

MARAZION Memories

NEWSLETTER – SCHOOLS EDITION

Marazion Memories is a Reminiscence Project covering the parishes of St. Hilary, Ludgvan, Marazion and Perranuthnoe. It is promoted by Marazion and District Forum and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and co-ordinated by John Pollard.

The project has been supporting and working with staff and students at Ludgvan, St. Hilary and Marazion Schools. One important aspect of our work is to encourage young people to develop an understanding of where they live and a sense of 'belonging'. The work has been different in all three schools and much of it has been inspired by collaboration with Alessandra Ausenda. The Head teachers and staff of all three schools have appreciated the scope of the project and developed, interpreted and used 'reminiscence' in a variety of ways. Our thanks goes to Bill Mann, Helen Macfarlane and Sue Visick for allowing us to work at their schools and to class teachers, Sue Walker, Kate Ellis and Geoff Smith for their enthusiasm and skill. We are also grateful to the more senior citizens who spent time at the school sharing their memories but we are especially indebted to the pupils for allowing us the privilege of working with them.

LUDGVAN SCHOOL

Class Five have spent the term looking at 'How our village has changed' and used the Reminiscence Project as a starting point. The children were asked to bring in photographs of the village or the activities of their parents/grandparents. A variety of information was gleaned and shared and promoted further investigation. Two of the more senior residents of the village came and talked to the class who questioned them very closely on how Ludgvan/Crowlas had changed. Having learned of a fire in the Star Inn they created newspaper reports and wrote stories based on the information from other speakers. The National Curriculum requires pupils to interpret the evidence of an historical event and recreate the event in some way and also to develop stories based on information received from a variety of sources. The work based on Reminiscence provided ample opportunity for both exercises. The poet Bob Devereaux came to school to work with the children. He used extracts from the Domesday Book and parish records to help the pupils to relate how the village had grown and then the class described the changes in poetry.

How Ludgvan Grew

A couple of cottages and a farm
A little place
Once many years ago
A hamlet on a hill
They called it Ludgvan and it grew.
More people and more cottages
A granite church, six bells and a tower
A drinking house, a place for fun
A place where you could spend an hour
It's natural to grow and Ludgvan spreads
Just like a plant it reaches out
Houses pop up like scattered seeds
Across the fields towards the sea

MARAZION SCHOOL

Marazion are celebrating the opening of their new Community Hall and in association with Ms Walker's class and Alessandra Ausenda the project has been recording memories of school in the past and school today to enable the pupils to compare and appreciate the changes in education. The class have also been studying the 2nd. World War and have revealed many links between the two exercises. Through the assistance of the St. Ives Reminiscence Project we filmed the recollections of a group of former pupils of the school who attended from the 1930's and 1960's. All this work was displayed at the opening event and will provide a record of the school past and present.

ST. HILARY SCHOOL

Alessandra Ausenda has worked with Class 4 and their teacher, Kate Ellis. They have been looking at life in the parish in the 1940's and invited three former pupils of the to relate stories about their school days. There was a particular focus on food but the pupils were interested in all aspects of life at school, especially punishments and toilets! The interviews have been recorded for our project and the class have interpreted their findings by making picnic baskets, describing what they have learned through various media. They will share the information at a picnic with each group describing an aspect of life at St Hilary School 70 years ago.