combination League squad pictured before their match at Wendron is (back row, left-right): Chris Williams (assistant manager), Kevin Richards, Phil Richards, Stuart Robinson, Symon Winnan, Matt Swain, Paul Ainscough, Scott Toy, Mathew Williams, Steve Webber (manager). Front: Duane Britten, Chris Strike, Brett Miners, Martyn Williams, Gary Pascoe, Cy Pryn, Dave Njie

Pictures: Alan McLaren

OCTOBER 1998.

Porthleven

Members of St Bartholomew's Church's congregation held a coffee morning at the Copper Kettle Restaurant, Porthleven, by kind permission of the proprietors for the Christian Aid Central America Disaster fund and raised £46.

Ladies' Fellowship

The speaker at the Porthleven Methodist Church Ladies' Fellowship was Mrs V Mostyn of Helston, who gave a very interesting talk on "An old fashioned Christmas." She was welcomed and thanked by Mrs A A Vincent who was also the afternoon accompanist. The soloist was Mrs S Brown and refreshments were served by Mrs Williams and Mrs Trace.

Trinity Methodist

Members of the Porthleven Trinity Ladies' Fellowship met at the home of Mrs Ruth Tripp who gave a very interesting demonstration on how to make Christmas tree decorations and everyone was soon encouraged to try their hand at making their own. Mrs Tripp was thanked by Miss Lillian Pascoe and the afternoon concluded with Mrs Tripp serving refreshments.

Christmas lights DEC 4

A good number of people witnessed the switching on of the Christmas lights around Porthleven Harbour on Friday evening by Janet Eathorne of Radio Cornwall. The proceedings were led by Father Peter Walker and Father Christmas presented each child present with a gift of sweets.

Much praise must be extended to Mr Ken Milburn the harbour-master and his helpers in appreciation of all their hard work over several weeks in making the display so attractive.

DECEMBER 98

Porthleven and District Branch RNLI CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

The Copper Kettle, Fore Street, Porthleven
Saturday, 7th November, 1998
10 a.m.-12 noon

CHRISTMAS CARDS - DIARIES - CALENDARS

FUND RAISING EVENING

Friday 6th November, 1998
The Ship Inn, Porthleven, 8 till late

Some special priced beer
Music - Food - Draw - Colour Television
Case of wine donated by Bordeaux Direct, many other prices
(Proceeds to the Port Issac Crew Fund)

(All proceeds to RNLI charity. Reg charity No. 209603)

Wives' club meet
Members of the Porthleven Wives' Club met at the Carleen Community Church Care Centre and enjoyed a demonstration by Miss D Rogers on "Christmas Ideas". She was thanked by Mrs Joan Ford and the evening concluded with refreshments.

Ladies' fellowship
Members of the Porthleven Methodist Church Ladies' Fellowship have enjoyed two meetings lately. The first was a talk by Rev John Pearce of St. Keverne, and the soloist was Mrs Shirley Brown. The second afternoon's speaker was Mrs Amy Pascoe of Sithney when the soloist was Mrs Monica Williams. All the guests were welcomed and thanked by Mrs A A Vincent who was also the accompanist. Refreshments were served at the close.

Concert in aid of Christmas lights
A concert was given in the Public Hall at Porthleven by the Memphis Belles Orchestra from Falmouth and raised £296 profit for the Porthleven Christmas Lights appeal. The chair was taken by Janet Eathorne of Radio Cornwall and the soloist was Jeff Phillips from St. Austell. Thanks were expressed by Ken Milburn.

Coffee morning
At a coffee morning which was recently held by the Porthleven and District branch of the RNLI at the Copper Kettle in Porthleven the sum of £234 was raised. Along with the coffee and cakes a raffle was held and Christmas cards and souvenirs were on sale. Thankyou to all those who supported this event.

Porthleven Floral Club
presents a seasonal demonstration by

Mark Nicholas Christmas is coming

THE PUBLIC HALL
Porthleven

Wednesday,
25th November
at 7.30pm

**Raffle
Refreshments**

Ticket £3



Tye Rock Country House Hotel & Dolphin Restaurant

LOE BAR ROAD, PORTHLEVEN, NR. HELSTON, CORNWALL TR13 9EW
Tel. / Fax: Helston (01326) 572695 Proprietors: Pat and Richard Palmer

A BRIEF HISTORY

On the 7th August, 1883, John Peverel Rogers of Penrose, a captain in the Royal Regiment of Artillery loaned for 60 years to Emma Woo Grey of Porthleven, at the yearly rate of £2.61 paid quarterly in advance, 4 acres of land to be known initially as Rockville. Soon after, work started on building a private manor house and a team of Irish builders blasted the foundations out of the rocks (the original indentures can be seen in our reception lounge). The Times displayed an advertisement on Tuesday, 2nd December, 1913, for "The best seaside house in Cornwall in the Cornish Riveira, where winter is banished and with "Absolutely England's" mildest winter climate. An ideal place for those returning from hot countries or requiring a mild winter climate. 8-12 gns a week." (This can be seen in the hallway of the hotel). The house was later purchased by the W. H. Wills family (Cigarette Company) and during the war the American Services requisitioned the building for their officers, and stories of a German spy signalling to U boats in the bay are told by locals. In the 50's it is known that the property was sold for just £4,500! Many interesting guests have stayed at Tye Rock since it became a hotel just before the war, including Max Wall, the comedian, who used to holiday regularly choosing his favourite table in the bay window of the dining room.

WYCLIFFE AT TYE ROCK

More recently the old house has made welcome an England football player, a well known authoress and the film crew of the TV series "Wycliffe" who used the hotel under its own name in one of their episodes in 1998. A resident and friendly ghost known as the "Spanish Lady" also resides at the manor, and has been seen on a number of occasions by reliable witnesses. In 1997 she appeared during one of our "Murder Mystery Weekends" and the siting was well documented with the local press taking a particular interest. In 1995 under the new ownership of Pat and Richard Palmer, Tye Rock acquired its "Country House" status and shortly after, the Dolphin Restaurant was opened to the public, specialising in traditional, wholesome, freshly cooked meals and offering a comfortable evening in elegant surroundings with an intimate, relaxed and friendly atmosphere. The view from the hotel restaurant, across Mount's Bay, would be hard to match anywhere!



Delightful and elegant

ELEGANCE AND INDIVIDUALLY

Today the Tye Rock Hotel stands at a notable point in its development. The rooms and decor have been dramatically fashioned into various themes to highlight the exclusivity and individuality of the hotel. Staying at Tye Rock is an experience to savour with Spanish, African and Victorian rooms including original decor, personalised service and elegant evenings in the Dolphin Restaurant. The hotel has an atmosphere that exudes a feeling of times past, with many regulars from the 1950's still visiting today.

THEME AND VARIATIONS

The originality is highlighted by various themed events and evenings. "Murder, Mystery Weekends" have proved very popular and coming up in 1999 is a very special event, namely a Literary Dinner to launch "A Woman Alone," Pamela Oldfield's new novel, set around a fictional select school for young ladies at "Tye Rock." Pamela Oldfield will talk about her book at this very special dinner on 15th January 1999 with musical interludes from Charles Heykoop on classical guitar. This event is by reservation only so please call 01326 572695 for details. The Tye Rock is moving on with style and elegance - experience it soon!



The Tye Rock Country House Hotel, Porthleven

The Dolphin Restaurant

at the
Tye Rock Country House Hotel,
Porthleven

Pre-Christmas Dinner

Join us for dinner in our home and enjoy a delicious, wholesome, freshly cooked Country House meal in our elegant Victorian dining room with its stunning views along the beautiful coast and across Mount's Bay.

Coming soon to Tye Rock
Friday, January 15th

A very Special Dinner to launch Pamela Oldfield's new book based around a fictional select school for young ladies at Tye Rock "A Woman Alone"

Plus BURNS NIGHT

Saturday, 23rd January

Just follow our signs from the Helston road to Porthleven and Loe Bar or from the harbour (head for the clock tower)

Reservations only please
Tel: 01326 572695

Loe Bar Road, Porthleven,
Cornwall TR13 9EW

A fitting tribute to two fine policemen

By Laura Parsons

A MEMORIAL service was held in Porthleven on Sunday for two Helston policemen who drowned when their patrol car was swept into the harbour during a storm in December 1978.

On the 20th anniversary of the tragedy, around 40 people gathered at the harbourside to pay tribute to Police Constables Joe Childs and Martin Reid, who lost their lives on a night when 80ft waves were battering the Lizard Peninsula.

Family, friends and ex-colleagues went in procession to the spot just outside the inner harbour wall where the police panda car was found on the receding tide after the storm.

Police chaplain the Rev Roger Bush led a brief service, and spoke a few words about the two men, before a minute's silence was observed.

A wreath was then laid by Helston policeman Jim Moran who was on duty with Pc Childs and Pc Reid the night they drowned.

Speaking after the ceremony, Pc Moran, who was born and brought up in the area and who found his colleagues' bodies in Porthleven inner harbour the following morning, said the anniversary of their deaths held a special significance.

"I shall never forget December 13. They were excellent colleagues, and I think this was a worthy tribute to them. It was a very poignant ceremony."

Pc Childs' widow, Deirdre, who is a Helston councillor, attended Sunday's tribute with her daughters Dianne and Kate, who were aged 10 and 12 when their father died.

Mrs Childs said she and her family felt "very touched" that so many people had turned up at short notice to remember her late husband.

"We really appreciate the fact that so many people were there. It was a fitting tribute to two men who lost their lives in the course of duty, and I felt very moved by the whole occasion."

"Joe was a man who touched the hearts of all generations, and that was reflected on Sunday. Twenty years is a long time to some people, but when it's your family involved the date will never go away."

Pc Moran's wife, Sue, made a video recording of

Memorial service marks 20th anniversary of harbour tragedy

the ceremony on Sunday for Pc Reid's widow, who was unable to attend due to ill health.

Both police officers were well known in the Helston area and were popular with the local community.

Their deaths came on a night of severe storms which ripped through the area causing thousands of pounds worth of damage. The two officers went to Porthleven following reports of damage.

Their car was swept into the water with ease in the high winds. The bodies of the officers were found in the inner harbour next day.



□ Pc Jim Moran and police chaplain the Rev Roger Bush lead the procession to the harbourside, where Pc Moran commits the wreath to the waves



JAN 1999

Funeral of former bus driver

THE funeral has taken place of Mr John Vincent Tearney, who was 56 years of age, who died after a short illness at the Royal Kent and Sussex Hospital, Tunbridge Wells.

John was born in Whites Buildings, Porthleven and attended Porthleven Board School and Cornwall Technical College. He was the son of the late Vic Tearney who was a member of the Old Helston and Porthleven Borough Council and a former bus driver at Helston.

John had a love of the sea

and on leaving college took a berth on the local fishing boat "Biddy" and went on to crew with Captain Holland on local coasters, gaining his mate's ticket.

On leaving the sea, John went into the plumbing and heating industry locally, eventually working in the West Indies, Middle East and Turkey. On returning to England, he set up home in Crowborough, East Sussex, working as a domestic heating engineer but returned to Porthleven to visit family and friends as often as possible.

He developed a love of gardening winning many cups and a Royal Horticultural Society gold medal in local

shows, specializing in exhibition Sweet Peas.

Family mourners: Janette and John Tagla, sister and brother-in-law also representing Philip and Elaine Tearney, brother and sister-in-law; Deborah Davey, daughter rep Ray Davey, son-in-law; Karl and Christine Tearney, son and daughter-in-law; Natalie and Tim Sharp, daughter and son-in-law; Plaxy and Jason Matthews, daughter and son-in-law; Sean Tearney, son; Betty Haggar, Erica Tearney, Pat Carpenter, Ruth Lickman, Carol Collier, Peter Collier, cousins. Also present were many friends and colleagues.

Porthleven

Members of the Porthleven Floral Club visited the Guinevere Restaurant, Porthleven for their annual meal and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

St Bartholomew's Church

At the recent Christingle service at St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven, a collection taken for the Children's Society amounted to £75.

St Petroc's Society benefit from collection

A collection taken at the Carol Service at St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven, amounted to £112 for the St Petroc's Society for the homeless.

"Hurricane Mitch" appeal

The sum of £92.84 was raised at St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven for the Christian Aid "Hurricane Mitch" appeal.

Church members enjoy party

Members of St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven enjoyed their annual party held at the Harbour Inn, Porthleven. There was a raffle, and the evening concluded with carols, and Father Peter Walker thanked staff for the wonderful meal.

RSPCA acknowledge generosity of locals

Members of the Porthleven Auxiliary of the RSPCA wish to acknowledge again the generosity of the local people for their donations of pet food

collected by the Porthleven supermarket over the Christmas period. A total of 132 tins and packets were this year collected and taken to the RSPCA re-homing centre at St Columb to help feed all the abandoned dogs and cats given as Christmas presents and then neglected.

Porthleven Community News
Issue - JAN 99
Published by Porthleven Town Council

PORTHLEVEN TOWN COUNCIL
(Town Clerk - Mrs Elsie Balme
Chairman - Roy Bradbury Vice Chairman - Katherine Williams
COUNCILLORS
Charles Budd - Michael Carter - Leslie Edwards
Ray Lovell - James Stokes - Ron Strong -

*PORTHLEVEN TOWN COUNCILLORS HOPE YOU HAD A MERRY
CHRISTMAS AND WISH YOU A HAPPY, PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.*

The term of office for the current Porthleven Town Council is drawing to a close. In fact, the second Thursday in April 99 will be their final meeting before the elections.

Some councillors will not be seeking re-election having served the community for eight years or more.

It is therefore a possibility that this news sheet may be the last unless another editor can be found amongst the new council.

The first council news sheet was produced in March 1993.

The term of office for an elected parish councillor is four years.

During this council's term, we have worked hard moving away from the talking shop it once was.

The bad press and criticism once suffered has gradually disappeared as residents and reporters alike realised there was no comparison between this and previous councils.

In fact this council has achieved a great deal with your assistance and that of Kerrier District Council Officers.

This all started with the survey of Porthleven in 1995. You supplied us with accurate information relating to all aspects of life in Porthleven which assisted us in our decision making and long term planning.

This led directly to the origins of Porthleven Millennium Trust, the council assisting in the formation and initial public meetings.

We recovered the areas of land relating to Gala Parc from KDC and registered the title with the Land registry. The land is now safely returned to the people of Porthleven

The council liaised and monitored the progress of the sewage treatment plant and battled to ensure the flood alleviation scheme was not dropped. This so very nearly failed but the council kept up the fight and luckily the Environmental Agency agreed to carry out the necessary work.

The street cleaner was returned to Porthleven and he now opens the public toilets early in the mornings.

On the tourism side, we instigated the Tourist Information Kiosk - MISTI being installed in Porthleven, the brown Tourist signs being erected on the main Helston to Penzance road and the Discover Porthleven Leaflet.

QUOTE

The truth of the matter is that you always know the right thing to do. The hard part is doing it.

Porthleven's Breageside residents were offered assistance to renovate the swimming pool should they plan to do so in the future. Porthleven lights have been financially supported.

The bridge was replaced over the pond and the pond has now been cleared ready for the forthcoming spring.

A new grass cutter has been purchased to maintain the increased areas administered by the council.

Photocopying and internet facilities are now in existence for the residents and organisations.

It is hoped to extend this into computer/office facilities during 1999

The Town Clerks Office facilities have been upgraded and the Clerk has recently been successful in completing a training course designed specifically for Town Clerks.

Campaigns against feeding the seagulls and dog fouling have been carried out and another is about to take place as dog owners are failing to clean up behind their pets especially in the play area and around the pond area. It is not our intention to ban dog walking in the areas administered by the council, but it may prove necessary to do so if people do not resume cleaning up.

We also attempted to obtain a cash point machine in Porthleven but this failed. However in the long term it may still prove to be fruitful.

We have an ongoing maintenance programme for the Institute buildings and it is hoped that a bid document will be put together during 1999 for the complete renovation of the buildings.

During 1998 the outside WC was moved to the inside and the damp problem affecting the ceiling was resolved.

We are also currently seeking further funding for the teenage villages and skateboard/

OTHER ITEMS IN BRIEF

The Football club was supported in its effort to obtain a new pavilion.

New leases have been allocated to the relevant organisations

Canada Day in Porthleven when we were presented with the Canadian Flag.

Attempts were made to obtain gas for the Village.

Elliston Garden Parking Permits and formation of Residents Association supported.

Twinning with Guissey - The Chairman of the council carried out civic duties in Guissey and received gifts on behalf of the people of Porthleven.

Path in Torleven Road supported and development of allotments in Vicarage Road contested and monitored.

Footpaths and speed restrictions within the village boundaries and on the B3304.

Lighting and cleaning of areas within Porthleven.

Supported the action taken to keep the Doctors surgery and hospitals open.

Children's play equipment maintained and added to including the new basket ball area.

WHAT PORTHLEVEN NEEDS NEXT

What we now need is a new enthusiastic council to take Porthleven into the next millennium. A team who will not be afraid of moving forward from that point which the retiring team struggled to reach.

A working relationship with Kerrier District Council is waiting to be extended and improved upon as Porthleven Town Council continues to take more responsibility for itself.

Ten years ago Porthleven Town Council had a poor reputation. Four years ago in 1995 that began to change dramatically for the better. To day the council can no longer be compared with our predecessors.

We have established a working council in place of the old style talking shop.

The council chamber is no longer a place to be avoided. It is a place to discover how Porthleven is administered.

Members of the Public are entitled to attend the council meetings which are held in the Institute Cottage on the second Thursday in every calendar month, commencing at 7.30 pm.

If you are interested in standing for the council in the forthcoming May elections, why not come along to a couple of meetings and observe the process.

Further information regarding the electoral procedure can be obtained either from our Town Clerk or directly from Kerrier District Council.

There will be nine vacancies to be contested, therefore at least ten people need to come forward to force an election.

Should the prescribed number of candidates fail to materialise, then those standing will automatically be elected and they will have to co-opt others to fill the vacancies.

You will have elected Porthleven Town Council by default and dispensed with the right to vote in the parish elections for all on the Porthleven electoral roll.

PLEASE CONSIDER THIS CAREFULLY - IT'S OUR FUTURE

1999

JANUARY 1999

Basic repairs promised: Town council wants more for bus shelter 'eyesore'

Picture by CloSP



● Roy Bradbury is pictured with the bus shelter

A BUS shelter has been described as an eyesore by Porthleven town councillors, yet Kerrier Council has only promised to carry out basic repairs.

The shelter in Wellington Road is near a sign which welcomes visitors to the village and does not make a very good first impression, believe councillors.

Council clerk Elsie Balme received a letter from Kerrier in response to the town council's complaints about the shelter, in which Kerrier promised some repairs but said it had no money to replace it.

"I have replied asking them to keep the problem under review and saying that we shall ourselves monitor the situation," she reported.

"It is a great slum of a bus shelter," she said, and all the councillors agreed. "It is an eyesore" said council chairman Roy Bradbury, adding that he thought it was "like a small prison as it is now".

At Mike Carter's suggestion, councillors are going to ask Kerrier if they can get a contractor to paint it to make it look better.

Mrs Balme said she thought that would encourage more graffiti, but Mr Carter and other councillors felt a new coat of paint was better than nothing. However, no-one wanted to see the shelter demolished.

Exciting plan for shipyard

AN idea which could transform the centre of Porthleven by breathing life back into the old shipyard is due to be discussed at a private meeting in the village tomorrow night.

But whether it will go ahead will depend on the people of Porthleven, said Trevor Osborne,

EXCLUSIVE By Muriel Cato

owner of the Harbour and Dock Company.

"If the people don't support it, it will not happen," he told The West Briton on Tuesday.

The meeting has been arranged by harbourmaster Ken Milburn for representatives of organisations such as the Fishermen and Boat Owners' Association and the town council to hear tentative proposals by a ship repair company, T Nielsen and Co Ltd, to lease the shipyard.

As part of the idea, the company, based at Gloucester Docks, would need water in part of the inner harbour all the time, which could mean a wall and gates being erected, said Mr Osborne.

But he stressed there was no definite proposal yet. "These are studies by experts in their field," he said.

Mr Osborne, who lives in London but has a home in the village, has owned the Harbour and Dock Company for 21 years.

"The shipyard was originally used for building and repairing fishing vessels, but that trade has been gone for more than 20 years," he said.

He said it would be terrific for the village if Nielsens took over the shipyard.

"They have a considerable

'...but only if local people support it'

reputation for ship repairs and refitting historic sailing vessels.

"We would have to retain water in part of the harbour so we would have to have considerable dredging and provide some means of keeping the water in at low tide."

If the idea progressed, he said, "it would enable some of the imaginative plans put forward by the Porthleven Millennium Trust to be advanced".

Support from the village would be essential, he said.

"I do not want anyone to get the impression they are being steam-rollered. If the village doesn't want it, I will not do it," he added.

If it went ahead existing tenants in the shipyard would be offered alternative premises within the shipyard.

"I don't want anyone to think that tenants would be dispossessed or that anyone would be making a fortune out of this," he added.

Porthleven

PARTY: The Rev Peter Walker and his wife, Lynne, arranged an ecumenical Epiphany party for Porthleven and Sithney in the public hall, and everyone had a most enjoyable evening. The fancy dress winners were Philip Smith, Christine Richards and Matthew Walker. The judge was Garry Sheinberg, of Porthleven.

KEEP FIT: Members of Porthleven keep fit classes have just celebrated their 25th anniversary. At their weekly session in the public hall on Tuesday evening a special cake made by chairman Jean James, of Lowertown, was cut by three founder members, Marilyn Williams, Jane Williams and Shirley Lee. They were each presented with a small rose bush to commemorate the occasion. Anyone wishing to join the keep fit team is welcome to attend sessions, which start at 7.30pm.

METHODIST CHURCH: Morning service began with a presentation by Shipshapes on the Prodigal Son. The preacher was the Rev Robert Ormesher who spoke about the unifying influence on the cross of Jesus. Evening worship was led by Mr J Mules, of Keneggy, one of the circuit readers. This is the week of prayer for Christian unity. A representative number of Methodists attended Evensong at St Sithney Parish Church on Sunday evening, where the preacher was Elsie Balme, a steward of the Methodist church. There has long been good co-operation between Anglicans and Methodists in the Porthleven area, and it is hoped to build on this with joint ventures in the future.

Porthleven

METHODIST CHURCH: What kind of church? was the question posed to the congregation at Sunday morning worship. The service was led by John Hall, and Pam Hall read the lessons. The evening preacher was Bill Reed, who preached on the healing of the blind man at Bethesda.

CRAFTS: The church's craft group continues to meet each Friday afternoon; all are welcome. Another exhibition of arts and crafts is planned for August, opening on Eclipse Day. Local artists or craftsmen who would like to exhibit are invited to contact Jill Hardaker or Olive Polglase.

WIVES' CLUB: Victor Strike, of Porthleven, entertained members with a selection of his own videos. He was welcomed by chairman Gwen Russell, and thanked by Lorna Thomas. Refreshments were served by Mrs M Rosewarne and Jill Hardaker.

JANUARY 1999



□ A packed hall at the unveiling evening

An evening of celebration

PORTHLEVEN Gala Week was remembered on Saturday, as more than 100 people gathered at the village's public hall for an evening of celebration and commemoration.

The focus of the event was the unveiling of a

plaque donated by members of the former Gala Week committee in appreciation of free use of the hall in past years.

Guests of honour were former chairman Michael Gale, treasurer Kenneth Bawden and Alfred Pascoe, who was

committee secretary throughout the 40 years that Gala Week was in existence. The occasion was organised by Phyllis Arthur, vice-chairman of the public hall committee, who opened proceedings with some memories of the forma-

tion of Gala Week in 1946.

A poem about the event written by Miss Arthur, who was born in Porthleven, was read by town clerk and local poet, Elsie Balme.

A display of old photographs relating to Gala

Week was enjoyed by guests, as were displays by the Old Cornwall Society, Porthleven WI and the gardening club, who all use the hall regularly.

Entertainment by the village's judo club, sequence dancers and line dancers was also part of the evening, which ended with a raffle that raised \$82.50 for St Michael's Hospital breast care unit.

It was a double celebration for the hall, which was recently awarded more than \$29,000 from the National Lottery Charities board towards a major refurbishment programme.

During the evening, Brenda Bravery, chairman of the hall committee, was delighted to receive a cheque for that amount from public relations officer Barbara Gales.



□ The lottery cheque is handed over

Too many homes?

WHILE having no objection in principle to housing development on the site, Porthleven town councillors have expressed concern over a plan to build 17 homes and nine garages on land at the Torleven works, Thomas Terrace.

They are to say as much to Kerrier's planning committee, which will eventually consider the application.

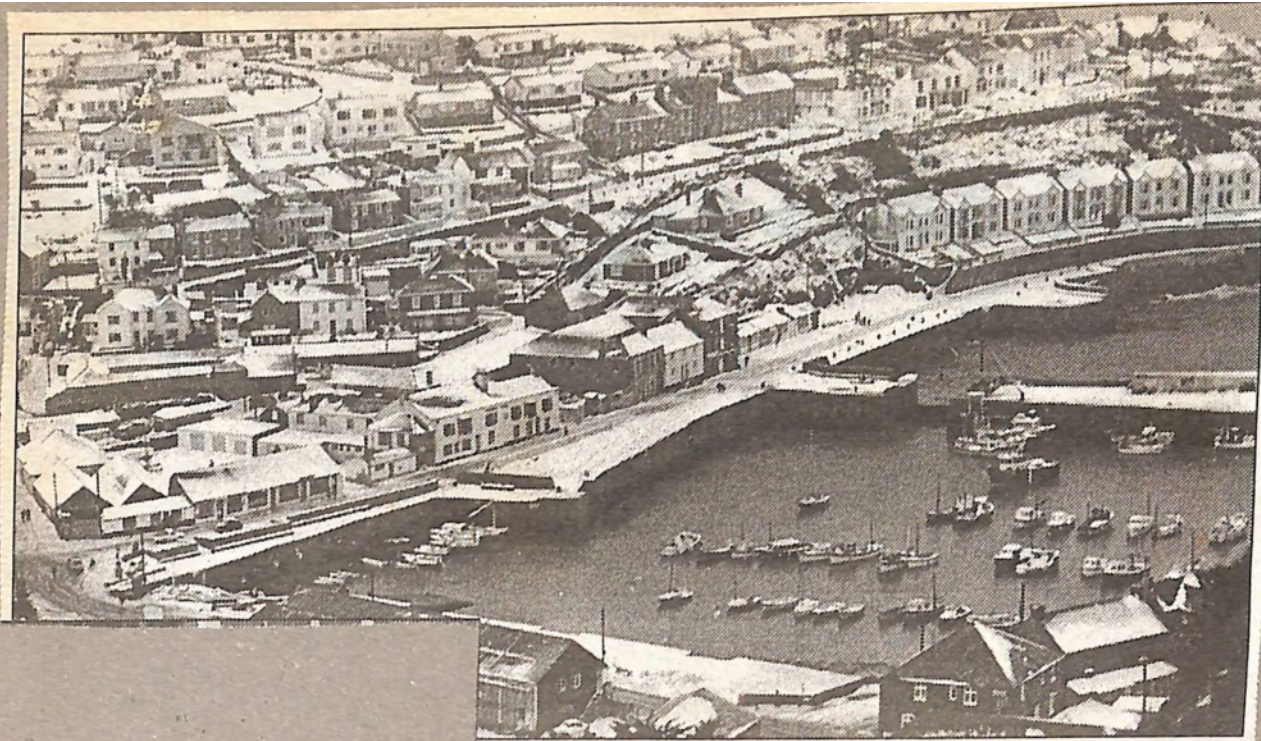
Town council chairman Roy Bradbury said the site was derelict, while Mike Carter pointed out that the council had previously said how many houses it wanted to see there, "and it certainly wasn't 17".

Charles Budd was worried about access, saying that the approach road was "absolutely diabolical".

As there was garaging planned for only nine homes, where were the other vehicles to go?

The council was told that planning permission had previously been given for seven homes on the site. Jim Stokes asked what sort of homes were planned, and whether there was a requirement in the port for homes for first time buyers.

Mr Bradbury told members that large houses were being built in Porthleven but local people could not afford to buy them, "but if these are going to be low cost houses, there is a definite need for them and we should support them".



□ In January, 1985, the picturesque fishing village of Porthleven was under a blanket of snow, the boats were safely lined up in the harbour and very few cars or people were to be seen



BANDMAN of the year . . . Clive Christophers (left) receives his trophy from the band's musical director Tony Richards
Successful year for village band

A SUCCESSFUL year for Porthleven Town Band was marked at a presentation evening on Saturday at the Harbour Hotel.

Young players Ben Searle and Louise Stringer collected awards from musical director Tony Richards.

Nine-year-old Louise, who plays the tenor horn, received the trophy for the most improved beginner, while cornet-player Ben, 14, was

named as the most improved performer in the senior band.

Bandmaster Clive Christophers, who teaches the junior players, was named bandsman of the year.

Press officer Jeanette Kennedy said as well as recognising individual achievement, the annual event provided a social occasion when youngsters from the junior band could meet with the seniors.



MOST improved beginner . . . Louise Stringer



MOST improved performer in the senior band



□ Peggy and John cut the cake

Golden day for couple who met over fish and chips

A CHANCE meeting in a fish and chip shop marked the start of a partnership between a Porthleven couple that has endured for more than 50 years.

Peggy and John Giles, who live in St Peter's Way, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary last Friday with a party for 40 family and friends at the Queen's Hotel in Penzance.

The couple, both born in Porthleven, were married in the Peverell Road Methodist chapel on February 12, 1949.

Husband and wife, who for years ran businesses on opposite sides of Porthleven harbour, put the secret of their successful marriage down to similar tastes.

"We just like the same things," said Peggy. "Of course we don't always see eye to eye, but I've always been there to support John in what he's doing, and he's there for me. If there's a secret at all to being together for 50 years, then maybe that's it."

Born Peggy Laity, she has lived in Porthleven all her life, while husband John spent nine years in America as a child and still has relations there.

Serving in the army for four years, he returned to Porthleven to take over running the taxi business owned by his father, Richard Giles.

Peggy recalled their early courting. "I knew John a bit because his father taught me to drive, and we were both in the chapel choir. My friend and I used to go to Joe's fish

shop in Shute Lane, and John would be there.

"We ended up having fish and chips most evenings!"

Working as a clerk for Western National in Helston, Peggy also ran a cafe on the harbour, next to the Ship Inn. "I called it Glen Willie, after my two brothers who died. There were 13 girls working for me, and we served almost everything," she said.

"The fishermen used to come in all the time, and I'd stay open till midnight if there were still people wanting something to eat or drink."

Working all hours on the opposite side of the harbour was John, who ran a general store called Peg's Kitchen. "We used to meet up around midnight and talk about the day's work," said Peggy. "Perhaps that's why the 50 years have gone so quickly - because we spent most of the time working."

The couple's son, Tony, is a well-known driving instructor based in Porthleven, while their daughter, Bryn-Hilde Heale, lives in Paul, near Penzance. They have two granddaughters and a grandson.

FEBRUARY 1999

Grants for sports clubs but cash for band delayed

GRANTS of £100 each have been made by Porthleven town council to the port's bowling and cricket clubs, but members have delayed a similar donation to Porthleven's band.

This is because the band is considering bidding at an auction later this month for the Fore Street Sunday school which they may use - if they decide to make an offer and it is accepted - as a new band room.

Town councillors, while giving their full support to the band, decided to wait to see if any bid was successful.

So far as the cricket club was concerned, the council heard that it intended to provide new facilities for disabled people, which would cost about £1,000.

Jim Stokes said the club had voiced concern that, if it did not get

By Noel Perry

funding from the town council, it would not get it from other sources.

But clerk Elsie Balme told members: "There was a misunderstanding. Some silly things were said which didn't need to be said. I wrote a sweet, tactful letter and put the whole thing right."

Mike Carter believed that a £100 grant was "fair enough, 10 per cent of what the club wants".

Members agreed after hearing Mrs Balme say the council could afford that, even though it had been a "ghastly" 12 months because of the cost of work to the Bickford Institute cottage.

She similarly felt that £100 could be afforded as a grant to the bowling club, which needs a further

£3,000 to complete work to its premises, including the provision of disabled facilities.

Charles Budd commented: "If it is going to improve facilities for the disabled, we should give it as much as we can. I would recommend £100."

Regarding the band, the council was told that its current premises were unsuitable, particularly as the group was expanding and attracting more young people.

Mrs Balme said the council would know by its March meeting whether or not the band had been able to proceed with the purchase of the Sunday school building. "I am not asking the council to be niggardly. I am a great supporter of the band."

The council also agreed to make one of its standard £25 grants to Helston and district Victim Support scheme.

Council expresses concern about Porthleven cafe plan

PORTHLEVEN town councillors have expressed reservations about plans to turn former fishing net stores at Breageside into a cafe and bar.

Trevor Osborne, owner of the Harbour and Dock Company, has applied to Kerrier District Council for permission for the change of use, and for construction of two chimney stacks and timber entrance doors at the property.

Mr Osborne's daughter, Sarah, has been granted a licence for the premises - to be called The Old Smoke House.

At a council meeting on Thursday, John Strike, who runs the neighbouring Quayside Fish Centre, aired his views on the application in the public participation slot.

Mr Strike said he was concerned about a window proposed in the plans that would look onto the parking area outside his premises.

"I don't like that because it invades our privacy," he said. "I have spoken with Sarah Osborne and they are happy to remove the window from the application, but until it's officially removed then in my opinion it's still there."

Mr Strike also questioned whether a plate glass screen inside external sliding doors was a suitable design for an area such as Breageside.

He told councillors he had attended the licence hearing in Truro in order to oppose an off-licence bid, which had then been withdrawn.

The proposal had been to have waitress service at tables on part of the Breageside road, said Mr Strike, but the

piece of land concerned did not appear on any of the plans.

"I expressed the opinion that they should not give a wine licence for that area, because it would have meant a piece of Breageside road disappearing," he said.

Councillors discussed the application at length, with Charles Budd expressing concern that work had already started on the development.

Colleagues said internal work did not need planning permission, although Mike Carter said the Osbornes were "taking a gamble" that the application would be supported.

Members decided to write to Kerrier objecting to the window Mr Strike had referred to, and expressing reservations about the proposed 10-foot high sliding doors.

Porthleven

There will be a concert in St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven on Sunday, March 7 at 7.30pm by the Treverva Male Voice Choir. The chair will be taken by Jeanette Eathorne of BBC Radio Cornwall and the guest artiste will be Margaret Green. Tickets at £2 each. All proceeds for the Porthleven Association's festive lights.

Ladies' circle

Members of the Porthleven Ladies' Circle enjoyed a very interesting talk by Pastor John Townley at their meeting held in the Helston Free Methodist Church. Pastor Townley was welcomed by Mrs Freida Luke and thanked by Miss Phyllis Arthur. Tea hostesses were Shirley Medlyn, Pat Harvey, Brenda Hosking and Joyce Willey.

Coffee morning

A coffee morning was held at the Copper Kettle Restaurant, Porthleven and raised £44 for the Porthleven Public Hall fund. Thanks to the management and staff were expressed by Miss Phyllis Arthur, vice chairman of the Public Hall Committee.

Suitcase sale

There will be a suitcase sale in the Porthleven Public Hall on Saturday, March 6, at 10am, to raise money for the Public Hall fund. Anyone interested in participating will be welcome to turn up on the morning.

Age Concern

During the Age Concern Porthleven's usual pop-in on Thursday afternoon, three of their voluntary drivers, Mrs P Collings, Mr Colin Tregembo and Mr Peter Phillips, whose wife accepted his on his behalf, were presented with their Midas certificates after successfully passing their written and driving tests. All eight of their mini-bus drivers now have their certificates. Mr Alan Hampton came from Age Concern to make the presentations.

Following this, Mr Hampton was asked to judge the home-made Valentine card competition which was not easy as they were all extremely good. The winners were:

1, Mrs Margaret Wallman; 2, Mrs Hazel Wilson; 3, Miss Amy Williams.

Day of Prayer

The Interdenominational Women's World Day of Prayer Service for the Porthleven area will, this year, be held at Leedstown Methodist Church on the theme "God's Tender Touch". It will be held on Friday, March 5 at 2.30pm.

Shrove Tuesday

On Shrove Tuesday members of St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven, enjoyed a social evening with buffet supper at the Harbour Hotel, Porthleven when entertainment was provided by Agan Evu.

Sithney

A coffee morning was held at the home of Mrs Jean Willey of Merther Farm, Sithney and raised £105 to be divided equally between Sithney Church fund and the USPG - the Lent project to support the work of the "United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel." The raffle winners were: Olive Hall (wine); Laura Roberts (cuddly toy); Ronnie Mildren (doll); Betty Wearne (chocolates) and Eric Mildren (short bread).

Model village

Over the Christmas period, Mr Leslie Meagor of Crowntown, Sithney, welcomed friends and neighbours to view an attractively illuminated model village he made and erected in his garden and greenhouse, depicting various well-known buildings in the Sithney and Crowntown areas. For a small donation anyone could call and admire the interesting displays, and at the end of the period, to Mr Meagor's surprise, the sum of £100 was collected. This was later given to the Christee Grouse Trust of Redruth, and Mr Meagor wishes to thank everyone for their support. In view of the wonderful response from the local people he hopes to repeat his achievement again next.



FEBRUARY 1999

Changes in the pipeline for village post office

TAKING on another member of staff and abolishing half-day closing on Wednesday are just some of the changes planned for Porthleven Post Office by Sue and Peter Chatterton, who took over the business last October.

But while the couple have plenty of ideas on how to improve service to a community they have already grown to love, they realise the importance of maintaining some of the more traditional practices.

"If people come into a village like this and immediately want to change things they are resented," said Sue. "I think locals were a bit wary of us at first, but we have been made very welcome, and hopefully people see the changes we have made as an improvement."

The Chattertons moved to Cornwall from the north of England, after giving up managerial jobs.

Having worked at the telephone exchange in Truro in the 1970s, Sue's memories of visits to Porthleven and The Lizard peninsula prompted the couple to look for a business in the area.

Neither had run their own business before, but they were quickly forced to

learn the ropes.

"It was coming up to Christmas, and I've never seen so many parcels in my life," said Sue. "We had two weeks' training and then were thrown in at the deep end, but I think it was better that way. Both of us are very used to dealing with people,

and that's more important than the practicalities, which you can learn very quickly."

Paying tribute to the four part-time staff working in the post office and shop, the Chattertons said it was thanks to them they had survived the early days.

"They got us through the first few weeks, and we really appreciate that," said Peter. "As with any business, teamwork is essential, and our staff have been incredibly supportive."

Currently refurbishing the post office, the couple said any changes to the business were aimed at providing Porthleveners with a more efficient and versatile service.

Remaining open through lunch-time, a change introduced before Christmas, and staying open all day on Wednesdays, starting in May, are just part of improving the service. As is the plan to take on another part-time member of staff in the shop.



● Wagons roll: Young line dancers Kerry-Ann and Clare Curnow practise in front of Stephen Williams' backdrop of the Wild West, the perfect setting for the popular club's Monday evening get-togethers.

On line for a hall worthy of pride



● Pictured outside the public hall, currently undergoing extensive renovation, are chairman Brenda Bravery and vice-chairman Phyllis Arthur.

THERE is a real sense of team work in operation when a visitor pops into Porthleven public hall, which is currently undergoing extensive renovation.

This atmosphere is helped immensely by the way in which the hall's users, the local line dancing club among them, stood up to be counted when it came to offering a helping hand.

The work includes a new ceiling, improvements to kitchen, toilet and other facilities, and a number of other schemes to make the building something the people of Porthleven can be even

prouder of. Certainly, two of the senior officers of the hall's management committee, chairman Brenda Bravery and vice-chairman/press secretary Phyllis Arthur, were unstinting in their praise for the help given by users, the line dancers in particular.

"We would be in a mess without them," said Mrs Bravery.

Both women also praised John Williams and wife Rosie, who are bookings secretaries and project officers for the hall, and their daughter-in-law, Tracey, for their contribution. "They have worked like galley slaves." All three also

run the line dancing club. There was praise, too, for the Williams' son Stephen who has painted a marvellous backdrop for the line dancing sessions.

The hall's committee, which also includes Barbara Gales (PRO) and secretary Audrey Davies, are very grateful to the line dancers in any case, as the popularity of the club, which meets every Monday, has helped keep booking fees down.

These are exciting times for the hall in any case, regardless of the necessary improvement works taking place, as next year marks

the 75th anniversary of the start of work on the original building.

It first opened for public use in 1927.

Many of the port's organisations now consider it a home from home, and the planned improvements should give them even more space in which to meet.

A smaller room at the back of the main hall will probably be able to cater for 25 to 30 people and be more or less self-contained. It is hoped that the work on the interior of the hall will be completed by April.

FEBRUARY
1999.

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● Above: Kay and David Moon, who both give much of their time to helping the community. Right: John Williams hard at work in the refurbished public hall.

Residents aim to help themselves

By Noel Perry

THERE are two places in Porthleven that are the centre of the port so far as the people who live in one of them and use the other are concerned.

The first can be described as the Boslan area, where a residents' association has, for nearly four years, sought to look after the interests of people living in the Gibson Way, Tor Close, Bickford Crescent and Torleven View areas of the port.

The second is much smaller but no less important for the hundreds of local people who use its facilities week in, week out - the public hall. Both are also within a few hundred yards of each other.

The Boslan Residents' Association was formed in April 1995, originally in an attempt to get something done to prevent regular flooding, or the threat of it, to local properties.

The current chairman and vice-chairman are Graham Williams and Carol Ruberry, and they explained how the association has grown, both in size and ambition, since 1995.

Basically, the association exists to cater for the collective needs of the 400 or so residents living in the 120 properties which comprise the mix of council and private housing.

The aim is simple: "We want to look after the estate and do whatever we can to improve it, make it look better and safeguard it."

Things have not always gone smoothly. There were a number of resignations from the committee last year, and a real fear that the association might have to be wound up.

But, in a clear indication of how much it is needed and valued, there was an "overwhelming response", said Graham and Carol, to a survey asking local people if they wanted the association to carry on.

"We called another meeting and formed a new committee," said Graham.

Apart from himself and Carol, it includes Brian Axford, Alan Polley, one of the association's founders, Tony Hutchinson, Joyce Rodgers and her son, Andrew.

"We have done a lot of hard work. We didn't want to see the associa-

tion go down the pan," said Graham.

"A lot of residents have been round, willing to come on the committee, so we are well out of the woods."

The association's biggest project is to try to improve play facilities which could cost, said Carol, "a vast amount of money", which is why it is intended to do the necessary work and fund-raising bit by bit, rather than in one go.

"There are some swings and slides there now, but it badly needs improving," she added. The association also wants to provide better fencing.

Other aims include a return of hanging baskets in the estates, which the association has pressed for in the past. It also wants to do something about people parking their cars on grassed areas.

Members would like to see a general "tidy up" of the estates, including perhaps planting in a scheme for the millennium, and a comprehensive display of Christmas lights throughout the estates this year.

The association previously worked with former landlords Kerrier Council in agreeing a colour scheme during exterior painting of council houses, and the use of materials in replacement windows.

Another priority is to try to get a Neighbourhood Watch scheme going throughout as much of the area covered by the association as possible, said Graham.

Both he and Carol have other interests as well as the residents' association.

Graham is a former Porthleven town councillor and has yet to make up his mind whether to stand again in May's elections. "A lot of people have asked me to," he said.

And Carol is secretary of Porthleven Gardeners' Club, which originally grew out of the Bosland Residents' Association but now covers the whole the village.

It meets in the public hall on the first Wednesday of the month and, Carol said, new members would be welcome.



● Members of the residents' association committee: Brian Axford, Joyce Rodgers, Tony Hutchinson, Carol Ruberry, Andrew Rodgers and Lorraine Long. Pictures - Colin Ross

Couple make time to care

IT IS incredibly busy at the Gibson Way home of David and Kay Moon, as the couple are actively involved in a number of local organisations.

Both were officers with the Boslan Residents' Association until last year, when Kay resigned to spend more time running a support group for the condition lymphoedema, of which she is a sufferer.

And David is secretary of both Porthleven Town Band and the festive harbour lights committee, as well as secretary of the support group.

Together with treasurer Ann Miners, the couple hope to raise money to help train a therapist, Ann James, in aspects of treatment for lymphoedema, which is chronic swelling caused primarily by failure of lymph gland drainage. It

is essentially incurable.

Kay has suffered for some time and cannot speak highly enough of the therapist who has been treating her at Trelliske, Jane Bostock.

"If we didn't have someone like her, I don't know where sufferers in Cornwall would be.

"If she wasn't around, I would have lost both my legs. She is a very understanding, caring person."

She also paid tribute to her family and friends for the support she has received, and especially to David - the couple celebrated their wedding anniversary on Sunday, Valentine's Day.

"If it wasn't for David, I would be in great difficulties. People in this area who know me are as good as gold."

The support group's big

project this year is to stage a carolaire and torchlight procession in Porthleven in the summer.

The first is planned for August 22, the second for the 30th, Bank Holiday Monday.

About £100 has already been raised towards the cost of staging both, with the support group holding regular Wednesday afternoon bingo sessions in the local Scout hut.

As Kay said: "You have to pay money in to accumulate it."

Her husband is also busily involved with the band and the festive lights, which brought high praise from both visitors and locals alike last Christmas.

He said that, in its heyday, Porthleven's carolaire used to attract 10,000 people from far and wide.

Although it was extreme-

ly unlikely that anywhere near that figure would come to this year's, he hoped it would be a success.

So far as the lights were concerned, he said it was an all-year-round job raising money for their maintenance and improvement, and he praised committee chairman Ken Milburn for the great deal of work he did.

David also enjoys his work with the band and is very busy at the moment, especially as the committee decides whether to make a bid for the old Porthleven Sunday school as its new base.

It is hoped to get more young people involved with the band, David added, and plans are already in hand for a fund-raising event in the port during the eclipse.



● Above: Kay and David Moon, who both give much of their time to helping the community. Right: John Williams hard at work in the refurbished public hall.



● Boslan Residents' Association chairman Graham Williams.

St Bartholomew's Church

A concert was given in St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven, and raised £300 for the Porthleven Lights Association.

The chair was taken by Janette Eathorne of Radio Cornwall, and the guest soloist was Valerie Wallace of Godolphin with her accompanist Nigel Dower.

MARCH

Sydney had great love of Porthleven Football Club

The funeral service has taken place at Porthleven Methodist Chapel of Mr Sydney Thomas John Matthews who died at his home, Wheal Rose, Porthleven at the age of 63 years. The service was conducted by Rev Robert Ormesher.

Mr Matthews was born in Porthleven and attended Porthleven Board School and did national service in the DCLI, serving in England. On demob, he worked at RNAS Cudrose until he retired.

Mr Matthews was interested in all sport especially football for Porthleven for whom he was once a regular player for the reserve team and would be missed by all. One minute's silence was observed before the Porthleven Cornwall senior cup clash with Saltash United at Gala Parc and the club's flag was flown at half mast.

Suitable music and favourite songs will be played at the funeral. Will your Anchor hold in

the Storms of Life" and "Abide With Me" - were played at the organ by Mr Roger Freeman followed by interment at Porthleven Cemetery.

Represented at the funeral were Porthleven Football Club and Porthleven Bowling Club and donations were in aid of Helston Community Hospital.

Family mourners: Mr and Mrs R Ellis, step brother and step sister-in-law; Mr A Ellis, nephew; Mrs D Kelly, Mrs M Seymour rep Mr Pat Seymour; Mrs K Wannell, Mr and Mrs P Matthews rep Tommy; Mr F Matthews, Mr T Stephens, Mr H Stephens, Mrs N Wearne, Mrs D Johnson, Mr and Mrs P Kelly, Mr and Mrs G Holland, Mr and Mrs M Searle, Mr A Kelly, cousins.

Chosen bearers were Messrs P Kelly, A Kelly, P Orchard and Mr J Richards.

Funeral director: F E Strike and sons, Porthleven.



● Business was brisk at the Methodist Church spring festival bazaar held in the former Spar Shop in Fore Street, Porthleven, on Saturday. Stalls selling toys, plants, cakes and gifts, among other items, were well supported and the event, combined with the church's gift day, has raised just under £500 so far for church funds, with some donations still to come in. Picture - Marko Dutka

MARCH

Porthleven Floral Club

Programme

1999

25th Anniversary

APRIL

IT WAS tribute and compliments time at Porthleven Town Council's meeting on Thursday, the last before next month's elections.

There was praise for the councillors collectively, from chairman Roy Bradbury and clerk Elsie Balme, and individually for Mike Carter, who is not standing for re-election.

Mr Bradbury also relinquished the chair, ahead of the elections, and said on Thursday: "I would like to say thank you to the members for their support."

Mr Bradbury, a former local government officer, said it was possible some times for councillors to give their chairmen "a rough time, as I have experienced, but not here, though."

"I have found it very satisfying serving the council, it has been very enjoyable."

Mrs Balme was no less complimentary. She prefaced her report by saying: "I appreciate very much the way the council has co-operated with me and has helped me."

She hoped the new council would maintain the manners and politeness which the outgoing members showed and "which I, for one, very much appreciate."

Later, Mr Bradbury paid glowing tribute to Mr Carter, saying he had not only helped Porthleven over the years, he had also helped the council.

He had excelled himself in his work for the port, in helping members of the council and also Mrs Balme.

Mr Bradbury also referred to Mr Carter's "marathon fund raising" efforts on behalf of the RNLI. He is treasurer of the institution's Porthleven branch.

"Not many people get as involved as he does," he said.



● Chairman Roy Bradbury presents a town plaque to Mike Carter in recognition of his contribution to the lives of people in Porthleven. Picture - Marko Dutka

He also referred to Mr Carter's excellent work in getting the council computerised, and his efforts in publishing the port's regular newsletter and holiday guide which, Mr Bradbury added, had been highly praised by Kerrier Council.

He presented Mr Carter with a town plaque, awarded by the council to local people who have contributed to

the life of Porthleven. David Richards, county councillor for the port, who was present at Thursday's meeting, said it was "very well deserved", not least for the work Mr Carter had done with the local youth club.

He had been involved in many other things "too numerous to mention and, on behalf of the county

Porthleven

There was a good attendance at the annual Interdenominational Women's World Day of Prayer service for the Porthleven area which was, this year, held at Leedstown Methodist Church.

The theme of the service was "God's Tender Touch" and was prepared by the Christian Women of Venezuela. The guest speaker was Mrs Patricia Wright of Essex.

The service leader was Mrs A A Vincent of Porthleven, and various readings throughout the service were taken by representatives from different denominations in the vicinity.

Rev R Ormesher received the banner, and extended a word of welcome to all present.

Musical items were given by a group of scholars from Leedstown CP School, with singing, recorder items and miming. The accompanist throughout was Mrs Jean Bryant of Porthleven.

Thanks were extended by Mrs Estelle Kitts, and the afternoon concluded with refreshments.

Open afternoon for RSPCA

There will be an open afternoon for the local RSPCA on Thursday, March 18 from 2-4 pm to be held at the home of Mrs Joan Ford, Peverell Road, Porthleven.

There will be the usual stall and raffle with refreshments. All are welcome.

Ladies' Fellowship

MRS AA Vincent presided over the Porthleven Methodist Church Ladies' Fellowship and welcomed Pastor Paul Beynon, the Apostolic Pastor, and his wife Linda.

Pastor Beynon gave an interesting address and his wife sang solos accompanying herself on the guitar.

Mrs Vincent also accompanied the hymns on the piano and refreshments were served by Mrs D Williams and Mrs L Trace.

Coffee morning in aid of ARC

A coffee morning will be held at Chy-an-Tor, Mill Close, Porthleven, the home of Miss Pauline Rosewarne on Wednesday, March 24 from 10 am - 12 noon, in aid of the local ARC.

There will be a bring and buy stall, cake stall and raffle. Your support will be appreciated.

Suitcase sale well supported

Members of the Porthleven Public Hall committee held a suitcase sale on Saturday morning and raised over £76 for their fund. There was a good selection of items for sale, a raffle, and coffee was served throughout.

The next event for their fund will be a fashion show by Mackays in the public hall arranged by the local WI. This will be held on Wednesday, March 24 at 7.30 pm. There will be a bring and buy Stall and refreshments. Admission £1. Again your support will be appreciated.

St Bartholomew's Church

The recent retiring collection at St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven, for "Church Action on Poverty" amounted to \$21.60.

Sydney Matthews

At a committee meeting of the Porthleven Cricket Club held last week, a minute's silence was observed in memory of Sydney Matthews, a former player who passed away recently.

council, myself and Porthleven. I thank you for all the work you have done".

Mr Carter told colleagues and the public present that he had never intended to get involved in politics, and he had enjoyed working with the councillors.

"It's been fun," he added.

PORTHLEVEN PUBLIC HALL (Reg.Charity No. 261124) - 24/2/99

The Management Committee would like the Porthleven Community to know what is happening at the Public Hall. This Newsletter is issued with that in mind.

Many of you will be aware that major refurbishment estimated to cost £43,690-00 is taking place at the present time. The work includes insulation, cladding and decorating of all internal walls -including the Committee Room. A new heating system and improved lighting are being installed. In addition a suspended ceiling in the main hall and double-glazed windows will make the building much warmer and cut the cost of heating.

To make it more comfortable, fifty chairs are on order - these will be cloth-covered in blue to match the existing curtains. New benches at the back of the hall will be similarly covered as will ten new armchairs. Occasional tables will be purchased to be positioned at the back of the hall near the benches and armchairs.

A planning application has been submitted to Kerrier District Council to extend the kitchen, re-position the toilet for the disabled and to make a "covered way" at the rear of the hall. The latter will also enable the storage of certain items as well as act as a fire exit. The Committee room toilet is to be removed and a fire exit constructed to the covered way. A sink unit will be installed to serve meetings held in the Committee room. This will enable the main hall and Committee room to be used by separate hirers at the same time. External decoration will also take place.

The Committee are pleased to say that the hall is being used by more Organisations - mainly in the evenings. Daytime use is to be encouraged and the Committee will consider any requests in this respect. They do however reserve the right to refuse any hirer(s). The Public Hall is a Registered Charity and compliance with the Charity Commissioners' Regs. and the Public Hall Deeds have to be met.

There is now an URGENT need to re-roof the main building and this will mean raising a further £5,000-00. It is essential that this work is carried out - "patching" certain areas will be "false economy". Various ways of raising this extra money as well as funding the remainder of the refurbishment costs are being considered:-

- (a) Selling Slates @ £1-00 per slate. "Purchasers" will be able to write their names on the slates. The slates will be available at most Meetings/Events arranged by the Committee (as well as other times to be publicised).
- (b) Suitcase Sales - watch for details on posters.

Fundraising (continued)

- (c) Concerts - Praze Male Voice Choir will give a Concert on Sunday, October 17th at 8 p.m. Others are being arranged and details will be announced in due course.
 - (d) A Fashion Show, arranged by the Porthleven Women's Institute will be held on the 24th March at 7.30 p.m. Tickets will be on sale @ £1-00 (watch publicity notices)
 - (e) A Silent 50/50 Auction-15th May (3.30 p.m to 8 p.m).
 - (f) "At Home" days will be held to enable everyone to view the hall's transformation.
 - (g) August 14th Harbour Head Event - details later.
- The Management Committee would like to see more of the general public attending their Annual Meetings - please come to the next A.G.M. on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7TH, 1999 at 2p.m. It is YOUR opportunity to hear and discuss the future of OUR VILLAGE HALL!

BY THE YEAR 2000 PORTHLEVEN WILL HAVE A HALL FIT FOR THE MILLENNIUM!

-----HISTORY OF THE HALL-----
The Building known as the "Public Hall and Women's Institute" was officially opened on the 11th January 1928 by the Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall (Mr. J.C.Williams) -it cost £1400-00! A Kitchen paid for by the Women's Institute was added later. The building was again improved with access for the disabled and new toilets, etc. about eight years ago. The present Scheme has completely transformed the hall and the Committee hope that you will spare the time to come and see for yourself what has been done.

-----AN OFFICIAL RE-OPENING DAY WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN DUE COURSE-----

PRESENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman: Mrs. Brenda Bravery.
Vice-Chairman/Press Secretary: Miss Phyllis Arthur
Reserve Vice-Chairman/President W.I.: Mrs.Maureen Williams
Hon.Secretary: Mrs Audrey Davies
Hon.Treasurer: Mrs.Ruth Mynheer
Projects Officer: Mr. T. John Williams
Booking Secretary: Mrs. Rosie Williams
P.R.O.: Mrs. Barbara Gales
Raffle Secretary: Mrs. Diana Dart
Caretaker: Mr. Eric Goldsworthy
Mr. Godfrey Stephens.

Each "Regular" User of the hall is permitted to send a Representative to General Committee Meetings - in this way the Organisations are able to raise any matters direct with the Management Committee.The Management Committee also meet regularly to consider all matters regarding the running and upkeep of the hall.

A new look for harbour?

THE winning of Objective One status for Cornwall could give impetus to major plans to transform the centre of Porthleven, its harbour area, the town council has been told.

At their meeting on Thursday, councillors gave support in principle to the proposals which will predominantly affect the harbour itself, but could also include other developments such as the conversion of a lime kiln building into a theatre-cum-cinema.

The proposals were outlined at a meeting last month which, council chairman Roy Bradbury said, was very well presented.

He added that the major change between that presentation and Thursday's council meeting was the granting of Objective One status to Cornwall, which could mean £300 million-worth of Euro funding to the county and at least an equivalent amount, and possibly more, through matched funding from private and local authority sources.

"We have gained Objective One status since that meeting, which means there will be money if people can match fund it," said Mr Bradbury.

He added that the regeneration of Porthleven harbour was one of the items on a list of Kerrier Council Objective One projects.

He said that Trevor Osborne, who owns much of the harbour area, and his consultants had put forward two general proposals, one of them considered more acceptable at the meeting than the other.

"Mr Osborne is going to consult the public and produce a document so anyone can raise questions.

"As a council, we can't say too much, but I would like to think we are going to agree to it in principle and then all the details will have to be dealt with as the plan goes forward.

"This is very important to us and to everyone who lives here," Mr Bradbury added.

Mike Carter referred to a detailed feasibility study for the harbour area which was available, and Jim Stokes referred to proposals for property around the harbour, including the lime kiln, which could, he said, become a theatre-cum-cinema.

But it was also stressed to councillors that Mr Osborne needed the support of Porthleveners and had said that, if he did not get it, he would not go ahead.

Town clerk Elsie Balme said she had since spoken to members of the Porthleven Fishermen and Harbour Users' Association who were worried about one possible aspect of the proposals regarding the permanent

retention of water in the inner harbour area.

This, it was contended, meant boats would be unable to enter or leave the inner harbour for three hours either side of low tide.

"They are concerned about what happens to any boat that comes into the harbour three hours before low tide and is stuck in the outer harbour for six hours in storm conditions."

Other suggestions in the proposal include development around the harbour, and one of the biggest proposals is the leasing of the shipyard to a ship repair company, which it was said could employ up to 50 people.

Site meetings sought over big Porthleven project

PORHLEVEN councillors are to ask Kerrier to hold site meetings to discuss planning applications one local businessman says would have an "immense impact" on the village.

The applications are part of an ambitious project to transform the centre of Porthleven, which revolves around a ship repair company leasing the old shipyard.

Grant funding for the project, which would entail alterations to the inner harbour and extensive development of the surrounding area, has already been sought from Europe.

Trevor Osborne, owner of the Porthleven Harbour and Dock Company, has said none of the development will go ahead without support from the village.

In the meantime, his company has applied for permission to demolish derelict buildings in the old builder's yard on Shute Lane and replace them with two shops and a restaurant.

Another planning application

seeks consent for a harbour master's office, multi-purpose hall, video shop and cafe on Breageside.

At a council meeting last week, businessman John Strike urged members to ask the district council for more time to consider the applications.

"These are massive issues. They are going to have an immense impact on the village, and we need more time to look at the plans properly."

Mr Strike said he had briefly canvassed opinion in the village, and obtained the signatures of at least 20 businesspeople who supported that view.

Town and district councillor Roy Bradbury said asking Kerrier for a site meeting, with the additional request that the meeting adjourn to the public hall, would allow villagers a chance to have their say.

"This is a big development and it will affect a lot of people in Porthleven. I think the general public should be involved a lot more than they are at the moment," he said.

Charles Budd said Mr Osborne had already "reneged"

on earlier promises of public consultation.

"He said he would show the plans to the people of the village before moving ahead and he has not done that.

"Unless he comes up with something people are happy with, then he will not get support. This is our village and we don't want to see it changed, or made into another St Ives or Padstow."

Former councillor Mike Carter queried whether Porthleven could sustain the new businesses proposed in the plans.

"We would need at least a three percent increase in visitors for these new businesses to survive. The businesses are on the plans, but there is nothing to bring more people into the village," he said.

Members agreed to ask Kerrier for a site meeting, and ensuing public meeting, on the grounds that neither the new council nor the townspeople had had enough time to consider the proposals for "major development".

Gig club's bid for new HQ backed

COUNCILLORS have pledged to support Porthleven Gig Club in a bid to find new premises in the village.

The club has to vacate its current harbourside premises by the end of June because the building, which is owned by Trevor Osborne, is to be converted to residential accommodation.

Ted Gundry, gig club chairman, told town councillors temporary open-air accommodation had been arranged, but the long-term aim was to find a permanent base near the harbour slipway where equipment could be stored safely.

"We have followed several avenues in the last few years which have come to nothing. It's impossible to get something around the harbour unless Mr Osborne is willing to sell us a piece of land," said Mr Gundry. "We have money in the bank to build a second gig but we don't want to do that until we have a secure future with regard to premises." The club was grateful to Mr Osborne for allowing use of the current premises, he added.

Councillors agreed to explore the possibility of the gig club using a piece of land next to the children's play area at the recreation ground.

Town clerk Elsie Balme said the land was under the auspices of the Charity Commission, who might stipulate what rent should be charged, but that any such development would be in keeping with the recreational theme.

Porthleven Floral Club

On Wednesday, May 26, the Porthleven Floral Club will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary in the public hall. Throughout the evening from 6-9pm members will be giving non-stop demonstrations on the work of the club and showing how various displays are achieved. There will be a raffle and a celebration cake with refreshments. Anyone wishing to pop-in during the evening will be most welcome.

Youth Band

Several members of the Porthleven Youth Band took part in the Wendron Silver Band's annual Solo and Quartette contest and won prizes. Matthew Hosking won second place in the technical solo under 18's class and also second in slow melody solo age 15-17 years class with Tom Kennedy winning joint third in this class.

Also taking part were Demelza Christophers, Louise Stringer, Lowenna Christophers and Jason Williams. They all played well and the band are very proud of them.

Porthleven

Ladies Fellowship

Mrs Pat Barber was the speaker at the Porthleven Methodist Church Ladies Fellowship. She was welcomed by Mrs A A Vincent who was also the afternoon accompanist when a duet was sung by Mrs C Scott and Mrs M Fuhrmann. Refreshments were served at the close.

Concert

A concert will be given in St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven, on Sunday, May 30, at 7.30pm by the Praze Male Voice Choir to raise funds for the local ARC. The guest soloist will be Jennifer Haylett from St Ives and there will be a £2 admission. Please support this worthy cause.

Social evening

Several members of the congregation of St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven, joined Father Peter Walker and his family for a social evening at the Country Skittles, near Townshend.

MAY 1999



Thank you for the help which you so kindly gave during the recent collection for the Lifeboats.

The amount you collected was £.....19.95
and the total amount raised was £.....341.99.

Your help and support is very much appreciated.

Registered charity number 209603



□ Offering advice on one of the many items brought to the event . . . David Lay

No treasures found, but evening so entertaining

PORTHLEVEN hosted its very own antiques road-show last week when Penzance auctioneer David Lay paid a visit to the village's public hall.

China, jewellery and several paintings were among items brought to the hall for valuation by Mr Lay, who also gave advice on restoration and how to spot a genuine antique.

Organised by Porthleven Town Band, the event was well supported and declared a success.

"I don't think any treasures were discovered, but it was a highly entertaining evening and one we may repeat in the future," said the band's Jeanette Kennedy.

MAY 1999

Triple success for footballers

FOLLOWING Manchester United's lead, Porthleven School completed the treble on Friday by winning three competitions in a six-a-side football tournament held at the school.

More than 100 children from 10 of the district's schools took part in the tournament organised by the Parent Teacher Association.

Chairman Debbie Bray said: "This was our second tournament and it was a really successful

evening with lovely weather. We raised more than £250 on the night and intend to make this an annual event.

"I would like to thank sports coordinator Chris Pritchard and referees Roger Cleave, Dave Ireson and Dean Bray."

Results: Under nine, 1, Porthleven; 2, Stithians. Under 11, 1 Porthleven; 2, Mullion. Ladies' team, 1, Porthleven; 2, Stithians.

JONATHAN
AGE
7 YEARS

Fears over port plans expressed

PORTHLEVEN'S business people have expressed grave concerns over whether two major developments planned for the port are in the best interests of the business and residential community.

Among fears expressed are the number of restaurants, which could increase from 18 to 20, major changes to the nature of the village, traffic hazards and several issues regarding the harbour, including the rights of fishermen.

An association has now been formed to represent the business community, with the intention of calling a public meeting to discuss the proposals.

The applications are part of an ambitious project to transform the port and include one by Saracen House Estates Ltd to include the Lime Kiln, a listed building, and construction of a harbour master's office and store, multi-purpose hall, video shop and cafe/restaurant at Breageside, and an application by the Porthleven Harbour and Dock Co for the demolition of derelict and contaminated buildings at the Old Builder's Yard, Shute Lane, and the erection of two shops and a restaurant.

The association has sent a 40-name petition to Kerrier requesting that any decisions about the

By Beverly Spina

applications be deferred until such time as "the true feelings of the people of Porthleven are established and democratic representations are made to the district council".

Concerns raised at the association's first meeting included over-development, parking problems, retention of open spaces, sites for fishermen in the future, and conservation of a historic harbour.

Businessman John Strike, who was elected as chairman, told The West Briton: "A public meeting is being called by the association on June 16, at 7.30pm, in the Public Hall, to find out people's feelings on the two proposals."

People who are unable to attend the meeting are being asked to write a letter and post it in various boxes to be left by the association in shops around the village.

A special meeting of the town council was held as it was felt the new council had not been given sufficient time to discuss the applications in more detail.

Members, who have already asked Kerrier planners to hold a site meeting, followed by a public meeting for residents to air their concerns, voted unanimously against both applications.



MAY 1999

Porthleven

METHODIST CHURCH: Morning worship for Trinity Sunday was led by Sister Betty Riley, from Bradford. Sister Riley has been visiting Porthleven for many years. She was in a party of young people who came in the late 1940s with the Rev Maurice Barnett, then superintendent of the Bradford Mission, and later minister at Central Hall, Westminster. Sister Riley preaches at least once a year at Porthleven, and at Christmas.

the Sunday school children send gifts for underprivileged children in Bradford. At the morning service were Mr and Mrs Raymond Williams, regular members of the congregation, who celebrate their golden wedding anniversary this week. Their family, from various parts of the country, also attended. The evening service was led by the Rev Tony Pudner, superintendent minister of the Mounts Bay Circuit, and the theme, as in the morning, was the Holy Trinity.

COFFEE MORNING: A coffee morning in Helston Guildhall last Wednesday raised £195 for the church redevelopment fund.

SUPPER: On Saturday evening, a church family supper was held at Trevayne, Sithney, the home of Mr and Mrs John Hall, raising £150 for the redevelopment fund.

REFUGEES: "Imaging you are a refugee from Kosovo. You have been given five minutes to pack a bag of essentials. Then you must walk away, leaving everything else behind. How does it feel?" This was the challenge given to members of the Methodist Church's God Squad on Sunday night, as instead of the usual games and discussions, they acted out some of the difficulties encountered by the refugees. Carrying their luggage, they took a long walk around the village on a rather bleak evening, stopping at the beach to discuss how they would feel if this had been for real. As a result, the group decided they had to do something to help the people of Kosovo. Members are now arranging a fund-raising day on Saturday, June 19, at the chapel.

STALL: The sum of £108 was raised when members of the local auxiliary branch of the RSPCA held another stall on the Harbour Head.

Planners refuse scheme for eclipse caravan site

THE use of a field at Porthleven as a site for up to 570 caravans during the eclipse has been vetoed by Kerrier Council's planning committee.

Members, at their May meeting, accepted the refusal recommendation of their chief planning officer, Steve Bott, with barely any comment.

They did so in the light of

concern expressed by the county surveyor, who was worried about the road leading to the site at Shrubberies Hill.

And members also took note of comments by Porthleven Town Council and, particularly, from local residents who submitted a number of letters of objection.

The town council was worried about access, and the fact that the site was close to

By Noel Perry

a residential area, and it asked about safeguards to ensure the land was returned to its original condition after the three-week period applied for.

There was also concern about sanitation and water supplies, and the town council asked for careful consideration of the application, "hav-

ing regard to its implications". Residents were particularly anxious about possible inconvenience caused by a large number of tents and caravans, extra traffic, noise and possible disturbance.

It was also, they said, too near existing properties in Shrubberies Hill.

Residents also believed water pressure in the area might not be sufficient to cope with extra demand, that

vehicular access points were hazardous, and that there might possibly be problems with rubbish disposal.

Sanitation arrangements, the possibility of wet weather, and the effect on an area of outstanding natural beauty were also raised.

Mr Bott told the planning committee: "The site is very prominent, and I consider that the scale of the proposal is excessive."

Floral club celebrates 25th anniversary



PICTURES BY LAURA PARSONS

□ ABOVE: The cake-cutting - left to right, Ruth Williams, Angela Rogers, Lucy Pearce, Pat Adams (secretary and founder member)

ABOVE LEFT: Treasurer Marjorie Kirby with her arrangement

LEFT: Marion Liddell with her spectacular display

PORTHLEVEN public hall was a riot of colour last week when the village's floral club celebrated its 25th anniversary.

Club chairman Ruth Williams welcomed visitors including past and present members to the hall for an evening that began with demonstrations of flower arranging and ended with a buffet supper.

A special anniversary cake, made by the club's founder president Angela Rogers and iced by Beryl Lane of Gunwalloe, was cut by Mrs Rogers and current president Lucy Pearce. The floral sugar decoration on the cake was bought by Mrs Rogers at auction, and there was a raffle of various flower arrangements.



ANNIVERSARY: Members of Porthleven Floral Club celebrated their 25th anniversary last Wednesday evening with an evening of non-stop demonstrations, showing the activities the club offered and the way various displays were achieved. It created much interest among those attending, and all members, friends and visitors were welcomed by chairman Ruth Williams. The demonstrations were given by Mrs Lane, Mrs Osborn, Mrs Adams, Mrs Kirby and Mrs Pearce. Three founder members who still show much interest in the club are Angela Rogers, Gwen Russell and Pat Adams. A special anniversary cake, made by Angela Rogers, and iced by Beryl Lane, was cut by Angela Rogers (founder president) and Lucy Pearce (current president). The flower decoration of sugarcraft on the top of the cake was auctioned and bought by Angela Rogers. There was a raffle of various flower arrangements and the evening ended with a buffet supper.

24 MAY 1999.



● Members of Porthleven Floral Club celebrate their 25th anniversary with a cake cut by founder president Angela Rogers and current president Lucy Pearce. The cake was made by Angela Rogers, and iced by Beryl Lane. Picture - Colin Ross

Video memory: Vic captures village life for posterity

ACCOMPLISHED film maker Vic Strike, of Porthleven, has built up an extensive collection of video films, many of which capture the essence of traditional Cornish life.

Now he is appealing to anyone who may be able to provide old cine camera footage of Porthleven or old photographs, lying forgotten in an attic or cupboard, so that the history of the village can be preserved on video.

He said: "As I've got older I have realised the importance of history and unless my generation puts something down on paper or film it will be lost for good. I am one of the few of my generation who remembers the old characters and how Porthleven used to be.

"My father Frank was a local historian and I now see the value of preserving history. My contribution is to preserve it on video. I think there must be many unwritten stories, cine film and old photographs of the village, lying forgotten, that could be transferred on to video."

A member of Falmouth Camera Club, Vic stresses that the films will not be copied for resale, and any photographs will be returned in the same condition as lent. He intends to make a compilation to donate to the local museum and to give film shows to anyone interested.

It was back in the 1960s that Vic first started taking cine films. Over the years he has had several cine cameras and camcorders but his interest really took off last year after joining the camera club, and he has won awards for his films.

One reel of nostalgic film given to Vic was taken by Porthleven man Norman Richards.

Mr Richards left the village as a young boy and emigrated to America. He came back in the late 1950s and took extensive footage of the village, including the Peterside procession, carnival,

Appeal for old village footage



● Vic Strike with some of his extensive collection of video films. Picture - Colin Ross

val, the town band's water sports event and characters well known in the village.

This old cine film, now transferred by Vic on to video, edited and dubbed, gives a fascinating insight into life in Porthleven at that time.

Vic was born in Wellington Road. The family later moved to Breageside and he has lived at his present address for 44 years.

Educated at Porthleven School, Vic left at the age of 14 and worked as an apprentice carpenter with his father.

After two years' National Service in the Royal Engineers, he travelled the country working with Woolworths Construction before returning home to work once again for the family business.

He ran a fishing tackle

shop on the harbour front for 19 years, and later working as a fishing tackle representative for nine years before taking early retirement.

He is married to Monica and they have two children, Paul and Amanda, and three grandchildren.

Anyone who can provide old cine films or photographs can contact Vic on 01326 562491.

Porthleven

ANNIVERSARY: Porthleven Methodist Church anniversary was celebrated at the weekend with two former members now living away from the village being invited back as preachers for the occasion. In the morning, Colin Pascoe, of Gloucester, conducted a family service. Evening worship was led by Catherine Martyn, of Gweek, who took new things

as her theme. Lessons were read by Paul Brown and Eleanor Goldenbaum. Shirley Brown was the soloist.

RSPCA: Another summer stall on the harbour head for the local RSPCA raised £186. Members of the public are invited to a garden party for the local RSPCA to be held at the home of Mr and Mrs B Howes, in Mill Lane, Porthleven, on Friday, July 9, from 2-4pm. There will be the usual stalls, raffle and refreshments.

FLORAL CLUB: Members enjoyed an interesting evening in the public hall when Ros Smith, of Camborne, demonstrated six displays based on the theme Summer Bounty. Her demonstration concluded with an exquisite pedestal cascade, The Wedding. A warm welcome was extended to Mrs Smith by Elaine Laity, vice-chairman, and she was thanked by Mrs Pawley. The competition, Summer Basket, only attracted one entry, from Josephine Osborne, but it won her a gold. Next month's meeting will be held in the public hall on Wednesday, July 28, at 7.30pm, when a demonstration will be given by Lucy Pearce and Marjorie Kerby.

SCHOOL FAIR: Visitors to Porthleven School's summer fair were treated to an al fresco concert by the school band on Friday evening. Children enjoyed a number of competitions while parents browsed among the numerous stalls or treated themselves to a cream tea. The event, organised by the parent teacher association, raised £400 for school funds.



□ Under 9s winners . . . Porthleven School (back row, left-right): Martin Wortley, Darren Rowe, Gavin Perraton, Matthew Dawson. Front: Joe Bray, Robert Jenkins, and Antony Finch

Soccer teams make it a 'clean sweep'

THE Porthleven teams made a clean sweep of the trophies at Porthleven School's annual six-a-side football tournament by retaining the trophies they won last year.

Their under 11s team beat Mullion 4-0 in the final and the under nines defeated Stithians A 2-0 in their final.

Not to be outdone, the Porthleven ladies also won their final against Stithians ladies.

The P.E. co-ordinator at Porthleven School, Clive Pickard, said: "It was a most enjoyable evening with a super atmosphere throughout."

"A very large crowd witnessed football played to a very high standard."

He was proud of his victorious teams and the sportsmanship shown by everyone who had entered.



□ Making a clean sweep for Porthleven . . . the ladies' winning line-up of Caroline Reed, Debbie Bray, Julia Hawkes, Helen Williams, Tracy Richards, and Rachael Patton.

Porthleven

A fete in aid of the Porthleven public hall arranged by the hall committee will be held on the Harbour Head on Saturday, August 14 from 10am-4pm. There will be many attractions including a line dancing display and a judo club demonstration.

Church fete

The annual St Bartholomew's Church fete was held on the Harbour Head and raised £1,260 for their fund. There were the usual stalls, barbecue and amusements for the children, with a bumper raffle - the first prize of £100 being won by Mrs Mary Stearman of Porthleven.



□ Under 11s winners . . . Porthleven School (back row, left-right): Terry Rowe, Matt Pollard, Tony Chambers, James Ireson. Front: Tom Wadsworth, Sam Shainberg, and Ashley Stidwell

Porthleven WI host quiz evening



□ Porthleven president Maureen Williams (centre) presenting the winner's plaque to Porthleven one team: (l-r) Mrs A Rogers, Mrs C Cookson, Mrs J Richards and (seated) Mrs A Winchcombe



□ The VCO team get their heads down: (l-r) Erica Batten, Avril Woolcock, Yvonne Toms and Liz Anderson

PORThLEVEN WI hosted a most successful and enjoyable quiz evening at the public hall which attracted teams from the Lizard, Helston and Tregonning areas.

There was even a team of VCOs (voluntary county officers) who put aside their official hats and joined in the fun. It was probably one of the few times when the VCOs could let their hair down and become one of the crowd instead of having to organise and front the event or have to make speeches or act in an official capacity and their enjoyment was quite obvious.

There were eight teams of four with spectators to cheer them on. The Porthleven president, Mrs Maureen Williams set the questions and Godolphin president, Margo Douglas kept score. Right from the start there were many lighter moments of hilarity although all the teams were serious and quite intense at times. Brains and ideas were pooled and yet only two teams came up with the perfect 10 for a section.

The break for refreshments was a welcome one during which the various WI members could renew old friendships and make new ones. The refreshments were of the usual high standard and there were many expressions of surprise when it was discovered that there was no entrance fee and it was simply an opportunity to get together and have a good time.

The ultimate winners of the plaque with 63 points were Porthleven one team consisting of Mrs C Cookson, Mrs J Richards, Mrs A Rogers and Mrs A Winchcombe who will hold the trophy for a year. Runners up were Sithney with 62 and Germoe, third, with 59. Thanks were expressed to Mrs Williams for organising the event and to the ladies who provided the refreshments and those who served them.

Porthleven WI will be holding a craft afternoon on quilting which is open to visitors on June 23 in the public hall from 2-4pm. The July WI meeting will be in the public hall on July 14 when Mr Upton will give a talk on stained glass work.

JUNE

JUNE

JULY

Film crew in port: Porthleven is transformed for German visitors



● Colin and Chrissy Oakden of the Ship Inn. LEFT - High and dry, the propped-up boat.



Seeing is not always believing, as Porthleven residents had good reason to remark this week while they watched a German film crew at work in the port.

A family room at The Ship Inn was

transformed into a kind of boat chandlery, and a boat was propped up outside the pub on dry land, where boats would never normally appear, as the cameras rolled for a TV film based on a Rosamund Pilcher novel Blossom of

Life. The crew have been filming in various locations this week, including Trewithen, near Probus, for the production which is only going to be shown in Germany.

Pictures - Colin Ross.

HP THE PACKET Week ending June 19, 1999 5

Business people not against £4 million project for Porthleven Harbour proposals: More time wanted for discussion

PORTHLEVEN town councillors are to seek a meeting with harbour owner Trevor Osborne to find out more about his £4-million project to transform the heart of the village.

The move came amid warnings at last week's monthly meeting that the council should represent the views of all residents, and not just one or two individuals.

Business people in the village have formed an association, which has asked Kerrier District Council to defer consideration of two major planning applications relating to the harbour project until full public consultation has taken place.

Association chairman, John Strike, told last week's meeting that the 40 members were not against development in

Porthleven - they just wanted more time to discuss Mr Osborne's proposals.

"75 per cent of what he is proposing is quite acceptable but we need to talk about the other 25 per cent. Surely it's not unreasonable to ask for more time? If he's not prepared to give us that time, then we have to object," said Mr Strike.

Town and district councillor, Roy Bradbury, said Mr Osborne was working to a tight schedule.

"If the grant application is not in by August then the whole thing falls, which would be a wicked shame for Porthleven because it's going to create jobs and open shops.

"We are talking about the regeneration of the village, and we should not just throw the scheme out."

Mr Bradbury said, following a meeting with Mr Osborne at Kerrier, district coun-

cil officers were to assist with the consultation process, which could involve a poll of all people in the village.

There was confusion over the exact stage of proposals for the inner harbour, with Jim Stokes suggesting an alternative plan to dredge an area next to the slipway had been put forward.

The original idea to dredge the whole of the inner harbour in order to keep water in it at all times provoked dissent from fishermen, who would face restricted access into the harbour.

David Blanning said it was exactly this confusion that was worrying residents.

"It's the lack of communication that is making people extremely nervous," he said. "I'm sure there are ways it can be developed for everyone's benefit, but we need to talk to each other and understand what's going on."

Porthleven

The annual Alexandra Rose Day Street Collection took place at Porthleven on Saturday, when £132.07 was collected. Out of this, the sum of £105.66 will be given to the Public Hall Committee for the Hall refurbishment fund, and the remainder will be sent to the Alexandra Rose Day headquarters for other charities. Members of the public hall committee wish to thank the collectors and all supporters.

A coffee morning will be held in the Porthleven Public Hall on Saturday, June 19 from 10 am - 12 noon. All proceeds for the "League of Friends of the Helston Community Hospital". Please come along and support your local hospital.

Members of the Porthleven branch of the ARC held a tea party at the home of one of their members, Mrs Joan Ford, and raised £47 for their fund. Raffle winners were, Mrs J Lloyd, Mrs E Williams, Miss J Simpson, Mrs M Beach, Father John Walker, Mrs J Burch, Mrs S Kneebone, Mrs J Ford Mary R, Father Peter Walker.

Representatives from the various Assemblies in Cornwall and Plymouth gathered in Porthleven Apostolic Church on Saturday evening to meet and hear their new President on his first visit to Cornwall, the service was convened by Pastor Paul Beynon who introduced Pastor Warren Jones from London who was accompanied by Pastor John yeoman of Kilmarnock. The President encouraged all to seek a deeper spiritual experience with God. On Sunday, the visiting Pastors ministered at both morning and evening services. The singing during the weekend was led by the Worship Group.

4 THE PACKET Week ending July 24, 1999



□ The Porthleven team, winners of the Year 11 competition, receive their trophy from Lt Cmdr Matt Jennings, CO of 820 Squadron at RNAS Culdrose

Schools compete for soccer honours

TEAMS from nine schools battled it out in a closely-fought football tournament held in Helston on Saturday.

Organised by Boskenwyn School, the event was staged in fine weather at the Culdrose playing fields.

Lt Cmdr Matt Jennings, commanding officer of 820 Squadron, presented trophies and medals to Parc Eglos, who beat Porthleven 1-0 in the Under-nine years final, and to Porthleven's Under-11 team, who convincingly beat runners-up Landewednack 7-1.

Medals were presented to the runners-up, and also to the beaten semi-finalists - Mullion and St Michael's in the Under-Nine competition, and Mabe and

Herland Cross in the Under-11s. Other schools taking part were Wendron and Boskenwyn.

Organisers of the annual tournament thanked everyone who helped make it a success, in particular referees Marty Wilde and Michael Williams. They also thanked RNAS Culdrose for their support.

JULY 1999



□ Judith Richards with her best exhibit trophy for her tapestry chair cover



□ Members of the organising committee including show secretary Sybil Mugford (third from left front row)

PORTHLEVEN'S newly refurbished public hall was buzzing with activity last Wednesday when the village held its popular summer show.

More than 400 entries were on display, including 185 from Porthleven School, and the high standard in many of the 78 classes made the judges' job very difficult.

The trophy for the best exhibit in the show went to an entry in the handicrafts section, which this year attracted the highest number of entries.

Judith Richards, of Porthleven, was delighted to receive the newly introduced award for her intricate tapestry chair cover.

Opened by Philip Smith, the event was organised by members of the WI, in particular show secretary Sybil Mugford, and June Smale, who were presented with a small gift in appreciation of their hard work.

Trophies were presented by Maureen Williams, president of Porthleven WI.

A raffle and plentiful refreshments were also on offer during the afternoon.

Results

Trophies (most points in relevant section)

Fruit and veg, S Mugford; handicrafts, L Ruse; home cooking, S Mugford; preserves, B Hicks; photography, B Gray; flowers, P Arthur; floral art, J Tilsley; art, A Berry & H Wilson; decoupage, J Walker; homemade wine, A Winchcombe & L Hollins; children: juniors, Oliver Williams & Ben Williams; seniors, Megan Baines.

Most points in show, S Mugford; best exhibit in show, J Richards.

Classes (first prize winners)

Fruit and veg: M Bernard, S Mugford, J Walker, B Gales, R Abrahams, B Gray.

Handicrafts: J Tilsley, J Richards, J Walker, L Ruse, S Mugford.

Home cooking: J Tilsley, S Mugford, B Gray, J Williams, O Richards, J Smale.

Preserves: B Gales, B Hicks.

Photography: P Arthur, B Gray.

Flowers: S Mugford, P Arthur, L Ruse, M Bernard.

J Walker. Pot Plant: H Wilson.

Floral art: J Tilsley, B Gray.

Art: A Berry, H Wilson.

Decoupage: J Walker.

Homemade wine: A Winchcombe, L Hollins.

Lifeboat Day: 'Like Blackpool promenade on a very good day'

Best ever RNLI event

By Muriel Cato

ORGANISERS of Sunday's annual Lifeboat Day at Porthleven were celebrating this week after the money literally poured in to make the event the biggest and best yet.

Hundreds of people - in fact some estimates calculate as many as 4,000 - turned out in the summer sunshine to spend, spend, spend, raising more than £5,000 for the RNLI, by the end of the day.

In the words of the Porthleven and district RNLI branch committee press officer, Jean Howard, this week, it was a fantastic day.

"Someone compared it to Blackpool's promenade on a very good day. So many people seemed to be having such a good time."

Money came from the stalls - the sale of RNLI souvenirs alone raised £1,000, from a raffle in which every ticket was sold, from £1 car parking fees, from donations from local



businesses, and from many other sources, including generous donations.

The highlight of the day was the arrival of a helicopter from 771 Search and Rescue Squadron at RNAS Culdrose, whose crew put on a thrilling display in the outer harbour, "rescuing" people from the water below, to the delight of the crowds.

Earlier spectators had applauded the crew of the Penlee lifeboat,

who showed off the lifeboat to the hundreds of spectators lining the harbour, and also staged a rescue in the outer harbour.

There was plenty of other activity in the water to keep the crowds entertained, including a display by members of Hayle Canoe Club, a race by the crews of the working boats from Porthleven, and youngsters competing in a bath tub race from one side of the harbour to the other.

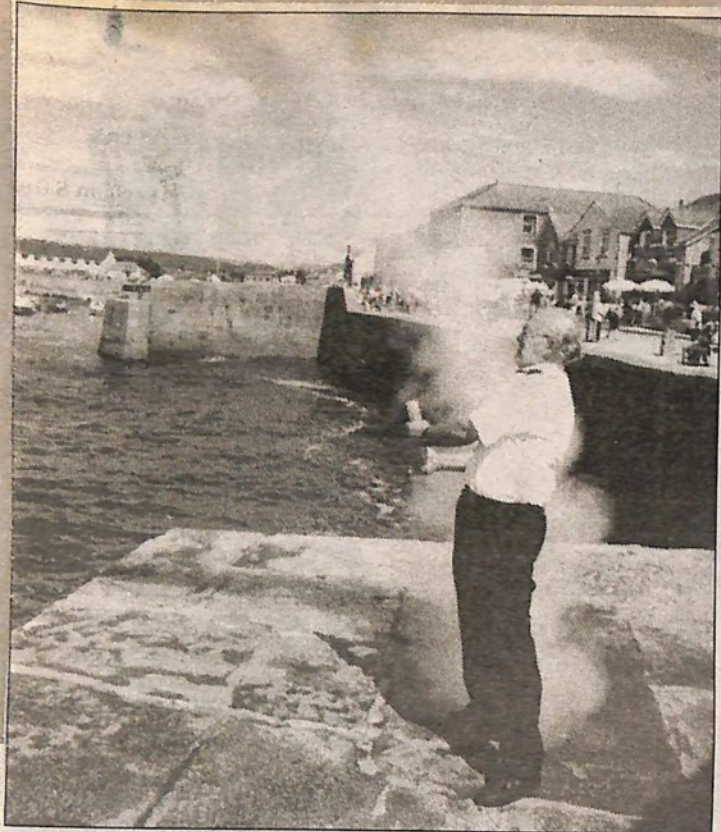


● Left: Crowds gather to watch the lifeboat. Above: The raffle was very popular, with every ticket sold. Below: The sale of souvenirs raised £1,000. Pictures - Marko Dutka



Children also particularly enjoyed splashing down into the water from the slipway on board Dash 2, and donkey rides on offer near the park.

Ice-cream sales, RNLI souvenir sales and the various stalls set up on the harbour head were busy throughout the day, and members of the town band entertained both during the afternoon and later in the evening.



□ Coastguard Dick Wall sets off the maroon



□ Gerry and Helen Arrowsmith and Dave Clarke from St Ives dressed as Pearly Kings and Queen

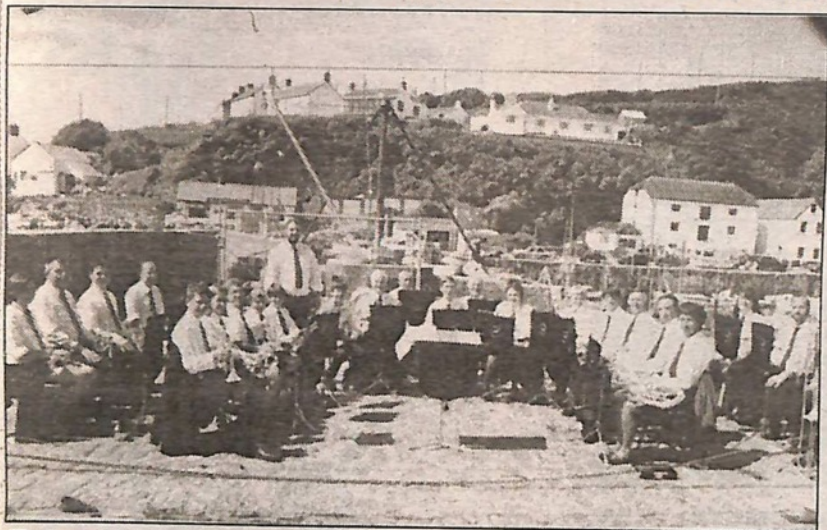


□ Kristina Williams, Matthew Higgs, Jonathan James, Lucy Pawley and Alice Higgs as pirates



□ Pat Adams, Ann Laity and Joan Carter in charge of the RNLI stall sell Lou and Lloyd McCorry some souvenirs

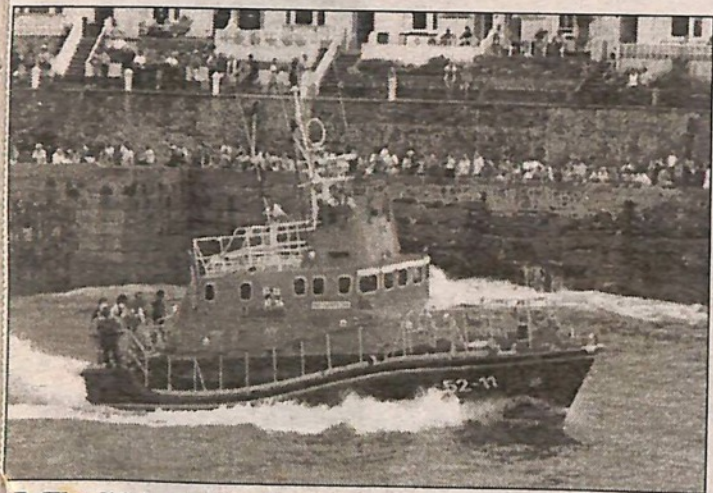
Joan & I,
with the help
of the day
Anne Laity



□ Porthleven Band takes a breather on the seafront



□ Zoe Pyne paints the face of Rachel Higgs



1 The lifeboat Elizabeth Ann sails into port

HUGE crowds gathered at Porthleven Harbour on Sunday for the village's annual Lifeboat Day, which looks set to have raised in excess of \$5,000.

With one side of the harbour closed to traffic, spectators lined the road to get the best view of the demonstration by the Penlee lifeboat Mabel Alice and a search and rescue helicopter from RNAS Culdrose.

Despite the poor forecast, the weather stayed fine all day - giving the crowds every chance to enjoy the various stalls and sideshows, as well as entertainment from Porthleven Town Band.

Organisers put the record attendance down to yesterday's total eclipse.

"Choosing a Sunday near the eclipse certainly paid off," said Jean Howard, spokeswoman for Porthleven RNLI.

"It was unbelievable how many people turned up, and I'm sure a lot of them were in the area because of the eclipse.

"Everything seemed to go just right during the day and there was a really happy atmosphere. All in all it was a marvellous day."

Mrs Howard said organisers were delighted with the amount raised.

"It's wonderful to be able to send more than \$5,000 to RNLI headquarters in Poole. We're all extremely pleased, and will now get on with raising the next \$5,000!"



□ John Williams (on stage) and his wife Rosemary with the children and representatives of SEC Connect and Thorn Lighting

Children put on displays of judo and line dancing

A SPECIAL performance by children from Porthleven marked the completion of a free lighting installation by SEC Connect at the public hall in Wellington Road. Line dancing and judo were among the skills on show at last week's display by youngsters aged between eight and 13 who regularly attend classes at the hall.

A slide show charting the history of Porthleven followed the performance, and refreshments were served to those attending.

Among the audience were hall committee members John and Rosemary Williams, who beat more than 40 other Cornish applicants to win the 1999 SEC Connect Bright Ideas award.

The company installed new dimmer controlled ceiling lighting at the hall, which has recently undergone a major refurbishment programme. Now in its second year, the Bright Ideas scheme invites applications from local schools and community groups to win a free lighting installation of their choice, worth up to £2,000.

Porthleven ARC

Members of the Porthleven ARC held a barbeque beside the lake at Helston by kind arrangement with Mike Lemon, their president, assisted by Mr K Matthews and Mr D Mitchell, and raised almost £300 for their fund. There were the usual stalls and a raffle with musical entertainment by Helston Town Band.

RSPCA

Members of the Porthleven Auxiliary of the RSPCA held another summer stall on the Harbour Head and raised a further £128 for their fund.

Lights

The Porthleven Association for the Lights have arranged a concert in conjunction with Janette Eathorne of Radio Cornwall, to be held on the Harbour Head at 7.30pm on Sunday, August 15.

St Bartholomew's Church

A United Garden Party for members of St Bartholomew's Church and St Sithney Parish Church was held at the vicarage by kind invitation of Father Peter Walker and his wife.



□ Porthleven councillor Godfrey Stephens mans the cuddly toy stall run in aid of Porthleven Town Band

Total Eclipse timings for August 11, 1999

Location	Partial Eclipse Begins	Beginning of Totality	Duration of Maximum Eclipse	End of Totality	Partial Eclipse Ends
Falmouth	9.57.06	11.11.15	2.06	11.13.21	12.32.25
Truro	9.57.15	11.11.23	2.01	11.13.24	12.32.26
Camborne	9.56.58	11.11.00	2.04	11.13.05	12.32.03
Helston	9.56.52	11.10.57	2.06	11.13.03	12.32.05
The Lizard	9.56.48	11.11.02	1.59	11.13.00	12.32.13
Mullion	9.56.49	11.10.58	2.03	11.13.01	12.32.09
Portreath	9.57.01	11.11.03	2.02	11.13.05	12.32.04
Redruth	9.57.01	11.11.05	2.04	11.13.09	12.32.09



□ The moment of totality and immediately afterwards



WITH grey skies over much of Helston and The Lizard yesterday morning, eclipse-watchers across the area were delighted when a few well-timed breaks in the cloud allowed them to catch a glimpse of what many described as the event of a lifetime.

A deathly hush fell over the crowds lining the cliffs at Britain's most southerly point as darkness descended - only the beam of the Lizard lighthouse and camera flash bulbs illuminating the hundreds of up-turned faces.

Two minutes later, and spontaneous applause and cheering broke out as the skies lightened and the champagne was uncorked.



□ Oliver Yelland, ten, and his sister Ruby, nine, and Ginger the cat are all wisely using special eye shades while looking at the sun

retail environment only. subject to availability for a limited period only. metallic paint available at extra cost.

Throwing some light on the day of darkness

THE actual eclipse in Cornwall will last for about three hours. To view most of what happens protection for the eyes is paramount.

Weather permitting, people will see a tiny bite being taken out of the edge of the sun at about 9.55am as the moon starts to move across in front of the sun. That is called "first contact." The moon will then gradually move further across until the sun is totally obscured at about 11.11am. This total blackout of the sun will last over two minutes and is called "second contact."

The whole of the sun should be totally visible again by 12.35am when the only reminder of the eclipse may be an increase in cloud cover caused by air cooling during the course of the eclipse.

Between first and second contact, when the moon is covering the sun completely, the temperature drops - such a drop was noticed by those watching the 1927 eclipse - and it may become more difficult to see clearly as both heat and light from the sun are diminished.

The shadows around should start to get crisper and people may notice numerous crescent-shaped suns projected on to the ground through trees and bushes.

The loss of heat from the sun will also lead to an increase in wind speed. It will be particularly noticeable if there is a light wind initially.

Sailors are used to such winds blowing up in early evening as land cools more quickly than the sea.

The cooling of the atmosphere as the sun disappears will have a similar effect, creating what is called "the eclipse wind."

For about 15 minutes either side of the totality, the sky will be very dark and, cloud permitting, people should be able to see the planet Venus to the left of the sun. Those interested in the stars and planets should also look to the right and they may see Mercury and the night stars without a shining moon.

To see stars in the daytime is rare. During the total eclipse the sights should be most spectacular. The size and position of the sun is such that it is large enough to cover the main disc of the sun, called the "photosphere", but that viewers

outer atmosphere. Under normal circumstances it is not possible to see the outer atmosphere, but around the black disc of the moon it will be.

The huge bursts of glowing gas called "prominences", also normally invisible, should be seen as well. In previous eclipses it has been estimated that these have been seen as far as 90,000 miles from the sun's surface - equivalent to 10 times the diameter of the earth.

Around the edge of the moon, very bright spots of light will be seen, called "Bailey's beads." Because the surface of the moon is not smooth parts of the sun will shine through ridges and valleys on the surface. They will then disappear and merge to make a

single bright spot at a point on the rim of the moon.

A thin band of light will show around the remainder of the rim to form a gigantic ring in the sky with the bright spot being the stone in the ring - the "diamond ring effect."

After the eclipse is over the ring and the beads will be seen again in different positions as the moon begins to move away.

It will take a further 80 minutes before the sun is completely whole again.

Whether animals will react remains to be seen. Nocturnal creatures could wake up from their slumbers during the eclipse while others go to sleep.

● In his book *The Complete Eclipse Guide*, Alan Oliver (pictured right) of Falmouth has put together all sorts of facts and for just £1 this must be one of the best guides ever even though it is just 18 pages long and is not lavishly produced like some guides. It is obtainable from him at 7 Wellington Terrace, Falmouth, telephone 01326 315379.



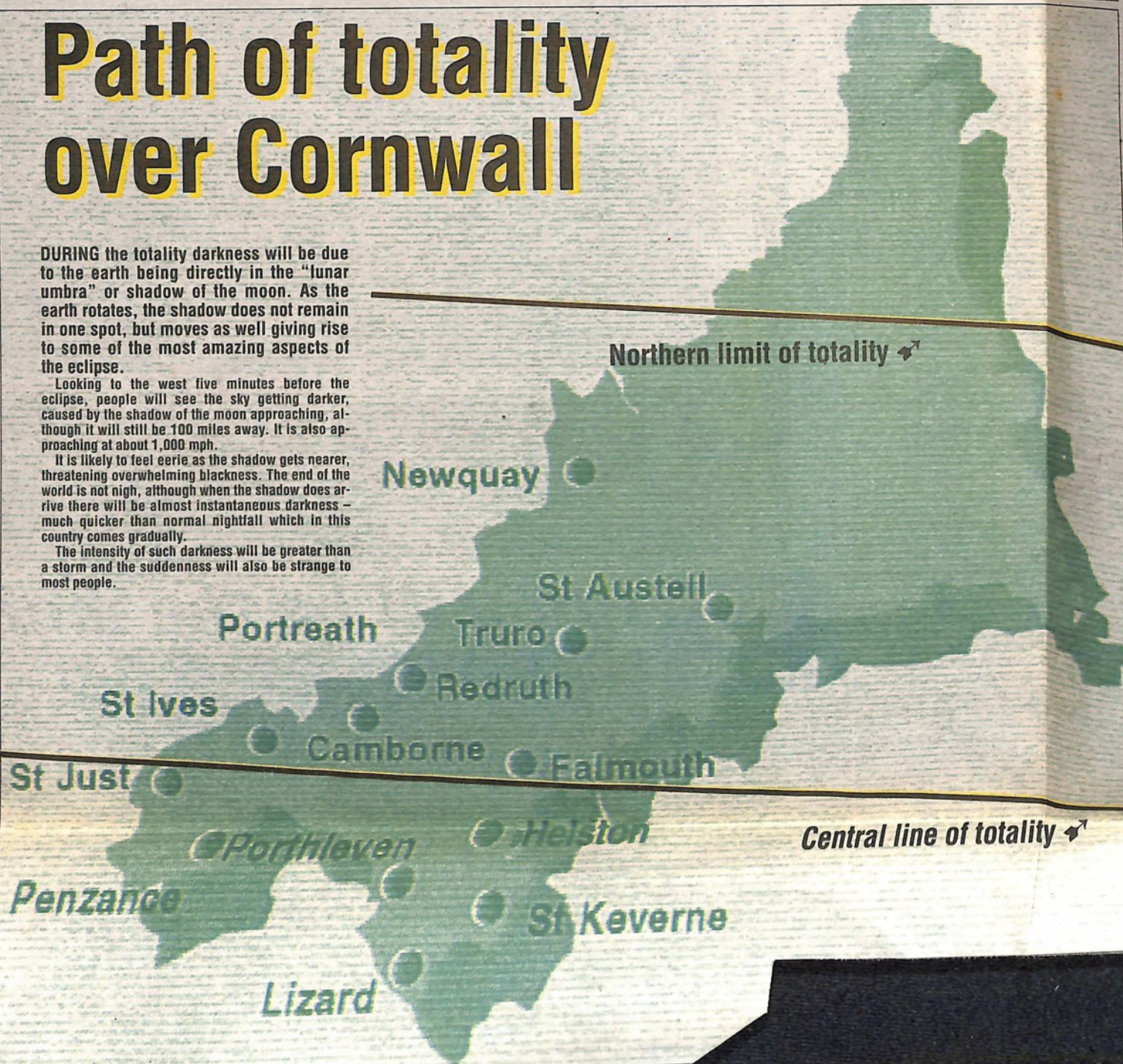
Path of totality over Cornwall

DURING the totality darkness will be due to the earth being directly in the "lunar umbra" or shadow of the moon. As the earth rotates, the shadow does not remain in one spot, but moves as well giving rise to some of the most amazing aspects of the eclipse.

Looking to the west five minutes before the eclipse, people will see the sky getting darker, caused by the shadow of the moon approaching, although it will still be 100 miles away. It is also approaching at about 1,000 mph.

It is likely to feel eerie as the shadow gets nearer, threatening overwhelming blackness. The end of the world is not nigh, although when the shadow does arrive there will be almost instantaneous darkness - much quicker than normal nightfall which in this country comes gradually.

The intensity of such darkness will be greater than a storm and the suddenness will also be strange to most people.



Throwing some light on the day of darkness

THE actual eclipse in Cornwall will last for about three hours. To view most of what happens protection for the eyes is paramount.

Weather permitting, people will see a tiny bite being taken out of the edge of the sun at about 9.55am as the moon starts to move across in front of the sun. That is called "first contact." The moon will then gradually move further across until the sun is totally obscured at about 11.11am. This total blackout of the sun will last over two minutes and is called "second contact."

The whole of the sun should be totally visible again by 12.35am when the only reminder of the eclipse may be an increase in cloud cover caused by air cooling during the course of the eclipse.

Between first and second contact, when the moon is covering the sun completely, the temperature drops - such a drop was noticed by those watching the 1927 eclipse - and it may become more difficult to see clearly as both heat and light from the sun are diminished.

The shadows around should start to get crisper and people may notice numerous crescent-shaped suns projected on to the ground through trees and bushes.

The loss of heat from the sun will also lead to an increase in wind speed. It will be particularly noticeable if there is a light wind initially.

Sailors are used to such winds blowing up in early evening as land cools more quickly than the sea.

The cooling of the atmosphere as the sun disappears will have a similar effect, creating what is called "the eclipse wind."

For about 15 minutes either side of the totality, the sky will be very dark and, cloud permitting, people should be able to see the planet Venus to the left of the sun. Those interested in the stars and planets should also look to the right and they may see Mercury and the night stars without a shining moon.

To see stars in the daytime is rare.

During the total eclipse the sights should be most spectacular. The size and position of the moon is such that it is just large enough to totally cover the main body of the sun, called the "photosphere", but not so large that viewers cannot see the sun's

outer atmosphere. Under normal circumstances it is not possible to see the outer atmosphere, but around the black disc of the moon it will be.

The huge bursts of glowing gas called "prominences", also normally invisible, should be seen as well. In previous eclipses it has been estimated that these have been seen as far as 90,000 miles from the sun's surface - equivalent to 10 times the diameter of the earth.

Around the edge of the moon, very bright spots of light will be seen, called "Bailey's beads." Because the surface of the moon is not smooth parts of the sun will shine through ridges and valleys on the surface. They will then disappear and merge to make a

single bright spot at a point on the rim of the moon.

A thin band of light will show around the remainder of the rim to form a gigantic ring in the sky with the bright spot being the stone in the ring - the "diamond ring effect."

After the eclipse is over the ring and the beads will be seen again in different positions as the moon begins to move away.

It will take a further 80 minutes before the sun is completely whole again.

Whether animals will react remains to be seen. Nocturnal creatures could wake up from their slumbers during the eclipse while others go to sleep.

● In his book *The Complete Eclipse Guide*, Alan Oliver (pictured right) of Falmouth has put together all sorts of facts and for just £1 this must be one of the best guides ever even though it is just 18 pages long and is not lavishly produced like some guides. It is obtainable from him at 7 Wellington Terrace, Falmouth, telephone 01326 315379.



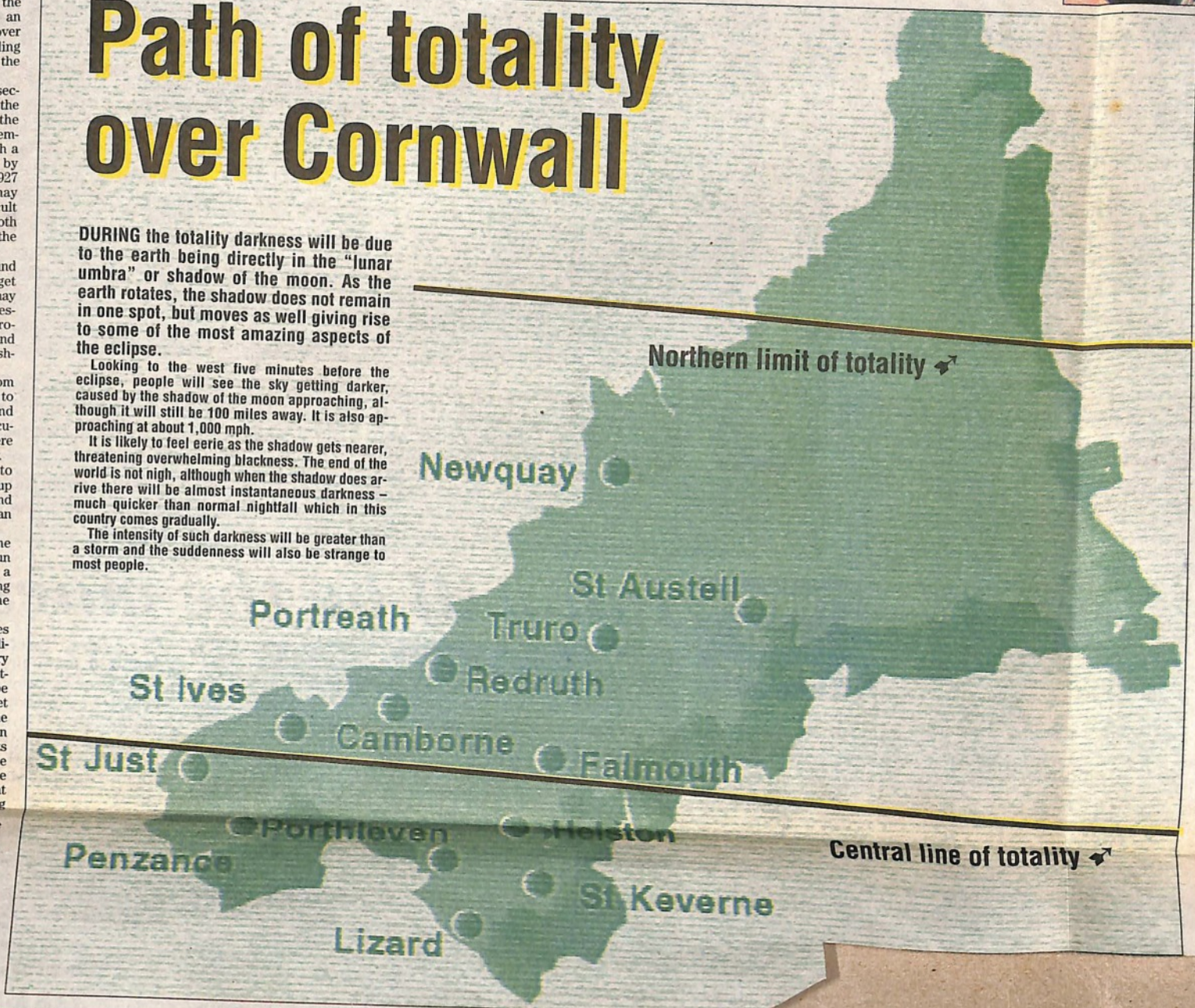
Path of totality over Cornwall

DURING the totality darkness will be due to the earth being directly in the "lunar umbra" or shadow of the moon. As the earth rotates, the shadow does not remain in one spot, but moves as well giving rise to some of the most amazing aspects of the eclipse.

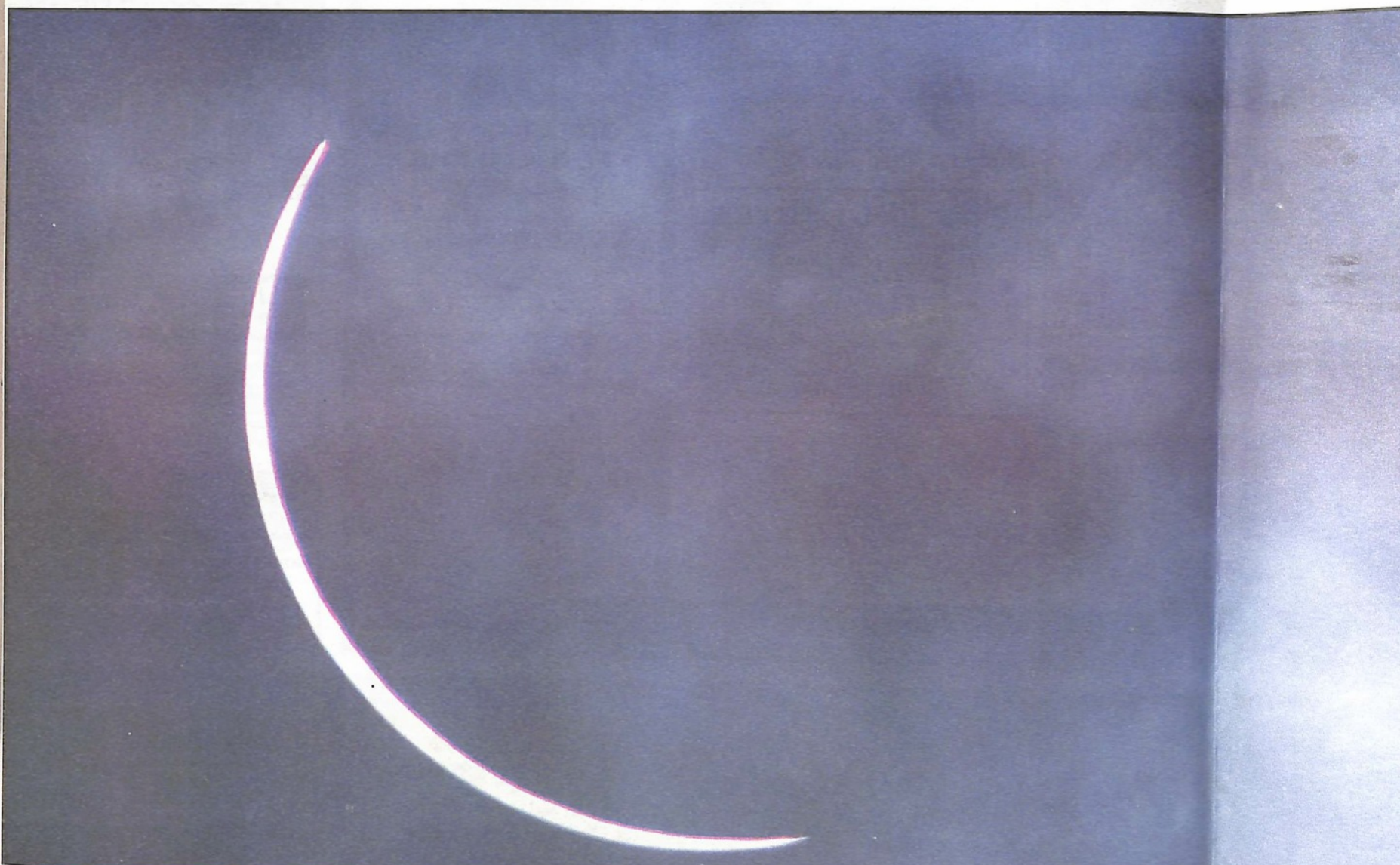
Looking to the west five minutes before the eclipse, people will see the sky getting darker, caused by the shadow of the moon approaching, although it will still be 100 miles away. It is also approaching at about 1,000 mph.

It is likely to feel eerie as the shadow gets nearer, threatening overwhelming blackness. The end of the world is not nigh, although when the shadow does arrive there will be almost instantaneous darkness - much quicker than normal nightfall which in this country comes gradually.

The intensity of such darkness will be greater than a storm and the suddenness will also be strange to most people.



When day turned into night on a summer's morning



10.30

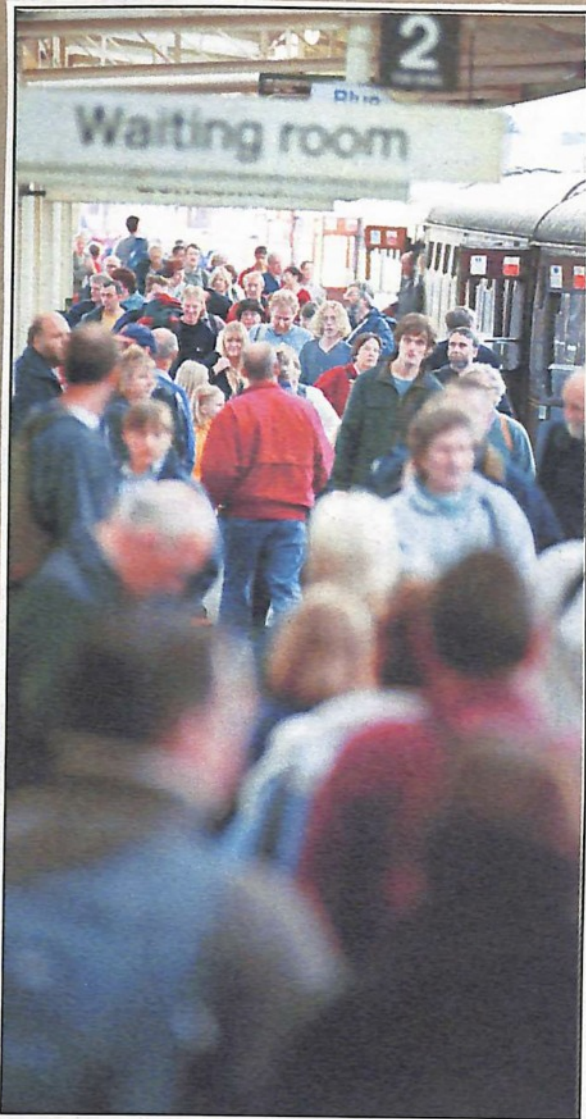
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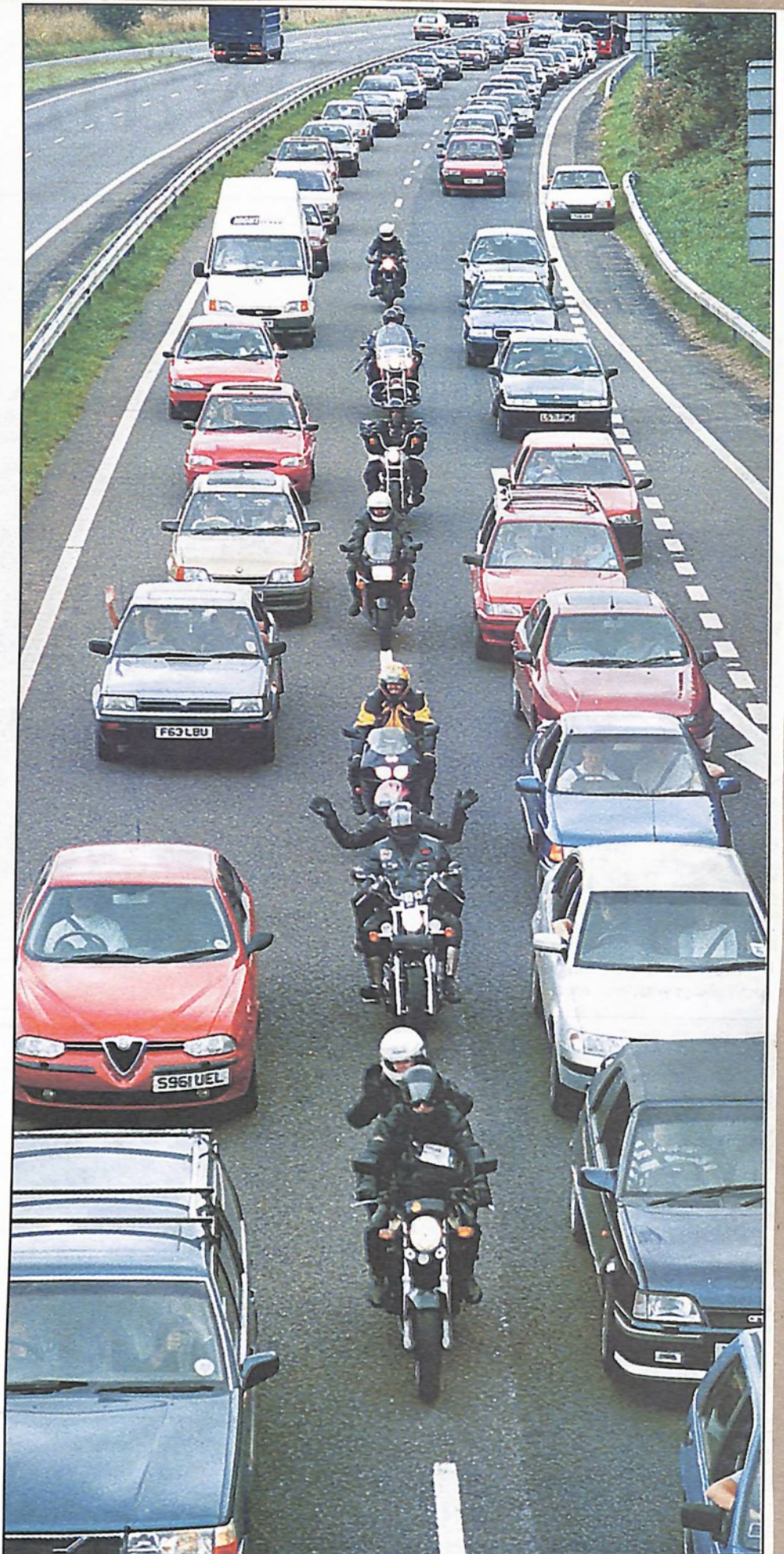
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● **CROWDED STATION:** extra trains brought eager eclipse fans into Plymouth Railway Station



● **TAIL BACK:** a 35-mile traffic jam was reported stretching from Wrangaton on the A38 to past Exeter on the M5 on the afternoon of eclipse day as visitors tried to leave the Westcountry

Erica • Mike came • spent a few days with us.
Brenda • Rob. were with Wendy • family.

We all spent the morning at Wendy's
We had a party lunch. • uncorked a couple of bottles to welcome the sun back again.

It was very impressive inspite of the cloud.

While in totality, the wind blew • it went very cold.

The sea looked very black.

But on the edge of the shadow of darkness the sky was a wonderful colour of gold • orange.

The seagulls were crying. • the crickets chirping. • then the sun came back again, it was a very strange feeling.

We were all surprised how quickly, it was all over.

There were people on their roof tops. • people in the road with chairs, every advantage point. was packed with on-lookers.

I have never seen so many people in Cornwall. it took Dougie ½ hr to get to Delston, in the afternoon as he had to work.

What a day. one never to be forgotten. There was an estimated 350,000 extra visitors in Cornwall, and cars 26,250 on Thursday, more on Friday • 21,481 left Cornwall on Saturday

Crafty way to raise cash for church



● The crafty folk of Porthleven have made more than £600 for the redevelopment fund of their Methodist church, thanks to their skills at arts and crafts. A three-day exhibition in the church of their work included a wide variety of exhibits from amateurs and professionals. Items included stained glass, pottery, wood-carving, needlework and a range of paintings. There was a display of model boats by Percy and Douglas Orchard, each made to scale and many in working order. There was also a brilliant and colourful array of patchwork quilts, and designer clothes and hats. Pictured left with her colourful patchwork is Jill Hardaker, and (below) with her embroidery, Marjorie Kitchen. Picture - Marko Dutka



Porthleven residents want to restore *Dash*

PORThLEVEN'S last working lifeboat could once again take pride of place in the village if plans to restore her come to fruition.

At a town council meeting last week, Godfrey Stephens said *Dash* was an important part of Porthleven's heritage, and restoring her to her former glory could be a project for the new millennium.

Mr Stephens said the boat was in the hands of a private owner, but the council should attempt to regain ownership.

"I've been approached by a number of local people with the necessary skills who would like to restore *Dash*," he said. "I think the boat should be preserved for future generations and put on view with a proper plaque underneath explaining its history."

Charles Budd suggested asking the harbour owner, Trevor Osborne, whether the former lifeboat could become part of his plans for the centre of the village.

"He's planning to put some kind of classic boat on display at the Harbour Head, but why can't we have our lifeboat there instead? I don't think we want something like the *Cutty Sark* sitting there. We should preserve this part of our heritage," he said.

Mr Osborne might even be willing to contribute towards the restoration, added Mr Budd.

Bus shelter likely to remain in disgraceful state

A BUS shelter on the main approach to Porthleven looks likely to remain in a "disgraceful" state, unless the town council agrees to take over responsibility for it from Kerrier district council.

The condition of the shelter in Wellington Road was first raised last December, since when the district council, which is responsible for maintaining bus shelters, has said the town council is legally required to take it over.

For its part, the town council has refused to do so, unless the shelter is first put into a good state of repair.

At a meeting last week, town clerk Elsie Balme said it was a "disgusting sight" on a main entrance to a holiday village.

"Another piece of glass has been removed and anyone could cut themselves on it," she said. "Kerrier have let it run down to a slum. I would not advise this council to take over that shambles."

Town and district councillor Godfrey Stephens said Porthleven was not legally bound to assume responsibility for the shelter, and he would pursue the matter with Kerrier.

"They only have about £1,000 this year for bus shelters across the whole district, so that's what we are up against," he said.

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Teenage Village idea described as 'ludicrous'

ENCOURAGING teenagers to meet at the end of a dark field in Porthleven is a "ludicrous" idea, a town councillor said last week.

Dave Blanning made his comments as members were discussing the proposed Teenage Village - a structure that provides a meeting place for young people - and where it should be located.

The town council has pledged £1,000 towards the cost of the project - with the Porthleven Millennium Trust securing promises of grant funding for the remaining £5,000 - but the siting of the structure has yet to be resolved.

With no land available near The Square, putting the Teenage Village by the tennis courts in the recreation ground seemed the only option.

But Mr Blanning, who described the whole idea as "an extreme waste of money", said that location would not be at all popular.

"I have spoken to the children of Porthleven. They want to be in the centre of the village so they can see what is going on. From the point of view of supervision that would be much better as well.

"Putting teenagers in an unlit location at

the back of a field at the end of Porthleven is the most ludicrous thing I have ever heard anyone come up with."

Godfrey Stephens said youngsters would not use the structure if it was by the tennis courts, and would continue "hanging around" in the bus shelter.

Town clerk Elsie Balme said there had been some objection from people living near the site, but there was no realistic alternative location.

She said: "We have a recreation ground. It was a recreation ground long before those bungalows were built. A recreation ground is for recreational activities, and that is the only suitable site."

The Millennium Trust would lose the promised grant funding if agreement was not reached, she added, but the final decision on location would rest with Kerrier district council, who might have to give planning permission.

Members agreed the structure should go in the recreation ground, but preferably at the opposite end to the tennis courts - as near as possible to the centre of the village.

Residents prepared to finance skatepark

PLANS to rid Porthleven's streets of the "menace" of skateboarders moved a step closer last week as town councillors agreed to look into the possibility of using part of the village's recreation ground as a skate park.

More than 100 youngsters have signed a petition calling for such a facility, after numerous complaints about the dangers of skateboarding on the port's road.

At a council meeting on Thursday, Godfrey Stephens said a group of people - both youngsters and adults - were prepared to raise money to build and supervise a skateboard park.

"All they are asking for is help with the money to buy materials," he said. "They will do everything else themselves. In view of the petition, I think we should do all that we can to get this menace off our roads."

Mr Stephens said land in the recreation ground between the tennis courts and the

river was the best location, and was well away from residential properties.

Town clerk Elsie Balme said it was boggy ground and a survey might be needed before any firm plans were made, but Gill Menhennet pointed out that the tennis courts were there so the land ought to be suitable.

Jim Stokes was concerned about opposition from residents living nearby, but Mr Stephens was not dissuaded.

"Whatever you do you are going to get complaints," he said. "All those people who complain about noise are the same ones who complain about them skateboarding down the road."

"They will supervise it themselves. If they have raised money for it, then I think they'll look after it and maintain it."

Members agreed to support the idea in principle, and investigate the cost of materials and whether planning permission was needed.

Port regeneration: Hundreds attend three meetings to discuss proposals for harbour

HUNDREDS of people attended three meetings in Porthleven on Friday which could decide its harbour and areas surrounding it.

The meetings were called by Kerrier Council's planning committee, primarily to look at two specific proposals put forward by Trevor Osborne, owner of Porthleven Harbour and Dock Company, and therefore most of

the centre of the port. Many locals attended the site meetings at Shute Lane, where the company wants to demolish buildings and build two shops and a restaurant, and on Breageside, where plans include a new cinema/theatre and multi-purpose hall. But the third meeting, to hear Mr Osborne's general plans for the harbour area and overall

desires for the port, drew the biggest audience.

The public hall - which, objectors fear, could be threatened by Mr Osborne's plans for Breageside, although he said it would not - was full to overflowing for the meeting.

At least one member of Kerrier's planning committee, which will eventually decide Mr Osborne's proposals for Shute

Lane and Breageside, was unable to get in, as were county councillor David Richards, a number of Porthleven town councillors and several residents.

One enterprising local even climbed scaffolding on the building's exterior so he could listen through an open window.

There was anger from a number of people that the hall had

been chosen as the venue. They claimed the local school, with a bigger hall, should have been used.

Despite that, the large turnout for all the meetings, although some people attended all three, was seen as an indication of the importance local people attach to Mr Osborne's plans.

The general view appeared to be that the majority supported

aspects of each proposal but with varying degrees of reservations. A number were opposed outright, and some were totally in favour.

The views of the meeting and of the planning committee which was convened in full - usually at site meetings there is only a representative panel - will be taken forward to the committee's next meeting.

Osborne opposed to 'wholesale redevelopment'

PORHLEVEN Harbour and Dock Company boss Trevor Osborne told the first of Friday's two site meetings that he was opposed to wholesale redevelopment of the square in the heart of the port.

He hopes to demolish derelict and contaminated buildings and build two shops and a restaurant.

Current businesses include a pottery and fish and chip shop.

Mr Osborne told planners and the public: "I am opposed to wholesale redevelopment. I am much keener on keeping what we have and building on it."

His plans include stabilising the existing pottery shop and extending the fish and chip premises into a yard at the rear to provide an area in which customers could eat.

Despite that, one of the tenants told the meeting that he preferred his business to stay the way it was.

There would also be a delicatessen, stocked with Cornish food and produce, wherever possible.

Steve Bott, Kerrier's chief planning officer, said the application was a fairly controversial one because it had provoked a lot of response from the public.

A number of the statutory bodies which were consulted had no objection, including County Highways. The site is bordered by Harbour Road.

A petition signed by 38 people wanted the application deferred until "the true feelings of the people of Porthleven are established".

Porthleven Town Council objected on traffic grounds, the affect of another restaurant on existing businesses and because aspects of the proposal would tend to alter the basic character of the village.

However, former Porthleven

Town Council chairman Roy Bradbury said regeneration schemes did not come along very often. "You have to grasp them when they do arrive. We don't want to miss the opportunity. This village is badly in need of further development."

However, that view was immediately challenged by Mr Bradbury's town council colleague, Charles Budd, who said the council was opposed to the application. Mr Bradbury countered that his view was as one of the port's two Kerrier district councillors.

Mr Budd said the town council wanted development to reflect the character of the port - half of Mr Osborne's plans did, half did not.

"We like Porthleven the way it is, that is why we live here. We need some redevelopment but we want it done in a tasteful manner and in keeping with the village as it is now."

Mr Bott reported comments to his department alleging that the harbour and dock company had failed to fulfil its statutory duty to maintain the harbour which, it was further claimed, had been allowed to decay alarmingly.

There was also concern that the county highways department had not commented on the traffic implications of the scheme, but Mr Bott said the county surveyor was adhering to national policies to try to keep cars out of town centres and encourage people to walk.

A number of speakers pointed out that there were not adequate car parks in Porthleven to fulfil that policy locally.

Mr Osborne said the town council should come up with an initiative to ease congestion in the village - "Why should it be me?". He added, though, that if there was a traffic problem in the village, it at least meant there were more visitors.

PLANS to alter Porthleven harbour may not need permission from Kerrier Council, the public meeting was told in the port on Friday.

This is because the harbour and dock company was set up under a parliamentary Act, although the exact position as regards Kerrier's involvement is currently being investigated.

The council will, however, have to give listed building consent for parts of any work.

Company boss Trevor Osborne told the packed assembly: "I am not doing anything which is contrary to the Act. I have taken advice and all of the proposals which we are pursuing will be in accordance with the law."

By Noel Perry

Earlier, Arthur Roberts, chairman of the Porthleven Fishermen and Boat Owners' Association spoke of his concerns about plans to install a sill across the harbour and other proposals which he was worried would affect fishermen's livelihoods.

Among the proposals are the retention of water in the inner harbour permanently, secured by dredging.

"To put a sill in is going to severely affect fishing boats in this harbour."

"It is a harbour of refuge. If we are going to restrict the times they can come in and out, then you are restricting the ability of that harbour to

be what it is designed for.

"I am in favour of improvements, but improvements at any cost are not acceptable to the people who live in Porthleven."

Mr Osborne denied that his proposals would affect fishermen's livelihoods at all. He had supported their use of the port to the extent they paid half dues.

But it "loses a fortune... the harbour needs trade to sustain it and the risk of prices going up is far greater than it would be if we could attract more money to Porthleven."

His schemes, which will cost an estimated £4 million, include the use of the shipyard by a specialist ship renovation company.

Mr Osborne criticised those

in the audience who applauded when one speaker questioned whether such a company, which would create a number of jobs, would come to a "hole in the wall" like Porthleven.

It was, said Mr Osborne, "extraordinary behaviour", and he also reacted to criticism of his work on the harbour over the years.

He said there had been sustained work on it in that time.

Referring to the seeking of grants to meet part of the cost of his overall plans, he added: "I am as concerned as anyone about the harbour."

"If we don't get the grants it doesn't mean I shall devolve my responsibilities elsewhere."

Supporters speak out in favour of cinema/theatre

PLANS to provide a facility such as a cinema/theatre at Breageside reflected the wishes of local people, visitors and young residents of Porthleven, Mr Osborne told the second site meeting on Friday.

His company's plans for Breageside include the consolidation of listed buildings, the construction of a harbour master's office, a multi-purpose hall, video shop and cafe/restaurant.

A number of objections to the proposals were similar to those to the Shute Lane site.

Mr Osborne also invited local people to put forward proposals for the use of an empty space in the building which would house the cinema/theatre.

There would also, he said, be no change in the vehicles using the quayside where his daughter is already operating a wine bar and restaurant which employs 14 people.

But Phyllis Arthur, representing the management committee of Porthleven Public Hall on the other side of the harbour, pointed out that £50,000 had been spent on that building's recent refurbishment.

"We are very concerned about the opposition we might get from a cinema on this side because we are already subsidising use of the public hall."

"If we get people pulled away from us, we will have to put fees up and some clubs won't be able to afford the money to pay those fees."

Mr Osborne gave an undertaking that the planned multi-purpose hall would not compete with the

way the public hall was used.

His schemes were also supported by a speaker who said: "He is putting forward what I think is quite a good scheme, but he seems to be getting knocked. Why?"

One long-term resident of the port, acknowledging that his view might lose him some friends, said he was in favour of the proposals.

"The rest of the world is moving, on but Porthleven is standing still."

However, there was criticism from Billy Richards, of the Porthleven Fishermen and Boat Owners' Association, that no outline planning application had been put forward for improvements to the harbour itself.

And businessman Andrew Bell claimed the proposals for Breageside contravened part of the county structure plan.

John Strike, also a local businessman, added: "We have to know the buildings will be in keeping with Porthleven."

"We have got to have trust in what we are approving."

Fears were also expressed about the safety of young people visiting Breageside, as the proposed building would be close to the harbour.

Concern was also voiced about smell and noise from the premises.

But another supporter added: "I think, overall, this is a good idea."

"The cinema would employ a few more young people in this village and I think that is a good thing."



● One young man was very specific about what he wanted to see as part of the proposed £4 million development in Porthleven - a new skateboard area for local children. Ryan Hughes, aged 11, told Friday's meeting of applause of his and his friends' needs. Mr Osborne replied he was 'all for providing facilities for young people'. Pictured skateboarding in the port is Bryn Green. Picture - CloSP

AUGUST

skatepark

...structure should go in, but preferably at the tennis courts - as near as of the village.

...ation, and was well properties. I've said it was boggy might be needed before ere made, but Gill t that the tennis courts ought to be suitable. I've heard about opposing nearby, but Mr uaded.

...you are going to get "All those people who are the same ones who skateboarding down

...it themselves. If they it, then I think they'll tain it." support the idea in ate the cost of materi- nna permission was

Crash claims life of popular Porthleven teenager



ABOVE: Ross Ching, who many thought had the potential to achieve great things, seen here with family pet Pepper. RIGHT: Ross pictured in action at a recent banger race meeting



By Vicky Jones

A TRAGIC accident on the A394 Helston to Penzance road on Sunday night claimed the life of a popular Porthleven teenager and left three other people critically ill.

Michael Ross Ching, 16, known to his friends as Ross, was confirmed dead at the scene after the black Ford Escort he was travelling in

towards Helston went out of control and hit a stone wall one mile west of the Porthleven turning.

Three other people were travelling in the car. All were taken to hospital in a critical condition.

The dead boy's father, Michael, was yesterday said to be in intensive care although a hospital spokesman said he was "stable and comfortable".

Simon Jewell, 17, and his brother Richard, one of whom was driving the car at the time of the crash, suffered serious injuries the nature of which have not been confirmed.

The Jewell brothers both, from Porthleven, are well-known in the port and the accident has left local people stunned.

Ross lived in Thomas Street, Porthleven with his father. His mother Tina, lives in Unity Road, Porthleven, and his sister Tracey also lives in the village. His grandmother's home is in Bulwark Road, Helston.

Teachers at Helston School expressed their sorrow at the death of a former pupil and said their thoughts were with Ross's family.

David Taylor, deputy headmaster, said: "Ross was a loveable rogue. We had to send a lot of children home yesterday because they were so upset by the news."

"In a small community like Porthleven people are bound to be affected. Many of his friends here remember him as a banger racing champion and someone who lived life to the full. Many were deeply affected and moved by this tragic accident."

Students at the school were still trying to come to terms with news of the accident yesterday.

"Ross was always laughing. You never saw him without a huge smile on his face," said one of his former school pals. "He loved cars and banger racing and had won loads of trophies. We will really miss him."

Ross had recently left school and was working as an air conditioning installer and maintenance engineer.

His banger racing skills had won him many trophies and Cornish racing enthusiasts felt he had the potential to achieve great things. He often raced with Jeremy Treloar as the "Dark Destroyers" and the pair enjoyed successes at Cornish Raceways and Monarch meetings all over the area including Wendron and St Keverne.

Dougie Bray, who owns Cornish Raceways said: "Ross had a lot of potential. For his age he was a great driver. He was a very popular face on the racing circuit and will certainly be missed."

Ross's funeral will be held tomorrow at 2.30pm at St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven.

Boy still in hospital

STAFF at Treliske hospital were yesterday still refusing to comment on the condition of a teenager injured in a road accident that claimed the life of a 16-year-old from Porthleven.

Richard Jewell, 14, was a back-seat passenger in a Ford Escort which went out of control and hit a stone wall on the A394 between Breage and Helston earlier this month. Ross Ching, of Unity Road, Porthleven, died in the accident, which left his father Michael and brothers Simon and Richard Jewell, also from Porthleven, critically injured.

Simon, 17, who was driving the car, was transferred from Treliske to a specialist spinal hospital in Salisbury last week. Front seat passenger Michael Ching was discharged from the Truro hospital, where Richard remains a patient.

Flowers and messages of sympathy remain at the scene of the accident.

Friends bear coffin

THE funeral service has taken place at St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven, of Ross Ching, 16, who was tragically killed in a road accident.

Ross, who was born in Porthleven and lived at Thomas Street, attended Porthleven Primary School then Helston Comprehensive School. On leaving school, Ross worked with his uncle Simon at Farnborough on air conditioning. He loved banger racing and rugby and, being a Porthleven boy, anything to do with the sea.

The church was full, with many standing. Many of his racing friends travelled long distances to the service, also many of his school friends were there. Jake, a friend of Ross, sang two of his favourite songs during the service, which was conducted by the Rev Father Peter Walker. The chosen bearers were Ian Treloar, Nathan Pascoe, Simon Millington, Adam Moyle, Seth Bence and Steven Pawley, all school friends of Ross.

Family mourners:

Mrs T Ching, mother; Miss T Ching, sister; Mr P Cawley, grandad; Miss J Cawley, aunty; Mr and Mrs S Millington, aunt and uncle; Mr and Mrs J Harris, Mr and Mrs J Miners, Mrs R Shaw, Mrs S Lockyer, great uncles and great aunts; Mr and Mrs C Newsham, Miss M Hames, Master Mark Hames, Mr and Mrs P Williams, Mrs D Moore, Master L Moore, Mr and Mrs D Miners, Mr T Hunt, Mr and Mrs J Hunt, Master S Miners, Mr and Mrs B Miners, cousins; Jeremy Treloar, Robert Tremayne, Roger Thorpe, Daniel Hosking, Ricky Rosevear, very special friends.

Funeral Directors: F E Strike and Sons, Porthleven.

Family of injured teenager asks for support of friends

By Beverly Spina

THE family of a Porthleven teenager who was injured in a fatal road accident has appealed for friends to send him cards, letters and tapes.

Simon Jewell, aged 17, has been transferred to a specialist spinal injuries unit. He had not been discharged from Treliske, as a hospital spokesman reported in last week's issue, but had been transferred for specialist treatment and care.

Simon is likely to be in hospital for some time, his mother, Janet, said this week.

"Letters and cards to him are really important. He is still in

intensive care and if anyone can support him by sending messages, I would really appreciate it," she said.

Penny Miners, a close friend of the family, said: "As part of his therapy we would like people to let him know he is still cared about, thought of and needed."

Simon was driving a Ford Escort XR3 along the A394 Penzance to Helston road when the accident happened, one mile west of Porthleven, on September 12.

The crash claimed the life of rear-seat passenger Ross Ching, aged 16, of Thomas Street.

Simon's brother, Richard, aged 15, and Michael Ching (Ross's father), aged 40, also of Porthleven, received serious injuries and were taken to Treliske Hospital, Truro.

Richard is still a patient at Treliske.

Michael Ching was discharged from hospital last week.

● All post should be sent c/o Penny Miners at Trenance, Peverall Road, Porthleven, TR13 9DH.

Porthleven

Mrs D Williams presided over the Porthleven Methodist Church Ladies' Fellowship and warmly welcomed Mrs Gibson of Lelant who spoke on the colours of the rainbow. Paul Brown was the pianist and his wife, Shirley, sang a solo. Refreshments were served by Mrs Andrews and Mrs Williams.

Floral Club

Members of the Porthleven Floral Club welcomed the evening guest, Mrs Myrna Kendall from Nanpean, near St Austell and enjoyed watching her demonstrating six assorted arrangements. Mrs Kendall was thanked by Mrs Josephine Osborne. T

The evening competition winners for a petite arrangement were: beginners - gold, Mrs M Beach. Advanced - gold, Mrs M Liddell. Advanced - blue, Mrs R Williams. Advanced - red, Mrs J Tilsley.

12 SEPT 99

SEPTEMBER 30TH

SEPTEMBER 30TH

Roya

THE wedding of Louise Roche and Mr Johnath took place at Chapel, Chyn conducted by Daniel Reed Gilbert as org

The bride is the daughter of Mrs Jacqueli Porthleven and the youngest son of Christopher Win bridge.

Given away by the bride's mother, her brother attended by Suz Frances Downing took and Ashleigh with Jonathan Do

The best man was the groom's brother, Sally Gilks, Mari Richards.

The bride wore a beaded organza skirt and a quiet of white roses. The bridesmaids wore white sky-blue sashes.

The reception was held at the Varno Estate for 7 couples spent their honeymoon in Corsica.

The bridegroom is a leading air engineer with the Royal Navy. He works for an investment company in Porthleven. Photo

J

CHEF jailed
Crowd being
usually a
Descr
Mortin
Judge

Vandalism hits residents' pockets



● David and Andrew Taylor contemplate having to repair, yet again, vandalised fencing around the tennis courts. Picture - Colin Ross

EVERY time the tennis court at the Moors playing field, Porthleven, is vandalised it is the people of the port who have to pick up the bill for repairs.

That is the claim of David Taylor, the man who does running repairs for the town council, who is upset at the latest incident of damage which will cost council taxpayers at least £200.

The tennis club was disbanded two years ago because

By Beverly Spina

of insufficient membership, but the one court kept open has been repeatedly targeted by vandals.

Mr Taylor said: "There has been ongoing vandalism at the tennis courts but this latest incident is the worst yet."

He said several of the iron posts had been pushed to the ground and chain link fencing had been bent after being

pulled down by people jumping on it.

Four 40ft-long restraining wires which hold the nets in place had also been pulled out.

Vandals, who sit on the net, had pulled the bolts out from the mountings and these would have to be replaced.

"To replace just the netting will cost in the region of £200 and two days labour for two men," said Mr Taylor.

"The town council is in the process of putting a teenage

village there but people don't realise that this vandalism, on a regular basis, is costing them money. The public should be made aware of this constant damage."

Former town councillor Mike Carter said the former youth club had received a Lottery grant and funding from the town council and Kerrier council for a teenage village to be erected on the playing field site if planning permission were obtained.

Royal Navy mechanic marries

THE wedding of Miss Louise Roche Freeman and Mr Johnathon Winterton took place at Chynhale Chapel, Chynhale, and was conducted by the Rev. Daniel Reed with Mr John Gilbert as organist.

The bride is the only daughter of Mrs Jacqueline Freeman of Porthleven and the bridegroom is the youngest son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Winterton of Cambridge.

Given away by Mr Andrew Freeman, her brother, the bride was attended by Suzannah Beuttell, Frances Downing, Caitlin McLintock and Ashleigh Louise Freeman with Jonathan Downing as page.

The best man was Mr Paul Winterton and the ushers were Misses Sally Gilks, Marie Nute and Lisa Richards.

The bride wore a white dress with a beaded corset top and organza skirt and carried a bouquet of white roses. The bridesmaids wore white dresses with sky-blue sashes.

The reception was held at Trevarno Estate for 70 guests and the couple spent their honeymoon in Corsica.

The bridegroom is employed as a leading air engineer mechanic with the Royal Navy and the bride works for an investment research company in Porthleven.

Photographer: Bjorn Thomassen



Porthleven

Candlelight service

A candlelight service will be held at St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven, on Sunday, October 17 at 6pm to mark the start of One World Week in the style of the ecumenical community's worship at Taize in Burgundy, France. Everyone welcome.

Churchyard sale

The recent churchyard sale raised £128 for St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven.

Concert

A concert was given in St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven, by the St Keverne Male Voice Choir under their musical director, Ruth Martin and accompanist, Margaret Bilkey and raised £153 for the local A.R.C. The guest artistes were Betty Gilbert and Peggy Toy (duetists) and the chairman was Mr Philip Smith.

Wives Club

Mrs E Kitts presided over the first meeting of the winter session of the Porthleven Wives' Club and welcomed the evening's speaker, Mrs V Mostyn of Helston. Mrs Mostyn gave a very interesting and humorous talk on Cornwall - its food, people and places. She was thanked by Mrs Eleanor Goldenbaum. Refreshments of tea and homemade ginger breads were served by Joan Ford and June Birch.

Anniversary for bowling club

Porthleven Bowling Club has had a very enjoyable time in celebrating its ruby anniversary year. During the bowling season there have been representative matches against the South West Counties BA both men and ladies Cornwall president's teams and both men and ladies Western Division teams.

SEPTEMBER

Jailed for 'wicked act'

CHEF Brian Mortimore was jailed for nine years at Truro Crown Court last week after being convicted of having sexually abused two girls.

Describing 40-year-old Brian Mortimore as a "practised liar", Judge Graham Cottle told him:

"The rape of a girl when she was aged nine or 10 was a wicked and depraved act which warrants a very substantial prison sentence.

"You must have instilled a considerable amount of fear into these two children you sexually abused."

Mortimore, who formerly lived near Hayle, had worked as a chef

at The Harbour Inn, Porthleven, for the past 11 years.

He was convicted by a 10-2 majority of rape and unanimously of three offences of indecent assault and two of indecency with a child. He was acquitted of a further indecent assault.

The jury returned their verdicts

after being in retirement for nearly five hours at the end of a three-day trial.

Mortimore had pleaded not guilty to all seven charges, denying that there was any truth in the allegations he faced.

He was ordered to register as a sex offender indefinitely.

PORTHLEVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Plan to register harbour land

PORTHLEVEN town councillors are going to find out if there is any possibility of registering the Harbour Head as a village green.

The suggestion was made by Gill Menhennet at last Thursday evening's council meeting. She said advice on a radio programme had said land could be registered as a village green, irrespective of who owned it, if it had been used as such for more than 12 years.

Clerk Elsie Balme pointed out that in fact the town council paid rent to the Harbour and Dock Company twice a year for the use of the land.

However, councillors agreed it was still worth exploring the possibility of registering the land, if it meant it could be protected from any future development.

● COUNCILLORS are going to try to organise a meeting between themselves, the National Trust and Kerrier Council to express their concerns about Carn Glaze steps.

They have been worried for a long time that without the steps, which have been eroded away, people on the beach have no emergency exit for some distance, if they are walking from the Loe Bar direction.

● THE county council is going to be asked to erect signposts pointing the way to the underused Shrubberies Hill car park and amenity area.

Gill Menhennet said there needed to be a sign showing the way there from Penrose Corner. Godfrey Stephens said there should also be a sign in the centre of the village. He said there was nowhere in the village which mentioned that the car park and amenity area existed.


● IT WILL cost around £15,000 to install street lighting in the Methleigh Bottoms area of Porthleven, and although it is still on the county council's current list of outstanding works, it may not be carried out in the foreseeable future.

The county has written to the town council pointing out that it has had to cut back its capital programme for street lights installation.

● FUTURE reports by town clerk Elsie Balme to members of the town council are going to be circulated with the agendas before the monthly meetings themselves.

But councillors agreed last Thursday that all the information contained within Mrs Balme's reports have to remain confidential among themselves until the meetings.

Copies of her report will then be available to the public and the press as they are now.



● Children at Porthleven School swapped their uniforms for their favourite football strips on Friday to raise £130 for the charity Shelter. The fund-raising event was organised by PE co-ordinator Clive Pickard, who invited members of Porthleven football team and parents along to coach the children. 'It was a super day. The weather was lovely and with 190 children on the school field there was an array of colour that was quite a spectacle,' he said. Picture - Colin Ross

Port development plan under threat

PORTHLEVEN could lose a planned investment of £4million - half from grants, half from the Harbour and Dock Company - unless Kerrier Council deals with the issue as a matter of urgency.

That is the view of Roy Bradbury, a former council officer and now one of the port's two elected representatives on the authority.

Mr Bradbury feels so strongly about the matter that he has already resigned from Porthleven Town Council of which he is an ex-chairman, following heated exchanges at site meetings in August.

The plan is to redevelop parts of the areas surrounding the harbour, to make changes to the harbour itself, and to provide new buildings on Breageside, including, possibly, a multi-purpose hall and cinema.

By Noel Perry

The plans, proposed by Harbour and Dock Company boss Trevor Osborne have split opinion in the fishing port.

Supporters feel investment is to be welcomed, objectors fear it will change the character of Porthleven, and others, while agreeing in principle, are concerned about the nature and scope of the proposals.

But Kerrier's employment and economic development committee has stopped short of supporting the plan, demanding further public consultation. This was despite a series of site meetings in August, followed by a two-hour public meeting in Porthleven and at least one debate in Kerrier's planning committee.

At this month's full Kerrier Council

meeting, Mr Bradbury said: "This is an opportunity Porthleven cannot afford to miss." He was also surprised that councillors had been "disappointed" at what they claimed was a lack of public consultation to date.

"Public consultation started in March with the town council and the public of Porthleven and I agree that it is vital. How far do we go? How much consultation do you want?" He urged the council to deal with the matter urgently "otherwise it might all fall through".

Rex Sadler, chairman of the economic committee, pointed out that members had agreed to support in principle regeneration throughout Kerrier.

But they also wanted to ensure that there was plenty of consultation so far as the Porthleven regeneration project was concerned because it was a very "delicate" matter for people living in the area.

OCTOBER 1999

Council is not for turning

PORTHLEVEN town councillors are not going to go out of their way to meet Trevor Osborne, owner of the village's Harbour and Dock Company, despite his requests to meet them.

They suspect Mr Osborne wants them to change their minds on recent decisions they have made over his plans for the harbour and harbourside.

They say they have already listened to him at length at public meetings and at other times and will not be changing their minds.

They are also wary, following a suggestion from councillor Godfrey Stephens, that any other meeting with Mr Osborne could be misconstrued as public consultation.

Kerrier Council has just decided not to back his application for grant money

By Muriel Cato

towards the £4million harbour project for the time being because of what it claims is a lack of public consultation - Mr Osborne has said the Harbour and Dock Company will put in half of the money.

Instead, after lengthy debate at their meeting last Thursday, councillors decided Mr Osborne should be invited to attend their next monthly meeting as a member of the public, using the public participation part of the agenda to say anything to them that he wants to.

They agreed he should be reminded of the council's standing orders rules, which limit the amount of time members of the public can speak.

One councillor Jim Stokes, however,

was not entirely happy with the attitude of his colleagues, and tried to get them to agree to set aside 15 minutes before the start of their next meeting for Mr Osborne to speak, but nobody seconded his proposal.

He pointed out: "I think we have a duty to listen to him as we are representatives of Porthleven people in general."

Before reaching their final decision others had also spoken about the possibility of meeting Mr Osborne, before changing their minds.

Charles Budd said Mr Osborne would "keep on pestering" unless town councillors met him. "We all have to live in this village and we do not want this air of him and us."

He said that if councillors agreed to meet Mr Osborne, he might be more inclined in the future to inform them in

advance of any proposals he had for the village. "What I would like to see from Mr Osborne is an overall plan of what he wants to do in Porthleven."

Michael Crowle, however, said there was nothing to stop Mr Osborne attending the council's monthly Thursday evening meetings, and he was welcome at any time. Jill Green pointed out that Mr Osborne tended to arrive in the village only at weekends. Several, including David Blanning, questioned what Mr Osborne wanted to talk to them about.

Clerk Elsie Balme said Mr Osborne might hope to prevail on the councillors to change their minds over his suggestion of a cinema at Breageside. By meeting him, she said, councillors might manage to persuade him towards their idea of having a maritime museum instead.

Body of missing angler identified

THE body of a Camborne man was recovered from the sea yesterday morning 18 hours after he was washed into the sea while fishing from rocks at Rinsey Head, near Porthleven.

The drowned angler has been identified as David Moore, aged 29, a family man, of Wheal Gerry, Camborne. His fishing partner, Darren Skewes, aged 26, of Cranfield Road, Camborne, was taken to West Cornwall Hospital, Penzance, suffering from minor injuries and shock.

The body was sighted in the area where rescue and emergency services were searching for the missing man, who was reported to have been swept into the sea at about 6pm on Tuesday evening.

The crew of a search and rescue Sea King helicopter, on a routine test flight from RNAS Culdrose, recovered the body and flew it to Treliske Hospital, Truro.

Emergency services earlier saturated the area after the alarm was raised by Mr Skewes, who was praised by coastguards for his quick response in getting help. He was reported to have been washed into the sea with Mr Moore but

By Noel Perry

managed to get ashore. He ran to a nearby farmhouse and telephoned Falmouth Coastguard. By that time, his friend had been in the water for about 25 minutes, said a coastguard spokesman.

Coastguards from Porthleven were quickly on the scene with extra teams drafted in from Mullion and Penzance.

Two lifeboats, police and a search and rescue helicopter from RNAS Culdrose, which also flew the injured man to hospital, were called in, too.

Steve Huxley, staff officer at Falmouth Coastguard, told *The West Briton* he did not believe the two anglers had been washed into the sea by a wave. "I think it was the sheer size of the tide. I don't think they did anything wrong, it was just an accident."

● The Penlee lifeboat, the *Mabel Alice*, returns to Newlyn for refuelling at nearly midnight on Tuesday, after a fruitless search for the missing angler.



● A Porthleven couple who met on Christmas Eve, 1948, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Monday. Donald and Sylvia Richards of Gibson Way held an open house for family and friends during the day and in the evening enjoyed a meal at the Harbour Inn with close family. Born in Porthleven, Mr Richards met his wife after she came down from Chesterfield, where she was born, to work as a nurse in the former Meneage House, Helston. The couple were married at Aldershot Register Office on October 25, 1949, and lived in Breage for a short time before moving to Porthleven. Mr Richards was a mason all his working life and took early retirement following a stroke at the age of 61. The couple have two sons, Stuart and David, and three grand-daughters. They enjoy walking every day, gardening and reading, and Mr Richards also enjoys making models.

CHYNHALE: Williams - Roberts



● Matthew Ian Williams, son of Andy Williams and Judy Mitchell, of Porthleven, and Sarah Anne Roberts, daughter of Geoff and Chris Roberts, of St Just, were married at Chynhale Methodist Chapel. The couple are both local government officers. Picture - Brian Errington

OCTOBER 1999



□ Philip Maddock buys a cake from stallholders Helen Smith, Joyce Jones and Sybil Mugford



□ Andrew and Steven Worden buying raffle tickets from Mamie Wright, Olive Hall and Pete Head

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Christmas Demonstrations of
Card making and Cake decorating

Church fair nets £1,088

AN autumn fair staged by St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven, on Saturday raised the impressive total of £1,088.

Organised by members of the church's social committee, the event attracted a large number of people to the village's public hall.

Those who attended enjoyed a wide variety of stalls, a raffle and refreshments.

Committee secretary Maureen Williams said the fair had been a great success.

"We are absolutely thrilled at the amount raised. A lot of hard work went into organising the event, in particular by the ladies who do the raffle, and it's nice to receive so much support from the community."

NOVEMBER.

Cakes and cuppas boost bazaar profit

HP THE PACKET Week ending November 27, 1999 19



CAKES and cuppas helped Porthleven Methodist Church funds raise \$600 at its Christmas bazaar. In the photograph at bottom left Tegan Shainberg, Dorothy Williams and Jan and Bill Kitchen enjoy a tea break at the bazaar while below the cake stall ladies pause for a group picture. They are Muriel Pearce, Gwen Bassell, Enid Pascoe, Margaret Pascoe and Marilyn Williams



Signing session for Pat



THE Parchment craft author, Pat Hosking, was in Porthleven's new art supplies and craft shop *Creations* for a signing of her latest book. A farmer's wife from St Martin, she has been doing Pergamano for over five years. She has had to extend her day at both ends to meet the increasing demands of her hobby. The delicate art of pricking, embossing and colouring parchment has increased in popularity. Pat has gone from beginner to author within two years and it has taken her to many

places including Holland, Belgium and all over the UK. Mrs Hosking is a member of the Parchment Craft Guild of the UK and has had to submit her work for assessment by the elite of the Pergamano world to achieve that membership. There was a wide variety of her work on view at *Creations* and both books and equipment are on sale in the shop.

ABOVE: Pat, left, with Jane Shaneberg, proprietor of *Creations*

NOVEMBER 1999

Douglas was a lay reader

St Bartholomew's Church, Porthleven, was full for the funeral service of Mr Douglas Merrick Pawlby, aged 82, who died at West Cornwall Hospital. The service was conducted by Rev. Father Peter Walker, and the organist was Dr John Landsdown. Cremation followed at Penmount, Truro.

Mr Pawlby was born in Plymouth and attended High Park School and Technical College, and on leaving was a youth training engineer with the post office. He met his wife Joan and was married on St George's Day in 1941. He worked at Bishop Wallham, Southampton, in radio security. During the early years of the war he was at Kentin, Middlesex, then moved to Rugby, Criggon in Shropshire, Bodmin Radio Station and then to Goonhilly for 30 years, until retirement. He was a lay reader at St Bartholomew's Church, and loved painting and carving, and a lot of his work can be seen at St Bartholomew's Church and at his home.

During his life he had served on many committees, including the British Foreign Bible Society, and while at Bodmin Radio Station he helped in the Bugle pantomime, but his main concern was for helping the handicapped at the Murdock Centre in Redruth. He loved his Christian work and was on the Parochial Church Council.

Mr and Mrs Pawlby celebrated their golden wedding in 1991. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. The chosen bearers were Mr Christopher Rowe, former colleague at Goonhilly Radio Station, Mr Ron Mildren, former colleague at Goonhilly Radio Station and at St Sithney Church, Mr Vic Strike, friend and member of St Bartholomew's Church, and Mr Phillip Smith, churchwarden at St Bartholomew's Church.

Family mourners:

Mrs Joan Pawlby, widow; Ian and Susan Pawlby, son and daughter-in-law; Hannah, Andrew and Lucy, grandchildren; Mr and Mrs W Fox-Smith, Mr M Fox-Smith, Mr and Mrs R Dawe, Mr S Pullen, Mr J Pullen, Mr and Mrs M Picron, Mr and Mrs M Palmer, Mr and Mrs V Woodlands, Miss H Jones and Peter, Mr and Mrs M Jones, nephews and nieces; Mr and Mrs J Apperley, Mr N Apperley, Mr H Apperley, Mrs Y Bellinger, Mrs G Russell, Mr and Mrs F Bravery, Mr and Mrs A Oliver, Mr and Mrs H Barrett, Dr L Miller and Mrs M Hooper, family friends; represented Goonhilly Radio Station, Sithney Church Women's Day of Prayer, St Bartholomew's Church, Helston, St Michael's Church.

Funeral Directors: E C Mildren, Trelean, Sithney.

Amy's community work recognised



● One of those unsung but vital volunteers who enrich the life of any community was officially thanked and recognised by Porthleven Town Council on Thursday. Amy Williams, who lives at Torleven View, received a plaque, awarded by the town council to individuals whom it considers have benefited the port and its people. Amy was honoured for her work over several years in raising money for Porthleven Town Band, often collecting, as council chairman Katherine Williams put it, 'in terrible weather no-one else would go out in'. Mrs Williams also referred to all the other things Amy had done for the port and the community services she provided. Present to watch Amy receive her plaque were her sisters Joyce Rogers and Marie Williams, and her nephew Andrew Rogers. Mrs Rogers said Amy was also dedicated to St Bartholomew's Parish Church, where she was a server. She also made toys for fund-raising, and did a lot in Porthleven for elderly people.

Picture - Colin Ross

Peters' pasties: Contest between men extended to whole community



● Tucking into their culinary creations are Peter Toy (left) and Peter Collins, watched by the man who had the difficult choice of deciding which pasty was best, Stephen Nicholas, manager of the Atlantic Inn, Porthleven.

Picture - Colin Ross

PUB manager Stephen Nicholas has come up with a peaceful way of solving a difference of opinion between customers at the Atlantic Inn, Porthleven.

Those who have been arguing about who can make the better pasty are now being asked to settle it by entering

the Proper Pasty championships, to be held on Sunday at 8.30pm.

Peter Toy and Peter Collins claimed that they could make a pasty "as good as anyone", and each brought in one of their home-made pasties to be judged on appearance, style of crimping and taste by five

other customers. Both men earned 17 points but Mr Collins won by virtue of the fact the meat in his pasty was more tender.

The fun contest between the two men created such interest that Mr Nicholas decided to hold a competition open to everyone and raise money for

the village at the same time.

He said: "We have had about 20 entries so far. Anyone can enter a pasty and it doesn't matter what filling is used. It will be judged on its appearance and taste."

The competition is £1 to enter and pasties will be

judged in categories, including one for the worst pasty.

All proceeds will go towards the Porthleven Harbour Christmas lights.

Anyone who would like to enter or would like more details should contact Mr Nicholas on 01326 562439.

Big charity 'do' planned

A CHARITY evening at the Ship Inn, Porthleven, next month will round off a year that has seen the village's branch of the RNLI raise almost £7,000.

Colin and Chris Oakden, who run the Ship, will be hosting the event on December 3 with the aim of adding to that impressive total.

The evening will feature an auction, raffle and music from Pete the Fish and The Backroom Boys.

Members of the Port Isaac lifeboat crew will be on hand to join in the fun.

RNLI branch members hope the

event improves on the success of a similar evening at the Ship last year which raised funds for the charity.

That followed an incident in which Mr and Mrs Oakden's son-in-law Mike Edkins, a member of Port Isaac's inshore lifeboat crew, played a vital part in a dramatic rescue on the North Cornish coast.

The Porthleven branch has raised £6,853 so far this year - more than £5,000 of that at a highly successful Lifeboat Day in August.

Other fundraising events have included a slide-show on the village presented by Phyllis Arthur and a coffee morning and raffle at The Copper Kettle.

DECEMBER

PORTHLEVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Anyone for tennis? No room for a band

PORTHLEVEN Town Band is looking for a site for a new bandroom and has suggested to the town council the remaining half of the old tennis court.

Town clerk Elsie Balme advised members that this would not be legally feasible.

She said: "The whole of the land on which the tennis courts are is a registered charity, under the terms of which there must be unlimited access for the general public, not exclusive use by any one group."

She added: "I cannot think of any other piece of land over which this council has any control and I propose to explain to the band, with regret, that we cannot help in this particular matter."

Godfrey Stevens proposed the matter should be taken on as a community project for Objective One funding.

- Councillor Jim Stokes is proposing to reinstate the Porthleven branch of the Royal British Legion. He told the council that, initially, 15 members were needed.

- A request for wheelchair access to the area by the old people's shelter is to be looked into by Trevor Osborne, of the Porthleven Harbour and Dock Company.

- Porthleven Bowling Club is proposing to spend £1,500 on a new watering system to maintain the playing surface during dry weather. This will require the building of two small walls next to the shed near the pavilion to support a water tank.

- Councillors have fixed a price for the sale of millennium mugs at £3.50 each. Members were told the majority of the town's children have now received their mugs.

- Members have set the precept for the coming financial year at £32,850, an increase of 22 per cent on last year's figure of £26,250.

Charles Budd said for a number of years the town council had kept the precept lower than it actually should have been.

"We have been falling behind with the amount needed to keep a village of this size going. The figure needs to be raised to do what we've got to do. We are just getting back to what we should have been," he said.

David Blanning and Godfrey Stephens voted against the proposal.

- The name of Alfred Moyle Trethewey is to be added to the war memorial in Porthleven following a request from councillor Michael Crowle.

Members of the town council were told Mr Trethewey was an able or leading seaman who was born in the village and lived at Keeper's Cottage.

He was serving on board HMS Heckla which was torpedoed by a U-boat off Cape St Vincent on November 11, 1942, and sank on November 12.

Culdrose teams busy for Children in Need



PERSONNEL at RNAS Culdrose were among the thousands of people in Cornwall taking part in events last week to raise funds for the BBC Children in Need appeal.

Seven hardy volunteers from the Helston air station braved gale-force winds to stage a 36-hour sponsored sit-in (above and top left) in Porthleven harbour which raised over £600.

Holed up in their ten-man liferaft, the group had to abandon plans to set up camp further out to sea, and were even forced to retreat to the inner harbour at one stage when conditions became too poor.

The six men and one woman - all, appropriately enough, from the survival section at Culdrose - were led by Petty Officer Tab Hunter, who dreamed up the fund-raising stunt.

The others were Petty Officer Smudge Smith, Leading Airman Paddy McNirlan, Leading Airman Chopper Hilton, Naval Airman Dan Cameron, Naval Airman Dougy Douglas and Wren Steph Jones.

There was an even more unusual sight on one of the base's runways, as teams from across the establishment took part in a fancy dress three-legged egg and spoon race (above).

Organised by personnel from the sports section, the event raised around £150 for the appeal.

Other activities staged for Children in Need included a slave auction at O'Donovans in Coinagehall Street, Helston, and a collection at Wendron School's millennium musical.

Several schools in the area held a non-uniform day on Friday, including Parc Eglos primary in Helston which raised £78 for the appeal.



□ Port Isaac lifeboat crew Paul Pollington, Micheal Edkins and Kevin Dingle.

Pub hosts RNLI charity evening

A SUCCESSFUL year of fundraising by the Porthleven and district branch of the RNLI was rounded off last Friday with a charity evening at the village's Ship Inn.

Hosted by landlords Colin and Chrissy Oakden, the event, which featured an auction, raffle and music from Pete the Fish and The Backroom Boys, followed a similar evening held at the pub just over a year ago in aid of the RNLI.

That followed an incident in which Mr and Mrs Oakden's son-in-law Michael Edkins, formerly of Porthleven, together with other members of Port Isaac's inshore lifeboat crew, played a vital part in a dramatic rescue on the north Cornish coast.

Mr Edkins, and other crew members, joined in the fun at Friday's event, which raised around £470.

That sum means the Porthleven branch has raised more than £7,000 for the RNLI over the past 12 months.



□ Colin and Chrissy Oakden, of the Ship Inn with daughters Nikki and Katie and their respective partners



● The weather might have been filthy on Friday night but the Christmas lights committee at Porthleven did its considerable best to brighten up the port. It was the annual switch-on of Porthleven's lights, which festoon the harbour. George Shipman, a committee member, paid tribute to the fund-raising and organising abilities of chairman Ken Milburn. Mr Shipman added that, although there was little new in this year's display, upgrading of it had continued throughout the year. The original intention was to precede the switch-on with the traditional parade from St Bartholomew's Parish Church where there was a Christingle service involving many local children. Pictured with the Rev Peter Walker are (from left) Alison and Oliver Leaver, and Zoe and Eloise Roseby. However, Mr Shipman said: 'It was such a filthy night, we couldn't ask children to parade from the church.' As a result, Father Christmas visited them there, rather than on the harbour head, where the switch-on took place, and distributed sweets. Pictures - Colin Ross



Early test for Porthleven's flood scheme



PORTHLEVEN'S £500,000 flood defence scheme was put to the test on Friday when a torrential downpour signalled its official opening.

Local MP, Andrew George, was joined by town council chairman, Katherine Williams, as he braved the driving rain to unveil a specially commissioned plaque in the harbour car park.

Completed earlier this year, the scheme was drawn up mainly in response to severe flooding six years ago, which left more than a dozen residential and commercial properties knee-deep in mud and water.

The deluge of June 1993, when five inches of rain fell in ten hours, overwhelmed the old pipe culvert meant to take the Porthleven

By Laura Parsons

stream safely around the harbour. The Environment Agency appointed consultants to advise on the best way of overcoming the problems and the current series of banks, ramps, walls and a new culvert were the result.

Unveiling the plaque, Mr George said: "The people of Porthleven have had to endure flooding and the threat of flooding for many years. I only hope they can put the 1993 disaster behind them and look forward to a more secure future."

● Pictured, right, in front of the commemorative plaque, are Andrew George MP, Katherine Williams, chairman of Porthleven town council, and Deborah Clark, chairman of the Environment Agency's regional flood defence committee.

Praise for man who organised memorial

THERE was widespread praise from top officers and, especially, the families, for the tireless work of Jim Moran in initiating and overseeing the provision of the commemorative plaque for PCs Martin Reid and Joe Childs at Porthleven.

PC Moran who, for many years, was based in Helston and was also on patrol the day his two colleagues died, organised fundraising for the inscribed stone immediately following a ceremony to mark the 20th anniversary of the officers' deaths last year.

The money required was soon raised from a number of public and private sources.

And Monday's ceremony went ahead in bright sunshine, showery rain keeping a respectful distance for its duration.

Jim said afterwards that it had gone better than he had dared hope for: "I am very pleased. I think the two officers deserve the memorial. It has been a long time coming."

PC Reid's mother Pamela, his brother Jeremy and Jeremy's son Thomas (12), spoke of their gratitude to Jim.

And Joe Child's daughter Dianne - whose sister Kate was unable to attend through ill health - said of Jim: "He has always been there and kept mum (Deirdre Childs) informed of progress. He has been an absolute star."

Following the unveiling ceremony, a reading by the Lord Lieutenant Lady Mary Holborow and a minute's silence, wreaths were laid by Jim, Thomas Reid and retired Helston police officer Bill Pankhurst.

Also in attendance were many former Helston officers, including Ron Dray, Clive Archbold, Dennis Harry, Dick Hosking, serving officers such as John Liddicoat and Bob Woods, and senior officers, Chief Supts Phil Bunt and Bob Sturland among them.



TO COMMEMORATE
POLICE CONSTABLES
JOE CHILDS and MARTIN REID
Who drowned on the night of the
13th December 1978
when their police car was swept into the Harbour
during a violent storm

THE bravery of two police officers was recognised by Devon and Cornwall Police's Chief Constable John Evans at a special ceremony at Porthleven on Monday.

He was at the fishing port to take part in the unveiling of a plaque to two Helston-based officers, Joe Childs and Martin Reid, who died when their patrol car was washed into the harbour almost exactly 21 years previously.

PCs Childs and Reid had been at Porthleven making sure people were safe on the night when winds of 80mph plus and high seas swept the south Cornish coast.

Mr Evans told the men's relatives, colleagues past and present, assembled digni-

taries (including both the Lord Lieutenant, Lady Mary Holborow and her deputy, David Roberts) and the public that the tragedy had been humbling.

Not only had it been a reminder of the force of nature, it also illustrated the service

provided by the police to their community.

"This was a reminder of the dedication to duty of our police officers. Their loss was a tragedy. That they should have died while serving their community is something for which we should all feel justly proud."

The plaque, inset into the harbour wall near where the men's patrol car was later found, was

unveiled by Dianne Whight, PC Child's daughter and Pamela and Jeremy Reid, PC Reid's mother and brother.

Mrs Reid travelled 900 miles from the north of Scotland to be present, Mr Reid from Hertfordshire and Dianne from Derbyshire.

Mr Reid, speaking for the families, thanked everyone for taking time off in their busy sched-

ules to attend. "We are very proud of our men and that a permanent memorial has been erected."

And police chaplain Bill Reid, in his address said these two men who were being brave were simply doing what they were on that night.

Ceremony salutes bravery of officers

By Noel Perry

Chief constable pays tribute to officers who died serving community



Two policemen die in night of storms

By STEPHEN IVALL

TRAGEDY struck the Helston area this week after the bodies of two local policemen were found in Porthleven Harbour.

Police constable Joseph James Childs, aged 30, married with two daughters, aged 10 and 12, and police constable Martin Ross Reid, aged 26, and married, drowned after it is believed their panda patrol car was washed into the sea by strong waves. Bodies of both policemen were found in the inner harbour after the 15ft, overnight tide had

Their patrol car was later found upside down in 10ft of murky water just outside the inner harbour wall. It was recovered by police frogmen, who hitched a chain to the underside. Local boatmen used a nearby derrick to hoist it clear, and police vehicle examiners then took over.

DISASTER

News of the disaster soon spread and the whole community was visibly shocked by the tragedy. The search for the two constables had been going on since the early hours of the morning. PC Childs and PC Reid were on night duty in their panda car, and were



PC Childs



PC Reid

Plaque is permanent memorial to constables

Post Office staff say goodbye to Pam

THERE was a special delivery for a popular counter clerk at Helston Post Office to mark the occasion of her retirement.

A bunch of flowers presented by postmaster Dave Gilbert brought an appreciative smile from Pam Pascoe, who is stepping down from her duties after more than 18 years at the Coinagehall Street post office counter.

Pam, 60, who lives in Wheal Rose, Porthleven, has mixed emotions on her retirement - she is pleased to have time to relax and enjoy herself but is a little sad to leave behind her colleagues and customers she has known over the years.

She told the *Packet*: "I have enjoyed meeting the public and made loads of friends. I can honestly say I have enjoyed the job - it is very interesting, very complex and each day was a challenge."

Pam praised Dave and Sarah Gilbert, who took over the post office around a year ago, for the team spirit and the great atmosphere they have helped create.

Born in Porkellis, Pam is a former pupil of Halwin CP School and Helston Grammar School and moved to Porthleven in 1961.

She first worked part-time at the sub-post office at Porthleven in 1970, where she worked for postmistress Millie Vincent.

Her other post masters before the Gilberts were Roy Treloar, then Colin and Hazel Payne.

Pam has two daughters, Helen and Ann, and six grandchildren - Mark, Simon, Jenny, Beth, Alan and Katie.

In her retirement Pam and her partner Chris, 60 and a former lorry driver, intend to travel to the southern states of the USA and visit a cousin in Canada.

It is the first time the pair have been abroad and as both are keen country and western fans they are looking forward to a "good ole time."

Among Pam's favourite artists are Willy Nelson, Charlie Pride and Dolly Parton but the tops to her is George Jones.

She is also a keen gardener and will have plenty to keep her busy.

"I have mixed feelings about leaving but it is the right time to go and I know that I can come in anytime and get a warm welcome."

Mr Gilbert said he was sad to lose her as an employee but added that Pam was very much a friend and it would be difficult to replace her as she was popular with both staff and customers.

"There is always a smile on her face and she is always courteous to the customers - a real asset to the post office.

"Most people have good days and bad days but Pam seems only to have good ones."



□ Pam receives her retirement bouquet from Dave Gilbert



Natalie Barber

DECEMBER 1999.

□ Studying the behaviour of elephants at a Devon zoo inspired a 22-year-old Porthleven woman to take up a voluntary teaching post at a remote school in western Africa. Natalie Barber (pictured) travelled to Ghana to take up a two-year post teaching science at Hole secondary school.

Garden would be nice - but not proposed 'sculpture park'

From Phyllis Arthur, Colarth, Unity Road, Porthleven.

I refer to the report in the Helston Packet on January 1 in respect of Frankie's Allotment and the proposed Millennium Garden, at Breageside, Porthleven. As one of the original committee members appointed by Porthleven Millennium Trust to suggest a suitable scheme for "Frankie's Allotment", I feel that certain matters mentioned in your report need to be clarified.

The sum mentioned (£174,000) is not the amount allocated for the development of the gardens - approximately £35,000 of that amount relates to other small improvements in the village. Provision has been made at the gardens for an access for the disabled but, as the gradient of the land is steep, some parts will not be accessible to them. The gardens should be an area where residents and visitors alike will be able to sit and enjoy the wonderful views - and they have been planned knowing that they lie within the Porthleven Conservation Area and that there are residences nearby.

Having been born in Porthleven and having lived here all my life, I would certainly not support anything which I feel would not be acceptable to the village as a whole. A "sculpture park" is some-

thing I have been against from the beginning of the project.

The current proposal is for one sculpture (modern) to be sited at the lower part of the garden with occasional flood-lighting. No other lighting has been provided. There are other areas where, in the future, local craftspeople might want to exhibit but at present this has not been approved.

The proposed steps are one condition of the funding and the plans have been drawn up to restrict access from and to the nearby public house. Access gates to the garden and steps are to be locked overnight. The plants which should need little maintenance have been selected for a garden which will be subjected to the strong winds and salt air which are part of our "heritage". The paths will be of a shingle nature set in a resin base ie low maintenance. More "grassed area" would require frequent maintenance thus increasing the cost to council taxpayers.

The strip of land earmarked for "future development" has nothing to do with the "Millennium Gardens" and would be subject to a planning application to Kerrier Council. As it falls within the Conservation Area, such application would, too, be open for public inspection and comment.

Iona was well known for visiting the sick

THE funeral service took place at Porthleven Methodist Chapel of Mrs Iona Beatrice Ward Gluyas, who was 94 and died at Godolphin House.

The Rev Ormesher conducted the service and the Rev Gerald Williams, a former minister at Peverell Road Chapel and a regular visitor to Godolphin House, spoke of Mrs Gluyas and how she will long be remembered by those who knew her in the village of Porthleven and beyond.

Mrs Gluyas, known as Iona or Auntie Iona, was born in Porthleven and was the third child of the late Mr and Mrs John Colman, a well-known Porthleven family. She attended Porthleven Board School after which she worked in various net-making factories in Porthleven making and repairing fishing nets and garden netting.

For most of her life, Iona lived in the village only leaving during the Second World War when her late husband had to work in Charlestown. Iona and Lawry

were a devoted couple and were well-respected in the village. Shortly before Lawry died in 1991, they celebrated their Diamond Wedding and received a telegram from the Queen.

Iona attended the former Peverell Road Chapel in Porthleven and was a member of the choir from the age of 14 until shortly before the chapel closed in 1989. She taught in the Sunday school - many former pupils attended the funeral service.

Iona was a member of the Senior Guild and was well-known for visiting the sick and housebound in the village. She was a founder member of the former Over 50 Club and until she left Porthleven to live at Godolphin House seven years ago she regularly attended the Age Concern meetings.

Suitable music and family favourite hymns - *When we walk with the Lord* and *Simply trusting every day* - were played at the organ by Mr John Gilbert. Interment followed at Porthleven Cemetery.

Donations were for The Friends of

Helston Community Hospital. Chosen bearers were B Laity, D Mitchell, B Orchard and B Pyle.

Family mourners: Miss P Arthur, niece rep Mrs E Colman, sister-in-law, Australia; Messrs and Mesdames W C Williams rep Mr and Mrs L J Colman, Australia, C Williams, J C Nicholls rep Mr and Mrs J Thompson, Misses C and V Nicholas and Mr A Nicholas, T P Richards rep Mr S Richards, M Tregembo rep Misses C and H Tregembo, N Richards, Mrs L Martin rep Mr B Martin and Mr T Williams, nephews and nieces; Mrs S Chegwiddden rep Mr W C Chegwiddden, Mr R Glasson rep Mr and Mrs R Jewell, Mesdames E Lugg, A Phillips, V Newbury, M Williams, Miss G Curnow, Messrs and Mesdames E Williams, K Bawden, W T Reed, Messrs G Williams, I Wright, Mesdames C Scott, R Sjolholm, cousins; Mr J T Pascoe, Mrs M Hatton, cousins unable to attend. Also represented was Godolphin House, Mr Hare and Mrs C Fineren.

Funeral directors: F E Strike and Sons, Porthleven.

2000.

Skies explode as new millennium welcomed

AT the stroke of midnight the skies over Helston and The Lizard exploded in a blaze of colour as revellers in towns and villages throughout the region welcomed in the new millennium.

The long-awaited year 2000 had arrived, and young and old were determined to celebrate in style – the main ingredients being fireworks, fun and plenty of bubbly.

With many people opting for private parties, some pubs in the main towns reported a relatively quiet night, while others in more remote villages were packed to bursting.

With no special celebration arranged for the townspeople, Helston's streets were said by some to be quieter than last year, while Porthleven, which laid on a spectacular fireworks display at midnight, was heaving.

There was a mixed reaction from landlords in Helston, where some charged revellers an entry fee and others welcomed anyone who

By Laura Parsons

could get in the doors.

One particularly satisfied landlord was Les Jarvis of the Red Lion in Church Street, which remained open until 6am on New Year's Day.

"It was a superb night for me," said Mr Jarvis. "We were packed out all night, and I think the best decision I made was not to charge."

"I'd originally planned to close at 3am, but I just couldn't disappoint all the people in the pub, so I let some of my staff go home and two of us carried on until 6am."

Mr Jarvis laid on around £800-worth of fireworks as a "token of appreciation" to customers, and many Helstonians said this week the Red Lion was the place to be on the big night.

Also satisfied with their evening were staff at the Angel, in Coinagehall Street, which charged £5 to get in and held a disco in the hotel, which was spectacularly decorated in a millennium theme.

"It was very success-

ful – the best New Year's Eve we've had," said the hotel's Karen Jones.

"We were perhaps not as busy as in previous years, but there were more than enough people to have a lovely atmosphere, and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves."

Spider Kelly, landlord of the Rodney Inn in Meneage Street, said the evening had been much the same as other New Year's Eves.

"We were about as busy as normal. There wasn't any marked increase because it was the millennium. We were open until 4am and didn't charge anyone to come in. It all went very well – there was no trouble here, and I didn't hear of any in the town."

At O'Donovans in Coinagehall Street customers were charged £10, which included a free drink and buffet.

"We were not as busy as expected, but the ones who were here thoroughly enjoyed themselves," said Sue Heath.

"I think a lot of people decided to go to pri-

vate parties because they'd have had to pay so much for babysitters."

Firework displays across Helston and The Lizard out-did those of November 5, with the bangs and flashes continuing for several hours into the new millennium.

One of the best was laid on by the Porthleven Lights Association, where people lined the harbourside to watch a display which began as the last stroke of midnight died away.

The skies were also lit up by a number of millennium beacons, which formed part of a nationwide chain of 2,000 scheduled to all be ablaze as the 21st century began.

Helston lit one at 5pm on New Year's Eve, and another was lit on Tregonning Hill, between Germoe and Ashton, where beacons used to be lit for centuries to guide ships.

A service of light was held in historic St Germoe Church, and special services were held in other churches across the area – many of which rang bells at midnight to welcome in 2000.

New gallery opens with display by local artist

A NEW gallery in Porthleven has marked its opening – and the start of a new millennium – with a highly successful exhibition by local artist David Hosking.

Throwing open its doors for the first time on Boxing Day, the harbour-side Net Loft Gallery attracted more than 200 visitors on the first day of the two-week exhibition.

The ideal start for a venue that looks set to become a real asset to Porthleven, the inaugural show also provided a financial boost to one of the village's most deserving charities.

Representatives of the local branch of the RNLI were at the gallery last week to receive the £115 proceeds from a raffle for one of David's paintings, which was won by Paul Harris, of Dorset.

RNLI treasurer Mike Carter said the generous donation was a welcome start to a year in which the branch holds its 25th Lifeboat Day.

The charity was perhaps an obvious choice for an artist who features boats in the majority of his richly coloured, semi-abstract paintings.

A resident of Porthleven since 1976, David turned to art full-time four years ago, after giving up a career in teaching which included 25 years at St Michael's School in Helston.

Since deciding to devote all his time to painting, David has seen his reputation take off and his work attract a wide following, with sales as far afield as Brazil, Los Angeles and Australia.

His compositions are inspired by everyday scenes – often the picturesque one on his own front doorstep – but it is the striking use of colour that makes them instantly recognisable.

"It's the colour that excites me now," he said. "Increasingly I find the composition is becoming more of a framework for the colour."

"My work used to be much more subdued, but since '95, when I've had more time to devote to it, it's got brighter and brighter."

The eye-catching pieces were certainly an ideal choice for a gallery choosing to hold its inaugural exhibition over a grey, damp Christmas and New Year period.

Gallery owner Bob Hood, who has shown David's work in the adjacent Old Customs House Studio since it opened four years ago, said the artist was an obvious choice to launch his new venture.

"I opened the Net Loft because the local artists who exhibit in the studio kept asking for more space. David has been with me since the studio opened, and in that time has really made a name for himself. People came down from London especially to see the show and it was a great success."

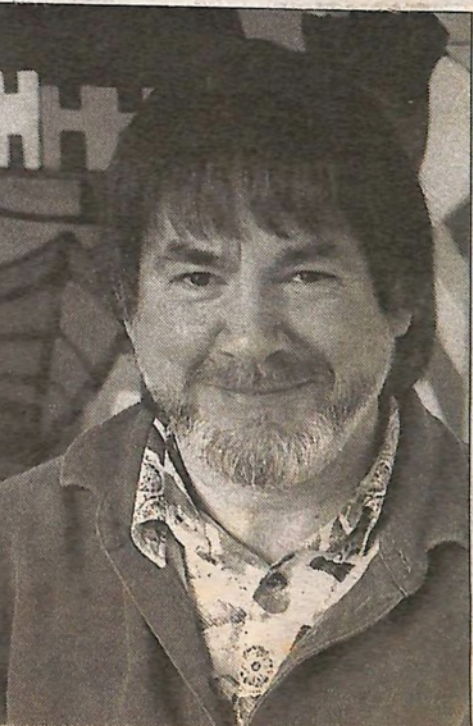
"This is Porthleven's only exhibition gallery and I hope it will be a real asset to the village. Local people who have come in have been very complimentary, and their comments have made us feel it's all been worthwhile."

Local artists including Helen Atkins, Jim Tinley, Robert Bell and Gilly Johns are already scheduled to hold exhibitions at the Net Loft, which was set up in a former chandlers.

Already well-known in the county, their work will also be reaching a world-wide audience, since the gallery has its very own web site.

Three of David's paintings were sold on the internet during the recent exhibition, and Bob is hopeful the web site will bring wider, and well deserved, recognition to talented Cornish artists.

● The gallery's next exhibition, from March 4 to 31, is of Butterworth World War Two political cartoons, and will include a unique sale of limited edition prints.



□ Artist David Hosking

Bank to close branches in two villages

THE planned closure of banks in Porthleven and Mullion has been greeted with dismay by local people, one of whom described the news as "another blow to the rural economy".

Lloyds TSB are to close sub-branches in both villages in April due to "declining usage" – the Mullion branch on April 13 and Porthleven's the following day.

Currently open for only around six hours a week, the banks nonetheless provide a vital service to two villages with ageing populations and a strong sense of community.

Porthleven councillor Godfrey Stephens condemned the planned closures.

"It's another blow to the rural economy. They can make the figures read what they want when the banks are only open for a few hours each week."

"Perhaps if they were open longer they'd have more customers and there wouldn't be an excuse to close them."

By Laura Parsons

Town centre branch safe for time being

Mr Stephens said a petition should be started to fight the decision.

"We should get up two petitions – one to try and save the bank, and one to at least get a cash machine if they do close it down."

"They talk about banking by phone or on the internet, but tell that to somebody who's 75 years of age and never done it in their lives."

"We have an ageing population in Porthleven, and people value the personal touch when they go into the bank in the village."

There is a cash machine in Porthleven supermarket, but Mr Stephens said it was often when the supermarket was closed that people needed money.

"People have awful trouble getting cash out-of-hours down here. We have hundreds of visitors passing through the village and there should be somewhere for them to get money."

Two years ago, Porthleven town council asked all the major banks if they would be willing to install a cashpoint but the request was turned down.

Town band facing up to 'lingering death' over lack of premises

PORTHLEVEN Town Band could suffer a "lingering death" if it does not soon find new premises.

That was the stark message from secretary Peter Boyd, who said the 100-year-old band "desperately" needed to attract and retain new players, but was instead losing members because of the condition of the current band room.

Rented from the Porthleven Harbour and Dock Company, the premises, on Salt Cellar Hill, lack basic facilities such as toilets and heating.

"Last year we attracted four new players, but lost more, and a good part of the reason for that was the state of the band room, which is a dilapidated, run-down, damp and fairly miserable property," Mr Boyd told town councillors.

"The lack of facilities also means we can't take advantage of any lottery funding.

We have to find new accommodation, and the options are few and far between."

Following a failed attempt to bid for the former Sunday School in Fore Street, the band identified the disused tennis courts on the village's recreation ground as a possible site for a new building.

By Staff Reporter

That suggestion was considered by town councillors in December, when they were advised it would not be legally possible because the land on which the courts were located was a registered charity.

Under the terms of that charity, of which the councillors are trustees, the land is designated for "games and sports" and is not to be used exclusively by any one group.

At last week's council meeting, Mr Boyd said he had looked into the matter in depth and had been told by the Charity Commission there was "no problem whatsoever" with the band using part of the recreation ground.

"The town council has it within its power to make this land available to the band, and has the authority to allow us to erect a new band room," he said.

"It is entirely within your gift to secure the future of Porthleven Town Band for the next 100 years. If we do not secure a functional, modern room which will encourage new players to join, the band is in for a lingering death."

He estimated around half the area of the tennis courts would

be enough to build a single-storey band room, which would also be available for use by other sectors of the community.

But town clerk Elsie Balme maintained there were legal difficulties in allowing the band to use part of the land.

"The Charity Commission told me a rather different story," she said. "I'm sure the council would wish to help the band, but we have to go very carefully here because there are legal problems.

"This needs to be looked into in more detail, and it would be wiser to get written confirmation from the commission as to what the council can and can't do under the terms of the legal document."

Mrs Balme said since the land was originally acquired for sporting purposes, it might be more appropriate for the council to retain it for such use - perhaps as a small-scale skateboard park, or other facility.

Members acknowledged the need for the band to move from its current premises, which were described by one councillor as "the most depressing place I have ever seen".

It was decided to defer the matter until next month's council meeting.

A PROMINENT member of Porthleven's fishing community has called on town councillors to help protect the harbour he has worked from since he was eight years old.

Arthur Roberts, chairman of the Porthleven Fishermen and Boat Owners Association, said members were "deeply concerned" for the future of the harbour, in the light of re-development plans put forward by owner Trevor Osborne.

The association has long expressed its support for "lawful" development of the harbour - as determined under the 1869 Harbour Act - but has consistently opposed plans it says would restrict the movements of fishermen.

Those plans involve installing a new sill at the entrance to the inner harbour so as to retain water in it at all times - largely for the benefit of Nielsen's, a ship repair company planning to relocate to Porthleven.

At a council meeting last week, Mr Roberts told members the association had sought advice from MAFF and had come up with a solution that would give all parties "something to work on".

"Where Mr Osborne's original plan proposed a wall across the middle of the harbour, we would propose a sill at the same level as the sill in the entrance to the gap that the barks rest on when they are down.

"That would allow free access for fishermen and boatowners to go aground on the mud at the deeper end of the harbour. The top end could be dredged to allow vessels to remain afloat for Mr Nielsen."

Mr Roberts said the harbour - and the fishermen that worked it - were the life-blood of Porthleven and the reason many people visited the village.

"They don't come to see yachts. They can see them anywhere," he said. "We are deeply concerned the harbour will lose its character and we will no longer have the ability to work this harbour in the way we have done for generations.

"I first went to sea as a young lad of eight or nine, and I think I have sufficient experience to know how fishing boats need to work this harbour."

He added that rumours were circulating in the village about development plans being altered and going ahead without consultation, as appeared to be the case for Frankie's Allotment - land also owned by Mr Osborne.

"We are concerned something is going on with the harbour that we know nothing about," said Mr Roberts.

Town's post office willing to house cash machine

FOLLOWING the announcement that Lloyds Bank intends to close its branch in Porthleven, the council is to get up a petition in favour of installing a cash machine in the village.

Godfrey Stephens said the Royal Bank of Scotland would consider supplying a cash-point, but would need a petition in support of the idea.

He added that a site had already been identified because the post office was willing to have the machine put in its wall.

Planned strategy document

Town clerk Elsie Balme has set up a database for ideas that may be included in Porthleven's planned strategy document.

Among items suggested so far are improved lighting in the village centre and the possibility of the council acquiring its own car park - both of which came from harbour owner Trevor Osborne.

Mrs Balme said she was recording any ideas passed on to her, which would then be considered by those working on the document.

Teenage village

An architect is drawing up plans for a £7,000 "teenage village" structure to be located near the old toilets on the recreation ground.

Mike Carter told members he had extended the funding deadline and the grant would not have to be returned to the lottery commission as long as it was spent by March.

January 2000.

Town will fight to preserve open spaces

PORTHLEVEN Town Council is to join the Open Spaces Society in a bid to protect parts of the village from development.

Gill Menhennet said membership meant the society would work on behalf of the council and supply information and advice where necessary.

The council recently looked into the possibility of registering the Har-

bour Head as a village green, but found that would not be an option because the land was leased.

Mrs Menhennet said the Harbour Head was the heart of the community and needed protecting, and the Open Spaces Society might be able to give valuable advice on the matter.

It will cost the council £10 to enrol, plus a £25 subscription fee.

Wall under terrace is dangerous

THE wall under Porthleven's Bay View Terrace is potentially dangerous and needs repairing but no-one will take responsibility for the work, town councillors heard last week.

Clerk Elsie Balme said a Kerrier engineer had inspected the wall and said one section of it presented a hazard.

Neither the owners of the houses above, nor the Porthleven Harbour and Dock Company, who own the road below, were willing to accept responsibility for the wall, added Mrs Balme.

"It's a disgrace. It's the last great eyesore remaining in the village, particularly in the middle where the pebbledash is coming off in chunks."

She suggested the council could include the rebuilding of the wall in its strategy document, which will form the basis of the community's bid for Objective One and other grant funding.

● Following complaints about sewage leaking into the road below the wall, Mrs Balme said South West Water had rectified the problem and any remaining seepage was surface water only.

Councillors say county should pay for crossing

PROVIDING a school crossing patrol in Porthleven is the responsibility of the county council and should be funded by that authority, town councillors have said.

Porthleven School has been without a lollipop person since Gloria Orchard left the job at the end of last year.

After reviewing the situation, the county council decided not to replace Mrs Orchard because there was insufficient use of the patrol, which is located at the top of Wellington Road.

Last year, a spokeswoman said the council would continue funding training and equipment for a patrol in Porthleven, if the lollipop person's wages were found elsewhere.

That situation works successfully in other places in the county, where town or parish councils, or a local business, have agreed to pay the wages.

Concerned for the safety of children on the main road into the village, school governors are keen to reinstate the patrol and asked town councillors if they would be willing to pay the wages.

At a meeting last week, David

Blanning said providing a patrol was the county council's responsibility.

"They have always provided patrols. They've never been provided by the town council, and I don't think we should pick up the tab for this."

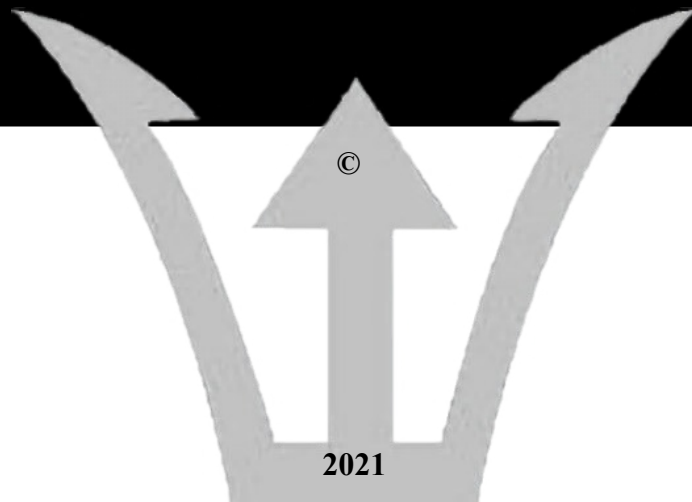
Clerk Elsie Balme said the county council had a "nasty habit" of trying to off-load its responsibilities onto smaller authorities.

Charles Budd added that even if only a few children used the crossing, one of them could still be knocked down on such a fast and busy road.

**PAT ADAMS PRIVATE COLLECTION
24 SCRAPBOOKS IN TOTAL FROM**

1972 TO 2015

PORTHLEVEN MUSEUM



● Chairman Roy Bradbury presents a town plaque to Mike Carter in recognition of his contribution to the lives of people in Porthleven. Picture – Marko Dutka

PAT ADAMS SCRAP BOOK SERIES BOOK 15 OCTOBER 1998 TO JANUARY 2000

Category	Scrap Books	PLVCM2022.5.1
Category	Collection	PLVCM2022.7.1