

Vol.37 · No.10 · Issue 380



# PERRAN NEWS

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*December*  
2023



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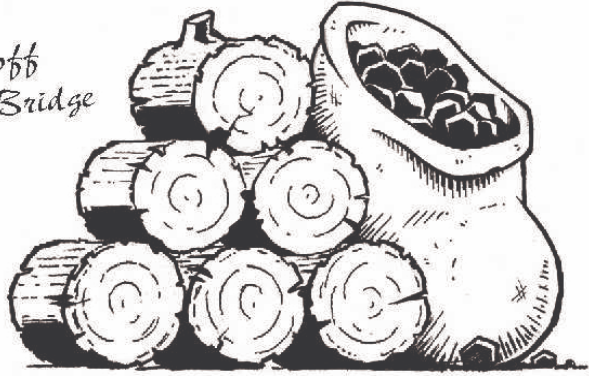


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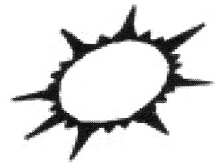
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## EDITORIAL

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Winter roofs in Perranwell, another splendid cover from Kelly. Her stylish front pages have given the magazine a classy new look this year. The photo was taken by Lucy Banfield, Thanks Kelly, thanks Lucy. More of Lucy's photos can be seen at <https://trevonephotography.etsy.com>.

**Perran News** would like to wish all readers, contributors, and advertisers a happy Christmas and healthy 2024. I would also like to thank the deliverers, who get 750 magazines through your letter boxes on 10 months of the year, come rain or shine. This issue carries news of personnel changes in the PN team. See *Perran News News*. Chris Lea is replacing Yselkla Hall as treasurer/advertising manager. Annette Brown has replaced Shirley Christophers as distributor. Sarah Smith continues to curate the website. Thanks, one and all.

Since the last issue, the community shop has opened with great success. Huge congratulations to all involved. You have shown we live in a "can do village". May you go from strength to strength in 2024.

This issue also carries news of a meeting to consider plans for the levelling of the playing field. After some heated exchanges earlier in the year, it is encouraging to see the temperature of the debate has cooled and parties seem to be understanding each other better. Phil Rees's article in a previous Perran News articulated the Football Club's position calmly and well. It seems to have allayed some anxieties.

It is the advertisers who pay for your free copy of the magazine every month so please support them. It is very gratifying that **Perran News** is perceived as such an effective local directory for the village. Readers if you use an advertiser in **Perran News** please could you mention you saw the advert in our pages to give them encouragement to continue supporting your free

village newspaper. Also, if you know of any tradesmen, businesses or other people who would gain from advertising in **Perran News** please recommend it to them.

Please direct advertising stuff to email: [perrannewsads@gmail.com](mailto:perrannewsads@gmail.com)

**Perran News** is provided free to readers thanks to the generous support of our advertisers and involves many willing unpaid volunteers to distribute it. As mentioned before if you would like to be part of **Perran News** new help is always welcome.

If you have an event you want to advertise which is scheduled for the first ten days of the month, can I suggest you plan ahead, and publicise it in the preceding month's issue so people will have reasonable notice and there is no likelihood of the event taking place before some readers receive their magazine. **THE COPY DATE FOR MATERIAL INCLUDING ADVERTS IS 12TH OF THE MONTH PRECEDING PUBLICATION PLEASE.**

Thank you to all contributors to **Perran News**. It is an enormous help if you type an item for the magazine on a computer word processor. You can send it in electronic form as a .txt or .doc file, on a disk or ideally as an email attachment. If you have an Apple computer, please could you send files as .doc or rtf as Pages files are incompatible with my windows computer. Please could you also give your files and pictures a brief descriptive title so that I don't have half a dozen perrannewsnov.doc files to sort out. Thanks.

If you send articles electronically, could you not include fancy fonts or complicated formatting, the simpler the better, thanks.

Send articles to me at [markgripper@gmail.com](mailto:markgripper@gmail.com) If you handwrite articles, please make them as clear and legible as possible particularly unusual words or we may make mistakes. **Mark Gripper**

## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT: DECEMBER 2023

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Parish council meetings held since the previous report have included a full council meeting on 25 October, a planning committee meeting, followed by a meeting of the External Relations Working Group, a playing field meeting which received a presentation on options for levelling the playing field (the parish council is the sole trustee of the playing field charity), and a finance committee meeting which set the budget for 2024-25.



The options for the levelling of the playing field will go forward into a public consultation. Please look out for further details. The various options will be presented in detail and there will be plenty of opportunity for questions and queries. The proposals will include not just the levelling of the playing area, but other features that will aim to make maximum use of the whole field. This will be an exciting project for the whole community.

The council recently approved its schedule of meetings for 2024 that will, of course, be published on the website. Key changes in the revised schedule are, firstly, that full parish council meetings will in future take place on the first Wednesday of the month, not the last, and secondly, that all parish council meetings, including those of committees and working groups will be held on Wednesdays, not on other days, which should make life easier for everybody. Do, please, look out for the new schedule.

The External Relations Working Group has also been considering ways of better publicising the various committees and working groups of the parish council and, in addition to the usual formal agendas, it is hoped that a range of more attractive posters and notices will appear in the new year.

Cornwall Council has launched a new initiative on street lighting whereby street lights will be switched off from midnight to 5:00am. The aim is to reduce both carbon emissions and expenditure. Cornwall Council says that "We plan to switch-off street lighting (midnight to 5am) in the week beginning 20 November," so you may already have noticed this happening by the time this edition of Perran News is printed. Perranarworthal Parish Council is one of a number of pilot areas and Cornwall Council says that "There has been a careful selection process, including liaison with local police, in choosing the most appropriate streetlights to switch off." If successful, the scheme will be extended to the whole of Cornwall over the coming months. If you have any comments about this initiative, either positive or negative, please contact the clerk or come along to a meeting of the Highways & Footpaths Working Group.

Again, by the time you read this, the parish council's budget will probably have been set, although the council has until the end of December to formally notify Cornwall Council of its precept requirement, so some subsequent final tweaks may be made. There seems little doubt that the budget will have to rise for at least three reasons. Firstly, inflation, which has affected the price of everything. One small example is that the charge that Cornwall Council makes for emptying public litter bins, for which the parish council pays, will double next year. Secondly, because Cornwall Council is itself under considerable financial pressure, it is pressing parish councils to deliver more services, such as footpath maintenance. Cornwall Council makes a small grant towards the cost of this work, but it nowhere near covers the total cost. We know how much local residents value the network of footpaths, so although maintenance is expensive, it seems entirely worthwhile. Lastly, the parish council has become more active in delivering improvements to parish life and that will certainly continue. Traditionally, this parish council has been one of lowest spenders per head of population among neighbouring parishes, but that is likely to change. Even so,

expenditure by parish councils generally represents good value for money because it is tightly focussed and there is little bureaucracy. Details about the final budget will be published in due course. A word of explanation: the funding that the parish council requires, called "the precept", is added to council tax bills and is therefore spread proportionally across the whole parish.

Christmas approaches and it's always a pleasure to see plenty of decorations. In recent years, the parish council has arranged for a Christmas tree to be placed next to the bus shelter/information centre in the centre of the village opposite the Royal Oak. This has usually been handled by Annie Hewitt and Chris Hatch, but they have informed the council that they are unable to repeat it this year. Therefore, the parish council is seeking a couple of volunteers to take this on. The tree is usually provided by Bailey's Country Store in Penryn and the lights that the council possesses are thought to be in good working order. Electricity is provided at the bus shelter. It's not a difficult job but, because the tree will be in the open air, it needs to be securely anchored. If you are able to help, please get in touch with the clerk as soon as possible as it would be good to see the tree in place in early December. Finally, a word of congratulation to all those involved in opening and running the new Community Store.

So many people have commented on the excellent range of goods and the attractive premises. Service has been a little slow at times (!! ) as the volunteers get to grips with their new roles, but that provides ample opportunity for gossip. The first week saw a fantastic volume of trade, so let's hope that continues. The parish council has been very pleased and proud to support this initiative.

As usual, parishioners are encouraged to attend meetings of the council, its committees (except the staffing committee, whose business is confidential) and the various working groups. Further details can be found on the parish council's website: [www.perranarworthalpc.org.uk](http://www.perranarworthalpc.org.uk) Please see the website and the parish council's noticeboards for further information.

**Colin Bridges**  
**Chairman**

Breaking news: It's been confirmed by the Far North Press Agency that Father Christmas will be making a flying visit to the playing field at Perranwell. Assuming good weather conditions, the estimated time of arrival is 11:00am on Saturday 16th December.

## COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS

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## PERRANWELL STATION - WEATHER REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2023

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Average daily maximum temperature:	16.5C
Maximum temperature for the month:	21.0C on the 1st and 9th
Average daily minimum temperature:	11.3C
Minimum temperature for the month:	4.5C on the 24th
Rainfall:	5.89 inches
Sunshine:	87 hours
Main Wind direction:	South & South West



### Another Month of Two Halves

The first half of the month was warm for the time of year with temperatures getting up to the high teens or low twenties. It became noticeably cooler after the 13th and much wetter, monthly rainfall overall being 30% above average.

Although sunshine was below average for October, the predominant South and South-West winds helped keep temperatures some 1.5C above average for the time of year, indeed it was the second warmest (after 2022) in 37 years of recording at Perranwell.

Nationally, Storm Babet caused some serious flooding in parts, especially in East Scotland, while the South-East of Britain had the most significant spell of October warmth since 2011. Overall it was the 6th wettest October in the series going back to 1836.

### I never knew that!

Reading Richard Mabey's book "Turned out nice again", I came across a weather oddity that more than caught my eye. Unbelievably, an amazing amount of sand from the Sahara Desert fertilises the Amazon Rainforest every year - quite naturally. Each year, some **180 million tons of sand** is blown across the Atlantic Ocean, of which some **28 million tons land in the Amazon Rainforest**. The sand clouds contain a natural fertiliser - phosphorus.

Phosphorus is a natural and essential element for the growth of the tropical forest. Most of the sand comes from the south-central Sahara, where thousands of years ago a very large lake dried up in a basin, leaving the fossilised skeletons of millions of fish rich in phosphorus.

The rainy season in South America carries most of the nutrients needed for forest growth to the Amazon River, depleting the soil. But counteracting this, every winter, Saharan sand is sucked up by the trade winds and whisked 5000 kilometres across the Atlantic Ocean to gently descend on the Amazon basin. In addition to phosphorus, the sand also contains other essential minerals such as potassium, magnesium and calcium.

The result is a fertilisation on a massive scale without which the rainforest couldn't survive, truly a meteorological phenomenon and an example of the earth working in a virtuous cycle.

Mike Hands

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Our Sunday morning services begin at 10 am.  
Services to note,

Sun 10<sup>th</sup> December at 10 am, Christingle Service.  
Sun 17<sup>th</sup> December at 5 pm, Carol Service.  
Sun 24<sup>th</sup> December at 5 pm, Crib Service.  
Our Christmas Day Service will be at 10 am.

Please look out for notices of services  
and check the website for up to date information.

Priest in Charge, Revd Karen Wilson, 07591240640  
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Mr David Simmons, 07961216740  
[www.thewatersidechurches.com](http://www.thewatersidechurches.com)

The church is normally open for private prayer between  
10 am and 11 am on Wednesday mornings.  
You are very welcome at St Piran's.  
for any of our services.

We wish you all a Happy Christmas and New Year.



**We are now holding  
Coffee Stop  
on Thursday Mornings**

**Perranwell Centre  
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**Anyone is welcome to join us  
and join in the chat.**



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## LEVELLING THE PLAYING FIELD

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You are invited to a public consultation on Thursday 7 December 2023 to examine the proposals for levelling the playing field.

The event will be held in the west room of the Perranwell Centre from 4:00pm to 8:00pm, with a presentation at 5:00 that will be repeated at 7:00.



Various drawings will be on display to fully illustrate the proposed scheme and experts will be available to answer any questions or queries.

The proposals include not just the playing area, but other improvements for the benefit of the whole community.

Come along, see what's proposed and share your comments.

If you are unable to attend the presentation but would like to know more, please get in touch with the chairman of the parish council (contact details are shown elsewhere in Perran News).

## PERRAN NEWS NEWS

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Personnel change is afoot for Perran News. Yselkla Hall is no longer able to be Treasurer/Advertising Manager. Yselkla has been a great supporter of Perran News during her time, and I am sure all readers will join me in thanking her for her sterling efforts. We wish her well for her onward journey in a new career in public service. Great stuff, Yselkla, thank you.

Chris Lea has kindly agreed to take on this task and is already in the thick of grabbing the reins of finance and advertising on which Perran News depends. Not always a straightforward process given the meticulous security criteria the banks require when financial officers change. We are getting there.

We are now established with the new printers Mid Cornwall Printing at Newham. The cost of paper has gone up considerably in recent months so Perran News will inevitably be more expensive to print. Most village newspapers are printed in A5 format which would use less paper reducing costs. Perran News has always been A4 which I would be keen to try and maintain if possible as I think it distinguishes Perran News from the crowd and gives it "a bit of class". What do you think? It would likely mean the print size becomes smaller which for some senior readers may not be welcome. The printers are going to do me a dummy to see what it would look like should we have to go down this road. For now we will stick with A4.

I would be very interested to hear what readers would think of changing from A4 down to A5.

We have a few new advertisers which is most welcome, and we hope with Chris in post for the beginning of the year we will maintain or increase our advertising income.

**MBG**

## WALTER GOVENEK AND THE PAY PHONE DISTRESS

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At 3.50am Walter Govenek awoke from a dream in which he'd received a call in a phone box. He clambered out of bed, assembling a reality. Some haunt shrouding him, anxiety or remorse which would take a few minutes to shrug. Through to the kitchen, where his German dog slept. Seasonal depression. It was such a tedious condition for both the sufferer and those around them. Even for those treating it. At least psychosis had unrelenting drama, a private and unique aperture into the cosmos, a bandwidth unavailable to others. Intriguing. However, it wasn't a state

Govenek would wish to revisit. He opened the back door of his property so the German could perform his early patrol. Wolf-like. A good raucous bark into the Bargus dark. The retired dairy farmer opposite had said he liked to hear the German bark, "because sometimes, you see, 'tis so quiet". Wistful. Peace and quiet like a desolation, the death of industry. Thank goodness for bird scarers.

Mental health certainly seemed a cultural fascination. Seasonal depression. The brains frontal lobe was said to be responsible for emotional and expressive behaviour. It was as if his lobe had a flat battery or a blown fuse. If somebody were to cheerily greet Govenek, he could just about muster "hello". The forced smile. Face ache. Social interactions during the working day could be decidedly difficult. He knew he wasn't alone with this, however when Walter was feeling good about the world he'd probably be the first person to say "pull yourself together". A hypocrite, he could just write this off as testimony to the world being such a baffling place, or be as vague as to say it was a result of flawed western philosophy. Band aids, blister packs of medicine, onwards.

Walter was desperately trying to scabble together an article for Decembers Perran News. Neurosis. The sheet lightning that followed storm Ciaran was covered in Perran News print. He had run for cover yesterday as an enormous two-tonne clump of soggy, creased Perran pages had come thrashing down the footpath. The leaves whirling on his door step were etched with the Perran font. He was drawn to remembering a night some years ago where he had spent several hours in the telephone phone box by the station. He had wanted to be immersed in the parish dark but the weather had been foul. He had sat awkwardly on that concrete floor. The phone rang at around 1am.

Govenek wrote of his native Bargus: "The footpath had mustered no parish care. Human footfall was extremely rare. Land spare for natures affairs. Always I feel calm and confident there. The trees and earth, my flesh and bone serenely mesh with water and stone in the breeze, groan of lurching trees, shedding leaves, autumnal resplendence retards to skeletal winter regality." Te te te, la la la. An inch wide scrap of Perran News with a steel barb had threatened his eyeball. Oh dear, Walter. Child of Bargus. A vain search for spirits that during his childhood had required no language.

To be not just a passive observer of seasonal transition; instead, an active constituent of it. They rode the seasonal carousel as one. Govenek had read about monks who described such a vibe as being where the molecular structure of man and earth were almost fused, a oneness, a union. He could kinda see what they meant, even if it wasn't a notion he would live by. He'd walked the streets of big cities at 3am and the general hum of electricity had been overwhelming, daunting, immense; a sense of something far greater, on the periphery of consciousness, sprawled in the darkness above.

That telephone box. The vague smell of urine and cigarettes. He wondered if he should have answered the phone when it rang that night. How vital a moment had he let slip? A caller with affirmation that his search for a god, beyond conventional understanding, was a linguistic challenge worth pursuing?

For this Christmas, Walter was determined his household be a bastion of joviality. His wonderful wife, 15 years on, her smile could still warm his heart. They would doubtless wrap a Christmas present for the dog and pretend it was getting excited. On the 25th day Govenek would probably stomp into his pet rabbits bedroom at 6am, throw his arms aloft and cheer, Merry Christmas chaps! They might be scared half to death and scurry for cover but he could pretend they were equally ecstatic. Tell them he saw Santas sleigh. Look out the window and think "what does one actually do on Christmas Day?". A private joke that provoked an annual rupture of giggles. Ah, the festive bliss.

Positive thoughts. Happiness as an art form. He thought he'd got it sussed a few years ago but obviously he'd have to keep working at it, chasing it, forwards, forwards, onwards. Positive thought could be worked at to become a habit and physical exercise was a powerful wellbeing tool. "Just stay cool" his father used to tell him. The family home was dressed with exterior Christmas lights. A first. It was good to step out of character sometimes. Merriment. There was always hope. Sam Gamgee knew the sun could only shine out all the brighter. Have faith. Winter of Walter, Child of Bargus. He had faith in smiles to come. Faith.

JM

## COMMUNITY SHOP - UPDATE

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At last, we finally made it, some 20 weeks after the idea of a temporary shop was mooted! So a big thanks to all in the community who have contributed in such a short time.

### **Opening weekend 3-4/11/23**

Just before opening, we received a helpful boost by getting free initial supplies from various local suppliers - Colin Carter Eggs, Pryor's Farm and GC Produce.

Saturday saw an informal opening with many of the contributors over the last few months milling around, seeing the fruits of their hard work and testing out the epos system. We had a bit of a scare the night before when it was discovered that 30% of the barcodes given by our main supplier were wrong. Fortunately, Yselkla Hall and Brett Nelson worked long into the night checking and updating all 450 of the relevant products to eliminate scanning errors. Without this work, the opening could have been interesting!

The formal opening took place on Sunday and thanks to Chris Lee, BBC spotlight turned up, interviewed our chairman David Podd and Annie Hewitt which gave us useful publicity and showed a good turnout of customers. All in all, a good start with a decent initial turnover for the first four hours of trading.



### **First week of operations**

All volunteers and team leaders turned up on time with a lot of enthusiasm and enough training to ensure operations went pretty smoothly.

We did unfortunately suffer a few internet failures during the first week which stopped the use of payment cards that make up some 80% of total sales. So first, apologies to all customers who were inconvenienced through this. Second, we have now worked out one backup method with more to follow, which should significantly reduce the likelihood of similar recurring problems.

One really pleasing aspect of the shop is the friendly atmosphere (which a number of customers have remarked on) and the fact that it has regenerated a bit of community spirit and interaction which the village sadly lost when the old shop closed.

### **Financial Results**

At the time of submitting this article for publication, the shop has only completed one full week's trading, securing a turnover of £2.8k and a gross margin of £1.1k. Thanks to those local suppliers providing free stocks and prior to the inevitable wastage on short life products which haven't yet adversely impacted profits, this 40% margin will inevitably decline.

Nonetheless, with a healthy £16k cash balance and assuming that current sales are maintained (although obviously we have aspirations for more), the financial health of the shop looks very secure.

More operating days and additional financial information will allow us to forecast the likely year end cash surplus and start to consider what to do with it which will require community input in due course.

In the meantime, if anyone would like to examine our finances, they can access our user-friendly internet accounting system called Xero (it's quite intuitive and you certainly don't need to be an accountant or bookkeeper to see what's going on). In exchange for an email address, we can provide read only access to any parishioners who are interested in the shop's financial data. Just contact Peter on 07824 899 6779 or email him on [peter.harding@alpha-financials.com](mailto:peter.harding@alpha-financials.com). In any event we will keep the community informed of the shop's financial position by regularly reporting on it in Perranwell News.

### **We need your continuing help**

The project could not have succeeded without the impressive contribution of many people and it needs to continue if the business is to survive and flourish. In particular:

- **Please keep buying.** The average customer spends £5 per visit and dividing total turnover by the population size means a **£1.65** average spend per Perranwellian per week - let's increase this.
- **Please keep volunteering.** This will enable us to keep the shop opening and perhaps eventually extend the opening hours.

We have an immediate need for someone to help with running our finance and epos systems. Hours are completely flexible, and the only real requirements are attention to detail and a basic knowledge of Next steps

The original, ambitious, timetable had Phases 2 (conversion of legal structure from Ltd company to some form of community company) scheduled for completion by end of 2023, with Phase 3 (longer term permanent location) to follow in 2024.

However, several committee members have full or part-time jobs and combining them with the original timetable is no longer practical or sustainable. Phase 1 was always the most critical part of the overall project and having achieved this, we now wish to focus on letting the shop bed down and improve the efficiency of operations. As a consequence, we will only address Phases 2 and 3 early in 2024 and release a new timetable at that time.

Part of the process of improving operations means listening to feedback from customers and we have already received various requests for new products. Whilst doing our best, please note that we cannot accept all such requests since space remains restricted and accepting new products will often mean removing other existing ones. Fortunately, we do get good feedback from the EPOS and accounting systems in terms of what's selling well – individually, by category and by supplier, so this should assist with ensuring the shop stocks the right products at a sensible price.

For the festive season: We will be launching a small Christmas range from the 27th November and holding a special Christmas event on 13th December 6pm to 8pm probably involving carols, mince pies and shopping!

The next public meeting will take place in January which will enable us to report on the first two months of trading and to discuss the future phases.

And finally, the Village Hall committee is managing the installation of a pedestrian walkway to the shop to keep pedestrians apart from cars which will be great.

### **The management team for Perranwell Community Store Limited**

- spreadsheets. If this could be you, please phone Peter on 07824 996 779)

## PERRANARWORTHAL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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At our October meeting we welcomed Vicky Spooner, the Environment and Quality manager for Falmouth Harbour. Vicky gave us a talk explaining her vital and interesting role; how she cares for Falmouth below the waterline and helps to safeguard our environment. She explained that she took on this role in 2015, one of her key motivations being the ability to make a difference to her children's future. She defined the sustainability plan for Falmouth Harbour, highlighting 4 main themes:



### **1. To reduce emissions.**

She described some of the work they had been doing on reduction of emissions such as the replacement of boat diesel with hydrogenated vegetable oil leading to 50% less carbon emissions, the purchase of an electric rib boat and a new more sustainable pilot boat. The overall target will be for the organisation to net carbon positive by 2050.

### **2. To reduce waste and pollution.**

Vicky explained that work on the reduction of waste and pollution includes a target to be single use plastic free across all their operations by 2030, and even earlier in their office by 2023. She emphasised the necessity for boats to have their hulls cleaned and the impact of traditional antifouling paint on the ocean. Currently, a non-biocidal trial is taking place with the long-term intention of ceasing the use of traditional antifoul paint on boats. She also stressed the importance of developing water quality. Examples included having sustainable black water facilities (wastewater and sewage removal provision) installed; plus, the removal of plastics from the water, which of course is a worldwide problem across our oceans. She highlighted that change management is something that will be essential to get people to change.

### **3. To increase biodiversity**

Vicky explained that the Falmouth Harbour team have been working with other organisations to understand biodiversity and how to protect it. She highlighted that Falmouth Harbour has 600 swing moorings and these all have an impact on the seabed. So, it's important to consider the economics of anchoring and moorings alongside the impact on the environment. She stressed how significant sea flora is in its ability to lock carbon into the waters. Looking at this multi-faceted issue helps the organisation to decide what projects to focus on. For example, she explained that in 2021, 11 swinging moorings were removed as they were damaging the seabed and the seagrass through their scouring effect on the seabed. She also told us about the voluntary no anchor zone off Flushing beach and consequently how the seagrass had regenerated there within one year following this initiative. Vicky explained how they had also been trialling new advanced mooring systems which minimise the scouring effect on the seabed, thus lowering the impact on the environment. In addition, she outlined a project marking where sea grass was growing so that anchoring there could be avoided, dependant on the weather.

### **4. To develop the health and well-being of employees and communities.**

Finally, Vicky explained that contribution to community initiatives had involved things like purchasing sailing dinghies for the Royal Cornwall Yacht Club and working with Falmouth Town Council to develop a living seawall project in Church Street car park.

Although, there are certainly a few sailors in our Perranarworthal WI, we all learnt a great deal from Vicky's fascinating talk, and it got us thinking about what goes on beneath and above the waterline in Falmouth Harbour and the importance of sustainability. Do join us for more thought-provoking talks, friendship, tea and cake! We're a friendly lot at Perranarworthal WI and always welcome new members.



# *Christmas* *Concert*

**SATURDAY 16TH DECEMBER**

**7-9PM**

**AT PERRANARWORTHAL VILLAGE HALL**

**PRE CONCERT FOOD AND DRINKS**

**SERVED 6-7PM**

**Featuring a variety of festive performances  
to start your Christmas celebrations**

**Mince pies  
Mulled wine  
Hot turkey baps**

**Tickets £5  
Children go free**

**Bring your own food/sharing plate if you like**

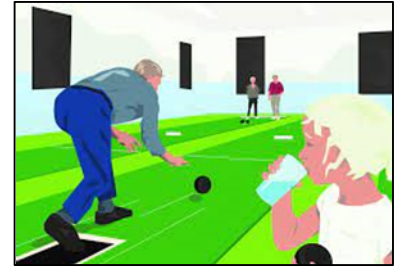
**ORGANISED BY THE TRUSTEES OF PERRANARWORTHAL  
VILLAGE HALL WITH ALL PROCEEDS GOING TO THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF THE HALL**

## PERRAN CARPET BOWLS

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It is with a heavy heart and great sadness that the Perranwell Carpet Bowls Club has rolled its mats up for the last time. Our membership had dwindled so much that it was impossible to continue, despite our best efforts.

It was started in 1987 by a group of villagers, one of whom was Richard Brown who worked at SWEB, (South West Electricity Board) in Camborne. They had a large Social Club there and a thriving indoor bowls club.



I, myself joined the club around 1990. I was picking my daughter up from a junior school Christmas play practice and I happened to look through the window to see what was going on in the hall, (As you do)! My Uncle Tommy, (Tom Ferris an ex postman in the village) was just inside the door playing bowls, he opened the door and pulled me in! The room was buzzing, 3 carpets down and everyone was obviously enjoying themselves. I couldn't stay that evening but went back the next week and have been a member ever since.

I remember Smudge Smith was the Chairman at the time. Some of you will remember he was our shop keeper here in the village many moons ago. Looking through old records of the club there was a letter from Win, his wife dated 1997 thanking the club for their donation to the "Bell Fund" after Smudge had passed away and that she was hoping we would hear the church bells ring out again soon.

After that I believe Bryan Dagenhart (another ex village shop keeper) was Chairman, succeeded by Doug Stuart and his dear wife Betty who was secretary. After that was Malcolm Wainwright, who in his wisdom, devised a way of mixing us up so that we didn't play with same people every week! Following that Adrian Poole, then I had a go and I believe Bryan came back for a while. Len (Sam) Mead, and the last, but not least Janet Ford.

Some names and characters I remember from the early days were Ted Watts, a very funny, kind, gentle man. Sam Arnold who was always happy to help newcomers and offer advice on the game. Freda Harris and Dudley Kneebone who kept us entertained with jokes. Alan and Wendy Doidge, Trish Woolcox and her father Ken, Diana Ratledge, who incidentally was instrumental in starting the Redruth/Camborne League. Bob and Audrey Molloy, Brenda Bucknall, Wilf Jackson to name but a few.

A young man who loved his Bowls every week was Colin Forrest. Sadly, he passed away at a young age and there after we played an internal competition every year in his honour. The Colin Forrest cup.

When Doug and Betty left the village, they donated a cup for us to use. We decided it to give to the person with the highest individual cumulative score for the season.

There were at one time 3 teams in the Camborne /Redruth league and on several occasions, we bought home the cup winning the Premier Division. Adrian Moore, Trish Wilcox, David and Maureen Pascoe, Bill Smith, Jack Penrose, Mary Penna, Mary Downing to mention a few team members.

A group of bowlers from Stithians joined us during the winter when their summer outdoor bowls were finished. Also, people from St. Feock, Frogpool and Carnon Downs came along. At one time we had 40



members. We had many really good club nights there. One member loudly shouted out the score as being 13 all one evening, and a little voice came back, "and I spose you got the all"!! The whole place erupted in laughter. Quite competitive games and changing ends after teatime was always a game changer! The highest scores for the evening had a bar of chocolate to take home! The majority of the teas were made by Rachael Kemp in later years (who incidentally, and she won't mind me saying, is the oldest person in the village who was born here)!

Our members were a cross section of people from all walks of life, a Doctor, Policeman, Gardener, Butcher, Farmer, Banker, Postman, Nurses, Teachers, the list goes on, but the evenings were always filled with good humour and played with a certain level of competitiveness. Some more so than others but you'd get them back the next week.

End of season meals were very well attended. The majority of them in earlier years were at the Old Vicarage in Stithians which I believe is a housing estate now. There after many different venues but always with a good crowd.

Covid was the beginning of its downfall, and it would seem it is a sign of the times. Not just for bowls clubs but many social events. Not so long ago there were 4 divisions of 8 teams in the league, now there are 3 divisions with 7 teams in each.

However, after saying all that, we are hoping all is not completely lost as there has been some interest from the Carrick U3A to use the equipment in the hall. Watch this space.

Quite why people associate bowls with 'old people' baffles me. Some years ago, we had quite a large group of youngsters attending every week. Adrian Moore, Shane Kneebone, Sam Tompkins were a few of them and, to be honest they quite often put the older members to shame!! Lately a couple of us have bought our Grandsons along to have a go and they picked it up so quickly and loved it.

So, to all previous members, THANKYOU for a good 30 years plus of fun. **Jane Blackburn**

## **MYLOR BRIDGE BOWLINGCLUB**

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With the summer season well and truly over several of our ladies recently attended the Cornwall Group 4 luncheon at Tehidy Golf Club. Group 4 consists of clubs from Carnon Downs, Chacewater, Constantine, Falmouth, Mawnan Smith, Mylor Bridge, Newquay Trenance, Newquay West End, Penryn, Perranporth, Stithians and Truro. We were there to be presented with two of the trophies.

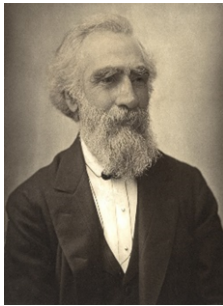
Firstly though we were served a splendid three course lunch followed by coffee, speeches and, lastly, the presentations : Jan Barnard (ladies captain) was runner-up in the Champion of Champions. A competition entered by the clubs 4-wood singles winner of the preceding year. The fours competition was won by Linda Storey, Liz Maunder, Elaine Beckton and Jan Barnard. The trophies were presented by the President of Bowls Cornwall, Michael Jennings. Congratulation ladies.

As one season ends so another begins... carpet bowls and short mat leagues are now well underway and being enjoyed by all participants. It is hoped that the success of last year's season will be mirrored this winter.

Why not come along and see what we are all about? A warm welcome awaits.

To find out more, please visit the website [www.mylorbridgebowlingclub.co.uk](http://www.mylorbridgebowlingclub.co.uk) for details.

**Elaine Beckton**



Tuesday **January 30th** 7.30pm  
at the **Perranwell Centre.**

Talk by **Dean Evans**



### **“The Passmore Edwards Legacy”**

**John Passmore Edwards, political & social reformer, newspaper publisher, & Cornwall’s most famous philanthropist. Find out the why, the when & the where.**

**All welcome. Members £1 Non Members £4**

## **PERRANARWORTHAL LOCAL HISTORY GROUP MEETING ON 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

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Bob Richards, local historian, who was brought up in Perranwell, spoke to the group about the history of Perranarworthal School.

Bob explained that his research into the school was one of his lockdown projects. Looking at its history was a barometer of the social history at the time. Luckily the Logbooks of the school still survive and the Principal Teacher was obliged to make, at least once a week, an entry which will specify ordinary progress and other facts concerning the School and its teachers. A previous history was also written in 1976 by the late Mr Eric Ryall, village resident and former teacher at the school.

There was a history of fee-paying schools run by private individuals, or religious and philanthropic organisations but the 1870 Elementary Education Act made provision for schools for the education of all children. School Boards oversaw the establishment of these schools which had no set curriculum. The School Board for Perranarworthal was set up in 1874 and 15 months later a lease taken out on the Parish Alms House for use as a school. The sum of £1,266 was borrowed from the Public Works Loan Board to set up the school & tenders invited to provide accommodation for 230 pupils. The architect was Sylvanus Trevail. The first headmaster was Mr E.J. Jeffery.

By February 1879 there were 225 pupils on the register. There was a second teacher Miss Louisa Dunstan, plus monitors who were unqualified staff, often previous scholars.

The first 2 children on the register both came from large families of 9 and 8 children as was common at the time. Another early pupil, Joseph Crawl of Greenwith, tragically died of jaundice after his first week. There was a large turnaround of teachers in the first few years of the school & perhaps this is the reason for the poor exam results in 1889. Children also took days off to help with agricultural harvest that helped boost the family income. There were epidemics of whooping cough, diphtheria and measles. In 1904 low attendance was noted as the Buffalo Bill show was in the area! Attendance was also influenced by the decline of local employment with the closure of Perran Foundry and the decline of the mining industry. Although schooling was mandatory it was not free with families expected to pay a small amount.

Various records show the occupation of families in the village, listing waggoner, butcher, horse trainer amongst them.

Bob talked about the changeover of staff at the school and records show that women had to resign on their marriage. Agnes Sarah was re-employed when widowed but resigned again when she remarried. WW1 had a big impact on the school and village life with at least 12 ex pupils killed in action. In the 1920s the population of the village had declined, and pupil numbers were in the 80s.

There were classes like woodwork and cookery for vocational training. These classes were very much gender orientated. It was also possible to take a scholarship for the Grammar school. In 1939 evacuees and teachers were hosted at the school with the population rising to 150 children. A shift system was employed with local children in the morning, evacuees in the afternoon.

If you would like to know more details of the Perranarworthal School history please buy Bob Richards book "The School on the Hill", £5 per copy with half of this going to school funds. It's an excellent read.

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## CHARITY BRIDGE DRIVE

A charity Bridge Drive in aid of the Red Cross Ukraine appeal organised by Perran Bridge Group was held at the Perranwell Centre on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> Nov. An afternoon's bridge and splendid tea was enjoyed by 48 players. The event raised a grand total of £471.84 which has been sent to the British Red Cross appeal for Ukraine.



A big thank you to all who took part and to the ladies who organised the outstanding tea.

**Malcolm Parker**

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## POPPY APPEAL 2023

Thank you to all who supported the Poppy Appeal this year, by giving and collecting.

The total donated in the village was £981.82. Tony Hyde



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## WATCH YOUR NECTAR POINTS

Please, if you have a Sainsbury loyalty card, check your point balance.

I had been saving my points towards my Christmas shop, so had a nasty surprise today when I did shop. My point balance had reduced by 3000 points – that's £15 off a shop.



The help team at Sainsbury (telephone 0344 811 0811) were excellent and told me that an unknown person had somehow cloned my card. They had first used it in West Green, Crawley to make a small purchase and on the receipt it shows that the point balance was over 3000. They then visited another Sainsbury store and used my points.

My card is now stopped and I will be sent a replacement. Sainsbury are going to replace my 'missing' points. I have told lots of friends and family, and another person I know has had 4000 points used from their Nectar card. It really isn't nice at any time of the year – but coming up to Christmas just makes it seem a bit more awful.

**C Holmes**

# YOUR DRAMA GROUP NEWS

**CDDG**

**A Traditional Pantomime  
For all the Family!**

# Mother Goose!

**Written by  
Logan Fox**

**25th-28th January  
The Perranwell Centre**

**Box Office:  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/CDDG](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/CDDG)**





Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Perranwell King George V

Playing Field TR3 7JU



## FATHER CHRISTMAS

IS ARRIVING BY HORSE DRAWN VEHICLE 11.00 AM



PRESENTS FOR THE CHILDREN

Refreshments and Mince Pies available £1.00

Please come along and enjoy.

## New Year's Eve Party in the village!

By popular request, the village hall trustees are making the hall available for an end-of year community celebration.

This will be a family friendly event, with disco and fancy dress.

Bring some friends and a bottle and come and see out 2023 with a smile.

For more details and to buy your tickets visit this link:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-perranwell-centre/t-avdgend>

or scan this QR code with your smartphone camera:



**DIRECTORY**  
**December 2023**

Organisation	Contact	Telephone	Email
Avon	Sally Perkins		universally.perkins@gmail.com
Bridge Club, Perranwell Village	Malcolm Parker	01872 863170	
	Trisha Willcocks	01872 864550	
Perran Bridge	Jean Boddy	01326 314287	jmboddy984@aol.com
Carnon Downs Drama Group	Chris Breach	01872 862063	
Carpet Bowls Club	Jane Blackburn	07845 182679	
Chess Truro/ Falmouth Chess Club	Robin Kneebone	07531 543651	<a href="mailto:chesscornwall@gmail.com">chesscornwall@gmail.com</a>
Choral Society Truro	Glynis Wadham- Smith		<a href="mailto:membership@trurochoral.org">membership@trurochoral.org</a>
Community Shop			<a href="mailto:anniek.hewitt7@gmail.com">anniek.hewitt7@gmail.com</a>
Community Liaison Officer (Police)	TBC	101	
Computer Services	John Muteham	01872 865449	<a href="mailto:sales@premier-pc.com">sales@premier-pc.com</a>
Cornwall Dog Training	Frankie Bond	01872 864844	<a href="mailto:enquiries@cornwalldogtrainingclub.com">enquiries@cornwalldogtrainingclub.com</a>
Psychological Counselling	Karina Griffiths	075685 507705	<a href="mailto:info@taikatales.com">info@taikatales.com</a>
Cricket Club	Chris Yeomans		<a href="mailto:chrisyeomans1@gmail.com">chrisyeomans1@gmail.com</a>
Cricket Club Pavillion		07779 895771	
Cub Scouts	Ross Geach	01872 862117	
Defibrillator Training	Mark Gripper	07770 997778	<a href="mailto:markgripper@gmail.com">markgripper@gmail.com</a>
Dental Practice	Mr N. Jones	01872 863399	
Doctors Devoran		01872 562200	<a href="http://www.chacewatersurgery.co.uk">www.chacewatersurgery.co.uk</a>
Doctors Carnon Downs		01872 863221	
Football Club Contact	David Kemp	0797 1951201	<a href="mailto:k4mpy@btinternet.com">k4mpy@btinternet.com</a> < <a href="mailto:k4mpy@btinternet.com">k4mpy@btinternet.com</a> >
Football Clubhouse		01872 870202	
Friends of Perranarworthal School	Rosie Leach		<a href="mailto:fops@perran-ar-worthal.cornwall.sch.uk">fops@perran-ar-worthal.cornwall.sch.uk</a>
Keep Fit	Cathy Whitmore	01872 862040	
Kenwyn Valley Flower and Garden Club	Glennis Beard	01872 560609	, <a href="http://www.kenwynvalleyflowerclub.btck.co.uk/">http://www.kenwynvalleyflowerclub.btck.co.uk/</a>
Les Carrek Lace & Needlecraft Group	Janet Dale	01872 863033	
Memory Café	Sue Godfrey	01872 864676	
Methodist Chapel	Ann Towsey	01872 864300	<a href="mailto:anntowsey@hotmail.co.uk">anntowsey@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Parish Council Clerk			<a href="mailto:clerk@perranarworthalpc.org.uk">clerk@perranarworthalpc.org.uk</a>
Parish Council Website			<a href="http://www.perranarworthalpc.org.uk/">http://www.perranarworthalpc.org.uk/</a>
Parish Tree Wardens	Mr & Mrs Graham Brown	01872 862936	
Perranarworthal Local History Group	Ruth Ward	7887768957	<a href="mailto:ruth_ward@btinternet.com">ruth_ward@btinternet.com</a>
Perranarworthal School	Mrs Rachael Heffer	01872 863004	
Perranwell Centre bookings	Dave Ward		<a href="mailto:hello@perranwellcentre.org">hello@perranwellcentre.org</a>
Perran & District Poultry & Pigeon Soc.	Shane Kneebone	01872 864409	<a href="mailto:perranpoultry@hotmail.co.uk">perranpoultry@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Perran News Editor	Mark Gripper	01872 863833	
Perran News Advertising	Yselkla Hall	07933 571681	<a href="mailto:perrannewsads@gmail.com">perrannewsads@gmail.com</a>
Perran News Treasurer	Yselkla Hall	07933 571681	<a href="mailto:yselklahall@gmail.com">yselklahall@gmail.com</a>
Perran News Distribution	Annette Brown	07882 724496	<a href="mailto:beingstillab@gmail.com">beingstillab@gmail.com</a>
Perran News Website / Facebook	Sarah Smith	07968 366526	<a href="mailto:afinacommunications@gmail.com">afinacommunications@gmail.com</a>
Perranwell Garage	Anthony Scrivener	01872 863037	
Photographic Club	Mr Roy Mc Bride	01872 863891	
Physiotherapy	Judith Handley	01872 870636	<a href="mailto:judithhandley@yahoo.co.uk">judithhandley@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Royal Oak	Lizzie Archer	01872 863175	<a href="mailto:lizzearcher@btinternet.com">lizzearcher@btinternet.com</a>
Scouts Devoran	Mick Roberts	07813 046879	
Senior's Fitness	Karen Dowden	07967 087511	<a href="mailto:karen.dowden@btinternet.com">karen.dowden@btinternet.com</a>
St Piran's Church Hall Bookings	Mrs H McCombie	01872 864050	
St Piran's Church Warden	Mr P Stuart	01872 278273	<a href="http://www.thewatersidechurches.com/">http://www.thewatersidechurches.com/</a>
St Piran's Church Warden	Mr D Simmons	01872 862066	
St Piran's Church Handbell Ringers	Janet Thomas	01872 862876	
St. Piran's Bellingring	Alun Thomas	01872 862876	
U3A	Mark Breach	01872 862063	<a href="mailto:mark.breach@yahoo.co.uk">mark.breach@yahoo.co.uk</a>

**DIRECTORY**  
**December 2023**

Vanilla Salon	Rachael Glanville	01872 864505	<a href="mailto:receptionatvanilla@gmail.com">receptionatvanilla@gmail.com</a>
West Country Embroiderers	Sue Short	01872 864726	
Women's Institute	Kathryn Smith	07515 830903	
Yoga for Relaxation	Deidre Mason	0209 613488	
Councillors Cornwall Council	Peter Williams	07833 439168	<a href="mailto:prgwilliams@cornwall.gov.uk">prgwilliams@cornwall.gov.uk</a>
Member of Parliament	Cherilyn MackRory		
Zest For Life Fitness	Zoe Crouse	07721 004122	<a href="http://www.zestforlifefitness.com">www.zestforlifefitness.com</a>

If some of these entries are out of date please could updates or deletions please be sent to [markgripper@gmail.com](mailto:markgripper@gmail.com) so that appropriate amendments can be made.  
Thank you.

The timetable was revised as from 3rd September - here are the current times of buses going through the village.

**Buses going towards TRURO**

Mondays - Saturdays

**36 from Stithians**

Royal Oak	7.46	9.08	10.33	11.43	13.33	15.48	16.13	17.48
P'well Rly Station +2 min						(hols)	(term)	
Truro bus station + 19 min								

**36A from Frogpool**

P'well Rly Station	7.48	10.10	11.35	12.35	14.35	17.35
Truro Bus station + 26 min						

Sundays

36 Royal Oak	9.48	12.48	15.48
Bus Station +29 Mins			
Truro Rly Station + 2 mins			

**Buses leaving TRURO**

36 Truro bus Station	7.15	7.25	8.30	10.20	12.20	14.20	15.20	17.05	18.30
+19 min to Royal Oak	(term)	(hols)							

*route then goes up School Hill towards Stithians*

**36A**

Truro	7.10	8.50	10.15	11.20	13.20	16.15	18.05
+ 26 min to Chapel							

*route then goes up Greenwith Hill towards Frogpool*

*I have taken great care with this information, but it is always a good idea to check on the website before travelling*



## Chacewater & Devoran Surgeries

### Christmas Medication Collection Dates & Opening Times

#### CHRISTMAS COLLECTION DATES

Prescription Collection Date	Amended Prescription Collection Date
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2023
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2023

#### NEW YEAR COLLECTION DATES

Prescription Due Collection Date	Amended Prescription Collection Date
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2024	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> December 2023

**ALL OTHER COLLECTION DATES OVER THE FESTIVE PERIOD ARE UNAFFECTED**

#### Opening Hours 22 Dec 23 – 02 Jan 24

DATE	Chacewater	Devoran
22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2023	8.30 – 18.00	8:30– 13.00
23 <sup>rd</sup> December 2023	CLOSED	CLOSED
24 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	CLOSED	CLOSED
25 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	CLOSED	CLOSED
26 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	CLOSED	CLOSED
27 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	8.30 – 18.00	8:30– 13.00 / 13.30 - 1800
28 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	8.30 – 18.00	8:30– 13.00 / 13.30 - 1800
29 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	8.30 – 18.00	8:30– 13.00 / 13.30 - 1800
30 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	CLOSED	CLOSED
31 <sup>st</sup> December 2023	CLOSED	CLOSED
1 <sup>st</sup> January 2024	CLOSED	CLOSED
2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2024	8.30 – 18.00	8:30– 13.00 / 13.30 - 1800

For regular updates and information please visit our website at [www.chacewatersurgery.co.uk](http://www.chacewatersurgery.co.uk)  
or follow us on Facebook 'Chacewater & Devoran Surgeries'

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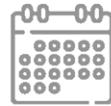
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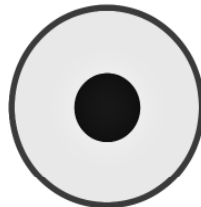
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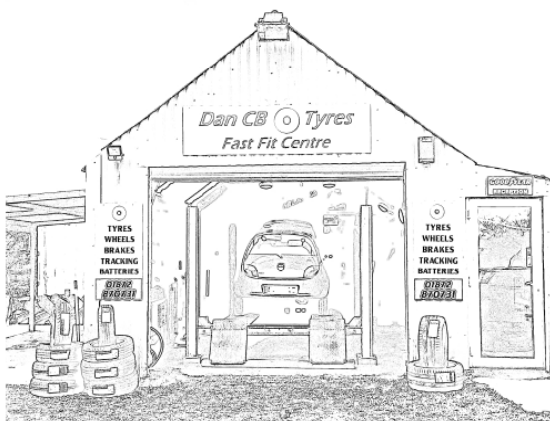


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