

# Volunteers help hidden holy well bubble back into life

ONE OF Penwith's little known holy wells has been uncovered by a team of volunteers from Friends of Cornwall's Ancient Sites (FOCAS).

Fenton Bebibell, which means well of the little people, can be found just off the footpath from the Men-an-Tol lane to Nine Maidens Downs near Bosulow.

Since it was rediscovered in the 1980s it has become overgrown and neglected.

The existence of the well was recorded by A K Hamilton Jenkin in 1933, who spoke of a "lady at Hayle who remembers as a girl taking her dolls to the well on Good Fridays to have them baptised."

This year a small group from FOCAS went to uncover the well, once again on Good Friday.

A spokesperson for FOCAS said: "The group was successful in identifying its location, and when they cleared the surrounding vegetation that was choking and covering it, discovered that the stream still bubbles up there with clear fresh water.

"The lintel stone which stands beside the well was also cleared back, affording the opportunity to reach the water once again, and at least one of the party baptised her dolly in the waters in the time-honoured tradition."

The aim is to make the Easter pilgrimage an annual event.

Clean-ups at the site will take place on a monthly basis organised by FOCAS, and all are welcome to take part.

For more details visit [www.cornishancientsites.com](http://www.cornishancientsites.com) where there is a downloadable form for joining the group.



■ Rory Te'Tigo, FOCAS member, helps to uncover Fenton Bebibell, a holy well near Men-an-Tol which had become overgrown.