



August 2020

## Ow tehweles gans ombrofyoryon dhe'n dirwel Pennwydh

# Returning with volunteers to the Penwith landscape

### Welcome to another newsletter from the Penwith Landscape Partnership (PLP)

It is safe to say that the spring and summer of 2020 will be ones that all of us will remember, if not for the reasons we originally thought! While the PLP team have been working hard from home to continue caring for the Penwith landscape, our volunteer activities were placed on pause to keep our team and volunteers safe.

However with the easing of Government restrictions we have recently been able to take our first steps towards restarting our volunteer activities, after undertaking rigorous risk assessments, and in consultation with our lead partner the Cornwall Wildlife Trust. This begun with sessions of seed harvesting. Such seed collections are vital to recreate wildflower meadows in Penwith, providing vital wildlife habitats. Other work which we've assessed that we can do safely includes tasks to clear seasonal vegetation from our ancient sites, with two days having just been spent at Chûn Castle.



For all our volunteering sessions we have rigorous health and safety measures in place. This includes hand sanitizer and hand washing stations available throughout the day, volunteers being assigned gloves and tools for the day that are thoroughly cleaned before and after, frequent cleaning for any points that might be touched by more than one person, and of course social distancing. The need to keep everyone safe has meant that we cannot offer lifts to work sites, or our usual tea and biscuits (although volunteers are welcome to bring their own!), but the steps back have been very positive for the PLP programme, our volunteers and of course the Penwith landscape!

There have been opportunities for volunteers to contribute to our work without joining our group sessions too, including surveying our planned trails to allow the creation of our trail guides (see overleaf for more details), or being one of over 100 households joining our Virtual Garden BioBlitz, recording over 700 species across Penwith.

We do have to restrict the numbers of those attending our volunteering sessions, as such if you would like to be first to hear what we have planned then register as a volunteer and join our volunteer mailing list! You can find out more on our website at [www.penwithlandscape.com/volunteer](http://www.penwithlandscape.com/volunteer).

## Events

We have the following free events coming up (please note all activities are subject to government restrictions). To learn more, more details will be added to [www.penwithlandscape.com/events](http://www.penwithlandscape.com/events) soon.

- 26<sup>th</sup> October – **Families Artistic Walk from St Just**. Join us for a guided walk for families in the Penwith landscape, with an artistic twist as we provide materials to encourage children of all ages to capture the Penwith landscape in their own creative way. More details coming soon!

# New trail guides now on our website

Over the past year the PLP have put together several trail guides for routes covering different areas within Penwith, with eight different routes in all. These are just the first trails published, with many more to come! The routes were devised by members of the Cornish Ancient Sites Protection Network (CASPN) as part of the development phase of the PLP. As well as being fascinating walks, these trails also share information from other areas of the PLP's work including digital interpretation, folklore, Cornish language, archaeological recording and more; providing a geographical context for our work.



Our aim with the trail guides is to enrich people's experiences of Penwith, and to foster a care and understanding of all aspects of our landscape through responsible access and adherence to the Countryside code. As part of this, we are keen to promote public transport and cycling as a means of getting to the start locations of these trails. Similarly, the trails have been planned to encourage people to walk to popular sites from further afield as part of a wider trail, to help reduce parking pressure at well-known sites such as Lanyon Quoit.

Creating these trails supports the primary purpose of our access work, improving access to heritage in Penwith, both physically and intellectually. In physical terms, that means contributing to efforts maintaining West Penwith's path network, and engaging volunteers to do so (working with landowners and other organisations such as the West Cornwall Footpath Preservation Society, the Ramblers, British Horse Society, Parish Councils, Cornwall Council and Cormac). The intellectual side is making knowledge about our landscape more accessible, and using digital interpretation to allow people to experience places they might not otherwise be able to reach.

Walking local trails is an ideal way to get some exercise, while learning more about your local area. The PLP trail guides show how much rich depth of human and natural history there is to appreciate here in Penwith.

The trail guides can be found on our website at [www.penwithlandscape.com/trails-and-ancient-sites/](http://www.penwithlandscape.com/trails-and-ancient-sites/), and remember to check back as new trails will be added regularly.

## Who is on the Partnership?

### Members of the Penwith Landscape Partnership board are:

Bolitho Estates  
Cornwall Ancient Sites Protection Network (CASPN)  
Cornwall Archaeological Society  
Cornwall AONB  
Cornwall Councillors representing four Penwith wards  
Cornwall Wildlife Trust  
Farm Cornwall  
Farming representatives  
National Trust  
Penwith Access and Rights of Way (PAROW)  
Penwith Community Development Trust

Save Penwith Moors  
Spider Eye Animation  
St Aubyn Estates  
Towednack Parish Council  
Zennor Parish Council  
  
Chaired by Cllr Jim McKenna

### Advisors to the board include:

Natural England, Cornwall Council Historic Environment Service and Cornwall Rural Community Charity

If you would like to keep in touch with our work please contact us to sign up to this newsletter.

### Penwith Landscape Partnership

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Visit [www.penwithlandscape.com](http://www.penwithlandscape.com), or email [PLPinfo@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:PLPinfo@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk). You can also find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

