

An aerial photograph of a village, likely Stoke Climsland, showing a church with a tall spire, several houses, and a river winding through the landscape. The foreground is filled with green trees.

20th September

Stoke Climsland Village Hall at 7pm

**Reports submitted to
the Annual Parish
Meeting 2021**

Report on the work of the Council from the Chairman of the Parish Council, Nigel Cooper.

This is the first Parish Annual Meeting in over 2 years with the normal operation of the Parish Council being considerably curtailed by the pandemic conducting our meetings through Zoom and modifying our procedures in line with temporary legislation. All the Councils activities have now returned to normal with the exception of the need for masks and hand sanitisation for all face to face meetings.

The pandemic has been the significant item for the council for the last 18 months. The response of the whole community to this unforeseen challenge has been nothing less than outstanding. At the time of the start of the first lockdown the council was starting initial steps to create an emergency plan and within 1 meeting there was an emergency in progress and first mediation actions were determined. These first steps developed into the community wide action plan to support the vulnerable and limit the opportunities for the virus to spread within the community.

There are many people who deserve recognition for the responsibilities that they took on to support the Parish during the pandemic. I cannot promise to name them all but particular recognition needs to go to.

The members of the SCARPER emergency group who ensured that identified vulnerable people in the community were monitored and supported, drug deliveries were organised and specific requests for help were fulfilled.

Stoke Climsland Post Office staff and the band of volunteers who ensured the safe supply and delivery of essential needs to all those who live in the Parish and were unable to do so themselves or wished to isolate from the risk of infection.

The people who ensured the regular publication of the newsletter, this made a significant contribution to the spirits of all in the community being a medium to share local news and information with an occasional dash of humour.

Above all I would like to thank those people who looked out for their friends and neighbours and just “did what was needed” without direction or guidance. I believe that the large majority of the support provided in Stoke Climsland through the pandemic was through this “unofficial” route and this clearly demonstrates the community spirit is alive and well in Stoke Climsland.

In May 2021 the extended period of the previous council came to an end and elections were called, due to only 8 people standing there was no need for a formal election, since then 2 further people have come forward as co-opted councillors and the council seats are now all filled. Many thanks for their service to the community to those Councillors who stood down at the election Phil Barriball, Caroline Vulliamy and Shirly Bruna, in the case of Phil and Caroline, service that continued for many years. Just after the completion of the election with all the associated work for the Parish Clerk, Ren Jackaman, stepped down from that position for personal reasons, our thanks for her service from all members of the council.

After following the Council’s established recruiting process we employed Derris Watson as the Parish Clerk, Derris comes with extensive experience in local and Cornwall councils and as temporary clerk, for a period to St Cleer Council, Derris and her experience will be an asset to the council.

The normal work of a Parish Council has continued through the recent challenges, significant work over this time has included:

28 planning applications

2 planning enforcement notices

The adoption of the Lockett Swings by the Parish Council

The establishment of a Parish Emergency Plan through the efforts of the SCARPER group

With the expectation that the worst period of the Covid pandemic is behind us the Parish Council now plans to focus on longer term forward planning to support the needs of the community and support the efforts of independent groups within the parish in their endeavours to improve the community.

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Reports from Organisations around the Parish

UPDATE ON PROGRESS WITH THE REFURBISHMENT OF THE PARISH HALL

You will already know that the planning application and listed building consent for the refurbishment and extension of the Parish Hall have been approved. Unfortunately, the constraints imposed by Covid on public meetings, displays etc have meant that it has been very difficult, if not impossible, to publicise the plans and activities as widely as we would like. But there has been a lot of 'behind the scenes' activity and, as we move into a post-Covid 'normality', you can expect to hear and get involved more. In the meantime, we'd like to take the opportunity afforded by the relaunched Old School News, to bring you up to date.

Progress with the building and finalising the design

The Prince's Foundation team, in collaboration with the Parish Hall CIO Committee, have been working on the detailed technical design of the building. Part of this has involved consultation with the major users of the Parish Hall to ensure that internal fixtures and fittings (such as staging and kitchen design) meet user requirements. The intention will be to go out to tender to builders and test the market as soon as the technical design work is completed. At the time of writing, a timeline for project activities has not been finalised.

Progress with transferring the Parish Hall from the Duchy of Cornwall to the Stoke Climsland Community via the CIO

Discussions are continuing on the transfer of the ownership of the Parish Hall from the Duchy of Cornwall to the Stoke Climsland Community through the Parish Hall CIO.

Progress with fund raising

A key challenge has been that the building budget came back higher than anticipated. That combined with the current and continued rise in material and construction costs, the extremely difficult present fundraising climate, and the continued impacts of Covid have meant progress has been slower than expected but works continue to be undertaken to move forward where we can. The CIO and The Prince's Foundation are committed to progressing and will work together undertaking a value engineering process to reduce costs to make them more manageable, but also to make the proposition more attractive to funders generally. Part of these considerations and discussions will be potential options for phasing the works into smaller packages for as and when funding is available. The current budget construction cost of the project is estimated to be around £800,000, which has been the starting point for the value engineering process aiming to reduce this number to a more achievable amount for the project. Over and above this figure The Prince's Foundation is making a very significant contribution in the shape of the skills and consultancy services which they have provided to the CIO at no cost. This includes the architectural work, the commissioning and undertaking of numerous surveys, payment for other specialist consultant costs which will be required moving forward as well as fundraising guidance and support.

From these figures, it can be seen that there is some way to go to fund the project to completion. However, you will not be surprised to hear that Covid-19 and its sequelae are having a major impact upon fundraising activities. These are extremely challenging times as far as funding for capital projects is concerned. Investigations continue to identify potential funders and, when possible, to make the appropriate applications. However, there have been no major successes to date, and it is probable that the lack of a guaranteed funding stream will have a negative impact upon the progress of the project.

Sponsorship opportunities

As the project progresses, there will be opportunities for businesses and individuals to sponsor specific items of fixtures and fittings within the Parish Hall. If this is something that you would be interested in, please contact the CIO Chairman, David Crawley (david.crawley55@gmail.com), or the CIO Secretary, Geoff Giles (geoff_a_giles@hotmail.com) for more details.

Your help is required

The CIO needs more people to help us deliver the project. If you would like to find out what will be involved and what specific skills are required (For example: Heritage, Community engagement, administration and governance, finance, and fundraising) please contact the CIO Chairman, David Crawley, or the CIO Secretary, Geoff Giles.

The Parish Hall is back in business!

People are returning to the Parish Hall as it is now available for use and rent. The floor has been recently sanded and sealed and the interior is going to get a paint refresh soon.

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Luckett Village Association (LVA) – Report to Parish Meeting

From the first Covid lockdown the activities of the LVA like every other organisation have been restricted and it has not been possible to hold public meetings during that time. However, the LVA has been active in ensuring members have been kept informed during the pandemic. In particular, the LVA has distributed the Old School News to all members throughout the pandemic as well as other community information such as road closures etc.

Since the last annual report in 2019 the AED has now been installed in the refurbished phone box. Unfortunately training had to be cancelled due to Covid. That training for 24 residents is scheduled to take place this October.

The LVA continues to circulate Parish Council Agenda's and Meeting minutes to all members prior to council meetings

Since last August the LVA has taken the initiative to bring Superfast Broadband into the community. We applied to the Governments Gigabit Broadband Scheme and were accepted. OpenReach advised that our broadband 'circuit' included the hamlets of Broadgate, Mugford and Hampt (higher middle and lower) which are outside Luckett and the LVA has progressed the scheme for the whole area. Today we are in sight of completing the fund-raising side of the project which requires the community to raise £102,000 through individual gigabit voucher applications (one per household). The current total stands at £93,000 with several responses yet to come in. We anticipate signing contracts before Christmas and expect the superfast broadband to be delivered towards the end of next year. It may be of interest to know that we have also been supported by Tamar AONB and Tamar TLC will act as our contracting partner.

One of the roles of the LVA is to represent the views of Lockett residents to the Parish Council and beyond. This last year there was a suggestion at Parish Council that a community compost heap be sited in Lockett. A member's survey was conducted by the LVA and the proposal of a community compost heap was rejected.

In what has been a difficult year the LVA has supported the community and we look forward to going back to normality as soon as possible

Richard Davies – Secretary LVA

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Report from Stoke Climsland WI of their activities over the past year. As requested by the Parish Council for the Annual Parish Council Meeting on the September 20th.

Over the year of Covid we started off by supporting the Parish and aiding SCARPER in distributing an emergency contacts list with names and telephone numbers to every household in the Parish. This was to enable everyone to access all support they might need.

We kept in touch with our members through phone calls, email and zoom, a new medium for us that we soon got to grips with successfully. On Zoom guest speakers showed us the Plymouth Citadel , memories of our WI Archive of photographs (one member was apparently talking her way through the photos, but was unaware she was muted). We had a wonderful display of Lady Catherine Farthergill's costumes handmade by Rosemary Grigg who we then had the pleasure of meeting in person at our first post Covid Hall Meeting. Finally we enjoyed hearing about the Persian New Year celebration by Sima who is Iranian. We also managed some some Social walks.

During the second Lockdown, with permission from the Parish Council, we organised a 'Decorate The Jubilee Trees on The Green for Easter'. The event was well supported by our Community Groups. The impressive display was finished off with bunting to symbolise 'the joining of the Community'.

In June we held our AGM at the Pavilion with Geraldine Hiscott from the charity 'Wild' as our Guest Speaker. Wild work with young parents from 16 to 24yrs to encourage them with different ways of interacting with their babies and toddlers. She asked if the WI could help by making washable toy bags so that after each session the bags can be washed and repacked for the next session.

2020 was our Centenary Year, but sadly due to Covid we did not feel it would be safe to meet. So, in August this year we held our belated celebration of an afternoon tea and beautiful garden walk at Brigitte Cox's home.

Some of our members are still cautious about meeting in person and our approach is to accommodate the safety of our members

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Stoke Climsland Neighbourhood Development Plan

"A draft Neighbourhood Plan is currently being reviewed by the team. If anyone is interested in finding out more, please contact Deri Parsons (derrick.parsons@btinternet.com)."



Stoke Climsland Climate Change Action Group (SCCCAG) Annual Report 2020-21

SCCCAG was formed on 28th August 2019 in response to Stoke Climsland Parish Council declaring a Climate Change Emergency on 15th April 2019. The purpose of SCCCAG is to support the Parish Council's aim to reduce carbon emissions within the Parish to net zero by 2030. To achieve this aim, SCCCAG has focussed on those areas generating the highest carbon emissions in the Parish: transport, energy, agriculture and waste management.

Specifically, we are focussing on solutions to tackling carbon emission reduction in these areas: what we can do ourselves and what we can do as a community.

Our aim is to provide information and advice to parishioners on the small steps we can take to make a difference as well as providing information on bigger projects such as buying an electric car or installing renewable energy. Our intention is not to tell people what we think they should be doing; it is to provide information and advice to help parishioners make their own, informed decisions.

To this end, we have, over the last year, published a series of regular articles in the Stoke Climsland Newsletter including:

- Summary of the Parish Carbon Audit, tips on reducing energy demand, practical information on renewable energy, electric vehicles, relevant new legislation and available grant funding
- Current information and future changes in waste management in Cornwall and advice on how we can improve recycling in the Parish
- Information on how agriculture in the Parish is taking steps to reduce carbon emissions, mitigate the effects of climate change and produce renewable energy. Farming represents 75% of the Parish; in conjunction with Duchy College and the backing of 92% of the farms in the Parish, a soil carbon analysis is in progress. This project aims to help farmers manage their soils in a sustainable way.

We have also endeavoured to keep up to date with, and, where possible, influence Central Government and Cornwall Council's plans to tackle climate change by submitting detailed responses to their public consultations on EV charging, recycling and development planning. In all our responses we have ensured that our voice as a rural parish is heard. Our work has included building effective relationships within Cornwall Council, community organisations and neighbouring parishes.

Moving forward, and with the lifting of Covid restrictions, we plan to increase communication with the Parish community through planned events and activities designed to promote face-to-face dialogue and community involvement by listening to feedback and sharing ideas. Our ultimate aim is to support parishioners in the pursuit of a low carbon lifestyle and to provide the forum for the community to work together on climate change action.

SCCCAG can be currently contacted by email (SCCCAG1@gmail.com), as detailed on our page of the Stoke Climsland Parish Council website, or, on our Facebook page.

Stoke Climsland Scouts Report

The Scout Group has been lucky enough to be able to keep scouting in one form or another during the various lockdowns. Which although it hasn't been the typical "Scouting"; it's provided a much needed normality to both the Participants and Leaders.

All sections of the group from 6 to 18 have been taking part in Virtual Scouting over Zoom, taking part in a whole host of activities including Virtual Camps at home using either a tent in their garden or building a den and sleeping in a different room of their house. We have made freestanding flagpoles out of pencils, and a Ready Steady Cook evening which resulted in some rather tasty Pasties and Scotch eggs being produced at home.

The Beavers have been busy getting back to nature this term and have completed their gardening badges, off the back of this they now have some fantastic petunias, begonias and wildflowers growing in their gardens. The Beavers have been exploring the woods for 3 weeks, taking part in nature trails, scavenger hunt and backwoods cooking on the campfire.

The Cubs learnt all about map reading and have learnt how to play table tennis with the help of one of the young leaders. The cubs are now learning about Camping and how to pack our bags. They all took part in a hike and walked from the Scout hut, along footpaths to the hut in the woods for a bite to eat, before heading to Old Mill and up the huge hill back to Stoke Climsland.

The Scouts have been looking at using a map & compass and learning what equipment they need to keep them safe along with what to wear. They have also been looking at different navigation techniques for that will come in handy when on the moors. They did a day hike starting at Mary Tavy using the footpaths up on to Dartmoor and finished near Princetown. They have recently been cooking Greek food from raw ingredients. They have cooked Pitta bread with Tzatziki dip and hummus with fried pork gyro; they tasted great and counts as part of their International badge.

The Explorers have been out and about in the countryside and took part in a 3.5 mile night hike around the local area using maps and a route card; all of the Explorers managed to complete the route and nobody got lost. Recently they have had a visit from a local Beekeeper; Zoe Oke, who provided a presentation about beekeeping and demonstrated the use of a smoker, Along with this she brought in her Observation Hive with live bees which enabled the Explorers to spot the Queen Bee in one of the frames. The honey that the bees produced tasted absolutely lovely!

One of the highlights for the Cubs, Scout and Explorers recently was being able to get back under Canvas for the summer camp, which was long overdue after a break of over 18 months. The Cubs went on 4 day camp near St Austell with a medieval theme. There was Space Hopper Jousting, Catapults and even some Stocks for the Naughty Leaders! The Scouts and Explorers went on a joint camp to a Scout Campsite near Taunton for a week. It was a busy camp refreshing skills that havnt been used for 18 months but everybody pulled together to make the camp a success. Some of the activities on site included Abseiling, Climbing, Archery, Shooting, Caving and a Zipline across a ravine.

As the nights draw in we will continue to be meeting at the hut and local areas and hope to squeeze in a few more nights under canvas before it gets too cold.

We will be holding our AGM on the 7th October. If anybody would like to attend please email GSL@1ststokeclimsland.org for more information

Tris Cocks

Group Scout Leader

1st Stoke Climsland Scout Group.

SCATS 2020/2021 REPORT

The most recent SCATS AGM was held on Thursday, 29th June 2021, after a break of 2 years during the Covid 19 pandemic.

The Coronavirus restrictions and first lockdown happened just a short couple of weeks after SCATS had closed the doors on their 2020 Pantomime production, Jack and the Beanstalk.

For SCATS, with no meetings allowed and no activity allowed for upcoming performances, the Committee took the decision to suspend formal meetings, until such time as the situation eased. A decision was also made that all members who had signed up in 2019 would have their membership rolled over until such time as an AGM could be called again.

So, with the most of 2020 written off, what has SCATS been up to, in 2021?

Well, with an idea for a storyline already in the pipeline by the time Jack's Beanstalk hit the floor, the writing Team started meeting again back in March 2021, initially by Zoom (a word which has taken on a whole new meaning) then, when weather allowed, outside face to face. The Team have almost completed the script and, with no bias at all, we are pretty pleased with the results so far! Government Guidelines permitting, SCATS hope to be performing 'The Sword in the Scone' in the Village Hall in 2022, as per our usual dates and times around the February Half Term. We understand that many of our young – and not so young – talented cast members from previous productions are already keen to be involved again. Great news for SCATS looking to the future.

SCATS are also delighted to be involved in the Parish Community Production of 'The Hobbit', led by David Oddie and currently being discussed amongst organisations including the Primary School, and Parish Environmental Groups, with a view to performance in summer 2022.

We are also hopeful, moving forward, of putting on Productions in addition to the annual Pantomime ourselves, as has been the case in the past.

SCATS are always happy to welcome new Members and we encourage anyone with an interest in Onstage, Backstage, Tech or Front of House to contact us for more information via email on scats.sec18@gmail.com or just accost any of our Committee Members when you see us for a conversation! Lyn Crawley (Chair), Laura Earthy (Sec), Rob Flavin (Treas), Jenni Cattell, Laura Osborne, Bridget Slater, Chris Lloyd, Tom Davidson and Michelle Turner.

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POP-UP CAFÉ REPORT

The Pop-Up Café was forced to close its doors, like so many other organisations, in March 2020 and, due to Covid 19 restrictions and health and safety concerns, it has been unable to operate since that date.

Pop-Up volunteers (and the occasional customer) have been meeting regularly via Zoom, and so the spirit of the Café has been kept alive throughout this extended hiatus of service. Even if we were unable to share tea, coffee and cake face to face, we have been able to share fellowship which has been very important for the past 17 months.

With the relaxation of rules, and after a delay from September to October due to a concerning rise in Covid 19 cases in Cornwall, the Pop-Up Café is expected to re-open its doors on Tuesday 5th October 2021. We will be implementing some restrictions on the way our service is provided to reassure our customers that we are taking their health and safety seriously. However, we hope that this will not impinge upon the convivial atmosphere and the opportunity to reunite with friends, old and new, in the Parish Hall. There will certainly be tea, coffee, cakes, and savouries available, under our usual free or donations (gratefully received) arrangement.

We are very much looking forward to warmly welcoming Stoke Climsland Parishioners, and Visitors from near and far once again! We hope to see you there!

Luckett Social Club Report

Needless to say, this has not been a normal year for the Club. With the Club premises being quite restrictive in both size and ventilation we decided to forego a program of events when we were actually permitted to be open. With our Members' safety foremost in mind, we limited the programme to a couple of highly successful events in June and July

On 19th June, 30 members met up in the village car park for a walk all the way to the Royal Inn at Horsebridge where we occupied the covered dining area. The walk back was slightly slower but a great evening was had by all. This wasn't a fundraiser but more a way of giving our members what has become lately a rare chance to get together and put the world to rights.

Really lucky with the weather, July 24th was the chance to get together again at Byenleigh for the Luckett Summer Garden Party attended by nearly 100 people. Drink was available at the bar, and pulled meat made a debut at the Davies' restaurant! As always, we were grateful to Deb and Adrian Glassborrow for the venue. Music from Marcus Williams and his band went down very well. Tim Selwood "stepped up to the plate" to provide a real treat of a DJ offering that had everybody in the right mood! To round off the evening, Dave Seccombe and his friends entertained the crowd with a gentler set of music. A wonderful occasion!

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Stoke Climsland Environmental Network Report

We are an ad hoc group of individuals who live in the parish and are interested in climate change and the ecological emergency and wish to help towards mitigating the effects.

As a group we are interested in maintaining biodiversity and have a close interest in the quality of such within the parish.

In October at the Old School some of us will display some important studies, facts and observations about the area which is called Rowden Field. This will be available to be viewed for at least nine days from the 16th of October. We hope this that this can be built on over the next year to increase the surveys that have been performed so far.

The future management of Rowden Field is to be decided and we will be submitting a written statement before the end of this month.

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Stoke Climsland Parish Archive Report

Has had a surprisingly busy year. After several months of silence we began to have enquiries from people around the world, mostly seeing their family history. Some we were able to put in touch with each other. There were also some who turned up unannounced, as always!

We have been regularly meeting up with other Cornish Archive groups through Cornish Archives Network on Zoom, which was quite fun.

And, once 2 people were allowed to meet out of doors, and then 3, the Archive volunteers started walking the Parish footpaths once a week as you may have seen from the occasional write-ups in the Newsletter. This was a real treat! Some are so beautiful.

But some are going to need some serious work on signage and repairs to stiles etc. We are getting a list together as promised when we began.

Since The Old School was able to start opening its doors, we have developed a series of exhibitions. The first, of local Family Trees, was able to display 32 trees for a week – just finished . It included some fascinating local history.

Over coming months we plan to do more exhibitions, and also to have our Annual Talk once we can plan for slightly larger numbers.

Do contact us if you have any enquiries, via the Old School, or on 01579 370411 Caroline Vulliamy.

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The Old School Community Resource Report

The Old School is now up and running, along with over 50% of pre-Covid19 groups and organisations back in action. These are a range of health, community and leisure organisations and activities who enjoy the relaxed atmosphere and facilities, and excellent help and support from the manager Edah Joll and her staff and volunteers.

Office and therapy rooms are also in demand again, and the Acupuncturist and Chiropodist have recently been joined by a well-known Osteopath working from here on Thursdays.

As well as monthly teas and weekly Friday lunches, Edah Joll's catering skills have been made full use of during this month with a succession of family events – the most recent being for Michael Broome, past chairman of the Parish Council.

On a happier note, the Old School News has a new Editor and is about to become a fuller publication again, including printed copies - though not delivered to every house as has happened for the past 20 years. The Newsletter designed to keep people up to date during the pandemic came out fortnightly and was helped by the Parish Council's support.

For September and October it is a single sheet each month giving news of upcoming events. We are developing a good list of 'drop-spots' where you can collect them from in future, especially for neighbours with no way of reading them on the internet.

Meanwhile, two new web sites – one for The Old School, and one for the Old School Newsletter, have been created during this year.

The Village Market, outside in the playground whenever possible, is about to start serving breakfasts again, following several months of bacon baps! And a Duke of Edinburgh Award student will be joining in to help out.

A week ago we had the pleasure of our first performance – The Canterbury Tales performed by David Mynne – using a 'cabaret-style' seating layout which means that the limited audience can sit in comfortable family groups.

And on 2nd October comes the first music evening – a Jazz group and a good supper.

We have already had two week-long exhibitions – a relaxed way for people to come to an event without any pressure. One of these was the Midsummer Open Day when lots of organisations represented, the second was a display of Family Trees throughout Heritage Open days week. The next will be on Footpaths, then an Art Exhibition and then one in December on Costumes.

December also sees a second Jazz evening, and a pre-Christmas party – C19 restrictions allowing – when the Line-Up will be playing all our favourite music.

The next event is Apple Pressing this Sunday, which you are all welcome to join in with. C19 restrictions will be being followed, and Track & Trace. If you bring apples to turn into juice, bring plenty of containers!

The Film Club is starting up again in October, with '6 Minutes to Midnight' – as with all events now, it's necessary to book your seat in advance.

We're also taking bookings now for the next Food Hygiene course, on 14th October.

This spring we were represented by the Parish Archive's contribution to the trees on the Green, and some butterflies and moths are coming in Bonny's direction soon from the Old School, in response to her recent request. More are being made on every possible occasion to be sent from here to COP in Glasgow, to join the 80,000 planned for.

The Jubilee Celebrations coming up will be a great opportunity for the Community, and we look forward to playing a full part in whatever the Parish comes up with !

The Trustees,
The Old School

September 2021

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STOKE CLIMSLAND LIBRARY

The Library in The Old School, which is a branch of the Cornwall Library Service, has been successfully running since 2016. With plenty of free parking and an easy-to-access online request service, it has become very popular with all members of the community.

The Library works in the same way as any other, so as long as you have a library card you can take out, return and request books. If you do not have a library card you can get one at our library.

There's a surprisingly large selection of books which are regularly changed by the Library Service which also brings books that have been requested. There is a particularly large selection of books for children and the library is regularly used by classes from the local school, and the preschool group comes for music, poetry and reading – they make a lot of noise so best to avoid their sessions!

The library is open every morning from 9.30-12.00, and a volunteer in the office will help if needed.

As well as the "real" library, you can use the library computer to consult Cornwall's "virtual" library to access a vast number of books, newspapers, magazines and comics. (Or you can do this from the comfort of your own home.)