

*Comment: This is the last newsletter of 2013 and we wish all our readers a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.*



**Newsletter:** Please forward contributions to [ibuxton16@btinternet.com](mailto:ibuxton16@btinternet.com) or telephone 01409 221073 by Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> December 2013 for inclusion in the next issue.

**Events in the hall (unless otherwise stated)**

**5<sup>th</sup> December – Lunch Club, Village Inn**

**6<sup>th</sup> December – Bring & Share Supper, 7.30pm**

**7<sup>th</sup> Craft Fair – 1pm to 4pm**

**8<sup>th</sup> December- Tetcott Ladies & Stowford Singers, 7.30pm**

**9<sup>th</sup> December – Horticultural Club, 7pm**

**12<sup>th</sup> December- Art Club 1pm – 4pm**

**12<sup>th</sup> December- Carols on the Green, 6.30pm**

**13<sup>th</sup> December- Knit, natter and sew- 2pm to 4pm**

**Ashwater Hall – Bookings and enquiries  
Tel: 01409 211213  
Email: Bob.griggs1@btopenworld.com**

**Ashwater Shop (Winter Opening)**

**Hours: Mon – Frid: 8.30am to 5.00pm  
Saturday: 8.30am to Noon  
Sunday: 9am to 12 Noon**

**Post Office**

**Hours: Mon – Frid: 9.00am to 4.30pm  
Saturday: Closed (Except 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> December  
Sunday: Closed**

**Telephone: 01409 211192**

**Place a regular order and it will be ready for your collection**

**PARISH HALL**

The housing development behind the hall was approved by Torridge District Council. A Devon Bank supplemented by a fence will be erected alongside the car park and the Trustees will arrange for shrubs and trees to be planted to help with screening.

6<sup>th</sup> December – Pre-Christmas Bring and Share Supper at 7.30pm - bring a sweet or a savory and it would be helpful if you could indicate on the form in the shop if you will bring one or the other (or both). Music and dancing, everyone welcome. £1.00 cover charge, to pay for the hall hire.

**COMMUNITY SHOP AND POST OFFICE**

The 2014 Ashwater Calendar will be on sale very shortly at £5.99 each, advance orders are already being taken in the shop, so don't miss out. All the photos were taken by people from the Parish.

The theme for the 2015 calendar will be 'Ashwater Events' so start snapping as a different theme will be needed for each month.

Turnover during November is below that of last year! Help address the shortfall by buying all you can in time for Christmas. Just purchasing a newspaper or withdrawing cash from the PO and then spending it elsewhere will not help sustain the shop for the future.

The PO will be open on Saturday mornings 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> December for those who need access to the services. Christmas opening will be posted in the shop as it depends entirely on volunteer numbers!

**THE VILLAGE INN**

Please note due to increased costs the Lunch Club price will be £7.50 from the next lunch on 5<sup>th</sup> December, book on 01409 211200. There is also still time to book the Christmas menu – three courses followed by coffee for £22.75. Please pre-order starter and main course and don't forget the pub will be open on Christmas and New Years Eve.

**TETCOTT LADIES & THE STOWFORD SINGERS 8<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

The Tetcott Ladies & Stowford Singers will be appearing at the Parish Hall on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2013 commencing at 7pm. Tickets £5 to including refreshments from Lin Jennings Tel: 01409 211212 with proceeds in aid of the Church Tower Fund with a draw for Race 4 Life.

**ASHWATER PLAYGROUP CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

A wide range of local crafts and produce available, from meat and veg to knitting and cards, hand crafted wooden items, jewellery, handmade soaps, chutneys, cakes and cushions. Come along, support your local playgroup and get that very individual gift or treat yourself. 27 different tables full of goodies! Refreshments available throughout the afternoon.

**ART CLUB**

The Art Club meets every 2nd Thursday in the month 1pm to 4pm at The Village Hall. Ring Sue 221640 or Rhonda 221200.

**ASHWATER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

The next meeting is the popular Christmas wreath making (plus mince pies mulled drink etc) on Dec 9<sup>th</sup> STARTING at 7.00p.m.

**ASHWATER PARISH COUNCIL**

**TORRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL  
NOTICE OF VACANCIES IN OFFICE OF COUNCILLOR  
ASHWATER PARISH COUNCIL  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**

that due to the resignation of Cllr Alex Beynon and Cllr Philip Luxton two vacancies have arisen in the office of Parish Councillor for the above Parish.

If by the 17 December 2013 (14 election days after the date of this notice) a request for an election to fill the said vacancies is made in writing to the Returning Officer at the address below by TEN electors for the said Parish, an election will be held to fill the said vacancies.

If no requests are received, the vacancies will be filled by co-option.

Dated : 28 November 2013

Returning Officer Riverbank House Bideford EX39 2QG

Further information can be obtained by contacting the clerk Sheila Myers ([clerk@sheanddave.plus.com](mailto:clerk@sheanddave.plus.com) or 07841717913)

Dog fouling on the village green – after repeated warnings the parish council has now decided that dogs are no longer allowed to be exercised on the village green. Appropriate notices will be put up in this respect.

Potholes – the parish council regularly contact Devon County Council regarding pot holes that appear in the roads. Members of the public can also contact the council direct with any problems by emailing [www.devon.gov.uk/pothole](http://www.devon.gov.uk/pothole) or they can call 0845 1551004.

Many thanks to Stacey Christmas Trees for donating the Christmas tree for the village green.

The parish council would like to wish the residents of Ashwater a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 8 January at 7.30pm.

**HANDICRAFT GROUP**

The 'Knit, Natter & Sew On.... Social Group' next meet on 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of December. Times: 2pm - 4pm  
Any children around just after Christmas (Maybe staying with Grand-parents) would be very welcome.

**ASHWATER WALKING GROUP**

There will be no walking group outing in December. New Year walk, details to be arranged.

**FOUND**

Found - a ' Mobile bluetooth keyboard for iPad' was found in the Hall several weeks ago. Anybody wishing to claim it should contact Bob Griggs on 01409 211 213.

**ANVIL CORNER RECYCLING CENTRE**

Devon County Council are considering changing the opening times of the recycling centre from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 to Saturdays and Sundays (10am to 6pm during April – September and 10am to 4.30pm October – March). A petition to retain the existing hours can be found at <http://freepetition.co.uk/devoncc/LivePetition.aspx>

**HOLSWORTHY RURAL POLICING UPDATE**

Milton Damerel - Overnight on the 18th of October someone tampered with a bulk milk tank causing the 5800 litres of milk to go down the drain. We think possibly someone had been helping themselves to a small quantity from time to time and did not close the tank properly. Whatever the circumstances permanently depriving some one of something is theft!

Black Torrington - Sheep worrying has been a problem on a couple of occasions in the area and we are concerned that dogs are being let out and owners have no idea what they maybe getting up to. Sheep will be mostly in lamb at this time. Please keep dogs on a lead so they cannot run off and cause unnecessary suffering and damage.

Holsworthy Hamlets - A Neilsen pressure washer with a product code of CT1757 worth approximately £350 was stolen from a shed. The window unit was damaged in the process.

Ashwater - 2 galvanised gates were stolen from neighbouring farms recently. Approximately worth £55 each.

#### DEFECTIVE VEHICLES

There are still a lot of vehicles being driven around with the lights not in full working order. This is dangerous and can cause accidents. Local Police have attended incidents recently whereby it is believed that vehicle defects have contributed to the cause of the incident. Please make sure your number plates are also readable.

#### DRINK DRIVING CAMPAIGN

As Christmas approaches there will be even more of a campaign to target drink driving. If you do not see a marked Police car it does not mean we are not patrolling the area. Devon and Cornwall Police have many plain vehicles. Drinking and driving is very irresponsible and down right dangerous. Do you want to be responsible for injuring or killing somebody? Would you want to possibly go to prison? Need I say more.

#### IN THE RUN UP TO CHRISTMAS AND DURING THE FESTIVE PERIOD

Christmas shopping - Keep your purse or wallet close to you and never leave them in your back pocket or in the top of a handbag, especially if it is not zipped up. Try to pay using a debit card rather than carrying a lot of cash around and also never write down your PIN number.

Always use secure and well lit car parks and never leave shopping on display in your vehicle. Details can be found at [www.securedcarparks.com](http://www.securedcarparks.com)

If you are going away for Christmas, leave lights on timer switches, cancel the milk/papers and ask the post office to hold back your post. Alternately ask a neighbour or friend to collect your post and open and close curtains. Even park their car on your drive occasionally, so it looks like somebody is around. Let me your local PCSO know if your property will be unattended for more than a day so that Holsworthy Police can keep an eye on it when in the area.

#### DONT GET IN WITH A LOAN SHARK>>> IT WILL COST YOU AN ARM AND A LEG

Have you or anyone you know:-

- \* Been offered a cash loan without paperwork?
- \* Been threatened when you couldn't pay?
- \* Had your benefit or bank card taken from you?
- \* Had a loan which keeps growing even though you are making payments?

If the answer is YES to the above you may have been bitten by a loan shark.

For CONFIDENTIAL help and advice contact The illegal money lending team on :-

0300 555 2222 (local call rate, including inclusive minutes from mobiles)

Email:- [reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk](mailto:reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk) Text:- loan (space) shark (space) + your message to 60003

Web:- [www.direct.gov.uk/stoploansharks](http://www.direct.gov.uk/stoploansharks)

Wishing you all a very happy and crime free Christmas, Regards PCSO 30103 BEVERLEY BRAY  
HOLSWORTHY POLICE STATION

**AND FINALLY.....please support our advertisers**

#### Advertising in the Newsletter

Small adverts cost £10 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.

Motorcycle  
MOT's  
£29.65

**DEVON  
WHEELS  
2WORK**  
MOTORCYCLES

For all your  
Motorcycling needs  
Sales, Service and Repair  
Collection & Delivery service available

We continue to loan scooters and  
motorcycles to help get people to  
employment and education at a  
subsidised rate.



Halwill Junction  
Tel: 01409 220357

[www.devonwheels2work.co.uk](http://www.devonwheels2work.co.uk)

## Thinking of building?

### Planning Applications and Building Regulations

For advice, design, drawings and documentation



John Forward RIBA  
Henford Studio  
Tel: 01409 211222  
[mail@johnforward.com](mailto:mail@johnforward.com)

#### 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](mailto:ibuxton16@btinternet.com). Don't forget to visit the Ashwater Website [www.ashwaterparish.org.uk](http://www.ashwaterparish.org.uk)