

Golant Heritage Group
Chairman's Annual Report for St Sampson's Parish Council AGM
May 2024

Whilst the past twelve months was largely a year of consolidation, building on activities already in progress, there were some highlights. The most significant has to be the achievement of the CAN Quality Standard mark. It may have been rather an extended process, but this may not have been a bad thing as the value of the award is in actively examining what we do as a heritage group, how we do it and most importantly how we sustain and improve our work. It was extremely rewarding to have such an appreciative turn out for our little ceremony last autumn and to have Tamsin Mallet presenting the award and singing our praises! That being said it is well known that Golantians will always turn out for a bit of tea, cake and chit chat! As a little reward we were treated to a fascinating tour of Kresen Kernow, a magnificent facility cleverly converted from the remains of the old Redruth Brewery.

Other highlights include:

May 2023 Sue Reardon led a revealing stroll around The Par/ St Blazey area entitled 'The Former Reaches of Tywardreath Bay', pointing out things such as old cliff faces, that many of us have probably seen on a regular basis but never really stopped to consider the significance.

Another highlight was when Fayre acquired a copy of an old Marvel comic, created by the Incredible Hulk artist Herbe Trimpe during the year he and his family spent in Cornwall (40 ish years ago!) and became very friendly with a number of Golant residents, several of whom featured as characters in his story.

Meanwhile our collection of memories and photos of Golant and the Land, in particular farming, continues alongside Sue Reardon's in depth research of Golant House histories, also focussing on the farms in the parish.

And now, looking forward, we are in the throes of embarking on our next major project, which we hope will capture the imagination of the community as a whole. Stuart Young forwarded an exciting suggestion based on celebrating orchards, linked with the UK Orchard Network project, and as 2025 heralds ten years since we completed our very successful project on Golant's Cider Heritage, culminating with a wonderful Apple Day in October 2015, we are proposing a year long focus on Golant and Its Orchards, with a Blossom Day in early May next year, and culminating in an Apple Day in October 2025. This project will be a co-operative effort with Dave Johns from the Sanctuary who has a number of ideas for activities, and we hope that parishioners with orchards will become involved in some way. We are planning a craft based project to create wall plaques to be hung outside properties which either have or once had orchards. We are open to any other ideas and welcome anyone interested to come to our meetings – second Tuesday of each month at 2pm.

Penny Parsons, Golant Heritage Group