

## Feock Parish Council

### Roundwalk number 1:

### "Village at the Crossroads and Great Historic Houses"



Route: Carnon Downs Village Centre, Chyreen, Killaganoon, Tregye, Tresithick, Village Centre:

The route is generally flat with good surface, some field sections may be muddy after heavy rain. **There is one stile. Approximate walk time 1 to 1.5 hours.**

*Compiled by Phil Allen*



The walk starts at the Carnon Downs Village Hall, in the area that was the centre of the village in past centuries. Within a sparse scattering of cottages on the Downs, this provided a distinctive broad crossroad (7 road cross), bounded by cottages; Broadway (previously Gateshead), the Kiddleywink (providing a store, Post Office and water delivery service) Algarnick farm cottage and Victoria cottage next to the Chapel which was built in 1825.

The crossroads is also reflected in the occupations of Carnon Downs people, taken from the first modern census in 1841; of 130 working people 33% were miners, 20% farm workers, 20% servants and 10% dock workers or seamen.



**The village hall has been recently refurbished with grant aid from the National Lottery (pic 1)**

The main road through the village leads down the old turnpike road which followed Old Carnon Hill over the Carnon Bridge and through Perranwell. The new turnpike road was constructed in 1828 taking the current route over the new Devoran causeway and following the creek edge to the Norway Inn and Perran Foundry. The building of the new turnpike was overseen by William McAdam, son of the famous road engineer John McAdam. It formed part of the "Packet" route linking Falmouth with London while the service ran from 1688 to 1850.

Possibly the most famous journey was that of Lieutenant Lapentoire of HMS Pickle who made the trip by Post Chaise in 37 hours on the 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 1805, in order to deliver news from Trafalgar of Nelson's glorious victory and tragic death.





The alternative railway route over the Carnon Valley viaduct, built in 1863, was designed and laid out by I K Brunel and no doubt both he and also James Watt, the father of modern power engineering, who lived at Cusgarne from 1781 to 1800, passed this way in their time. Such was the importance of Cornwall in the days of the Industrial Revolution that these world famous and iconic engineers were about the byways of Carnon Downs in the course of their work.

The route crosses the main road to take the Quenchwell road opposite. Take the footway along the left hand side, past Algarnick cottage seen on the right (pic 2).



Cross the road to take Chyreen lane, the footpath sign is positioned adjacent to the path and shows where to cross (pic 3)

Continue up Chyreen lane (sometimes in the past called Ralph's or Rufus lane), leaving the four cross footpath sign on your left, in order to take the path further up on the right through "Jubilee Wood" (pic 4)



You pass the sign for Chyreen Fruit Farm which was started in 1971 and specialises in "Pick your Own". The season starts in April with Rhubarb and Early Potatoes and ends in October with Autumn Raspberries (pic 5)





Take the field gate opposite into "Jubilee Wood" turning left to follow the top hedge across the wood towards the far top corner. This wood was planted by the Lobb family of Algarnick who own and maintain it for the amenity of the community (pic 6).



Exit the wood at the far side onto the bus lane beside the A39, turn right in order to cross the A39 at the roundabout (pic 7)



After crossing the A39, walk towards Playing Place before taking the path to Killiganoon through the caravan and campsite (pic 8)



At the entrance to Killiganoon you will see in the woods the South West Water service reservoir which was originally built by the Truro Rural District Council in 1953 and first bringing mains water to Carnon Downs and Feock.

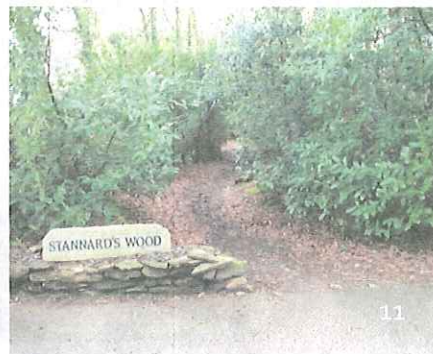
The Stithians Impounding Reservoir scheme followed in 1967 to cater for increasing demand from here and across to Redruth. Continued increasing demand for water has meant that today our supply derives from the River Fowey, abstracted by the main Restormel Treatment Works at Lostwithiel and fed via the Cornwall Spine Main comprising two three foot diameter water pipes. The Restormel works is capable of pumping 100 million litres of water a day, enough to cover 20 football pitches a meter deep.



The path through Killiganoon is paved, and on either side is the Carnon Downs Caravan Park, voted South West Campsite of the year in 2013 (pic 9)



Or you may take a parallel detour to the left through Stannard's Wood (pics 10 and 11)



Exiting back onto the path at the point shown right (pic 12)



Continue along the paved lane to the junction and cross over the stile at the end of the lane and follow the path at the left of the field (pic 13)



The route passes alongside the main Killaganoon estate house, the name may be translated as "Grove on the Down or grove of nut trees" and has been documented at least since 1298.

The estate house was first built by Richard Hussey, Attorney General to the Queen in 1750. The main house was refurbished in 1873 following a serious fire and the splendour of the house in the 19<sup>th</sup> century can be imagined when according to the 1871 census over 100 people lived at the estate in 24 households. **Continue on the left hand field boundary (pic 14).**





Pass through the field gate at the end of the path and immediately turn right (pic 15)



..... following the right hand hedge (pic 16)



The path exits at Tregye road, cross the road (pic 17)



... and follow Tregye Lane opposite through the granite gate posts (fig 18)



Follow the path through the various Tregye properties (fig 19)



Following the building of Tregye in 1809, the land and properties of Tregye have passed through several ownerships in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century including William and Juliana Penrose, Rev Francis Cole vicar of Feock and Daniell and Sarah Retallack. In the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Tregye became the home of Hon John de Clare Boscawen and many alterations and improvements followed, including the enrichment of the gardens with exotic plants.





Until you see the field gate, on your right, pass through this gate following the hedge on the right (pic 20). The path dips into a hollow with a small pond on the left (pic 21)



Follow the path through the gate and pass up the hill to meet the main Tresithick track (pic 22)

Turn right when you gain the main Tresithick track and follow this up hill to Carnon Downs (pic 23).

The names of Tregye and Tresithick predate those of Carnon Downs and Devoran villages. Tresithick was an important crossroad of tracks and paths linking Tregye, Penpol, Tregoose and Carnon Downs constituting part of a muletrain network linking mining districts with the creek ports.

If you took the path leading down the hill you could go one of three ways, a path leads left down the hill past the "Happy Valley" Tregye water gardens planted in the early 1900s and links with the route to Come to Good in the valley below, a second goes directly down through Tresithick wood to Penpol, and a third goes to the right to Tregoose and Chycoose. The footpaths to Penpol and particularly Tregoose provide magnificent views of Restronguet Creek and beyond. Towards the top of the hill a fine view is found of the Carrick Roads and St Anthony in the distance.





After the dog-leg in the road and as the lane becomes metalled, take the track through the trees to the left.

A quick look through the field gate on the left also provides magnificent views of the Carnon Valley (pic 24 and 25).



This path exits at the Point Road, with the Cat Protection home on your left. Cross the road (pic 26) ...

...and pass through the gate on the other side (pic 27)



This track was once the broadest road on the Tithe map of Feock Parish and previously, before the bypass was built, passed all the way back to the village centre crossroads. It was used by the mule trains taking goods to and from the quays at Penpol before the Tramway along the creek edge was built.



Take the path to the right of the horses field.  
At the boundary with the new bypass, pass through the small gate and make way up to Tregye road (pic 28).

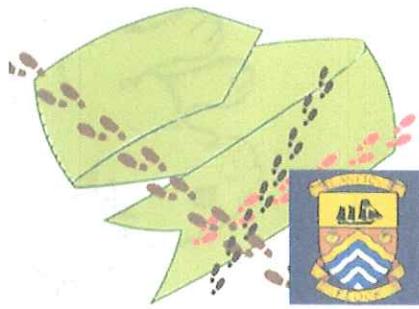
At the top turn left and pass over the bypass bridge to reach the centre of the village again (pic 29)



**\*\* You have now reached the end of the walk, we hope you enjoyed it \*\***







## Feock Parish Council

This round walk has been produced by Phil Allen on behalf of Feock Parish Council and we hope you have enjoyed the walk.

The footpaths are maintained by the Parish Council and if during your walk you have noticed anything that needs attention please phone the Parish Council on **01872 863333** or report it using the online form on our website [www.feockpc.com](http://www.feockpc.com)

Alternatively please call into the Parish Council Office at:-

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