



# Callington News

December 2005/ January 2006 Issue 172

## Are You Getting Your Just Rewards?

**Many pensioners in Caradon district are not claiming benefits that they are entitled to.**

Are you on a state pension? If so, you have contributed to this through your working life, you have also contributed to other benefits and should be claiming them if you qualify.

- \* If you are living on £76.00 p.w. or less [single person]
- \* If you are living on £150.00.p.w. or less [couple]
- \* If you have less than £32,000 in savings

You may be entitled to pension credits to increase

your income. There is also Attendance Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Council Tax Benefits and Housing Benefits that can be claimed.

In Caradon District alone there is £4 million that is not being claimed by people who are entitled to these benefits. This money is set aside for this purpose and not claiming does not achieve anything. Some of the claims can be backdated 52 weeks. Some pensioners that have enquired have had their income boosted by up to £30 per week and in one case a couple were entitled to an extra £93

per week!

Initially ring Caradon District Council on 341000 and ask for the Benefits Section. Admittedly some of the forms are complex, but the Citizens Advice Bureau and other voluntary bodies will help anyone to fill in the forms. You can ring Liskeard CAB between 10.00 and 12.00 to make an appointment to see someone at Callington Town Hall on Thursday mornings.

Please mention this to any pensioners you know, not all will read this article and many will need a gentle nudge to claim what they are entitled to.

## Christmas in Callington

**This year Christmas in Callington is going to be something special!**

Whilst large cities such as Truro say they cannot afford Christmas lights, Callington Town Council continues to provide value for money. This is due to our own Council workmen tackling a wide variety of tasks so that the only contractors we need to pay are the electricians. Decorations are saved from one year to the next and other savings made. There are also donations from local businesses, GB Tool Hire are loaning security fencing for the Christmas tree, the Constabulary who provide electricity for the Christmas tree at the station, which is kindly provided by Mr P Coombe.

However this year much of the credit for the

Christmas celebrations arranged in and around the Town Hall is due to the enthusiasm of the Portreeve Mrs Denise Winfindale and the many, many other volunteers involved in all the other activities that are planned for December. For a small country town Callington has an amazing number of groups and societies and all the activities help to create a wonderful sense of community.

As you will see we have expanded the *News* to allow three whole pages of Christmas activities to be mentioned, hopefully there is something for everyone.

Also do not forget to support the local shops, why join the crowds and traffic jams in Plymouth when there are bargains to be had in Callington? We cannot mention specific

shops but just look around, some of the prices in some shops are better than in Plymouth and in many instances if the shop doesn't have it in, they'll order it for you! Don't forget that there are now also several shops in Kelly Bray if you include those in the Industrial Estate.

By popular demand the Christmas tree will be back in St Mary's Close, we hope that it will be left alone so that everyone can enjoy it. However remember if you see anything suspicious please report it instantly by dialing 999. This applies to not only St Mary's Close but to any event. We do hope this will not be necessary and that you all have a happy Christmas season.



**The copy deadline for the FEBRUARY issue is Wednesday 18th January**

Please give/post all copy to Callington Town Council, Town Hall Callington PL17 7BD. ☎01579 384039 or preferably send by E-mail to [clerk@callington.uk.net](mailto:clerk@callington.uk.net)

## Change of Officers for Residents Handbook

Would all clubs who have a change of officers please remember to let the Town Clerk know. In the New Year we want to put an updated version of the Residents Handbook on the web site with any amendments or additions—we can only do this if we are informed of changes.

## Underhill's Quiz Night

Underhill's Chemist would like to thank everyone involved in its recent quiz night, held in the Bulls Head, which raised £750.48 for Cancer Research UK. Especially thanked are Dawn Titchmarsh who acted as quizmaster and Gerry Foster, Bulls Head landlord, who donated £100 towards the total. Thank you all.

## Pantomime

If you missed the Prim Raf's version of Jack & the Beanstalk, DAC are running a coach to Plymouth on Thursday 12th Jan. at 1745hrs to see a version with the Chuckle Brothers at the Theatre Royal.

## Joe's Christmas Walk & Talk.

Cotehele Area Warden, Joe Lawrence will be leading an informative walk around the Cotehele Estate on Saturday 17th December. It departs at 1300hrs from The Quay at Cotehele and suitable clothing and footwear should be worn. Further details on ☎01579 351346

## Callington Local History Group

The Local History Group have just published their winter newsletter. This is full of interesting articles and photographs. There reminisces of Honey Fair many years ago, why Callington was called a 'Rotten Borough', details

of one of Callington's first bathrooms which was the proud boast of the Temperance Hotel [now where was that?]. There is an article about the Town Band which was formed prior to 1850 and a biography of James Venning, a prominent

figure in the town's past. For a membership of only £2 per annum! you can receive this magazine and find out about talks and visits. Membership Secretary is Inez Allen, Trafalgar House, Moonsfield, Callington.

## Phoenix Short Mat Bowling Club

Phoenix SMBC meets in the Town Hall Callington on Monday evenings from 7pm to 9pm. There are currently vacancies for new members who will be assured of a friendly welcome. If you are new to the game there will be advice

on playing the game, which is not difficult. Bowls will be provided and all you need is flat heeled shoes to prevent damage to the carpet. There are three trial sessions during which you can decide whether to join or not. Bowls is an enjoyable game

which will give you some exercise and a sociable environment. For more details please contact the club chairman Mrs. J. Pluckrose ☎01579 383654 or the club secretary Mrs P .Presland ☎01579 394021

## Prim Raf

Prim-Raf has been your local Community Theatre in Biscombes Lane for over 50 years and we are looking for help. Do you have a love of the theatre? Can you spare a few hours a week? Are you good with a sewing needle or a paint brush or even a hammer? We also need people to work alongside our current team of

Sound & Lighting and Stage Managers. 2005 saw the pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk receive a very good report from judges when we entered into the Cornwall Drama Association Awards. We received 3 awards and spent 2 days down at Perranporth for a weekend of workshops led by Actor Simon Williams. We at Prim-Raf are all extremely

pleased with the success and congratulations to all involved. A production is a team effort both on stage and behind the scenes. Come along and make new friends, even have a go on stage, all new members welcome. Please ring Lynne Davis ☎01579 382669

## Callington Bowling Club

The Ladies are celebrating at the end of a successful out door season. Mrs Betsy Mutton and Mrs Jackie Lamb being trophy winners. Other successful members are; R Redfern, A Healy, B Mutton, V Kellow, P Rutherford, R Hanson, B Rowan, B Hatch, T Parker, A Jones, G

Kellow, T Tippett, S McQuire The club has begun the short mat season, entering this year three mixed teams in the Premier and First Division. They have played two games to date with mixed success. New Members are always welcome. Please contact T Parker on ☎01579 382900 for details.

### CALLINGTON NEW OUTLOOK

Now have their own web page on the town web site  
[www.callington.uk.net](http://www.callington.uk.net)

Go to the 'Community' page. Are YOU there? If not talk to the Town Clerk

**FREE PAGES ALSO OFFERED TO BUSINESSES IN THE TOWN**

## Councillor Michael Green

I was born in Rhuddland N. Wales and educated at St Asaph Grammar School. After leaving school I joined the Royal Navy, specialising in control system engineering. I retired (from the Royal Navy!) in 1994, my final appointment was working for the Ministry of Defence Procurement Executive at Portland. I then ran a small business serving the retail trade for about four years and am currently employed as a part time technical officer involved with adaptation work for

elderly and disabled people. I have lived with my wife and family in Callington for 28 years, although both our sons, educated at the Community School, have now moved away. Both my wife and I were involved with the school PSA for a time during their education. Serving on the Town Council for the past two years has been quite a steep learning curve for me having had no previous experience but I have endeavoured to contribute positively where I have been able.

My personal aim is to try to influence where possible the improvements to the town to make it, primarily, an even better place to live for all it's residents. Hopefully, it will then become a place that people will want to visit. I am anti bureaucracy, anti waste of public money and anti anti-social behaviour. I am pro Callington!

*Michael Green.*



## How About Some Pumpkin Juice?

**Pumpkin Juice is the name behind the contemporary dance classes currently being held at the Town Hall.** Callington is fortunate to have the services of Justin Roseveare who is Assistant Dance Teacher and Choreographer to

the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, he has also choreographed for leading companies such as the Truro Amateur Dramatic Society, St Ives ADS and St Austel ADS. He is teaching contemporary dance, streets and hip hop at

two sessions a week. Four to sixteen year olds are catered for on Wednesdays from 4.30 – 5.30pm and the over sixteens on Mondays from 12.00 – 1.30pm. The cost is £3.50 with some concessionary rates available.

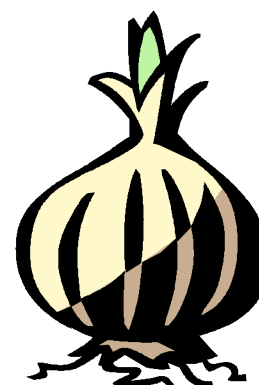


## And What About Some Onions?

No nothing to do with dance this time, but about growing vegetables! Onions are one of the easiest vegetables to grow and one of the most useful in the kitchen. If you have a small space why not give them a try, they are relatively free from pests and diseases and apart from a little weeding can be left to themselves. You can grow them from sets, which are available in the spring, just make a small hole and bury to

their shoulder, but protect with a bit of fleece or netting until they root or the birds will come along and pull out the straw-like tops! Especially as it will be the nesting season. If you want to grow your onions from seed you can start now or in the New Year, why not go for some of the mammoth varieties? Just follow the instructions on the packet and you can have onions weighing half a pound or more without

much effort. If you want large onions it is best to plant your rows a hoes width apart, but if you are short of space just leave enough room between plants for the bulbs to expand. If it is a dry summer and your onions start to bolt, why not let a few of them do just that, the spherical flower heads are beautiful and make excellent dried material.





## BIG BREAKFAST THANK YOU

The Methodist Church Table Tennis Club would like to say a BIG thank you to everyone who supported the 'Big Breakfast' and Coffee Morning at the Town Hall for the Earthquake Appeal. We had a wonderful morning with a steady stream of 'customers', and we are delighted to say that £2030 was raised through the generosity of local people. This has been sent to SHELTERBOX, our Cornish charity which supplies boxes, each containing a large tent, water purification, sleeping bags, a cooker, warmth and shelter for 10 people. This was enough money to provide four boxes - a magnificent achievement!

Also a big thank you to our sponsors - Spar, Co-op and Stonegate Farm Eggs for giving the food, Copsewood Pine for donating a pine nest of tables for auction (making £75), Kivells for the printing, and our Town Mayor and Portreeve, Councillor Denise Winfindale, for the use of the Town Hall. It is good to see the Shelterboxes being distributed on the television news - with a team in the Kashmir area at the moment - at least we know they are getting there. Thank you Callington.

## FOUND—A WAR MEDAL

A metal scanner has unearthed in Callington a World War II War Service medal. The finder would like this to be reunited with its owner. Enquiries to the Town Clerk.

## Letters to the Editor

### Thanks

*I would just like to say thank you to Callington and the Town Council for the excellent walks leaflets you publish. We enjoyed looking at the murals which do so much to brighten your town – such an original idea we thought.*

*Sally Dallyn,  
Parracombe.*

### The Kit Hill Run

*I would like to correct the record regarding the Kit Hill Run. This was thought up by Richard Plumber, he lived at the Smithies Cottage at New Bridge and was one of the leading lights at the Youth Centre, Liskeard Road, he has since left the area. One evening whilst among a crowd at*

*the Carnival he said we should have a running race. It went from there and Mike Jacob, myself and other families were helpers. The race started and finished in Fore Street.*

*C A McKane*

### Peace in Launceston Road

*A letter of thanks to South West Water and their contractors. They have given us back the pleasure of living in Launceston Road that was evident 15 – 20 years ago. No lorries or speeding motorcyclists, no early morning awakening, a stable TV signal, and best of all, the ability to cross the road safely in under 10 minutes. Hard luck*

*residents in Florence Road but perhaps it is time to sort out the traffic problems in our town, even sharing the volume of traffic might help.*

*J A Farris.*

### Message from Kitty

*Kitty Bengé thanks everyone who has enquired about her recent eye operation. After a hiccup she is recovering well and hopes to be back in the Editor's chair in the New Year.*

Please note that anonymous letters or articles will not be published, names will only be withheld from publication in exceptional cases.

## Youth Camp in Estonia

The summer of 2005 saw the visit to Estonia by 10 young people from Callington and accompanying adults to the annual International Youth Camp.

Each year the camp takes place in Germany, France, England or Estonia on a rotational basis and in 2005 it was the turn of Keila to host the camp.

Forty young people met up and with just 35 hours of rehearsal time at their disposal set about preparing an outdoor presentation of a devised piece of theatre combining drama, music and dance. The final presentation included elements from all the four cultures - including the four languages. In spite of the sudden downpour just

minutes before the curtain was due to rise, the troupe gallantly went ahead and brought the audience to its feet with a standing ovation. Words simply cannot express how excellent it all was!

The two-week visit was not all hard work but included trips to the Estonian coast to see magnificent sunsets, a concert, a guided tour of Tallinn, the capital, and even a visit to Riga, the capital of neighbouring Latvia. Best of all, however, was the quality time that the young people spent together, getting to know one another, swapping anecdotes and breaking down international barriers. There can be no doubt that the camp was a life-changing experience for everyone who took part.

## A New Business in Town

It is always good to see news businesses set up in town and GB Tool Hire in Liskeard Road aims to cover all your tool and plant hire requirements. Owners John Garwood and Darren Blenkinsop have between them over 35 year experience in the tool and plant hire business. They claim to have everything to hire from a plank to a 20 ton digger and can advise on exactly the right tools for the job. They can also service and repair electrical and mechanical equipment. They can provide competitive quotes for the purchase of equipment. So whether you want to blow away the autumn leaves, scarify the lawn or have a more ambitious project in mind, call in or give them a ring on ☎01579 382777.

## News from the Town Council

### The News

Our Honorary Editor, Kitty Bengé is unfortunately unable to do the next few issues of the News, so in the interim would you please send all copy to the Town Clerk's Office. Remember the next issue you will get will be the one at the beginning of February.

### Fireworks Display

Despite the appalling weather many people enjoyed the Nov. 5th fireworks display. The Town Council would like to thank Ginsters without whose financial support the event would not be possible, thanks to Community College for hosting the event. We also express our appreciation to the Fire Brigade, St John's Ambulance, Callington Rotary and the Police.

### Remembrance Day

The Portreeve would like to thank everyone for the splendid turn-out to commemorate those that gave their lives so that we may be free. This year even more wreaths than usual were laid at the War Memorial. Pictures on the parade are on the town web site.

### Web Site

The web site continues to be updated on a regular basis and Council minutes and planning applications are available. New Outlook has a new page [Community] Whilst the Office is editing the News we are able to put it up on the web site. In fact it may even be up there before it arrives on your

doorstep. So if you lose your copy and need to check a date look on the site first.

### Mud Lane

We are pleased to say that an agreement has been reached with the proprietor to purchase Mud Lane [track from Pengelly Lane to Lower Coronation Terrace]. The Town Council have agreed to use some capital reserves to purchase this as it is felt to be an vital link in the footpath network, allowing access from the centre of town to the new Kit Hill pathway and it will also allows a safe access to school for those on the east of town. Once the purchase is complete grant funding will be sought to upgrade the surface and sort out other problems along the lane. The path will eventually be handed to the County Council for them to maintain long term.

### Town Plan

The Town Council continue to action proposals in the Town Plan. A meeting on town centre regeneration with the Rural Development Agency did not prove very fruitful, but has given us some other avenues to explore. The Town Council called an open meeting with the youth of the town and older folk to discuss their need for an indoor location to meet. This was held on the 24th Nov., unfortunately too late to include a report in this News.

### Film Shows

**Important message for Parents.** Would any parent who does not accompany their child into the film show, note that they must sign a form giving contact details and permission for medical aid if required, The form is available on the internet or can be signed at the door. The films shows currently being screened are a response to the Town Plan, and although the session for youngsters is becoming increasingly popular, the evening session may not continue due to lack of support.

The Town Council would like to wish everyone in the town a Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

### Council Meeting Dates

All meetings of the Council are open to the public and are on Tuesdays in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall.  
Planning 6.30.pm Dec. 6th & 19th, Jan 3rd & 17th.  
Outside Services 7.30 pm 6th Dec & 3rd Jan.  
Town Hall & Premises 7.00.pm 13th Dec & 19th Jan.  
Finance & General Purposes 7.30.pm 17th Jan. & Full Council 7.00.pm 20th Dec & 24th Jan.

### Town Clerk's Office

Will be closed from midday 23rd Dec. to 3rd Jan.

## FILM SHOW



**2.30.pm**  
Doors open 2.00.pm

## Stuart Little 2

Cert. U

**7.30.pm**  
Doors open 7.00.pm

## Dr Zhivago

Cert. A/PG

**CALLINGTON TOWN HALL**  
Children £1.00 Adults £2.50 OAP's £2.00  
Refreshments available

## Bob is back!

Continuing Bob's tale of some of the more obscure moments as well as some of the high and low points of his 54 day run to Russia.

The day before we reached Poland I was actually (for a change) quite enjoying the early morning miles. When I had run 7 miles though it suddenly dawned on me that I had missed out 5 metres of the run. The previous evening our camping spot had been a short drive away so I hopped in the motor home for the 200 metre trip to a nice spot for the night. The next morning I left everyone else sleep in and I walked the 200 metres back to the start point. It was after 7 miles I realised my error. I had got into the vehicle on one side of the road and had been driven to our camping spot on the other side of the road. I walked to the same place but had not actually ran across it. I immediately knew what I had to

do. I waited for the motor home to catch up and informed them I would have to go all the way back to the start and run that tiny, but crucial 5 metres. It eventually made for a very long and tiring day. The thing is no-one would have known if I had missed that 5 metres. The thing is I would have always known I had cheated.

My support team of Luke and Chris are definitely not runners. In fact at the beginning Chris couldn't run ½ a mile without nearly collapsing. However, by the end Luke had run a whopping 16 miles with me, whereas Chris managed a mammoth 22 miles. All because they could see how much I needed company. That is true team spirit !

The finish at the Russian Border was very special. It wasn't an official entry point to Russia. In fact it was totally deserted in a quiet pine forest. I jubilantly stepped around the barrier in the road to finish the

run in record time. Champagne was squirted everywhere. Just then out of the blue a Russian border guard came along and gently explained, 'You can't come into Russia today.' As we were already standing in Russia we quietly stepped back into Latvia and said. 'It's alright mate, we're just going. I've just run across Europe.' With that we were home.

So many things happened on this run. Without my fabulous sponsors Ginsters, this project would have never got off the ground. Also, without Chris and Luke I could never have done it. Finally, Colin Hill Motors helped me out wonderfully with my motor home. Thank you very much.

What's next? Nothing, I'm knackered!

## Driving Matters

This month, the subject to consider is vehicle maintenance in its various aspects and its influence on Road Safety.

Modern cars and vehicles are very complex machines and in relation to the numbers produced are extremely reliable. To preserve that reliability they do need to be regularly and competently serviced at least to the manufacturer's recommendations.

Think of it this way – an average car is serviced approximately every 10,000 miles. During that time the engine crankshaft will have made 30 – 40 million revolutions and the road wheels about 8 – 10 million revolutions. It is hardly surprising it needs to be properly serviced!! Scheduled servicing ensures the vehicle will continue to do its job providing the owner/driver also carries out weekly checks, such as:-

Tyre pressures – Always check when cold. Tyres loose pressure slowly with time and need "topping up". If one tyre regularly loses more pressure than the

others then it probably has a slow puncture caused by some type of tyre or rim damage. Have it checked and rectified before it causes total and possibly catastrophic failure. REMEMBER it is a legal requirement that tyres are inflated to the correct pressure. ( Ref Highway Code Annex 6)

Engine oil level –  
Check when the

vehicle is on level ground and the engine is cold, or at least 10 – 15 minutes after switching off. Use the correct grade of oil to "top up"

Windscreen Washer – Check level and "top up". Do not use washing up liquid as this will damage your paintwork and rubber seals!!

An acronym I use is POWER. Petrol, Oil, Water, Electrics, Rubber.

Winter driving tips.

Before driving off clear all glass, lights and number plates and exterior mirrors. Do not drive with "Hole in the windscreen" (Ref Highway Code)

Drive gently if there is ice on the road. Remember there may be ice pockets on the surface. It's not a nice feeling when your vehicle is out of control.

Get the anti freeze strength in the radiator checked and that there is the correct concentration of washer fluid in the windscreen washer reservoir.

On a more festive note – Christmas is coming with "parties and jollies" so enjoy it all but if you are driving please, please, do NOT drink. It's not worth risking the possible consequences.

Anyway, Happy Motoring and please do consider other road users.

Any feedback will be most welcome, or future topics that you would like discussed, via the editor please.