

Minutes of St Dominic Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday 17 June 2026, 7pm at St Dominic Parish Hall

Present: A Cox (Chair), D Fry, J Wenmoth, D Potter, D Hunn, K Hughes, G Brown (Vice Chair)

Also In Attendance: AM Clark (Clerk) and members of the public.

1	Apologies for Absence Cllrs Clewes, Wilkins and Brady sent apologies.	
2	To Approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 21 May 2025 The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 21 May 2025 were agreed for accuracy. Proposed by Cllr Fry, seconded Cllr Hunn with all in favour.	
3	Report from the Chair on Parish Council Projects The Chairman thanked those who had supported the Council throughout the year, including councillors for their ongoing work and Linda for providing refreshments. Review of the Past Year • Routine parish maintenance and day-to-day Council business continued throughout the year. • Ongoing maintenance was carried out at the Recreation Field, including bench repairs, general upkeep and regular inspections by councillors who were thanked. • The Council formally adopted the litter bin by the school and the bin at Baber Court. • Planning applications continued to be considered, with site visits undertaken where appropriate. • Significant work was carried out on public footpaths, including ongoing efforts regarding Dillets Footpath. Cllr Wilkins was thanked. • The parish noticeboard was repaired following vandalism in September. • The Red Bus route appears to be operating successfully. Cllr Brown was thanked. • Efforts to address speeding concerns at Tipwell did not result in any further action. • Following an incident near the Community Shop, football netting was purchased and installed at the Recreation Field. • Dog fouling signs were installed; although opinions differed initially, they appear to have been effective. • An informal meeting was held regarding the proposed Viverdon Solar Farm project. • Following the resignation of the previous Clerk in July, Anne-Marie Clark was appointed as Clerk in October.	

	• A proposal from a resident for outdoor gym equipment at the Recreation Field was received and has since been progressed. • Following the resignation of Cllr Green, Simon Clewes was welcomed to the Council. • The appeal relating to the proposed development on land adjacent to Stone Cross was upheld by the Planning Inspector, overturning both the Parish Council's and Cornwall Council's refusal. Looking Ahead • The Council will continue to consider planning applications, including anticipated solar farm proposals. • Work will continue to resolve issues relating to Dillets footpath, including efforts to amend the Definitive Map. • The current dog waste bin provision has proved successful and will continue. • An additional salt bin is expected to be installed at Halton Quay. • Priority repairs to playground equipment are underway, with £2,500 allocated to address urgent ROSPA inspection recommendations. • The Council's main project for the coming year will be the installation of outdoor gym equipment at the Recreation Field. A sub-committee has identified suitable equipment, and funding applications are currently being pursued.																																	
4	Reports from Local Groups <table><tr><th></th><th>Represented Groups</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Neighbourhood Watch</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>St Dominic Snooker Club</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Drip Drip Health of River Tamar</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>St Dominic WI</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>St Dominic Parish Church</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>Friends of St Dominic Church</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>St Dominic Parish Hall Committee</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td>St Dominic Hobbies Group</td></tr><tr><td>9</td><td>St Dominic Litterati</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>National Trust</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>The Autumn Show</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>St Dominic Festivities Group</td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>St Dominic Community Shop</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>St Dominic Bellringers</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Received Reports can be viewed at the foot of these Minutes</td></tr></table>		Represented Groups	1	Neighbourhood Watch	2	St Dominic Snooker Club	3	Drip Drip Health of River Tamar	4	St Dominic WI	5	St Dominic Parish Church	6	Friends of St Dominic Church	7	St Dominic Parish Hall Committee	8	St Dominic Hobbies Group	9	St Dominic Litterati	10	National Trust	11	The Autumn Show	12	St Dominic Festivities Group	13	St Dominic Community Shop	14	St Dominic Bellringers		Received Reports can be viewed at the foot of these Minutes	
	Represented Groups																																	
1	Neighbourhood Watch																																	
2	St Dominic Snooker Club																																	
3	Drip Drip Health of River Tamar																																	
4	St Dominic WI																																	
5	St Dominic Parish Church																																	
6	Friends of St Dominic Church																																	
7	St Dominic Parish Hall Committee																																	
8	St Dominic Hobbies Group																																	
9	St Dominic Litterati																																	
10	National Trust																																	
11	The Autumn Show																																	
12	St Dominic Festivities Group																																	
13	St Dominic Community Shop																																	
14	St Dominic Bellringers																																	
	Received Reports can be viewed at the foot of these Minutes																																	

5	Public Open Forum There were no comments from the public.	
6	Close	

Signed.....Chairman

Dated.....

Reports

Neighbourhood Watch

Over the past year there have been mercifully few concerns in the village area. Last July the Police and a resident of Gunnislake reported two burglaries and an attempted burglary in that area. We were informed of thefts of oil from residents of Burraton in September and while there were no closer thefts reported, with recent price rises it is wise to be vigilant. While the internet has become our chief means of communication over the last few years, it also provides the main source of crime, along with the telephone, with attempted scams being regularly reported. Fortunately, people are now much more aware of these and better at recognising them. We receive reports of scams from members and from the Police and the Devon and Cornwall Neighbourhood Watch Association and we inform our members via co-ordinators and through the St. Dominick Chat and St. Dominick Neighbourhood Watch pages on Facebook. We also post advice from the Police or the Devon and Cornwall Neighbourhood Watch on how to respond to attempted internet and telephone scams on our Facebook pages.

Obviously we are anxious as always to recruit new co-ordinators, not only to keep people in their immediate neighbourhood informed, but also to be more likely to hear about any minor theft or concerns that people might not otherwise report. A co-ordinator's job is not at all onerous. All it requires is maintaining contact with your near neighbours and providing them with information about any crime concerns in the area.

All the suspicions reported to me and other co-ordinators are passed on to the Police. However, it is always best for the actual witness of a suspicious incident to report it themselves (while informing us for d benefit of the wider neighbourhood), as their account is a first-hand one and will necessarily be most accurate. Everyone knows to ring 999 if they witness a crime or an emergency, but are sometimes more reluctant to contact the Police about suspicions, not least because it can take a long time to get through on the 101 number for non-emergencies, but they can also contact the Police online at 101@dc.police.uk

St Dominic Snooker Club

Snooker Club going from strength to strength. Now got 78 members

Our teams have won

County Team Champions (5 consecutive years)

County Doubles Champions Tony Farrant and Kevin Steed

Liskeard League Premier Champions

Liskeard League

Premier Knockout Cup

Liskeard Premier Singles

Champion Martin Pitcher

Liskeard Doubles Premier winners

Ian Hunn and Chris Bond

Free WIFI

Free Tea/coffee

Shop Gave £500 ordered material work soon to begin.

Handicap cup first played in 1934 won by Leonard Hughes and last played in 1992 and won by Gary Hughes. 34 yrs

£35 year

Drip Drip Health of River Tamar

Growing movement through-out country against how water industry investors are profiting from providing clean drinking water and dealing with sewerage. Rising water bills, cryptosporidium outbreak in Brixham 2 million fine SWW, Dirty Business, Dartmouth major sewerage spill closed beaches.

Working on a presentation to be given to interested groups along the Tamar. River rights, Ouse, Usk

Anyone who is interested give email and tel number.

St Dominic WI

We had some very good speakers over the past year plus many fun outings and walks. We started the new WI year with a talk from the very entertaining Trevor Smitheram on 'Important people of Cornwall'. In May nine of us went to visit the stunning gardens at The Garden House near Yelverton, Devon. For our walk in May we visited Kerdroya, the new Cornish Hedge Labyrinth at the edge of Colliford lake

In June we went to Looe for the day on the train from Liskeard. The July speaker was the founder of Black Dog Beekeepers and conservationists.. The group went for a walk around Higher Chapel Farm at Halton Quay in mid July hosted by member Jean Gregg, who also provided delicious cakes with a mug of tea at the end. In August we held a Cream tea at a member's house and the weather was good enough to sit outdoors.

In September we were treated to a fabulous talk by Tony Rea, finalist in the Great British Sewing Bee. Also in September three members attended the CFWI Foraging event around

the river Fal at Coombe near Truro. A group of us joined in the CFWI guided walk to the top of Brown Willy on Bodmin Moor, we had good weather and could see for miles from the top.

In October we had a talk by OVAID, Orangutan Veterinary Aid in Indonesia where the presentation moved members so much they raised £503! Two members attended the CFWI Annual Meeting at the Hall for Cornwall in Truro, where the main speaker was Pam Ayres.

In November we had a great time making a Christmas decoration, always an enjoyable meeting with plenty of laughs. The following day a group of us went to Bodmin Jail for a tour with a guide. The walk in November was from Cawsand towards Penlee Point but as it was such a lovely day, we sat in the sun in t-shirts and chatted on a bench overlooking the sea, and didn't make it as far as Penlee! That was followed by lunch at The Bay in Cawsand. In December we had a delicious two course buffet at our monthly meeting.

January '26 our speaker was ex-Navy Michael Hancox talking about his 'Life as a Submariner'. Later in the month we went for a walk around Calstock and tea in Louis Tea Rooms afterwards. One dark January evening a large group of us had a darts match in the village pub, The Who'd Have Thought It. We arranged ourselves into two teams and played two games which resulted in a draw.

February was a talk by The Story Of Emily general manager Martin Lovell followed by a visit by a group of us the same week. This talk attracted eight visitors to our monthly meeting.

In March 2026 St Dominick WI was 80 years old! To celebrate we held a party on a Saturday evening in the Parish Hall with a two course hot buffet With live music by local guitarist and a few fun games. The speaker at our March meeting was Gary Lewis from Tamar Valley National Landscape with an excellent explanation of setting up the Tamara Trail, the footpath from Cremyll to Bude along the River Tamar. We had an 80th birthday cake and fizz afterwards, to celebrate our anniversary, again!

In April our lovely Marion Pack spoke to us about her collection of Matroyshka wooden nesting dolls. She brought part of her collection which filled three table tops! The following week we went for our monthly walk around Siblyback lake. Three groups of members went to the Beryl Cook exhibition at The Box in Plymouth, two groups by train on the Tamar Valley line from Gunnislake. Also in April we visited Strawberry Field's Tulip Festival in Lifton followed by tea and cake.

This was another busy year starting with 38 members and finishing with 38 members, we welcomed five new members this year.

St Dominic Parish Church

Your Church in St Dominick Parish remains within the Tamar Valley Benefice, (along with Gunnislake, Calstock, Harrow Barrow, St Mellion with Pillaton and Landulph). We are without a Parish Priest since Revd Andrew Atkins resigned last September, but that has not

prevented us from undertaking all the activities asked of us by St Dominick village and beyond.

We are conscious a happy village of our size (one of just under 900 population to include Churchtown, Burraton, Bohetherick and Halton Quay) needs to have a well organised School, Village Hall, Church, Shop, Pub and a plethora of Clubs and communal activities. St Dominick is blessed with all of these, managed by a wealth of 'volunteers' who offer their hospitality to serve us all as faithful stewards, without too much grumbling!

St Dominick Church was first consecrated in 1289 in the reign of King Edward 1. Today it is a Grade 1 listed historical building, a superb space for all sorts of activities. During this last year we have hosted two Craft Fairs, a Cornish folk ensemble and a Gospel Choir, all attracting 'full houses'. The managing of these events requires a lot of time and effort, but there are two basic reasons why we hold such activities in your Church; first, to give enjoyment to everybody who lives in St Dominick and secondly, to generate income for maintaining the fabric of this terrific building with its 740-year-old space.

The Church is not just 'a building' but the word encompasses all those who use it. The Parish Church Council needs to ask the village therefore, what is it you want from your Church to make best use of your unique space - which clearly is not going away!?

Your Church does not receive any direct financial support from either Government or the Church of England. We are very grateful therefore to have received grants during 2025 from both the Parish Council and the Community Shop to assist in meeting our commitments and obligations.

Reliance on voluntary donations is essential therefore to ensure your Church building is maintained in a way the village would expect. There is an abundance of quotations relevant to generosity:

The generous person looks for ways to be generous.

It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Give not reluctantly or under compulsion, for we all love a cheerful giver.

No person was ever honoured for what they received but for what they gave.

We are lucky to have your Church 'hoovered and dusted' by a team of volunteers; the bells, organ, clock, boiler and several other items are serviced annually; and the Churchyard maintained to provide a space of tranquillity and reflection.

A warm welcome awaits you all.

Friends of St Dominic Parish Church

The Friends were originally established to provide funds to help with payments for works carried out to the fabric of the church, at the request of the Parochial Church Council. Most recently, we have funded an upgrade to the exterior lighting on the tower.

The installation of a P.I.R. (motion sensor) system inside the church. As a safety measure, this system activates when light inside is poor to help when people are entering the building.

The total cost for these safety and security lighting upgrades was £1,350.00.

Another key duty of the Friends is the monthly distribution of the Parish News. Initially set up by the Friends as the St. Dominick Diary, we now have 14 volunteers who deliver 400 copies around the village. A huge, continued thanks to everyone who provides this vital village service.

Fundraising Events & Future Plans

Annual Cream Tea at Beech Haven - To be held on June 21st, offering a lovely afternoon in the garden and house. The day featured a traditional cream tea with extras, a raffle, a homemade card stall, and a beautiful exhibition of original crochet, embroidery, and recycled needlework items by a local crafter.

Throw your Teddy off the Tower' Event (Autumn Term) - We are currently hoping to liaison with the school to host this fun event! Children will be taught how to make parachutes for their dearest teddies. The teddies will then be launched off the church tower by the Tower Captain, with a prize awarded to the one that travels the furthest. This is currently a work in progress, so stay tuned!

Christmas-Themed Flower Arranging Demonstration (Saturday 5th) To be Held in the Parish Hall, this event will feature Mandy Nicholson, a recent prize winner at the Royal Cornwall Show. All of her beautiful arrangements will be raffled off. The committee will also be serving tea, coffee, and mince pies. Tickets are £8 which includes the refreshments. Thank you all so much for your continued support, energy, and dedication to keeping our church and community thriving.

St Dominic Parish Hall

Read by Linda Curnow (secretary) in the absence of Charmian Saunders (chair)

It's been another successful year for the Parish Hall.

We held our annual pasty and pud event last Autumn which again was a lovely social event with many villagers attending. A good start to December when we hosted The Loveny Choir. They really lifted the rafters and the sell-out evening was enjoyed by all. They will be returning this Christmas.

Our plant sale once again was a huge success and is a permanent date in the village diary. This is a lot of hard work for many and huge thanks to everyone who is involved with this event. I love that not only committee members but other residents help us with the Plant Sale.

We were all very sad when Norma Chapman died. She was a huge support to the Parish Hall and will be sadly missed by many. She has donated some decorative plates to the Hall and we are working on where we can safely display these.

Although we resurfaced part of the car park last year, we are still having problems with potholes particularly in the right-hand entrance. We are discussing this with a local supporter to try and alleviate this problem before this coming winter.

One of our committee members kindly repainted the green room which was quite mouldy. The dehumidifier is left on most of the time to keep the problem at bay.

The guttering on the left side of the building has been replaced after it was damaged. Part of the cost was paid for by the company who damaged it.

We bit the bullet and invested in acoustic panels. We did hear a few rumblings about the cost of these, but they were definitely needed. Since their installation our regular users have commented on what a difference they make to the sound when hosting events in the Hall. It has taken away the echo and I feel, has enhanced the whole experience of whatever the event is, whether it be pilates or a music event or just a chit chat!

The Inpost lockers to the rear of the Hall continue to be frequently used. It's a good regular income for the Hall and another reason to visit the village and hopefully the Shop.

Although our regular users continue to support the Hall, bookings are slower than in previous years but this is a sign of the times, unfortunately.

Finally I'd like to thank the Parish Hall committee for all their hard work and support and also The Parish Council for their support. Thank you.

St Dominic Hobbies Group

We have 22 members which is about the same number we started with. Not the same people but some of us are originals.

A bit of an hiccup this year, well last year actually, 'cause our chef was unwell and decided to retire (she is ok now) we had to find a new chef for our Christmas meal which was held on 28th April '26 so it was a bit different. We had salad instead of roast turkey.

Anyway we have generated so much money that we have given ourselves a couple of free sessions. I don't know how much a submarine costs, and I guess any amount would help, but we definitely do not want our Rachel looking into our finances.

That's about all to say except we would be pleased to see anyone who wants to spend a quiet afternoon twice a month – dates in Parish News

Just bring along yourself and hubby no I meant hobby. Having said that we do encourage men and we have been so successful we have 2 and very nice they are too.

Hobby can mean anything from singing, reciting poetry, computing, reading newspapers, sewing, knitting and crochet etc. but no welding. I say this every year just in case.

Litterati Litter Volunteers

Thank you to all the volunteers who help with the litter picks.

Apologies for small number of picks arranged over the last two years due to personal circumstances.

Planning to have a community litter pick this September, date to be confirmed.

Trial of dog poo signs and dispensers seems to be working well on the trial sites of Bohetherick, The Meadows, The Cross, Lovells field, Methodist Chapel and Church End Lay-by. Pleased that they are being used.

Will discuss with Parish Council as to further sites should there be a need.

CC contacted to ask that the recycling contractors properly secure the collection shutters so no recycling falls from them on to the roadside.

The National Trust

- Visitor numbers – It's been a mixed start to the year; weather and cost of living are having their impacts and therefore visitor numbers are lower than we had hoped. Overall trends being seen is that more rural properties are struggling on visitor numbers vs urban properties that are doing well. We believe this indicates an impact from fuels prices. We are working actively with Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership to promote access to the property via alternative means and have also installed EV charging points in the main carpark.
- Local art exhibitions – we continue to host local artists at the house exhibiting their work. Applications will open soon for available gaps in 2027, these will be advertised soon.
- Garland – the Garden team are already busy in preparation for this years Garland. They report that more sunshine would be helpful, hopefully this will arrive next week. Do stop by if visiting the gardens to see the flowers growing.
- News from the Quay

Edgcumbe and Kiosk –

- We are excited to get the ice cream kiosk at Cotehele Quay re opened in the next couple of weeks, after a re decoration and new appliances, it's nearly ready to open.
- The Edgcumbe Tea room will be closed for a while long as we have had some issues with the fabric of the building which have had to be addressed, as with all old buildings you always find more when you start to remove stuff!
- We look forward to welcoming visitors to the kiosk and hopefully not to long until the Tea room is back open.

Shamrock and the boatshed – Thank you to everyone from the local community who attended the workshops that were put on earlier in the year. Some great feedback was received, and we now continue to work with Raybel Charters, our consultants, on finishing the feasibility study. We continue to keep Shamrock cared for under her covers by the Boatshed Team, who also continue the restoration of the tripper boat Lillian who we hope will be in service at the quay soon.

Other quay activities – The gig club continue to thrive with good results at regattas and a thriving membership, we're very happy to see them doing well. Canoe Tamar continue to operate from the quay and will soon be starting Aqua Paddle sessions which includes Stand up Paddle Boarding. Plymouth Boats continue their trips and land passengers at the quay on their way to and from Calstock. Lastly, we've very happy to welcome Calstock Ferry to the quay, bringing greater accessibility to the river.

- Rangers update –

Community Forest – This year we have completed the second phase of our Community Forest Project in Upper and Lower Lovel fields (also known as Tower Fields). This is a project where we are restoring the former C16th Deerpark and includes planting 7000 native trees, creating news access and interpretation for our community and visitors. We have reseeded the grasslands to enhance species diversity and continue to work with our tenants on the future management including grazing of these fields. We continue to look after the Morden Farm scheme and are in the process of appointing local contractors who will help us care for the all trees planted in the coming years.

Access – We continue to manage around 8 miles of access routes on the estate and ensure our communities can enjoy the estate safely.

Burcombe Valley – We have recently replaced fences in the valley with a view to introducing new grazing. Please be aware, that there might be times where access will need to be restricted on permissive routes in the valley should cows and calves be present grazing. This is for the public's safety and will be limited to the grazing period.

Water – Some of you will be aware that a wild beaver has arrived in the Morden Valley. We are monitoring its presence and overall are very pleased to see its arrival into our riverside woodlands. There is plenty of food for it and we do not see it posing a risk to our trees. We ask dog walkers and other locals to help by keeping to paths and keeping dogs on leads to minimise potential for disturbance of this protected species. The wetlands at the quay continue to thrive and perform the ecosystem services we expected.

Thank you to everyone in St Dominck Parish for all their support, we hope you continue to enjoy the estate.

The Autumn Show

One of the village's longest running events. Started over 80 years ago by the WI. Held at the Parish Hall. This year on Saturday 12 September. 76 classes for adults and 33 classes for

juniors in fruit, veg, floral arrangements, cookery, crafts, photography, art. Entries from the school each year.

Not for profit – money goes back into putting on the show.

This year's schedule is now printed and available soon.

Changes for 2026

Presenting all the cups earlier at 4pm.

New cup – Norma and Chuck Chapman trophy for the best entry in adult cookery.

Main class changes

Art – some new creative challenges eg white on black, abstract.

Juniors -to encourage more entries eg collage from recycling materials eg 'bling up your cuddly toy'

Last year saw 74 entrants with a total of 500 items entered in the adult classes and 47 in the juniors.

All only happens because of volunteer assistance prior to and on the day and all the entrants and visitors to the show.

St Dominic Festivities Group

Christmas Tree Light-Up (Nov. 25th)

This year's light-up featured a brand-new format for our staging, which took place on the lorry kindly lent to us, as usual by Burcombe Transport.

We also introduced new lighting this year, which made a fantastic difference in making our performers much more visible to the crowd.

As always, the School Choir performed beautifully.

Our local children showcased their impressive drumming skills.

Father Christmas made a special appearance, visiting the crowd and distributing chocolate boxes to all of the children.

Special Thanks & Acknowledgments

An event like this requires a true team effort, and a massive thank you goes out to everyone who helped bring it to life, with special mentions to:

The Parish Council. For purchasing the wonderful tree and funding our new performance lighting.

Jeff. For sourcing and finding the perfect tree.

Willis. For his hard work erecting the tree.

Karl, Alan, and James. For their invaluable help setting everything up on the day.

Drew and Dave. For keeping everyone warm with the delicious mulled wine!

This was a true community event by the community, for the community and a thoroughly enjoyable evening for everyone involved.

St Dominic Community Shop

Shop Report

Financial Performance

- Since the last report to the Parish Council in May 2025, the sales performance for the rest of the financial year to March 2026 was good with every monthly target met or exceeded. We ended the year over £7k above the sales target. Pressures in costs mainly energy costs due a solar panel fault, repairs & maintenance and a lower than planned gross profit on sales resulted in a lower surplus than planned.
- Of the circa £1600 surplus made in 2025/26, £1000 was awarded to other community organisations, in the Shop's first round of Grants to share its profits in line with our constitutional responsibilities as a Community Benefit Society.
- The 2026/27 budget has been set with an increased sales target for the financial year. As is the case every year, with the exception of December, our highest targets are in the first 5 months of the year to recognise that particular products sell exceptionally well in those summer months. Unfortunately the weather has been relatively poor and we have not achieved those higher targets for April or May and June is currently unlikely to achieve target either.
- We are keeping a tight rein on costs and planning any major works for the Shop on the basis that we can get external funding.
- We are offering Grants again this year to other groups/clubs in the community. We have just advertised for bids to a pot of £500. Applications close on 31st July & we would welcome Parish Councillors directing anyone they know to contact us via Sue Morrish Company Secretary. We are hoping to award a number of smaller grants to more organisations this year to spread the benefit more widely.
- We have had some success with funding since this time last year but our last 3 bids have been only part successful (lower award of funds) or unsuccessful. It seems that funds are not as readily available as they have been in the past.
- The two successful bids were for the heat extraction equipment to pump the hot air out of the back of the Shop from the heat generated by our bank of fridges & freezers and funding from the Police & Crime Commissioner for the installation of the fencing & gates at the side of the Shop as a security measure.
- The part successful bid was to the County Council Community Chest Fund which resulted in new shopping baskets for the Shop & replacement bunting. We have

been invited to bid again now the new round of funding has opened which we will be doing this month.

Stock & Marketing

- The Shop celebrated its 5th Anniversary in November last year. We were delighted to have ex-resident Fern Britton join us to help celebrate. We were pleased overall with the week of special offers, the bumper prize raffle as well as the actual event on the Friday 28th with Fern to mark this special occasion.
- A weekly lottery was introduced last September and has proved popular with a number of regular players.
- After the loss of the Pengelly's fish van service in July last year we have found another fresh fish delivery service. Unfortunately, they do not park up for customers to shop as was previously the case when that activity brought people up to the Shop on a Friday morning. However as a service to customers, we advertise the home delivery dates.
- In 2024, Helluva pasties was taken over and since that time has expanded its food range. Beyond the pasties & large sausage rolls they produce pies and premium ready meals both main meals & desserts. They have proved very popular with customers.
- In the summer last year we launched a St Dominick postcard that was produced using photographs taken by local people and we asked customers to vote for their choice to go on the card. Last year we sold over 70 cards and they are selling steadily again this year.
- In an effort to boost our sales and market our existence we (metaphorically) took the Shop to other events. We attended the village Gymkhana & Dog show in August and the Landulph Christmas Fair offering a range of ready made hampers and offering shoppers the opportunity to order a custom hamper. The latter event was much more successful but there were learning points from both. We are planning to attend 4 events this year.
- We re-launched our Christmas Club looking for new members and did recruit a few more. We are surprised this has not had a better uptake given that discounts are offered using the Club vouchers during the Christmas shopping period but our Club members seem to be satisfied.
- One of our suppliers is now offering a range of vintage sweets which have had a very good uptake and seems to be hitting the mark with our demographic. There are many volunteers who can vouch for the authentic flavours!
- Marketing the Shop continues as usual using Facebook, leaflets and offering special deals to encourage people into the Shop.

Shop team

- **Volunteers** - we remain incredibly fortunate to have so many dedicated & hard-working Volunteers that keep the Shop running 7 days a week. We have been pleased to recruit new people to the team including people who have moved into the village in recent months. But we have also lost some people for a variety including one of our team who sadly died rather suddenly. As always, we are making ongoing efforts to recruit people with varying success. We are hugely grateful to so many that are prepared to step in and cover when people are on holiday or unwell but we really do want to get every shift covered to reduce the strain on the existing team. As always, please help recruit and point people in the direction of Hayley Edwards, Volunteer Coordinator .
- **Board** – we had one director step down from the Board earlier this year so we are looking for another one or two people who might be interested in joining the Board. Sue Morrish is the contact point. We have the AGM on Thursday 17th September this year for which we will be holding elections.
- **Shop Manager** – we are fortunate to retain our Manager Serena Stevens who continues to very capably manage the sales and back office operations for the Shop.

Closing

We are hugely grateful to our customers so many of whom choose to shop with us. We do need to play our part in maintaining that interest as we go forward but it is also important for people to realise that if the Shop is not used well then it will become more & more difficult to cover the rising costs that all businesses face.

All in all, although the Shop continues to present challenges we are still doing well in the competitive retail environment and at least for the medium term we expect that to continue. PLEASE SHOP LOCAL!

Thank you.

Finally.....

What's next

- Sell sell sell – meet our challenging targets! Don't forget to shop with us!
- Exploring new services and initiatives
- a home delivery service to those that are elderly or unwell
- introducing a work experience scheme for school children 15-17 years olds and for those that have left school and are looking to get experience for the CVs and job applications
- Thank our customers for the incredible support and appreciation we receive from customers
-

St Dominic Bellringers

Service ringing continues, mainly with our own band as the learners have now progressed. On certain occasions we can call upon other ringers within the Benefice.

There have been various ringing events throughout the past year, namely for VE Day and VJ Day as well as 5 Quarter Peals and 6 Call Change Peals. One of the Quarters was to mark the birthday of the Tower Captain who became the first Captain of St. Dominic to circle the tower.

Practice nights remain popular with 10 or more ringers turning up each Wednesday, and a couple of people have popped in to see if they can learn more or improve their style of ringing.

The annual inspection of the bells by Taylors picked up a problem with one of the ropes so this was rectified shortly after their visit.

Owen completes his third year as the elected President of the Truro Diocesan Guild of Ringers in May, but he remains the Eastern District Ringing Master for another 12 months as this was approved at the recent Eastern District AGM held in the Church on the 21st March.

Following the recent passing of Landulph Captain, Terry Darke, the St. Dominic ringers are intending to ring in his memory, but at the time of writing this report the date has to be finalised. In the past Terry very often rang to help us out with weddings, funerals, or other occasions if we were short, and he will be sadly missed. Terry and his wife Doreen organised ringing trips away to all parts of the country over many years, which were supported by most of our band, and ringers from other local churches. Amusing moments both in towers and in hotels were par for the course! RIP Terry.