



Catch up with Wendy Mewes

Elaine: Wendy, good to catch up with you again. What have you been up to since the last time we met which I think was at the Parish Closes walk.

Wendy: That's right and I'm continuing the same theme this year with an exhibition about the parish closes at the new cafe bookshop in Huelgoat where we are at this moment. And it's going to be a little exhibition of photographs by Candy Blackham and text, creative text by me about the parish closes and that's going to be at the end of April, the beginning of May and it'll give people a chance to not only to see the exhibition but to experience the lovely new café we have. Well it's great for a writer to have a really good cafe bookshop on their doorstep so I can come in here and work for a bit and all my books are on sale here which is another, another bonus and it's just a lovely atmosphere and lots of events, cultural events English French so it's really good news.

Elaine: What are you up to on the book front, you said you've got some books here?

Wendy: Well I'm still, still pursuing, I think I say this every time we meet, my book about old paths in Brittany which has been held up a little bit because of illness and me not walking quite as well as before but I'm determined to do it and this year I'm going to finish that book which is called "Wayfaring in Little Britain" and I'm also bringing out a mini guide to the Breton saints towards the end of the year so with the parish close exhibition that's probably enough to keep me occupied.

Elaine: It's good to have, to start the year, as we are starting the year at the moment - January - to have a goal in sight particularly after all that you've been through in the last couple of years.

Wendy: Yes, I've lost a lot of writing time and a lot of mental energy through, through illness and this book about walking the old paths has been driving me mad with frustration because I, the last thing I've been doing is walking the old paths, but now I'm determined to, to change that and if necessary to adapt err the book to fit with my capabilities, because I think it's a really interesting topic and its also turning into writing quite a bit about what it's like to be a solitary person and to live, to live alone, to walk alone, to, to think of oneself as, as a lone person, so that's gonna be woven into the text.

Elaine: That's an interesting approach.

Wendy: Because looking back which when you're walking these paths you think about your life I realise what a, what a stram(?) that's been and so maybe it's time to look at it a bit more in the context of the history and landscape of Brittany.

Elaine: Well, thank you very much, Wendy ...

Wendy: That's a great pleasure to see you again ...

Elaine: ... good to catch up with you.