# Morval Parish Council urgently needs a



# but you'll need to be quick!

Applications needed by 3<sup>rd</sup> April Interviews to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> April More details inside on page 5

News and Views from around the Parish April 2024 Issue 340 Opinions in Outlook are those of the authors of articles, not the editors. <u>Editors</u>: Collecting Articles & Information - Hayley (01503 240298) Formatting & Printing - Mike & Maggie (01503 240218) Coordinating Distribution - Jack & Dawn (01503 240482) Finance - Colin & Lesley (07920136686)

Submit your articles by emailing morvaleditors@outlook.com

#### **Useful Contacts** Ben Morgan Lundie **Priest-in-Charge** 01503 261184 Please note new email address >>> vicar@looeparishes.co.uk Church Warden Mike Willmott 240218 PCC Secretary/Safeguarding Maggie Willmott 240218 07973722030 **Bell Tower Captain** Robin Tamblyn **County Councillor** Armand Toms 264823 cllr.armand.toms@cornwall.gov.uk Parish Council Chair Andy Jackson 07415 879282 Parish Clerk Sam Pengelly 07773 062174 clerk@morvalparishcouncil.org.uk John Kitson Morval Estate Office 241111 Ann Chudleigh Widegates Village Hall 240470 Widegates Garden Club Marie Bersey 240478 Trenode School & Toddlers 240235 Liskeard Community Hospital 01579 373500 NHS Direct (24 hour service) 111 Neighbourhood Team Leader: Sergeant Jo Williams 101 PCSO: Morval-Widegates: Dave Billing 07713 309459 Morval Parish website www.morvalwidegates.weebly.com www.trenode.cornwall.sch.uk Trenode School website M Barber (240309) K Burt (240545) Neighbourhood Watch: B Reynolds (240520)

NDP Steering Group: Mike (Chair 240218), Lou (Vice chair 240518) Deb (241064), Jack & Dawn (240482), Aurea (07905 267214), Maggie (240218), Jen (240518), James (07855 046360) Email: <u>morvalparishndp@gmail.com</u>

# Copy deadline for the May 2024 Outlook is Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024

#### Key dates in Morval Parish

(Widegates Village Hall unless otherwise stated)

#### **April dates**

- Fri 12: 7-9pm, Family Games Night
- Wed 24: 7:30pm, Garden Club speaker Caroline Stone, Daffodils: 'Royal Ladies & Country Parsons',
- Fri 26: 7:30pm, Quiz Evening

#### May dates

- Sat 11: 10am -12, Bacon/sausage bap, tea/coffee, cake
- Wed 29: 7:30pm, Garden Club speaker Dale Woods 'Bees & Beekeeping'

## Fairtrade Big Brew at Trenode

The children and staff of Trenode put in a huge amount of work for the Fairtrade afternoon on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March. There were informative and interesting presentations, a quiz and some very yummy baking with Fairtrade ingredients. The refreshments and raffle raised £50 for Transform Trade.



# Quiz evening Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April

Everyone is welcome – our quiz evenings are light hearted and only very gently competitive. We need some new teams to challenge the regular winners. There will even be cake!!

#### Toni's charity swim for Diabetes.org

As mentioned last month, Toni Patterson is doing a 44 miles swim (the equivalent of the English Channel and back again) to support this fabulous charity to help a better future for people living with diabetes. This is a real challenge for her, but it's for a great cause. If you are able to support her challenge, you can donate via her profile page:

https://swim22.diabetes.org.uk/fundraising/toni-patterson2024#share-page

# **Celebrating Emptiness**

A couple of weeks ago I had had a particularly long few days. Every day of the week starting early and finishing late at night. When I settled down that last evening I headed, as is my vice, to the biscuit tin. To my great dismay the tin was totally empty!!

What had happened to the contents I had so hoped to find; custard creams, Jam creams even a chocolate digestive would have done. I looked around for answers, not that there would be any. Had the dog got them? Obviously not, he doesn't have hands to open the tin. Perhaps the kids had taken them all upstairs and started eating them and stashed the rest in a secret hiding place. I asked my wife, who looked, shrugged and shook her head at me knowingly.

Whatever had happened, to find the tin empty was a bad end to the week.

We don't often think of empty as being positive. When I am worn out I sometimes describe myself as empty, not a good thing. I once ran out of fuel only a quarter of a mile from the garage and had to call my friend Barry for help, an empty tank, also bad. Yet we approach a time of year, Easter, when emptiness is not only celebrated, but can be life changing.

When Mary Magdalene found the tomb of Jesus empty on the first Easter day (John 20) she reacted like me and the empty tin. She looked around, she asked others. She assumed someone must have moved him.

And then he came and spoke to her.

'Mary'....

That first easter the tomb was empty because Jesus was alive. The hopes and fears of Jesus' first followers, which they thought were over, were completely fulfilled. In his resurrection came the promise of forgiveness, acceptance and life to come for all who trust him.

Because the tomb was empty, the lives of every single person that will ever live, can be full.

Full with hope love and a relationship with a God who died and rose again for us all to simply know him more closely.

The biscuits from the tin were, in all likelihood, already eaten by me. And nothing more than the previous few days comfort eating joy came from that.

But this easter, I Invite you to come and meet Jesus and see the empty tomb, the tomb that is empty that all our lives may become truly full forever more.

Amen

Rev'd Steve Guffick, Curate of Morval

#### **Recruitment: Morval Parish Council Clerk/RFO**

Part Time Parish Clerk/RFO

(salary in accordance with NALC & SLCC recommended rates)

We are looking for someone with good communication skills who is able to provide efficient administration of council business and manage projects where required.

Home Working, Flexible Hours, 20 days annual leave (pro rata)

For further information and an application pack, please contact: The Clerk

clerk@morvalparishcouncil.org.uk 07773 062 174

Closing date for applications: Wednesday 3rd April 12noon

Date for interview: Wednesday 10th April (evening)

#### **Trenode Field**

The Parish Council are interested in hearing from anyone that would like to rent the field. Please email the Clerk with your proposed use and lease term. clerk@morvalparishcouncil.org.uk

#### **Looe Public Enquiry Office**



As many of you may know, Looe Police has had their new Public Enquiry Office (PEO) open in Looe for some time now.

A gathering was held last Wednesday 21 February with members of

the community, local councillors, and schoolchildren to celebrate the new PEO opening. This was to recognise the positive impact the PEO will have on our community by providing the public with access to walk-in services and to speak with trained staff who can help with crime reporting, crime prevention advice and help with accessing victim services.

The Looe PEO is open Monday – Saturday 10am – 3pm.



#### MORVAL Parish Council chairman Andy Jackson has reassured organisations and residents that no offence was intended when the Council decided to review its annual grants policy.

The Council traditionally sets aside £1,000 a year of local Council Tax-payers money to reward what it regards as 'voluntary groups or charitable organisations working for the benefit of the parish and its community.'

In recent months, though, there have been moves to update the policy, which has not been reviewed for some time, but it appears that in trying to make the procedure more transparent, some misunderstandings may have occurred.

There were even suggestions that some recent grants might have been made contrary to the spirit of the Council's policy, and also that some Council Tax-payers money, that was gifted to organisations, had not been spent exactly as had been originally intended.

It transpired at the monthly Council meeting that both the Parish Church of St Wenna's and the Flower Festival had taken issue with any suggestion that they might have done something wrong.

Churchwarden Mike Willmott spoke passionately during the public participation section of the meeting, admitting that he was 'taken aback' to be queried about the grant the church had received, in the current and previous financial years, towards maintenance costs of the open public churchyard. That was caused, in part, by an apparent discrepancy between the Council's



grant policy, and the terms and conditions in the Council's grant application form that applicants submit.

He said he believed that the church had complied with all its responsibilities under the grant conditions but felt that the Council's review had led to 'unfortunate inferences'.

And, in calling for a full apology, he added: "I have to tell you people have taken great exception to this."

The Council later discussed proposed changes to the grants policy, and it was agreed that the clerk would now prepare a new policy, incorporating councillors' suggestions, and present it to the next meeting for further debate.

The chairman reiterated that they had not accused anyone of wrong-doing and they were not implying that any organisation had done anything untoward.

However, it was public money with which they were dealing when awarding the grants, and that had to be properly accounted for.

Lessons had been learned, he said, but because all grant applications – and, indeed, all Parish Council spending – had to be ratified by annual audits, future applicants should understand that they had to meet the requirements of being awarded a grant.



THE ROAST ON THE COAST!

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