

Grade Ruan Gazette

March 2023
Volume 37 No 1



**In this Issue:
All our usual features, plus:**

Predannack Anti-Aircraft Battery and Museum

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DATES FOR THE DIARY

Alternate Wed	Recycling: 8 th , 22 nd March
Alternate Mon	Garden Waste Collection 13 th and 27 th March
Every 4 weeks	Mobile Library: Glebe Place 10.35am-10.50am. 1 st , 29 th March
Most Mondays	Quiz at the Pavilion from 8pm, Bar opens 7pm
Every Wed	Sunshine Club. Pavilion. 12.30 - 3.00 pm
Every Thursday	Village Hall Market. 9.30 -11.30am
Every Friday	Cornish Hub Food at the Rec from 5pm
Every Saturday	Smashed Tomato Pizza at the Rec from 5pm
Every Fri & Sat	Pavilion bar open from 5pm
1 st Sunday	Kennack Sands Beach Clean. 5 th March
2 nd Tuesday	Book Club at the Rec, 1-3pm. 14 th March
2 nd Wednesday	Parish Council Meeting, 7pm. 8 th March
4 th Tuesday	Village Hall Quiz 7.30. 28 th March

MARCH (See “What’s On” Section for details)

18 March	Spring Show - Ruan Minor Village Hall
19 March	Mothering Sunday
25 March	Jazz Evening, Village Hall, 7pm
26 March	British Summer Time starts (clocks go forward 1 hour at 1am)
31 March	End of Spring school term

ADVANCE DATES

17 April	Start of Summer school term
5 May	Flora Day
6 May	King Charles III Coronation
29 May - 2 Jun	School Half term
15 July	Charity Folk Day. Cadgwith Cove Inn, midday until late
25 July	End of Summer school term

Front Cover:

Some of the volunteers at the Predannack Anti-Aircraft Battery and Museum, which was successful in a number of categories in the Cornish Heritage 2023 Awards Programme.

See page 21 for more about the museum.

DISTRIBUTORS

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Village Centre	Janet Gascoigne

All houses (including holiday lets) and businesses in the parish should receive a free copy of the Gazette. If you are not receiving yours, please either speak to the person who delivers to your area, or contact David Gascoigne on 01326 290536.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Please send contributions to the Editors' email address shown below. Paper contributions can be put in the Gazette Box at Ruan Minor Stores. **The deadline is the 18th of the month prior to publication.**

Articles may need to be split over more than one issue, and might be edited.

Views and opinions expressed in submitted articles and letters are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team and Committee. The Editor reserves the right to alter submissions for length and/or diplomacy.

See us online at www.cadgwith.com

ADVERTISING

Advertising in the Gazette is a great way of reaching everyone in the Parish, and further afield. Approx.600 copies of each issue are distributed, and the rates are reasonable!

Colour: Full page £24, Half Page £14.
Black&White: Full Page £18, Half Page £10, Quarter Page £6 per issue, with 10 issues per year. A 10% discount is available if you pay for 10 issues in advance.

For more information, please contact the Editors

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The Gazette is a not-for-profit publication and is created and distributed by volunteers.

Noticeboard

March is the start of the Gazette year, so this is No 1 of Volume 37. That's 37 years of Grade Ruan Gazettes! A lot has changed in that time, but a lot has remained pretty much the same. Editors, treasurers, and distributors have come and gone but somehow the Gazette has survived. So much of life is electronic these days and social media covers some of the same ground as the Gazette, but the Committee is planning to stick to the paper format for as long as possible.

All prices are rising at the moment and we have had to cut back on the amount of colour we use to keep our costs down. We are grateful to our advertisers for supporting the Gazette and hope that our readers will support them wherever possible, to ensure they get value for their advertising spend.

We also depend on contributors providing news and articles to put in the magazine. If you have anything that would be of interest, please do send it in.

The Spring Show is back this month - a sure harbinger of spring! British Summer Time starts on 26 March - here's to warm days and light evenings.

Moir a Hurst
Co-Editor

Happy Birthday in March to: Matilda Phillips, Mark Outten, Juliet Edwards, Paddy Alfrey-Cryan, Jake Woodley, Toby Goddard, Jane Vowles, Norma Gossip, Peggy Thompson, David Rogers, Jessica Bennett, Tilly Alfrey-Cryan, Jake Scolding, Jamma Phillips, Kyra Tonks, Jenny Scolding (a big 0), Mel Downing, Treve Harry, Terry Stephens, Bruce Jane, Paul Collins, Bertie L-B, Brian Brown, Sophie Rose J, Deborah Stephens

From David Gascoigne:

Delivery of the Christmas/New Year edition of the Gazette saw the end of an era for **GLYNIS JORDAN**. It was the last time Glynis was to deliver Gazette copies to the properties in the Prazegooth area as she will shortly be moving to pastures new. Glynis has served the Gazette 'for more years than she cares to remember' and she will be greatly missed. On behalf of everyone at the Gazette, I would like to thank Glynis most sincerely for all her help and support over the years – Thank You Glynis.

Jane Shipway (and Ian) have kindly taken on the responsibility for Prazegooth deliveries for which I am very grateful.

From the Tree Wardens:

Free trees available. Contact

Jeb 07964215277

Jonathan 07960714687

Liam 07791540207

Our stall is now closed but we are still taking orders.

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to discuss your needs.

Ronnie Lingard

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01326 291228

r.lingard9@gmail.com

What's ON

Classes open
for all to
enter

1

HAPPY EASTER

GRADE-RUAN
SPRING FLOWER SHOW
March 18th 2023

Official opening at
2:30 pm by
Charlie Coates

3

Straw Berry Jam

Admission 50p

Raffle prizes donated
by local traders

Under 17 years FREE

2



RUAN MINOR VILLAGE HALL

Reg. Charity No. 225626

WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE VILLAGE HALL?

WI-FI

Free Wi-Fi is available to all Hall users.

THE THURSDAY MARKET and MONTHLY QUIZ

The Thursday market is open without any restrictions. We look forward to seeing you there! Refreshments are being served as usual including the famous Bacon Sarnie!

The Monthly Quiz is held every fourth Tuesday at 7.30 pm, £1 entry. BYO refreshments, we will no longer be serving tea and coffee in the break..

FITNESS AND WELLBEING

Mondays: 18.00 - 19.30 - Yoga with Tanya Strike

Wednesdays: 17.15 - 18.15 Pilates with Clare Girling

Thursdays: 15.15, 16.15 and 18.00 - 19.00 - Fitness with Sam Jane

Further details from the class providers

SNOOKER ROOM

The Snooker Room is operating without restrictions on numbers. Please check the Village Hall Facebook Page in case the situation changes. A new key system is to be introduced in the near future for the Snooker Room to ensure security and insurance compliance. A key safe will be installed and all paid up members will be provided with the access code.

Outstanding membership fees are now due.

We encourage the use of sanitisers and following the Council and Public Health guidelines of hands, face, space in order to combat any further spread of Covid 19

To get further information, please telephone Liz Outten on 01326 290910 or visit Ruan Minor Village Hall's Facebook Page

What's ON - cont.

RAISE THE ROOF

JAZZ IN THE HALL

OLD FAVOURITES FROM THE 
AMERICAN SONGBOOK



 AND MANY MORE



In Aid of the St Grade Roof Appeal

SATURDAY **MAR** 7.00pm
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RAFFLE

Ruan Village Hall

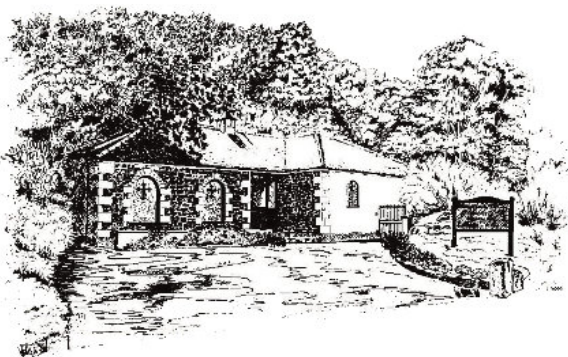
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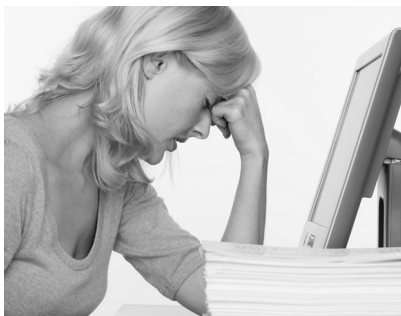
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What's ON - cont.



**Ruan Minor Methodist Chapel
Tea, Cake and Company**

Come and Join Us

For a Chat and Afternoon Tea



Tuesday 14th March 2 - 4 pm

(Donations Welcome)



SUNSHINE CLUB

Wednesdays 12.30 to 3 pm

The Pavilion, Ruan Minor



MARCH 1st

David Endean - Sweet Peas

MARCH 8th

PCSO Julia Berry - Neighbourhood Policing

MARCH 15th

National Trust - Birds

MARCH 22nd

Alison Goldsack - Easter Cards

MARCH 29th

School Choir

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Thursday 6.00-7.00 pm Ruan Minor

CHILDREN'S NETFIT CLASSES

A combination of fitness and netball activities

Monday 3.30-4.30 pm Year 7 to Year 11 Mullion School

Monday 4.45-5.45 pm Year 3 to Year 6 Mullion School

CHILDREN'S ABC OF PE

Fun multi skill activities encouraging good ability, balance & co-ordination

Thursday - 3.45 - 4.30 pm Reception to Year 3 Ruan Minor

School pick up available from Grade Ruan School at 3.15 pm

Contact sam@samjanefitnessco.uk or

via Facebook or Instagram to book into a class or for more information

What's ON - cont.

Ruan Minor Afternoon Book Club

Next Meeting will be on

Tuesday, 14th March

1.00 – 3.00 p.m.

The Pavilion

£1 admission

Tea and Coffee Available

Contact Mary Keeley by
Facebook Messenger or
marykeeley@hotmail.co.uk

Tel: 01326 290008 /
07554 242755

Spring Flower Show

The Joanna Aplin Cup

The Joanna Aplin Cup this year is for an Oasis free Easter Wreath.

There will be a workshop on

**Wednesday 15th March
at 3.30pm**

in the Pavilion

Heather Cornick will give a demonstration, then make your own.....!

Willow, moss, greenery & some daffodils will be provided but please bring extra flowers, ribbons, secateurs, scissors etc. Any old moss or willow wreaths can be upcycled! There may be a small charge.

For further information & to book a place, please phone Sarah Drummond 290233



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Friends of Kennack Sands

February beach clean day was sunny and bright with a lovely, low tide so all beaches could be cleaned. Another good turn out of volunteers with 10 adults and 4 children. What a great thing to do as a family!

The beaches and surrounding areas were really good this month for litter - much less dog waste and all collected litter could be decanted into one large black bin bag. All volunteers said this is the least rubbish collected on any beach clean they have done!

"Our past, our present, and whatever remains of our future, absolutely depend on what we do now" Sylvia Earle, Oceanographer.

So, thank you everyone for taking care of our amazing beach for all to enjoy safely!

***The next beach clean will take place on
Sunday 5th March 2023
All Welcome!***

Illustrated Memoirs by Simon Sugrue

Some may remember past Gazette contributions by "The Itinerant Seafarer", aka Simon Sugrue. I have turned these tales and many others into a set of two illustrated books.

Stories of Green Camels, piracy, weather, family life in Australia, Korea, Taiwan and Singapore, and, did I say? Green Camels.



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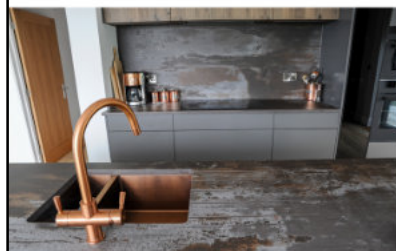
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The Lizard RNLI Lifeboat Station

It was a pleasure to welcome local HM Coastguard rescue teams from Porthoustock and Mullion to the station on Wednesday 1st February. A shore based familiarisation training session was held specifically looking at the different types of kit and equipment we all carry along with sharing experiences and improving ways of working together.



On a mission that is expected to take between 5 and 6 years and covering around 8,000 miles, please use the links below to follow Tim Jones and his dog Monty as they embark on an epic walk around the entire British coastline all for the RNLI. We met Tim and Monty on Valentine's Day as they passed by the lifeboat station at Kilcobben Cove on route to Mullion. They are nearly a month in to their mammoth challenge and we wish them both the very best of luck with the journey ahead of them.

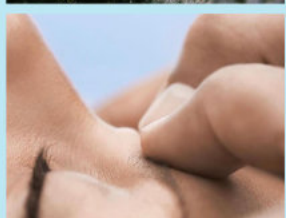
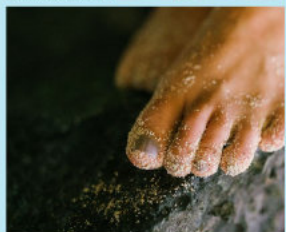
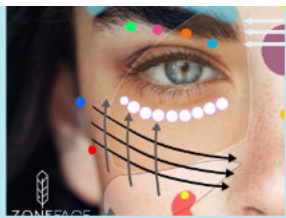
www.justgiving.com/fundraising/timsrnlj

www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/montytim

We were delighted to also welcome to the station Josh Owens, an RNLI crew member from Portsmouth RNLI Lifeboat Station. Via his TikTok platform Josh has raised £500 for The Lizard RNLI Lifeboat Station which he presented to Second Coxswain Darren Thirlaway and fellow Lizard Lifeboat personnel. Huge thanks to Josh and to all who supported our fabulous station.



Lyndsay Bray
Lizard Lifeboat Press Officer
The Lizard Lifeboat Station – 01326 290451



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Recreation Ground News



See us on Facebook:
"Grade Ruan Recreation Ground & Pavilion Bar"
Tel: 5671140

The committee has been working hard in January and February completing grant applications for funds to undertake work to improve the Pavilion. Our goal, if the project is funded in its entirety, is to tarmac the drive, finish the patio area, add a patio covering, sort out the acoustics of the building and improve the functionality of the kitchen. This will be amazing if we can do all this, as it will have a big impact on the accessibility of the Pavilion and Recreation Ground for many of our users.

Following my appeal in last month's gazette we have recruited a new volunteer to help out behind the bar. This is brilliant as our volunteer pool is quite limited. The offer still stands: if anyone would like to help out or join the committee, then please do get in touch or drop by the Pavilion.

Our committee has slightly changed, with Mary Keeley (one of the parish council representatives) resigning and the appointment of Ian Cox to the committee. We look forward to welcome Ian's business knowledge to assist in the running of the charity.

We've had a fairly successful couple of months in the bar with some home football games and showing the Six Nations on the television. The committee will be meeting soon and will be discussing a schedule of events for the next 6 months. This will no doubt include a celebration for the King's coronation on 6th May.

I'm very pleased to report that the dog ban has made a drastic improvement to dog fouling on the recreation ground. You will also notice we have some large signs up now informing the public of the ban. If the positive outputs of the ban continues, then we may review the complete ban and allow dogs in the Pavilion Bar and on the patio. However, at present we are keeping our blanket ban to avoid confusion.

I just wanted to say thanks to everyone for supporting us on Friday and Saturday nights. The Cornwall Food Hub (on Friday evenings) and Smashed Tomatoes Pizza Van (on Saturday evenings) are still proving popular. We're looking forward to the earlier nights where we can sit outside and enjoy the delicious food.

Thanks once again for everyone's continued support.

Jake Scolding - Chairman

Mother's Day

Available for lunch between 12-3pm, Sunday 19th March, 2023

3 courses, inspired by the season, for £35



TO START

Heritage beetroot goat's cheese & caramelised onion tortellini
mustard - chive

Tiger prawn cocktail - Thousand Island dressing - gem lettuce
smoked paprika

Ham hock & chicken terrine - asparagus - crispy hen's egg

MAINS

Dry aged beef shin ragu fried onion - roast potatoes
anise & honey glazed carrots - kale

Pan roasted sole shrimp - mussels - shellfish butter
new potatoes - purple broccoli

Pistachio - fig & hazelnut nut loaf roast potatoes
anise & honey glazed carrots - kale

DESSERTS

Rhubarb, apple & ginger crumble - clotted cream ice cream

Dark chocolate, sea salt & rum trifle - banana ice cream - salted caramel

Preserved lemon cheesecake - raspberry sorbet - raspberries

10% discount for locals - Advanced booking required

Predannack Anti-Aircraft Battery and Museum

By Ian Henn

History

Anti-Aircraft Artillery first became a specialist part of The Royal Artillery during the First World War. Initially modified field guns such as the British 18pdr, French 75 and British naval 12pdr were placed on high angle mounts. These modified field guns led to the development of the first purpose built British AA gun, the 3" of 20cwt AA gun. Light AA guns consisted of light machine guns such as the Lewis gun mounted on high angle mounts, plus auto cannons such as the British QF 2pdr known as the Pom Pom, which was mainly used in Naval service.

By the start of World War Two, although many of the early anti-Aircraft designs were still in service and continued throughout the war, they were becoming obsolete and were being replaced in front line service by more modern designs that were more powerful and could fire at a faster rate. The main British and Commonwealth Heavy Anti-Aircraft gun became the Vickers 3.7" AA gun, a gun every bit as powerful, accurate and deadly as the more famous German "88", with light AA artillery being dominated by the Swedish designed Bofors 40mm L40/60, a gun made under licence or copied by nearly all combatants and still in limited service today. We have an example of the 3.7" and several examples of the Bofors as part of our collection.

Our site, a 1941 pattern Heavy Anti-Aircraft gun site consisting of four gun pits which each contained a Vickers designed 3.7" Heavy AA gun, bolted down to holdfasts buried deep in concrete, and include ready use ammunition storage and two crew shelters per gun which housed the gunners close to the guns while on active service plus a command bunker, guard room and repair shop/ gunners store. One of two Heavy AA Batteries built in 1941 as part of the defence of RAF Predannack, these were supplemented by a number of fixed and mobile light AA guns and a small number of mobile Heavy AA guns, plus searchlights which were manned by members of Royal Artillery AA Batteries.



During the war the number of men serving in home AA defence reached a peak of 274,900, and was added to by 170,000 Women of the ATS. By 1943 all home batteries were designated as mixed batteries, with many being commanded by ATS officers. This was the first time that British women served on the front



line. Although officially banned from combat, this restriction was later removed by the Defence Regulations which declared members of the ATS to be members of the armed forces of the crown and therefore eligible for combatant duties. Serving on an AA battery during a raid was effectively the "front line" and approximately 300 women were killed.

During WW2 almost 1000 of these gun batteries were built, 192 were upgraded post war to Nucleus sites but by 1955 all of these were closed as Heavy Anti-Aircraft Artillery had become obsolete, replaced by emerging rocket technology. As time has progressed many of these sites have been destroyed as post war, infrastructure wasn't considered worth saving. According to a survey by Heritage England, 200 of these sites survive in some part, with only 60 remaining in good enough condition to demonstrate their original use. They also state that all 60 of the largely intact batteries should be considered of national importance. Ours is one of these rare survivors and one of the best preserved.

RAF Predannack was just a part of the war effort on the Lizard peninsular, though with a complement of 2892 personnel and some 98 aircraft of different types in 1944, it would have made a massive change to the population of the area.

Site Plan

Our plan for the site has 3 main aims.

1. To preserve the site itself, restore the buildings to as close as working con-

Cont...

dition as possible and to present a range of historical exhibits and displays to tell the story of what the site was, its role in the defence of RAF Predannack and the wider story of Anti-Aircraft Artillery in home defence.

2. To tell the story of the war on the Lizard as a whole, through displays, photographs, documentation and first hand stories of people who lived through this period. We aim to create an archive of everything relating to the Lizard at war, not just as a preservation exercise but as an education resource for current and future generations.

It is now not widely known that in addition to RAF Predannack, there were a number of RAF Radar sites which formed part of the chain home low network, home guard units, including auxiliary units who were to become the resistance in the event of an invasion, anti-tank defences on all beaches and SOE operation run from the Helford River.

3. To tell the story of the Women of the ATS who served on home AA batteries. There is a lot of contemporary information on this subject, but it isn't widely known, which is surprising in the age of equality. Our aim is to share the vital role that everyone played in the defence of this country.



We aim to be a completely inclusive organisation and welcome everyone both as visitors and volunteers.

We have a dedicated volunteer team who have really pushed this project forward, gaining recognition by recently winning the "Heritage Heroes" category in the Cornwall Museum awards, plus receiving highly commended certificates for the "Innovation", "Young Person" and "Object of the Year" categories.

We would welcome new members interested in joining our team; the only qualification required being interested in history.

If anyone is interested in our project, we have a volunteer working party every Saturday morning from 9 till 12. Pop in for a chat and an informal look around or look out for our Open Days this summer (dates to be announced). You can also follow us on Facebook, search for Predannack Anti-Aircraft Battery and Museum.

Ian and team

[Photos by Chris Hunt]

Rector's Ramblings

If I say the word: "lent", what does it mean to you? You might reply that it's something that's given on a temporary basis; for example: "*I lent my lawn mower to my next-door neighbour when his mower had packed up.*" Or, of course, it could be something like: "*I lent my friend a tenner – but she's never paid me back!*"

There's another word which sounds just the same as 'lent, but it's spelled in a different way and has a very different meaning altogether: 'leant'. It's the past tense of the verb 'lean'. It's something you do – either with a thing, for example: "*I leant my ladder against the wall so I could reach the outside light and change the bulb.*" And/or it's something you do yourself: "*I leant against the fence, but it collapsed under my weight!*" We lean on something because it's something solid, something we can depend on.

Lent – with a capital 'L' - is a time, for Christians, to reflect on how to form an even closer relationship with God. It's a time during which, in a small way, we reflect on the 40 days and nights that Jesus endured in the wilderness, with Satan chucking every temptation he could think of in Jesus' direction. We mirror Jesus' time in the wilderness by, perhaps, giving something up (chocolates/cake/cheese?) or by taking something on (attending a Lent group?). But let's go back to my examples of 'lent' and 'leant' ...

Jesus 'lent' his body to all humankind to be one of us - so that all our failings, all our shortcomings could be gathered-up in him when he died for us upon the cross. For Jesus, there was only one 'pay-back' clause: "*Believe in God, believe also in me.*" (John 14:1). But Jesus didn't simply 'lend' himself to us in the short term. His 'lending' was not a temporary thing; it was a promise for all eternity: he gave himself, died for us so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life.

I have 'leant' upon Jesus many times in my life, and I continue to do so in so many ways, every day. Have you? Do you? Jesus has never collapsed or buckled under the weight of *my* shortcomings – nor will he do so under yours.

Blessings

Revd Deirdre

deirdre.mackrill@btinternet.com

☎ 01326 281178

Contact details for St Ruan Church, St Grade Church and St Mary's Church:

Churchwardens:

Sheila Stephens 01326 290583;

Mark Outten 01326 290910

For weddings, baptisms, funerals and pastoral concerns:

Revd Deirdre Mackrill

01326 281178



Church Services



Methodist Services

Rev'd Diane Grice 01326 240200

dianegrice@btinternet.com

March

Sunday 5th 11am Mrs Stephanie Gordon

Sunday 12th 11am Mrs Estelle Turner

Sunday 19th 11am Dr Peter Angell

Sunday 26th 11 am Mr Peter Richmond

Church of England Services

March

Sun 5th Morning Prayer, St Ruan Church 11.15am

Sun 12th Holy Communion, St Ruan Church 9.30am

Sun 19th **Mothering Sunday**

Family Service, St Ruan Church 11.15pm

Sun 26th Holy Communion, St Ruan Church 9.30am

Roman Catholic Sunday Mass Times

St. Mary's, Helston Sunday 9.30 a.m.

St. Michael's, Mullion Sunday 11.30 a.m.

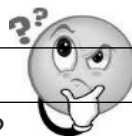
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Quiz - The Month of March



1	St. Piran's Day falls on which date in March?
2	Which National Union ended year long strike in 1985?
3	Dear March – Come In", a poem by whom?
4	Alexander Graham Bell patented what in 1876?
5	The 'Ides of March' corresponds to which date?
6	British fighter aircraft first test flight in 1936?
7	Patron Saints of St. David & St. Patrick relate to where?
8	March comes in like a lion and goes out like a?
9	Who laid foundation stone of Coventry's new Cathedral?
10	Reclusive Yorkshire novelist who died in 1855?

Answers on page 44



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Results this year

18/2	H	Pendeen Rovers Reserves	1 - 2
11/2	H	Storm FC	5 - 4
28/1	A	St. Just Reserves	6 - 1
21/1	A	Helston Raiders	2 - 0
7/1	A	Wendron United 5 th	2 - 2

Upcoming Fixtures

4/3	A	Tregony FC First
11/3	H	Storm FC
18/3	A	Mawnan Reserves
25/3	H	New Inn Titans FC 1 st
1/4	H	Penryn Athletics Reserves

The Whirlwind Sports Trelawny League, Division 4

As at 18 February 2023

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Pendeen Rovers Reserves	12	10	1	1	58	15	43	33 *
2	Helston Raiders	14	9	0	5	41	40	1	30 *
3	St Just Reserves	13	8	3	2	39	13	26	27
4	Penryn Athletic Reserves	13	9	1	3	58	24	34	25 *
5	Praze-An-Beeble Reserves	16	7	5	4	66	41	25	25 *
6	Ruan Minor	16	8	1	7	48	46	2	25
7	Dropship Reserves	16	6	2	8	44	49	-5	20
8	Wendron United 5th	14	3	1	10	28	63	-35	10
9	Storm	17	3	1	13	49	111	-62	10
10	Mullion 3rd	15	2	1	12	24	53	-29	7

* adjustment made

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THE FINAL DAYS OF HMS WARSPITE



**THE RESCUE OF THE HMS WARSPITE CREW
BY ARTIST GEOFFREY HUBAND RSM**

Since the first lifeboat station was established on Cornwall's south coast in 1803, some twenty or so different stations have served to make our waters safer. To some degree or other, all of these stations have endeavoured to support each other and, indeed, on many occasions have been tasked to provide assistance on the same 'shouts'.

A dramatic incident took place at Prussia Cove on 23rd April 1947, when the obsolete Queen Elizabeth Class battleship 'HMS WARSPITE' broke free whilst on tow from Portsmouth to Clyde to be broken up. The Warspite parted from her tugs and came ashore under the cliffs.

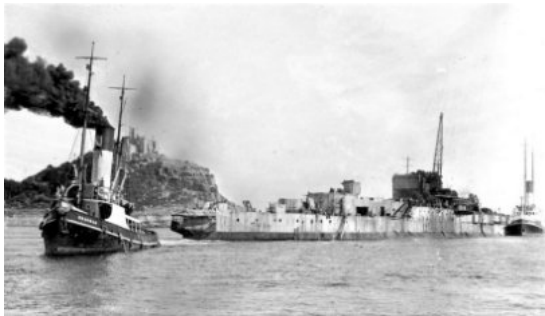
The crews of the Lizard and Penlee lifeboats had been alerted at 4.15 am on the previous day when the battleship and her escorts ran into bad weather in the area of Wolf Rock. However, four hours later the weather abated and the crews were stood down. In the early afternoon of the 23rd April, the weather worsened and Penlee's lifeboat, 'RNLB W & S' was launched after the Warspite had broken its tow a second time. Battling against a strong southerly gale and very heavy seas, the Penlee Coxswain found the Warspite aground on Mount Malpas Ledge. With great difficulty in the dangerous conditions, the lifeboat manoeuvred close enough to the stricken Warspite to advise her master that,

Cont...

with the rising tide, she would be in great danger of floating off the ledge and drifting ashore and on to the rocks. He advised the master to abandon ship but the master refused, believing it to be too dangerous to board the lifeboat.

Given the circumstances, the 'W & S' was forced to make for Newlyn harbour as, in the adverse weather conditions, it was not possible to haul her up her own slipway. She eventually arrived in Newlyn at 4.15pm. The 'W & S' put out again at 5.30pm and discovered that the Warspite had, indeed, been forced off the ledge and was heading for the shore, as Coxswain Madron had predicted. With the weather worsening rapidly and 30 ft. waves crashing onto her, the Warspite was eventually driven by the heavy seas to become lodged fast on the rocks off Prussia Cove. For most of the next hour, fighting the most difficult of conditions, Coxswain Madron daringly brought his lifeboat alongside the Warspite time and again, enabling the 8 men of the skeleton crew to jump to the lifeboat and safety, one by one. It was a test of seamanship and of nerve and bravery given the dreadful conditions. All of the Warspite's crew were securely transferred and taken to safety.

Captain Baxter of the Warspite later reported that "he and his crew would not have got off the battleship were it not for the skill of the lifeboat men who knew their job." Coxswain Madron was subsequently awarded the RNLI Silver Medal



**A TUG ATTEMPTS TO RE-
ESTABLISH THE TOW**



**HMS WARSPITE AGROUND
ON THE ROCKS**



**THE STRICKEN WARSPITE
SETTLES IN THE WATER**



**HMS WARSPITE ON DUTY
IN THE INDIAN OCEAN**

Cont....

and mechanic Johnny Drew was awarded the RNLI Bronze Medal for the parts they played in saving the Warspite's crew. The remainder of the crew of the 'W & S' each received individual awards for their roles in the rescue.

The Warspite was eventually removed from the rocks at Prussia Cove and beached on the sands at St Michael's Mount. It was, however, some considerable time before her salvage was finally completed but that is another long and involved story.

DAVID GASCOIGNE
VISITOR CENTRE MANAGER



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Village Hall Quiz

The January quiz was a very well attended evening with five teams taking part. A good range of questions tested the teams' knowledge, one of the most challenging was anagrams of American presidents! Other rounds included looking back on 2022; food and drink; animals; hotels, and links to January.

Thanks to all who took part. The winning team was Fox and Hounds, with Universally Challenged a very close second. The wooden spoon this month went to the Scilly Old Fools.

See you all next month.

Quiz master Skinny



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From the Gazette Archive

20 Years Ago - March 2003

The Christmas Day Charity Swim

By Bill Scolding

In the past, I've always successfully managed to avoid being recruited for the Annual Act of Collective Insanity which is otherwise known as Nicky Jose's Xmas Day Swim, preferring to watch from the beach, well-wrapped up and warm. The sight of all that blue, goose-bumped flesh makes that first Christmas pint all the more enjoyable, I feel.

This year, however, Nicky persuaded me to act as honorary Gazette reporter for the occasion, which this year was held in memory of her mother Mavis, and raising funds for Cancer Research.

The Swim is the only event in the entire Cadgwith Calendar which actually runs to Greenwich Mean Time rather than Cadgwith Time. Get to the beach just a few minutes late and you've missed the whole thing. And so it was that at five minutes to noon on a cold, grey, damp Christmas Day I was racing down the hill, anxious not to miss that first fool-hardy rush into the briny. Waving my notebook aloft, I squeezed past the barricade of boats and pots, just in time to see a motley crew of bearded women, cartoon characters and wannabee popstars plunging into the arctic waves. Was that Buzz Lightyear wading to infinity and beyond? An Admiral of the Fleet sinking below the surf? Lily looking Savage and Minnie taking the Mickey? Struggling to hold my pen in the sub-zero temperatures, I rapidly scrawled names and descriptions onto my pad.

But someone was missing... I scanned the sodden swimmers as they squelched their way back up the beach towards the steaming bowl of punch: Nicky Jose with what appeared to be a technicolour jellyfish on her head, Zoe and Rachel looking suddenly not so Cheeky, wet Brett.... But where was Michael Halliday?

There was a tap on my shoulder, and there was Michael, who had decided to come as a Bear with a Sore Head. It seemed that he'd taken a tad too much of the festive spirit on the night before, and feeling under the weather had decided that this year he'd give the swim a miss. As heavy raindrops splattered my already incomprehensible jottings, I reckoned that the weather was definitely over me too, and that it was time to retire to the pub.

Over £177 was collected on the beach that morning, with more still to come. Nicky has asked me to remind all swimmers to collect their sponsorship money and hand it in as soon as possible.

Well done everyone! See you on the beach next Christmas Day! (I'll be the dry one in the woolly hat, scarf, overcoat and four jumpers).



Gardening in March

by David Endean

So far February has been rather benign. I am still expecting some more winter to appear but spring is racing forth and we have to be ready for it.

Undoubtedly one of the things I am most often asked about is hydrangeas, March is the month to prune them. An Hydrangea's size can rarely be controlled by pruning if you wish to enjoy its floral beauty. The size at which an hydrangea flowers is genetically controlled; if it is too big for your taste and you cut it back hard you are likely to only get a mound of green foliage in the summer and no flowers, as it needs mature wood to flower. Therefore you will have to wait until the next year for the flowers, by which time it is back to the same size as it was before. Often people are keen to tidy up and prune in the autumn, but those old flowers and top growth protect the fat green buds, which contain the flowers, from the ravages of the winter frosts and salt laden winds. To prune mature bushes, remove a third of the oldest stems completely - these will be paler ones and have a more wrinkled bark. Trim all the rest of the stems back by a third trimming off just above a pair of buds. Alas it is not always that simple, in some of our more exposed gardens I would only cut out the odd branch and trim off the remnants of old flowers. This is because they struggle to put on the growth each year.

Now is also the time to prune back shrubs like the dogwoods and willows which are grown for their coloured stems. These are most pronounced on the young growth so regular pruning helps to keep the bushes young and vibrant looking and also neatly contained as they grow fast and can sprawl around and smother some of your other garden goodies. Those winter flowering heathers will be sadly coming to an end soon now so as the flowers fade get the shears out and trim the bushes lightly to remove the old flowers and this will help to keep the bush compact and not too woody, as they do not regenerate well from old wood. I really do like winter flowering heathers - they are good doers in my book cheerful over a very long period in the winter, robust as long as they are not shaded and more tolerant of a higher pH than their summer flowering brethren.

Sowing starts to go mad this month especially in the greenhouse I will be starting off the tomato seeds, I reckon this is the vegetable which has the most varieties readily available to the amateur gardener. The fruits come in many shapes, sizes and colours, from the standard red jobs to yellow miniature pear shaped at one end and almost black Bramley sized at the other. The choice is yours with dedicated catalogues just for them I will be growing Shirley (a standard red one) and sweet million (a red cherry). I use a good quality compost. Sieve it, water it and sow the seeds evenly on the surface, then lightly cover with more sieved compost. Then put in a propagator at 18-20°C. Once germinated, remove from the propagator, keep in a warm but bright place which will produce good stocky plants. When the first true leaves appear, prick them out into individual pots. Place the seedlings so that the lowest leaves are on the surface of the compost,

Cont....

more roots will come out from the stems. After all this effort in growing these it is very doubtful that I will even eat one fruit as I cannot stand them - but others do.

Now is the time to make the first sowing of hardy annuals like cornflowers, nigella, linaria, alyssum to name a few. This can be in the open ground or I will be using modules which can be planted out later. Over the coming weeks and months you can do more sowings to get continuity of flowers.

Out in the veg patch you can plant onion sets and shallots and some broad beans, as well as those early potatoes. Get all your ground prepared, mulch your rhubarb with either some good homemade garden compost or well-rotted farm yard manure.

The lawns will need another trim, but do not be in too much of a rush to lower those blades.

Hopefully I will have some dahlia cuttings to take in March. I bought some new stock this winter and I am going to try to bulk the numbers up with cuttings. The tubers were potted up in February and put on my heated bed. They are shooting as I write so by the time you read this they may well be ready. Chrysanthemum cuttings have been taken so hopefully will be ready for potting on this month.

So, there are a few jobs for you to do in March, I hope to see you with your entries at the spring show on the 18th. Enjoy your gardening.



GRADE RUAN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the
Sunday School Room, Methodist Chapel, Ruan Minor
on Wednesday 11th January 2023 at 7 pm

166/22 Persons Present/Apologies

Present: Cllrs Green (Chairing the meeting), Agutter, P Collins, Cox, Keeley, Lee, Scolding, Trewin.

Apologies: Cllrs Preston, Carter, S Collins., Fleetwood. Cllr Soady CC.

In attendance: L Dunkley (Parish Clerk). 4 members of the public.

167/22 To Receive Declarations of Interest / Dispensations.

Cllr Cox declared an interest in PA22/10790.

168/22 Reports from outside bodies.

RECEIVED an update from Catherine Lee, National Trust, which included the removal of dead or dying trees, the introduction of ponies at Poltesco and an increase in chough sightings. An event in the summer at Poltesco attracted more people than anticipated, which caused issues with roads and parking – future events will be smaller scale.

169/22 Reports from Parish Council representatives to outside

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bodies.

NOTED the peninsula joint parishes meeting will take place on Tuesday 24th January, 7pm, at Ruan Minor Methodist Chapel. Cllr Agutter gave an update on the Village Hall, which included a disturbing occurrence of vandalism. The Village Hall are also seeking funding for a new roof. Cllr Scolding gave an update on Grade Ruan Recreation Ground Committee – detailing running cost matters, low numbers of, and high demands on, Committee members, and the need for grant funding for any capital works, which raised cash flow issues. The Rec Committee will consider further recruitment to the Committee. Cllr Keeley attended a Q&A session held by Cornwall Council regarding the mayoral system and associated financial impacts.

170/22 **Public Participation.**

P Dunmall gave context to PA22/10982.

A member of the public raised the matter of defibrillator provision in Kuggar. Cllr Lee is investigating costings.

N Jose spoke in objection to PA22/10790, stating that previous objections still stands and there is the additional issue of loss of light for an adjacent property.

171/22 **Council Meeting: Minutes 12 December 2022**

RESOLVED that the above [Minutes](#) of the Meeting of the Council having been previously circulated, be taken as read, approved and signed. Cllrs Scolding/Cox. 5 in favour, 3 abstained: Cllrs Agutter, P Collins, Keeley. No matters arising **NOTED**.

172/22 PA22/10982: Proposed extensions and balcony (amended November 2022). Mr & Mrs P Dunmall. Bodrigy Lodge Cadgwith Ruan Minor TR12 7JU

The Council supported the application. Proposed, seconded. Unanimous.

**Cllr Cox left the meeting*

173/22 PA22/10790: Proposed two-storey dwelling. Alan Brown. Louvain Cadgwith Ruan Minor R12 7JY

The Council noted that the new plans as presented do not address the objections of the Council raised for the previous application (PA21/08709) and Council wishes to maintain these very strong objections. In addition, the Council wishes to strongly object on further grounds regarding concern over the removal/damage of a Cornish hedge. The original objections which were: the proposals constitute overdevelopment for this small site which is oppressively close to neighbouring properties, disrupting their amenity; the design and scale is out of proportion and not in keeping with the local character of the village; design and scale pose harm to the conservation area; there is no suitable access to the property; the location plan assumes ownership and rights over a footpath that is well used by the public and which is currently unregistered land which the Parish Council are seeking to re-

Cont...





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March

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gister as a Public Right Of Way; the assertion that the development would provide a family dwelling is in serious doubt as the same applicant stated the same for the adjacent property, which is now a holiday let – more of which are not needed in Cadgwith; harm to the AONB as outlined by the objection of the AONB Unit (to PA21/08709); significant opposition from local residents. Proposed, seconded. Unanimous.

**Cllr Cox re-entered the meeting*

174/22 PA22/11217: Reserved Matters application for construction of dwelling (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) Details following application no. PA21/09844 dated 23/11/21.) Mr P Lowless. Land Adj To Westie Way St Ruan Ruan Minor Helston Cornwall TR12 7JS

The Council objected on the following grounds: The Council considers that the ridge height of the proposed dwelling is too high when its proximity to nearby existing buildings is taken into account - in particular Chylin. There are overlooking concerns for the property of Chylin. The design and scale of the proposals are not in keeping with the area, and the Council are concerned about the removal of mature trees on land which will negatively affect local biodiversity and aesthetic screening. However, the Council may be more sympathetic to a proposal for a more modest dwelling at this site. Proposed, seconded. Unanimous.

175/22 **Planning Applications for consideration.**

PA22/07842: Conversion of two redundant barns into two residential units with the inclusion of a single storey extension to unite the barns around an existing central courtyard. Associated landscaping works including resurfacing and planting to courtyard, the reinstatement of existing stone walls around a new open air swimming pool and pool house. Elizabeth Norris. Redundant Barns Gwendreath Farm Gwendreath Ruan Minor TR12 7LZ

The Council supported the initial application on this site which used the existing footprint and existing buildings in, what was essentially a sympathetic renovation of derelict agricultural barns around a central courtyard. The Council, however, objected to this subsequent application and the latest revisions do not allay the Council's concerns. To reiterate, the Council objects on the following grounds: the additional buildings/development constitute a threat to the local environment as habitat will be lost to the new buildings, and trees will inevitably be under threat of felling ? firstly because the felling of trees will open up a sea view and it is felt this is likely to be pursued, and secondly because excavation work for the new forms, particularly the swimming pool, presents a significant risk to roots. Further, the aesthetic considerations within the AONB are not properly considered or mitigated by the development. It is felt the development is simply a step too far and would appear as an alien intrusion in this coastal landscape. There is confusion within the application as to whether this is for residential or holiday use, and also how many families will be occupying the buildings. Multiple families on

Cont...

holiday would have significant impact of other neighbouring properties not only through noise generated but also vehicular movements in this quiet location. Proposed, seconded. Unanimous.

176/22 **Planning Applications decided by CC since the last meeting.** None.

177/22 **Preapplications, consultations and appeals.** None.

178/22 Finance report and Payments

RESOLVED to adopt the most recent Finance Reports (1, 2) and authorise the payments of Accounts Outstanding:

Octopus Energy	Public lighting	23.58
N Green	Reimbursement for land registry search	3.00
J Preston	Reimburse for batteries	15.90
R Sanders	Grass cutting play area & bus shelter	75.00
Buckingham Nurseries	Trees per tree wardens request	158.05
Southwest Play Inspection	Inspection & authorised repairs	336.00
Staffing		688.21

Cllrs P Collins/Scolding. 7 in favour, 1 abstained: Cllr Green.

179/22 **Budget 2023/24**

CONSIDERED draft budgets (1, 2, 3). All Councillors present agreed that

Cont...

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STAYS WELCOME

with the current cost of living crisis affecting the community it was particularly important this year for there to be a below inflation rise in precept. After considerable discussion of the options put forward it was **RESOLVED** to set projected expenditure as £31,530 and a precept of £25,945 for 2023/24. Cllrs Agutter/Keeley. 7 in favour, 1 against: Cllr Trewin.

180/22 **Community Banking Hub**

RECEIVED correspondence from Helston Town Council [as above](#). The Council considered that there is a need for banking services for local individuals and businesses which is more than just access to cash – as cash is available via post offices and ATMs. The Council support the initiative and would like to know more details about what services such a hub would offer.

181/22 **Play Area Inspection report**

RECEIVED [as above](#). No formal course of action needed.

182/22 **Warm Rooms/Spaces**

CONSIDERED the Council's role in the above. Cllr Scolding explained that the Pavilion is available to be used but that it will need costs covered and a responsible person to volunteer. No resolution needed from the Council.

183/22 **Defibrillator at Kuggar**

CONSIDERED options as above and per 170/22. The Council will pursue landowner permission and costings.

Cont...



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184/22 Update: Old Bus Shelter renovation

RECEIVED as above. Cllr Cox to chase quotations for glass/interior works and landscaping works.

185/22 Update: Youth Forum

RECEIVED as above. Cllr Cox hopes to form a working party by the end of January. Cllr Scolding expressed intent to join.

186/22 Long-term “vision” for the Council

RECEIVED as above. Cllr Cox has approached Cllr and non-Cllrs to form a working party. A meeting is intended to be held by the end of January.

187/22 Footpaths, Highways; Tree wardens report.

a) **RECEIVED** an update on potential resurfacing/tarmacking at FP6.1, Cadgwith. Quotations will be chased but a resolution to be made at the February Full Council meeting in any case.

b) **RECEIVED** an update on registering as a PROW the access from New Rd to the above FP6. In process.

c) **RECEIVED** an update on Higher Moor-Glebe Place access works. Works have been instructed per resolution at 163/22 to improve accessibility between Higher Moor-Glebe Place, and a letter to the landowner of the adjacent field has been sent regarding improvements to the additional stile.

d) **RECEIVED** an update from the Chapel Terrace surface repair working group. In process.

e) **CONSIDERED** other reports: Severe flooding is occurring near Grade Cottage due to suspected drainage block. Flooding near Ruan Minor Store may be being caused by an inspection cover issue – to be reported to Highways. There are reports that soft verges on the road leaving Ruan Minor to the north are leading to drops away from the road and causing a hazard.

188/22 Notification of meeting/items for agenda

NOTED: Communication with local Stakeholders: Caravan Camps, Goonhilly Earth Station, any others as appropriate. Community Trust accounts.

189/22 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. None.

Meeting closed 21:20.

Answers to the March Quiz on p. 26

1. 5th March 2. Miners' Union 3. Emily Dickinson 4. The telephone
5. 15th March 6. The Spitfire 7. Wales & Ireland 8. Lamb
9. Queen Elizabeth II 10. Emily Brontë

SURGERY HOURS

Ruan Minor Surgery - 290852

Monday	9am - 12 noon
Tuesday	2pm - 5.30pm
Wednesday	CLOSED ALL DAY
Thursday	2pm - 5.30pm
Friday	9am - 12 noon

Lizard Surgery - 290415

Monday	2pm - 5.30pm
Tuesday	9am - 12 noon
Wednesday	CLOSED ALL DAY
Thursday	9am - 12 noon
Friday	2pm - 5.30pm

Mullion Health Centre - 240212

Mon	8.30am - 6pm
Tue	8.30am - 6pm
Wed	8.30am - 6pm, 6.30pm - 8pm
Thu	8.30am - 6pm, Closed 1pm - 2pm
Fri	8.30am - 6pm, Closed 1pm - 2pm

All Surgeries will be closed on the following Bank Holidays:

New Year's Day	Good Friday
Easter Monday	Early May
Spring/Whitsun	Summer/August
Christmas Day	Boxing Day

NUMBERS YOU MIGHT NEED

ST RUAN WITH GRADE 290583
Sheila Stephens 078780 70269.

ST MICHAEL'S, MULLION &
ST MARY'S, HELSTON.
Parish Priest/Office 312763

METHODIST MINISTER
Rev Diane Grice 240200

NHS DIRECT 111

POLICE
Helston Police Station 08452 777444

Emergency calls 999
Non urgent calls 101

PCSO Julie Berry 07595 008199
Crimestoppers 0800 555111

MOBILE LIBRARY 0300 1234111

GRADE-RUAN UNDER FIVES
Clare Tipper 07929 902938

GRADE-RUAN C OF E SCHOOL
Secretary 290613

MULLION SCHOOL 240098

GRADE RUAN PARISH COUNCIL
Chairman: Jeb Preston 07964215277

CORNWALL COUNCILLOR
Anthony Soady 07546 218200

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS
Liz Outten 290910

RUAN MINOR STORES & POST OFFICE
Claire Bollard 290138

PAVILION 567140

RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE
Chairman: jacobsolding@hotmail.com

RUAN MINOR FOOTBALL CLUB tba

CADGWITH GIG CLUB
Secretary: Mike Hardy 290282

NATIONAL TRUST
Lizard Office 222170

RNAS CULDROSE 552415
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DEFIBRILLATORS

LOCATIONS

Cadgwith:

Near Ladies Toilets

Ruan Minor:

In Porch of Doctors Surgery.

If used

Please return to the cabinet and contact

Jeff Lee Tel. 01326 290143

Email: jeff.lee@grpc.org.uk or

Mike Fleetwood, Tel: 07831 401464

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We've just had a new delivery of ceramics from local artist Sally Cooke. They make lovely gifts for Mothering Sunday and there is a lovely selection of Easter inspired decorations too. All hand crafted and just £6 each, they won't break the bank either.

As always, the Post Office has Euro currency available on demand and other currencies, if ordered before 2pm, can be collected the following day. Please remember your passport or driving licence if you wish to pay for your currency with a card.



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Saturday 8:30am to 7pm

Sunday 9am to 1pm

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