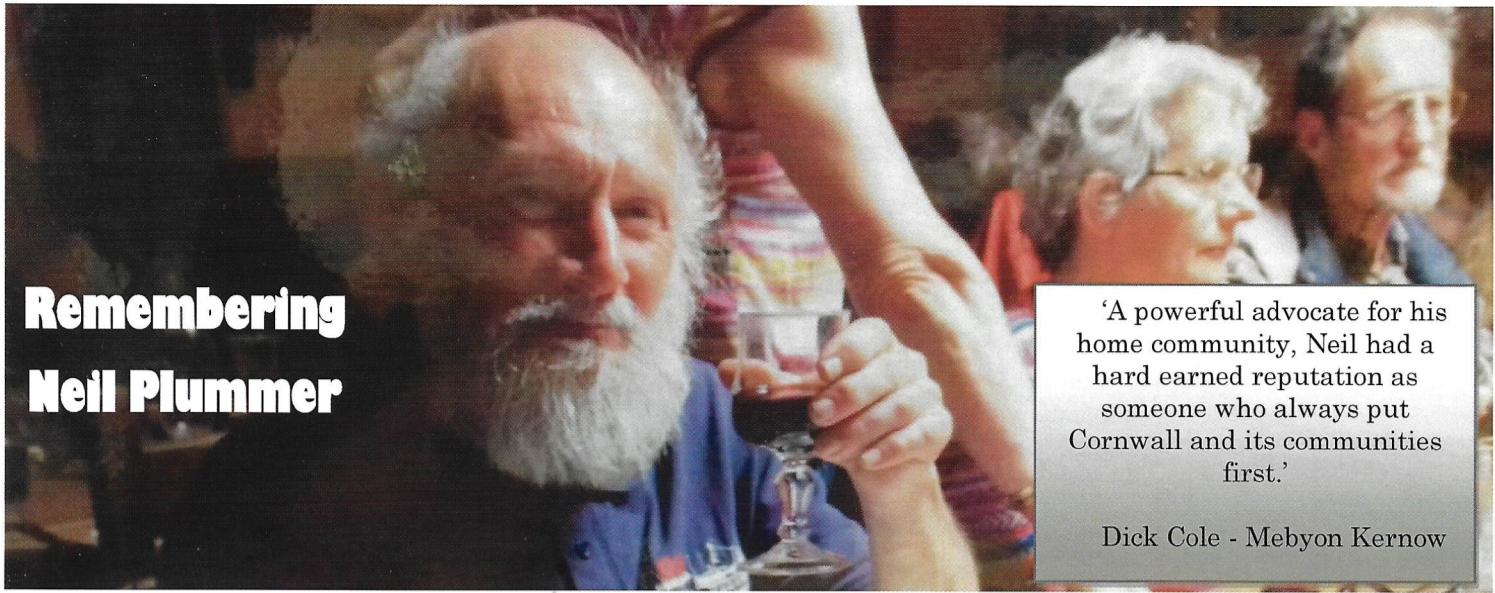


Remembering Neil Plummer



'A powerful advocate for his home community, Neil had a hard earned reputation as someone who always put Cornwall and its communities first.'

Dick Cole - Mebyon Kernow

It is too often one of the sad truths of life that you learn more about a person after they die than you knew when they were alive.

I knew Neil Plummer as a hard working Cornwall and Kerrier councillor over many years, always bouncing with energy and always busy. Always happy to help when he could. A proud Cornishman with black and gold flowing in his veins and granite in his bones.

But since his death I have learned so much more. I knew that he was deeply knowledgeable about geology. I did not know that he was so respected that the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall awarded him the Bolitho medal. A rare honour over its two hundred year history.

I knew he sang with Cadgwith for many years. But I know now that Flora Day in Helston will never be the same. It was Neil whose tenor rang out clearly in the solo of 'Lily of the Valley' shortly before the midday dance.

Cornish

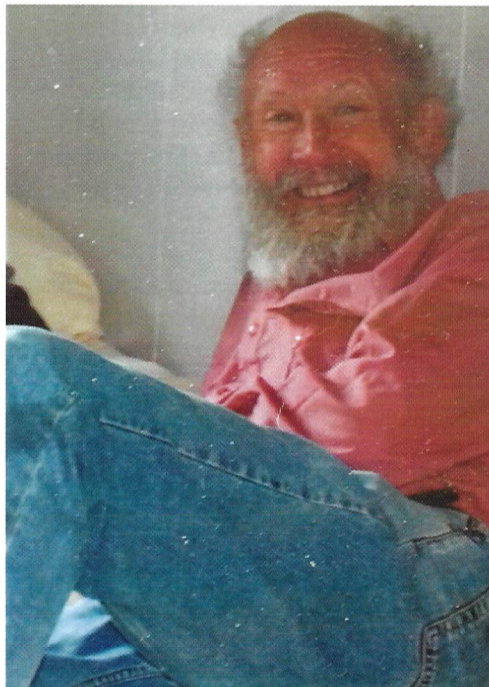
Neil lived in Stithians all his life and loved the parish and revelled in being Cornish. He didn't speak Cornish fluently but he spoke it well enough to converse with the aid of sign language with a Breton as the twinning with Ploerdut was being sorted - no doubt his linguistic ability helped by the odd glass of wine.

As a county and district councillor his battles were varied

and usually successful. Late night phone calls persuaded councillors to agree to one of the first self builds in the county here in Stithians.

Neil Plummer battled hard to discover the cause of the sinking of the Breton fishing boat the Bugaled Briezh in 2004 off Cornwall with the loss of five lives.

He always believed a British submarine was responsible but that is denied by the authorities.



Wrestling

Neil Plummer also loved sport as Bill Hooper from the Trelawny's Army Supporters Club remembers: *'It was with great sorrow that we learned of the passing of our good friend Neil Plummer.'*

A fine and principled Cornishman has left us leaving a void in the cultural heritage of the Duchy.

Neil, along with his wife Beatrice were great supporters of many Cornish organisations and causes over many, many years.

We enjoyed their company at our annual Trelawny's Army dinners, when Neil would lead with the singing of "Trelawny" and "Hail to the Homeland."

He also served for many years as a popular Cornwall County Councillor for Lanner & Stithians.

A Cornish speaker, blessed with a marvellous singing voice, his repertoire of Cornish and Celtic music was second to none.

He was also a very fine Cornish Wrestler competing in many tournaments around Cornwall and in Brittany.

For many years Neil paraded the Flag of St. Piran during the grand parade of Nations at the Inter-celtic festival in Lorient, Brittany and was held in high esteem by our Breton cousins.

Trelawny's Army send their deepest condolences to Beatrice and the family at this sad time.'

There are plans to honour Neil Plummer at a mid summer bonfire. Keep an eye on the Stithians Noticeboard on Facebook for more information. He is much missed.

Denis Nightingale