

# Pillaton Village News <sup>76</sup>



W.J. 1989

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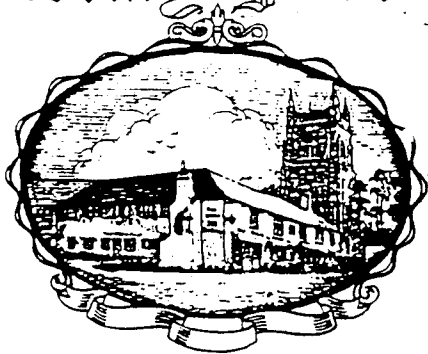
**Josephine Earl.**

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**The  
Weary Friar**



- \* A LA CARTE RESTAURANT OPEN 5 DAYS A WEEK. CLOSED SUNDAY AND MONDAY
- \* BAR MEALS LUNCH AND EVENING 7 DAYS A WEEK
- \* 13 BEDROOMS EN SUITE
- \* WEDDING RECEPTIONS AND CONFERENCE FUNCTIONS LARGE AND SMALL CATERED FOR



PILLATON  
Tel. Liskeard 0579 50238

When the heavens opened up on the Friday evening and all the stalwarts turned up to raise tents and stalls no one could be blamed for thinking there would not be a Cherry Feast this summer. On Sunday in spite of the rain enough people turned up to support the event and raise a healthy profit for the benefice. A truly wonderful achievement.

For many years I have tried to involve young people in the News. I have held colouring competitions, had a Children's page appealed for articles and I have even appealed to St. Mellion School for contributions. You can imagine how pleased I was to receive a Children's Page with a promise of more to come. I understand that some of the young people in the village feel there should be a News just for them. There is no reason why they should not get together to produce one themselves though I do not think they realise the commitment and problems involved. If they want to see their articles in the News I shall be delighted to print them (with parental consent if they are under age). They now have six weeks holiday coming up so why not use some of this time to send me articles for the next News.

Enclosed with this edition is a pamphlet advertising the Moorland Exhibition. This began in a small way about four years ago when local crafts people could exhibit their work in the Moorland Centre for nine days in August. It has now become an annual event and has outgrown the premises of the Moorland Centre. It now takes over the whole of the local Primary School. The organisers try to encourage exhibits from individuals who would not normally show their work. The brochure does not do justice to the extent of the exhibition so I have printed a list of the Exhibits confirmed and unconfirmed as at the beginning of July. During the Exhibition the main street of Princetown was filled with husbands walking their dogs or just sitting on a seat waiting for their spouses. In response to this the exhibition includes this year a number of rural crafts (including brewing!) which might be of interest to husbands whilst their wives spend their money inside the school. There are a wide variety of crafts exhibited and something to interest most people and it will be well worth a visit.

Copy for the next edition is due on Monday, 7th September for publication on Friday, 25th September.

Deidre Miles

ST.MELLION-WITH-PILLATON CHURCH NEWS

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER SERVICES

	ST.ODULPH	ST.MELANUS
2nd Aug		11.15 Eucharist
2nd Aug	6.00pm Evensong at HALTON QUAY	
5th Aug		9.00 Eucharist
9th Aug	9.30 Eucharist	
12th Aug		9.00 Eucharist
16th Aug		11.15 Eucharist
19th Aug		9.00 Eucharist
23rd Aug	9.30 Family Eucharist	
26th Aug		9.00 Eucharist
30th Aug	10.00 Benefice Family Eucharist at LANDULPH	
2nd Sept		9.00 Eucharist
6th Sept		11.15 Eucharist
6th Sept	6.00pm Evensong at HALTON QUAY	
9th Sept		9.00 Eucharist
13th Sept	9.30 Eucharist	
16th Sept		9.00 Eucharist
20th Sept		11.15 Eucharist (Harvest Festival)
23rd Sept		9.00 Eucharist
27th Sept	9.30 Family Eucharist (Harvest Festival)	
30th Sept		9.00 Eucharist

Note:- See Church News for the dates of other Harvest Festival services in the benefice and for the dates of Pillaton and St.Mellion Harvest Suppers

PILLATON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

This year's Summer Show will be held at Kernock Park Plants on Saturday 5th September. We would like to thank Mr. & Mrs. R. Harnett for allowing us to stage the show there once again.

There are sections for:  
 flowers, pot plants, fruit, vegetables, handicraft, needlecraft,  
 cookery preserves, art, floral art, wine and photography.  
 Schedules should be ready in the early part of August.

Anyone with any questions about any of the classes may contact me on 350063 or call at 10, Barton Meadows.

Hope to see you at the Show.

Many thanks.

Carole Hoskin  
 Show Secretary

## THE ANNUAL ST. MELLION CHERRY FEAST.

When the crew of helpers turned up at the Rectory of the evening of the Friday before Cherry Feast Sunday to set up the tents and stalls, the weather showed every sign of fulfilling the grimmest weather forecast for a July weekend the most pessimistic of weather prophets would have thought incredible. Yet the good people set to their task with such laudable zeal that by 9 o'clock everything was set up and not one even mentioned the possibility of cancelling the Feast.

Saturday's weather did nothing to make one feel more hopeful for a successful Sunday. Who would brave the elements, apart from a faithful few, to support a saturated church event? Sunday dawned under grey skies and a steady thick drizzle, but as the day progressed the really savage weather didn't happen, just an intermitent drizzle and the odd gust and, God bless 'em, people came! Not the great crowds we all hoped for but enough to more than justify the effort.

The stall holders saw their wares sell and the games were played. The juggler juggled for the kids, the church displays were admired while the Laira Youth Band played in the church. The birds of prey looked a bit miffed and couldn't fly, but at least they were dry in my old tent, which is more than could be said for Shelagh who scorned shelter for her Wine Wheel in the interest of exposure to her market.

The normal quantities of cherry pies and eatables for the tea tent looked at first to be a serious case of over catering, but in the event the left-overs were remarkably small, those were sold off at little less than cost and nothing was wasted.

The financial reward for the parish from everyone's magnificent effort was a little over £2,000 and when one considers that on Sunday morning I for one was hoping that we may cover costs, that profit is wonderful. Many, many thanks to everyone who contributed to the Feast and whose undaunted spirit leaves one with a happy memory rather than a grim recollection of a washout. Also, thanks and praise to all those who brought their money to the Feast and spent it so generously.

*Father Philip*

ST. MELLION WITH PILLATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

PROVISIONAL CHERRY FEAST RESULT - SUNDAY 12th JULY 1998

Notelets		£	34.10
Car Park		£	50.10
Rectory Gate		£	50.40
Face Painting		£	2.25
White Elephant		£	137.18
BBQ and Ice Cream (Plus Stock in Hand)	Net	£	39.88
Cream Teas	Net	£	120.00
Sweets		£	42.52
Wine Wheel		£	190.16
Church Donations		£	39.84
Collection		£	18.65
Bottle Stall		£	82.00
Cherries	Net	£	15.00
Plants		£	110.00
Bouncy Boxing		£	10.20
Book Stall		£	55.00
Coconut Shy		£	28.00
Cakes		£	488.11
Putting Competition		£	14.00

**SUB TOTAL:** £1,527.39

<b><u>Less Costs:</u></b>	Laira Youth Band	£	110.00
	Scout Tents	£	150.00
	Girls Brigade Tent	£	50.00
	Dartmoor Wildlife Park	£	100.00
	St. Johns Ambulance Brigade	£	30.00
	Entertainment	£	100.00
	Bouncy Boxing, Punch & Judy	£	100.00
		£	640.00

**SUB TOTAL:** £ 887.39

Add Prize Draw Ticket Sales	£1,654.00	
Less costs, prizes, printing	£ 515.00	£1,139.00

**NET RESULT:** £2,026.39

Considering the conditions , a most worthy result with sincere thanks to all concerned

  
Jim Bennet  
Honorary Treasurer

b

Before the Parish Council Meeting on 20th May the Chairman introduced Mr Baker & Mr Jon Steven of Rowse, when they updated the current plans for development of 20 lodges opposite the 13th hole at St. Mellion. There will be a site selling office in a portacabin for June & July. Mr Steven explained other developments of holiday homes of high specification. The aim is to presell with certain purchasers. The application that is to be made is to upgrade the existing approved planning permission. The lodges will be smaller than planned. The aim is to presell this summer with completion in June 1999. There will be a mud cleaning device to clean lorries during winter months. The road layout down to Rowse will be altered.

The meeting then proceeded in the usual manner. During Matters Arising the Chairman reported that Mr G. Baker had accepted the post of new Governor at St. Mellion School.

During the Public Forum section Mr Porter questioned why there was rubbish remaining at the roadside where the tree stumps were dumped. The Chairman stated that County Highways had removed asbestos but there was still rubbish on the side of the road. It was suggested that the Parish Council request removal of rubbish.

Planning Application re Oak Ridge Gateway: It was proposed by Mr I. Edwards and seconded by Mr. E. Webster that the plans for the Gateway leading to Oak Ridge lodges be approved. The Council voted in favour.

Footpath Maintenance: A cheque had been received amounting to £26 to be used for the maintenance of the village footpaths. It was decided that the Council write to Mrs. Gordon requesting permission to have access to the footpath for this purpose. Proposed by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Mr. R. Hoskin.

Renewal of sign: The County Council had written saying that because of budget restraints the Parish Council must maintain village direction signs. The Chairman felt that if signs were made by the Parish Council the Council could be liable for accidents caused by inadequate signs. Mr. Edwards volunteered to prepare signs. Mr. Webster stated that the County Council should pay for the sign. The Chairman said the sign in question was a very important sign at a junction being considered for right of way. The Clerk was requested to write to County Council pointing out these facts and asking if the County Council could reconsider and forward a copy of the letter to the local District Councillor. This was proposed by Mr. Hoskin and seconded by Mrs. N. Symons. There was a proposal from Mr. Edwards that if no reply was received from the County Council by the next meeting the Parish Council should act. The proposal was accepted.

Police Questionnaire The Council urged members to fill in questionnaires with the aim of removing rubbish and old cars in this area.

Finance - Insurance: The Clerk reported the balances and the Council approved the renewing of the Insurance Cover. Proposed by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Hoskin.

Any Other Business In respect of the Bus service, Mr. Hoskin explained that there is a facility for obtaining a reduction by concession on buses but it does not apply to Pillaton. The Clerk was instructed to write to Devon County Council to request the facility for Pillaton. Proposed by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mrs. Symons. Once obtained the facility should be reported in the Pillaton News.

*Anthony G. King*

PILLATON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - JUNE 17th.

The June meeting of Pillaton Parish Council was held on Wed 17th, those present were the Chairman Mr. D. Dolley; Mrs. K. Bunkum; Mr. E. Webster; Coun. R. Levack; Mr. R. Hoskin and Mr. I. Edwards. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and agreed, proposed by Mr. Webster and seconded by Mr. Edwards.

Matters Arising: The rubbish had been removed from Deans Bridge By Mr. R. Woodley. In respect of the Public Footpath, the Chairman reported that approval had been given verbally by Mr. P. Gordon for placing gravel to firm up the footpath.

Public Forum: There were no members of the public present.

Oakridge Sales Office: It was proposed by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Mr. Hoskin with 1 abstention, 1 objection and 2 in favour that the sales office be granted planning permission.

Oakridge 20 Lodges: Mr. Webster objected on the basis that the request was for houses as opposed to holiday lets. The ORIGINAL application was to be for a development to be tied to the farm and managed by the farm on the basis of farm diversification. Coun. Levack said that error lay in Caradon not noting in the planning consent the basis of the restrictions. Caradon had originally objected to the 'A' Frame houses and which were now upgraded. They will be sold to individuals and used as a time share basis. It was felt access through the Golf course will lessen the traffic. A proposal in favour of the development was made by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Coun. Levack. The motion was defeated with 3 against and 1 abstention, on the grounds that the original plan related to farm diversification whereas the revised plan resulted in a sale of the land and houses to individuals.

Millennium Grant: The Clerk was requested to apply for information regarding Millennium Celebrations.

Local Bus: The Council completed the questionnaire on public transport by stating that the fares were expensive.

Tamar Valley: The Council agreed to ask a speaker to appear at the next meeting to explain the TAMAR VALLEY Development Plan.

Hill at Axford: It was reported that there were continuing problems at Axford Hill. The Clerk was requested to Highways requesting repairs to the road.

Post Collection Times: The Clerk was requested to write to the Postmaster asking if the Post Office could conform to collection times stated on the post box.

*[Handwritten signature]*



**PILLATON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Meeting 15/7/98**

TAMAR VALLEY MANAGEMENT PLAN The Tamar Valley Officer gave a presentation before the meeting started. The speaker stressed the importance of having a plan to manage the area which did not mean freezing progress or stopping change but equally aimed at preserving the beauty of the area.

MINUTES Minutes of 17/6/98 meeting were accepted. This was proposed by Mr Hoskin and Seconded by Mrs Bunkum.

MATTERS ARISING Mrs Gordon has given written approval for repairing the area around the stile. The Clerk is to write to County Highways requesting 2-3 lorry loads of burn off to firm the area.

AXFORD HILL The Clerk confirmed that the County Surveyor has written asking SWWA to repair the hump at Axford Hill.

POST BOX The Chairman has requested the post collection driver to await the indicated time on the box.

**PLANNING PERMISSION**

PILLATON TRESYLWAN LODGE Erection of Porch at rear. The proposal was approved: proposed by Mr Hoskin, seconded by Mrs Symons.

KERNOCK LODGE Extension. The proposal was approved: proposed by Mr Hoskin, seconded by Mr Bunkum.

OAK RIDGE BUGGY TRACK The Council requested that the buggy track be restricted to buggies and not motor vehicles and called for protection of mature trees. The proposal was approved: proposed by Mr Hoskin, seconded by Mr Levack.

WEST BERIA BARN The Parish Council confirmed that the Barn was used as a residence. The Council was unable to confirm or deny that the other part of the area was used for a holiday unit. Proposed Mr Levack, Seconded Mr Webster.

WEST BERIA The Parish Council confirmed that the property has been used as a holiday let for 15 years. A note was attached stating that the original permission was dependent upon the barn being altered to allow road widening.  
Proposed by Mr Bunkum, Seconded by Mr Hoskin.

PILLATON 1 BARTON MEADOW Erection of Porch. The planning permission was approved. The motion was proposed by Mr WEBSTER, seconded by Mr Hoskin.

TRANSPORT No member of the council wished to attend the proposed meeting on rural transport.

SEATS The chairman reported that a new rail was needed for the seat. The Clerk was requested to obtain an estimate for removing the seat at Tiddler Well and placing in the field.

Chairman Mr D Dolley .....

\* \* \* \* \*  
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 \* JIM BENNET, ACIB, MLIA (dip) \*  
 \* FINANCIAL SERVICES CONSULTANT \*  
 \* BANKING AND BUSINESS ADVISORY SERVICES \*  
 \* 16, Barton Meadows \*  
 \* Pillaton \*  
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*Pillaton Village Hall Committee*

*Preliminary Notice*

Pillaton Fun Day

on

Sunday, 23rd August, 1998 from 2.30p.m.  
in Pillaton Village Hall and Playing Field

Come along and join in activities for all the Family, including Village Walking Treasure Hunt; Barbecue; Bar; Golf Putting; Wine Wheel; Cake Stall; Throwing the Cannonball; Wellie throwing for children and adults; together with various childrens games in the Playing Field. Refreshments and Raffle.

Plus

Table Top Sale at £3.00 per table - pre-book your space in early August with D. Dolley (01579) 350159 or Rosemary Long (01579) 350466

Look out for further details on the Notice Boards in early August

Any donations for the Raffle and the Cake Stall will be gratefully accepted

||

# THE MOORLAND EXHIBITION

## EXHIBITS 1998

### NEEDLEWORK

- Samplers
- Canvas Work
- Creative Embroidery
- Stump Work
  - Quilting
  - Quilted Jackets
- Machine Embroidery
- Printed Fabrics
  - Rag Dolls
  - Crochet
- Spinning and Weaving
- Knitted Toys
  - Soft Toys
- Machine Knitting
- Buckspoint Lace
- Torchon Lace
- Honiton Lace
- Felt Making
- Rag Rugs
- Woolen Rugs
- Fabric Boxes
- Recycled Materials
  - Latting
- Space-dyed Threads
- Knitting and Crochet Supplies
- Sewing Supplies
- Unconfirmed
  - Teddy Bears

### SCHOOL HOUSE THEMES

- Victorian Christmas
- Wartime Christmas
- Celtic Designs
- Ecclesiastical Embroidery

### ARTS

- PAINTING
  - Oils
  - Water-colours
  - Metals
  - Silk
- CERAMICS
  - Porcelain
  - Stoneware
- Crystalline Glazed Ware
- Free style Pots
- Porcelain Dolls

### CRAFTS

- Parchment Craft
  - Door stops
- Dried Flowers
- Decorated Mirrors
- Toy Theatres
- Fabric Stencilling
- Decorated Eggs
- Corn Dollies
- Hand made Paper
- Children's Gallery
- Unconfirmed
  - Decoupage
  - Jewellery

### SPECIAL GUESTS

- Workbox (Needlework) Magazine
- Tavistock and District Conservation Project
- Dartmoor Forest Young Film Makers R.N.L.I.
- Aids for Partially sighted Craft Workers
- M.F.D. Theatre
- Dartmoor National Park Authority.
  - Ranger Services
- Town Crier (Opening only) 2.6.98
- Morris Men
- Scottish Dancers 2.6.98 - 2.7.98

### RURAL CRAFTS

- Hurdle Making
- Wood turning
- Garden furniture
- Willow Baskets
- Walking Sticks
- Dry stone Walls
- Rope Making
- Cane and Rush work
- Picture Framing
  - Thatching
- Ship's Badges
- Fishing Flies
- Box Making
- Blacksmith
- Shearing
- Sheepskin Rugs
- Brewing
- [Real Ale prize for sheep shearing competition]
- Unconfirmed
  - Mason

### REFRESHMENTS

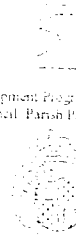
- The High Moorland Women's Institute



**THE MOORLAND EXHIBITION**  
AUGUST 22<sup>nd</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> 1998

Part of this event is being partly funded by:  
U1 ADR II European Regional Development Fund

Devon County Council, Rural Development Progr  
West Devon Borough Council, Parson P



OF  
**NEEDLEWORK, ART and RURAL CRAFTS**

**AUGUST 22<sup>nd</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>. 10am - 4pm**

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>. 10am - 7pm**

**PRINCETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Dartmoor**

**ENTRANCE FEE £1.00**

**ACCOMPANIED CHILDREN FREE**

**LIGHT REFRESHMENTS. PICNIC AREA**

**WHEELCHAIR ACCESS. FREE PARKING**

**YOUNG PEOPLE'S NEEDLEWORK COMPETITION**

**OVER 60 DIFFERENT SKILLS**

**VICTORIAN SCHOOL HOUSE EXHIBITS**

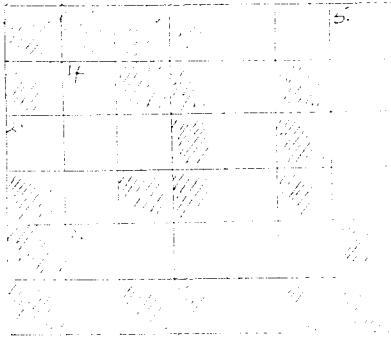
**CHILDREN'S GALLERY**

**DEMONSTRATIONS. - WORKSHOPS.**

**KITS, PATTERNS, YARNS, EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS  
AND FINISHED GOODS AVAILABLE.**

# Children's Page.

These animals can all be seen in or around Potters Bar.  
Can you complete the crossword to find out what they are?



## Across

1. This creature feeds at night
2. As cunning as a ---
3. Small rodent with a long face

## Down

1. His nickname is "Brook"
2. There are two in a country county
3. The one in 'Wind in the Willows' was a foolish fellow.

Can you guess the answer to this riddle?

First you see me in the grass  
Dressed in yellow gay,  
Next I am in dainty white,  
Then I fly away.

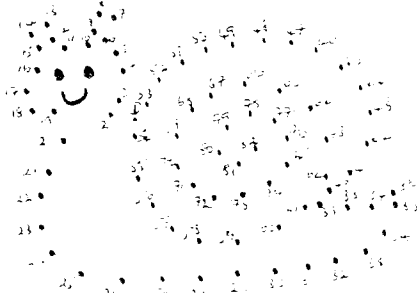
What am I? -----

Where is the way to Chertsey?

A -----



Join the dots to discover what this is!



Q: What is a frog's favorite drink?  
A: Crookit - Soda

111  
M... ..  
Join it to the... ..  
B... ..  
B... ..



# News and Information

NATIONAL  
FEDERATION  
OF WOMEN'S  
INSTITUTES

Our last meeting before the summer break was on 13th July when Mrs. Val Sambles from St. John's Ambulance Service talked to us about First Aid in the Home. She focused on how to help someone choking and how to deal with burns.

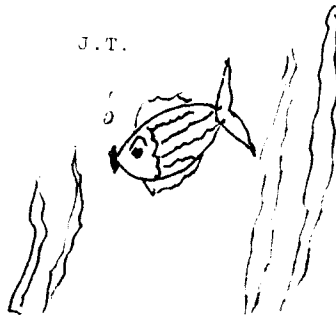
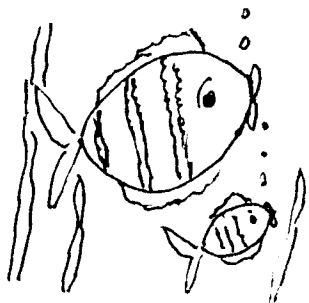
The September Meeting on the 14th will be a Harvest Supper and on Monday 12th October Evonne Laverton will demonstrate Salt Dough.

Sue Archer  
350326

## SALMON SUPPER

The Salmon Supper hosted by Shirley and David Floyd at Rick Park Farm, Pillaton Mill was a great success. Once again the food was excellent and a good time was had by all who attended. Raffle prizes were donated.

In all a sum of £170 was raised to be donated to the R.S.P.C.A. and not, as rumour has it for shotgun cartridges so that David can shoot stray dogs!



## EVEREST PART 2

We arrived at Niamche Bazaar after an uphill climb of 3 to 4 hours. Niamche is an important trading centre, with a weekly market at which fresh foodstuffs are brought up from the lower regions. There are 100 or so houses and it is the place for trekkers and mountaineers to acclimatise before ascending to the higher regions.

After another near sleepless night with headache I rose at about 6.15 a.m. (heavy snow in night) to go to the Tibetan market and bought some bananas, a yak hair brush, a few trinkets and a walking stick to help me on the ice and snow. Margaret and I and one of the Sherpas then went to the Exhibition and Museum of Sherpa Culture, which was most interesting, full of pictures of wildlife, and all the news cuttings about successful attempts at Everest.

On the Saturday we climbed to the Everest View Hotel, which is owned by the Japanese for Japanese who stay in pressurised bedrooms for a night or two and then fly out again! I did not enjoy this so much. Everest stayed resolutely behind the clouds and refused to come out, and I wondered if I would ever see her properly. We stopped to look at Sir Edmund Hillary's hospital but it was closed, a sign saying "ring for emergencies".

The next day dawned bright and clear and we climbed through forests passing many Mani ( Buddhist prayer stones ). "Always pass on the left" Mike said "bad karma if you don't". This was a beautiful day, it was a day when you felt that something could happen like the day when Roberta in the Railway Children saw her father step out of the train. Remember? I was bombing along in the front ( which was unusual ) and said to Mike "I wonder what my dad would say if he could see me" and Mike said "He would be right proud of you". That started me off. We continued climbing up to the monastery of Thyanboche at 1270 ft. and Mike rounded the bend first and shouted "Shelagh, Everest", or "Chomolunga", as she is called by the Sherpas. As you can imagine, it was such an emotional moment, for years I had dreamed of seeing this sublime sight, and it did not disappoint. Everest was so clear it looked as if stage scenery had just slipped into place - I was content, my mission was accomplished.

We visited the Buddhist monastery and we were allowed in whilst they prayed. Their chanting, reading from their rolls of prayers, goes on for hours, but they are refreshed with cups of tea - Father Philip, please note!

At this point, I shall give you details of my night accident. We used to retire to our sleeping bags at about 7.30 p.m. and as it was so cold I wore a T shirt, thermal vest, long johns and tracksters, thermal socks with a ~~fleece~~ liner in a sleeping bag. Most nights it was, -8° or -9° and you would dread having to get up in the night to go to the toilet, which generally was a hole



outside in the ice and snow.

We had a wonderful trek to Dingboche at 14,000ft. passing through forests of conifers, birch and rhododendrons. On the last day of ascending I had a very bad 2 hours. I had been suffering from sleeplessness and headaches at night for a week, and by about 1 p.m. I was feeling nauseous and my hands and arms had started to puff up. The Sherpas exchanged knowing glances - they took away my day pack and, after another hour of relentless walking, I was in my sleeping bag feeling very sorry for myself. Margaret, my room mate, came in and told me that a doctor from the Himalayan Rescue Association was giving a talk on AMS (acute mountain sickness) and my presence was required. I said "isn't he coming to see me" (what a wimp) but seeing the blank look on Margaret's face, I shuffled across the corridor and into this room with Aussies, Germans etc. staring at the whingeing pom or equivalent. Guess what, the doctor went on giving the lecture and never said a word. They tested everyone with a machine and I came out on top! - I was in Stage 2 of AMS but with a rest and descent (which we were doing the next day) I should be fine. When I found I was not going to spoil anyone's trip by dying, I perked up and thought that I would have some garlic soup for supper and even some tinned fruit cocktail. The symptoms started to disappear. AMS can affect anyone, regardless of fitness, and if not heeded, one can have a pulmonary embolism and die. It was not exactly comforting to be told that an average of 3 people a year die of AMS on these Nepal treks! Fortunately for us all, the previous week the Kathmandu Post had staged that tourists could now be given the Last Rites! AMS is a major complication for mountaineers and trekkers alike in this region.

Anyhow drama over I enjoyed the supper and slept much better after Sherpa Minghma had given me half a tablet of Diamox, which American doctors prescribe, but the British don't.

The next day we began our descent, going over some of the old territory which was absolutely stunning. Many Nepalese were climbing up from Namche with packs of over 60 kilos on their backs which seemed impossible to us. They are a very wonderful people, hardworking and uncomplaining.

A group of Buddhists were staying at one of our lodges. They had come to pray for the Lodge's well-being. The lady who owned the lodge had said she had wanted electricity and I said "Why do you want to be like the Westerners" and she replied "You come once and it is very beautiful but I have seen this for 37 years". Food for thought! The Buddhists having been served with fresh food, had been chanting for well over 2 hours and now their music started: "By the 'eck, the Black Dyke Mills Band had nothing on this". There were bejewelled trumpets, drums, cymbals and bells all going on while we were eating in the same room. Nobody seemed to mind and they were all very jolly, but absolutely dedicated to chanting the hundreds of pages of prayers

written out on rolls of paper.

Our last day's trekking we spent descending to Lukla, taking in all the spectacular scenery for the last time and also thinking that in 2 days time I would be inside cotton sheets and a bath and a toilet with flush were also extremely inviting.

Many things I shall remember for ever: a particluar forest with drooping lichen like gossamer hanging from the trees which incidentally no camera can reproduce unless you are Dennis Bullock; the first sighting of Everest will be engraved on my mind and reminds me of a line of Lord Conway's 'and the first glory of a mountain view never comes again'; the tinkling of the yak bells echoing through the silence; the discerning Lodge owner who played Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons' over a loudspeaker at 7 a.m. which inspired everyone; and the caravans of Tibetans who had walked with their yaks and supplies for 25 days to bring their wares to market.

We were people from different backgrounds on the group, but we all suffered from some sort of ailment on our trip and I remember Margaret saying to me when I was feeling low: "Shelagh, all this will go and you will be left with the wonderful memories" and this is what I have.

There was a knot in my stomach and a lump in my throat flying back over the Himalayas - would I ever see them again, who knows, maybe in a few years I shall return d.v.

Not everyone is able to do these things. I was extremely lucky but I had a dream and after all those years of going there in my head, I went.

By the way, thanks, Peter.

SHELAGH SKINNARD

HOT OFF THE PRESS - in April the Nepalese grounded the Lukla helicopters as they were deemed unsafe - a a r g h! Mr.Grimsdale!!!



EVEREST

## GARDENING NEWS

What do you make of our weather so far this year? I thought that GLOBAL warming was the considered reason for our fickle weather but perhaps it was El Nino! When I was a young man (where have those years gone?) people used to blame the weather on the Nuclear Test programme. One thing is certain in my mind is that in the long run the wet weather balances out with dry sunny periods. Although the rain is good for growth one also needs some warm conditions. Unfortunately the soil is still quite cold. If you are digging potatoes you will know what I mean.

Don't cut your grass too short as if we do get a warm dry spell short grass will suffer. The Americans consider that we cut our grass too short. Better to raise the cutters half an inch (12 mm) higher than normal. You will not have to cut more often and your grass will keep green. All National Trust gardens cut in this manner and you can see how good their lawns are.

Now is a good time to take geranium cuttings. Look for small shoots and cut just below a joint and remove all leaves except the top pair. Fill a 6" pot with a mixture of loam and sand and using a pencil make six or eight holes in the mixture and push the cuttings into the holes and firm in and water. Keep away from direct sunlight. In about a month these should have rooted providing you keep the soil moist.

Other cuttings that can be taken in a similar manner are pinks and border carnations. Roses will have finished their first flush so make sure you 'dead head' them and cut the stems above an out facing bud. This will encourage new flower stems to form. Roses will also benefit with a dressing of high potash fertilizer or if not available to you a general fertilizer such as GROMORE will help.

If you are growing plants in the greenhouse such as toms and cucumbers make sure they are well ventilated in the wet and cool weather. Still air in such conditions is just what grey mould thrives on. Air, movement and ventilation is the key.

Hopefully the weather will have changed for the better by the time you read this. So keep the hoe working, keep your equipment clean and happy gardening.

Fruity Two

Please ask for: Colin Hawke  
Tel: 01872 322638

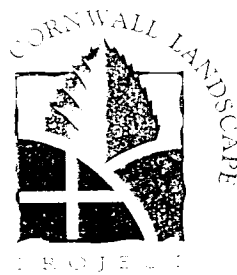
My Ref.: CRH/8K51  
Your Ref.:

Date: 11th June 1998

PLANNING DIRECTORATE  
County Hall, Truro  
Cornwall TR1 3AG

Tel: 01872 322111  
Fax: 01872 323859

Planning Director David Pittard



To All Parish and Town Council Clerks  
and Cornwall Rural Community Council

Dear Clerk

### Japanese Knotweed Control Forum for Cornwall

The Cornwall Biodiversity Initiative has highlighted the threat to Cornwall's wildlife posed by Britain's most invasive species, Japanese Knotweed. The plant is capable of growing from tiny fragments, has extensive and deep root systems, is capable of causing expensive structural damage and smothers other habitats. Although it is illegal to cause its spread the plant's amazing regenerative powers means that it is capable of spreading very rapidly. Already many areas of the County are choked by Japanese Knotweed.

The County Council and Environment Agency are co-ordinating a Forum in an attempt to control this extremely invasive and damaging weed. They are working closely with other local authorities. The National Trust, Railtrack, Camborne School of Mines and many other bodies to raise awareness of the problem and to find a co-ordinated approach to its control.

We want to halt its spread immediately and are targeting three key areas:

- where the location could lead to a substantial spread if disturbed
- where a site is vulnerable to disturbance, such as development sites and
- where a site exists within a valuable habitat.

However we need the help of the public, farmers and landowners help us to build a clearer picture of where it is so that resources can be put to best effect. I am conscious that Japanese Knotweed is a problem that is of concern to many Parish Councils and we would be grateful for any help that your Council can give, particularly in notifying us of Knotweed infested sites. I therefore enclose some recording forms for your use. These can be photocopied or I can supply more if needed. The Botanic Society of the British Isles is mapping the extent of the problem and already has 1400 records of Japanese Knotweed in Cornwall on its database.

If you have a Parish newsletter or magazine and would be able to include an item about Japanese Knotweed I would be pleased to supply you with copy *(for new edition)*

I enclose several copies of a leaflet, produced through the Cornwall Landscape Project, which provides information about the plant, its means of spread, how it can be controlled and most important, what to do with it.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colin Hawke'.

Colin Hawke, Forestry Officer

This countryside project is financed by the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF) through the Cornwall County Council, Penwith District Council, Kerrier District Council, Cornish District Council, Roseland Rural Council, Glendower District Council, North Cornwall District Council.



# JAPANESE KNOTWEED RECORDING SHEET.

Thank you for contributing towards the Botanical Society of the British Isles survey of Japanese Knotweed in Cornwall. Records will be computerised and made available for public information. The information will be used for nature conservation, research, education and to target a coordinated approach to controlling Knotweed. Please fill in the information below as accurately as possible and return to Dr. Colin French, 12, Seton Gardens, Weeth Road, Camborne, Cornwall TR14 7JS.

NAME: . . . . .

ADDRESS . . . . .  
 . . . . .

TELEPHONE NUMBER . . . . .

DATE OF RECORD . . . . .

LOCATION OF THE KNOTWEED . . . . .

SIX-FIGURE GRID REFERENCE FOR THE CENTRE OF THE KNOTWEED STAND  
 . . . . . (To obtain a six-figure grid reference, locate the centre of the Knotweed on an Ordnance Survey map. Each map should have written guidance regarding the National Grid Reference System, and how to obtain a grid reference. For instance, the six-figure grid reference for the post box on the top of Brown Willy Tor, Bodmin Moor, is SX 159 800.)

HOW LONG HAS KNOTWEED BEEN KNOWN AT THIS SITE? . . . . .

Please indicate the type/s of habitat covered in Knotweed in the appropriate box;

Rivers edge		Hedge		Farmland		Amenity area	
Derelict land		Garden		Woodland		Public site	
Roadside verge		Industrial/ Business site		Railway embankment		Other	

Please complete overleaf

You are not obliged to complete the Section below concerning ownership, but this information may be of use to us.

NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER OF LANDOWNER IF KNOWN (Please indicate on the sketch map if the Knotweed covers ground owned by more than one owner). . . . .

. . . . .

SKETCH MAP (Please remember to include details regarding location, distribution and the nearest road, river and/or habitation).

AREA OF GROUND COVERED BY KNOTWEED . . . . .  
LENGTH . . . . .  
WIDTH . . . . .  
PERCENTAGE OF DENSE COVER (KNOTWEED ONLY) . . . . .  
PERCENTAGE OF PARTIAL COVER (KNOTWEED & OTHER PLANTS).. . . . .