



Dedicated to the memory of PC Andy Hocking



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## PC Andy Hocking 1962 ~ 2015

Andy passed away suddenly on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2015 leaving a yawning gap in the life of his family and of Falmouth itself. Many of us were privately friends with Andy, knew him well and, above all, had the utmost respect for him. Each of us surely felt that all policemen should be like Andy and wondered why they were not. By the evening of the 8<sup>th</sup> March we realised we were not alone. We all felt the same. And oh how we have missed him.



▲ Events Square,  
14 March, 2015

Andy & Sally, Penmorvah  
Manor, 22 December, 2014



Geoffrey Evans, oftentimes Mayor of Falmouth and our very own Councillor from what seems the beginning of time, had Andy support him in all sorts of ways during his terms of office. Geoffrey welcomed Andy and Sally as guests at his birthday party just prior to Christmas as a thank you for his friendship over the years. Andy, of course, felt the boot was on the other foot and thanked Geoffrey.

The march through Falmouth on the 14<sup>th</sup> March, which went on to pack Events Square to celebrate Andy and to reflect our collective grief, provided a massive tribute to the man. The presence of Sean Sawyer, the Chief Constable at this march and of Tony Hogg, the Police Commissioner, at his subsequent funeral marks the importance to the community of Andy's style of policing. We know they have taken notice and now see an expanded new police presence for Falmouth.



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## Andy Hocking and the FBRA relationship

Andy was very supportive of FBRA. In the early days, when it was being muted that we might expand our area to include Cliff Road and Pendennis Point he was very positive on the matter. At my request we met with a couple of individuals who were opposed to the expansion plan to reassure them that it would be a welcome development and that we would command more influence rather than less. He could see that a single community voice for the Bay area would be helpful to the police in communicating the neighbourhood policing message.

Andy subsequently worked closely with us on a number of campaigns to help eradicate anti-social behaviour and enforce by-laws. These initiatives included the introduction of speed bumps in Spernen Wyn Road, a barrier at Gyllyngvase Beach Car park, overnight and general parking restrictions on Stracey Road, Queen Mary Road and Boscawen Road and the erection of a vehicle exclusion bollard on a footpath at Boscawen Fields.

When a new Inspector (Inspector Trott) was appointed to the area he brought him along to meet me to explain how well the relationship between the police and FBRA was working.

Andy wrote an article for our newsletter in 2011, attended all but one of our AGMs and most of our garden parties. He was the guest of honour at our 2014 garden party and opened the proceedings with an address in which he praised the work of FBRA and said that we were one of the most respected and listened-to community groups in Cornwall. This newsletter is produced as our tribute to Andy, FBRA's best friend; irreplaceable and never to be forgotten.

David Yelland

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## 2015 AGM Report

Held at the Falmouth Hotel on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2015

Chairman, Jane Boriosi, welcomed everyone to the meeting and expressed her and the committee's appreciation for the wonderful turnout of members and guests. Not only was this the best attendance ever, it also marked the membership of the association exceeding



250 households for the first time. She went on to thank the Falmouth Hotel for hosting the event and apologised to those who were too late to book the special lunch offer negotiated with the hotel and said that, if possible, a greater number of places would be provided next year.

Following introductions, apologies for absence and other formalities the chairman presented the annual report which highlighted that the association had:

- Held a very successful garden party and fun dog show at Princess Pavilion in September.
- Issued two 16-page newsletters for the Spring and Autumn
- Organised a *litterpick* in support of the Falmouth Spring Festival Spring Clean weekend.
- Maintained a seat on the Swanpool Forum, Falmouth & Penryn Conservation Areas Advisory Committee, Falmouth Civic Society, Falmouth Beaches Management Group and Falmouth Town Forum.
- Accepted an invitation to join the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.
- Supported the establishment of a Friends of Fox Rosehill Gardens group and Friends of Falmouth Bay which incorporates the Boscawen Fields Action Group
- Established a new website [www.falmouthbay.co.uk](http://www.falmouthbay.co.uk)
- Made £500 donations each to Penhaligon's Friends, a Cornish young persons' bereavement charity and Friends of Falmouth Bay to support the work in tidying up the seafront and renovating shelters.
- Campaigned on various planning and community issues.





Jane concluded her report by stating *“The past year has seen significant growth in membership, building and cementing relationships with other organisations and groups in our area, establishing a very sound financial base, continuing to add value to the services we offer to members, increasing our influence with those who make decisions on what happens in our area and making a positive contribution to the conservation and growth of this special area of Cornwall”* she went on to say *“We believe we are the largest, best organised and most influential residents’ association in the South West; let’s keep it that way”*.

Treasurer Bruce Keer reported on Association finances noting that the end of year balance stood at £1850. The annual garden party had returned a surplus of £860. One off costs in the year totalling over £1000 for development of the website and a donation to Cornwall Council to help them install a safety bollard on Boscawen Fields will not be repeated this year so that our sound financial base will become stronger. The committee was not seeking any change to the annual subscription of £5 per household.



Executive committee elections saw Jane Boriolosi confirmed as chairman, Ruth Hills as vice chairman, Bruce Keer, treasurer and Tony Hallam, secretary plus executive committee members Heather Rowley, Bob O’Shea, Sue Grigg, Malcolm Leather, Tony Sisson, Allan Cooke and new member Tanji Cork. After seven years of serving on the committee as its secretary, David Yelland had stood down. However, he confirmed that he will continue to work for the association and represent its interests on a

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number of committees including the newly formed Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. Jane Boriosi presented David with a limited edition print, bought by the committee, in recognition of his huge contribution to the success of the Association.

In the open forum session that followed PC Andy Hocking gave a brief update on policing issues and took questions. Bruce Hobbs gave an update on Blue Flag status at Gyllyngvase Beach and there were comments on dangerous parking in Fenwick Road, overgrown shrubbery around Castle Drive, noisy cars and gatherings in Gyllyngvase car park and overnight sleeping in vans. Members queried the inexplicable decision by Falmouth Town Council (FTC) to support a proposal to build a housing estate on an important and sensitive greenfield site at Swanpool. Mayor John Body and Councillor Steve Gray, presented background information and some reasonings but gave no satisfactory explanation for FTC's backing of this development.

Guest speaker, Professor Mike Jenks, chairman of Falmouth Civic Society, gave a detailed explanation of the role of and expectations for the Neighbourhood Plan and its recommendations that will ultimately be put to a local referendum for approval.

*Full details of the AGM can be seen on our website [www.falmouthbay.co.uk](http://www.falmouthbay.co.uk).*

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## Events:

More detail is available on the website at [www.falmouthbay.co.uk](http://www.falmouthbay.co.uk)

### June:

6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>AZAB</b> (Azores and Back) with over 90 yachts setting sail on 6 <sup>th</sup>
12 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup>	International Sea Shanty Festival
23 <sup>rd</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup>	J Class Regatta, offshore & Events Square.

### July:

25<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> **August**. Zestifal. Various locations throughout the town.

### August:

7 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> .	Falmouth Week, includes the walking Carnival and the Red Arrows.
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## Newsdesk

**Lendien Rocks:** This controversial site on the coastal path between Gyllyngvase and Swanpool continues to be problematic and the Association remains vigilant as to continuing requests from the site owners for vehicular access. Residents will be kept informed of developments.

**PA14/12058:** Controversy surrounding the planning application for 32 houses on a greenfield site close to Swanpool beach continues. We have achieved our first goal of getting the planning application at Swanpool referred to the planning committee rather than it being decided by the planning officer. As we go to press we have just been notified that it will now be listed for discussion at the July meeting of the Council's Central Sub-area Planning Committee.

**Beach clean:** A large number of volunteers, using Falmouth Hotel as their base, swept around Castle Drive in March before returning to base for a well earned refreshment break.

**Landing area, Swanpool Lake:** The long awaited repairs to the landing area at the edge of Swanpool Lake have been completed. The proposed terracing and viewing platform project at the north end is still awaiting the release of allocated funds by Cornwall Council.

**Neighbourhood Beat Manager:** A dialogue has been entered into with PC Mat Cummins, the newly confirmed Neighbourhood Beat Manager for our area. Mat Cummins has been invited to FBRA's next committee meeting.

**Website:** This continues to contain an increasing amount of information and, as the late Spring and Summer progresses, further additions will be made. Limited highlights of events elsewhere in this Newsletter will be available in more detail on the website. [www.falmouthbay.co.uk](http://www.falmouthbay.co.uk).

**Subscriptions:** We are now well into our subscription year and a few have yet to make payment. A gentle reminder that these would be appreciated please. Our Treasurer, Bruce Keer, will be pleased to hear from you. See inside back cover.

Diary Note:

**FBRA Garden Fete and Fun Dog Show**

Princess Pavilion, Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September



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## Neighbourhood Plan for Falmouth



The Localism Act 2011 gave people the democratic right to be involved in drawing up a plan for their local area, which means we can create a Falmouth Neighbourhood Plan that truly reflects local views.

What's more, when it's written it will be agreed through a local referendum, so everyone on the electoral roll gets a vote.

If the vote is in its favour, the Neighbourhood Plan is 'made' in law and can't be ignored when planning applications are decided by Cornwall Council, Planning Inspectors, or the Government.

It can control the way that land is used for housing, business, shops and leisure. It could also protect green spaces and influence the design of buildings, tackle difficult issues and support the things that make Falmouth an exceptional place to live, work and visit.

Many of us will have completed the questionnaire designed to find out what residents and businesses feel about Falmouth in 2015 and how it might be in 2030. It also seeks to receive views on development, their potential locations and the type of issues new planning policies might include. Analysis of the information received will highlight the issues raised and what might be necessary to resolve them. A formal document will then be issued with a six week consultation period





before it is put to a referendum (modified or otherwise from the consultation). FBRA will keep residents informed of other ways to get involved, including volunteering and joining Neighbourhood Plan workshops and drop-in sessions. It is vital that as many as can contribute to this formula to ensure that we have the best possible planput to a referendum. The Neighbourhood Plan (NP) will become part of the statutory planning framework and can support a helpful tool called an Article 4 Direction. This *Direction* requires that planning permission is obtained from the local planning authority for particular developments. For example it can help to control the number of houses that are changed from family accommodation into houses of multiple occupation. The NP might also be used to set the criteria for how these planning applications are decided and the NP Questionnaire is the first step towards this. The NP process is being progressed by a dedicated Steering Group on which FBRA has a seat.

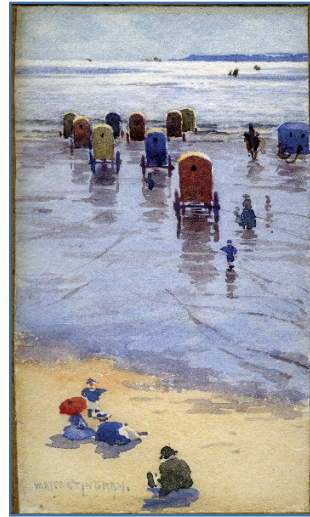
The Association has been fiercely opposing the planning application from Linden Homes for the greenfield site at Swanpool and the NP would make this sort of development less likely to even be seen as a planning application. This particular application continues its process and we await further news from the planning authority.

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## Amazing Bathing Machines

Gyllyngvase (Gylly) Beach often sparkles and looks so inviting for a refreshing, health giving dip. Struggling into a wetsuit may be a choice for some modern bathers but the dedicated and hardy can daily be seen taking the plunge in just a bathing costume. Once upon a time, 200 years ago, a quick dip was a quite different Story.

Today, sitting as a sentinel on Gyllyngvase Beach we have the RNLI Life Guard hut. Close your eyes upon that lovely view and cast your imagination back to Victorian Falmouth. As a catalyst for our stepping back in time, we have William Ayherst Ingram's small painting of bathing machines rolling down to the sea edge of Gyllyngvase Beach. The sweep on the coastline is little altered, But envision the scattered buildings on wheels which were precursors to modern day beach huts.



These simple structures were essentially mobile changing rooms drawn into the shallow water by horses. The first recorded image of bating machines, according to author Kathryn Ferry in her 2009 published book, *Beach Huts and Bathing Machines*, was an engraving by John Settrington, dating from 1735 depicting naked bathers descending into the sea in Scarborough.

Bathing machines evolved from the eighteenth century craze for new health benefits for weary and creaky bodies. Cold sea water offered one miraculous cure option. Many of the people seeking the cure were too feeble to walk across the sand. Modesty was also a consideration. Not many folks knew how to swim in those days. Women employed other women, “dippers” to help them undress, don a sacking garment and then dunk their heads under the cold sea for the prescribed times for maximum health benefit. Men more often than not chose to bathe naked, using the bathing machines as a safe place to keep their clothes dry and a platform from which to enter the sea with a pretence of modesty.

The term “bathing machines” became familiar in 1753 in Margate, Kent when Benjamin Beale added a canvas umbrella which could be unfurled in the sea via lines controlled by the driver. It allowed an enclosed and private area for the dunking.



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These amazing bathing machines kept their popularity for about two hundred years. Architectural styles developed in regions of coastal Great Britain, based on the type of beach slope, sand and available building materials. The Victorians, with their grandiose prudish ways, gave the bathing machine their heyday. They were compulsory accessories on most beaches, if you couldn't afford one, you paddled at the sea edge in the shallow water.

The painter, William Ayerst Ingram (1855-1913) was a mover and a shaker in the art world of Falmouth. He, together with Henry Scott Tuke, RA RWS (1858-1929) were the original driving forces behind the establishment of the first Falmouth Art Gallery in 1894. Ingram and his wife, May Martha Fay, an American whom he met and married in Falmouth, MA, were also instrumental in establishing the Boys' Club in Falmouth in 1904 which assisted the homeless.

All of Falmouth Art Gallery's collection may be viewed via the open stores policy. Please search the website, [www.falmouthartgallery.com](http://www.falmouthartgallery.com) and if there are particular works you would like to see, ring the gallery on 10326 313863 to make an appointment to visit behind the scenes.

Tours of the graves of the first Falmouth Art Gallery artists in the beautiful old cemetery above Swanpool are free and conducted once a month. Please pop into the Falmouth Art Gallery and pick up a leaflet with all our details.

Happy sea swimming!

Glyn Winchester, April 2015

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## Events *(continued from page 6)*

### September:

19<sup>th</sup> Games on the Moor. Fun & Free giant games for all the family

### October:

8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Falmouth Oyster Festival. Events Square and the Moor.

17<sup>th</sup> Ride the Trafalgar Way. From Falmouth to London following the  
Legendary Trafalgar Way

17<sup>th</sup> Moonlight Memory Walk. Leaves the Moor at 10pm

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# Barrie Philpott & Peter Wheeler

Domestic & Light Industrial  
Electrical work undertaken

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9 Penrose Road  
Falmouth  
TR11 2DU  
*Telephone:*  
01326 318107  
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7 Spernen Wyn Road  
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01326 212735  
*Mobile:*  
07974 693264  
*Email:*  
wheeler@tres.freeserve.co.uk





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## Boscawen Fields Action Group

It all started one sunny spring morning. I was standing in Boscawen Fields with my granddaughter admiring the wonderful view across the fields to the sea beyond. Such an asset to Falmouth, however strolling through the fields that morning I was filled with a great disappointment at the sorry and neglected state of the area. Weeds and nettles, overgrown brambles strangling what is left of the old hedgerows and tree areas, litter, broken glass, discarded dog poo bags and all other manner of unmentionable objects were there to be seen. What a terrible shame. Complaints about this neglect to Cormac and visits to Falmouth Town Council monthly surgeries followed. The same response was always given. Only a minimum amount of grass cutting and hedgerow management is and would be carried out due to a lack of funds and budget cuts.



One afternoon I met Tony Hallam who had been very proactive regarding the problems associated with the former Lendien Rocks cafe site within the council owned fields. He was very enthusiastic and committed to maintaining the fields as a protected public open space. From this conversation the seeds of a new voluntary group were formed. Boscawen Fields Action Group (BFAG) was born in October 2014 having been set up by myself and Tony Hallam. BFAG was formed as an autonomous sub-group of Friends of Falmouth Bay and initially 26 households pledged their support with the aim of complimenting the limited services provided by the council. We were encouraged and supported

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throughout by both Friends of Falmouth Bay and Falmouth Bay Residents' Association (FBRA) with whom we work and integrate very closely. Tony and myself are members of the residents' committee.

Our group was set up with the following objectives : to maintain and improve the fields at Boscawen along with the dog free area, the hedgerows and woodland and maintain visibility for drivers at the junction of Hangmans Hill; to carry out weeding, clearing and trimming under trees and hedges and manage the woodland with the help of Cormac and Falmouth Town Council; to plant bulbs and wild flowers in the woodland areas and raise funds for the replacement of some new benches and picnic tables.

Since last November the group has cleared under two areas of trees, along two footpaths and litter picked around the whole site. Between 11-13 dumpy bags of litter and weeds/brambles have been filled by volunteers on each of the action days. A total of 65 dumpy bags have now been cleared by the group since it's inception.

BFAG meet on the first Saturday of every month from 10 a.m. by the farm gate along Boscawen Road - usually for about two hours. So far 30 people from young children to pensioners have joined in and great things have been achieved. A new entrance way and fencing has been put in place by the farm gate along Boscawen Road, two new 'No Camping' signs have been put up in the fields and a new waste/dog bin has been sited next to the farm gate. Earlier this year Cormac with the help of funding from Falmouth Town Council and pressure and help from our group have undertaken tree work and major hedgerow management. This included the area under the Monterey Pines as this secluded spot had been used for drug use and vagrancy. There is still lots to do, however the fields are much improved. BFAG has evolved into a caring and committed group which has connected local people and neighbours around Boscawen Fields in uplifting and friendly group projects which support the community. We have also formed a positive partnership with Cornwall Council, Falmouth Town Council and Cormac and this has achieved great results. We are always keen to welcome new volunteers to our happy band. For more information or to be included in our email updates please email: [boscawenfields@yahoo.com](mailto:boscawenfields@yahoo.com)

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# FALMOUTH BAY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## 2015 Executive Committee

Office	Name	Address	Phone No	email
Chairman	Jane Boriosi	1 Trelawney Avenue	312772	janeboriosi@yahoo.co.uk
Secretary	Tony Hallam	23 Tredova Crescent	319436	tony@falmouth23.go-plus.net
Treasurer	Bruce Keer	The Grey Cottage 49 Penance Road	313686	bruce.keer.07@keer.com
Deputy Chairman	Ruth Hills	7 Boscawen Road	313690	ruth.rdh@googlemail.com
Committee Member	Heather Rowley	Harmony, Gyllyngvase Road	210073	heatherjoye@btinternet.com
Committee Member	Bob O'Shea	Corder House, Tredova Crescent	319110	rjo@rjanddjo.net
Committee Member	Sue Grigg	5 Castle Close	212698	suegrigg@hotmail.com
Committee Member	Malcolm Leather	Echoes, Swanpool	211341	mleather922@btinternet.com
Committee Member	Tanji Cork	16 Boscawen Road	219078	boscawen16@outlook.com
Committee Member	Allan Cooke	The Little House Swanpool	312682	mellerway@gmail.com

**Autumn Newsletter:** Our next newsletter is scheduled for publication in October. Please send any articles, adverts, photos, etc. to the Secretary by the end of September.





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## Useful Contact Numbers:

Emergency	999
Police, non urgent	101
NHS 111	111
Town Clerk – Mark Williams	01326 315559
Town Manager – Richard Gates	01326 313553
Town Mayor – Cllr John Body	01326 315559
Crimestoppers	0800 555111
Student behaviour issues	01326 255666
Cornwall Council:	
Anti-social behaviour/vandalism	0300 1234 232
Beaches	0300 1234 202
Dog fouling	0300 1234 212
General enquiries and all services	0300 1234 100
Litter and graffiti	0300 1234 141
Noise nuisance	0300 1234 212
Parking/Traffic	0300 1234 222
Parks and Gardens	0300 1234 202
Refuse collection	0300 1234 141



The Red Arrows return to Falmouth on Wednesday  
13<sup>th</sup> August 2015

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