

Comment:

“The weather outside is delightful “ (to parody an old Christmas song and it will soon be Ashwater Show time, let’s hope the sun continues to shine, with a little rain at night for those in need!

Newsletter: Contributions for the next Newsletter by 24th July please to ibuxton16@btinternet.com

Events in the hall (unless otherwise stated)

1st July, Garden Furniture Sale

4th July – Dance Practice, 7.30pm

6th July, Steel Band, 6pm

5th July – Lunch in the Village Inn, 12.30pm

8th July – Horticultural Society visit to Trebah, meet at 9.00am in the hall car park.

11th July, 18th and 25th July – Dance Practice, 7.30pm

11th July, Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm

16th July – Camera Club, 7.30pm

28th July Church B-B-Q

Badminton every Thursday 10.00am - Noon

Advance Notice

18th August – 67th Agricultural Show and 80th Horticultural Show at the show ground.

Ashwater Hall – Bookings and enquiries

Email: Imyetman@btinternet.com

Tel: 01409 211131

Ashwater Shop (Opening Hours)

Hours: Mon – Frid: 8.30am to 5.00pm

Saturday: 8.30am to Noon

Sunday: 9am to 12 Noon

Tel: 01409 211192

Post Office (Please see temporary change notice in this newsletter)

Hours: Mon – Frid: 9.00am to 4.00pm

Saturday: Closed

Sunday: Closed

PARISH HALL

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was postponed until 28th June 2018. Details will appear in the August newsletter.

Jig Saw Puzzles

Thank you to all who have given or loaned puzzles for the ‘lend or swap’ bank in the hall. We now have a plentiful supply and for the time being do not need any additions due to restricted display space (another reason for requiring the hall extension).

Grass cutting

Many thanks to those who have kept the grass and banks trimmed.

Refuse bins

The bins at the hall and shop are not for general use. Recently a lot of domestic waste has been deposited in the green bins – please do not do this as it creates collection problems.

Jazz Lunch

Regretfully this event was cancelled due to lack of ticket sales.

PARISH COUNCIL

Refuse Collection Reminder

Due to the changes in collections dates and collection times across the district, residents are being reminded that:

Black bags need to be put for collection by 5:45am

Recycling and garden waste need to be put out by 7:00am

Residents can also check their revised waste collection dates by entering their post code via this link

<http://www.torridge.gov.uk/forms/firmstep/wastecalendar.html>

Decorated Rocks

Decorating rocks and hiding them around the village is a fun thing to do. But could we ask that they not be hidden on the village green or its edge. The contractor who cuts the green has come across a few in the grass and they could damage the lawnmower and result in a hefty repair bill for the parish council.

Community Projects

Some community groups have come forward and asked the Parish Council to donate funds to their projects, but we know that there are more of you out there.

The Parish Council would like to donate to a project – not just donate money, so if you have any suggestions or proposals that would improve the village or parish, please email the Parish Clerk on parishcouncil@ashwaterparish.org.uk

ASHWATER SHOP

TEMPORARY CHANGE

Please be aware that until John (the manager) is well enough to return to the Post Office, the opening hours of the Post Office will be as follows:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday; 9.00am- 4.30pm

Thursday, Friday; 9.00am-1pm

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support for the shop and Post Office and look forward to seeing you over the summer. (The shop hours remain unaltered).

We also want to say a special thanks to Kate who is running the Post Office with help from Angie and to send John our best wishes with his recovery.

If anybody is free to offer help running the shop for a few hours in the morning at weekends please contact Kate in the shop.

"SECURE OUR PUB" UPDATE.

A small group has now come together to attempt to secure the presence of a pub in Ashwater.

In the next newsletter, we will be circulating a questionnaire to seek the opinion of the village and surrounding area. We need your participation and look forward to receiving lots of responses.

The results will be collated, published and further steps identified.

In the mean-time please remember to support your Village Inn.

VILLAGE INN MONTHLY LUNCH – 5th July 2018

Please book in advance or by 10.30am on the day at the latest on 01409 211200. The two-course meal is priced very reasonably by Phil and Dee and is great value – join us from 12.30pm. Air Ambulance donations are now being collected in the shop.

DANCE PRACTICE

Tea Dance 2.30pm-5pm at Lewtrenchard Manor Ballroom, Lewdown, on Friday 27th July 2018.

In aid of Barbara and Angies Artic Wilderness Challenge for cancer research.

Tickets £10 Please contact Barbara Dawkins on 01566 783437.

So dust off those dance shoes and have a free practice at Ashwater Village Hall on the following Wednesdays 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th July between 7-9pm.

ASHWATER CAMERA CLUB

The next meeting will be held in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm on 16th July 2018. This will cover photo-shop techniques. New members are always welcome to come along for a taster session or just to gain some knowledge of how to operate their camera.

If you need more information about the club and its activities please contact Caroline Gill, Secretary (email doodlewiz@gmail.com) for full details.

Many thanks to those who decided not to join the 18million or so who watched England play their first match in the Football World Cup and were entertained by Nigel Hicks displaying his eye-catching photographs and talking through the locations and basic techniques at our June meeting.

ART GROUP

The group meets most Tuesdays in the Village hall from 1.30pm – 4.00pm. We have a varied programme including tutored sessions of drawing, painting and print making. We also take sketchbooks outside, sometimes despite the weather and visit galleries and exhibitions. New members always welcome, regardless of ability.

Email or telephone for details. Kate 211241 katestroud@hotmail.com or Sue 211419 sueluxton@mac.com

ASHWATER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Our next outing is on Sunday 8th July. A visit to Trebah, Mawnan Smith, Cornwall, meet in the hall car park at 9.00am. Although not essential, if you are intending to join us please confirm by email/telephone beforehand. Dogs on leads are welcome, adult entrance fees are £10.00, children under 5yrs are FOC and between 5 and 15 half price. The visitor centre has facilities for the disabled, but garden access requires a suitable motorised vehicle – a buggy may be reserved in advance by telephone: 01326 252200. Look on line for more information about the gardens and beach www.trebah-garden.co.uk.

Tallest sunflower competition

I hope that all of your sunflowers are growing well. My sunflower was munched by the slugs but is still trying hard to grow. Please remember to measure your sunflower regularly so we can see how they are growing. It would be lovely if you could take some photos or do drawings of your plants for a small exhibition at the show. Any stories or poems would be great too. We will be measuring the sunflowers in early September and I will let you know exactly when soon.

Good luck! Paula

For further information on these events please email lmyetman@btinternet.com or phone 01409 211131

Annual Show (our 80th) – 18th August in the show field marquees – show schedules are now available in the community shop, have a look at the entry categories there is plenty of choice and open to all in the parish.

67th Ashwater Agricultural Show

Show schedules are now available in the shop, on line at www.ashwaterparish.org.uk or contact the Show Secretary: Karen Edworthy on 07779 008218. The show includes plenty for everyone from vintage tractors, craft tent, bouncy castle, horses and ponies (including show jumping) to livestock, sheep, fur and feather to a fun family dog show and the renowned Ashwater Steel Band. Trade stands and car boot/non-trade pitches are welcome. In the evening there will be dancing to 'Archive' plus a disco and licensed bar – pre-booking only please with Jess – 07733218562 or Michelle – 07887 290292.

Badminton

Wednesday evening badminton has now ceased until September. Thursday mornings continues from 10.00am to 12 Noon each week.

Dominoes League 2017/18

Singles winner - Steve Blackmore
Singles runner up - Rodney Brock
Doubles winners - Steve Blackmore & Pete Jennings

The first draw raised £42.05 for the poppy appeal
There after weekly draws raised £1108 for CLIC South West
Thank you to everyone for your support

ASHWATER STEEL BAND

The Ashwater Community Steel Band continues to perform all around Devon and Cornwall.

Schools continue to use our services and a few one day a week sessions will cover the Primary School National Curriculum music requirement [we will supply the necessary paperwork at the end of the course]. We are very happy to travel anywhere within reason to a school.

We have been busy so far this year with a performance in the HATS Theatre, Bude Classic Car Show, several performances at the Bude Folk Festival, Stratton Garden Fete.

Our Outreach work continues with work with several Parkinsons Groups, Breath Easy and WI/Ladies Groups and several schools.

We are always keen to work with any group which feels it's members would benefit from playing these very popular musical instruments. Chris is only too happy to have a chat.

We are running a series of workshops at the Devon Schools Music MIX at Bridwell Park venue at the end of June.

We have been asked to perform in John Lewis Exeter for the start of their Summer Sale season, also at the end of June.

We would really like to increase the size of the band, for folks of all ages, be assured it's isn't difficult. NO musical knowledge is needed. Chris has a simple, novel method of teaching which means anyone can be playing in around 15 minutes. If you don't believe me come and have a go [8 to 80+ welcome].

Our practice night is the 1st Friday of the month, 6-00pm [except September]. Just drop in, have a listen, a cup of tea, a chat and perhaps a try, you are most welcome.

Tony and Chris March Tel: 01409 211340

LAUNCESTON AGRICULTURAL SHOW – Thursday 26th July 2018

Cattle, sheep and horse Classes. Poultry Classes. Trade Stands; Arts, Crafts & Small Businesses; Cornwall & Devon Foods; Creative Community. Application forms & schedules available from: ShowSecretary, 12 Southgate Street, Launceston PL15 9DP or PO Box 173, Launceston, PL19 0BP Email: launcestonshowsecretary@hotmail.co.uk

HOLSWORTHY WALK AND TALK

Our new walk programme from July to the end of October is now available both on line at <https://www.walkingforhealth.org.uk/walkfinder/holsworthy-walk-talk> and in paper format at various locations around Holsworthy including the Library and Tourist Information Centre.

Our Monday Walk in the Park Group is pleased to announce that we are back in the former Cricket Pavilion for our post-walk refreshments. The newly refurbished building is now known as Holsworthy Area Sports Pavilion

The original Pavilion, "with suitable offices and dressing room", was built in July/August 1889, in time for the opening of what was then "Holsworthy Recreation Ground". Plans for the Cricket Pavilion had been prepared by Mr James Hooper of Hatherleigh and was built by local builder Mr John Bassett of Holsworthy, who also had a furniture shop in Victoria Square and was the Landlord of the Crown and Sceptre. The cost for the original building was £150.

The Recreation Ground did not become known officially as Stanhope Park until later, possibly as a result of The Right Hon. Arthur Phillip, Earl of Stanhope conveying the site to Holsworthy Urban Council in 1901 for the use of cricket, tennis and bowling.

The renaming of the facility to Holsworthy Area Sports Pavilion reflects its wider remit in the Community as a resource for active and healthy lifestyles for all people in the Holsworthy area. The new building will serve not just the Cricket Club but the Youth Football Club and is also intended to address identified deficiencies in sports and active lifestyle opportunities in the town such as those for girls and women's team sports, the elderly and those recovering from illness.

Walking for Health promotes the benefits of walking to help conditions such as Type 2 diabetes, heart disease and cancer. We are very pleased to be able to have such a lovely new facility within Holsworthy for our use and the recognition of the importance of opportunities to be more active irrespective of age, gender or infirmity.

Our Monday Level 1 walks in Stanhope Park, Holsworthy start at 10.30 am. We will now be meeting outside the Holsworthy Area Sports Pavilion with tea and coffee served afterwards. The Friday walks move off at 10.30 am from various locations around the area. Details can be found on our walk programme. All walks are free.

For further information regarding the Monday walks please contact Gillian Aston on 01409 254642. For information regarding the Friday walks please contact David Arney on 01837 861829.

Devon Library Service

Devon's libraries attracted 2.7 million visits and welcomed over 135,000 regular library users last year.

Devon County Council and charity Libraries Unlimited, which is commissioned to run Devon's libraries, says the high visitor numbers are a reflection of the broad range of services that appeal to a variety of audiences.

But while the diversity of services on offer in Devon's public libraries has expanded beyond the traditional book lending service - with digital technologies such as 3D scanning and printing in FabLabs in Exeter and Barnstaple libraries; support for businesses and entrepreneurs; partnerships with health and wellbeing organisations; a growing range of arts and cultural events; and hosting local community activities - the county's mobile library and outreach services in rural areas has remained largely unchanged.

Now, the Council wants to consider ways to increase take up in rural areas in order to reach more people who can't easily access Devon's 50 public libraries.

So it's launching a review to find out what people think is most important about mobile and outreach library services, to shape the design of an outreach service that better meets people's needs and offers access to the wider range of library facilities.

Options could include extending the Home Library Service, which delivers books and audiobooks direct to people's homes. This service is currently intended for people who are unable to visit a library due to ill-health or disability or are too frail to carry heavy books, but it could be extended to include other people who need it.

Alternatively, there could be transport arranged to take people to their nearest library. The Council could work more closely with local community transport providers to provide regular stops at libraries, so that people from outlying villages can access the full range of library services, including local events and activities.

Another consideration would be to introduce a Good Neighbour Scheme, a new type of membership that would enable friends, family members or neighbours to collect and return books on someone else's behalf.

Or there could be ad hoc, 'pop-up' libraries in some villages. The Council could work with local communities to use local venues on a regular basis to make library services available.

And in response to the increase in usage of digital services, the move could involve investing in a wider range of eBooks, eAudiobooks and digital magazines to increase the range of online material, which all library card holders could access at any time.

The Council also wants to consider what to do with their four ageing mobile library vehicles, which have become unreliable, increasingly expensive to run, and carry limited stock. The number of people using the mobile library service has fallen by almost a quarter since 2014/15 and the number of mobile library loans has reduced from over 90,000 to 64,000 in that time.

Councillor Roger Croad, the Council's Cabinet Member with responsibility for the library service said:

"While many Councils elsewhere have reduced their library provision, we took steps with Libraries Unlimited that have kept our 50 static libraries open, with longer opening hours and an increased range of services on offer. The result is, we've got a far more resilient and innovative library service, which is acclaimed nationally as a good model, and that continuously strives to improve ways to meet people's needs.

"But Devon is a large rural county that presents many challenges particularly with dispersed communities and an ageing population. And while we have a system of making library services accessible to people who can't get to their nearest library, it's dated and it's time we looked for ways to improve it.

"Everyone should be able to access our library services, and new technology and smarter ways of doing things offer new opportunities for us to think about, that could help us reach more people in Devon's rural areas.

"We've got some ideas that we will share in our consultation, but importantly we'd like to better understand how people use the current mobile and outreach service and how they'd like to use it in future, so that we can come back with a proposal to improve the service and make it more tailored to what they need."

Ciara Eastell, Chief Executive of Libraries Unlimited said:

"We're working closely with Devon County Council to look at ways of reshaping our mobile library and outreach service to ensure it is efficient, effective and designed to meet the needs of communities now and in the future. Our mission as a charity is to reach and support as many people as possible with our high quality library services. We know that society is changing, and we therefore need to reflect that in the way that our library service is designed.

"We're looking forward to hearing from users of the mobile service, outreach services and from users of our network of libraries about what is most valuable to them, so that we can remodel a service that really reflects what people want.

"We know from our latest figures that people are still using public libraries in huge numbers, almost 3 million people in Devon alone. We also know that the number of people accessing our digital services, such as our online catalogue, digital magazines, eBooks and eAudiobooks continues to increase year on year, whilst the number of people using our mobile library has been declining steadily for a number of years.

"It's important that we use this information to make sure we are serving people in the best way possible and that libraries continue to focus on the needs of local people and communities across Devon."

People can take part in the consultation by visiting devon.cc/librariesoutreach. You can complete the consultation online in any of our 50 libraries, and paper copies of the consultation are available at all our libraries and at mobile library service stops. The deadline for responses is 28 July 2018.

.....And Finally

Don't forget if you would like a copy of the newsletter by email or no longer wish to receive one then please confirm to: ashwaternewsletter@btinternet.com

Advertising in the Newsletter

Small adverts cost £25 per issue and help to cover the cost of paper and printing, which are otherwise donated or paid from parish council funds raised through the local precept.

Distribution of Newsletters

My thanks to those who provide articles for and distribute the newsletters. If you know of anybody who did not receive a copy please let me know: copies will always be available at the Village Shop, Parish Hall and in the Village Inn. Any information for inclusion in or offers to help please contact Ivan Buxton on 01409 221073, e-mail ibuxton16@btinternet.com. Don't forget to visit the Ashwater Website: www.ashwaterparish.org.uk

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