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WITHIEL



Snowy pictures of Retire farmhouse, and Fred Rowse's
Devon & Cornwall Longwool sheep.

NEWS AND VIEWS

FEBRUARY 2025

*To the one legged man, wearing camouflage clothes who mugged
me - you can hide, but you can't run.*

The Parish Church of St Clement, Withiel
 The Benefice of St Wenn and Withiel
 withielchurch@gmail.com

Priest in Charge

Position Vacant

Church Wardens

Mrs E A Jarrett, The Mowhay, Withiel, PL30 5NN 01208 832872
 Mr S J Coy, Dipper Bridge, Ruthernbridge, PL30 5LU 01208 831906

Treasurer

Mr S J Coy, Dipper Bridge, Ruthernbridge, PL30 5LU 01208 831906


February 2025

Sunday 19th January Epiphany 2	10 am	Benefice Communion at St Wenn taken by Rev'd Steve Weston
Sunday 26th January Epiphany 3	11.15 am	Morning Prayer taken by Don McQuillen-Wright
Sunday 2nd February Presentation	11.15 am	Morning Prayer taken by Julie Barnecutt
Sunday 9th February 4 Before Lent	11.15 am	Morning Prayer taken by Allan Coode
Sunday 16th February 3 Before Lent	10 am	Benefice Communion at St Wenn taken by Rev'd Steve Weston
Sunday 23rd February 2 Before Lent	11.15 am	Morning Prayer taken by Don McQuillen-Wright
Sunday 2nd March 1 Before Lent	11.15 am	Morning Prayer taken by Julie Barnecutt

Flowers




February C. Malone March, April, May J. Cherry June A. Davey



 **Got a Story, Picture, Advertisement, or Joke?** 

We'd love to feature your contributions in our little newsletter! Whether it's a news story, a memorable photo, a local advertisement, or a fun joke, your input helps make **News N Views** a joy for everyone in the community.

Please send your articles by the 15th of the month to:

-  Email: newsnviews.withiel@gmail.com
-  Wendy: w.e.symons@talk21.com
-  Rob: 01208 831637

We look forward to hearing from you!



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Voltaise Funding

Withiel Parish Council would like to invite applications to its Voltaise grant fund.

This money has been given to the Parish Council by Voltaise Limited in connection with their solar farm at Kerriers. The Parish Council will administer this fund in line with their agreed objectives to support local projects which will benefit the community or environment of Withiel Parish.

Applications will be reviewed quarterly.

Please contact the Parish Clerk for details, guidance notes and an application form clerk@withielparishcouncil.org.uk.



*To whoever stole my copy of Microsoft Office:
I will find you. You have my Word!*

A30 Farmers Tractor run

Approximately 50 tractors gathered at Cornwall Services on Friday 10th January, with a clear message, yes they are unhappy about the inheritance tax changes for agriculture business worth more than million pounds, applicable from April 2026 – but the anger goes further deeper than that.

Farmers speaking at the event said “They are unable to move forward.

In 2022 10% of farmers declared a non-positive income, but in 2024 that has increased to 30% of farm business declaring a non-positive income.

Farmers want to negotiate – but they have options, if that doesn’t happen”

A collection was taken at the event from all the farmers – in aid of those struggling without the Winter Fuel Allowance.



From the Rectory

Lent

Writing as a lay person, I can only offer a practical, rather than a theological, view of Lent. I also have the advantage of drafting this as I pack to travel to India to visit the Diocese of Madurai. A Charity (Hope Gardens) which provides financial support to the Bishop for capital projects has been supported by Withiel Church. I have been invited to join the Charity trustees to be shown how money from the UK makes a difference to the lives of people five thousand miles away. The last thing you want to read about is 40 days of denial and giving things up while I enjoy a tropical climate and some very good

vegetarian food. However, there is a rhythm to all this. We have moved on from the feasting of Christmas. However, before we can enjoy the prospect of Spring and Easter (Easter Day April 20th), there will inevitably be clouds and darkness which I have seen described as a period of penitential preparation for Easter, or Lent.

So what exactly is Lent? Well it is a solemn period in the Christian liturgical calendar during the six weeks that precede Holy week, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Starting with Ash Wednesday, it coincides with the time that is described as the Temptation of Christ but it is also more widely known as Jesus 40 Days in the Desert. There is not a lot about this in the Gospels, but it is not difficult to understand why Jesus felt the need to go into a retreat, to be alone, and to contemplate the conclusion of his ministry on Earth through prayer, meditation and self denial. We, as Christians, have the opportunity also to take some time out to examine our faith, and, somewhat symbolically, give & Something up for Lent before we move on to the sunny uplands: the good news of Easter and Christ’s resurrection

The approach of Lent will be marked, as always, by an informal & bring your own batter party in the Church Room at 6 pm on Shrove Tuesday 4th March. The next day is Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent. During Lent we celebrate Mothering Sunday on 30th March. The climax of Lent is Holy week in which we have Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday, each marked by important Services at St Clement

We are privileged to have our Easter Communion service taken by The Ven Clive Hogger, Archdeacon of Cornwall.
Simon

CRAFTY CRAFTERS

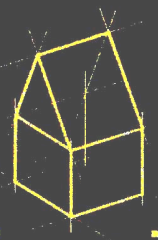
****Advance Notice****

Craft Exhibition 10th May 2025

Withiel Village Hall

11am – 2pm

Ploughman’s Lunches PLUS Gorgeous Cakes



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WITHIEL VILLAGE HALL

Saturday 22nd February

Doors open 7pm - Eyes Down 7.30pm

Fun for all the family...

Excellent Prizes to be won !



To Book your table please call
Stephen on: 01208 832613, Erica on: 07774 449377,
or email Wendy on: w.e.symons@talk21.com

QUIZ NIGHT AT WITHIEL HALL

Simon Malloni will be hosting another of his popular 'sevens' quizzes at Withiel Village Hall on Saturday 8 February. The bar opens at 7.00pm and the first question will be asked at 7.30pm. The entry cost is £4 per player, proceeds going towards the Ruthern Valley Players' 2025 pantomime production, and teams must not exceed four players. To reserve a table please email Simon via simonmalloni@btinternet.com



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The Experiences of a Short Mat Newbie

By Charlie

Joining the local short mat bowling group has been a wonderfully welcoming experience. From the moment I arrived, I was greeted with warm smiles and friendly faces, making me feel right at home.

Growing up in the Philippines, I often watched my dad and his friends play short mat bowls. Their friendly competition fascinated me, and I dreamed of trying it one day. Now, I've finally had the chance!



Learning the ropes was both challenging and fun. Though my lines were good in the first half, I struggled with the weight, sending ball after ball into the ditch. Everyone's good-natured teasing kept me motivated, and switching to a slower mat in the second half helped me find my rhythm.

The game ended with a nail-biting finish. My final ball landed close to the jack and held its position, ending in a thrilling 11-9 score.

Playing short mat bowls not only brought back fond memories of my dad but also introduced me to a wonderful group of people. If you've ever thought about giving it a try, I highly recommend it. Who knows, you might just discover a hidden talent!

If you would like to try your hand, come along to a free taster session, no age limit, no equipment necessary: **Wednesday afternoons 2pm-5pm** and **Thursday evenings 7pm- 10pm** Withiel village hall

WITHIEL VILLAGE HALL EVENTS 2025



Saturday 8th February - Ruthern Valley Players Quiz

Saturday 22nd February - BINGO

Saturday 8th March - Soup & Sandwich lunch

Friday 28th March - QUIZ

Saturday 26th April - Craft Fayre

Saturday 10th May - Craft Exhibition & Lunch

Saturday 24th May - BINGO

Saturday 21st June - Village Fun Day

Friday 19th September - QUIZ

Saturday 1st November - BINGO

Saturday 6th December - Craft Fayre

This list will be added to, as more events are organised.



*I had a bottle of Omega 3 pills thrown at me the other day.
Luckily I escaped with just Super Fish Oil injuries*



CRAZY CRAFTERS Withiel Village Hall Every Wednesday

10.00 am - 12.00

£3.00 a session

Including coffee/ tea and biscuits

For further information -

Anita 07903575228



Saturday 8th February

9:00am-3:00pm



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Booking advisory not essential



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At the end of October and what was probably going to be our last good spell of dry weather for the year I decided to go for an energetic coastal walk so parking at Lundy Baycar park near Polzeath we set out towards Port Isaac and judging by the pace that Eddie setoff an energetic walk it was certainly going to be! It wasn't particularly early but there were no cars in the car park and no sign of anyone walking and so I felt that I had the coast to myself. When we came down to the little beach at Ep-phaven there was a large rucksack just off the side of the path but still no one to be seen until I saw the mermaid!



I would think that this hiker had camped overnight and then felt the need to go down and have a refreshing dip in the sea before anyone was around as there was a pile of clothes and a pair of boots on the beach and then I saw him... I thought I was looking at a mermaid. What a beautiful creature with long curly hair down to his shoulders and a good tan, young and athletic, an Adonis if ever there was one and not wearing a stitch of clothing.

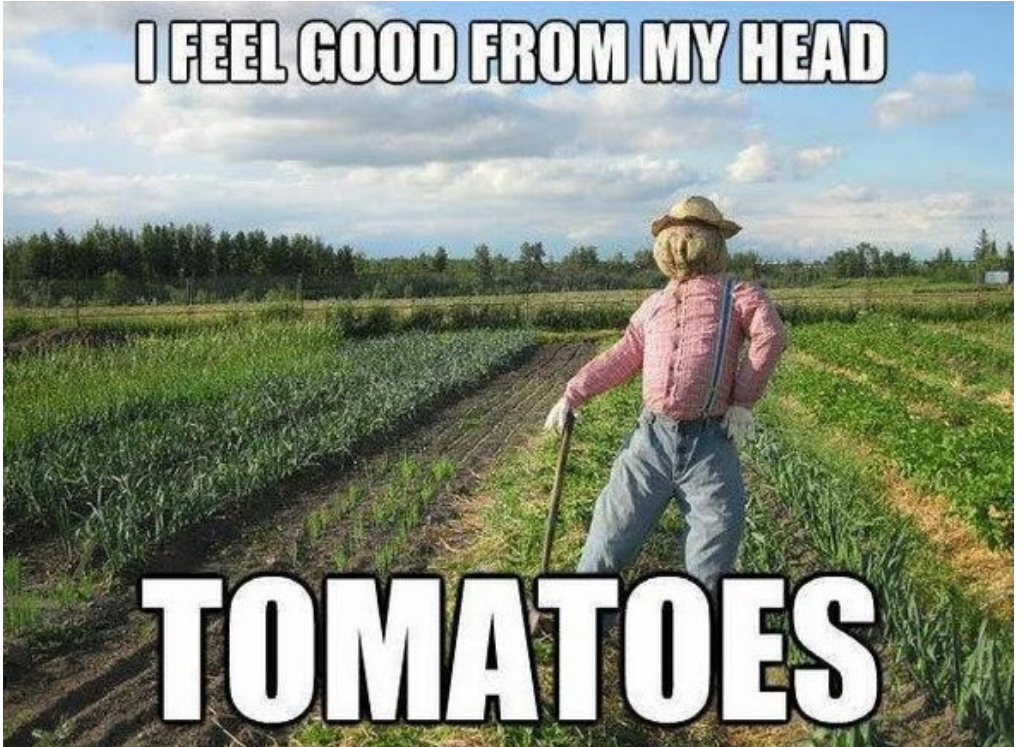
I quickly put Eddie on his lead before he rushed off down the beach and did any damage leaping up and down with his enthusiastic Hello's and sharp claws. By the time the young man noticed me looking on he was still a fair way down the beach so I gave him a wave and he waved back with his free hand and promptly ruined the view with his other, what a way to start a walk.

When I looked back from further along the path I saw him heading away in the other direction and hoped his day turned out to be as good as mine. There was no wind and the sea was perfectly flat with a lovely, long distance view up and down the coast. Beyond Port Quin the terrain soon became quite demanding and I was starting to see a few people and families due to it being half term week. Although the sky was grey it was very mild for so late in the year and with only a light wind I soon realised that I was overdressed and had to remove a layer or two of clothing.

The only sight of any sunshine was a long way up the coast where it was illuminating the satellite dishes at Morwenstow above Bude. This section is graded as strenuous and it really is energy sapping unless you're a Lakeland terrier!

Once we came closer to Port Isaac there were getting a lot more people on the path so at Pine Haven I took the right hand footpath and followed the stream up the valley until I found a quiet spot with a low bank to sit and have our dinner. The only disturbance were the alarm calls of blackbirds and a pheasant across the stream in the tree covered valley and I assume there was probably a fox on the prowl causing concern. The footpath follows the stream away from the coast before crossing a bridge and going right handed up through the trees before coming out into the open fields of Roscarrock, it is a well walked path in the summer and a much easier option which brings you right back into Port Quin and the coast path back to Lundy Bay car park.

Erica



ST WENN GARDENING CLUB

Thank you to those of you who braved the rain and the very wet roads to come to our January meeting. We had a very interesting talk on 'Alpines' by Elizabeth Reeves. She is always an informative and very knowledgeable speaker and is clearly passionate about Alpines.

"It seems that our interest in alpines started in the 18th Century when gardeners were trying to recreate the scenery of the Alps with these delicate, simple, clear-coloured flowers. Alpines are great in gardens of any size and you can really add height, texture and colour with them. Where you might plant one shrub, you could plant twelve alpines (just don't plant them under trees as they will get dripped on and they hate that). You can have colour from February to the autumn and there are plenty to choose from e.g. primrose, aquilegia, gentians, edelweiss, dianthus, anemone, campanula, primula and more."

Our next meeting is on Monday 3rd February when our speaker will be Brigit Strawbridge, an environmental activist known for her love of bees. All are welcome and it's just £2 to attend as a guest

Dydh Da!

The Cornish language is all around us in place names and signage. There are a growing number of speakers and many more of us who enjoy a little dabble with everyday greetings. Why not give it a try? Hello in Cornish is "Dydh Da". Literally Day (Dydh) Good (Da). Cornish is phonetic and "Y" is pronounced "ee" as is the "y" in berry or merry.



Cornish place names have evolved over hundreds of years and have fascinating meanings that can tell us about the history of where we live. Withiel derives from the Cornish Gwydhysel, meaning wooded and the tree line clearly extended down to Withiel Goose which comes from the Cornish "koos" meaning forest so wooded forest!

Merv Davey

If you are reading this online at withiel.com and would like a paper copy, don't forget you can always pick one up at the Withiel bus shelter or the Real Food Garden.

It was good to all meet up again after the Christmas break and we started our year with a most interesting meeting, our speaker was Sonia Shipman who gave a talk about sign language. Sonia started with a look back and said that, until relevantly recently, deaf people were overlooked and not considered worthy of educating with any kind of sign language banned in schools and in 1880 it became law that any teacher found to be using any signing to communicate with deaf children would be sacked. Deaf women giving birth were virtually abandoned as nurses wore face masks and there would be nobody to sign offering comfort or encouragement. Sonia then went on to demonstrate the most used signs such as Hello, Goodbye, Thank You etc and told us not to look down but look straight at people when speaking and most importantly not to raise our voices. She demonstrated a few sentences and told a short story about getting dressed to go out for a walk and what she saw, birds and a cow and so it went on, everyone got the gist proving that it is not too difficult to be understood. After a questions and answers session Sonia handed around sheets with the most commonly used words, phrases and the most relevant signs used when communicating with deaf people, it was a great evening and a good start to our programme for the coming year. The competitions were judged and the winners were,

A favourite pair of gloves: 1st Judy Lobb 2nd Angie Richardson 3rd Kay Leaney

Flower of the Month: 1st Margaret Fryett, 2nd Liz Capp, 3rd Angie Richardson

WE ARE OPENING THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS TO ANYONE WHO MAY BE INTERESTED TO COME ALONG, MEN and WOMEN WILL BE MADE VERY WELCOME

FRIDAY 7th MARCH Norman Trebilcock Lanjeth Water Gardens
FRIDAY 4th APRIL Ben Jobes Police Dog Handler

The meetings will be at 7.15pm and there will be WI refreshments available afterwards

*Just burned 2,000 calories.
That's the last time I leave brownies in the oven while I nap.*