

Golant Heritage Group: Chairman's Report for Parish Council AGM May 2025

Autumn 2024 saw us pass our hundredth meeting of the group, and whilst it is great that most of us have been on the GHG journey from the start it is also really pleasing that we have had others join over the past 12 months or so. We have continued to meet monthly and to maintain and add to our archive. We have had some fascinating items of interest crop up randomly, some through contacts via the website, and thanks largely go to Ian and to Sue for responding and following these up.

In January we welcomed four people from Tregony who are in the throes of setting up a new history group, and the fact that Tamsin Mallett of Kresen Kernow had recommended that they have a look at how we went about it was rather gratifying! Which brings me to say that we mustn't take our eye off the CAN QS standards, in order to maintain our achievements. We have Fayre to keep us focussed on that!

During the autumn we contributed a small display to ISOT's (In Search of Tywardreath) exhibition on the Civil War - 380th anniversary of the Battle of Lostwithiel. We have established a good relationship with this fellow history group who put on a regular monthly programme of talks which are well worth looking out for.

Mike Sutherland's much anticipated talk on From Lostwithiel to the Sea was postponed until February, but it was as interesting as always and I am sure we welcome him back with more stories to tell at some point.

We have made a good start to our proposed year long focus on Golant and its Orchards, with a successful Apple Identification and Project Launch session in October, two excellent workshops run by David Johns at the Sanctuary concentrating on pruning and propagation, and a Pollinators talk and Bug Hotel workshop in conjunction with FoFE this March, with more exciting orchard related events in the pipeline during the summer.

Our recent Open Orchards weekend was generally felt to be an enjoyable event. Saturday was quiet, but Sunday saw a fair number of people at the various venues. Being our first year, we deliberately kept it low key, but have learned a few lessons for next year. We were a bit too late – the blossom was mostly well past its best. It's always going to be a guessing game, but we plan to aim for a Sunday in mid late April, depending on how the season seems to be developing, and will open all day, to give visitors a chance to get around several orchards.

We are now planning for Apple Day in October – 10 years on from our previous Apple Day, and have some more events and interesting talks in the pipeline.

Penny Parsons May 2025