

Comment: Spring has proved fickle with variations in temperature, but one thing remains constant, the number of local events available to attend – thanks to all who arrange them.

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

Events in the hall (unless otherwise stated)

3rd May – Lunch at the Village Inn, 12.30pm

9th May – Johnny Cowling Gospel Evening, Ashwater Church, 7.30pm

9th May – Annual Parish Meeting, 7.30pm

14th May – Public Meeting, 7.30pm

17th May – Hall AGM, 7.30pm

18th May – Concert at Bratton Clovelly, 7.00pm

21st May – Camera Club, 7.30pm

26th May – Horticultural Society Plant Sale, 10.00am

27th May – Broadwoodwidger Open Gardens, 1pm

Advance Notice

10th June – Jazz Lunch, Parish Hall

18th June – Nigel Hicks Talk, Parish Hall 7.30pm

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

Hours: Mon – Frid: 9.00am to 4.00pm
Saturday: Closed
Sunday: Closed

PARISH HALL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 17TH MAY 2018

The hall AGM will take place at 7.30pm in the Jack Moon Hall on 17th May 2018 and everyone is invited. This is an opportunity to come forward and become a trustee. Without volunteers in this role the hall cannot properly function. There are nomination forms in the hall and a box for completed ones, so please consider joining us to help keep this vital community asset functioning for all our benefit. Please see the following agenda:

AGENDA

- 1 Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 31 May 2017
 - 2 Matters Arising
 - 3 Chairman's Report
 - 4 Treasurer's Report and adoption of the accounts for year ending 31 March 2018
 - 5 Election of Trustees
 - 6 Election of Officers
 - 7 Any Other Business at Discretion of the Chair
- C Vallance: Chairman. 01/05/2018

JAZZ LUNCHSUNDAY 10th June 2018

Following the success of the Jazz lunch held in the hall last year we are hoping to repeat the achievement this year. The band has been booked and hall committee members are busy devising a lunch menu. Tickets will soon be on sale, so make a diary entry. All the proceeds will go towards the hall extension fund as we are nearing the time when we can consider putting out to tender for commencement of building work, we just need to raise a bit more money.

Jig Saw Puzzle Swap

Calling all puzzlers! Unsure what to do with your completed or unwanted jigsaw puzzles? Why not bring them to the hall and swap them for one you haven't done or simply borrow a puzzle? We hope to build up a collection in the hall meeting room – there will be no charge, but when borrowing please make a note in the book provided and likewise when lending or donating a puzzle record brief details so there is a record of the puzzles available. Thank you.

Clothing Items

A number of unclaimed clothing items have been left in the hall, if anyone recognises the description and wants to collect them they are in the main hall: Childs light blue jeans (size 9-10yrs). Grey and white flower- patterned wrap or stole. Small scarf with skull and cross bones motifs. Paisley pattern wrap or stole. Also, a navy-blue fleece with a tennis ball in the pocket hanging on a clothes peg. If unclaimed we will dispose of all the items at the end of May.

PARISH COUNCIL

Public Meeting

The Parish Council will host a public meeting to discuss the future of the Village Inn on Monday 14th May at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. Representatives from the Parish Council will attend to chair the meeting. Everyone is welcome.

The Village Inn is open for business as usual, serving a fine selection of ales, wines and spirits as well as good food at reasonable prices, both lunch times and evenings.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Parish Council invites all Ashwater residents to attend the Annual Parish Meeting. This is to be held on Wednesday 9th May at 8.00pm in the Parish Hall. The guest speaker will be Councillor James Morrish from Torridge District Council and will include a Q&A session. There will be refreshments available.

Rural policing update

- Thefts in Bradworthy of a trailer, in Black Torrington theft of metal farm feeders and Anvil Corner theft of scrap batteries so opportunist thieves are targeting easy to sell scrap metal.
- A noticeable increase in dogs worrying livestock. The police are advising people to keep their dogs under control particularly at the moment as it is lambing season.
- The police has a free property marking service so it can engrave property and marked it with infrared permanent pens etc.
- A different product the police are supporting and advertising is SelectaDNA. The police have access to packs which mark up to 50 items each. It retails for £70 online but they can sell them for £20. It is permanent and can be used on indoor and outdoor equipment. Each dot has a unique reference number so every pot has a different number and you register everything you have marked with it online and unlike smart water you do not need to keep paying every year to re-register it, you only need to do it once. If the police recover any property marked with this, once they can see the numbers they do not have to send it away for analysis for DNA like they would for smart water, they can get in touch with the owners straightaway. Opportunist thieves are aware of the product and how effective it is. Stickers can be placed on equipment and signs displayed on the premises showing that the equipment has been marked which can provide an effective deterrent. PCSO Tomkies recommended that equipment should be marked in more than one place as an additional safeguard. Devon & Cornwall Community Watch Association have supplied the police the product for them to distribute. Anyone interested should contact PCSO Tomkies on her email address: emma.tomkies@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk. Product details can be found on the SelectaDNA website: <https://www.selectadna.co.uk/> Payment by cheque please.

Dog fouling

With Spring weather just around the corner, dog owners are reminded to please pick up after their pets for the health and enjoyment of everyone.

VILLAGE INN MONTHLY LUNCH – 3rd May 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. Sue Luggar has made other arrangements to collect the regular Air Ambulance donations as husband John is at present undergoing hospital treatment – we send him our best wishes.

ASHWATER CHURCH

Johnnie Cowling Gospel Concert with supporting **Arscott Ladies' Choir** Wednesday 9th May 7-30pm at Ashwater Parish Church. Tickets £10.00 available from Ashwater Community Shop.

ASHWATER CAMERA CLUB

The May meeting is on 21st at 7.30pm in the hall with a 'Lightroom' Demonstration. Don't forget the closing date for the Parson Jack Russell Competition is 5th May. There will be an illustrated talk by Nigel Hicks on 18th June in the hall at 7.30pm, free to members, £7 on the door to non-members to include refreshments. Nigel is an experienced professional photographer specialising in Dartmoor landscapes, nature and travel, this promises to be an evening of interest to all, not just photo club members. See posters on the notice boards or contact Caroline Gill, Secretary (email doodlewiz@gmail.com) for full details.

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

Plant sale Saturday 26th May 2018 outside the Parish Hall between 10.00am and 12Noon. Tea and coffee available (donations would be appreciated). We hope to have plenty of very reasonably priced plants and all the proceeds go towards the cost of running the Annual Show on 18th August. Schedules and entry forms will soon be available

Recently, Ashwater Horticultural Society paid a most informative and enjoyable visit to Made -Well at Hatherleigh in glorious spring sunshine.

Made-Well is a day care facility for clients with mental and physical issues, where they are able to take part in a wide range of activities including craft, catering and gardening.

After a cup of coffee and a cake in the lovely cafe which is open to all, Vernon Anning, who lives in Ashwater and is responsible for the garden at Made-Well showed us around the garden, including the raised beds and poly tunnels. We also saw the poultry and other animals.

Much of the area is devoted to vegetable and salad production to supply the cafe, and we were able to sample the produce at lunchtime.

Plants are also grown for sale to visitors to the cafe.

Thank you to Vernon for taking the time to show us around, it was so interesting. For further information about Made-Well see www.made-well.co.uk

Sunday 24th June. A visit to Docton Mill and Hartland Abbey. Further details nearer the day.

Sunday 8th July. A visit to Trebah and Glendurgan. Further details nearer the day.

The 'Tallest Sunflower Competition' – is now being organised.

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

Betty Gill

Eric Gill and family would like to thank all those attending Betty's recent funeral, particularly the ladies who produced such a fine tea afterwards.

Betty was a long-standing supporter of the Ashwater Horticultural Society and there will be a perpetual commemoration trophy provided by the family, commencing at this show this year.

THE HALDON STRING QUARTET FRIDAY, 18TH MAY, 2018

Summer concert at Bratton Clovelly Parish Hall EX20 4JT Doors and Bar 7pm/Music 7.30

The **Haldon** are four musicians rooted in Devon, united in their desire to play the classics and newer works of the string quartet repertoire to audiences in the area and further afield. Their diverse backgrounds and musical interests nourish their collective approach. Further information at: www.haldonquartet.co.uk

Mozart - 'Hunt' quartet K. Imogen Holst - Phantasy Quartet Interval Part Summa Dvorak - 'American' quartet

Tickets: £10 (16yrs and under £5) To book, email: brattonclovellyfestival@gmail.com or phone: 01837 871696
Joanna Wallwork Chair Bratton Clovelly Festival www.brattonclovellyfestival.com
www.facebook.com/brattonclovellyfestival Mobile: 07813499740 Registered Charity No: 1169088

GREATER HORSESHOE BATS

Greater Horseshoe bats are an endangered species, receiving the highest level of wildlife protection and Devon is one of the remaining strongholds for this significant mammal.

All bats suffer if their habitat is disturbed or lost and it is a serious offence to deliberately cause harm to them or their habitat.

Building work causes disturbance and often leads to destruction of habitat and current development proposals for green field sites are a considerable cause for concern, especially due to the impact on wildlife. Government is proposing amendments to the National Planning Policy Framework that could lead to considerable harm and impact to Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Special Areas of Conservation, Green Belt and even the National Parks and World Heritage Sites.

Across Devon developers are seeking to build on large areas of agricultural land to provide housing and other amenities. In Teignbridge and the South Hams for example, it is proposed that large tracts of land including areas of high landscape value are to be built upon. Much of this land is important habitat for one of the largest colonies of the Greater Horseshoe bat. In order to accommodate this proposal a Supplementary Planning Document has been produced and is open to consultation. In effect if this alteration to a designated area is approved, developers will be able to take away areas utilised by the bats as important flyways and attempt to replace the land with a much smaller area – there is no guarantee this proposal would work.

If anyone is interested in helping to protect these vulnerable bats please take time to read the bulletin reproduced below and complete the survey response form.

“Dartmoor National Park, Devon County Council, South Hams District Council, Teignbridge District Council and Torbay Council are consulting on a draft **South Hams SAC Greater Horseshoe Bat Supplementary Planning Document**.

This Supplementary Planning Document is being prepared to provide guidance on the implementation of policies relating to the South Hams Special Area of Conservation, specifically on the population of greater horseshoe bats for which the site is (in part) designated. The document updates and replaces the *South Hams Special Area of Conservation Greater Horseshoe Bat Consultation Zone Planning Guidance* published by Natural England in 2010. The document is aimed at those preparing to submit and those determining and commenting upon planning applications across the five Local Planning Authorities including: land owners, developers, planning agents, ecological consultants, Council Members and other organisations.

Details of the consultation can be found online at: <https://new.devon.gov.uk/planning/planning-policies/other-county-policy-and-guidance/south-hams-sac-spd-consultation> .

The consultation runs from **Monday 16th April** until **Wednesday 30th May** at **5pm**.

Please note that all submitted representations will be made publicly available, including on the County Council's website, with the person/organisation making the representation (but not their personal signatures or email and telephone contact details) being identified.

Comments received after the deadline or sent to the other Local Planning Authorities will not be accepted.

In addition, an open drop-in event will be held at the Dartmoor National Park offices on Tuesday 1st May between 2 and 6pm.

Rachel Tuckett Planning Officer Planning, Environment and Transport. Devon County Council
Lucombe House. County Hall. Topsham Road. Exeter EX2 4QD Tel: 01392 38(3000)

VOLUNTEERS WEEK

Volunteers' Week is a chance to say thank you for the fantastic contribution volunteers make across Devon. It takes place 1 - 7 June every year nationally and is an opportunity to celebrate volunteering in all its diversity. Here at DeVA, our partners want to help you to say 'thank you'. You can nominate a volunteer who has made a real difference to the community and/or the people they work with to be included on our Volunteers' Week Celebration pages. This will include our website, facebook, and twitter pages.

Download a nomination form and check out the link to the Volunteers' Week resources on our Volunteer Managers Hub pages at www.devonva.org/hub

If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Clare Humphreys Volunteering Support Co-ordinator Working Hours Monday - Wednesday 9.00- 5.30pm
Devon Voluntary Action
c/o North Devon Voluntary Services Ltd
Suite 206 Queens House
Barnstaple
Devon EX32 8HJ Tel: 01271 866300
Registered Charity No 1158671. A Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in England No 8711291

TORRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL – RECYCLING

Many residents in the Parish will be aware of the new arrangements that are being rolled out across the Torridge District, here is a brief reminder:

The food caddie has been specially designed so that once filled, the handle of the caddie is pulled forward and this locks the caddie and prevents any disturbance by rodents, birds or other animals. Residents will be able to throw all raw and cooked food waste (including peelings, egg shells and even bones) into the caddies which can be lined with compostable bags or newspaper. All of this material will then be recycled.

The black box is for glass bottles and glass jars only.

Residents will be able to **use these new containers from Monday 30th April** and should place these containers alongside their green boxes (for plastics) brown bags (for cardboard) and green bags (for paper) at the kerbside as usual. One of our new Romaquip recycling vehicles will collect the recycling.

There may be residents in the area who do not receive their new recycling caddies; this is because they are not on the round of the vehicle that is being changed to a new Romaquip vehicle specially designed for recycling including food waste.

All areas will eventually be transferred to new Romaquip vehicles and will be delivered receptacles prior and issued with leaflets.

If you need any further information do not hesitate to contact me

Elaine Lester, Waste & Recycling Officer
BSc (Hons) Env Studs (Open)
Torridge District Council
01237 428751
elaine.lester@torridge.gov.uk
www.torridge.gov.uk

BROADWOODWIDGER OPEN GARDENS

Sunday 27th May 2018 – 1pm to 6pm
East Kitcham Farm, PL15 9SL (Carol and Christopher Budge)
Frankaborough Farm, PL16 OJS (Linda and Derek Banbury)
Siesta, PL16 0EU (Irene and Ron Jordan)
The Old Vicarage, PL16 0EP (Sherry and David Tovey)

Tickets will have a map and directions and include a free cream tea at the Community Hub, by St Nicholas Church – parking by the village green. £6.00 per person (children 6 to 16 - £3.00: children under 6 – free).

Pre-booking advised – For tickets and further information please contact Dean & Tanya James 01566 784609 or John & Anne Worden 01566 784295

HOLSWORTHY WALK AND TALK

4th May – Meldon Bluebells. Starts at Meldon Reservoir Car Park, Nr Okehampton EX20 4LU (Approx). Some inclines and can be muddy in places.

11th May – Highampton. Starts from entrance on right after Windmilland Cross on A3072. Can be wet and muddy, one style.

18th May – Stratton. Meet in Public Car Park. EX23 9DS (Approx).

25th May – Pyworthy. Start from Pyworthy Village Hall Car Park. Route can be wet and muddy. EX22 6SZ (Approx)

.....And Finally

We still need someone to deliver the newsletters from Thorney Cross through Viza, West Venn, Blagdon, New Buildings, Sandrymoor Cross, Spry's Shop, Heggadon, Swingdon, Burrow, Hunscott, Braddon, East Venn, Heath, Berrington, Whiddon and part of Priestacott.

If you can help please contact the newsletter. (See below).

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

Meanwhile extra copies will continue to be left in the shop and hall.

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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