

# RYNZINE

FEBRUARY 2023



MADE BY RESIDENTS OF PENRYN, FOR THE RESIDENTS OF PENRYN

# Welcome to Rynzine No.2

The zine in your hands has come through your letterbox thanks to the amazing efforts of an entirely voluntary team of content creators, administrators, writers, artists, and distributors in Penryn! Huge thanks to each and every one of them. We hope it will make you smile and reflect, and most of all, feel more connected to your Penryn community - so pop the kettle on, get comfy and read on...

## This 2nd issue has a focus on housing

Home is where the heart is but having a home is also at the heart of being part of a community. In these times of climate crisis, lack of affordable housing, and the increasing gap between those who have too much and those who do not have enough, residents need to come together to build community resilience, making everyone feel more at home.

As well as news and views from people in Penryn, we invited **COMMENTS ON HOUSING** from the town council and local political parties. **We printed all those that responded**

We also ran free content creation **WORKSHOPS FOR RESIDENTS**. A big thank you to the local artists who facilitated them and residents who came and created poems and images for this edition.

**Rynzine** is not aligned with a political party.

We seek to bridge divides and believe that freedom of speech and constructive debate is key to a healthy democratic society - hence we invite contributions from residents with different opinions.

We are LGBTQIA+ positive and against all forms of discrimination.

## An invitation to YOU

If you are not already involved join us in producing, distributing or sponsoring the next one...

**info@rynzine.org**

We do not have adverts and rely on volunteers, sponsorship and grants. Thank you to **AMBOS** who were our major sponsor for this edition. In the following pages they invite you to get involved in an exciting co-housing project.

# Work-life Penryn

## Interview with Ian McCabe of Penryn Spar



**What's your link to Penryn?** My family home was on St Thomas Street, went to the school on The Terrace and can trace family in Penryn back four generations to the 18th century and before then to St Mawes. **What led you to this line of work?** I was a commercial diver based in the docks. Helena, my wife, was a nurse.

At 29 we travelled the world and on our return my father-in-law was selling the shop. We bought it and 21 years later here we are. **During Covid Lockdown you went over and above.** You may have seen me walking around but there were many people doing things in different ways. Some part of me wishes we could keep that sense of community, it was so heart warming. **Did you charge for the delivery?** No, it was beyond that. The world was turned upside down, Helena and I felt we needed to support our community and the shop kept on going because the community supported us. **What's your favourite thing about your job?** Sharing a smile, some banter with customers and my team. We're like a family, we look after each other. Jackie Pellow has just retired after 36 years, Si has been here since he left school and he's now over 40. **What would be a perfect day spent locally?** Castle Beach with family. Growing up we used to gather there. It's my spiritual home. We spread my nan's ashes there. **If you could have dinner with anyone, who would it be?** Muhammad Ali. He's a most interesting character, it would be one hell of a dinner. **If you could gain one quality, what would it be?** Education, I slipped through the gaps. It gives you more confidence and I would like to have helped my kids more with their homework. **What is your most treasured memory?** Times with my granddad, Tom McCabe. He played football for Newcastle and England schoolboys. Back in the day there wasn't money in it so he came here working in the docks. My other grandfather is from Belfast, he ran away at 16 and became a ship's cook. They both met my Cornish grandmothers and stayed. **Your house catches fire! What would you save?** My grandfather's football caps. **What is your Desert Island Disc?** Cold Play's Fix You. **What's your take on housing in Penryn?** I grew up in a council house. My greatparents were one of the first families housed in Old Hill. This fixation for buying a house is not always the way to go. We need more social housing with lowish rents for working people. After the Second World War, with all the debt, we still managed to build more council houses than ever, so why not now?

Interview and collage by Bec



# No Place Like Home

by Deena Russell, Sahara Redman,  
Simon Andrews, Rachael Jones. Writing  
workshop facilitated by Small Acts  
(Katie Etheridge and Simon Persighetti)

## 1. Home is...



Home is my place to have  
Grandkids and play

Opening the door I feel home  
and see my things around me

My first home was a terraced  
house with Grandparents  
downstairs and us above

I've lived in a house, a flat, a  
caravan, a boat, a bungalow and  
now a flat again

I would like to live in a house  
with a garden

My keys are on a big bunch with  
a furry elephant and a furry ball



Home is a quiet respite

Opening the door I check to see  
if the cat is waiting for me

My first home was somewhere  
I don't remember but can  
recognise in the corner of  
some photographs

I've lived in a warehouse in  
Australia with people and rats

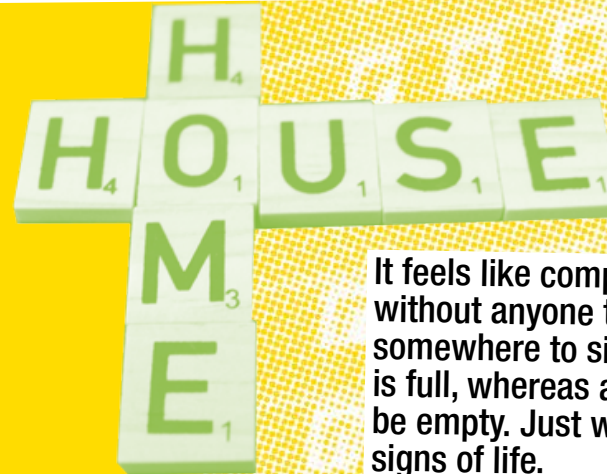
I would like to live in a home I  
know I can stay in until I choose  
to leave

My keys are just inside the door  
on the blue stand

## 2. What is the difference between a house and a home?

A house is a strong stable  
structure made of wood or  
bamboo, bricks or stone, or any  
other weatherproof materials.  
A house is only a home if  
someone actually uses it to  
shelter from the elements.

A house is bricks and mortar,  
beams and roof tiles. It's  
plaster, paint and wallpaper. It's  
electrics and plumbing. A home  
is family, life and routine. It's  
memories, connection, laughter  
and tears. A home is warmth,  
comfort, peace and solitude.



It feels like company  
without anyone there,  
somewhere to sink into. It  
is full, whereas a house can  
be empty. Just walls and no  
signs of life.



# 3. The house

**The Roof** where there are broken tiles from a chimney exploding with a detonator that was missed and left in a bag of coal. Something that happens often, says the insurance assessor. Hard to believe but it's true, says the insurance assessor, and says we can have a new chimney and roof.

**The Window** offers a glimpse inside and out, frames what can be seen or reflects you looking in. Letting in light and sometimes unwelcome looks and smells.

**The Backdoor** leads into a yard. Three circles in concrete sit next to each other, all that remains of the place you went when you had to go. How many crossings has this yard seen? Redundant since the 70's the foundations of the former privies are now a platform for a couple of flower pots, a broken clothes peg.

# 4. Duty of care

duty of care to accommodate

trinkets in topsy-turvy villages

sniffing for seals and galloping

exasperated by the scary housing

flip it into the more lucrative holiday let market

fleece-lined dry robes piled high

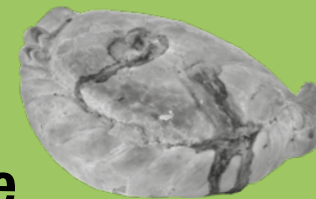
in the swash like steeds.

# 5. Sounds, smells and colours of Penryn



## Sounds like Penryn

Buses passing  
 People chatting  
 Lorries unloading  
 Bikes roaring  
 Clocktower chiming  
 Seagulls calling  
 Voices in the street  
 Bells on Wednesday  
 Swan wings flapping  
 Rigging on masts  
 Owl hooting  
 Footsteps on granite pavement

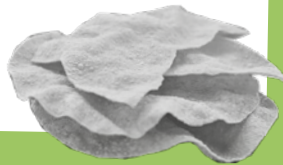
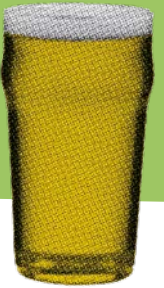


## No Place Like Home

Compiled by Katie Etheridge & Simon Persighetti

## Penryn Smells

Pasties cooking  
 Low tide mud  
 Fish and Chips  
 Traffic fumes  
 Plants and flowers  
 Dog shit  
 Saffron buns baking  
 Beer Brewing  
 Curry cooking  
 Fresh air



## Penryn Colours

Sunrise Orange  
 Sky Blue  
 Granite Grey  
 Muddy Brown  
 Bunting Blue  
 Famous Barrel Red  
 River Green  
 Sunset Pink



## AT PENRYN PRIMARY ACADEMY



The elves go to work through tunnels leading to their underground workshop.



- Moving conveyor belt
  - Wrapping station
  - Vending machine
- Tunnels and chutes
  - Sculpture garden
  - Candy cane store
- Treehouse with a hammock, sofa, table, transport pulley system and Santa's plunge pool



After a vote,  
we named our village  
**Elftopia!**



**Eftopia designed and engineered by:**  
Lily, Summer, Megan, Beau, Florence, Elliot, Logan-Jay, Buster and Llewelyn  
With thanks to Rachel Hampshire and Jody Marshall



# Reduce, Reuse, Reconnect: Falmouth and Penryn Repair Café

## Take, make, waste.

The default of the linear economy rightfully earns its name as many items we purchase are on a one-way trip to obsolescence. With a focus on repair, the Falmouth and Penryn Repair café is an answer towards the circular economy, ensuring products are kept at their highest value for the longest time possible, avoiding the waste of energy, time, and money.

The Falmouth and Penryn Repair Cafés are free pop-up workshops across both towns, where knowledgeable volunteers kindly offer to repair your items alongside a warm cuppa. While a fix isn't guaranteed, volunteers examine any useful clues to decipher the mystery of how our appliances break, so pitfalls can be avoided in the future. Its focus on involving the repairee in the process sets it apart from other sustainability events. Primarily, the café aims to bestow an ever-lasting skill to every eco-conscious consumer's arsenal.

Efforts to be more sustainable can be rewarding – between saving pretty pennies, golden nuggets of knowledge or integration into the stellar community, nobody leaves the Repair Café empty-handed.

The café's friendly community is always keen for volunteers to help run the event or to make repairs. Swing by and you're sure to be met with a smile.

The Penryn Repair Café occurs on the first Thursday of every month between 6pm and 8pm at the Temperance Hall.

The next events are 2nd February, 2nd March and 6th April.

For more info, visit: [www.fprc.org.uk](http://www.fprc.org.uk)



Annie Symington



Andrew Fentham



Above pics from Fanzine workshop with Camilla Stacey

What's going on?





# CUT & PASTE

Andrew Marston

On some of the following pages you will see original artwork, made during a free **Rynzine** art workshop at the Fish Factory in October 2022. A bunch of people came together, in Penryn, to think about the visual environment of the town; to think about how it looks, to think about housing, how we are responding to the pressures exerted on us. Mostly we did this by me showing pictures of the town and talking – later we did it by cutting up newspaper pictures, layering them, sticking them on paper. I thought I was very clear with my instructions: most people ignored them in a variety of minorly transgressive ways. In this way they made art that was mostly them, with a little bit of me.

I am wary of speaking a language that discourages people from joining in but find it hard to stop. Let me speak more simply: Penryn is beautiful and ugly at the same time; it is worth looking at, to see what is really here. The people in this town are real. The history is layered right in front of you and yet disappearing from view just as quickly.

What do these pictures say? What they communicate depends on what you receive from them: each one is the artist's subconscious speaking to yours. Maybe you should look at them, really look at them...



'Cut & Paste' collage by by Luke Court



# Neighbours



## Martyn talks to Jo and Rose about West Street

**Why did she do that do you think? Perhaps she felt safer outside than in?**

**J.** I don't know, I suppose so. I was very young, I can't remember much else about the war.

**R.** I remember the ration books.

**J.** Yes, but they went on even till I started working, which was in 1955.

**R.** But with all the shops that there were in West St. if they knew you, they'd give you a little bit extra, marvellous really. It was community.

**J.** It certainly was, from where the accountants are (top of Truro Lane) up to where Calver Close is now, you could do all your shopping for everything.

**R.** The only thing you had to go further into town for was a paper, the post office and the pharmacy.

**So you mean there were a lot of shops just in this small part of West St? There aren't any at all now.**

**J.** The accountants was the bread shop, Belbin's. Then there was Ida, Mrs Hodge the veg shop, she had that in her front room. Then the Three Tuns pub (now The Thirsty Scholar). If there was a row or trouble at the pub, then next morning Raymond would come over with a bottle of Sherry and a glass and say "sorry about the noise last night". Then there was Mr Hodge the Butchers (No. 26).

**That's next door to me, when we dig in our garden we often find old animal bones.**

**J.** Then the other side of you was the pub The Fifteen Balls. That was the Rugby pub.

**R.** The players all used to go there and shower after a game.

**Do I put how old you are, or don't you want me to say?**

**J.** To be honest everyone in the town knows how old we are, so put it in.

**R.** I'm 79.

**J.** And I'm 82.

**So, were you both born in West St?**

**J.** Yes, born here and lived here for nearly 80 years.

**R.** I was born here in 1943 but not lived here all my life like Jo.

**J.** I was born next door in No. 33, got married at 21 and moved down the road for 3 years then came back to this house, No. 31, and have lived here ever since. When we moved back here my mum and dad still lived at No. 33 until mum died. My grandmother bought it for £100 in around 1932.

**We're in No. 31 right now, so are we are talking about the late 1940's just after the war?**

**J.** Yes, but during the war there were evacuees in this house, two children from London, and if there was an air raid I used to come in here from next door and go into the Morrison shelter under the dining table in the back room, I was shoved into the shelter with the evacuee children. But my grandmother would get dressed and then go across the road and sit on the Fifteen Balls pub windowsill (now house No. 32), she would never go under the stairs or under the table, she always sat outside, right over there.

**And have a number of beers too I imagine? Were you children allowed in the pub?**

**J.** No, but sometimes Mr and Mrs Jago (landlords) would let us play in the pub garden. Next to the pub was the Welfare (St Stephens Memorial Hall), we'd play outside there throwing a ball up against the wall, play hopscotch and the like.

**R.** That's where we'd come to from school to see the Nit Nurse, Nurse Clark and Miss Truscott before that.

**J.** Nurse Clark would catch hold of your pig tails and pull them apart and check for nits, and boy did some of us have them! They'd be there one day a week. Mothers would take there babies over there to be weighed

**R.** We'd also go in there for free orange juice. It was in small bottles and very thick and concentrated, it was lovely.

**J.** Next door to the Welfare, Anne Hill had a big orchard down behind the houses. The house down there caught fire in about 1948/49, something like that, afterwards when it was over Mr Sando used to come and sit on the Welfare steps for ages. His hands were scarred from the fire. Mrs Sando died in the fire. I think it was because a paraffin heater was knocked over. The house was there empty for years.

**R.** We used to go down there and collect fresh raspberries on a big cabbage leaf! And further on through the opeway between the houses we'd go to Mr Annear and get flowers for Sunday School.

**J.** Then there was Bishop's carpentry workshop where the footpath to St Gluvius Church Hall starts.

**R.** My grandad also had his carpentry workshop at the top of where Calver Close is now. He did general carpentry but also made coffins for Bennet's the undertaker. Then next to that there was a CoOp.

**So that was all on the other side of the street... what about this side?**

**J.** We haven't finished yet! There was also Wood's Taxis, where you could also get fuel, oil and wood for the fires.

**R.** Now, crossing to this side of the road there was a chip shop, Mr Thomas, you'd go down there and get a penny bag of chips, and if you didn't have any money you could have 'screets', those left-over little bits of batter.

**J.** Mrs Thomas, I can see her now, she'd stand in the window putting potatoes into the chip-chopping machine.

**R.** Then there was Mr and Mrs Hill and their daughters Nora and Pearl, they had the grocer's that had everything. He only had one arm.

**J.** Pearl was deaf wasn't she? After Mr Hill died they sold it, and Mr Dyer took it over, he only had one arm as well!

**That's strange, perhaps they both lost them in the Great War?**

**J.** Possibly? Mr Dyer always had beautiful ham, he used to boil it in a copper, an early type of washing machine. The ones you would load from the top. The same thing people would do their laundry in! That's all the shops, just the two on this side.

**That's amazing, so many businesses in just a couple of hundred meters, all gone now. What was the traffic like?**

**R.** It was two-way traffic not one-way like it is now.

**J.** You'd have buses, but there wasn't the same amount of traffic, although the street hasn't really altered in looks at all from the front.

**R.** My mum never liked net curtains, but if the buses got stuck, the people on the top could look right into the bedroom.

**It's still like that now! They can see right in.**

**J.** Also, I don't think anyone in the street owned a car.

continues...



## Neighbours continued

**R.** You'd go out to the shops and be at least an hour because you'd see so many people to chat to.

**I assume there were also passing traders?**

**J.** Oh yes. Mr Mallet the milkman and his horse called Snitcher. The fish-man came in a van, and he would just shout. Mr and Mrs McColl would also come around with a pram full of fish, and Mr Ray with his blackberries that you could buy by the cupful.

**R.** And the meat-man Jimmy the butcher, the kids used to know when Jimmy was coming because he used to have a piece of hogs pudding, it's like black pudding but creamy coloured, all the kids would get a slice, you can eat it as it comes or fry it. And also Mr Burleigh the paraffin man.

**Do you think people were more connected?**

**J.** There was a good community, you didn't interfere with anybody else, but if there was something wrong, everyone came together, just like that. I can remember that if anybody died, someone in the street went around and collected a few coppers from every house for a wreath, and everyone pulled their curtains in respect.

**R.** My dad would wear a trilby hat and if he ever saw a hearse, the hat would come off and he would stand still until it had passed. I lost my brother when he was only 7.

**I'm sorry, what happened to him?**

**R.** Tetanus, it was his knee, he only fell down in the school playground, people were only just starting to have Tetanus injections, and we hadn't had them yet. We got them straight away after that.

**What's the biggest change?**

**J.** You don't know the people like you used to.

**R.** We can walk up this part of West St. and name the people that lived in every house back then.

**Where were people working?**

**J.** My dad worked at Freemans cutting the granite, he may have started in the quarries. He was there till they closed, but the dust got him, and he died of Silicosis. My husband worked for the post office.

**R.** The women would go to the end of the road with the men's lunches in baskets with covers tied over them, and a bus would come and pick up the meals and take them down to the docks where the men would be waiting for them. They were hot meals, home made pasties galore. That went on until after I left school. Also some of the women would go down to the bottom of the hill and then be collected to go and pick flowers or potatoes.

**J.** Rose's and my mother didn't do that.

**I think in the past some men felt it was a failure on their part if their wife worked. That was definitely the case with my grandfather, who was very working class in South Wales. My grandmother taught piano, but had to stop after they married, but she did continue playing the organ in Chapel on Sundays.**

**J.** I don't know, but some of them had very big families, so it was probably a necessity.

**R.** We've had a wonderful life we've been very lucky.

**It's not over yet!**



*Raspberries on Cabbage Leaf*  
Carducius Ream (1837-1917)

**ACORN Falmouth & Penryn** is a local group representing the international community union, ACORN - The Association of Community Organisations for Reform Now. We are a union group of over 80 members in Falmouth and Penryn, building power for low and middle income people locally through direct action and strategised campaigning. We've been established since November 2020, primarily tackling housing issues, such as resisting the eviction of one of our members, marching on a landlord and letting agent to prevent the eviction of another, and on a larger scale we've been fighting the **Homes before Holidays** campaign.

# BUILDING POWER

## Join your local community union!

This campaign is Calling on Cornwall Council to give powers to Falmouth Town Council to enact a special order of planning permission for second homes and holiday lets, thereby creating a registry of second homes and holiday lets, which the local council can limit and control. Our petition has almost a thousand signatures and we have the unanimous backing of Falmouth Town Council. In the new year we'll be bringing these plans to an arranged meeting with Portfolio Holder for housing on Cornwall Council: Olly Monk, and push our campaign even further. We're a membership organisation so if you want to get involved and you live in Falmouth or Penryn, join up! Everyone has something to offer their community and our power is in our numbers!

To join us go to <https://www.acorntheunion.org.uk/> join and make sure you select us as your local group

**Unverdh bys vyken, onen hag ol!**  
**Solidarity forever, one and all!**



# PENRYN GREEN SPACES NETWORK

PENRYN HAS A WEALTH OF GREEN SPACES AND COMMUNITY GROUPS LOOKING AFTER THEM. FIND OUT ABOUT ALL THE VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES AND GET INVOLVED ON THE PENRYN GREENNET FACEBOOK PAGE OR EMAIL [PENRYN.GREENNET@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PENRYN.GREENNET@GMAIL.COM)



## MAKING SPACE FOR NATURE



MAKING SPACE FOR NATURE IS A CORNWALL WIDE PROJECT THAT HAS WORKED TO IMPROVE PUBLIC GREEN SPACES FOR PEOPLE AND BIODIVERSITY, INVOLVING LOCAL VOLUNTEERS. FIND OUT MORE AT [LETSTALK.CORNWALL.GOV.UK/MAKING-SPACE-FOR-NATURE](http://LETSTALK.CORNWALL.GOV.UK/MAKING-SPACE-FOR-NATURE)

## PENRYN BUZZ



PENRYN BUZZ AIMS TO SPREAD AWARENESS, GROW KNOWLEDGE AND TAKE ACTION TO HELP POLLINATORS. THERE ARE FIVE PUBLIC PLANTING SITES WITH VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE. SEARCH FOR PENRYN BUZZ ON FACEBOOK

ILLUSTRATION BY: BALLAWAVES

LOVELAND

THE LOVELAND COMMUNITY FIELD OFFERS A WELCOMING SPACE FOR LOCAL PEOPLE TO GET INVOLVED IN THE GROWING OF FOOD THROUGH WORKING, LEARNING AND GATHERING TOGETHER JUST 10 MINUTES WALK FROM PENRYN TOWN CENTRE! VOLUNTEERING SESSIONS EVERY THURSDAY 11-2PM AND SATURDAY 10-1PM EMAIL: [LOVELAND@FALMOUTHFOOD.COOP](mailto:LOVELAND@FALMOUTHFOOD.COOP) TO FIND OUT MORE

## INCREDIBLE EDIBLE

A COMMUNITY GARDEN RIGHT IN THE HEART OF TOWN GROW AND HARVEST FRUIT AND VEGETABLES. SEARCH FOR INCREDIBLE EDIBLE PENRYN ON FACEBOOK TO GET IN TOUCH





## Comment from Penryn Town Council

Penryn Town Council are consultees only on planning applications for any new dwellings that are within the boundaries of Penryn

Penryn Town Council are pro affordable and social housing, as long as it falls within the policies of our Penryn Neighbourhood Plan and local residents have been consulted on the application

**Penryn Council has supported some 125 homes at College Hill of which 35% of the build will be affordable homes.**

Residents with a Penryn connection and are on Home Choice will be contacted about these homes when they are built. However, this could be some time yet.

Again, behind Asda another 100 homes have been supported by Penryn Council, with a 35% yield of affordable homes. These again will be sometime before they are ready and marketed.

Penryn Councillors are pro active in reporting any empty properties to Cornwall Council in particular any social housing that is rented out by Cornwall Housing and Live West.

Penryn Council is aware of the Housing Crisis not just across Cornwall but the whole of England. As we speak there are probably some 30 plus voids in Penryn amongst social housing stock, these are either being refurbished or clients have yet to move in. Across Cornwall at any one time there are some 700/800 voids.

Penryn Town Council offers assistance at the Library if our residents need help with filling out Housing forms and our computers are there for residents to use from Monday to Thursday 9pm-5pm, Friday 9pm-4.30pm or phone 01326 373086

**Town Mayor, Julie Tucker and Deputy Mayor, Mary May**



## Comment from Green Party

There are many reasons why there aren't enough houses for everyone who wants one in Cornwall. People from all over the UK move here in their retirement, families move here for work, city-dwellers buy homes as holiday destinations, families grow and age, and in Penryn the University staff and students need homes too. Even though Cornwall Council is now trying to build or acquire homes at a faster rate than before, we still can't supply enough.

The Government may soon allow Cornwall Council to charge higher council tax on empty homes, but that may not force holiday home owners to sell or rent to locals. Could you downsize to allow a family to move in? Could you rent a room out? Could you share with your own family? Do you really need the higher income from running a student-let?

How many of us moved here from somewhere else because we love the Cornish lifestyle and have good jobs here? How many of us wish to ban anyone else from moving to Cornwall and how would that be enforced anyway?! We can't keep building on fields to keep up with demand for homes. We have to challenge ourselves more.

There are websites to help with the logistics of sharing your home with others ([sparerroom.com](http://sparerroom.com) or [homeshare.co.uk](http://homeshare.co.uk)) and I know from experience how wonderful it can be.

I am always keen to hear from residents so please do share your thoughts with me. I am at the Fish Factory every second Thursday of the month, with an open heart and a smile.  
Or email [cllr.tamsyn.widdon@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.tamsyn.widdon@cornwall.gov.uk)

**Tamsyn Widdon**  
Cornwall Councillor for Penryn Ward





Comment from  
Labour Party

# First Homes Before Second Homes!

*In Cornwall, the housing crisis is growing worse. Families are evicted from their private rentals so they can be holiday let, Airbnb'd, or sold at inflated prices as second homes.*

*About 23,000 households are on the housing waiting list. There are only about 10,000 council houses. If you add the 13,000 second homes to the estimated 10,000 holiday lets, it dwarfs that figure.*

**Families are often placed in hotels far from schools and support networks.** It's disruptive and upsetting. Conservative Cornwall Council spends about £40,000 per day on emergency accommodation. Including here in Penryn, they are putting shipping container style pods in council car parks for people to live in.

## There is consensus that things must change.

The council tax uplift on second homes will raise about £27 million a year; it could raise £47 million if holiday lets are included and could be used to provide more council homes

Visit Cornwall suggest a registration scheme for holiday lets in Cornwall so they can be safety-checked and their numbers managed. Or new rules so people cannot flip homes to holiday homes without applying for planning permission.

**Surely, we can all agree that everyone should have a first home before anyone has a second home?**

Jayne Kirkham  
Labour Parliamentary Candidate  
for Truro and Falmouth



Comment from  
Liberal Democrats

**Any politician who is serious about boosting the economy and tackling inequalities needs to look at housing.**

It's a national problem, but particularly acute in Cornwall. The housing crisis is affecting local people, local communities and local services (housing costs don't help recruitment issues facing the NHS and social care). You know the issues - house prices 11 times average earnings, 22,000 households on the social housing waiting list, 1400 people in temporary accommodation - I could go on!

**What's gone wrong, and how do we fix it?**

Right to Buy opened home ownership to many people, but successive governments failed to put anything in its place.

'Affordable' housing doesn't work in places like Cornwall, where market rates are out of all proportion to what locals can afford.

Renters have been neglected for too long.

And longstanding issues around second homes and holiday lets were made even worse by the Conservative's reckless stamp duty cut during the pandemic.

With the Liberal Democrats I am campaigning to insulate homes, cutting bills and carbon emissions. We would build more social housing, improve protections for renters and give local councils more powers to deal with second homes. Because a decent, secure, affordable home is something everybody deserves.

Ruth Gripper  
Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Candidate  
for Truro and Falmouth





# David Devanny and Andrew Fentham invited people to a poetry party

as a way of generating conversations about housing in Penryn. An ancient collaborative Japanese poetry form called Renga was updated to 'Rynga' for the day! People of all ages and backgrounds made contributions...

walking in penryn  
the blue sound of tawny owls  
longing for penryn

what type of home  
does a gull or swan  
choose to live in

the sun rises  
in a windo  
liting up an empty room

shadows climbing the wall  
are geckos  
a swam of sunlit fingers and toes

darkness crowds the corners  
of the new room as ligt cascads  
throw the windows

no attention  
is paid to the rattling slates  
or driving rain

blank space where the pictures used to be  
making a house a home  
you and me

the last bastion  
of safety shelter security  
for a cup of tea

my house has a seagull on the roof she wakes  
me at break of day I watch the young  
ones grow I watch them fly away

peeling back the layers of people past  
sheet by sheet  
only to paint it white

housing round here  
providing for some but not for all  
!+X? your second home

my house has wheels  
it wobbles and feels  
like a boat

a key is much more than copper or steel  
it unlocks new beginnings  
safety and peace

my house is old  
the garden  
is overgrown

'Cut & Paste' collage by Phil Green



sandstorm  
paint the cupboards  
obliterate melamine

each day I walk  
past a sheep head  
and wave

sleepy sheepy head  
dampening  
in the dew

I wave  
to Thomas-A-Becket  
on my way to work

we walk together  
leave our lit houses  
process to the river

the old quay  
where brown sailed barges  
drift silently by

but under the old playhouse  
a hedgehog  
has made a home

penryn nights darker than black  
old stones and stories  
the smoke of the past

my back yard gate is rotten  
there is a hole at the bottom  
so the hedgehog can come and go

I like exploring dad's house  
with my sister  
I like decorating dad's house

## POETS

Mary Barns  
Romilly Brodskis  
Dora Brodskis  
David Devanny  
Andrew Fentham  
Miguel Fernandez  
Kirstie Forbes  
Leo Forster  
Meg Rose  
Jamie Spicer  
Ellie Whomsley-Walker  
Lyn Wills



# Penryn Forget-me-not Singers

Penryn Forget-me-not Singers are celebrating their 1st anniversary



**Penryn Forget-me-not Singers meet in the Temperance Hall on a Friday afternoon from 2-4pm**

**Why not join us?**

This time last year people gingerly crept into the Temperance Hall for a meeting to form a Penryn based Choir. Some of the locals felt it was time to get out of the armchair and leave their house for an afternoon of singing and just getting together after being shut in for so long. Some who attended were sceptical and wondered if they would have to do an audition, others enquired if they could stand for a while but then sit, could they come if they had a walking frame, could someone help them sort their song sheets, could they get a lift home, and finally, would we be having a tea or coffee break.

Once the basics were sorted and a name was eventually decided on, as a lot of us kept forgetting when we were to meet or words of a particular song, we all agreed Forget-me-nots would be a good name. With our name firmly set, the colour of our uniform could only be the colour of the flower we were named after. Kathryn went on a mission to seek out 17 tunics for as and when we were booked for a local event.

Jenny was appointed Treasurer, Amanda our Musical Director and Girl Friday as we practice on a Friday, and we took off - there was no stopping us.

Lots of events flooded in, Penryn Christmas Concert, St Mary's Church Party, Penryn Branch get together, The Choir's open Christmas afternoon, St Piran's coffee morning. In May we were honoured to sing at the Mayor's, Cllr Julie Tucker's Mayor Making ceremony. Julie also is a Choir member. More singing at the Town's indoor Garden party and the Pageant on the Quay for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The Town Fair approached, and as the sun began to set, we stood below the Town Hall and rounded off the day with our upbeat dulcet tones

Our last event for our year was to visit and sing at an older person's home in Truro, which we all thoroughly enjoyed that was after eventually finding it as like our name we did forget the name of the home which we were singing at!!

Mary May



'Cut & Paste' collage by Dan Ellis





# A pact with Penryn

Ambos /Cornish language m. noun - agreement, contract, obligation, pact, promise.

**Ambos (Ambos Community Trust Fal Ltd.)** is part of the worldwide Community Land Trust movement, set up to serve the Fal River area. As a CLT Ambos is legally bound to protect land and buildings for community benefit forever, often focused on ensuring the provision of local affordable homes.

**Ambos believes** our sense of 'home' is intrinsically connected to the wider landscape, both the manufactured environment, like where our children go to school, as well as the surrounding wilderness. Which is why Ambos believes that solving the housing crisis is not just about building houses but making places we call 'home'. Ambos also supports groups wanting to save leisure facilities, create green spaces, and affordable workplaces.

**Ambos only operates** where local people join the CLT to support its aims and objectives. The concept is that any funder investment is matched with that from a community group wanting to develop their local asset. It shows us that there is a community engaging with the project and is part of the decision-making process.

**Ambos believes** by combining the spirit of the pioneer with the wisdom of the age-old village makers, focusing on placemaking not development, it can help tackle the housing crisis.

**Join Ambos today!**  
and together we can  
secure land for Penryn



## Why get on the housing ladder, **Ambos** when you can grow a house plant?

**Ambos' Falcon Project, (Fal Cohousing Neighbourhood)** asks whether it's time to think differently about home provision and whether our over reliance on volume builders needs to be met by grassroots solutions.

**Cohousing (or Coho)** for those who are unfamiliar with the term is part of the community-led homes sector, defined as an intentional community. Basically, people who share a set of values coming together to build their own homes with shared space. A Coho is not purely about building houses for security or investment, but with the intention of designing a 'micro-village', built to last and focused on building a sense of belonging. Ambos' Falcon project nurtures a more organic design process, one where future residents shape how the place looks, feels and is managed for future generations.

While a Coho has a big focus on communal life, it is different from a commune. Residents have their own self-contained home that focuses movement on the shared spaces where people are more likely to meet spontaneously, eat together and share resources. Residents decide when and how they want to dine and interact in the club house, rather than imposing strict rules about eating and interacting together.

### **Falcon Project aims to:**

- Bring future residents together from the outset to be the decision-makers.
- Create between 10-50 (max) self-build homes surrounding a club house and shared facilities, like gardens and workshops.
- Build with healthy materials that enhance people's wellbeing and increase biodiversity.

There are currently 19 lived-in Cohos across the UK, with more than 60 in development. Every place is different. This is the beauty of a Coho; they reflect and celebrate the people who live there.

Check out some great examples here:  
[www.theruss.org](http://www.theruss.org)

You can find out more about Ambos' Falcon Project here:

[www.ambos.org.uk/falcon](http://www.ambos.org.uk/falcon)

**Ambos would like  
to find out who  
in Penryn would  
be interested in  
growing a Coho**  
[www.ambos.org.uk](http://www.ambos.org.uk)





## Sam Interviewed by Romilly – Age 10

### Are you wearing anything you wouldn't usually wear?

Yes, slippers... I hate slippers and I'm putting them on today just for you.

### Why do you hate slippers?

It's conforming I think, when I was little it was dressing gowns and slippers exactly at certain times... but these I just loved and I wear them outside but I can't stand dressing gowns or slippers, I'd rather just sit there in an old T-shirt and leggings.

### Do you just wear stuff just because its comfy?

No, I would be lying if I said I did, because some things are worth wearing - shoes mainly, like I couldn't wear a tight hat because that would give me a headache, but shoes I must admit, when I used to go out I would wear crippling heels and just put a smile on and pretend I was ok.

### What are you wearing today and why?

Well I'm wearing a lovely polo neck and a little silver bee that I made a couple of years ago (brooch)... and these men's trousers, because they are comfortable and they have a fantastic gold stripe down the side too - I always need a little bit of something jazzy.

### What's your favourite Fashion?

Well, I don't follow fashion, I think it's quite a nasty business. But Vivienne Westwood, she's my favourite, her shop in London is quite an experience and once she just came out from the back and gave me a nod. I was lucky enough to get some shoes from there, I've worn them so much that the whole sole flapped off because I was dancing all night.

**Have you heard the story about the 12 dancing princesses? So basically they danced all night so when they woke in the morning the soles of their shoes were all tatty...**

Oh I'd love to know that story a bit more.



### Vivienne westwood has just died hasn't she?

Yes she has. She was the grandma of punk, she just gives fashion a twist that no-one else has thought of, like a skirt that is all ruffled up one side, completely impractical but it just looks great... she was the first person to start that off.



### Do you want people to notice you in the street?

I know that sometimes if you wear bright clothes or something a bit different people turn and look - but I was bullied at school because I liked different things from the 'IT' girls and the fashionable girls. So no, a quick answer to that is no, I just want to feel like me when I am walking around - I don't want to be noticed I just want to feel like I have dressed for myself that day.

### Do you like putting on make up?

Yeah! my son is a drag queen so we have always put on make up. I think it's a shield, because I am not very confident ... I think people can wear make up because it makes you feel more confident, not lots - but I love it all, I think it's all theatre, and with Bobby (my son) he does his face and then I've finished my make up and I am waiting for him. He used to take 3 hours to finish and now he takes one hour so that's good for him. It's all drama and theatre!

### What's your favourite accessory or piece of clothing?

My daughter got me this wonderful bag from Japan, it's a rucksack, it's huge and looks like I am delivering something - the materials are organic.. That's my new favourite thing but accessories are EVERYTHING. I've also got my old brownie purse from when I was 6 or 7 years old, my Nan in London gave it to me, and its been everywhere with me - this was the first thing that I loved so much that I couldn't be without. I also made a belt with climbing rope that is plaited and looped around a caribiner.

### Do you wear any old shoes or do they go with your outfit?

Nothing matches, I always wear odd socks because that's what's available... if that's what's clean I just think that'll do. Everything I own is second hand or third hand or been given to me or I've begged for it. Nothing is new.

### Do you have a fashion icon?

Again, Vivienne Westwood - just because she's more arty, and I like the humour in her clothes. I also like a bit of Alexander McQueen because he was a renegade, just an east London boy - I've got some boots of his somewhere, again second or third hand.





# Ambos Calling imaginative 12-17 year olds of Penryn!

**Now is the time to have your voices heard,  
so we're inviting you to send us your  
innovative ideas for the future of Penryn**

After the success of last year's pilot programme in collaboration with educational charity SPUD Youth we're getting the cogs turning for next year's workshop series.

The free workshops will be for young people interested in design, architecture and model-making and together we will rethink the town of Penryn and how it could improve.

If this sounds like something you might be interested in, why not get those creative minds whirring now and enter our challenge?

**1. What space in Penryn  
needs more love? Tell  
us what you would do  
there!**

**2. Who most needs a  
place in Penryn? Think  
about a group or issue  
that needs more support  
and how you would do it.**

Send us your ideas to one or both of these challenge questions in any format you like, it could be a drawing, a piece of writing, or even a short film or a model. However you want to express your ideas, we want to see them.

The winning space and community need will be voted for by Ambos and be published on our website and social media for all to see! It will also help inform the brief for our summer 2023 workshop series.

**Email your entries to - [hello@ambos.org.uk](mailto:hello@ambos.org.uk) - by the end of March**

To register your interest in next years design workshops visit...  
[www.ambos.org.uk/spud-yc](http://www.ambos.org.uk/spud-yc)

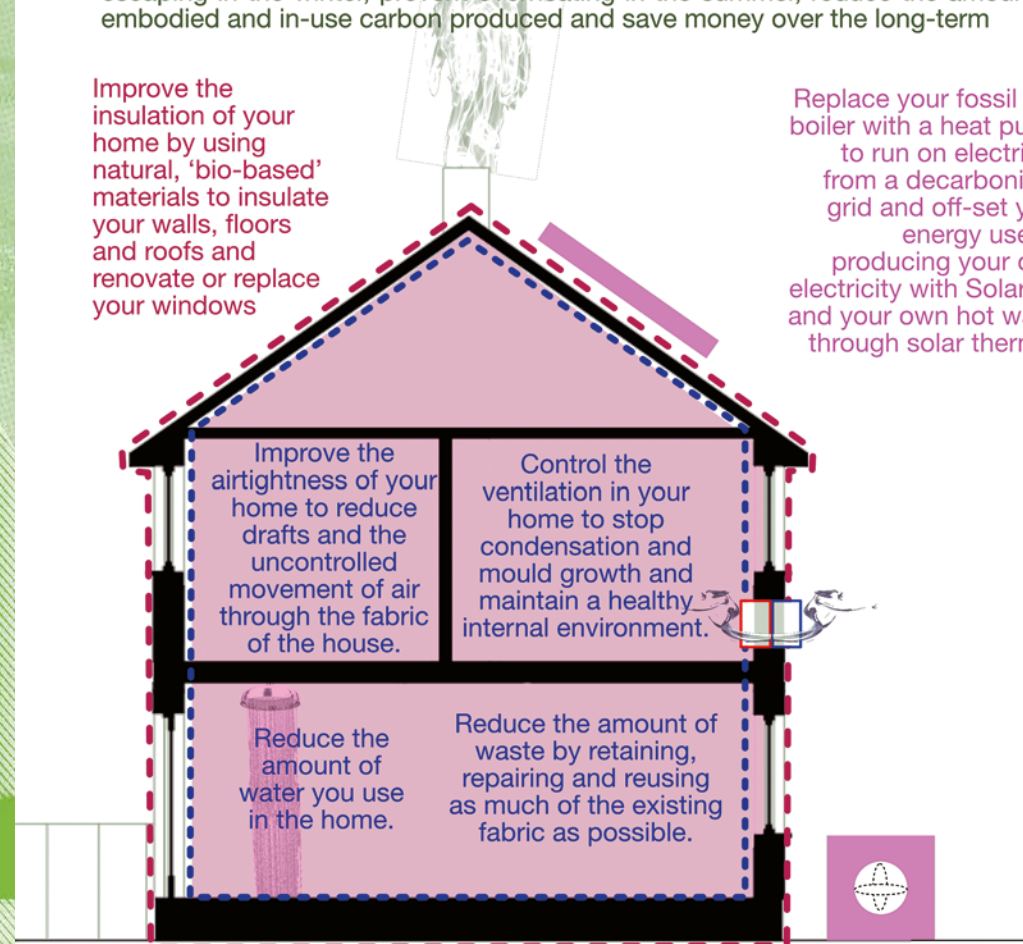
## WHAT IS WHOLE HOUSE RETROFIT?

The current rise in energy costs means that the majority of us are finding it difficult to keep our homes warm enough to be comfortable and healthy. Added to this, is the pressing climate challenge and the need to reduce carbon production to net zero by 2050. Therefore we all need to look at improving the energy efficiency of our existing homes by retrofitting them **NOW**.

**WHOLE HOUSE RETROFIT** takes a '**FABRIC-FIRST**' approach to stop precious heat from escaping in the winter, prevent overheating in the summer, reduce the amount of embodied and in-use carbon produced and save money over the long-term

Improve the insulation of your home by using natural, 'bio-based' materials to insulate your walls, floors and roofs and renovate or replace your windows

Replace your fossil fuel boiler with a heat pump to run on electricity from a decarbonised grid and off-set your energy use by producing your own electricity with Solar PV and your own hot water through solar thermal.



Over 80% of houses currently built will still be lived-in, in 2050. Of those houses 60% are hard to heat with an EPC of D or less. In Cornwall 12.6% of all households (32,367 homes) live in fuel poverty. Our homes currently use 35% of all energy used in the UK and emit 20% of all carbon emissions. Retrofitting our homes is a significant challenge if we are to meet the targets set by the Government to stop climate breakdown. Funding is available, see: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/public-health/public-health-campaigns/winter-wellbeing/grants-loans-and-subsidies-for-energy-use>





Please contact us if you have information about other local, free warm spaces

### Highway Church Community Centre, Church Road

Dwell community cafe – Tue/Wed/Thur 10-12 noon

Stay & Play sessions with indoor play frame and baby/quiet room.

Offering soup, snacks and extending to a full restaurant cafe menu with greatly extended opening times during 2023. Tables have free USB ports for phone charging etc.

£-££-£££ & A

### The Fish Factory, Commercial Road

Arts hub with workshop spaces/art studios, gallery/venue and cafe – Mon-Fri 10-5pm

Small cafe serving drinks & cakes. Monthly free events with hot food.

£-£££ & Ao/r

### St Gluvias Hall, West Street/Calver Close

Olive Branch Community Cafe – Mon & Tue 10-2pm

A warm welcome for all ages, free to attend, hot drinks, cake, soup and bread available.

Little Sparks Stay & Play – Thur 9-11am

Play group for 0-4yr olds and their grown ups.

£-££ & A

### Penryn Library, St Thomas Street

Library/Study area/Activities – Mon-Thur 9-5pm, Fri 9-4pm

A warm space to sit and read and an extended quiet study area with desk space for up to 10 people.

Free hot drinks & public toilet.

Bounce & Rhythm Time – Mon 10-10.30am

For parents/carers with toddlers to pre-school

Lego club - Thur 3.15-5pm

£ & A

### Sasha's Charity Shop, West Street

Mon-Sat 9-5pm

Warm welcome, small seating area, hot drinks & snacks available.

£££ & Ao/r

**Code**  
Refreshments/Activity  
£ Free  
££ By donation  
£££ Small charge for hot drinks/snacks

**Accessibility**  
A Fully accessible  
Ao/r Ramp on request  
NoA No accessibility for wheelchairs



Drawing by Dora

Papering over the cracks

Gently does it

DECRIMINALISE

'I don't understand boredom'



'Cut & Paste' collage by Liz Dennison



Write an article or make a drawing for the next one

Become a sponsor

We also really need help with admin!

CONTACT: [info@rynzine.org](mailto:info@rynzine.org)

[www.rynzine.org](http://www.rynzine.org)

If you're not already involved...

**We need distributors**

Volunteer to deliver in your street

The Rynzine is  
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a team of over 30  
volunteers living in  
Penryn. Join us!

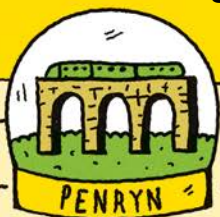
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To subscribe, see link on website  
[www.rynzine.org](http://www.rynzine.org)



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Penryn Town Council



We invite residents  
from all backgrounds  
and ages to get  
involved. Creating  
a publication that  
supports and connects  
the people of Penryn.

COVER ART BY AJ HIGGINS, RESIDENT OF PENRYN