



A community newsletter funded by Mabe Youth and Community Project and Mabe Parish Council to provide news, share views and publicise events. Printed by Booths Print, Penryn.

New Memorial Garden opens

Heartfelt thanks go to Tim Marsh for the stunning new war memorial which he has given to the village. Not only did Tim donate the stone, but he also carved the names of the eleven men from Mabe who died in the first and second world wars, together with an epitaph chosen by the council and then delivered it to the new Memorial Garden next to the WI Hall.

Many of us had talked about placing a memorial in the garden for many years, and were delighted with the result. However, after a number of setbacks and disappointments trying to find a builder and secure funding, it looked as if the only view any of us would



The new War Memorial provided by Tim Marsh

get of the new stone would be from Antron Hill.

Finally, following a sterling effort by Truro builder P Chapman, there is now a flight of steps up to the garden, enabling many people to set foot in this local amenity for the first time. The construction team worked through driving rain in the week preceding Remembrance Sunday, and were

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Cont. from front page determined to finish the job in time for our commemorative events. We really can't thank them enough for stepping in so late in the day.

No sooner had they finished than a group of volunteer gardeners set to work to clear the branches and leaves and uncover the path which had been installed many years ago. We are indebted to local tree surgeon Oliver Bennett, who gave up his time to advise us and to clear the many saplings which had sprung up over the years.

The garden is certainly a work in progress, and we are looking forward to planting bulbs over the next few weeks and planning for a display of colour next year. If you would like to get involved in this project please contact the parish clerk at mabeparish@gmail.co.uk

Cllr. Tessa Kingsley

Remembrance Evening

Remembrance weekend began on Saturday evening, when Keith and Margaret Bryant (below) hosted a well-attended evening of remembrance in the Hall.



The entertainment included a mixture of song, poetry and history. The audience were welcomed with a glass of hot punch and enjoyed a range of refreshments and their own wine. There was a warm atmosphere of enjoyment and commemoration as the village took time to learn more about the 6 men of Mabe who died in the first world war, made even more poignant by the presence in the hall of several members of their families.

Reverends Steve Smith and Robbie Owen helped to create a moment of reflection punctuated by a minute's silence and a haunting last post played by Bill, Mabe's own bugler. The evening ended in high spirits with a sing song and a raffle. A retiring collection for the British Legion Poppy appeal raised over £40.

Jackie Frost



Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday itself began with a well attended church service at St Laudus, with music provided by students from Penryn Campus and The Last Post on and Reveille played by local retired teacher, Howard Barnes.

People then made their way into the centre of the village and for the first time in many years paraded through the village centre to the WI Hall.

Following the official opening of the Memorial Garden by Council Chair, Peter Tisdale, and the blessing of the new memorial by the Reverend Steve Smith, crosses were placed for each of the men from Mabe whose names are on the memorial, as well as wreaths and other tributes from local people and organisations such as the Flicka

Foundation (which had also brought a donkey to the parade - see photo on opposite page).

Everyone was then invited into the hall for refreshments provided by the WI and Asda. The hall, which was built in 1926, had been decorated beautifully by WI members with hundreds of knitted poppies and flags, together with artwork from the Brownies and Mabe School.

The Parish Council has also produced a new booklet, Six Men of Mabe, written and researched by Ruth Olver and Jackie Frost about the six men from Mabe Parish who lost their lives in the First World War, which was on sale. See p.10 for more details.

Tessa Kingsley

(Editor's note: There are more photos on Facebook, search for Mabe Burnthouse Village)



Part of the parade through Mabe centre

Planning matters

It's good and bad news this month. Firstly we were pleased to hear that there will be no new housing built on the land behind Coronation Cottages (PA17/05495), as the appeal against Cornwall Council was not upheld. However, almost the very next day we were told that the planning officer in charge of the other large application in the village, at the top of Antron Way (PA18/04092), disagrees with our opposition and is minded to allow this to go ahead. This is de-

spite over 160 objections being received by Cornwall Council from members of the public. The Parish Council is asking for this decision to be put to the Area Planning Committee and we would urge parishioners to continue to write to their local Cornwall Councillor and any other councillors on the planning committee. You will find more details at www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning/planning-committees/



Cllr. Tessa Kingsley

Barn fire may have been arson

According to a report in the Fal-mouth Packet, police have interviewed 3 teenagers in Mabe over the suspected arson attack on a barn on Antron Farm on October 21st between 3pm and 3.50pm.

A police spokesperson said, "The fire is currently being treated as arson. Police were called by fire who attended where a large fire had taken hold of the barn. It's believed that a large quantity of hay, along with equipment and tools were damaged during the fire. Three boys aged 15, 15 and



The barn fire at Antron Farm destroyed most of the barn

16 voluntarily attended a police interview and investigations are ongoing."

As well as fire teams from Falmouth, appliances from Truro and Tolvaddon attended the fire, also in attendance were the water

carrier from Helston and support resources from St Just and St Austell.

A further appliance from Truro arrived at the scene around 5pm, after the roof of the building is believed to have collapsed.

New playpark opens

The eagerly awaited new Playpark has opened at the Community Hall. After years of fundraising and months of planning by the MYCP, the new equipment was opened to the public last month.



Comprising of 3 different sections, there is apparatus for different age groups, including



simple static equipment ideal for chin-ups, sit-ups and step-ups (see photo on left).

Toddlers imaginations can run wild with the new pirate ship, and older children will love the climbing frame and 'nest' swing.



The new Playpark in Mabe

MYCP carpark

There seems to be a common held misunderstanding that the MYCP carpark between the school and play area is publicly owned and free to use.

The carpark is wholly owned by the Mabe Youth and Community Project. It is provided for the sole use of people who are using the MYCP facilities. It was provided as a condition of the original planning permission for the MYCP hall, to ensure users had adequate off road parking. Maintenance of the carpark is funded entirely by the MYCP charity through the money it raises. The most recent resurfacing of the center strip in the carpark cost the charity approx £8,000.

Many of the groups who use the hall regularly are either elderly or have physical impairments that result in them requiring parking close to the hall. Unfortunately

this has led to some friction in the past, when regular users have turned up for their sessions to find all of the spaces occupied by people not using the MYCP hall, field or play areas. Discussions have taken place endeavoring to find a solution, but a key difficulty is that many people do not appreciate that the carpark is private, and therefore assume that MYCP do not have any special rights over the area.

MYCP are keen to provide facilities for all, and will continue to work to find a solution that meets everyone's needs. If you have any suggestions for how shared use of the carpark can be maintained for the benefit of all and in a sustainable manner, please let the MYCP committee know.

Contact: Chris Cole,
MYCP Chair, my-
cpchair@gmail.com



George says thank you

Mabe Matters has received a letter from George Kingston, a founder member of the MYCP, which was set up in 1971. He also served 44 years on the Parish Council, which he regards as a great honour.

"I was instigator of the Commu-

nity Centre and children's playing field. I am delighted to see the new playing field equipment which brings joy and happiness to the many families in Mabe.

For 58 years I organised the Christmas Raffle, going to every house in the community, raising thousands of pounds for the playing field. A big thank you to everyone who worked on the project."



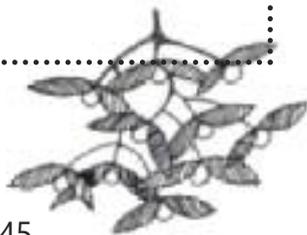
Mabe Burnthouse Village

Please send details of events happening within Mabe civic parish in Feb/Mar to mabematterseditor@gmail.com by 15 January 2018. Venue details:

- Mabe Community Hall, Cunningham Park (375938 or mabeycp@gmail.com)
- Mabe Community Primary School, Cunningham Park (secretary, 372662)
- Mabe Parish Church (St Laudus), Church Road, towards Higher Spargo (administrator, Pauline Cheshire, 340425)
- Mabe WI Hall, Antron Hill (bookings, 372477)

Weekly Events

- Mon** **Short Mat Bowls Club**, Community Hall, 2-4pm. Contact Keith Bryant, 373102.
Cardio Box/Fitcamp Class, WI Hall, 6.15-7.15pm. Contact Ali or Carmela, 07988 140745.
Mabe Keep Fit Club, WI Hall, 7.30pm.
Open Water Swimming, Kernow Adventure Park, 6-8pm. Contact, 07817 662 962
- Tues** **Age Concern Luncheon Club**, Community Hall, 12.30-2pm. Contact Community Hall (11.30-12.30pm), 377475.
Slimming World, Community Hall, 3.30, 5.30 & 7.30pm. Contact Pam Mundy, 01209 204743 or 07503 945600.
Nature Playgroup, Chyan Community Field, 10am-12pm term time. Contact Alice, 07576 748450.
- Wed** **Short Mat Bowls League (winter only)**, Community Hall, 2-4pm. Contact Keith Bryant, 373102
Daisy's Yoga, Chyan Cultural Centre, 6-7pm. Contact Daisy, 07837 879876
- Thurs** **Kernow Huffa Puffas**, a support, exercise and social group for people with COPD and their carers, 10am-12pm, Community Hall. Contact Trish, 375238 or Frances, 712047.
Carpet Bowls Club, Community Hall, 2-4pm. Contact Arthur Searle, 377088.
Brownies, Community Hall, 6.15-8pm. Contact Jackie Williams, 372863.
Aikido, Japanese martial art, beginners welcome, 7-9pm, Mabe School. Contact Jamie Matthews, 375336.
- Fri** **Short Mat Bowls Club**, Community Hall, 2-4pm. Contact Keith, 373102.
- Sun** **Trenoweth Methodist Church**, Community Hall, 10.45am-12pm. Contact Margaret Bryant, 373102.
Mabe Parish Church (St Laudus), with St Michael's Church, Ponsanooth – please see the Diary for the times of services.
Aerial Yoga Jam, Chyan Cultural Centre, 10am-1pm. Contact Nay, naysjoga@gmail.com.



St Laudus Church, Mabe



December

2nd- Advent Sunday, 9.30am, Morning Worship

Plus: ADVENT CAROLS (a quiet, meditative service) 7pm

Thurs 6th - CHRISTINGLE – Christmas carols etc for young and old 6.30pm. We'll be making our own christingles as part of the service!

Sun 9th - 9.30am – Sung Holy Communion

Sun 16th - 9.30am – Holy Communion - Traditional 'Book of Common Prayer'

Thurs 20th - 7pm, CAROL CONCERT by The Suitcase Singers in aid of St Petroc's and Shelterbox. Refreshments, Bar, Free admission – donations.

Sun 23rd - 9.30am, Said Holy Communion with prayer for healing

Mon 24th - 11pm, MIDNIGHT MASS

Tues 25th - 9.30am CHRISTMAS DAY. A gentle service!

Sun 30th - 9.30am, Morning Worship. Plus 7.30pm, Sacred Space (an oasis of peace: candles, music, quietness...)

January

Sun 6th - 9.30am, Morning Worship

Sun 13th - 9.30am, Sung Holy Communion

Sun 20th - Holy Communion - Traditional 'Book of Common Prayer'

Sun 27th - 9.30am, Said Holy Communion with prayer for healing. Plus 7.30pm Sacred Space

Mabe Diary

December 2018

Sat 1 - The Big Switch On, 5.30pm, The New Inn. *See p.10.*

Sat 1 - The Bowie Lounge 3: Time, 7.30pm, The Performance Centre. www.amata.org.uk/bowie-lounge

Tues 4 - WI Meeting, 7.30pm, WI Hall. *See What's On.*

Wed 5 - Comedy Club: David Tsonos, 8.30pm, The Performance Centre. www.amata.org.uk/david-tsonos

Wed 12-14 - Blue Moon, 8.30pm, The Performance Centre. www.amata.org.uk/blue-moon-12-december

Thurs 13 – Parish Council meeting, WI Hall, 7.30pm. Agenda available on the Parish Notice Board and website (www.mabeparish.co.uk). Open to the public. Contact Lisa Clements, 07964 735219, mabeparish@gmail.com

Sun 16 - MYCP Community Carol Service, Community Hall, 6pm. *See What's On.*

Mon 17 - Mabe Garden Club - Talk by Carol Bailey - Christmas Surprises, 7pm, Community Hall. Contact Carol, 319323.

Sat 22 - The Little Prince, 11am & 3pm, The Performance Centre. *See What's On.*

January 2018

Tues 8 - WI Meeting, 7.30pm, WI Hall. *See What's On.*

Thurs 10 – Parish Council meeting, WI Hall, 7.30pm. Details as for December.



(All six-digit phone numbers are 01326 unless specified)

Mon 21 - Mabe Garden Club AGM, 7pm, Community Hall. Contact Carol, 319323.

Fri 21 - Winter Solstice Party, Chyan Community Field. See *What's On*.

Thurs 24 - Cornwall Astronomy Society - Talk by Fred Deakin: "Telescope Hacks", 8pm, WI Hall. Contact: Simon Dunkley, 564046.

What's On



Mabe Youth and Community Project are holding their **Annual Community Carol Service** on Sunday December 16th in the Community Hall at 6pm. All members of the community are invited to this celebration. There will be familiar Christmas carols and various readings reflecting the season. It will be followed by tea, coffee and mince pies, and the Annual Grand Christmas Draw, with many excellent prizes donated by local businesses and individuals.

Members of **Mabe W.I.** recently enjoyed a visit to Shelterbox, where they were given a tour of the charity's HQ and their guide explained the logistics of ensuring necessary life-saving equipment reaches those in need, as quickly as possible.

They are now looking forward to their monthly meeting at the W.I. Hall on Tuesday 4th December at 7.30 p.m. when the speaker will

be Lily Cummin who will talk about "**Inspiring Health**" - hopefully with some tips on making it through the winter months. The January speaker will be Barrie Galley talking about "**Water Aid**".

If you feel the W.I. would suit you, or have any queries at all, please ring Liz Young on 01326 372978 - you can be sure of a warm welcome.

Chyan Community Field are holding a **Winter Solstice Party** on Friday 21st December. Bands, vagabond circus, disco, flamenco, fire show, open mic, vegan food, bar. Free entry.



<https://chyan.org/>

The Performance Centre at Tremough has a number of shows on in December, culminating with **The Little Prince** on Saturday 22nd. This well-loved story



is retold using a mix of humour, dance and music, encouraging us to look at the world through our hearts and reconnect with the child that's in us all.



www.amata.org.uk/little-prince-15.00

Mabe Christmas Lights Big Switch On 2018 & Reindeer Competition

You'll have been spotting some of the MCL team sporting festive red tabbards bearing the names of Santa's reindeer over the past month as the Mabe Christmas Lights team have been busy prepping for the BIG SWITCH ON 2018.

We've had another fantastic year of fundraising thanks to the support of our lovely villagers and key businesses within Mabe, which means that we can feature 80+ lights for Christmas 2018. Amazing when you think that we started out with 12 just four Switch On's ago!



To celebrate this remarkable number, we will be hosting a BIG SWITCH ON Saturday 1st December from 5.30pm.

Complimentary mulled wine and mince pies will be offered whilst we are serenaded by the musical talents of Cornwall Service Music Trust and Friends In Harmony.

Santa has sent us a message to say that he will be passing through briefly that evening with some treats for well behaved children! At 6:30pm we will light up the village. Don't forget to collect your 'Reindeer Hunt' form before you go!!

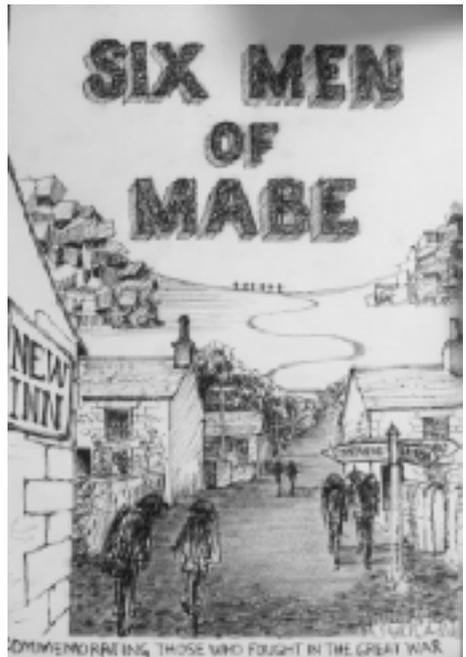
There are 9 reindeer in the village

with name tags for you to identify using the map. Complete and return to The New Inn between 18th and 25th December for your chance to win a fabulous Christmas Hamper. Winner will be announced and contacted on Friday 28th December.

Emma-Louise Phillips

Six Men of Mabe

To commemorate 100 years since the end of WWI, a few of the villagers have got together and researched the stories of Mabe's war dead. They have put together a book entitled, "Six Men of Mabe" which is now on sale at the Post Office for only £2 a copy. Proceeds to go to the new memorial garden in Mabe and the British legion.



Brotherly love!

Bertie and Humphrey are pure-bred donkeys of the rare and ancient Poitou breed. Bertie (right) has been at Flicka Donkey Sanctuary at Trenoweth for some years; most visitors find him easy to spot, with his long shaggy coat and enormous ears.



This is the moment that two brothers met for the first time!

Humphrey, who is Bertie's younger brother, arrived at Flicka in May aged 9 months. Since then, they have been in different parts of the sanctuary and so have not met each other - until a few weeks ago, that is, when they were introduced for the first time. Seeming to recognise that they had something in common, they tentatively approached and touched noses. Flicka staff and volunteers hope that now they are in the same herd, they will gradually develop a brotherly bond and that some of Humphrey's friendliness and playfulness will rub off on Bertie, who can be rather teasy!

Flicka is a great place to spend a quiet hour, watching Bertie, Humphrey and almost 100 other donkeys and horses – many rescued from lives of cruelty and neglect – and learning about the work of the charity. The setting is calm and peaceful (aside from occasional braying and neighing) with views over the countryside to the sea. As an added bonus, it's also the location of probably the "best Tea Room in Mabe" serving tea, barista coffee and hot chocolate and tasty snacks including hot soup, sandwiches, toasties and gorgeous cakes. And as if that wasn't enough, the Gift Shop is currently packed with Christmas cards, calendars, presents and stocking fillers for yourself and your animal-loving friends and relations!

Flicka is on Trenoweth Lane (near the junction with Antron Hill) and is open to the public every day except Monday and Friday, from 11am to 4pm. Free entry – donations welcome. Plenty of parking.

Village Fete

Due to bad weather and the playpark not being completed in time, the Village Fete was confined to the Community Hall.

Thanks to everyone who came along and showed their support, approximately £350 was raised towards the upkeep of the Community Hall, park and skatepark.

Halvasso Harvest Fayre

Halvasso farm hosted the village's third Harvest Fayre at the end of September.



There were the usual friendly competitions including a new scarecrow category which ended up representing several of the men of Halvasso!

Rosettes were won in every family and the entries were then all

eaten as part of the feast and barbecue. The rain held off and the evening continued with songs around the campfire while the children played on a range of stranded boats!



Our next event should be carol singing and the inauguration of our restored finger post. If you live in Halvasso and want to get involved, find us on Facebook.



[www.facebook.com/
groups/241311976371414/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/241311976371414/)
Jackie Frost



The scarecrow competition entries in Halvasso looked suspiciously like some of the local men!

Joyce Price, 1924-2018

Mabe has recently lost one of its oldest residents, with the death of Mrs. Joyce Price at the age of 94 years. Although not born in Cornwall, she had a love of the county, and lived in the area for many years. Joyce and her husband were in the hospitality trade in the Banbury area, and also raised 11 children, but spent many happy summer holidays in this part of Cornwall. After retirement, Joyce and her husband, with the younger members of the family came to Helston to live, where after some years her husband died.

Joyce came to live in Spargo Court in 1991, when the estate was built, and soon involved herself in many of the village activities. She joined the Luncheon Club, and became its first secretary, soon becoming chairman, a post she held for many years, only retiring due to ill health. Joyce was also a member of the former One and All Club, where she was a chairman, a post she also held for some years at the Mabe W.I.

She was an active participant of the Short Mat Bowls Club, and played until she was over 90. As a representative of the Luncheon Club, Joyce became a member of the Mabe Youth and Community Project Committee, and was chairman for 2 years.



Joyce Price

She was a good neighbour to all at Spargo Court, and all the organisations she was involved with will miss her enthusiasm and cheerfulness. She had a fall and broke her hip 2 years ago, and never really recovered her mobility. She leaves several children, two of whom live in the Helston area, many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, of whom she was very proud.

Margaret Bryant

MCL Race Night

Mabe Christmas Lights would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came to our Race Night on Saturday 29 September! You helped raise another £181 towards Mabe Christmas Lights.



Cornwall Astronomy Society

Dark skies are now appearing a little earlier as the year moves on which makes astronomy easier if a little colder!

There are two of meteor showers of note in this period.

The first are the Geminids which occur on the nights of the 13th/14th of December. The radiant lies close to Castor and Pollux, the heavenly twins. The Geminids can be quite bright as they are of asteroid origin rather than being cometary dust. The moon is at first quarter and will set just before midnight so should not interfere.

The second are the Quadrantids which usher in the first meteor shower of the new year between 1st and 6th of January with a peak on the 3rd. This shower has a high maximum of 100 per hour but with a very narrow peak, look out for blue/yellow meteors appearing from the northern sky. This is the only meteor shower not named after the constellation from which it appears to radiate; the constellation Quadrans was to the east and above the Plough but being so faint, fell out of use a considerable number of years ago. The radiant lies just below the handle of the Plough on the north eastern horizon. The moon

should co-operate as it sets at about the same time as the sun.

Looking south in mid January leads one to the spectacular constellation of Orion which contains a tenth of the brightest stars in the night sky. The seven main stars all lie in the "top 70" of brilliant stars. It is also a good constellation to pick to remember star names; start with red Betel-



geuse, across to Bellatrix and then down to the belt stars Alnitak, Alnilam and Mintaka which lie above the Orion nebula which is a huge star factory. At the foot of Orion are Saiph and Rigel, a young star that is twice as hot as the Sun and 50,000 times as bright.

The planets are a bit elusive in this period but from mid December Venus and Jupiter will make a fine sight in the early morning sky.

Robert Beeman

An untimely death could encourage a timely solution by Liz Dunstan

In my endeavours to find information about the pub in Mabe, I came across a report of an accident in the centre of Mabe in 1806 with a brief mention of the Inn.

At this time there was a toll gate at the top of Nanturian Hill, by the corner house (the proposed Chinese takeaway) and the New Inn, known as Antron Gate. On approaching the gate the driver would come to a stop and pay a toll before continuing the journey up Antron Hill to Longdowns.

In March 1806, a fatal accident occurred at this very spot. This is an abridged recording of the report was recorded in the Falmouth Packet:

'An unfortunate accident happened at about 8 o'clock last Sunday night at Antron Turnpike about 2 miles from Penryn on the Western road. Mr John Hancock, a traveller, was driving his gig from Helston to Falmouth. It was a very dark evening and as he was coming through the gateway the right wheel came into contact with the gate post. Apparently, the sudden jerk threw him out of the gig and he was killed instantly.

The Western Mail Coach driver found him lying dead with his



A gig is a two wheeled, one horse carriage. According to Wikipedia, 'The meaning of the term 'gig' is transferred from the deprecatory term for a 'flighty girl' and subsequently indicates anything which whirls, or is dangerous or unpredictable. Contemporary literature frequently recounted romantic tales of spills and hairbreadth scrapes from these vehicles, but is equally fulsome on the fearful thrill experienced in driving them.'

dog licking his face, and took him to the nearby public house. The gig was broken into pieces but Mr Hancock did not have any bruises or scarring on his body.'

The paper then reported that, 'a malicious report has gone abroad that Mr Hancock was in a state of intoxication at the time he left Helston on Sunday evening, and about 5 o'clock. However several respectable persons who were in the company with him, and others who saw and conversewd with him on the road have contradicted this assertion. Mr Hancock was living in Salcombe where he has left a disconsolate

Cont. overleaf

mother and numerous friends to lament his untimely end.'

An interesting point to note is that according to the report it took Mr Hancock approximately three hours to travel from Helston to Antron Gate. Obviously the roads were in a state of disrepair at this time, but three hours seems an incredible amount of time.

It didn't state how much it cost to pass through the gate but it would have been assumed that the person in the toll house would have heard the accident. It is not recorded where the toll house was actually situated.

According to the Helston Turnpike Trust minutes of 1763-1812, William Spargo in 1806 paid £61 as a rent to be in charge of Antron Gate. He paid in monthly installments and hoped to recoup this money by charging the appropriate tolls for vehicles (horse-drawn) passing through the gate. The following year he lost the bid to Matthew Jenkin, who bid £61 and a shilling to recoup the tolls.

Perhaps this is the solution to the traffic problems in Mabe? A new toll gate could be installed, de-

tering people from using the road as a quick way into Falmouth or Penryn from Longdowns!



What Were Turnpikes?

A turnpike in this context refers to a gate set across the road to stop carts until a toll was paid.

During the first seven decades of the 18th century a comprehensive network of turnpike roads was created across Britain.

These linked the major centres of population by highways which were, in principle, reliably financed and operated for the benefit of long distance commercial traffic, rather than to satisfy the limited needs within individual parishes.

Only one sixth of English roads were turnpiked. The majority of the roads and lanes remained the responsibility of the parish and were toll-free.

At the peak in the 1830s, over 1000 trusts administered around 30,000 miles of turnpike road in England & Wales, taking tolls at almost 8000 toll-gates and side-bars.

Mabe Matters is published by Mabe Youth and Community Project, Cunningham Park, Mabe Burnthouse, Cornwall, TR10 9HB. Editorial Team: Liz Dunstan, Jackie Frost, Liz Westhead, Candia Cox (illustrations), Amanda Wills (editor).
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Deadline for next issue: 15 January 2019. Please send your events, news, notices, letters etc to the address above or to mabematterseditor@gmail.com.