The Villager Autumn 2026



Autumn Morning Mist



Autumn Setting Sun

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NEWS *from* Dobwalls Into Gardening





We had a great talk by Brigit Strawbridge on how to make your garden wildlife friendly, providing natural foods, water, cover and shelter, and nesting material and places.

Our annual plant sale was a huge success and many thanks to those who came along to suppport us. DIG members donated shrubs, perennials, annuals, house plants and vegetable plants.



Thanks to Becky who kindly hosted our cream tea and potato competition in her lovely garden.

Meetings are held at Dobwalls United Church Hall, generally on the first Monday of each month but do vary for arranged visits or to avoid public holidays. For up to date information, search for our Facebook page 'Dobwalls Into Gardening Community' or phone 01579 326158.

Summer glides into Autumn









It will soon be Winter —and then Christmas!

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Advertising in The Villager

THE costs of placing an advert in the Dobwalls Parish Council magazine are listed below. The Villager goes to around 1,000 homes, businesses and properties in the village and across the wider parish and the income from advertising helps towards the printing costs which are for ever rising.

A full page advert for the four editions per year costs £120, just £30 an issue. A one-off full page is £60.

A half page in our editions is £72, just £18 an issue. A one-off half page is £36.

And a quarter page for all four editions will set you back a mere £42, only £10.50 per issue. A one-off quarter page is £30.

It you want to have an advert in The Villager just contact Doreen Clark at

villageradvertisers@dobwallspc.org.uk

The deadline for adverts for the Christmas 2026 edition is the end of **October**.

If you have any stories or photos you'd like to see in The Villager or any events in the months of December and January and February of next year you'd like to publicise, then just contact the editor Michael Taylor

michaelgtaylor@yahoo.com by early **November**.

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"Thank You" to our new and not so new Volunteers!

WE asked for more people to come forward to give a little of their time just four times a year to deliver The Villager — and several people have!

Doreen Clark who, along with her husband Brian, organise the magazine's distribution, says: "We want to welcome our new volunteers, thank them for joining us and also thank the rest of the volunteers for their continued support. We can always do with a few more, so just get in touch if you'd like to help."

You can contact Doreen at this email address

villageradvertisers@dobwallspc.org.uk or ring her on 07870 464 208.

The other members of The Villager editorial team are Brian Clark (distribution) Sean Jackson ("The Villager" Facebook page) and Ailsa Tween (text proofreader).

The 15th Annual Dobwalls Beer & Cider Festival Another Outstanding Success

THIS YEAR'S festival proved to be another tremendous success, as hundreds of people gathered to enjoy a fantastic two days of entertainment, great food and community spirit.



The team of volunteers, who organise the event each year, has written this for The Villager: "Blessed with wonderful weather throughout the two days, the festival attracted large crowds who came together to enjoy the relaxed atmosphere and excellent selection of beers, ciders, food and live entertainment.

The sunny conditions helped create a vibrant party atmosphere, with visitors making the most of everything the festival had to offer.

A particular highlight was the outstanding musical entertainment. Every musician and band delivered excellent performances, keeping festival-goers entertained and ensuring there was a lively and enjoyable atmosphere from start to finish.

Saturday's programme also featured a range of activities for children, thanks to Dobwalls Football Club, making the festival a true family event.



While the committee is still finalising the accounts, early indications suggest that approximately £5,000 has been raised for Cornwall Air Ambulance. If confirmed, this will bring the total amount donated by the festival over the years to almost £40,000, a remarkable achievement for a community-run event.



The festival committee would like to extend its sincere thanks to everyone who helped make this year's event such a success. This includes our valued sponsors, loyal supporters, suppliers, talented musicians, and, of course, the people of Dobwalls and the surrounding area whose continued support has enabled the festival to grow and thrive over the past 15 years.

The festival has become one of the village and parish's most anticipated annual events, bringing people together while raising vital funds for a worthy local cause. The committee is immensely proud of what has been achieved and looks forward to building on this success in future years.

Thank you to everyone who attended, supported and contributed to another memorable festival. Your support continues to make a real difference to the Cornwall Air Ambulance and helps ensure the festival remains a highlight of the local community calendar."

(Photos by Matt Twornicki)







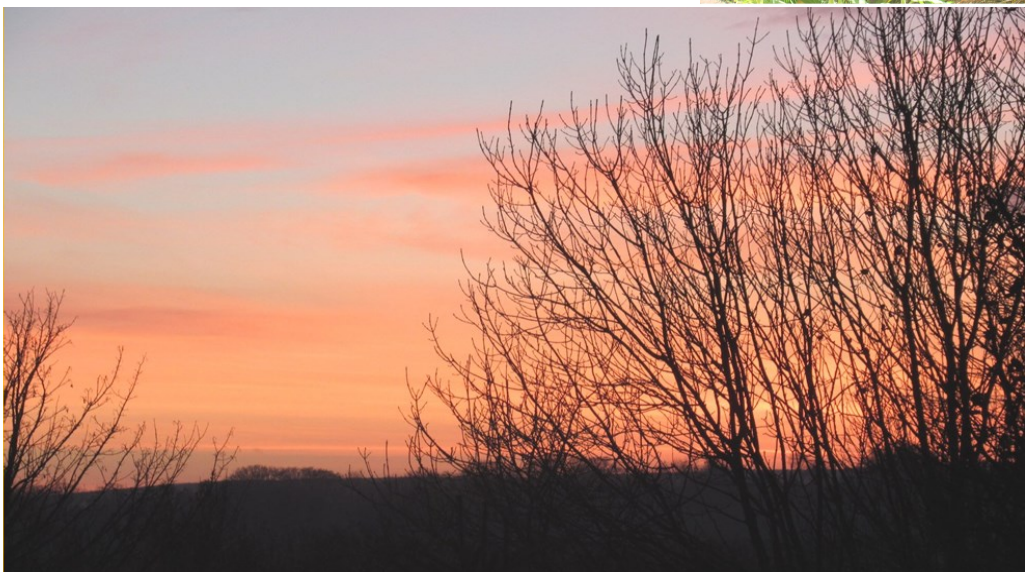




"The Villager"

Photos from past Autumn editions









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HICKS DOG SERVICES

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A Warm Welcome in the Winter months

DOBWALLS Warm Welcome will open its doors on the first Tuesday of November in Dobwalls United Church hall and continue on most Tuesdays until just before Easter next year.

This new Warm Welcome space will start at 10.30am, with a welcoming cup of coffee or tea and a biscuit or two, followed by a warming lunch around 12noon.

Dobwalls Warm Welcome is taking the place of Dobwalls Warm Space, which was supported by Dobwalls United Church. Sadly, the church has had to review its priorities which means no Dobwalls Warm Space this winter.

However, Doris Taylor, who co-founded Dobwalls Warm Space, has stepped in to set up Dobwalls Warm Welcome.

Doris says: “I am doing this because it’s clear there is a need for something to be provided this winter for people in the village and local community who in previous years have looked forward to coming together once a week to enjoy hot food and much more, especially companionship, mixing with other people and forming new, long lasting friendships.”

Doris is in the process of applying for grants and support from a number of sources.

She adds: “All I want to do is provide something which will be welcomed by many who face the long, cold days of the coming winter. To start with, it might just be soup and a roll while I wait for financial support to come through so there can be more substantial meals.”

Doris is also appealing to local people and local firms and companies to sponsor one or more of the weekly get togethers.

You can contact Doris at

the.taylorsmad@yahoo.com

Or just ring her on

07766 835 455.



Surface Issues Inside and Outside Dobwalls Memorial Hall

Rowena Fletcher writes on behalf of the hall trustees: “Regular hall users will have noticed our newly refurbished floor. After over 70 years of heavy use, the beautiful Parquet floor had started to show some signs of deterioration. This summer’s extreme heat was the final straw and caused some sizeable holes and cracks, which meant we could not use the hall and had to cancel some events at short notice. Fortunately Aspen Sanding were able to come in at short notice and did a fantastic job to completely refurbish the floor which is now looking better than ever and we hope good for the next 70 years!



You may also have spotted improvements to the ramp to the hall entrance from the car park and new railings, installed in response to concerns from people using the hall, to make the entrance safer and more accessible.

Both of these were essential repairs and upgrades which we could only do thanks to the support of the community who use the hall, whether coming to our regular bingo nights or attending exercise classes or clubs. It is thanks to you that we can stay open and in good working order. Thank you for your continued support.

The hall car park was re-surfaced last year but we are already seeing some signs of deterioration in the new surface, probably as a result of the extremely wet winter followed by the very hot and dry summer, as well as a lot of use.

We know these could quickly become pot holes. Repairs would be costly and we are monitoring the situation but we cannot rule out, at some point in the future, once again having to consider limiting parking to hall users.

We hope it won't come to that but it is an ongoing concern which we don't have any easy answers to.

We are also very concerned about safety of people walking on the pavement outside the hall. You may have seen large vehicles parking outside the hall entrance where the pavement is lower, blocking the pavement and forcing people to walk in the road, including people taking their children to and from school, pushing prams and wheelchair users.

There have been two recent incidents of large vehicles mounting the pavement and driving past the hall pedestrian gate with near misses of pedestrians leaving the hall.

This is completely unacceptable and, with the support of Dobwalls Parish Council, we have asked Cornwall Council to install bollards to prevent this happening. We've not yet succeeded in convincing Cornwall Council that this is essential, but we are continuing to make a strong case for it.

So, if anyone has any experience of being forced to walk in the road because of dangerous parking outside the hall entrance, please do report this to the Cornwall Council highways manager, ideally with photos, at:
enquiries@cornwallhighways.co.uk

Many of you will remember Barbara James, who sadly passed away earlier in the summer. As well as a being a much loved member of the Dobwalls community, Barbara will be remembered for her many years of support and involvement with Dobwalls Memorial Hall.

As well as being the hall's caretaker for many years before her retirement, Barbara was involved with the Short Mat Bowls Club, the hall lunch club and the Dobwalls Carnival. She will be greatly missed."



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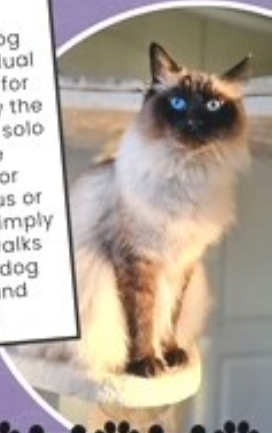


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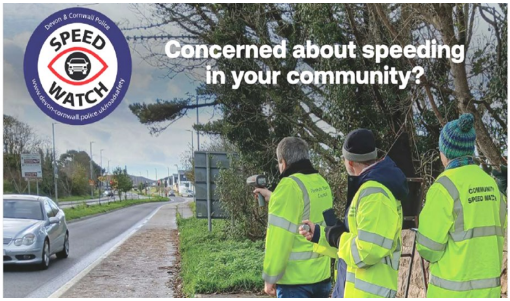
Thanks Sue — and Godspeed!

DOBWALLS Community Speed Watch Group co-ordinator Sue Kennedy has stepped down from the role.



Sue explains why: "I've done this because I've moved to live in Devon to be closer to family after the passing of my husband last year.

"Over the last six months I managed to create a team which will continue the work I started, which has seen a decrease in the number or drivers exceeding the speed limit."



Andrew Collins, the Community Speed Watch co-ordinator for the Liskeard area, says he has taken over from Sue, following the excellent work carried out by her and her team. If you are interested in joining the Dobwalls group, then go to speed-watch@dc.police.uk and they will pass your details on to Andrew.

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Another Brilliant Year at Dobwalls Primary School!

Silver Rights Respecting Award HEADTEACHER Kathryn Pipe says: "We're delighted to share that Dobwalls has been awarded Silver Rights Respecting School status, following an accreditation visit from Martin Russell of UNICEF. The Rights Respecting Schools Award puts children's rights at the heart of school life, helping to create safe, inspiring places to learn where children are respected, their talents nurtured, and they're supported to thrive. Using the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child as its guide, the award is built on principles of equality, dignity, respect, non-discrimination and participation. Achieving Silver status reflects how these values are embedded in daily life at Dobwalls, giving our children the best chance to lead happy, healthy lives and grow into responsible, active citizens."



Year 6 Moving On Kathryn adds: "We have said a fond farewell to our superb Year 6 children. We are so proud of their achievements this last year and throughout their years with us. They took to the stage to perform a pantomime Cinderella Rockerfella! It was absolutely loved by all audiences with so many laughs along the way and a few tears! Their singing was beautiful and so many children were so brave with solos - demonstrating our Dobwalls self belief brilliantly!"



This last school year the children's charity has been The Screech Owl Sanctuary. The fundraising ended with a sponsored animal fun run.

Children came dressed as animals and were set the challenge to have 50 of them on the daily miles track at all times!

Kathryn adds: “Everyone worked so well together and there were a few challenges along the way!









“Also, we welcomed Karen and owl Hannah into an assembly to share the superb total of £1451 the school has raised! Karen was overwhelmed and delighted! I wonder what charity the children will choose next year!



“We would also like to wish a very long and happy retirement to Mrs Morford who has worked at the school for 37 years!



Wow! That's over 7,000 lunchtimes she has supported!

“Thank you Mrs Morford, we will miss you!”

Skol Gynsa Fosow Dobb

Dobwalls Primary School

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Bridge tolls, roads, car parking, home heating costs and more — Cornwall Councillor Jane Pascoe writes:



I attended a peaceful march across the Tamar Bridge to campaign for a toll-free crossing. We cannot expect the residents of South East Cornwall to continue to shoulder the burden of cost.

The march was well attended and we hope has sent a strong message to the MPs, the Department for Transport and Westminster.

National Highways have announced plans to make the A38 between Liskeard and Trerulefoot safer by closing off the right hand junctions and there will be a public consultation.

Please do contribute your views. While we are pleased National Highways intend to make the A38 safer, there may be consequences from the diverted routes and the increase of traffic on the narrow rural roads.

Payment machines in most Cornwall Council car parks have stopped accepting cash. Card, contactless, Just Park and Buzzpay payments will remain.

The Council states that 90% of parking fees are already cashless and it will save £80,000. I made strong representations on behalf of some residents who may be vulnerable, elderly or, just like me, prefer to pay cash. Cash is still accepted in Liskeard Cattle Market car park and the Millpool in Looe.

With Autumn arriving, many people will begin to worry about the increase to the cost of heating their homes this winter. £1.5 million has been made available to support qualifying households facing increased heating oil costs. This may be helpful to residents in rural parishes where homes are not connected to mains gas. Residents should check the eligibility rules by contacting the Cornwall Council team on 0300 1234 121.

I was pleased to be re-elected as chairman of the South East Cornwall Community Area Partnership. This allows me to continue to represent 29 South East Cornwall parishes. This often involves discussions with MPs, National Highways, Devonport Defence Growth Fund, Devon and Cornwall Police and other agencies about issues in our area.

cllr.jane.pascoe@cornwall.gov.uk **01579 348442 or 07484 315327**

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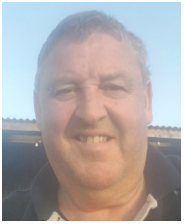
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T: 01579 321442 **mattinthedoghouse@gmail.com**

Your Dobwalls Parish Council members



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Sean Jackson
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Vice Chair
Michael Taylor
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Your Cornwall Council member



Cllr Jane Pascoe
cllr.jane.pascoe@cornwall.gov.uk

01579 348442 or 07484 315327



The Smugglers Way—Part 2

With the good weather, Sean Jackson finally got round to completing the Smugglers Way from Duloe to Looe which he started last summer. Sean says this has a lot of logistics around travel, but it's worth it.

For more information about the Smugglers Way follow the link below: https://www.visitcornwall.com/things-to-do/walking/the-smuggler-s-way



Route 12 of Sean's Walks – Duloe to Looe
Distance – 9.5 km/6 miles approximately
Time – 4 hours, depending on how many stops you have
Difficulty – Not too difficult as it is quite level after you go down the first hill
Pram/Wheelchair Friendly – No, some of the terrain can be rough
Additional Equipment – A map would be useful
Bus to Duloe from Liskeard – 73/73A
Bus from Looe to Liskeard – 73/73A
Train from Looe – See their website
Bus To/From Liskeard to Dobwalls – 11/77

I will write about how I undertook this walk using buses because, as you know, I like an “apres-walk” drink, but there is a car park, should want to use your car at the bottom of the hill, which was highlighted in The Villager Summer 2025 edition, available on line: https://dobwallspc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Summer-Villager-2025-for-council-website.pdf

So I jumped on the number 11 bus at Dobwalls Church into Liskeard, getting off at the bus stop near the Lloyds Bank, then into Spoons for a brunch before catching the number 73 bus from the bus stop near the Post Office. This may well be from the new bus station in the Cattle Market now.



On the bus you have time to research your route until you arrive in at the Duloe Community Centre/ shop stop. Once off the bus, you need to cross the road and take the junction off the main road.



Follow the road all the way down the hill to the bridge which is so much easier than walking up it, like I did on part one of the Smugglers Way walk from Dobwalls.



Just after the bridge on the left you see a bridleway track. I cheated here as this is not really part of the Smugglers Way, but easy to find and gives, I feel, better views. Take this track. (The car park is a little further up the hill and can be seen from the track entrance).



Follow this track until you come to a fork where you follow the track around to the left.

Just Turn Over….

After crossing the bridge over the West Looe River you will see signage for the official Smugglers Way route on your right. You will see the official path markers which are shown at the top of the walk.





As these images show, this is where the path becomes little bit more muddy, which is why it is not suitable for prams or wheelchairs.





Along the way you will see where a number of trees have been felled or taken down by strong winds, but there is no real danger.



Stay on the path for some distance until you meet a road. Once at the road, turn right and follow it, but be careful as drivers will not be expecting to see walkers on the road.



Continue on the road until you come to a small hamlet and the road goes to the right, uphill.

It is clearly signposted to the left which takes you into the Kilminorth Woods Local Nature Reserve.



The reserve has a number of information boards about the animals and birds living in the woods.



As you get closer to Looe the route becomes tarmac so it is easier walking and at times gives you a good view of Looe.





As you enter the car park there is an information board giving a good overview of the Smugglers Way path. Once you have read this, take the path next to the river in Millpool Car Park and make your way up to the Riverside Amusements Arcade where, if you have the energy, you can have a flutter!



Now, for the journey home, you have a couple of options for bus stops, one which is just over the bridge, but there is another which is near the railway station across from the Globe Pub. As I am breaking with my normal routine, I had a couple of quiet ones while waiting for the bus in the Globe, before catching the number 73 back to Liskeard, then onto the 11 back in to Dobwalls. You also have the option of taking the train back to Liskeard then walking up from the station to the Post Office/ new bus station to catch the 11 back to Dobwalls and, of course, if the Highwayman is open it would be rude not to have a Guinness!

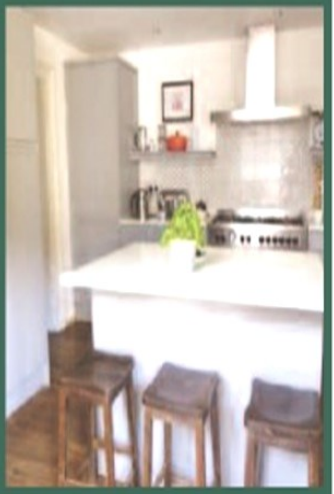


It was a nice walk, but if you are using public transportation you will need to ensure you have a good plan because I believe the last bus from Looe to Liskeard is 18:30 on this summer's timetable: Looe to Liskeard Bus Timetable And, after a quick net search on the GWR website, the last train is 20:42.

Be safe and please remember and respect the Countryside Code. It would be great to get your feedback on the walks we publish, the state of other PRoWs around the village and parish and, of course, any suggestions for future routes will be welcome.

Denis McCarthy

KITCHEN FITTING & DESIGN



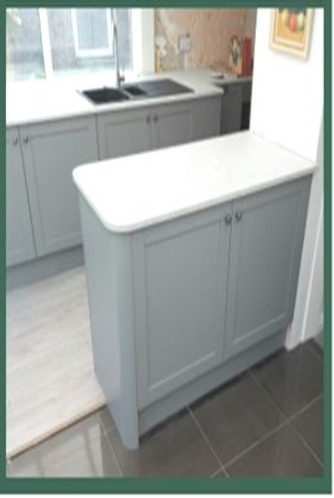
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There's Plenty going on in Dobwalls United Church!

THE CHURCH'S senior steward Dave Merry writes: "Now that the celebrations of the first wedding in the church for fourteen years have finished, we are moving on with the autumnal activities.



There will be Cream Teas on the 19th of September and the 17th of October, both at 2.30pm, followed by Christmas Puddings on the 21st of November, also at 2.30pm.

Harvest Festival will be at 9.30am on Sunday the 4th of October and all donations made will go to the Liskeard-Looe Food Bank.

The Remembrance Sunday Service will be held in the church on Sunday the 8th of November at 3.00pm, followed by the laying of wreaths at the War Memorial at 3.45pm. There will also be a short commemoration of the war graves in the cemetery.

On Saturday the 28th of November Levow Kesson, a mixed voice chair, will be performing in the church at 3.00pm and everyone is welcome. Then, the next day, Sunday the 29th, there will be free tea and cake for all at 3.00pm.

And then it's on to Christmas!!"

Sunday Services

Sept 6th Holy Communion 9.30am, Sept 13th Morning Service 9.30am, Sept 20th Cluster Service (time and place to be notified), Sept 27th Morning Service 9.30am.

Oct 4th Harvest Festival 9.30am in aid of Liskeard-Looe Food Bank, Oct 11th Informal Service 9.30am, Oct 11th Benefice Service at St Martin's Parish Church, Liskeard 10.30am, Oct 18th Cluster Service (time and place to be notified), Oct 25th Morning Service 9.30am.

Nov 1st Holy Communion 9.30am, Nov 8th Remembrance Service 3.00pm (NO MORNING SERVICE), Nov 15th Cluster Service (time and place to be notified), Nov 22nd Morning Service 9.30am, Nov 29th Benefice Service at St Martin's Parish Church, Liskeard 10.30am.

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New café now open for coffee, tea & cake
Please check out our website for upcoming gigs
We look forward to welcoming you soon







For tickets, prices and information go to carnglaze.com

Party on The Pitch! What about next year?

DOBWALLS Football Club Party on The Pitch in aid of club funds was again, this year, a huge success, thanks to the return of Joey The Lips, regarded as the country's funkiest 10 piece band.



But what about the Summer of 2027? Paddy Mutton from the club says: "The night was a great success and very well attended. Looking at what people want for next year."

All ideas please to **paddychair51@outlook.com**



Autumn Home Fixtures

15/09 – Holsworthy – 1st – 7.30, 19/09 – Helston – 1st – 3.00, 26/09 – Tregony – 2nds – 2.30, 03/10 – St Stephen – 2nds – 2.30, 04/10 – Clays Veterans – Vets. – 11.00, 10/10 – Bodmin Town – 2nds – 2.30, 7/10 – Stoke Gabriel – 1st – 3.00, 24/10 – Hayle – 1st – 3.00, 25/10 – Gunnislake – Vets. – 11.00, 31/10 – Sticker – 1st – 3.00, 15/11 – Bude – Vets. 11.00, 21/11 – Holsworthy – 1st – 3.00, 28/11 – St Dennis – 2nds – 2.30



Discover a unique, farm wedding venue near Dobwalls, Liskeard

Blackwater farm, the home of Bridle & Groom Wedding Venue is hidden along a lane sprinkled with country flowers and offers nine acres of scenic farmland. A working farm with wandering chickens and ducks and a range of hand reared animals, this exclusive venue is packed with charm, and offering versatile celebration spaces. Marry in the Marquee, on the Woodland lawn or in the cosy Garden Wedding Room. Celebrate in the Grande Marquee with a Blackwater Hog Roast or Cornish Farm Fayre Menu. Guests can drift between the Eq-wine, horse box bar, sweet cart or fire pit while soaking in the relaxed atmosphere and uninterrupted views of forest and farmland.

BRIDLE &
GROOM

Call Lisa or Philip Evans: 07932976167

www.blackwaterfarmcornwall.co.uk





Levow Kesson back in Dobwalls

THE popular Levow Kesson mixed voice choir is returning to Dobwalls United Church for an Advent Concert at the end of November.

The choir's music director Heather Taylor says: "We have often performed in Dobwalls, so we are especially looking forward to our concert there on Saturday, November 29. It's a welcome return to the church, a much-loved venue.

"The choir is also preparing for a special concert on Saturday, the 26th of September in Liskeard's St Martin's Parish Church, with the Old Cornwall Societies with instrumentalists, including flautist Kasumi Murphy, for an evening of music, stories and Cornish traditions shared in a warm, connected way."



Levow Kesson at Altarnun Festival

Levow Kesson is based in St Neot and meets every Tuesday at 7.30pm in St Neot Chapel schoolroom.

Heather says: "We are always pleased to welcome new singers from nearby villages, including Dobwalls. You do not need to read music. Just bring a willingness to listen, learn and enjoy singing with others. So, if you feel the pull of harmony, or simply want to be part of something creative, friendly and communal, consider this your nudge. The door is open, the music is waiting and we would love to welcome you in."



levowkesson@gmail.com

www.levowkesson.com







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Dobwalls Parish Council www.dobwallspc.org.uk

ALL parish council meetings are open to the public. The agendas are posted on the council website and are also on the council notice board in the village. You can attend the meetings and speak.

The monthly meetings are normally held on the third Wednesday of the month in Dobwalls United Church hall, starting at **6.30pm.**

The next three meeting are on **September 16, October 21 and November 18.**

You can contact the clerk Laura Storey at **clerk@dobwallspc.org.uk** or write to her at PO Box 82 , Looe, PL13 9DG

To contact any of the parish councillors or your Cornwall Council representative see page 21.



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