

#### **CORNWALL HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST**

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The Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall, Colonel E T Bolitho OBE

#### **Vice President**

The Bishop of Truro, The Rt Revd Philip Mounstephen

#### **Honorary Life President**

The Right Hon Viscount Falmouth

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Mrs Caroline Tetley Chairman (until 25th May 2022) & Trustee

Mrs Susie Gore Trustee
Mr Charles Hall Trustee
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Revd Margaret Barnes Methodist Representative (until 13th October 2022)

Mrs Alexandra Bolitho

Revd Ray Borrett Methodist Representative (from 13th October 2022)

Mr Mark Chanter Treasurer (from 3rd March 2022)

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The Hon Christopher Harvey Clark QC

Mrs Chrissie Hogg Secretary

Rt Revd Graham James

Mrs Jill Jobson

Mr James Kitson (until 31st October 2022)

Mr Andrew Langdon

Mrs Elizabeth Meldon-Smith (from 20th Dec 2021 to 31st October 2022)

Mrs Kirstie Newton

Mr David Purser

Mrs Libby Reed Membership Secretary
Mr Jeremy Sharp Grants Secretary

Mrs Ruth Trinick Treasurer (until 3rd March 2022)

Mrs Katherine Willis

Charity Registration No 218340

Secretary Mrs Chrissie Hogg

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Front Cover: St Cleer Church © Ian Banbury

#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2022**

In April, as Caroline Tetley's tenure as Chairman drew to a close, the Trust lost its very long serving Honorary Life President The Right Hon George Hugh Boscawen, 9th Viscount Falmouth. The post of Honorary Life President was created when the Trust's first President, Sir Edward H.W. Bolitho, retired as Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall. It has been filled ever since by the past President on their retirement as Lord Lieutenant but with no living retired Lord Lieutenants of Cornwall at present we are immensely grateful that Evelyn Boscawen, 10th Viscount Falmouth graciously agreed to step into his father's shoes.

Another loss this year is our royal patronage of the Duke of Cornwall which automatically ceased with the passing of HM The Queen and the accession of King Charles III; however the Trustees and Executive humbly hope that the new Duke of Cornwall will be minded to support us.

2022 saw some changes on the Trust committee. We said goodbye to Methodist Representative Revd Margaret Barnes and welcomed her replacement Revd Ray Borrett. We were also sorry to lose James Kitson and Elizabeth Meldon-Smith who retired due to ill health and family commitments. Thank you to Mark Chanter who took over as Treasurer from Ruth Trinick - we are delighted that Ruth remains as a committee member.

We emerged blinking from the Covid restrictions to a full year of social and fund raising events. My chairmanship began at the Annual Meeting held in May at St Julitta's Church, Lanteglos-by-Camelford where a large audience was transported into the religious life of medieval Cornwall by Nicholas Orme with his talk titled "Going to Church in Medieval Cornwall". His book Going to Church in Medieval England is a truly remarkable work which was shortlisted for the 2022 Wolfson History Prize amongst others. It was a joy too to have the excuse to visit St Julitta's and admire the completed restoration of this Church which we were pleased to assist with grants in 2016, 2019 and 2021.

In June we headed to Trebartha Gardens for a Summer Picnic and I would like to thank Caroline Latham and her family for their warm welcome and generosity in opening their 40 acre paradise for members to enjoy. Thanks are also due to The Nare Hotel for their sponsorship of this event and to Libby Reed and her team for producing a scrumptious picnic and tea (see p6 for more). The day was rounded off by a visit to North Hill and the closed church of St Torney's. Some 20 members stayed on to gaze in wonder at the monumental Spoure memorial and coats of arms while Dr Jo Mattingley explained the historic importance of various architectural features inside and out. Thanks are due to the Churches Conservation Trust, who officially took care of the church in September 2022, and David Scott for making our visit possible.

In September Christopher Harvey-Clark organised a successful Friends' Outing to Lamorran and his home church at Cornelly. About 40 attended including two young ladies from Chile and Ecuador on a tour of Cornwall who had seen the event advertised on Facebook. St Cuby PCC laid on tea and some members took the opportunity to view St Cuby too. Thank you to all who helped make the day so interesting and enjoyable, especially Christopher and our speakers: Canon Michael Warner and Nick Jeans; also to Robert Shaw, the architect for the Lamorran project, for his unexpected contribution.

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Dr Jo Mattingley speaking at the closed Church of St Torney's, North Hill 

www.charlesfrancis.photos

The Christmas Party bounced back in December at Boconnoc with support from new sponsors Bonhams and Jonathan Cunliffe. Without our sponsors we would not be able to stage these events. They, like you our Friends, care deeply enough about the preservation of our churches, chapels and meeting houses to put their hands in their pockets. With printing and postage now so expensive as many invitations as possible were sent by email. Inevitably after three years some addresses were redundant and others who expected an invitation were not on our Friends list, so did not. My apologies to those who missed the event.

To reduce our administrative expenditure the Committee has decided that in future only the Annual Report will be posted. Dates for all the events planned for 2023 are herein so make notes in your diary now! These will be advertised on our website www.chct.info and social media and reminders sent by email. If we do not have your current email address please supply Chrissie Hogg secretary@chct.info. We will rely on you to share the details to your friends and colleagues when you receive them electronically to spread the word not only of the event but the work we do to a much larger audience. In this tough financial climate we are holding simpler events in the hope that more people will feel able to support us and have a fun day out.

Thanks to Kirstie Newton for continuing to promote our work across Cornish media wherever she can and lastly to Caroline Tetley for her invaluable support and guidance in a role I did not expect to take on when I joined. Also to all the Committee, their family members and other volunteers I have called on for assistance throughout the year.

## **Going to Church in Medieval England by Nicholas Orme**

(Yale University Press, New Haven and London, 2021) Review by Dr Jo Mattingley

This refreshing and original masterpiece of a book puts Cornwall into its national context and represents the culmination of many, many years of research. Nicholas Orme chooses to focus here on people in church rather than just the architectural framework. Parish churches were central to religious and social life at the end of the Middle Ages, services marked the seasons of Christmas, Lent and Easter, as well as summer, and celebrated all major life-cycle events for medieval and Tudor men, women and children. As Nicholas states in his introduction: 'The history of Church services – the topic of medieval liturgy – is a particularly difficult subject, and a principal aim of the work it to provide an easy way in to understanding it.' Another important theme here is the continuities, rather than changes, of church worship and organisation that run like a thread throughout the Reformation period, something I came across when working on the Stratton churchwardens' accounts. Nicholas is also one of the few people I know to seriously consider the under-documented non-church goers pre-Reformation, with a real interest in trying to discover their motivation. Heresy was relatively rare in the south-west, where much of Nicholas's earlier work has been focused, though prevalent elsewhere, but scepticism may have been much more common than the gloriously embellished late medieval and Tudor catholic church interiors lead us to believe. How much of this embellishment was due to priestly or peer coercion?

The book is divided into eight main chapters with a concluding chapter entitled Reflections at the end. Starting with 'Origins and the Parish', we progress through 'The Staff of the Church', 'The Church Building' and 'The Congregation' to 'The Days and the Week', 'The Seasons and the Year', 'The Life Cycle' and finally 'The Reformation'. There is also a list of technical terms including such evocative delights as 'aspersing, aspersions' 'indulgence', 'plain song' and 'requiem' which are clearly, yet simply, explained. Illustrations appear in the text and, like the text itself, cover as much of England as possible. Examples are well chosen and appropriate and include Roger Martyn's account of catholic worship in Queen Mary's reign from Long Melford in Suffolk and an example of segregated seating, more like a synagogue or mosque, with men and women separate from the parish of St Margaret's Westminster. With years of in-depth research focussed on Devon, and Cornwall too, it is wholly appropriate that the superb seven sacraments window from Doddiscombsleigh in Devon was chosen to illustrate a number of chapters. Among the many staggering facts presented here and picked out at random, I found that 'all 150 Psalms in the Bible were read through every week... Matins dealt with the numbers from 1 to 108 and vespers with those from 109 to 147.' The concept of daily worship for all but priests would be anathema today, but it was a reality for many people then. Great households employed their own chaplains so that the pattern of daily worship could continue even when travelling.

Found to be equally suitable for reading aloud to my sick husband or to use as a dip in authoritative and reliable reference work, I can heartily recommend Going to Church in Medieval England.

Nicholas Orme delivered a talk based on this book entitled 'Going to Church in Medieval Cornwall' at the CHCT Annual Meeting held at Lanteglos by Camelford Church on 25th May 2022.

### SUMMER PICNIC at TREBARTHA GARDENS 19th JUNE



Caroline Latham (lower right) and her family welcomed Friends to Trebartha Gardens for which our grateful thanks and for the personal guided tours provided. Whilst it was one of the few days not roasting hot last summer it

proved perfect for moments of reflection or to take in the full 40 acres with so many different gardens. Chrissie Hogg and Jill Jobson's excellent produce and plant stall raised £200 towards the total of £2,645.

#### FRIENDS' OUTING 22nd SEPTEMBER

by Peter Hall (first published Cornish Guardian, West Briton & Cornishman

Think of "bats in the belfry"- and then the plight of a small rural church where there is only one bell and no tower – and the little blighters have completely taken over. That was what happened at Lamorran, near Tregony, where bat infestation cost £180,000 to put right. The astonishing story of what has taken place at St Moran's was told to 40 members on their annual outing. Of course, the total covered a vast variety of restorations and renovations because of the infestation, but the end result is magnificent.

Behind the scheme was parishioner Nick Jeans (among several others) who explained 600 churches had bat problems, but the national Bats in Churches Project, which the Lamorraners espoused, empowers communities to live alongside their bats by helping to alleviate the pressures they can cause. So what was the advice and what did they do? Gave their bats an environment to enjoy by building spaces in the roof – which they evidently thoroughly appreciate.

With a population of just two dozen, the parish relied on grants to fund the project. The CHCT gave £9,000, while other donors included the UK Heritage Lottery Fund and the Pilgrims' Trust.

The church dates from 1261, with a rebuild in the 1850s. It was closed for several years because of the appalling bat situation. "It's been a fantastic restoration," Mr Jeans said. "Now we want the church to be used as much as possible, and we hope to have monthly services here." [now open everyday - Ed]

The CHCT outing also included a visit to nearby St Cornelius Church, Cornelly – where former vicar Canon Michael Warner gave an entertaining talk about its history, with the trip finishing in Tregony – and a visit to the town's St Cuby's Church and tea in the hall.

# **Sponsorship**

We are most appreciative of the generous support from:

Trust

Cornwall Heritage Trust Cathedral Builders

Bonhams Cornish Lime Company

Jonathan Cunliffe Ltd Gloweth

Savills Heritage Cornwall Ltd

The Nare Hotel Metal and Glass Ltd

Scott & Co RHR Restoration

All our sponsors are shown on the website www.chct.info with contact details and clarification of the services and areas that they cover throughout Cornwall.

We would welcome any new corporate sponsors or enquiries to find out more about becoming one.

Please contact Caroline Tetley if this is something that would interest you: carolinetetley@chct.info

#### CHRISTMAS PARTY at BOCONNOC 19th DECEMBER



Claire and Jonathan Vickers (representing event sponsor Bonhams), Cecilia Bisson and Jonathan and Verity Cunliffe

The Christmas Drinks party sponsored by Bonhams and estate agent Jonathan Cunliffe raised £5,871 thanks to their generosity and that of 156 Friends and their guests. They enjoyed champagne and exceptional (in the words of more than one guest) canapés produced by our wonderful team of volunteers led by Susie Gore and Libby Reed.

The raffle hamper was won by Diana Treffry (right) who immediately insisted that it be auctioned off, adding £110 to the evening's proceeds; our thanks to Jonny Croggan who made the winning bid.

Jonathan and Verity's three young children also deserve a mention for their impeccable service. Thank you one and all.





Boskenna, St Buryan TR19 6DQ £10 entry inc. tea and cake served from 3pm, children free, dogs on leads



David and Anna Wilson have kindly invited Friends and their guests to enjoy an afternoon exploring their 20 acre garden when the bluebells will be in their prime. Enjoy too their newly laid out walled garden and the amazing 2 acre 'secret' rockery. Here paths are steep, uneven and may be slippery if wet. Optional guided tour starts approx. 2.15pm.

Enter via the granite gateposted entrance almost opposite the Boskenna Celtic Cross.



Registered Charity No: 218340

# CORNWALL HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST Annual Meeting

24th May 2023 at 2.00 pm

# St Goran Church, Main Road, Gorran Churchtown, PL26 6HW

The Chairman and Committee of the Cornwall Historic Churches Trust invite you to their Annual Meeting to be held at St Goran Church, Gorran Churchtown on Wednesday, 24th May, 2023 at 2.00 p.m. You will be welcomed by Rev. Brian McQuillan. The speaker will be Canon Michael Warner whose long awaited and much praised gazeteer "A Time to Build" was published last year. Tea will be served after the meeting at a cost of £5.00 per head, payable on the day, proceeds to St Goran PCC. If you would like to join us, please complete, and return the slip below. No tickets will be issued. If you have any questions please contact our Honorary Secretary, Chrissie Hogg, 01326 565021 or e-mail secretary@chct.info

# **Cornwall Historic Churches Trust Annual Meeting**

24th May 2023 at 2.00 pm

I/We will be attending the Annual Meeting
How many in your party?
How many for Tea?
Name
Address
Telephone
Email

Please return this slip to Chrissie Hogg. Hon Sec CHCT, Orchard House, Higher Pentire, Degibna Lane, HELSTON. TR12 7PR or email secretary@chct.info



## **CORNWALL HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST**

# Annual Friends' Outing Friday 8th September 2023

Meet at 11.00 am

# Warleggan Church PL30 4HB

followed by

# 1.30pm St Neot Church PL14 6NG with Tea

The Chairman and Committee of the Cornwall Historic Churches Trust invite you to our Annual Friends' Outing at Warleggan Church, Bodmin on Friday, 8th September 2023 with a talk by Rev Garry Swinton at 11.15 a.m. 12.15 Lunch in the London Inn in St Neot (pre-booking essential) or bring a picnic. 1.30 Tour of St Neot Church with Michael Swift, 3.00 Tea and Cake provided by St Neot, proceeds to the PCC.

If you would like to join us, please complete, and return the slip below. No tickets will be issued. If you have any questions please contact our Honorary Secretary, Chrissie Hogg, 01326 565021 or e-mail secretary@chct.info

# **Cornwall Historic Churches Trust Friends' Outing**

8th September 2023 at 11 am

If we will be attending the Friends' Outing
How many in your party?
How many for Tea?
Name
Address
Telephone
Fmail

Please return this slip to Chrissie Hogg. Hon Sec CHCT, Orchard House, Higher Pentire, Degibna Lane, HELSTON. TR12 7PR or email secretary@chct.info



Trenarth, High Cross, Constantine TR11 5JN
Guided Tour 2.15pm, Tea and cake served from 3pm.
Talk about Constantine Church 4pm, Church open to visit until 6pm
Entry £5, children free, dogs on leads. Plant stall.



Lucie Nottingham is kindly opening her garden to support our work. Please come along and bring your friends. Trenarth farmhouse has expanded over the years. The oldest part is from the 16th century to the newest, 2001. In the 4 acre garden you will find plants that intrigue you, views that take your breath away, and the odd oddity to make you smile. The wonderful quiet rural location has wide countryside views with not a road in sight or sound. A circular walk leads from the garden to Trenarth Bridge on one of the creeks of the Helford River. Its steep route takes you through farm and woodland, part of which is a good example of the many old passages from the river to the big houses seen in this area. See ww.trenarthgardens.com for detailed directions and a history of the property.

# GRANTS FOR A HOSTILE CLIMATE Maintenance and Kickstart Scheme for 2023

All churches are facing immense challenges that have only increased since the pandemic. General uncertainty is resulting in essential maintenance work being delayed and the shelving of much needed capital schemes. In order to encourage churches to act sooner rather than later, the Trust has set aside £10,000 for help with either routine maintenance or start-up costs incurred putting together major projects. Grants of up to £500 per church are available on a first come, first served basis. This Scheme will close when the funds have been allocated or on 31 December 2023, whichever is sooner.

Church surveyors, church quinquennial inspectors and DACs are unanimous that identifying loose slates, inspection and clearance of gutters, valleys, roofs and rainwater goods reap significant financial benefits and provide reassurance to hard-pressed PCCs. During times of financial restraint there is a temptation to reduce regular maintenance but this only leads to greater problems in the long term as minor defects soon turn into major structural and funding challenges. CHCT is offering a one-off payment of £500 to cover the cost of inspection and clearance work as well as any remedial work that can be undertaken at the same time.

We know that some churches wish to undertake major projects that require a considerable amount of work before the fund raising process can start. Usually this involves professional advice and reports, making taking the first step even more daunting, especially when there are very limited resources available. In order to help overcome this hurdle, CHCT is offering a payment of £500 to help with project start-up costs such as surveys and feasibility studies.

For full terms and conditions and application forms see our website: chct.info/grants.

# It's never too soon to consider leaving a legacy to CHCT

Some gifts are easily forgotten: Yours will last for generations. Many of the Cornish historic churches, chapels and meeting houses are fighting a battle against the ravages of time. We need to make sure they get the repairs and renovations they need to remain open at the heart of local communities.

The CHCT is a registered charity which means your gift will be exempt from Inheritance Tax. In the first instance we suggest you speak to a solicitor who can advise on the different types of legacy and the tax advantages of a charitable legacy.

We cannot afford to let down the work of previous generations and every penny you give will go towards grants that will help us protect our churches so they remain at the centre of our communities for future generations to enjoy. To find out more see: chct.info/legacy

#### **GRANTS MADE BY CHCT IN 2022**

Once again our churches found themselves operating in a cautious environment, with many struggling to cope and plan in the aftermath of the pandemic. This coincided with the launch of the On the Way reorganisation in the Church of England parishes and deaneries, which sadly resulted in further uncertainty and worry in many quarters. Even so, we were able to make grants to 13 churches, totalling £34,180. We remain very grateful for the support for our work received from the Duke of Cornwall's Benevolent Fund, Cornwall Heritage Trust and the Tanner Trust in 2022 and previous years.

Jeremy Sharp, Grants Secretary

#### Details of the grants are given below:

**Church:** Lamorran **Denomination:** Church of England **Date of Grant:** 20th Jan 2022 **Grant:** £4,000 **Work:** Additional re-plastering work on ceilings to contain bats

**Church:** St Ia, St Ives **Denomination:** Church of England **Date of Grant:** 20th Jan 2022 **Grant:** £2,000 **Work:** Repairs to clock (see photo back cover)



St Mawgan in Meneage

Church: St Mawgan in Meneage **Denomination**: Church of England **Date of Grant:** 3rd March 2022 **Grant:** £500 **Work:** Repairs to heating system and tower



St Mawes

**Church:** St Mawes **Denomination:** Church of England **Date of Grant:** 3rd March 2022 **Grant:** £5,000 **Work:** Repairs to west wall, installation of vertical slate hanging, repairs to south face and bell turret, slates and gutters.



Marazion Methodist church

Church: Marazion Methodist Church Denomination: Methodist Date of Grant: 25th May 2022 Grant: £2,600 Work: Treatment of water ingress,

repairs to leadwork and plaster

Church: Penzance High St Methodist Church Denomination: Methodist Date

of Grant: 25th May 2022 Grant: £2,100 Work: Repairs to ceiling

**Church:** St Grade **Denomination:** Church of England **Date of Grant:** 25th May 2022 **Grant:** £5,000 **Work:** Further grant for reroofing, rainwater goods, replastering

**Church:** Truro Cathedral **Denomination:** Church of England **Date of Grant:** 25th May 2022 **Grant:** £5,000 **Work:** Further grant for repairs to roof, stonework and rainwater goods of St Mary's Aisle



Leedstown Methodist Church

**Church:** Leedstown Methodist **Denomination:** Methodist **Date of Grant:** 13th October 2022 **Grant:** £700 **Work:** Repairs to ceiling and plasterwork, protection and cleaning of the organ

# **Dendro-Dating of Churches - Grant Aid**

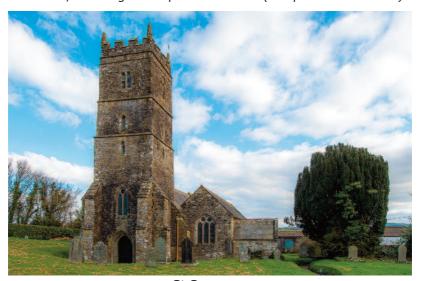
Discreet core samples of tree rings taken during major roof repairs are matched with national/ regional data-bases and an allowance made for missing sap wood. This gives a felling date-range. Dendro- or tree ring-dating costs a small percentage of major roof works. If your roofs were not completely replaced during Victorian restorations and you are planning roof repairs please contact CHCT for advice. This additional work could enhance your grant.

For accounts of the nine Cornish churches that have had dendro-dating done in whole or part, see Joanna Mattingly, *Churches of Cornwall* (Amberley, 2023), price £15.99. A book signing will take place at Cows and Sows, Idless, Truro TR4 9QT 1-3 pm on 22 April 2023.



St Mawnan

**Church:** St Mawnan, Mawnan Smith **Denomination:** Church of England **Date of Grant:** 28th October 2022 **Grant:** £900 **Work:** Repairs to plasterwork. **Church:** St Cleer **Denomination:** Church of England **Date of Grant:** 13th October 2022 **Grant:** £4,000 **Work:** Replace and augment the existing ring of bells from 6 to 8, retuning and repairs to frames (see photo front cover)



St Sampson

Church: St Sampson, South Hill **Denomination**: Church of England **Date of Grant**: 26th November 2022 **Grant**: £1,000 **Work**: Repairs to south porch. **Church**: Laneast **Denomination**: Church of England **Date of Grant**: 16th December 2022 **Grant**: £380 **Work**: Repairs to south door jamb.

Photos unless otherwise accredited courtesy of Tony Hogg https://tonyhogg.wixsite.com/mysite

# **Celtic Quiet Places**

Do you have a Church in your benefice that is under-used, perhaps a bit isolated, but still very dearly loved? Would you consider allowing it to be part of a new directory of Celtic Quiet Places which could be promoted?

The idea, from Canon Pat Robson and supported by Bishop Philip, is to create a network of small churches that both locals and tourists can visit: places where they can spend some time alone in peace and quiet, enjoying the atmosphere of an ancient holy place and the beauty of the countryside around it.

The directory will be available on the internet so that visitors can plan their walks and car journeys accordingly. It will include a photograph of the church, a sketch map showing how to find it, times when it would be open, the availability of outdoor seating, wheel-chair accessibility, car parking and details of toilets available, if any.

As part of the scheme, all local Church members need to do is to keep the church clean and attractive; provide leaflets for visitors to take away; open at the agreed time each day and that there is a visitors' book available for people to sign. It is not essential that the church is dedicated to a Celtic saint but it would be an added attraction.

Our churches are not meant to be monuments, nor are they meant to be locked up. They have been greatly loved by people down through the ages, as they still are by so many in our communities. When the Celtic Saints travelled across Cornwall they were constantly on the look out for an isolated spot where they could be alone with Christ. What was true for them is true for many of us. However isolated and illattended some of our little churches may have become they can still play a vital part in our mission and the way we minister to those around us.

If you would like to join in or know more Pat would be delighted to hear from you: email intercelt@aol.com or call 07867 577416 or 01726 882366.

# **2023 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

No printed invitations will be sent so make a note now!

To receive email reminders and an invitation to apply for tickets to the Christmas Party email secretary@chct.info

Full details will also be published prior to each event on our website: www.chct.info and on Facebook

30th April	courtesy of David and Anna Wilson	2 - 5pm
24th May	<b>Annual Meeting</b> St Goran, Gorran PL26 6HW Speaker: Canon Michael Warner	2pm
18th June	Garden Open Day Trenarth TR115JN courtesy of Lucie Nottingham	2 - 5pm
8th Sept	Annual Friends' Outing	

18th Dec Christmas Party Scorrier TR16 5AU 6.30 - 8.30pm

St Neot Church PL14 6NG Tour by Michael Swift 1.30pm

11am

Warleggan Church PL30 4HB

