RECENTNEWS

Penlow Field throughout 2020 - Welcome to our sixth newsletter

We welcome to rest...

We've seen 16 new residents move into Penlow since our last newsletter - Pat, Pam, Mandy, Tim, Chris, Jeff, Susan A, Jodie, Jeremy, Emma, Rose, Susan D & Jenny.

This also includes ashes of Hanni, Peter & Sheila who've been laid to rest.

Tree plantings...

This year we have managed to get the trees planted really early at the beginning of the planting season. We have three trees left to plant for our residents. The Guelder Rose has been a really popular choice this year.

Bude Area Toy Library...

We heard that with all the interruption this year due to Covid-19 restrictions, the Bude Area Toy Library was at risk of having to close its doors in 2021. They'd not been able to benefit from any of their usual fundraising events to support the service. A crowdfunder was started in November, we were really pleased to be able to help them towards their target with a £250 donation.

Such a worthwhile cause that is helping the planet tremendously by keeping toys out of landfill.



Gazebo shelter...

This year we were able to put up a gazebo, both as shelter from the rain and also the sun on the good days. As you know there was no shelter from the elements when burials take place in inclement weather.

We've had an interesting time this year, with the stormy south

westerly winds not mixing well with the felt shingles on the roof. Some fishing nets were drafted in to alleviate the problem for the time being. Longer term plans for the roof are to grow honeysuckle up the legs and over the roof space.



Herb garden....



The cultivated area to the left of the gazebo (top photo) is set to become a rockery area, with herbs planted - creating a haven for the bees.

This is our winter project for Penlow.



Changes to how we offer trees...

We are now only offering trees that have been rescued as saplings (growing in places that they wouldn't survive) and brought on in Pete's tree nursery. As we are now not buying from a tree nursery elsewhere, we are making a £5 donation for each tree planted. This is taken from the cost charged for a tree.

Pete chose the charity to be The Woodland Trust, which makes perfect sense!

What this means for families choosing trees is:

Each year when trees are due to be planted for loved ones - I will contact you and let you know what we have available this season. The trees are still the same from our overall list, it's just that they aren't all always available.

We will always do our best to accommodate your preference.



Wild Service Trees...

We have been very lucky to receive some wild service trees this year that Pete had been given. These are rather special and not something that is heard of these days as young trees. The saplings have spent the last year in Pete's own tree nursery and have grown tremendously. We now have 6 in the coppice - replacing some ash, that sadly had dieback. A further 1 tree is in the woods. They will bear a lovely golden fruit in time to come.

Christmas wreath amnesty...

As always, we will allow biodegradable wreaths to be placed on resting spots up until 6th January. We are providing hazel rods again to help keep the wreaths in place. Please find them by the office door.

Please use eco florists to obtain the wreaths or please feel free to make your own. You are welcome to forage in Penlow Woods for items for a wreath.

<u>A little reminder</u> - nonbiodegradable materials are not compatible with a natural burial site, and may also be picked up by the wind and deposited in the stream or the ocean. Please do not include them.

Thank you.



National Grief Awareness Week...

As it is national grief awareness week while I am writing this newsletter, it seems really appropriate to tell you all about it.

The campaign is to bravely bust the taboo, by trying to normalise grief. Encouraging people to talk about the typically uncomfortable subject, on a national platform.

This event is run by The Good Grief Trust

Find out more at:

http://nationalgriefawarenessweek.org

New website...

As with everything, new regulations come into place. With this in mind we have upgraded our website to ensure that it remains compliant. It's still in progress at the moment but please check back to see what's new.

Open Day...

We would have loved to have hosted an open day this year to show off our gazebo but this couldn't happen for obvious reasons. We hope to be able to host one in 2021.

Maintenance works...

The latter part of this year has given us the opportunity to re-surface the lane and the car park. This is something that we've been wanting to do for a while. Thank you to Jimmy for the help he gave us with that.



We are also in the process of preparing the office to be repainted, it has to look worse before it looks better unfortunately.



Please follow our pages on facebook, instagram and twitter, for day to day blog posts of the happenings at Penlow.

It's a great way for family to stay in touch with Penlow from afar.

Honey...

This year has been a bad year for the bees with their honey production. The Penlow bees only yielded 20lbs of honey, so we haven't been able to offer so much to you all. Hopefully next year will be much more fruitful for them especially with their herb garden!

I had a great experience joining Brian when he collected the honey though - it was fascinating to see the honey extraction in action!

Apple trees...

At the beginning of February we planted three apple trees in Penlow Woods. These were 'Cornish Aromatic', 'Cornish Gilliflower' and 'Tom Putt'. Two were gifted to us by a lovely lady who will one day rest at Penlow, she had pledged to plant a tree as part of her lifetime woodland trust membership.

- Thank you to you.

I'm pleased to report that the trees are doing fantastically already.





Cornwall Bereavement Network....

In January, I was invited to attend the first meeting of the Cornwall Bereavement Network, along with many other professionals in the funeral industry in Cornwall. This was held at Penhaligon's Friends Children's Charity, Redruth. It was a really interesting meeting.

From this the network was born and is entirely voluntarily run. Little did we know that it couldn't have been better timed with the Covid-19 outbreak.

We've put together a website with the aim of providing a sign-posting service to the bereaved. This is mainly with services available in Cornwall but many of those are national charities and can also be accessed over the border! I was very pleased to be asked to form part of the 'advisory group' for the network. We are proud to be hosting the website for the bereavement network for its first year. Please check out www.cornwallbereavementnetwork.org for more information.



One last thing...

What a tremendous amount of information I have managed to share with you all!

With that in mind 2021 will see a shift to a biannual newsletter with one in the summer time.

Until then...

Penlow Poetry...

We always welcome any poems that people may like to share. My sister wrote this with Penlow in mind. We'd love to hear others.

Serenity By Stacey

"Is it always this quiet?" asked the ladybird to the bees, "Mostly," they said, "except when the wind tickles the trees, You can hear the gentle rustle of the creatures in the grass, The flutter of the butterflies as they slowly pass."

"Is it always this tranquil?" the hedgehog asked the shrew, "Oh yes," he replied, "what you've heard is true, It's so welcoming here with a hotel for bugs, Anyone can check in, from bumblebees to slugs.

"What a lovely view we have!" the rabbit told the deer,
"It's perfect," he replied. "Wait - what's that I hear?"
"The sound of the sea as you hear it roar,
This place is really magical, you couldn't want for more."

I'm really glad we came here, it's just like paradise, In every passing season this place is really nice. Another day is closing and soon it will be night, Now we can enjoy Penlow in the bright moonlight.

very best wishes to you all, with love, Sheridon & Tom