



St Just in Bloom 2014 Portfolio





Welcome to St. Just In Bloom

St. Just In Bloom was formed in 2003 and entered South West In Bloom in 2004.

We are a fully constituted not for profit community group. We hold a meeting on the first Wednesday of every month (except August) and have an AGM in February.

The 2014 elected Committee were Chairman; Chris Goninan, Secretary; Marlene Smith, Treasurer; Nick Skerratt. Other Committee members are: Pat Charlton, Stuart Coleman, Sue Fildan, Alec Hogg, Richard Lawry, Robert Matthews, Michael May, Anita Rose, Gina Salmon, Margaret Sedgeman, Paul Woolcock



Members take on various tasks and responsibilities as well as planting and weeding i.e. maintenance of street furniture, cleaning and staining or painting and this is done on an annual basis and includes waste bins and lamp posts.

This year the Portfolio was done by Marlene, Anita, Margaret, Pat and Lynn and the photography for it by Margaret (all bloom committee members).

The local Garden Competition is also organised by St Just in Bloom where judging takes place at the end of July – This event is publicised through press releases by The Cornishman and St Just's local weekly paper.

St Just in Bloom organises the annual School Painting Competition and local schools Brambles, the Primary School and Comprehensive Schools all participate. We are lucky to have many local artists and one of them is usually happy to do the judging. This year our local adult Art Classes are also participating.

St Just in Bloom's Presentation Evening is held in September and this is supported by local businesses and well attended - Certificates are presented to the winners to celebrate and congratulate them on their achievements. It is a very good social occasion and enjoyed by all.

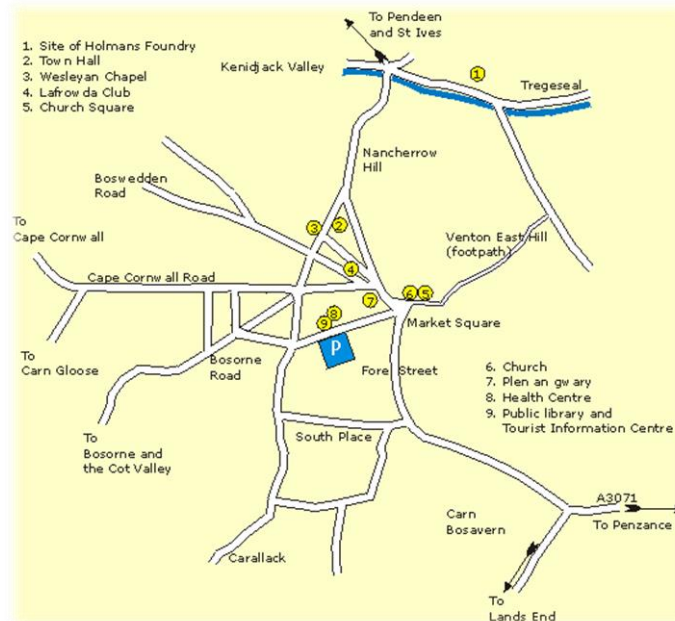


Our aim is to make St. Just a better place for locals and visitors.



A brief history of St. Just Parish

St. Just Parish has a population of 4,645 with 2,105 households, 21.1% are over 65 and 17.45% under 16. We have no communities in the Indices of Multiple Deprivation 20% most deprived areas. However, we have 18.3% living in income deprivation with 25.9% of children under 16 living with income deprivation and 34.8% of households estimated to be “fuel poverty”.



St. Just is the most westerly town in England and is renowned for its hard rock mining. In the middle/late eighteenth century when mining was flourishing here and St. Just had a population of 10,000 Charles and John Wesley made several visits to this peninsula, hence Wesleyan Chapels found in most Cornish towns/villages, as at that time it was a bigger place than Birmingham. Mining continued in this area until 1992 when the last mine, Geevor stopped working. It has now been converted into a visitor attraction with a wonderful museum and underground trips.



In 2006 Geevor together with other mining areas in Cornwall and West Devon was given World Heritage Status by UNESCO and became the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site.



The other main industries locally are fishing and farming. Both are only a shadow of their former selves as modern methods have reduced the work force considerably. However, times change and we now have an allotment group back in the town and there are a few who still make a living fishing from Priest's Cove at Cape Cornwall the only Cape in England.



New Projects

- New mixed flower bed outside Library window
- 2 New flower beds at Lafrowda
- New raised beds at The Comprehensive School
- A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF ST. JUST IN BLOOM

August 2013

- After a really busy few months there is still watering and maintenance of beds and tubs to do. However, we do take things a little easier and August is when we take our 'summer break'.

September 2013

- Monthly meeting held on 4th.
- The Community Payback team came and did some work at the Closed Churchyard.
- Group members attended the South West in Bloom Awards in Truro Cathedral. Again we achieved a Silver Gilt Award.

- On the 27th we held our local Garden and Photographic Competition Awards Evening at St. Just Royal British Legion hall. As always this was well attended by both adults and children. Our thanks to our Town Mayor, Richard Morton, Tom Henderson-Smith and the Head Teachers of the local schools who were all present to give out cups and certificates to the many participants.
- There was a Flower Festival in our local Parish Church and our ladies created a beautiful window display.



October 2013

- Monthly meeting held on the 2nd
- On Monday 7th members met at the poly tunnel to plant spring bulbs in pots ready to plant out.
- On 17th Cornwall in Bloom held their Presentation Evening at the Eden Project. Various committee members and two staff members from our local Brambles (for pre-school children) attended this event. Various awards (see list of winners at the end of this portfolio) were presented with framed certificates.
- 26th October a meeting took place at the Closed Churchyard re bird boxes etc. Mr. Robert Moor, his son Josh and colleague Stuart Coleman did some work in the Churchyard.
- General tidying and preparing for winter was started and taking plants to the poly tunnel for over-wintering.

November 2013

- Monthly meeting held on the 6th
- We had two guests at this meeting – Mr. Colin Warne from a local Nursery and Mr. Richard Budge (South West in Bloom Committee Member and Judge) who gave a short but very helpful informed talk.
- Sunday 3rd – St. Just Feast Parade took place and members attended this. They paraded to the Church for the service and back to the Royal British Legion Club for a reception.
- Wednesday 6th – St Just in Bloom committee members manned a table at the Primary School Open Day to raise funds.
- Sunday 10th November - Remembrance Day Parade supported/attended by St Just in Bloom. A short service was held in the Church followed by a parade to the War Memorial for another service.
- Repairs made to the polytunnel.
- Wednesday 13th – Following a meeting with Colin Warne re 3 tier containers and amberols our group met to discuss Colin's Quote.

- Friday 15th – Our group met again and voted to accept Colin's quote to supply hanging baskets and amberols.
- Tuesday 19th – A further meeting took place to discuss Colin providing sustainable bedding for all barrels and containers where necessary.

December 2014

- Richard did a lot of work on the hedge at Lafrowda Car Park and a big thank you went to him.
- Monday 16th – Christmas Carol Singing to raise funds for St Just in Bloom.
- Wednesday 17th – The ladies met in the Wesleyan Chapel to decorate our tree.

January 2014

- Monthly meeting took place Wednesday 8th
- Robert and Chris had emptied the amberols and 3 – tier units.
- Plants – Chris had spoken to our Town Council and they agreed to fund these this year including VAT. This as excellent news and was very much appreciated by everyone.
- Robert had made the nest boxes for the Closed Churchyard and Stuart would collect these.
- Chris had entered St. Just In Bloom in South West In Bloom (Ayr Cup) and 20 x Its Your Neighbourhood entries.

February 2014

- AGM took place Wednesday 5th February at 7 pm at The Star Inn
- Our Monthly meeting followed the AGM at 7.50 pm
- Wednesday 19th – Ladies met for a meeting re Portfolio
- New Affordable Housing Development, St. Just – Paul and Sue had met with Site Manager, Mr. Colin Postlewaite to discuss partnership between them and St. Just In Bloom to landscape/planting a piece of ground in front of the new Terrace fronting main road.
- Weather very stormy – made sure everything secure.

March 2014

- Monthly meeting took place 5th March
- Closed Churchyard – 3 branches which had blown down in storms have been cut and made into log piles.
- Primary School – Stuart is working with them on plant list for their new wildlife area.
- Chris has sent in request for funding to Cory Environmental for £200 for the purchase of tools.
- New Project with Cornwall College – volunteers will be at St. Just for 4 weeks from 19th May to 13th June 9.30 am to 4pm Monday -Friday.
- There had been a meeting at the Comprehensive School re raised beds and work that need going in the gardens and grounds. Hopefully the volunteers from Cornwall College would be able to carry out this work. One of our group members, Richard works on the grounds and gardens and does an amazing amount of work. Unfortunately one of our older members

who also worked with Richard and liaised with the School has had to retire due to ill-health.

- Colin Warne had been in touch regarding the wicks for the amborels and tubs.
- The Judging Route had been started.
- Poppy Seeds – Chris has quite a few packets and Stuart has already sown lots of seeds in the Churchyard.

April 2014

- Monthly meeting took place Wednesday 2nd
- 10th – Chris will attend meeting at Comprehensive School to see if a grant was forthcoming from the School to enable the raised beds to be done.
- Poly tunnel – six keys had been cut for the school gate and six still need to be cut for the padlock on the poly tunnel.
- Monday 10th -Members would meet at the poly tunnel to plant sunflower seeds etc.
- Monday 14th – Meeting to discuss Portfolio took place at The Cookbook.
- A Grant Application Form to St. Just Town Council has been completed and submitted .
- The flower bed under the Library window had been cleared.
- Friday 25th – Robert Chris and Margaret planted a new rose garden in the bed under the Library window.

May 2014

- Monthly meeting took place Wednesday 7th May
- Saturday 3rd – Plant Sale at the Comprehensive School.
- Volunteers from Cornwall College/Work Skills worked in the Comprehensive School transforming their allotment garden, built raised beds and filled them, renovated the wooden store/sheds and outside classroom, and repaired timber fencing and gates and painted them including the memorial feature at the front of the school. They also did gardening/cleaned out and refreshed flower beds at The Brambles Nursery. In the town they cleaned and painted litter bins, benches, the railings around the war memorial and other street furniture.
- St Just in bloom added new compost to planters and containers, and weeded the flower beds and hedges.
- Robert cleared all the weeds from the Cemetery down to Sue's garden which was a mammoth job.
- Stuart Coleman from the Wildlife Trust, also a bloom member, organised a party of primary school children to plant shrubs in the closed churchyard.

Community Projects

- We liaise with St. Just Primary School
- Cape Cornwall Comprehensive School
- Brambles Nursery School

The Closed Churchyard

We do everything we can to work with the community and have a very good relationship with the Schools. They always enter the painting competition and the Primary School is developing a garden area in their playing field and one of our members has been actively involved in setting this up.

The Comprehensive School help us with the printing of the Portfolio and certificates. They also donated some of the proceeds of their carol service to the group and allowed us in 2013 to erect the poly tunnel in their top garden.

We also work with other community groups like Age Concern Cornwall, St. Just Church, The Royal British Legion and St. Just Cricket Club. We have worked with the local garage at the top of the town to considerably improve its appearance and many other businesses like the pubs and shops who support us as well as they can in these austere times.

We receive fantastic support from the Town Council who give us a grant each year. They have also worked with us over the winter months to get Cornwall Council to pass the money they use for grass cutting in the Closed Churchyard to the Town Council.



We have worked hard during the winter to hopefully improve on the horticultural side. We have taken advice from South West In Bloom judges and a nursery owner.

We hope our 3 tier containers amborels and planters will show that we have listened to the advice given and will have a wow factor.

We are also improving on our horticultural skills by saving bulbs, over-wintering, growing seeds, potting on and potting up. We have also done soil testing and have our own composter. We then follow on by feeding, watering and dead heading.

We of course as mentioned are involved in community gardening with the three schools and Closed Churchyard. We also encourage local residents to get involved by entering their gardens in our Garden Competition and usually have up to thirty entries and lots of rivalry!



Local businesses get involved each year and The Commercial, The Star, The Kings Arms and The Wellington always put on a colourful display.

St. Just has some green spaces to be proud of. The Primary School field, The plot adjoining the Recreation Centre, Bosorne bed and the back of Carrallack Terrace not forgetting the Closed Churchyard.



We do as much as possible regarding environmental responsibility. We try to maintain and conserve as much as we can in this granite town which can be quite harsh.

We have wildlife areas in the Closed Churchyard i.e. log piles, bird boxes and of course one side is given over to being a wild area by letting the grass grow and introducing wild plants and seeds. We know we are encouraging birds, insects, etc. into this area.



Helping wildlife in the Churchyard



We would mention that hopefully we have taken on board the various comments made by the Judges and this will become apparent when reading the the Portfolio, seeing the Presentation and on Judging day.

RECYCLING– Cory Environmental have since 2012 been contracted by Cornwall Council to manage its waste collection and cleansing services as well as beach cleansing and associated services.

We encourage everyone to recycle as much as possible. Cory have various bins in an area at Lafrowda and these are well used.

Further, there is a house to house collection every two weeks for household rubbish i.e. plastic bottles, tins, cardboard and paper and glass. On the alternate two weeks there is a green waste collection for garden refuse.

We have a Street Cleansing team who ensure that that our Town is kept free of litter and who are always willing to put in extra effort after local community events ie. Lafrowda Day and Feast Monday.



Locally there are bins for used batteries in the Newsagents and Clemos.

We have our own composter and water butts which we also make good use of.

Over the years we asked the Council for dog litter bins to be placed around the town and these are now sited in various areas although more of these would be very useful.

To keep St. Just looking well cared for we have also been responsible for cleaning, staining or treating the various seats around the town i.e. in Bank Square, in the Closed Churchyard, at Carn Bosavern etc. Also we paint the bike stands outside the Co-op, waste bins in Market Square and Bank Square and the lamp posts.



We have had on loan from Geevor Tin Mine some mining pieces ie a mucka bucket and a trolley and we ensure these are looked after and painted etc.

To be more sustainable and to encourage more wildlife especially butterflies and bees we have begun planting more wild flowers. Apart from the area in the Closed Churchyard we have an area leading down to the Churchyard and an area opposite the telephone box at Lafrowda. Where

there is some appropriate ground we sow some seeds and of course this year poppies are definitely amongst the mix. We have also grown sunflowers and hopefully these will attract some birds

We try to interact with our community as much as possible. We have been kept busy over the winter with various events.

Apart from events mentioned in our diary we attended the Primary School Open Day – this was primarily to mark the refurbishment of the reception class. We had a table at the School to show people what we do and to encourage folk to join our group. We had three people who were keen to join us and one of those three is now a regular at our meetings and willing to help.



We were asked to decorate a window at the Church for their Flower Festival and we went along to help serve teas which this event was being staged.

In December we went Carol Singing and had a wonderful evening. Some members from our local drama group Proper Job joined us as did regulars Mary and Roger King who accompanied us on their accordians. We started at Benoni, our local Nursing home. They enjoyed it so much they have invited us back next year to stay longer! We then progressed around the Town before adjourning to The Commercial Hotel for some well-earned refreshment. The collection of approximately £260 was counted and share between St. Just In Bloom and Proper Job.

We then once again decorated a tree at the Wesleyan Chapel for the Christmas Tree Festival. The theme this year was Countries of the World and we chose Iceland.



Our other community involvement is our local Garden Competition. Since this has become an annual event the entries have grown and normally there is between 25 and 30 entries. Each year we ask a gardener from a local garden such as Trengwainton or Trewidden etc to judge the gardens. There are various categories and there is a certificate for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each category.

Funding

- We apply to the Town Council each year for a grant. This year, 2014, we have been awarded £1000. The Council are also funding the bedding plants this year which are grown by Colin Warne
- We have this year received a £200 from Cory for the purpose of buying much needed tools.
- We place collecting tins at various businesses in the Town and these are very well supported by locals and visitors.
- We also did a sponsored walk with the local Cricket Club which took place a beautiful sunny

evening. The route was to Carn Glouce, a local beauty spot, to Priests Cove at Cape Cornwall then up the hill, behind Porthledden Hotel and across the fields back to the Cricket Club.

- We have year round activity and this will form part of the Presentation
- Publicity – We have our own web site: www.stjustinbloom.org.uk and also we have press releases in our local weekly paper The Cornishman

Sponsors

As always a BIG thank you must go to all those people who have helped St. Just In Bloom in any way – Officers, committee members, helpers in the community and the many sponsors past and present.

Below is a list of some of the individuals and groups who have offered their support this year:

1. St. Just Town Council
2. Cornwall Council
3. Cape Cornwall Comprehensive School
4. PA Wilkins & Co. Estate Agents
5. Cornwall Wildlife Trust
6. The Commerical Hotel
7. The Star Inn
8. The Wellington
9. Christine Olds
10. Webfooted Designs
11. Mrs. Pat Hosken
12. St. Just RBL Club
13. Clemo's Pets & DIY

All members of St. Just In Bloom hold a Disclosure and Barring Security Check which enables them to access the Poly tunnel when the children are at school.

LIST OF IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD ENTRIES 2014

- Comprehensive School
- Bosorne Bed
- Closed Churchyard
- Recreation Plot
- Rear of Carrallack Terrace
- Libary Bed
- Wee Plot
- Allotments
- Nancherrow
- Garage Plots at Carn Bosavern
- The Turnpike
- Bosavern Community Farm
- Mrs. Jeffries – Bottom of Nanherrow Hill
- Brambles Nursery
- Cemetery
- Trelew Flats
- Sturgeons Wall
- Age UK
- Mural
- Cricket Club



Above: This Community Garden has been created by Sue (St Just in Bloom) who grows the plants from cuttings and propagating other plants. Most are bee and butterfly friendly – perfect pollinators.



Above: Library garden created and looked after by Pat (St Just in Bloom)

This Portfolio has been produced by Marlene, Margaret, Anita, Lynn and Pat.