

St Martin-by-Looe



News



'Silas The Seagull' - Photo Jan Kelsey

Autumn 2026

Published and funded by

St Martin by Looe Parish Council.

*Delivered FREE throughout the Parish and
published in colour online.*



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Advertising

If you would like to include an advertisement in the next edition please contact the clerk on 07763 364809 or email clerk@stmartinbylooe-pc.org.uk Costs: £20 for a full page, £10 for a ½ page, £5 for 1/3 page: Contract discounts are available. The magazine is printed quarterly and has a circulation of 350 printed copies delivered free throughout the Parish and is also available online on our website and Facebook page.

Contributions

We always welcome contributions from people living in the Parish. If you would like to air your views on a particular subject or have a photograph or piece of artwork for the front cover please get in touch with The Clerk.

Statutory Disclaimer

All articles and advertisements are published in good faith, St Martin By Looe Parish Council cannot check all details in the articles and any views expressed may not necessarily reflect those of the Parish Council.

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Parish Council Update



Welcome to The Autumn edition

Well what a summer that was, I'm not a lover of such extreme heat so it's been hard for me to cope some days, at least my cat was sensible and found somewhere cool for the day, even if I didn't see him for hours on end, causing me endless worry!!

This is the first edition produced using the new Canva software, so I'm sorry if there are any blips, errors etc, it's taking some getting used to. In this edition you will find all the usual articles, history, nature, recipe ideas etc, I hope you enjoy reading it, **and please support our advertisers, without their support this magazine would not exist.**

The winter edition will be published in December and the copy deadline will be 13th November 2026, so if you have anything you wish to include, please send to me before then, many thanks Charles.

PAINTING AND DECORATING



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Parish Council Update



Planning Applications

Since the last issue the Parish Council have considered the following planning applications:

1. Formation of new vehicular access from Bucklawren Road at the house at Looe Country Park. Bucklawren Road, No Man's Land.
2. Extension to existing holiday park and provision of 39 lodges, together with associated works and landscaping, at Tregoad Caravan And Camping Park.
3. Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Change of use of Agricultural buildings to dwellinghouses (use Class C3) with variation of Condition 1 of decision notice PA23/08738 dated 23.01.2024 at Bay View Farm, St Martin Looe.

Donations given

Trenode Primary School asked for a donation towards sports equipment, the Parish Council agreed to donate £100 made up mostly from the profits from the Parish Magazine which can only be used for the good of the community.

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Parish Council Update



Parish Council Meetings.

They take place at the Memorial Hall, No Man's Land at 7.30pm on the first Thursday of each month, but this may vary, so please check our noticeboards, social media or website for dates.

Requests to speak during Public Participation need to be made to the Clerk 48 hours in advance by email: clerk@stmartinbylooe-pc.gov.uk or phone 07763 364809.

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Tuesday - **Barclays** 9am to 5pm

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Anna Gelderd MP - Residents survey

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Your feedback plays a vital role in helping me support effective planning and service provision—both here in Cornwall and in Westminster.

The short survey on <https://forms.gle/wX6gHnXzEUqL4Fop6> website takes around 5 minutes to complete.

Thank you for taking the time to share your experience and contribute to this ongoing work.

Best wishes,

Anna Gelderd MP

**Member of Parliament
for South East Cornwall**



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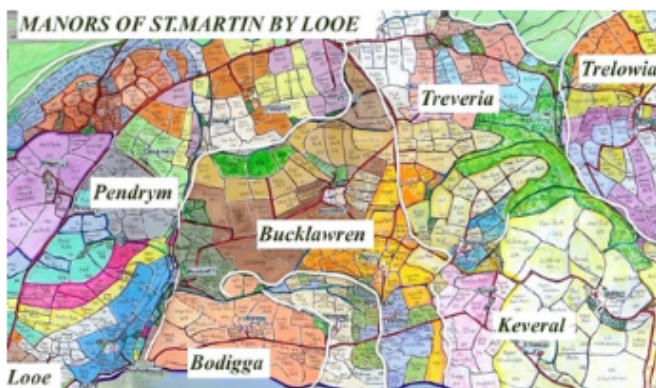
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Once Upon a Crime

A history snippet by Jenny Wallis



Snippet notes our current social unrest and looks back to a time when there was no income tax, no policemen, no prisons, NHS or schools - in fact nothing to complain about! For hundreds of years our parish flourished under the Medieval manorial system- and it had its advantages.

Cont page 9

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Once Upon a Crime

A history snippet by Jenny Wallis

The parish had been split into six manors, Pendrym , Bodigga, Treveria, Trelowia, Keveral and Bucklawren The king owned the land and leased it to nobles who had to provide men and resources for the security of the realm. So each manor agreed its own laws to deliver the best outcome for everybody.

Families leased farmsteads on a copyhold system for three lives.A new name was added when someone died so a family could continue farming for many generations. It created a stable population. Each manor was responsible for the well-being of its community. Manor courts were held every three weeks to review problems. A reeve was elected as representative: young men pledged allegiance: good husbandry was encouraged and everyone was valued for their input. The manor gave the right to firewood, kindling, game, fish and pasture. The church supplied moral cohesion.

If a crime was committed it was the fault of the community for allowing it to happen. All could be fined! Looe held Cake and Ale Assizes to monitor food quality. Bakers and millers could be dragged around the manor on a door. Stocks were used to humiliate miscreants, but there was no jail. A serious criminal could be ordered to 'abjure the realm'. He had 40/- and a crucifix to get a passage on a boat to leave the country.

The Priory in Launceston was the centre of learning, law, and medicine.It provided social services, leper hospitals, estate agency, agricultural advice and hospitality. Henry VIII destroyed the priories (Tudor Brexit) and everything changed.

Now society pays for prisons to keep its failures where they cannot contribute to the community, and finances a police force to do the job that once was the duty of us all!. The more laws we have, the more crimes are committed. Such is progress! And who provides the moral cohesion these days?

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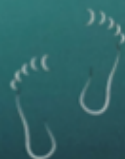
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Postcards From Looe

Jago and the Wych



The single with a bonus track called 'Nelson the Seal' is from the duo's latest CD 'Postcards from Looe' and is a delightful collection of songs all related to the area we live and love, with songs like 'Looe Valley Train', 'Hannafore' and 'Our Daddy' to name just a few, I'm sure if you love folk music with a distinctly local flavour you will love this CD, available from West Looe Bookshop or digital download.

The duo's first album 'Spirit of Kilminorth' is also available on CD and digital download.

Silus The Seagull

The latest release from Looe's own Jago and the Wych is a fabulous, once heard never forgotten charity single called 'Silus The Seagull', we have all experienced the antics of the seagulls and this song says it all, all the proceeds are going to Ellie's Haven and Kids in Action here in Looe.

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Council launches new plan to deliver nature recovery

Cornwall Council has launched a plan to deliver a healthier environment across its estate by increasing nature-rich spaces in its parks and public places and putting nature recovery at the heart of its decision-making. The Grow Nature Action Plan published on July 30, 2026, sets out the next stage of the council's response to the ecological emergency. It is pledging to deliver more biodiversity on land, rivers and bathing waters it owns or manages across Cornwall. The authority also wants to put nature recovery at the heart of its planning and policies included in the development of the new Local Plan.

It comes after the council committed to work with the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Nature Partnership to protect and restore nature across the region's land, rivers and seas.

The plans are detailed in the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Nature Recovery Strategy and Marine Nature Recovery Framework both published last year.

The new Grow Nature Action Plan sets out how the council will deliver nature recovery & encourage wildlife.



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General Observations

by David Keeble

At the time of writing this piece it is the 8th August, heading towards Autumn, but still having very hot and dry conditions – so much so that we have started a hosepipe ban as of today. The subject of water provision and distribution can be a very contentious subject as we in the South West are joined by a large number of visitors during the Summer months which swells our population by approximately two million – this increases the daily usage of drinking water by 33 million litres. As there does not appear to be a solution, it remains an issue that will not go away.

On a more lighter note – I am always drawn back to the beautiful part of the Country where we live – then for me it is back to the natural world. Last year it was notable that there was an increase in most types of insects and this year seems to have surpassed those numbers. Most notably, the bee and butterfly population has increased – I think this is the best year that I have seen for a long time.



General Observations

by David Keeble

Other pollinators on the flowers include wasps, moths and to a degree some hover flies – the most striking has to be, and back for another year, the humming bird hawkmoth – a fascinating insect to watch but you have to be quick – the hovering, from which they get their name, can be very brief. Sometimes you will hear the humming of their wings before seeing the insect itself.

A striking plant in flower at the moment is a Yucca – (pictured) as this particular plant only flowers every two years – it is very special to see. Given that we seem to have a large number of insects, I find it odd that very small numbers of Swallows and House Martins



have been seen overhead. It could have something to do with the very dry conditions we are experiencing – they are finding it difficult to locate mud from which they make their nests.

Finally, I often comment on the problems that our farmers are facing – the latest is a virus called Blue Tongue which is spread by a not so welcome insect – the midge. In sheep and cattle it can cause abortion, foetal deformities and stillbirths – unfortunately the vaccine that can control the virus is in short supply and very costly. It has been suggested that maybe the Government can step in and help with the costs – fingers crossed.

It would also help the farmers, and our gardens, if we had some rain soon!!

David Keeble

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Car Park Closed - 9am Friday 25th until 9am Sat 26th September.

Harvest Festival - Saturday 17th October, 2.30pm followed by a Faith Tea and an auction.

Jumble Sale - Saturday 24th October. 2.30pm.

Remembrance Sunday Service - 8th November, 2.30pm followed by a Faith Tea.

Christmas Fayre - Saturday 21st November, 2.30pm.

Christmas Bingo - Friday 11th December. Doors open 7pm - eyes down 8pm.

Disco in the dark - for charity Monday nights from 6.30pm.

Monthly Produce Markets

take place on 1st Saturday every month
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No Man's Land Annual Produce Show

No Man's Land Memorial Hall
Annual Produce Show
Celebrates Another
Successful Year

The No Man's Land Memorial
Hall Annual Produce Show,
held on Saturday 1st August,
proved to be
another outstanding success,
attracting an impressive 270

entries across 92 classes. The hall was filled with an exceptional display of vegetables, flowers, fruit, baking, preserves, photography, art, handicrafts and children's exhibits, showcasing the talent and dedication of competitors from across the parish and beyond. Following a closely contested day of judging, prizes were presented by Tracy Chudleigh, Chairman of Nomansland Memorial Hall.



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No Man's Land Annual Produce Show

The principal award winners were:

- Most Points – Vegetables (Parish): L. Western & T. Rankin
- Best Vegetable Exhibit (Parish): Rob Young
- Most Points – Vegetables (Open): Marcus Julian & Teresa Weeks
- Best Vegetable Exhibit (Open): Marcus Julian
- Heaviest Potato: Teresa Weeks
- Most Points – Fruit: Teresa Weeks
- Best Fruit Exhibit: Julia Smith
- Most Points – Pot Plants: Tracy Chudleigh
- Best Pot Plant Exhibit: Jago Western
- Perfect Rose: Andrew Chudleigh
- Most Points – Cut Flowers: Marcus Julian
- Best Cut Flower Exhibit: Ashleigh Cook
- Most Points – Floral Art: Marcus Julian
- Best Floral Art Exhibit: Marcus Julian
- Most Points – Domestic (Parish): R. Powley
- Best Domestic Exhibit: Morwenna Chudleigh
- Most Points – Domestic (Open): Adele Conn
- Men's Cookery: Liam Rose
- Best Children's Exhibit: Will Rose
- Most Points – Children's Classes: Jago Western
- Most Points – Children's Photography: Will Rose
- Best Children's Photograph: Scarlett Western
- Most Original Children's Entry: Will Rose
- Best Child's Cookery: Neveah Western
- Most Points – Handicrafts: Adele Conn
- Best Handicraft Exhibit: Adele Conn
- Most Points – Art: Kate Humphreys
- Best Art Exhibit: Kate Humphreys
- Most Points – Photography: Morwenna Chudleigh
- Best Photograph: Karen Pengelly
- Best Allotment: Wendy Norman
- Most Entries: Marcus Julian
- Most Points – Preserves: Adele Conn & Careen Harris
- Longest Runner Bean: Marcus Julian
- Doris E Rose Bowl: Andrew Chudleigh
- Best in Show: Adele Conn.

No Man's Land Annual Produce Show

The committee would like to thank everyone who entered, attended, judged, sponsored and volunteered to make this year's show such a wonderful community event.

With another successful show concluded, plans are already underway for next year's event, and everyone is encouraged to start preparing their entries.

Only 3 people from the Parish entered exhibits in this years show, this is an annual event for the people of the Parish and it would be nice to see more local entries next year.

Start preparing now, it's a lot of fun and an important part of the heritage and traditions of the area.

Go on give it a try!!



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Millpool, West Looe PL13 2AF

Pam's Granny's Baked Bread Pudding

www.recipesfromacornishkitchen.com

A friend and Bridge partner

Pam, who lives in Joppa near Hayle, gave me this recipe. It has been in her family for generations and she calls it Granny's Baked Bread Pudding.

Her grandmother came from just outside the town of Looe, so I am guessing this recipe hails from that area [??] as I had never heard of anything like it before. It is very ~~easy~~^{easy} to make and delicious! My husband absolutely loved it! Thank you, Pam. It will be on my dessert menus from now on.



Take:

$\frac{3}{4}$ lb stale white bread, cut into large cubes - no crusts

Soak for a few hours, then squeeze out the water. [This is easier in smaller amounts] Beat until smooth ish.

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Pam's Granny's Baked Bread Pudding

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Then just add all the other ingredients:

6 oz mixed dried fruit

2 oz each of dried chopped dates, glace cherries and dried apricots

4 ½ oz light soft brown sugar

3 oz melted butter

2 medium eggs

Grated lemon rind, mixed spice, cinnamon and nutmeg - all to taste

Optional extras - marmalade or golden syrup. I plumped for the syrup and put in a large dash. In fact I added it when I beat the bread.

Mix well. That's it. Easy peasey.

Tip into a buttered baking dish and bake for 1 hour at 190 deg C

Thanks Pam x

Pam also mentioned that it is great cold, cut into little squares as cakes. When she wants to do that she cooks it in a square baking tin, instead of an oven to table dish.



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**St. Martin-by-Looe School Trust at
info@stmartinlooeschooltrust.org**

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closing date for applications –

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They Fly By Night

by Paul Matthews

The majority of the 2,500 species of Moth recorded for the British Isles are active overnight. Some are active through the day and join the 59 species of Butterfly which are active in the daytime. The whole group – the Lepidoptera do their feeding and growing at the caterpillar stage of the life cycle, then pupate and immerge as adults to breed and lay eggs for the next generation. As adults they feed on flower nectar which they access with their long 'tongues'.

I have been running a moth trap here on and off for about 60 years and the results, although not quantitative, have produced many interesting mornings. It is the Hawk Moths which perhaps provide the most spectacular species when the trap is inspected. There are about 18 species recorded for Britain and these can be roughly divided into 9 resident species and 9 which are migrants and occasional summer visitors. The most common species seen here and around Britain is the



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Poplar Hawk Moth with its olive green body and wings which are held at a characteristic overlapping angle. When fully open the dull red patches on the underwings are fully visible. Probably the most impressive of the group is the Privet Hawk Moth partly because of its large size – it is the largest species here and partly due to its distinctive black and pink patterning.

To get some idea of the scale of these creatures, the common Wren, with which we are probably all familiar weighs 7 to 12 grams (about 0.25 to 0.4 ounces). This would be the same as a few sheets of paper or a single £1 coin. The Privet Hawk Moth weighs in at approximately 2 to 3 grams. Despite this lighter weight, they are the bulkiest and largest resident hawk moths and their thick body supports a wingspan of 9 to 12 cm (3.5 – 4.7 inches). Again by comparison, the Wren's wingspan is between 13 to 17 cm (5 – 6.6 inches)

Some species are day flyers and this summer, with all the warm weather and southerly winds we have observed many Hummingbird Hawk Moths flitting at high speed and feeding by hovering in front of the flowers. Another summer visitor is the Striped Hawk Moth, smaller than the Privet but of a similar shape with pink seen on the hindwing when fully open.

Probably the most colourful of the Hawk Moths are the Elephant Hawks – a funny name as they are not at all like an Elephant in the adult stage but the caterpillar, when alarmed, can wrinkle up its skin and the effect of this resembles an Elephants trunk. The adults are bright pink and olive in a striking combination.

This group of nocturnal flyers are well worth looking out for.

I know that we in Britain are supposed to only talk about the 'weather' but this year our experience in Cornwall has given us sufficient to

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discuss for a great deal of time to come. The very wet weather earlier in 2026 seems so long ago now and is lost in the heat of recent experiences.

All this variation and unpredictable weather patterns have a devastating effect on wild plant and animal populations. Although the warmth and fine weather produced great conditions for Butterflies and Moths early in the season, with plenty of flowers to feed on, this changed with the continuation of the warm and dry conditions. Moths and Butterflies, being the adult stage, breed and lay eggs for the life cycle to continue. The lack of turgid and edible vegetation in the countryside now does not bode well for the caterpillars trying to feed for many of the species. This may well result in quite low populations of some species next year.



Key to photos

Privet Poplar and Elephant moths - Top Left.

Striped moth - Top Right.

Poplar moth - Bottom left..

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