

Lewannick, Polyphant & Trevadlock Newsletter

Ominous rumblings at Blackhill Quarry

I have been contacted by two worried Polyphant residents this month who have received hand delivered letters from Cornwall County Council concerning developments at Blackhill Quarry, Polyphant. Tarmac Limited are applying to extend various planning permissions at the quarry and have, over the last two years, been preparing a weighty, 2 inch thick document in support of this. This document can be viewed at Launceston Library, the NCDC Offices, 3/5 Barn Lane, Bodmin, or at Spatial Planning, Planning, Transportation & Estates, County Hall, Truro, TR1 3AY, where a member of staff may be on hand to help in understanding the document, especially if prior arrangement is made (01872 322000).

Any objections to the proposals need to be registered by the 17th May 2004 in writing to the Head of Spatial Planning at the above address.

I have not had a chance to view the application yet, but one Polyphant resident writes, "... the following appears to be the intention:

- a) To extend the working in a south western direction
- b) To have the capability to double production over the next three years and to install a Concrete plant
- c) To be able to increase blasting from 4 to 18 occasions per year
- d) Increase traffic flows."

Another resident says that the new developments will lower the surrounding water table very substantially and that there is worrying mention of plans being required to contain environmentally damaging effluent.

My immediate reaction is that such developments are unlikely to bring any benefit whatsoever to the local community, economy

or environment. Both Polyphant and Lewannick have been suffering from inappropriate use as short cuts by heavy quarry lorries, and it seems likely that the noise, nuisance and danger are bound to increase.

The development of the concrete mixing business will tip the balance of the activity at Blackhill Quarry from primarily stone extraction to an industrial process requiring large amounts of materials to be brought in as well as distributed out. Is this appropriate for the area and do we want this on our doorstep?

Having been brought up on the banks of the river Inny and with still a great interest in the river and it's wildlife, I know that the Inny valley is relatively unspoilt and ecologically rich. Any threat of pollution or a change in the water flow must not be allowed at any cost.

There is very little time to register objections so we need to assimilate the full and accurate facts in the next few days, and mount a vigorous campaign against this, if appropriate. As I am very heavily committed on many fronts, I would be very grateful for your help in establishing the full facts, and for compiling a list of objections. I will publish this information on the website - www.lewannick.info, and act as a focus to coordinate a response if required.

For your entertainment

Please support our **Mayday Celebrations** on Bank Holiday Monday, which we hope this year will be bigger and better than ever. This will also be the official launch of the **Circle of Light** fund-raising event, when leaflets will be available to explain how you can help us create this spectacular event.

For a thoroughly entertaining show do go and see **About Face** (advertised below). Their last show, Alice, was a prime example of how, when the creative brains of a seemingly ordinary bunch of people are put together, something quite extraordinary can be created. Highly recommended.

David

Help for woody businesses and start ups

The Silvanus Trust based in Stoke Climsland near Callington has been working to develop the viable and sustainable management of small woodlands in the South West for the benefit of local communities for the past twenty years.

Woodworks Plus from the Silvanus Trust in conjunction with the European Social Fund and Jobcentreplus, aims to get people into work while improving the wood sector in Cornwall. Many business start-ups have trouble getting through the first year and many employers want to take on new staff but are worried about the costs of getting new recruits "up to speed". Woodworks Plus can help by providing a wage subsidy, a training budget and a fund to assist people starting work. The Silvanus Trust staff can provide invaluable business development advice and networking information.

The project has helped a wide variety of people such as forestry contractors, tree surgeons, sawmillers, joiners, furniture and cabinet makers and even basket makers.

So if you want to start up a business or take on a new employee we would be glad to talk to you. If you would like to speak to someone on the Woodworks team please contact The Silvanus Trust on: 01392 882325 or 01579 372100.

Parnell's Garage

LEWANNICK
Servicing - Repairs - Brakes
Clutches - Exhausts - Welding
MOT Repairs
Cars - Light Commercial - 4 x 4
Tel: 01566 782 644
07714 944 102

PARISH COUNCIL

We met at Lewannick on Thursday 15 April at 8pm. It was reported that Taylor-Made had completed the repairs to the play equipment at Lewannick. The invoice for this will be approximately £320 plus VAT. The Councillors have organised a date to erect a fence for this play area. We are also in the process of purchasing and erecting a seat for the site at Polyphant.

We have received telephone calls from parishioners who are or have experienced problems with regard to the land adjacent to Sunnybank. The owner of Sunnybank has also commented on a flooding problem: which has caused a deep gully at the side of his property. All of the comments have been forwarded to CCC. We have received notification from CCC that the Review of Mineral Planning Permissions deadline for the submission of new conditions has been amended from 18 March to 8 April. CCC will be seeking our opinions during the course of their consultation process. We had one application for consideration namely Mr and Mrs R Barden, 13 Medrow, Polyphant: the erection of a conservatory. The application received our full support. Correspondence was received from Mr K Hocking in which he indicated where he wished the seat for Polyphant to be positioned.

He also wrote about the Masonic Lodge, which he considered our Council would be interested in. This letter together with its enclosure from the said magazine has been forwarded to NCDC. We have also received calls from concerned residents at Polyphant re a trench being dug across the Northern part of the Green, cutting through tree roots, in order to lay underground cables. The County Forester has inspected the trees and taken photographs of the root damage. NCDC had also attended the site and are investigating the matter. We had not been notified that these works would be carried out and naturally we would object to a trench being dug so close to trees without firstly obtaining the authority from the County Forester.

Finally the Annual Parish Meeting: **We hereby warmly welcome and invite all leaders/organisers to join us. We invite you to submit an annual report of your group's activities. This will be documented and recorded in our local paper and Website. We too will give you our annual report on our activities together with a financial report for the year together with our aims for the future. Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held at POLYPHANT COMMENCING 7.30pm ON THURSDAY 13 MAY.** We look forward to you joining us.

Mayday

Lewannick's traditional celebrations
Bank Holiday Monday, 3rd May, 2pm
MAYPOLE DANCING
 Tombola • Apple bobbing • Cake Stall • Plants Raffle • Skittles • BBQ • Refreshments • Crafts Coconut Shy • Bouncy Castle • Face Painting and much more – fun for all the family.
PLUS EVENING ENTERTAINMENT FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY
at the
ARCHER ARMS
 (Donations of cakes for the Cake Stall, Tombola Prizes, and unwanted books or bric-a-brac gratefully received - contact Margo on 782 767 or Ken & Betty on 782 228)

About Face

will perform their brand new, visually exciting show

As above - So below

in North Hill on
Friday 21st May and Saturday 22 May,
7.30pm
 (also Upton Cross Sat 15th May)

Village Hall News

Whist Drives

Saturday 1st May

Saturday 29th May

7.30pm in Lewannick Village Hall.

All are welcome, and any donations of prizes will be very gratefully received. Profits will be jointly in aid of the Village Hall and the Church. Many thanks to all those who generously donated prizes last time, this was much appreciated. More info from Kevin on 782393.

To Treadlock Hall Park friends

Thank you to all our friends on the Park for their much needed and appreciated support on the death of my husband Len. My family and myself were truly grateful.

Rene Bodenham

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Fred Davey, of Cottage Gardens, a popular local character. We extend our sympathies to his family.

North Hill Parish Church Annual Plant Sale Saturday 8 May, 10am North Hill Village Hall

A chance to get the plants for your Summer Garden (flowering plants, vegetables and herbs etc.)

Proceeds to Church Funds

Launceston Amateur Dramatic Society
presents

Allo Allo

Wed 12th to Sat 15th May 2004
Launceston Town Hall at 7.30pm
Tickets £7.00 & £6.00

Under 16 £5.00 Wed & Thurs only
Booking Office:

Launceston Library 01566 773306
www.launceston-amateur-dramatic-society.co.uk

Recycling collections:

MAY: Lewannick, Polyphant and Treadlock Hall Park, Tuesday 4th & 18th. Treadlock Village, Tuesday 11th & 25th. Don't forget to use the paper bank in Lewannick Village Hall car park to recycle magazines and brochures - it provides £500 per year income for the Village Hall.

**For latest news, events & photos visit:
www.lewannick.info**

CLOSING DATE FOR JUNE NEWSLETTER: SUNDAY 23rd MAY

Please send your contributions to David Eno, Pen-Inney Cottage, Lewannick, Launceston, PL15 7QD. • E-mail: david@lewannick.info • Phone: 01566 782 352
Newsletter published by Lewannick Parish Council. The Editor reserves the right to cut or omit articles submitted.
Views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor, or of the Parish Council.

LEWANNICK CHURCH NEWS AND DIARY DATES FOR MAY

Sunday Services at St Martin's Church

Sun 2 Holy Communion 10.00am
Sun 2 Bowden Derra 8.00pm
Sun 9 Family Service 10.00am
Sun 16 Holy Communion 10.00am
Sun 23 Morning Prayer 10.00am
Sun 30 Holy Communion 10.00am

Diary Dates

Forward Planning

Bluebell Walk at Trebartha - Date to be arranged - see posters.

Saturday 10 July - Church Fête at Pen-Inney House

Note:

Please save all jam jars for the "Circle of Light" event taking place in September.

The Pastoral Team is now in operation; please phone 782820 for further details.

St Martin's Church Restoration

Phase 1 of the restoration project has been completed. The aim of this work was to understand why the East wall has become unstable and find a method of repairing it cost effectively. The reasons found for the problems with the wall go back centuries in the way the church was constructed but in particular the effect of the fire in the 1890's. The repair then did not tie the wall properly to the roof and because of weak foundations it has begun to move sideways and outwards. Fortunately the engineers and architects have a solution. Once the roof has been repaired and some parts of the wall rebuilt it will then be tied to other parts of the church using long metal rods. It would have been possible to completely rebuild the wall from the foundations upwards but this would have cost far too much. Also during this phase a study of disability access was made and a proper maintenance plan for the church drawn up to prevent further problems in the future.

The cost of doing this preparatory work was £10,800 for which we received a grant of £8,150 from English Heritage. The next phase will be the repair work itself. Following an involved tender process the Parochial Church Council accepted the architects advice and chose A D Williams of Liskeard. The total cost of this work will be about £123,000. This is more than the original estimate from last year but we have negotiated an increased grant of £77,000 from English Heritage which was confirmed this week. We will also be able to claim back about £17,500 in VAT. Through the efforts of the village and congregation we have raised £20,000 and hope to raise at least another £5,000 from other charities; so there is just £3000 more to find.

Once the contracts with English Heritage and the builder have been signed I hope work will start in a few months time. I know it has been frustrating to fundraise whilst seemingly little goes on with the restoration but it was vital we fully understood why the wall was slowly collapsing and find the best method of putting it right. I am sure this approach will pay off in the long run.

On behalf of the PCC I would like to thank everyone who has helped in any way with raising funds for our village church.

Ian Jolly



METHODIST CHURCH PREACHERS AND EVENTS FOR MAY

Superintendent Minister

Rev. Roger Green - Tel: 01566 782240

Polyphant Morning Service 10.30 am

Sun 2 Own Arrangement (Chapel Anniversary)
Sun 9 Mary Hills
Sun 16 Own Arrangement
Sun 23 At Lewannick
Sun 30 Ivan Metherell

Lewannick Morning Service

11.00 am in the Village Hall

Sun 2 Own Arrangement
Sun 9 Michael Horrell
Sun 16 James Spragg
Sun 23 Rev. Roger Green
Sun 30 Amos Marshall

May Events:

Sun 2 Chapel Anniversary (Own Arrangement Service)
Wed 12 Coffee Morning at Polyphant 10.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.
Sun 16 Concert by Stowford Meadow Singers 8pm. Chairman Neville Hume

**Entrance to the
Stowford Meadow Singers Concert
on Sunday 16 May at 8 p.m.
in the Church at Polyphant will be free.
A collection will be taken during the
Concert in aid of church funds.
Light refreshments will be available
at the close."**

Embroiderers Guild, Inny Vale Branch

Next meeting 20th May at Polyphant Chapel Hall from 2.00-4.30pm. Further information tel. Bettie on 86381.

Polyphant WI

Our May meeting, which will be at 7.15 pm on Wednesday 26 May, will discuss the three resolutions to be submitted to the Annual General Meeting of the Women's Institute in Sheffield in June.

Monthly Coach Trip

Next trip will be to Sidmouth on 13th May at a cost of £6. Usual pick-up points. The trip will only take place if enough tickets are sold - please check with June Smith on 782901.

Whitmans Weather

Well, we have certainly enjoyed the most beautiful day of the year so far as I settle to write this short article and look out of the window at a lovely red sky which bodes well for tomorrow (Sunday 25th.) Hopefully same is the start of a long warm Summer.

This last 'weather month' hasn't been too bad really with 16 dry days - five less however than for the same period last year. Rainfall in Treadlock has been 79 mm (50% more than 2003) which has undoubtedly been beneficial to the grass - if not to those of us who have to mow it !! At least the Farmers have been able to get the cattle out reasonably early and the animals' enjoyment of their new found 2004 freedom is obvious for all to see. Could have been warmer on occasions though - eh ?

Hopefully next month will afford even better weather but then we'll have to wait and see !!

Steve Whitman