



# Stoke Climsland Annual Parish Meeting 2025

Held at the Parish Hall 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Welcome everyone to the 2025 Annual Parish Meeting.

Another year has flown past during which it has been my pleasure and honour to Chair the Parish Council. I have been ably assisted by my Vice Chairman Richard Davies, and would like to thank him and all those who work for the good of the Parish.

We have two new faces following the elections on 1<sup>st</sup> May but we still have two vacancies.

If you might be interested in being co-opted onto the Council please contact the Parish Clerk.

How do we spend the Precept, the parish councils share of your Council Tax.

We provide Litter and Dog bins and pay Cornwall Council to empty them.

We provide and maintain grit bins, the grit is there to keep roads safe, please do not take it to use on your driveway.

We work with Cornwall Council in the Local Maintenance Partnership to keep vegetation on footpaths and bridleways cut.

We provide Playgrounds and are currently working toward refurbishment where required of those already in place and considering what else might be needed.

We provide and pay for the maintenance of defibrillators in Stoke Climsland, Downgate, Lockett and Bray Shop.

We support the maintenance of the Churchyard through an annual grant to the Church for this purpose.

We have supported both Lockett Cricket Club and Stoke Climsland School with section 137 grants toward the cost of a mower and the staging of "The Hobbit", and the Parish Hall for their Childrens Christmas Party.

We rent land to provide the play area at Downgate and the allotments at Venterdon and Lockett.

We pay a contractor to mow the grass on the Village Green, Downgate Play Area and Lockett Car Park

All these things together with necessary insurances, wages, audit and other professional fees and memberships, and minor expenses are how we spend your money.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan is nearing the end of its development, it is currently with Cornwall Council for the Strategic Environmental Assessment. Once that is complete there will be a consultation of the whole Parish and following that and an inspection to ensure it is in tune with all the latest Planning Policies there will be a referendum on whether it should be adopted as Cornwall Planning Policy

The very successful Carbon Zero Homes Project, for which we received £55,000 of Government funding continues to bring interest from across the country, with requests to use our work as a blueprint for other schemes and many councils and environmental organisations wanting to use our Retrofit video in their own projects.

Sarah Ross Chairman Stoke Climsland Parish Council

## Luckett Social Club Annual Report 2025

The Social Club have enjoyed a wide range of activities and held many successful events during the past 12 months. The highlights being Luckett Duck Day, a Burns Night Celebration and the Skittles evening held at Deer Park Farm. Also supporting the Parish Hall Fundraising Committee with a Music in the Barn event at Deer Park Farm last July both financially and physical manpower. Other Club events included talks, two Craft Fayres, Christmas Party, several Quiz night, Beetle Drives, Bingos and a Darts Competition. Plus on the big TV screen members have been watching Six Nations Rugby as well the Eurovision Song Contest and a couple of film Nights.

We have 2 successful snooker teams being in the Launceston & District and Liskeard Leagues. Finishing mid table and were Runners up in the Launceston KO Cup Competition.

We also have a Darts team which play in the Lamerton & District League Division 2. Now in their second full season.

Danny and Geoff along with Stoke players took part in a 24 hours Darts Marathon jointly organized by Stoke Climsland Sports & Social Club which raised in excess of £ 5844 for local charities Cancer Research and McMillan.

On Monday Mornings Sara runs a Baby & Toddler Group whereby Mums (and Grandparents) can come along for a couple of hours and met up and have a coffee, a chat whilst the children play safely.

On Monday evenings the Club is used for Pilates sessions. For only a small fee Luckett villagers can now partake in this gentle exercise without having to travel far.

On Tuesday's Maxine runs a Doey Club whereby people make all sorts of different crafts. As part of the Community the Club is also available for private Birthday and Anniversary Parties and well as a Meeting venue, plus is used as a Polling station for any Elections.

Future events coming up include the now Annual Stuckett Darts Challenge matches (with Stoke Sports & Social Club), 2<sup>nd</sup> Leg on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> at Luckett.

Luckett Duck Day (Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May) at Byenleigh from 2.30pm onwards.

The Skittles Evening (Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July) and our Music in the Barn Event on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August with Black Friday supported by Richard Long on Guitar from 7pm.

The Club can also cater for outside bars for private events during the Summer / Autumn periods.

New members always welcome. More information can be found on our facebook page [The-Luckett-Social-Club](#)

*Geoff Howlett (Honorary Secretary).*



## Old School Report May 2025

We are delighted to be celebrating 25 years since The Old School became a Community Centre. We are indebted to the parishioners and Trustees who had the forethought, determination, and perseverance to obtain The Old School for the benefit of the community. As Trustees, we are committed to maintain it as a sustainable, viable asset for now and into the future.

So far this year, we've held 2 events in March to help us celebrate – The Heritage Lottery Weekend to recognise the support they gave us in purchasing the building. We had children's activities, demonstrations, one of Edah's delicious afternoon teas and exhibited new displays from the Parish Archive which is housed at the Old School. We also held a special meal, cooked by the Young Cooks @ The Old School for some VIPs including Edna Eveyly who was cook at the School for 40 years, David Bundy Ex Headmaster and our very special Edah Joll.

We have continued to hold our popular, regular events, such as Friday Lunches, Farmers Market, Children's Music Group, Library, and Mah-jong. We've also started successful Lego and Chess Clubs as well as new Open Mic Night. We have diverse regular entertainment bookings such as Sottish country dancing, 2 art groups, Local History, Film and Book Clubs, U3A, Classical and Jazz, not to mention Acupuncture, Pilates, Love to Move and Mature Movers. There really is something for everyone.

As ever, we are indebted to Edah Joll, our administrator extraordinaire as well as Johnathon Cox and Tony who look after the building so well. Without Edah and her wonderful team of volunteers and loyal supporters we couldn't do so many of the activities and functions that sustain us and keep the Old School the vibrant community centre that it is.

Sadly, we have had to say "goodbye" to some old and faithful friends including Brigitte Cox who had been a loyal supporter of the Old School from its inception. Edah and her team showed their respect and affection in producing a funeral tea for her many mourners!

Our kitchen, office and visitors bottoms have benefitted from generous donations. These have enabled us to upgrade our computer, kitchen units and seating.

We were successful in a grant application to the Community Lottery Fund which has enabled us to make a few improvements to the Audio-visual system, set up the Young Cooks @ the Old School programme and update our heating system. In order to reduce our carbon foot print and energy consumption, we made the decision to instal Air Source Heat Pumps, which as we learn how best to use them are proving to be very effective and are more efficient, however the cost of electricity remains high. We were pleased to host an evening to dispel myths and provide clear information about Heat Pumps which followed on from The Parish Council's Carbon Zero Homes Project.

Cornwall Council's Community Capacity Fund grant aided a programme of specialist research into the best ways to tackle climate change and use of energy throughout the historic building, and we are applying to them now for part 2 – funding to carry out physical works. Plymouth University's 'Good Growth' project has also supported us with more in-depth details. They are looking at the construction and fabric of the building, thermal properties, and ventilation. It is clear that they find The Old School an interesting historic building, as well as it being a treasured part of our community.

The Old School News remains a free "What's on guide" and valuable means of communication for the community. Until now, we have promoted events within the parish at no cost. While many people use social media, there are significant people in the village who still rely on hard copy written word for their information. We received much appreciated financial support from the Parish Council last year and welcomed a new editor – Hamish Johnson, who continues to be supported by compiler Hilary Scott. We have introduced a sponsorship scheme to enable people who wish to, to contribute towards printing costs, and continue to seek advertising revenue.

As Trustees, we are very aware however, that we cannot rely on grants to ensure the sustainability of The Old School, so we have been looking at all our income and costs very carefully. We have taken the difficult decision to increase our room rental rates and for the first time have had to ask the Parish Archive, a valuable community resource, to contribute towards accommodation costs. We are in challenging times, but are committed to honour the legacy that our predecessors made.

Pen Davies Gregory - Chair of Trustees

## Parish Hall Update

The Parish Hall Trustees are pleased to report of another progressive year of consolidation. Structural issues of the building continue to challenge a limited budget, but essential repair works to the aged flat roof northern extension together with remedial brick and coping stone replacement to address water ingress have been addressed. The installation of an easier access external door to the toilet block facilities was also replaced at the same time. Additionally new hand crafted hardwood doors for both emergency exits to the main hall and kitchen area, together with the external side access 'gate' have also been installed, with only the main foyer entrance double doors to complete.

We continue to develop the next staged approach towards major refurbishment scheduled for this coming summer with allocated grant awards planned internal improvements to the self-serve kitchen area, plus remedial work on the external windows and a general painting & decorating programme to 'spruce up' our much valued low-cost parish hall booking offer.

Fundraising events throughout the past year have ranged from an ABBA Fest Disco 'Thank you for the Music' Night in the Parish Hall, Music in the Barn at Deer Park Farm with the ever popular 'South East Cornwall Sea Shanty Singers', Bridge Club summer afternoon tea, Children's Christmas Party with the surprise early appearance of Santa, a fascinating evening talk on 'Flying Boats of WWII' by the author, Health and Wellbeing 'Ladies Pamper Days' and the seasonal popular table-top bric-a-brac/craft fair events in collaboration with the monthly Old School Farmers Market. Our thanks to all who support our varied events through the 'Friends of SCPH' and especially to the loyal band of 'HAWKS' fundraising committee for their ever innovative ideas – anyone is most welcome to join our growing band of supporters.

Finally, can we convey our gratitude to all our regular hirers for staying loyal to your parish hall during these ever challenging times, we still remain most positive and with the full and continued support of our landlords - The Duchy of Cornwall in seeking a long term solution for the future of a Parish Community facility, we continue to work in collaboration with fellow groups, organisations and individual venues throughout the Parish & by strong representation through the Community Facility Group.

Martin Howlett

(Chairman of Trustees)

### Report from the Stoke Climsland Bridge Club

The Bridge Club continues to meet on every Friday evening as it has done for more than thirty years.

We usually meet in the Parish Hall every Friday but move over to the Old School when the hall is required by SCATS for the panto in February, and on the Friday before jumble sales organized by the show committee.

We actually forego our weekly dose of bridge on the day before the annual show in August when the show committee needs to set up the various displays for the show.

The following Sunday saw the return of our popular teams event. Because of the size of the hall and the need to use the former stage area to lay out the sumptuous tea, entries were restricted to eight tables. Both the format of the competition and the tea were well appreciated by all.

Thanks to the sterling work of the hall's volunteer catering department, the event raised over £250 towards the upkeep of the hall.

Brian Lupton Chairman SC Bridge Club

## Stoke Climsland Parish Church

This year has been a year of change for the church in Stoke Climsland.

In September we welcomed Rev. Andy Atkins as our new Priest in Charge; the nave has been refurbished; some wonderful Worship has continued within our church building and, despite all the upheaval, the building has remained open every day of the year.

We are very thankful to the wonderful team of volunteers that worked so hard to complete the work on the Nave – it certainly looks magnificent and provides a welcoming and flexible space, both for worship and the other activities that take place in the church, for example our toddler group that meets every Wednesday. In addition to work on the Nave, a damp course was also laid to the north and east walls.

In addition to our toddler group on Wednesdays, the church continues to support the local community in many ways:

**Worship** – the church holds over 125 regular services per year as well as providing for Weddings and Funerals throughout the year.

**The Churchyard** is a space of reflection for all in the village. We are thankful to the Parish Council for their financial support but have a very small team of volunteers and really need more if it is to be kept looking so well cared for.

**The Community Choir** - is open to anyone, regardless of musical ability, and meets in the church at 6.15 pm on Wednesdays. Our next concert will be on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July. It is free and will be followed with a barbecue so we hope lots will attend.

**Bell Ringing** - The church has 8 bells which were originally cast here in Stoke by the John Pennington, whose grave can be seen just outside the west door of the church. They meet on Sunday mornings to call people to worship, and on Thursday evenings to practice and aim to improve skills, have fun and teach new ringers who are always very welcome!

**Pop up Cafe** - meets every Tuesday in the Parish Hall, from 9 am until around 11.30 am. Everyone is welcome to come in for a cuppa and piece of homemade cake. We offer an opportunity for people to come together and enjoy each other's friendship. Do come along, you will find a very warm welcome.

**Supporting the Primary School** – Through 'Open the Book of' a team from church that assists at school assembly on a Tuesday morning to dramatise and bring to life Bible stories for the children (with enthusiastic audience participation!). Just before Easter all the children from years 1-4 came to the church, a class at a time, to explore the story and meaning of Easter. The school also uses the church for their annual Christmas concert.

**Messy Church** - is a nationwide scheme offering Church to families in our Messy Society. We meet on the 1st Saturday of most months in The Old School at 3 pm (restarting 1st Feb). We explore a theme through crafts, drama and other fun activities, then sing, pray, and enjoy refreshments and fellowship.

Challenges are faced; the Diocese has a new plan and Andy has to look after both the Callington and the Tamar Valley Clusters. This gives him responsibility for 11 churches. He is stretched to the limit, and we of necessity can only see him here every three months. However if the plan develops as envisioned there should be several appointments in the form of interns and other assistants.

Despite this, we continue to provide a place of worship for our community and continue to serve them in every way we can.

2024-5 has been a busy time for us, especially during the past few months when, (despite weeks of repeated viruses), the Volunteer team came up trumps, putting in weeks of work in preparation to support The Old School's first 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event - an Open Weekend held during the Heritage Lottery Fund Open week.

Eight brand new displays on new very local topics have come out of that effort, plus workshops for new volunteers. And we were especially delighted to meet with local parishioners who we hadn't talked with before.

In May we look forward to welcoming another Duke of Edinburgh's Award student, and evolving a project for him to work on over the next six months.

And then in June we have another training day – we go down to Kresen Kernow (the Cornwall Council's home in the restored Redruth Brewery buildings which now houses all of the Historic Environment teams, including the County Record Offices) for a day with the National Archives from Kew.

The previous training day was on the complexities of labelling and recording Artefacts – of which we have many – mostly small, worthless and sometimes unlovely, but unique and of great value to parishioners of the future.

A succession of visitors to the Archive during this year have enjoyed with us an exciting ramble through index cards and files, hunting down their ancestors and enriching their family story. Invaluable to them and their descendants.

One of these, Karl Much, on a visit from New Zealand, gave us a talk in aid of the Archive and was able to tell us the complete story of what happened once his ancestor arrived there in the early 1800's. This was a rare treat – we see that family members have emigrated – but we usually have no idea what happened next. We look forward to Karl's book being completed – one of a gradually increasing number on local people and places.

As always, we're on the lookout for more volunteers. We meet for the day on Wednesdays, and new volunteers can join us then, or a different day or evening, take part in specialist workshops – like labelling those artefacts - or take work home with them.

And now look out for the latest project – a brand new web site.

Thankyou,

Caroline Vulliamy

Archive Co-ordinator

