

MOUNT & WARLEGGAN LIFE

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2015

Number 90
Non-Parishioners 30p

*Royal Ascot next stop?
Probably not!*



*Make-up for that special day in
your life? –
Di's the person to call*



*These cupcakes
say it all really!*



*Now, when you are welly-
wanging concentrate really,
really hard!*



*Who would have thought that
plastic ducks racing down a
river was a spectator sport!*

See page 4 for full report

MOUNT CHAPEL

We had a very successful Sankey Evening with the profit of £150 donated to the Cornwall Air Ambulance. On 11th and 12th October we will be holding our Harvest Festival Services; on the Sunday 11.00am with Revd Robert Saunders will be Messy Church and 6.00pm the service will be with Revd Mark Pengelly and the Monday service is at 7.15pm again with Revd Robert Saunders. This service will be followed by the Auction of gifts.

We were saddened at the deaths of Tom Webster and his sister Barbara Keast. Tom was a valued regular attendee at our services and Barbara was a very much loved member of the congregation. Both will be much missed.

CHURCH NEWS

We are looking forward to the arrival of the Revd Philip Biggs as Curate-in-charge of St Neot and Warleggan; he moves into St Neot Vicarage in mid-September and his licensing will take place in St Neot Church on Friday October 2nd at 7.30pm followed by refreshments in the Village Hall. We have yet to meet him to sort out a pattern of services for Warleggan but what we would like to do would be to hold a Songs of Praise at 6pm on Sunday October 11th followed by refreshments, in order that he might meet the parish. (*Editor: This is a three-line whip from Pat we would like to see as many of you who are able attending please!!*).

We hope to have a Harvest Festival Songs of Praise on Sunday September 27th at 6pm. The following Monday evening at 7pm at The Old School House there will be the usual auction of gifts and produce followed by tea / coffee and biscuits, and the proceeds will be donated to the Friends of Urambo and Mwanhala in Tanzania. Any gifts can be left at the church that weekend or at The Old School House.

In the midst of our optimism and hope for the future it has also been a time of great sadness. On Wednesday 26th August Barbara Mary Keast, aged 92 and after 71 years of marriage, was buried in Warleggan. Barbara was so well loved, so full of life and so generous, so supportive of other people's endeavours over so many years that it is hard to think of life in Warleggan without her. Such is the love and affection in which she was held that hers was probably the largest funeral ever held in Warleggan; the church was packed an hour before the service and many were forced to stand outside. There were probably well over 200 mourners. It was an old fashioned "walking" funeral, with the coffin being carried from 'Windyridge' to the church by relays of bearers and followed by close family members. After the service, as the coffin reached the church door, there was a pause and the ashes of her brother Thomas John Webster, who had died a few weeks earlier aged 89, were interred

on his mother's grave on the left hand side of the old graveyard, before Barbara was buried next to Tor Keast in the new graveyard. The past few weeks have been a very sad and stressful time for the Keast family and our deepest sympathy goes to Cyril, John, Gill, Matthew and Lucy, Victoria and William.

SUNDAY SERVICES	HERE AT	ST BARTHOLOMEW'S
Sept 6th	9.30 am	Holy Communion Revd Tony Hodge
13 th	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer
20 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
27 th	6.00 pm	Harvest Festival Songs of Praise

ANOTHER DIARY DATE!

16TH October
7.00pm
St Bartholomew's
Church
Andrew Balfour
**Part II of
...My life so far!**

CARN TO COVE

FRIDAY OCTOBER 9TH 7.30PM

MIRACLE THEATRE'S FILM

"TIN"

"West Cornwall 1895. A once glorious tin mine on which the whole town has depended for generations is on its last legs. ...an opera company arrives in the town and finds itself tangled up in a scam to offload the mine's worthless shares. ...melodrama, reputations crumbling and any notion of fair play is abandoned."

Starring Jenny Agutter, Dudley Sutton & Ben Luxon.

Also a forthcoming date for you diary

CIRCUS BEZERKUS

SATURDAY DECEMBER 12TH

Christmas show and party for children from 3 to 103

PARISH LUNCH DATES

Yet more dates for your diary! Lunches are at 12.30pm –

September Wednesday 30th

November Wednesday 18th

These dates are subject to alteration depending upon who is available to cook on the day so keep an eye on the notice boards. We hate to disappoint anyone so PLEASE, PLEASE reserve your place – REMEMBER NO BOOKING, NO MEAL!! Also pre-warn us of any dietary requirements. Gill 821494.

'BIG DO' DONE, AND DUCK RACE RACED

Weren't we lucky with the weather! Constant drizzle the day before; heavy rain the day after. But the sun shone brightly for the '**Big Do in the Field**' on Saturday 25 July. With children's fancy dress, the races, the dog show, the cream teas, the barbecue, the stalls and games, the face painting, etc., it was a great afternoon out for the whole family.

We had some surprises and innovations – a yurt in one corner, a carousel in another; then the Young Farmers gave us a "Punch & Judy" show for the children, (courtesy of Steve Ashman) and the memorable 'mad cycle race', both of which proved very popular.

In the Jubilee Hall, there was the Annual Vegetable, Flower and Handicraft Show, with classes to appeal to all cooks, gardeners, craft-lovers, photographers, artists, young and old... with this year a special cookery challenge for men, won by David, who made an exceedingly good Victoria Sponge.

Four weeks later we were lucky with the weather again, as days of rain made way for a fine one on Sunday 23 August, the day of the **Duck Race**. And the river was running fast...

At 3 pm, Nina launched the ducks from the old bridge, with a team of intrepid duck-chasers (Zak, Patrick and James) in their dinghy, ready to help any stranded ducks on their way. It was all very entertaining – the ducks rushed off downstream, without even a backward glance towards the dinghy that from the start was struggling to keep up with them.

At the weir, as Nina and her helpers waited patiently with their nets to welcome the ducks, Jasmina and Alan had the barbeque going, the sun came out, the children played and the adults chatted away. One by one, the ducks arrived. And the winners were: first prize Richard J, second prize Richard H, and third prize Ben.

These events have been invaluable for bringing the community together, and for bringing fun to a summer of disappointing weather. On top of that, over £1,000 was raised, a wonderful achievement, with all profits going to the Jubilee Hall, helping towards its running costs, and thereby keeping hall hire rates affordable.

So, heartfelt thanks go to everyone who helped make the Big Do and Duck Race such successes.

Chris W

TOM WEBSTER

After a short service at the Crematorium a Thanksgiving Service for the life of Tom was held at Mount Chapel on 30th July. Tom had been baptised at the Chapel on 26th April 1926. In the following 89 years Tom has enriched the lives of so many people.

We had a classic "Fireside Tales" evening at the Hall back in 2009 when Tom and Brenda Hancock (nee Courts) regaled us with their childhood

memories. Tom told how it was his job to look after Brenda. Harry Courts and Tom would push Brenda in her pram up to Lower Directing Post at the top of the village. Tom would be at the top of Rogers' Hill and Harry lower down and Brenda would be set off in the pram and, if she was lucky, would reach Harry who would catch the pram although on many occasions she ended up in the hedge or ditch at the side of the road and remember it was not a smooth tarmac road then. We are very lucky that Brenda survived her childhood in the hands of Tom.

Tom attended Mount School in relation to which he often recounted the punishment for misbehaviour dished out by Miss Cows – the writing of the lines "*The ways of transgressors is hard*" up to 100 times.

His first job was as under butler at Lanhydrock House. At Lanhydrock Tom was known as "Henry" as the servants could not have the same names as any of the family members and in particular in this instance the painful memories of Tommy Robartes who was killed in the First World War. Tom was called up to the RAF in 1944 and spent most of his service life in Egypt. After being demobbed he worked for a short period at Wadebridge Post Office before spending the rest of his working life with British Rail, firstly as a ticket clerk at Wadebridge, rising over the years to a post with British Rail International in London where he was encouraging Americans to visit the United Kingdom and making the travel arrangements for their stay. He even spent a year or more in New York opening an office in that city.

Tom was able to travel extensively and the country that became his second love was Greece. For over 50 years Tom holidayed in Greece once or twice a year and made many friends in the towns and villages he visited.

Most of his life Tom lived in London but loved coming home to Mount and Warleggan for those long weekend breaks. For many years he stayed for those weekends with his step-mother Dorothy at Littlefields at the top of the village.

In 2012 following a fall he did not take too much persuading to come back to Mount. Tom was soon at home and was keen to attend anything that was happening in the parish from the parish meeting to Village Greens. On Wednesday he was a regular attendee at Shirley's coffee mornings. On Fridays the coffee halt was at the Village Greens where the Forces' representatives of Jeff Beglan (Army), Ian Watson (Navy), and Tom (Air Force) sorted out all the troubles of the world. Sunday was Mount chapel.

Every morning of the week Tom could be seen making his way up through the village to collect his paper and then up to Veronica's for coffee. He became a settled member of our community and Tom's family sincerely thank everyone who made him so welcome. But it was so easy to be friends with Tom. He was easy to engage in conversation and took an interest in all our lives.

BEST WISHES FROM WARLEGGAN ... continued

In 2004 Geo-Special- writer Michael Stürenberg was keen on finding out what these celebrities might have failed to notice in Warleggan, a little hamlet on the moor. We were impressed by the colourful light of a mild summer, the traces of sea-gulls in the sand, the echo of their shrill cries in the harbours.

There is no doubt about it, the Cornish coastline is unique with its beaches and varied coastline. Please, believe me, if it had been in spring-time we would have lodged in a little village near the beach. In the summer, however, the number of Cornwall's residents increases from half a million to two-and-a-half million. This great number of tourists flood into Cornwall, almost exclusively taking accommodation along the 697 miles of the Cornish coast. They cause endless traffic jams, there are merciless fights for parking spaces and they overcrowd the beautiful villages.

Nobody indeed feels attracted to Warleggan. Malevolent people suggest there might be a reason for this fact. Daphne du Maurier actually stated (50 years ago in her book, "Vanishing Cornwall"), that Warleggan is the loneliest village in the Duchy. It is situated on Bodmin Moor, a part of Cornwall that is almost daily affected by rain. It even rains here when the sun shines beautifully on the surfers enjoying themselves in the waves along the coast at Newquay.

Those tourists who long for romantic moments near the sea, for high temperatures, and sub-tropical plants and who are ready to put up with frequent encounters with other tourists are heartily invited to visit the beaches of Cornwall. Those tourists however, who dare to visit Warleggan, literally reach the heart of the county. It is far away from other places, nature here is a bit rough and there are people who reveal some of Cornwall's secrets to tourists, who take their time to listen. In fact, dear Aunt Gerda, we were told some secrets of Cornwall.

You should have been with us when we arrived in Warleggan! After we had left the ferry in Plymouth rather late in the evening, we drove along the A38 taking us to Bodmin, in a thunderstorm. Eventually, we turned right into a hardly noticeable narrow road, rather a tarred path, taking us through a wood. We drove along this narrow road at a very slow speed. When we were approaching the entrance of the village, the little road became even narrower; on either side there were hedges as high as houses, looking like a corridor, just wide enough for one car to pass.

Fortunately, there did not seem to be any oncoming traffic during this part of the day. Suddenly, in the beam of the headlights we saw a short-legged creature hurrying in front of the car. That could be the very Beast of Bodmin Moor, (a strange big cat is said to have killed many a

sheep in the past few years), would the beast try to attack tourists in their car? "A badger," shouted one of our children, knowing a lot about animals.

We reached Warleggan in foggy weather. Seven houses lined the street, there was a sign, "To the Church", indicating a dark alley of high beech trees, whose treetops were swaying dangerously in the rainstorm. My wife wanted to know the house number of our holiday cottage "Badger", just for form's sake. There was not a street sign anywhere nor did the cottages have any numbers.

At the exit of the village, a dark phone box came into sight, "Let us call our host," my wife said pleadingly.

Obviously, the "call box" had not been used for ages, there was a cob-web on the receiver. "Hello," said a tired voice, "Keith speaking." It was the husband of our hostess. His wife, Jenny Hill, had been sleeping for hours. "We got lost," I pointed out in embarrassment. "In Warleggan?" Keith asked incredulously. "Then go back the same road for about 20 metres! I am going to wait for you at the gate with a torch." Finally, we had arrived.

Early the next morning I set off to explore the area, the rest of the family were still sleeping. It was just Lou, our four-year-old daughter, who accompanied me along the snail-covered garden walk towards the road, which was completely empty. On the right there was the red telephone kiosk, on the left we saw a small iron gate behind which a small path lined by fern and blackberry bushes, disappearing in a desert of wet green. We decided to walk along the path. Lou's heart was beating hard.

After some 100 metres along the path we arrived at a church, reminding us of an old knight's castle with its speckled granite walls and small pinnacled spires. Under the grey sky the church looked so eerie that Lou had no interest in visiting it. We decided to chase snails in the churchyard among the graves, which nobody seemed to care about.

Suddenly a slenderly built person rose from the high growing grass. For a moment this person looked sternly at Lou, then she introduced herself to us. It was Barbara Keast, our neighbour. She asked us to call her by her Christian name, as it was the custom in the village. She spoke in a singing voice and began a lot of her sentences with a cheerful, "Oh yes" or "Oh no".

For her age, Barbara was very agile, she had just been busy cleaning one of the somewhat neglected looking graves, decorating it with some flowers from her garden. According to the inscription on the mossy tombstone, the deceased person had died in Warleggan about 250 years ago, "A long time to be looking after a grave," I remarked. "Oh yes," Barbara replied, "We Cornish are loyal people", and people who live very secluded lives, I thought to myself.

BARBARA KEAST

The funeral of Barbara took place at Warleggan Church on 26th August with almost 250 attending showing the esteem with which she was held by so many people. The Reverend Andrew Balfour officiated and John Hammond was organist.

Born 17th May 1923, Barbara was the middle child of Mary Knight and Bill Webster. Barbara enjoyed her time at Mount School and on leaving went up to Lewannick to train as a nanny at a Home for Unmarried Mothers which was situated there. Children have always been the love of her life. But after only a few months her mother died and still only 15 years old she returned to help her father at the Post Office and Shop at Mount where she was sworn in the Post Office as the youngest postmistress in the country.

Later we find Cyril working in Jory's Carpenters Shop opposite the Post Office. They had been in the same class at school and a stronger friendship grew. At first Bill Webster wasn't too happy with Barbara's choice of boyfriend but after Cyril had made a new set of doors for his garage and not charged him he changed his mind leading to their marriage at Warleggan Chapel on 4th December 1943. At first Barbara and Cyril lived with her older sister Betty and Jack Courts at Tawna, later moving to Homleigh at Mount and then around 1951 to Warleggan.

Barbara and Cyril's almost 72 years of married life have been relatively simple compared to the jet-setting couples of today. But they have had a truly happy life together centred around the family. John came along in 1949 then with Gill being brought into the family along came Lucy and Matthew and more recently Victoria and great-grandson William who gave Barbara so much joy.

Cyril has always been the captain of the family but we all know that the engine room which kept everything running smoothly was Barbara.

And that busy-ness, that love, that friendship of Barbara's extended far beyond her immediate family. Any stranger who happened to walk up through Warleggan village and who was espied by Barbara or Cyril were engaged in conversation and in no time found themselves in Windy Ridge sitting down to a cup of tea and one of Barbara's flat biscuits.

Barbara supported so many local activities. She regularly worshipped at Warleggan chapel which was always an important part of her life and following its closure attended Mount and Millpool chapels and often Evening Prayer at this church. Barbara knew there was only one God and was quite happy to be in His presence in a building of whatever denomination.

She found great pleasure in attending the meetings of Warleggan and Cardynham WI of which she was a founder member and President on many occasions. In recent years she was welcomed at the regular St Neot Fellowship meetings.

Until a couple of months ago Barbara was very active – cooking, gardening, shopping, running the household at Windy Ridge and generally keeping Cyril on his toes. Then came that fall; eight fractured ribs, three weeks in Derriford Hospital and five weeks at Bodmin Community Hospital that sapped the strength of this most resilient of ladies. In those last few weeks in Bodmin Hospital Barbara made new friends with the staff who cared for her and, although only knowing her for a relatively short time, described her as “a wonderful lady”.

HISTORY GROUP

Wednesday 23rd September a guided walk around Looe with Mark Camp. **Meet 6.30 PROMPT** by the Library in the Millpool Car Park in West Looe (parking is free after 6.00pm).

Wednesday 28th October 7.30pm Jubilee Hall, an illustrated talk by

David Thomas (Cornwall Records Office) “The rise and fall of Methodism in Cornwall”

100 CLUB WINNERS

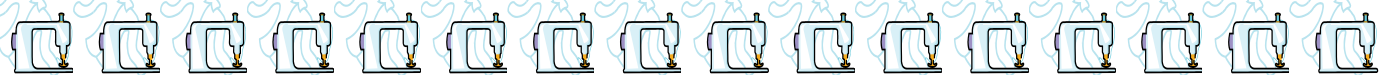
July	Tam H	£30
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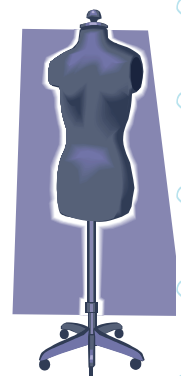
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St Neot & Cardinham Pre-School

Pre-School Leader: Di Bearne (Out of Pre-school Hours) 01208 821179 or 07927 313 071

(Pre-School hours only to speak to a member of staff
07861612727 or 01579 326862

Mon 10.00–12.00 Parent & Toddler Group(**Children's Centre St Neot**)

9.00-15.00 (**Woodside Early Years Centre Cardinham School Field**)

Tues 09.00–15.00 (**Children's Centre St.Neot**)
PM Session over 2years

Weds 09.00-15.00 (**Woodside Early Years Centre Cardinham**)

Thurs 10.00–12.00 Parent & Toddler Group
(**Woodside Early Years Centre Cardinham School Field**)

09.00-15.00 (**Children's Centre St.Neot**)

PM Session over 2 years

Fri 09.00–15.00(**Children's Centre St.Neot**)

PM Session over 2 years

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK TO SEE FORTHCOMING EVENTS

WARLEGGAN JUBILEE HALL	DIARY OF REGULAR EVENTS
SUNDAY	Table Tennis 11.15am
MONDAY	Warleggan Young Farmers' Club Weekly Meeting 7.30pm
TUESDAY	Pilates Mixed Ability Class 12-1pm Table Tennis 7.00pm
WEDNESDAY	History Group 7.30pm 4 th Wednesday (unless otherwise stated) Yoga 7.30pm NOT 4TH WEDNESDAY
FRIDAY – WEEKLY	Village Greens Friday Shop 9.00am – 2pm
	SPECIAL EVENTS
WEDNESDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER	History Group – Guided walk of Looe 6.30pm PROMPT See inside for RVP
PARISH LUNCH WEDNESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 30 th	12.30pm £4 / Head BOOKING ESSENTIAL 821494
WEDNESDAY 28TH OCTOBER	History Group The Rise & Fall of Methodism in Cornwall
USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
PARISH MEETING CHAIR	ST NEOT / CARDINHAM PRE-SCHOOL
Pat Phillipps 821638	Di Bearne 821179
READING ROOM CHAIR	CHAPEL STEWARDS
Rob Jory 77569 / 07766 254 511	Shirley Jory 821360 Pauline Worth 821371
JUBILEE HALL	WARLEGGAN YFC
CHAIR Liz Lane 821551	CHAIR Ashley Spry ash.spry970@hotmail.com
TREASURER Jasmina Goodair 821223	CORNWALL COUNCILLOR
BOOKINGS Henry Jory 821127 OR www.warleggan.net	Derris Watson 01579 347632 derris.watson@btinternet.com
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