## Penwith 50+ Forum

Platform for advocacy, support and positive change for more than 20 years. 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – the final curtain.

Over the past 22 years the Forum has provided a strong voice and carried out more than 30 initiatives to support older residents. These include transport, housing, health and social care and the formation of Coast FM.

Bi-monthly meetings have included talks, entertainment, a fund-raising shop and, of course, time for tea and biscuits. Ther have been outings to places of interest; gardens, cafes and cultural venues. The Forum has promoted community cohesion, companionship and a strong voice for older people. Members were kept in touch with a monthly news sheet.

Unfortunately, the current chairman, Mike Bates has been unable to pass on the mantle so, sadly this was the last meeting of the Forum at the Salvation Army church.

Mike thanked all those who have been part of the organization over the years including its founder and longtime chair Chris Goninan. Tea and coffee was followed by members of the Hayle ukulele band who encouraged the members to participate one way and another, there was some dancing!

In order to continue the companionship and combat loneliness often experienced by older people there is an opportunity for members to meet in the afternoon of first Monday of every month at Pengarth Daycare Centre.

The Friday Friendship group will continue to meet every Friday morning at Pengarth. Anyone over 50 is welcome.

The new group Friday Friendship Plus welcomes a Town Councilor to be attached to this fledgling organization.

Councillor Penny Young