



February 2022

Gologvaow nowydh war Bennwydh New Perspectives on Penwith

Welcome to the latest newsletter from the Penwith Landscape Partnership (PLP)

The three Communication and Interpretation projects that make up part of the work of the PLP aim to encourage everyone to interact with and learn more about in Penwith in new ways – whether online through our website (Virtual Landscape Hub), through the Cornish language with our Taking Names project, or a creative celebration through the arts based Seeing the Landscape project.

All three of these projects have continued to raise awareness of Penwith and its heritage in recent months. Notably, in the autumn of 2021 the Penwith Landscape Exploration Network, or PLEN, went live on our website. This new interactive platform uses a mixture of drone and ground photography and filming to allow visitors to visit some of Penwith's most significant ancient sites and local landmarks online. This allows everyone to see how the different elements of the Penwith landscape are connected together and provide context for each other, and provides access to these sites for those that might otherwise find it difficult to visit them. It also showcases the beauty and history of this unique place. There are 24 sites on the PLEN at present, but more will be added in the future.



Creative souls had the opportunity to attend workshops and exhibitions to celebrate Penwith through art last year, and our Tinnars' Way Art Competition invited entries showcasing aspects of Penwith focused around this ancient trackway. In the Adults category, gorgeous photographs, visual art works and written word pieces were entered, while children had the opportunity to design our new waymarkers to be placed in the landscape. While judging for the children's contest is still underway, we've been thrilled to announce the winners in our adults contest, and all the top placing entries can now be seen in galleries on our website.

Meanwhile, our Para Kernewek (Cornish language team) have continued to be hard at work with Cornish language taster sessions, guided walks and other Cornish related activities. Given its important place in Penwith's heritage, we've also been pleased to launch our Kernewek yn Pennwydh, or Cornish in Penwith web pages – including an interactive map of place names and dialect that will continue to be added to.

To experience these new offerings, be sure to visit the PLP website at www.penwithlandscape.com

Events

We have the following free events coming up. To learn more, more details will be added to www.penwithlandscape.com/events soon.

- 9th April 2022, 10am – 4pm: **PLP Open Day and Film Launch** – Join us at Lower Keigwin Farm, Pendeen for an open day and film launch. More details coming to the website soon!
- Starting April 2022: **Penwith Wildlife Recorders Group** will run on Fridays. More details soon!

Historic hedges repaired at Cape Cornwall

We're thrilled to have organised some highly skilled hedge repairs take place on one of West Cornwall's most famous headlands, Cape Cornwall. The Hedges in this area are most distinctive, with very uniform and neat granite stones that have been carefully 'dressed' (worked with hammers), and laid in very straight rows (or 'courses'). The prominent hedge running over the 'saddle' of the headland had a number of collapses, and left alone stones would continue to fall. So PLP has helped the National Trust by calling in expert Hedger Bruce Davies, who has painstakingly and carefully sorted and replaced the fallen stones, often working over head height. The hedge is now rebuilt beautifully, with only the slight difference in colour, the only clue as to the sites of repair. Over time even this will disappear as the lichens regrow over the stones, and as the hedge goes on facing the wind and rain on the Cape for many years to come.



PLP volunteer clinches Oxford place with tales of our Practical tasks

It's true that the numbers of young people who volunteer for practical tasks with the PLP are not as high as we'd like. School, college and the lure of Big Cities see many of our younger folk prefer not to spend a day out with us scrub bashing or hedge repairing. How delighted we were, then, when Charlie Upchurch turned up last year. A very keen 16 year old, he got stuck in and was taken with the experience of some 'hands on' action which saw his Biology studies at school gain practical meaning and relevance. At break times he would tell us of his various exams and revision, and, more recently how he was applying to university to continue his education.

After Christmas Charlie joined us clearing scrub up on Lesingey round, and at coffee time he pulled out chocolates and biscuits for us to share and proceeded to heartily thank us for making him feel welcome. The reason he brought us the goodies? He'd just secured a place at Keeble College, Oxford, and told us that his interviewers were very impressed with his tales of getting his hands dirty with the PLP! So if you are reading this and know a younger individual who is keen on conservation, biology or the environment and wants to take it further, then we can now confidently say you will stand a better chance of getting that place at university if you volunteer with us! You can read more of Charlie's experiences with us on the Volunteer pages of our website.

Who is on the Partnership?

Members of the Penwith Landscape Partnership board are:

Bolitho Estates
Cornwall Ancient Sites Protection Network (CASPN)
Cornwall Archaeological Society
Cornwall AONB
Cornwall Councillors representing four Penwith wards
Cornwall Heritage Trust
Cornwall Wildlife Trust
Farm Cornwall
Farming representatives
National Trust
Save Penwith Moors

Spider Eye Animation
St Aubyn Estates
St Just Town Council
Towednack Parish Council
West Penwith Bridleway Association
Zennor Parish Council

Chaired by Cllr Jim McKenna

Advisors to the board include:

NFU Cornwall, Natural England, Historic England and Cornwall Council Historic Environment Service

If you would like to keep in touch with our work please contact us to sign up to this newsletter.

Penwith Landscape Partnership

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Visit www.penwithlandscape.com, or email PLPinfo@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. You can also find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

