

Newquay in Bloom Portfolio 2025



Introduction to the NIBP Team

Newquay in Bloom Partnership (NIBP) was formed in 2004 to bring on board the local authority, local businesses, public bodies and community-minded organisations. Prior to that the Newquay Floral Partnership had mainly organised an annual Gardens Competition for schools, residents and businesses culminating in an Awards Presentation Evening. Under the guidance of Kim Parish, the Partnership started to enter the town in the South West in Bloom Competition and in recent years has achieved much success resulting in entering Britain in Bloom, the national competition, and being awarded Gold in 2012 and Silver Gilt in 2017. Entering South West in Bloom led to the development of new projects to enhance the appearance of the town as well as more fundraising activities to finance them.

The team are all keen gardeners aiming to make the town a tidier, greener, more attractive and more environmentally friendly place to live and work as well as for tourists to visit. Currently the team actively maintain 14 project areas in regular gardening sessions on Sunday and Wednesday mornings in all weathers throughout the year. This involves keeping the beds weeded, trimmed, free of litter and well stocked with plants suitable for the conditions. Many plants are provided from members' own gardens which helps to keep costs down. In addition we plant up and maintain 4 sets of planters around the town with spring bulbs early in the year and bedding plants for summer display. This last year we have also responded to requests for help from the Friends of Newquay Hospital and the manager of Waterworld.



Some members of the group after a session in the Dinard Garden



Daffodil display in Cliff Road troughs

The Committee

Barbara Hannan President
Lesley Friel Chair
Bob Ollier Vice Chair
Sharon Kelsey Treasurer
Andrea Hamilton Secretary
Jenny Jelbert Minuting Secretary
Louise Edwards Media and Facebook
Sarah Thomson Newquay Town Councillor

The Team

Mike Jelbert, Terry & John Leedham, Will & Sheila Fisher, Shirley Williams, Rosemary Hague, Carol Cooper, Louise Edwards, Claire Keane, Lois Hughes & Sara Bentley



Committee members with Kim Parish (retiring President) and Mavis Warman (former Chair) at the 2025 AGM



Team members plus Tools after gardening at Beachfield Gardens

Organising the group's activities requires the committee to hold regular meetings on a monthly basis throughout the year.

Gardening sessions on Sunday and Wednesday mornings often round off with a time to socialise over refreshments. Some businesses offer drinks if we are working nearby for example the Wave House Church, Waterworld and The Cornish Oven. We very much appreciate this and always make sure to post it on Facebook.



Coffee break on returning from Bath with the Gold Award for 2024



Coffee with a view



Sprout Café after clearing weeds in the alleyway



Too busy to stop at Chester Road



Coffee after gardening at Waterworld with help from Bob's grandsons

Achievements

South West in Bloom 2024 Results

- **GOLD**
- Pride in Parks 5 Star Award to Trenance Gardens
- 14 It's Your Neighbourhood Awards – 8 Outstanding, 6 Thriving



Receiving the Gold Award at the SWIB Presentation in Bath



Barbara presenting the Gold Award to Drew Creek, Mayor

Presenting the Parks Award to Rex Cook & Stuart Lutherburrow of Cormac in Trenance Gardens

Following the setting up of the unitary authority in 2009, the town's assets passed to Cornwall Council and the maintenance of them to **Cormac**, the Council's contracting arm. Areas maintained by Cormac include Trenance Gardens and the Dinard Garden. They also cut the grass verges and grass on the Mellanvrane roundabout.

NIBP works with Lea Thomas, Community & Partnership Officer who has been very helpful supplying bulbs, seeds, plants and equipment for our volunteer groups. Phil Maund, Lead Environment Steward, arranged repairs to the fence at the Dinard Garden following Storm Darragh. Kelly Strange, Urban Ranger and her team have been responsible for the Urban Green Shoots planting project at the Barrowfields.

The Environment Team of Newquay Town Council under Manager, Joe Ashton, are responsible for the maintenance of various areas in town not maintained by Cormac including the Killacourt. The Team also maintain and water the hanging baskets at Chester Road and in the pedestrian precinct which are funded by NTC.

The Team are also developing a site at Trencreek for allotments and a community garden and collaborating with Newquay University on a 10 year Woodland Management Plan for Priory Woods which will eventually include wildlife interpretation boards and improved pathways. This year they have been deadhedging along the edge of the path.

After Christmas residents were encouraged to take their Christmas Trees to a car park collection point for recycling. The Team hired a shredder and NIB were given access to the mulch pile for use on project beds.

The Team regularly collect the green waste from NIB's gardening sessions and take it away for composting.

Christmas tree shredding



Hanging basket in the precinct

Newquay Heritage – Past and Future

Killacourt Plaque commemorating the 1967 Beatles' visit for their Magical Mystery Tour film.



Newquay Harbour taken over the roof of the Rowing Club

The **Bronze Age burial barrows** on the Barrowfields are evidence that Newquay and surrounding area has been settled since earliest times. At the start of the 19th century Newquay was a small fishing village and the parish church was in St Columb Minor. The **Huer** watched for shoals of fish from the hut on the cliff and directed the fishermen to the catch. At this time large quantities of pilchards were landed, gutted and salted for export from the harbour. The railway, built to facilitate trade in minerals discovered and mined locally, led to the growth of tourism and the building of luxury hotels and facilities for visitors along with more housing for workers and tradespeople. **Gig Racing** evolved from the need to transport pilots out to ships to guide them into harbour and soon became established as a competitive sport and remains a popular sport with regular racing fixtures. **Surfing** became popular here in the 1960s and the town has since become a major surfing destination throughout the year. In August the town hosts the annual Boardmasters event combining world class surfing with a popular music festival. Currently many former hotel sites are being developed as luxury apartment complexes as demand for hotel accommodation has declined. **Newquay Neighbourhood Plan** aims to ensure that these are in keeping with surrounding buildings and respect the environment.



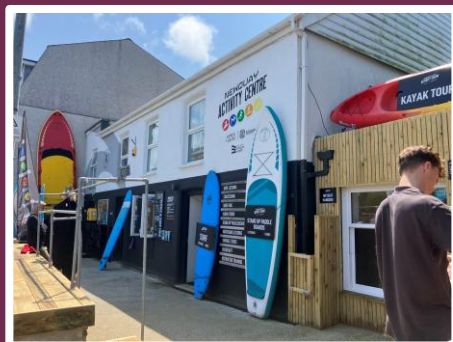
St Piran's Day parade assembling



Surfing at Fistral Beach

In the last couple of years much of central Newquay has been revitalised thanks to funding being secured for a number of major projects which have made a huge difference to the appearance and atmosphere of the town.

One of the first was the **Killacourt Enhancement** completed in 2021. This improved green space is now used for music events throughout the year and a monthly market and Food Festival in August. The start up shop units include Mushlove, a small eco friendly business selling all kinds of mushrooms and medicinal mushroom powders. There is also a free dolphin shaped refill point for water bottles.



Newquay Town Team made up of representatives of Newquay Town Council (NTC), Cornwall Council, BID, local businesses and residents identified further areas for improvement one of which is **Towan Beach Triangle**. Funding has allowed for vegetation to be cleared, planting to be supplemented in the beds and planters, seating to be replaced or renovated and improvements made to pathways at the Eothen and Beachfield Gardens, a busy area linking the town and the beach. See pictures below of work underway and completed.

Meanwhile through BID, **Experience Newquay** set up by Cornwall Council has offered grants of £2,500 for shop front enhancement and cultural experiences. 13 businesses have benefited including Newquay Activity Centre on Fore Street.

This year **Newquay BID** has funded colourful bunting through the town. Many new businesses have made an impact recently including the **Boathouse** at Newquay Harbour where a bar and numerous food stalls serving street food create a relaxed vibe. **Project 83** at Wesley Yard is developing as a café and venue for music and events stocking merchandise aimed at motorcycle enthusiasts



As part of the **Mid Cornwall Metro plan** to upgrade the railway link between Newquay and Falmouth, funded by the by the Government Levelling Up Fund, £4 million is being spent on much needed improvements to **Newquay Railway Station**. An extra platform has been built at the station and once the project is completed in March 2026 there will be additional through train services direct to Falmouth. A new public toilet block at the station has been installed funded jointly by NTC and Boardmasters and the Environment Team have added industrial style planters in front.



Newquay Orchard is a social enterprise running learning and social programmes ensuring more people have access to skills, training and opportunities and overcoming barriers such as poor mental health or adverse experiences. It comprises a growing space, market garden, community space and popular Heart and Soul Café.

The Welcome Sign at Trevemper is to have a makeover now that a new design has been agreed. Two more will be placed in new positions on the approaches to the town near Nansledan. NIB will be involved in landscaping for these in collaboration with the Duchy of Cornwall.

In autumn 2024 Newquay library hosted the **Back Garden Forest** project to gave away 600 trees for residents to plant in their gardens. A further 600 will be given away in autumn 2025.



Hendra Tourist Park is a multi-award winning park set in 80 acres of landscaped parkland. The owners actively strive to reduce the impact of the site on the environment by investing in renewable energy and ongoing rewilding projects. A variety of outdoor activities are on offer as well as swimming pools, restaurants and a coffee bar.



Nansledan



As in many places, in recent years there has been an increase in housebuilding in and around Newquay with new housing estates at Quintrell Downs, Lane and Trevemper, where a new road layout opened this year.

Nansledan (Cornish for Broad Valley) on the outskirts of Newquay is a large scale development of a whole new community by the Duchy of Cornwall. It comprises homes, a primary school, play areas, businesses, shops, cafes, restaurants, and health and leisure facilities. The project is designed to strengthen the bonds of community and place by giving people a sense of pride in where they live and work. Toward that end, in June the second Nansledan Arts Festival took place with craft and creative writing workshops, art, garden and scarecrow trails, music making and comedy. There is an active Community Association who recently organised a VE Day Party. Work is underway on a new Tesco megastore and in May the new road through the development was opened with a bridge crossing the railway line. This provides a new link between the east and west of Newquay easing traffic flow round the town. The British Legion centenary stone is in the area planted with native trees which forms part of the Queen's Green Canopy and the Forest for Cornwall (see photo below)



Nansledan School



A capella singing group Oll an Gwella performing at the Arts Festival



Art in the Landscape: MUQY Murals of Newquay

In 2021 **Newquay Walls Project** painted murals at Harbour Heights to celebrate the history of Newquay Harbour, one panel of which is shown here.



In 2023 **Newquay Renaissance Project**, set up by Pauline Spearpoint worked with young people on the mosaic wall at the Piazza, one panel of which is shown here.

The MUQY Street Art Trail is an exciting new initiative produced by Slapdash Studio. A free walking trail around the town centre hosted on Love Newquay's website takes in the large murals celebrating the town's heritage and identity on themes like tourism, fishing and hospitality. Each one is by a different artist with their own distinct style. It was started by Experience Newquay and is funded by Cornwall Council's Town Delivery Fund. At present there are 5 murals and more are planned for the Railway Station and the WI Hall. The latest one at the Red Lion features surfing Fistrals Cribbar Wave and was sponsored by Boardmasters – see photos on Page 10.

QR codes on each mural allow instant access to further information about the mural and the artist.

1. Sydney Road: Fisherman tending his nets by Elle Koziupa who took inspiration from old photographs in Newquay Museum





2. The Tram track: Abstract Beach scene by Kleiner Shames



3. Gover Lane: Rolling into town by Josephine Hicks leads visitors towards the beach.



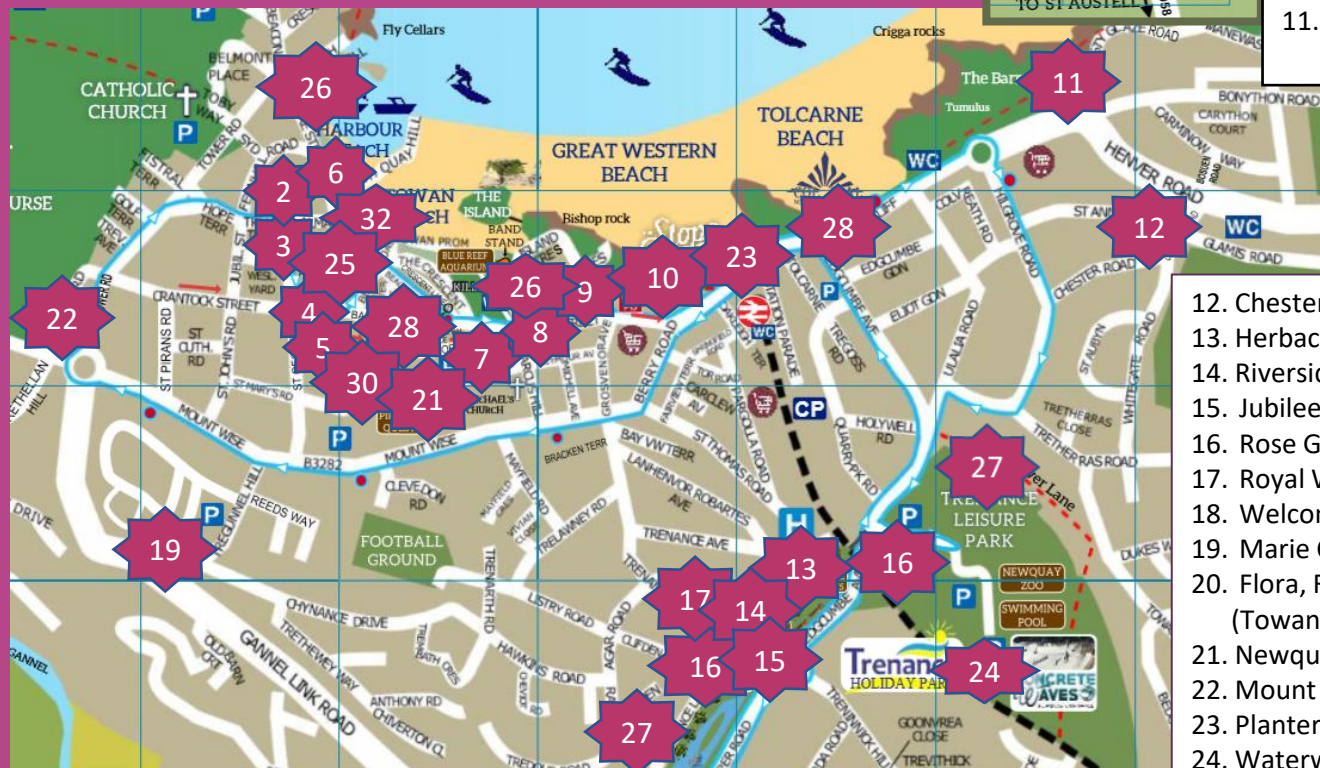
5. King Edward Crescent: Chris Dorning's design portrays what it is like to surf the giant Cribbar Wave off Fistril Bay.



4. 1 The Crescent: A playful design by 45RPM who worked with the Girl Guides who suggested ideas for this fun mural.



Bloom Projects in the Community



1. Quintrell Downs Roundabout
2. Sainsbury beds x 2
3. Manor Road beds x 3
4. Lighthouse Cinema bed
5. Newquay Piazza beds and cordylines
6. Harbour Heights and Fishing themed planting on Fore Street

7. Wave House Church Planting
8. New planting in front of Council Offices
9. Dinard Garden and Interpretation Board
10. Railway Station - Platform bed , Outside raised bed and Small raised bed on Cliff Road
11. Bolowthas Corner and Horse Trough by Bonython Road

12. Chester Road planters x 3; raised beds
13. Herbaceous bed in Trenance Gardens
14. Riverside bed in Trenance Gardens
15. Jubilee Border in Trenance Gardens
16. Rose Garden in Trenance Gardens
17. Royal Wedding Tree in Trenance Gardens
18. Welcome to Newquay Sign and Anchor Bed at Trevemper
19. Marie Curie Bulb Planting Tregunnel Road
20. Flora, Fauna and Historical Interpretation Boards x 4
(Towan Head, Gannel Carpark, Barrowfields, Trevelgue)
21. Newquay Bus Station Planters
22. Mount Wise Roundabout
23. Planters at Burger King and the Piazza
24. Waterworld beds
25. Eothen beds
26. Harbour Planters
27. Mellanvrane Roundabout
28. Barrowfields Beds

Through the Year



In October we held the **Garden Competition Awards Presentation Evening** in St Michaels Church.

The town's Gold award was presented to Mayor, Drew Creek and the It's Your Neighbourhood awards were presented to representatives of the 14 community groups that took part.

Cups and certificates were also presented to the gardeners and businesses who entered NIB's Gardens Competition.



Winners all – business and private entries

Autumn 2024



Spreading mulch on a wet day at Wave House Church before the daffodils emerge

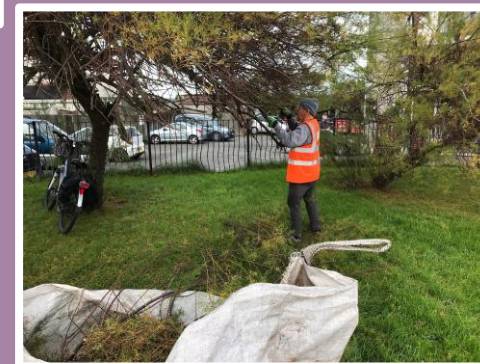


We were asked to help Cormac working with local councillors to clear an overgrown area in Trenance Leisure Park

Routine autumn tidy at the Herbaceous bed on a sunny morning in Trenance Gardens



Trimming tamarisk in the Dinard Garden



Mount Wise Roundabout – weeding and raking the sand surround on a chilly morning

Winter pansies added to the troughs for winter colour before the bulbs emerge

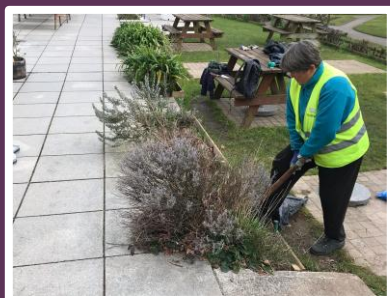
Winter 2024



Christmas present for Lois – a sturdy new litter picker!



Trenance Cottages asked NIB to replace the wood, tidy and add plants to the herb bed in front of Trenance Cottages.



Christmas lunch celebration at the Lakeside



The Hospital Friends asked us for help sprucing up the quadrangle used by patients and staff



Spring 2025



Planting in one of the new beds flourishing later in June



Clearing spring bulbs from the troughs ready to be dried and stored to make room for summer bedding: Busy Lizzies and Geraniums grown from saved seed by Bob.



Working with Cormac to plant trees in Trenance Gardens - part of the Forest for Cornwall Project



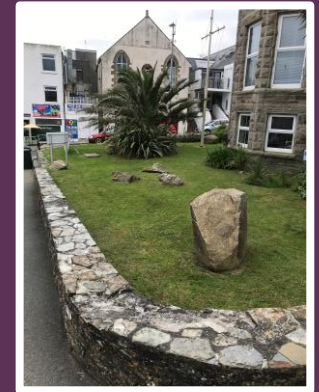
Summer 2025



Mellanvrane Roundabout: Before (left) & After (right)



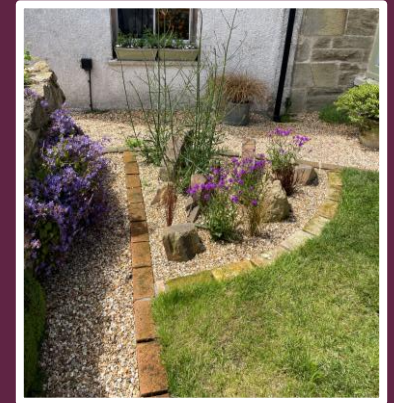
Marcus Hill Project with the Environment Team. Right before and below first stage of the planting underway following repair to the underlying drain and rotavation of the soil.



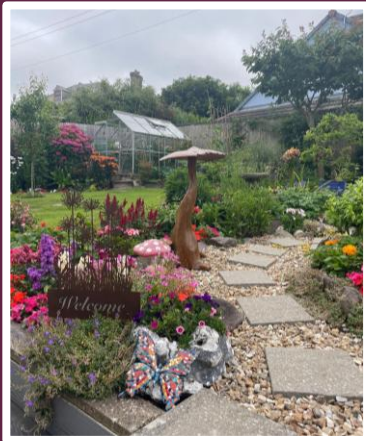
Shopping spree to Bodmin Nursery



Garden Competition



Competition entries were judged by Bob Ollier and Barbara Hannan. These are some of the best placed entries in 2024.



Horticultural Achievement



Trenance Gardens: Agave and sempervivums above and herbaceous border below.



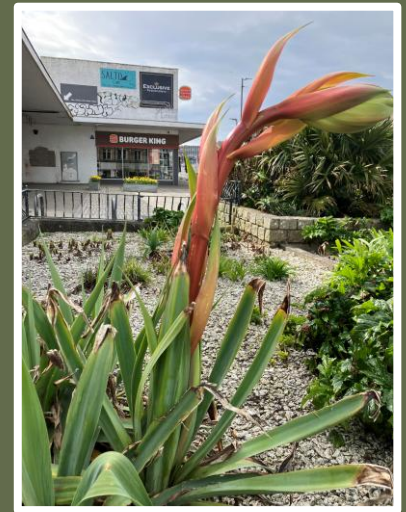
Wisteria on the bridge in Trenance Gardens



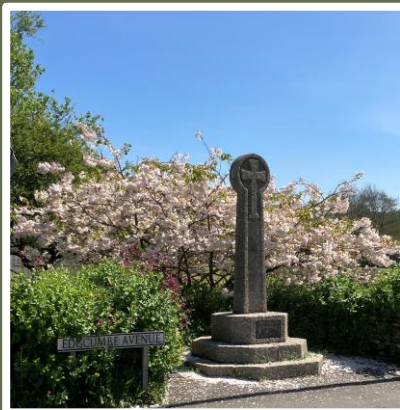
Allium at the Piazza



Thrift and Irises at Chester Road



Beschornaria on Cliff Road



Cherry blossom by the Edgcumbe memorial

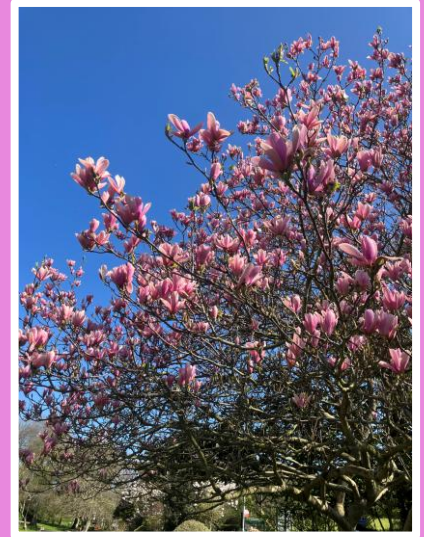
Spring colour all over town



The Marie Curie Field of Hope



Narcissi in Trenance Gardens



Magnolia in Trenance Gardens



Bolowthas horsetrough



Daffodils at the Wave House Church



Environment

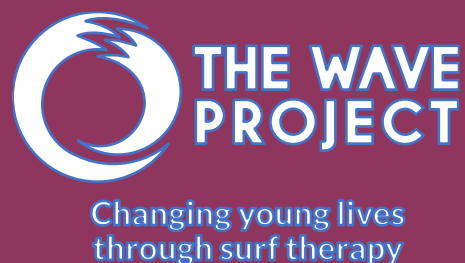
Biffa is responsible for alternate fortnightly doorstep refuse and recycling collections and weekly collections of food waste. Residents are encouraged to take larger items to the Trevenson Road facility for disposal. The council supplies brown bins for garden waste from households which is collected on a subscription basis.

There is now increased awareness of the need to reduce single use plastic in all its forms. One initiative, '**Plastic Free Newquay**', encourages businesses to find alternatives to single use plastic items such as drinking straws and cups.

Surf Wood for Good supply wooden bellyboards for hire free. Newquay firm, **Oltco** use waste plastic in the resin surfacing material they use.

Newquay Beach Care and **Fistral Beach Clean** organise regular litter picks on Newquay's beaches.

The Blue litter project is collecting marine litter across Cornwall throughout the tourist season and collaborating with the marine leisure industry and volunteers. Clean Cornwall supply specialised equipment and findings will be logged to highlight hotspots and types of litter found.



The Wave Project based in Fore Street, Newquay and in collaboration with Suez and Cornwall Council has set up a collection point at Trevenson Road Recycling facility for preloved wetsuits. Alternatively they can be taken to the shop. These are then either resold, repaired for reuse or shredded for recycling. All profits from the shop help to support surf therapy programmes to improve young people's mental health, confidence and well being.



Beryl Bikes have been introduced in Newquay and six other Cornish towns and the scheme has been expanded with additional collecting points this year. The system is operated by Beryl on behalf of Cornwall Council and funded by the Carbon Neutral Cornwall Fund. The e-bikes share scheme works by downloading a free app. E-bikes can be ridden anywhere but must be returned to one of the approved marked locations around the town as shown here at Chester Road. Newquay had the highest uptake of all the towns in Cornwall last year.

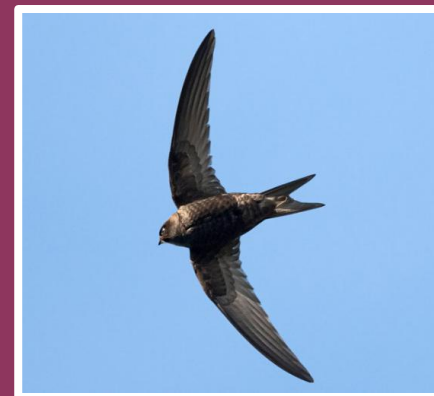
Councillor Sarah Thomson is collaborating with Joe Ashton of the Environment Team of NTC to apply for a Countryside **Stewardship Woodland Management Plan Grant** to improve access and educational opportunities for Priory Wood in St Columb Minor where a survey revealed the presence of both Lesser and Greater Horseshoe bats.

Swift bricks which have been incorporated into the new houses being built by the Duchy of Cornwall at Nansledan and Tregunnel have resulted in an increase in swift numbers locally. The annual survey last year showed that over half the bricks showed signs of occupation some by starlings, sparrows and house martins as well as swifts.

Waterhaul at Treloggan Industrial Estate recovers abandoned fishing gear from the ocean and recycles it into new durable and sustainable products such as sunglasses. The company was named overall winner at the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Sustainability Awards in December 2024.



Large recycling containers at the Killacourt

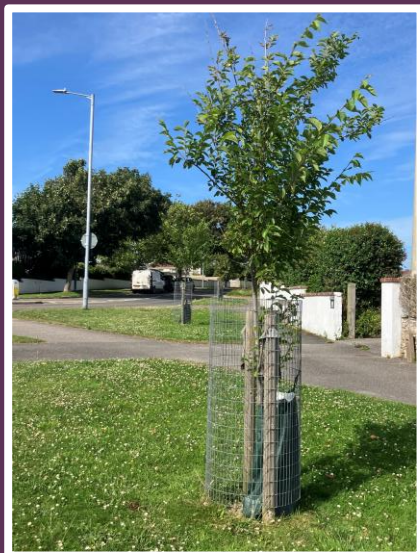


Grass Verges - Cormac for Cornwall Council are responsible for cutting many of the grass verges around the town. This year many areas were left during 'No Mow May' and since then just a metre along the edge has been cut to leave a sight line for drivers and the remainder of the grass left for insects and pollinators and to reduce traffic pollution as shown in this photo.

The initiative: '**Making Space for Nature in Cornish Towns**' included planting wildflowers along sections of roadside verges to create corridors for pollinators. The area planted was left unmown through the winter and in many places the wildflowers seeded and flowered again this year. Interestingly, as the soil in the verges was left undisturbed there are less poppies but more white daisies to be seen.



The majority of **street lights** in Newquay have been changed to LED which are more economical and more environmental.



Trees for Cornish Towns under Cornwall Council's Forest for Cornwall Project and with help from Councillor Sarah Thomson has identified streets and canvassed the residents about planting a broad selection of tree species on the verges. With 90 per cent support, planting of the trees began in March 2024 with further planting in autumn 2024 in Whitegate Road and St Aubyn Crescent. With few failures to date the project has been most successful. Sarah is also working to produce a **Newquay Tree Audit** and via media coverage encouraging the public to report trees in their area on the Trezilla App, an Open University project.

Sustainability



Jenny's compost bin

- Green waste from NIBP's regular weekly working parties is mostly collected by the Environment Team of NTC but some of the less tough material is composted in the dedicated compost bins Jenny and Mike Jelbert have set up for this at their allotment. The resultant excellent compost has then been made good use of to improve the soil for new planting in our project beds.
- The group regularly uses plants propagated from their own gardens in planting schemes and to raise money at plant sales. We have also removed and dried spent spring bulbs from our troughs to be planted out in the autumn.
- This year we have collected and used woodchip made available by Newquay Council to save waste, money and transport costs.



Bagging up woodchip at Trencreek

3 dumpy bags awaiting collection



Community Participation – IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD



1. Friends of Huer's Hut

The Huer's Hut is the oldest building in Newquay. Following restoration from a community driven campaign, the campaign chair, Jon Goodman is now the official custodian. Lighting, funded by the Lions organisation, can be used to floodlight the building to raise awareness of charities. In May 2025 it was floodlit in blue for Nerve Tumours UK.



3. Trenance Heritage Cottages

Set in Trenance Gardens, this row of Grade II listed, 17th century cottages are open to the public. The museum is run by volunteers who also organise various fundraising events such as the Summer Fair in June and Santa's Grotto at Christmas. The Function Room has become a popular wedding venue. The café is leased and runs as a separate business.

2. Living Library Garden

This community space has been developing into an attractive community asset regularly enjoyed by all visiting the library. Upcycled planters have provided an excellent habitat for annuals, pollinator friendly species and edible plants. A bird table and bird bath have been added along with a willow tippee, picnic bench and direct access from the library. Children did the RSPB Big Bird Count and library groups use it all the time weather permitting.



4. Pentire Esplanade Project

The Esplanade, East Pentire headland and the green at the south end of Fistral Beach have been registered as a Town and Village Green which protects them from development. Above Fistral Beach the green has been reseeded, paths installed and stone walls revealed.



5. Newquay Leisure Gardeners- Mount Wise Allotments Association

A friendly group supports members in the pursuit of gardening as a recreation and to promote health, education and community. Moreover there is the additional bonus of being outdoors and growing fresh vegetables for the table!

6. Newquay Old Cornwall Society Scrub Bashers

This group actively protects local heritage sites by removing vegetation and keeping them clear of brambles etc thus ensuring they can safely be visited and are preserved for future generations.



7. Fistral Beach Clean

Established in 2010 this group meets on the last Saturday of each month to litter pick through the dunes, surrounding footpaths and beach, focusing on removing micro plastics from the strand line.



8. Creation Garden Children from the Bishops' C of E Learning Academy worked with staff from the Eden Project to design their own Creation Garden in the Early Years Space at the school. This has been funded by the PTA and staff and parents have been involved in the ongoing maintenance. Year 6 artists worked on the surfboard designs.

9. Crantock Street Community Garden

This neglected area is being transformed by local residents into a real community space incorporating planting and colourful murals. It is used for community events such as the Big Lunch in June and is a pleasant area to sit in. One raised bed contains an apple tree and herbs for residents to make use of.



10. Minor Volunteers

The group meets on Tuesday mornings and maintains various greenspaces around the village. These include the recreation ground, the churchyard and Porth Beach Promenade. The group also undertakes regular litter picks of the area. This year a major project has been restocking the bed by Beacon Vets shown here.



11. Newquay Junior Academy

A high achieving and well regarded school that encourages its pupils to go beyond their curriculum – helping out growing fruit and vegetables in the school kitchen garden teaches children about the environment, where food comes from and the importance of nature.

12. St Mawgan Churchyard Project

This project was undertaken to improve the biodiversity of the churchyard in line with recommendations of the 'Making Space for Nature' report written for the Church. A working party got together in September 2023 and regularly attracts 11 – 13 volunteers to work there. The Holy Well has been cleared and compost bins created. Bird boxes are going up and a plant list has drawn up. The result is a beautiful and carefully tended Church Garden and the tremendous annual Flower Festival in July.



13. St Columb Minor Micro-edible Gardens project

February 2024 saw the first micro-edible garden being placed and created at the top of Calshot Close in the village. Very much a joint effort being maintained by 'Grow-Your-Wellbeing' Services using a grant from CC John Fitter's Community Fund to cover the cost, NTC's donation of a large galvanized planter and the co-ordination of NTC Cllr Sarah Thomson. A further 2 planters have been placed in the centre of the village outside the Farmers Arms public house.

Fund Raising

- Newquay in Bloom receives regular support and financial funding to enter South West in Bloom from Newquay Town Council.
- We ran a plant stall at the Summer Fair in Trenance Gardens.
- At our Presentation Evening we held a raffle and offered home made cakes with the refreshments to raise funds.
- We received a donation for entering and winning a round in the 'Brains of Newquay Quiz' run by Newquay Lions.
- We received a donation from Pentire Residents' Association for the Mount Wise Roundabout following their AGM.
- Barbara Hannan, President and Tony Booth have undertaken gardening work in the community for which they have received donations.



Johanna Heane presenting Pentire Resident's cheque to Barbara Hannan



Plant stall at the Summer Fair in Trenance Gardens



Goals for the Future

The group will continue working throughout the year on Wednesday and Sunday mornings to maintain and enhance existing projects around the town to a high standard and to develop new ones. We will continue to collaborate with the Environment Team where possible.

Alongside that a number of areas for future projects have been identified:

- An updated Tree Walk brochure for Trenance Gardens
- To develop a project to incorporate the boats that have been donated to the group and are currently in storage.

We promote our activities through the Newquay Voice newspaper, the News and Trader delivered free to all households in town as well as the local radio station: Radio Newquay. We also have a Facebook page where we can be contacted with enquiries, queries and ideas for projects.



Close up of planting on Mount Wise Roundabout

