

The Colan Companion

Issue 244 - March / April 2025

Village hit by Tornado!

Not something I thought would be making front page news in our little village (and of course the surrounding area). I sat at work in Quintrell Business Park on Thursday 23rd January and though 'What the hell was that?!' Then I got told my car windows were all smashed. It turns out about twenty cars had smashed windows around Kings College. Whilst on the phone to the wife she suggested that maybe I go and check the house. So wandering down East Street I thought not a lot has happened what's she panicking about? Then when the top of Vyvyan Drive came into view I was dumbfounded by the sheer devastation that had occurred.

Caused by a funnel cloud developed out at sea, then picked up an injection of warmer air inland producing this tornado heading from Holywell Bay to Bodmin via Quintrell Downs. The story went viral across many news outlets. I even got a message from my Uncle in New Zealand asking if we were ok? Turns out he had seen it on their evening news!

The clean up showed what a great community we have here, with everyone pitching in and helping out neighbours. Diggers turned up. Scaffolders and roofers appeared from nowhere it seemed, to make houses water tight before that weekends storm came.

I think we all have people we would like to thank and I am sure there would be too many to actually list, so to all the good samaritans that day and the following few days. I raise my glass to you all. Thank you.

Craig



Images by Leon Maillard, Jayne Ferris, Sue Ansell, Tania Mugford and myself :)

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Your County Councillor John Fitter writes...

Greetings dear readers of the Colan Companion.

The seasons roll on, and as we leave Winter and enter Spring the welcoming delights of lighter evenings and the promise of warm summer days to drive away the Winter rain and gales, lay in the rainbow of seasons that nature gives us.

And talking of gales what a horror and disaster for the dear folk who were caught up in the typhoon that struck numerous houses in Quintrell Downs. I was amazed and truly inspired by the way everyone just pitched in to help each other along, and with the swift response of the blue light services and the various trades and professions who arrived to help the beleaguered residents in their time of need. My only regret, despite my request, was the head of waste at Cornwall Council, who was not able to provide a skip free of charge for residents to dispose of their broken roof tiles. All to do with, it would seem, the fact that a major incident was not declared, the terms of which are set out in the Civil Contingencies Act of 2004. My personal reaction to this was, as an authority, we should not be sitting on the head of a pin and relying on a form of words to prevent us from helping, when the clear evidence is there for all to see. This was for this community a major incidence and should have been treated as such with the form of help I was requesting.

No news yet on the when the decision will come from London on whether the Deputy Prime Minister is going to allow the approval of the Green Ridge application. I am hoping that the continuing delay would indicate that the planning inspector who is charged with reviewing the application, is taking much more time (than the planning officer and his team) to review in more detail the weight of planning objections by residents against the approval of the application as submitted.

We are almost there, after what seems an age, and first thought about in the last century. The Newquay Strategic Route is due to be opened late April or beginning of May, not long to wait to see what effect it will have in a reduction of traffic using the Quintrell Downs roundabout.

I'm delighted to see that the new road link from the Morrisons roundabout to the Gannel Road has now been completed and hopefully, despite the continuing ongoing development on this stretch of road, this will be the last time that Colan residents must suffer the misery of the diversion whenever the Trevemper Road has been closed for long term engineering work.

I'm also delighted to now confirm that the much missed historic road milage stone, near the railway crossing at Quintrell Downs, has now been successfully repaired and is back safely at the Cormac depot. It will be put back in the original location as soon as practical, Cormac are working with other agencies to minimise inconvenience to the public while the replacement work is undertaken.

The ongoing debate for further devolution is now fully on the back burner until after the Cornwall Council elections in May. At the full council meeting, held on January 21, the Members voted by a large majority to rule out any involvement in a cross-border mayoral strategic authority deal. Cornwall will continue to campaign for a Cornwall only devolution deal and as the Leader of the Council has explained to the Deputy Prime Minister, in that identity in the form of the Cornish has been recognised within the Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the protection of National Minorities, and that is at the heart of an ambitious devolution settlement on a Cornwall only footprint.

I personally supported the January vote; we must not sell out the soul of Cornwall in the bid by not only the current Government, but also the previous Government, to make the English local authorities fit into the same type of square hole that will satisfy the whims of the central government civil service. The special independent character of the Cornish Nation of people deserves better, and I along with like-minded colleagues will continue to protect for one and all, this land, our land, that is our Cornwall.

Take care enjoy the coming of Spring.

Best regards John

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COLAN CWIK CWIZ #26

A fun quiz to enjoy over your Pina Colada. Sorry no prizes.

Compiled by Albatros

- Of what crime was the American gangster Al Capone eventually convicted and sent to jail?
- A 'murder' is the collective noun for what group of creatures?
 - Crows
 - Hyenas
 - Herring gulls
 - Black rats
- Nico Hulkenburg of Germany currently holds which record in Formula One motor racing?
 - Most disqualifications
 - Most races without a win
 - Most crashes
- What 2005 single became James Blunt's first number one?
- There are two species of camel. One is the Dromedary, the other a Bactrian. One has one hump, the other has two. Which is which?
- Who was the male star of the first 'Thomas Crown Affair' film?
- In which county in the UK is the sculpture 'Angel of the North' situated?
- What is the name of the former prison on an island in San Francisco Bay?
- What nationality was the author Roald Dahl?
- The first Butlins Holiday Camp was founded in which town on the North Sea coast?
- When Queen Elizabeth II took the throne in 1953, who was her Prime Minister?
- What is a 60th Wedding Anniversary called?
- Why has the Matterhorn mountain been removed from 'Toblerone' packaging?
- In 1910, a giant tsunami wave (of unknown origin) hit a coastal town in Devon. Causing serious damage but nobody was killed or injured. Which town was this?
- Which of these cities is the capital of Morocco?
 - Rabat
 - Casablanca
 - Marrakesh

Answers on page 11

A note from the editors of the Colan Companion - which is a not-for-profit Independent Parish Newsletter - totally funded from advertising and donations.

Where have the four years gone?

In issue 221 of the Colan Companion I put together an article to encourage residents of Colan Parish to vote in the upcoming Council Elections. Because of your support John Fitter was elected as the independent councillor for the parishes of Colan and St. Mawgan.

Over the past 4 years John has been a tremendous support to Colan Parish Council, regularly attending their monthly meetings, picking up local concerns and working tirelessly to help resolve the issues of the day.

John's knowledge of the parish and the workings of Cornwall County Council are often displayed in his regular articles in your Colan Companion.

And so, on John's behalf I urge you all once again to go and vote for **JOHN FITTER - YOUR INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE** on May 1st at Quintrell Downs Village Hall and be assured that he will continue to work for our residents and respond to any concerns they may have.

Donations

We would like to give a big thank you to Sue Ansell and The Quintrell Downs Fundraising Group.

Sue kindly donated £30 from the proceeds of the sale of her final two Christmas wreaths and The Quintrell Downs Fundraising Group donated £30 from their total funds raised over the course of 2024

We would like to thank you all for the donations of £6.81 collected from the Spar shop. Please do think of us when collecting your change from your custard creams, as it's these donations and the advertising that pay for the printing of this newsletter.

Submission deadline for the May / June edition of the Colan Companion will be 06th April 2025.

The comments and views are not necessarily those of the editor. PLEASE NOTE to comply with GDPR legislation, we have to ask your permission to hold your details on our records. If you do not wish your birthday and/or wedding anniversary to be printed in the Companion please let the editor know.

Editor: Craig Allen, 6 Vyvyan Drive, Quintrell Downs.
Contact via email at colan_companion@icloud.com

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And now here's the allotment news...

Spring is just round the corner, there are spring bulbs defying the weather and temperatures everywhere. As usual February is the harshest winter month, but when the sun is out all the cold is forgotten, and we are fooled into thinking we need to start growing stuff.

Overwintering vegetables put on a new growth spurt and see us through this lean period. Leeks, brassicas and root veg make lovely soups, tarts etc. some might even have potatoes in sacks in their sheds from last year. I have had great success in planting early potatoes before the end of February. They need regular earthing up to prevent frost or cold wind scorch. Even if they do get scorched they grow again with new shoots and can be harvested from mid May as lovely tender new potatoes.

It is with sadness that my husband and I have given up our allotment plot. We struggled last year with time and health, and didn't feel we got as much out of it as we used to. Time to let someone else have a go at growing their own.

We will miss the amazing fruit and veg and our freezer will not be well stocked with homegrown produce. The friendships made on the allotment site and the fun we have had at working parties and events will stay with us, and we will pop in for a cuppa and a chat now and again.

From now on I will be growing a few bits at home in pots in the garden. I shall also be a frequent visitor to the produce stalls on the allotment.

On a last note, the committee has shared the waiting list for a plot is still closed for now. Currently there are still 40+ waiting for a plot. If you are on the waiting list already, please be patient. Make sure you check your junk emails regularly too. When our waiting list manager contacts the next person on the list, people don't always respond and might miss their turn for a plot.

I wish everyone a good growing year.

Ulla



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Police Crime Report for the Colan area

There have been various reports of vehicle interferences, not as far as the Colon Parish, however there have been incidents in Nansledan. Typically the suspect will try the car door, if it opens they will quickly contact a search of the vehicle.

We have identified one suspect who has returned to prison, we have proactive practices in place in the meantime. Officers are using unmarked vehicles and patrolling on foot throughout the evening into the early hours.

Also Ring door bell and CCTV footage is crucial to building a picture and grabbing images of potential suspects.

Please use Devon and Cornwall Police website, it is very useful and easy to navigate in regard to reporting crime or ASB.

I have been out using the E-bike which is very useful and perfect for covering the Colon Parish.

PSCO Paul Price
Police Community Support Officer
Newquay Police Station



March

- 1st Cheryl Glossop
- 2nd Sam Beard
- 6th Claire Dummett
- 8th Joan Gibbons
- 9th Sue Woodley
- 10^h Richard Hodgetts
- 12th Brad Clarke
- 12th Jamie Clogg
- 15th Neil Gimblett
- 17th Kelly Grimes
- 17th George Green
- 20th Ryan Scales
- 20th Vicki Crossley
- 21st Gerald Gilbert
- 22nd Josephine Burt
- 29th Ron Stammers
- 29th Jackson Jewell

April

- 2nd Kelly Trebilcock
- 2nd Kathryn Bibb
- 3rd Ulla Winter
- 3rd Dave Clarke
- 3rd Carol Clogg
- 12th Bill Grocott
- 12th Caroline Jewell
- 15th Charlotte Rundle
- 15th Charlotte Chapman
- 15th Jackie Glanville
- 22nd John Glossop
- 23rd David Woodley
- 27th Michaela
Armstrong
- 27th Dawn Scales
- 29th Jonathan Burt
- 30th Brian Golden

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St Colan Parish Church

For general enquiries please come and see us on a Sunday morning or email secretary1@towanblysta.org

After nearly 25 years' service at St Columb Minor and Colan and more recently to St Michael's and St Newlyn East, Rev'd Canon Chris McQuillen-Wright has left the parish to take up a new role in the Diocese. A wonderful service of thanksgiving for the time Chris and his family spent supporting the churches and wider local community was held at St Columb Minor Church. Many thanks to everyone who donated to a leaving gift for Chris, he and Julia were overcome by the good wishes and generosity shown to them.

There is a service at St Colan every week at 9.30. However, on Sunday 30th March Bishop Hugh will be taking a joint service at 9.30am at St Newlyn East. Everyone is welcome to attend and there will not be a service at St Colan on that Sunday.

The period of Lent starts on Wednesday March 5th and our Easter Service will be held at 9.30am on Sunday 20th April.

If you would like to discuss any plans for weddings or baptisms, please come and see us and we can provide more information and help you through the process of planning your special day. If that is not possible, please email secretary1@towanblystra.org

With every blessing from St Colan Church




COLAN CWIK CWIZ ANSWERS

1. Tax evasion.
2. a. Crows.
3. b. Most races without a win.
4. 'You are beautiful'.
5. The Dromedary has one bump, the Bactrian two.
6. Steve McQueen (with Faye Dunaway).
7. The sculpture, by Anthony Gormley is in Gateshead, Tyne and Wear.
8. Alcatraz, where Al Capone served his sentence. Apparently, no prisoner ever escaped.
9. Roald Dahl was born in Wales to Norwegian parents.
10. Skegness.
11. The Prime Minister was Sir Winston Churchill.
12. A 60th Wedding Anniversary is called Diamond.
13. The Matterhorn Mountain has been replaced by a depiction because some of the chocolates production is now outside of Switzerland, meaning it falls foul of Swiss marketing restrictions.
14. Ilfracombe, North Devon.
15. a. Rabat.

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Down on Willow Farm...

We are dedicating this piggy update to our Boar Dexter.

We wanted to breed our pigs, so we decided to get our own Boar. When we visited him, we were surprised on his size and will never forget how he unfolded his huge body as he came out of his shed. Dexter was huge, with a lovely temperament. We completed the relevant paperwork, as a pig traveling requires, along with his new herd tag, and travelled home.

He was so happy when we released him into his field. We were told that Dexter likes to sleep until mid day, he soon changed that habit, he was up for his 6am feed. He loved running eating and rolling around in his field.

Once he saw a deer at the bottom of his field even with his poor eyesight that all pigs have, Dexter shot down the field like a rocket.

We had a heatwave back along, seems like a distant memory. I made a wallow for Dexter, but he wouldn't use it, I went out regularly to check him and noticed he was hot, so I climbed into his field with hose in hand and hosed him and his ark while he was asleep, I repeated this 10 minutes later, and as I climbed over into his field and was about to hose him down, he got up, I was out of his field as quick as lightening, laughing all the way.

Dexter loved a stroke on his head and having a chat. He would chat to me when I would be weeding the veggies, calling for the weeds to be thrown his way, he was a lazy pig.

There is a lot of respect in the farming world that some people maybe wouldn't realise, with very difficult decisions that have to be made at times.

Dexter had a wonderful life and we loved him. We are feeling sad. But we have great memories of our first Boar Dexter.

Mark and Sue



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Quintrell Downs Cricket Club, founded 2023, is a midweek social cricket side playing in both a local village friendly league and hosting touring sides;

We are looking for new players and supporting members to join the club from the local area who are keen to play 20/20 cricket or be involved in the running of the club. We are currently a nomadic side playing mainly away games, with some fixtures in Newquay. We then return to the Quintrell Inn for refreshments and post match analysis. The club is open to all ages and abilities and we would be keen to hear from you.

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MARCH

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DEVELOPMENT

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ENVIRONMENT

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Develops children's confidence in their emerging abilities, allowing them to take risks and go beyond expectations.

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How does the Montessori early year's curriculum meet the requirements of the regulatory framework as set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage??

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