

**Comment:** 2016 brings us the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Davy lamp and it is 30 years since Spain and Portugal joined the European Union. Closer to home in 1966 saw the last train pass through Ash Mill – an occasion that will be remembered with an event in the Parish Hall.

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**Newsletter:** Contributions for the next Newsletter by Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January please. [ibuxton16@btinternet.com](mailto:ibuxton16@btinternet.com)

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

7<sup>th</sup> January, Pub Lunch, Village Inn

7<sup>th</sup> January, Ladies Skittles 7.30pm

9<sup>th</sup> January, PTFA BINGO 7.30pm

13<sup>th</sup> January, Parish Council Meeting at 7.30pm

18<sup>th</sup> January, Camera Club 7.30pm

23<sup>rd</sup> January, Horticultural Lunch and Walk from the Weir, Bude

30<sup>th</sup> January, Football Club Dance 8.00pm

**Advance Notice**

15<sup>th</sup> February, Camera Club 7.30pm

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**Ashwater Hall – Bookings and enquiries**

Tel: 01409 211213

Email: [Bob.griggs1@btopenworld.com](mailto:Bob.griggs1@btopenworld.com)

**Ashwater Shop (Opening Hours)**

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

Sunday: Closed

Telephone: 01409 211192

**PARISH HALL**

The hall car park is in constant use and needs regular attention. The trustees are looking for a volunteer or volunteers to help with car park maintenance such as periodically clearing stones and debris from the grilles and helping keep the paths free of stones. Anyone interested? If so please contact Colin Vallance on 01409 211441 or Email: [cprv@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cprv@hotmail.co.uk)

2016 will be a busy year for the hall as a variety of fund raising events will be held to raise money for the annexe that will double as a storage area and extra meeting room capable of use for a variety of purposes.

On 24<sup>th</sup> April the Launceston Male Voice Choir plus the Arcscott and Tetcott Ladies Choir will perform in the hall and later in the year an event will be held to commemorate the closing of the railway that served the parish from the Victorian era.

**ASHWATER CAMERA CLUB – 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

The January meeting will be in the hall from 7.30pm – 9.30pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016 exploring and experimenting with water, fruit and flash. No previous experience is required, just bring your camera.

Membership is open to all at just £25.00 for the year (payable monthly, 6 monthly or annually). Non-members are welcome to attend a particular session at a one off fee of £5.00. Fees not already paid can be subscribed at the meeting.

Don't forget club members may display their own work on the website at <http://ashwatercameraclub.weebly.com/> and guidance, tuition and help with your camera will be available at the regular sessions held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month.

**VILLAGE INN MONTHLY LUNCH & DEVON AIR AMBULANCE LOTTERY**

The next lunch is on 7<sup>th</sup> January please book in advance or by 10.30am on the day at the latest. 01409 211200.

**ROAD CLOSURE 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> JANUARY**

Circumstances and weather permitting on behalf of Devon County Council, SWH will be carrying out the following works under a road closure as shown below:

Type of Works: surfacing

Location: Clawton Cross to Sprys Shop, Clawton

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016

A diversion via Nethercott Cross will be in place and every endeavour will be made to maintain access to properties within the closure where necessary, however there may be times when access is restricted/delayed, and SWH apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works.

If you have any queries please email: [joanna.cole@swh ltd.co.uk](mailto:joanna.cole@swh ltd.co.uk)

or call Joanna Cole, Customer Liaison Officer, Gas Lane, TORRINGTON Telephone: 01805 622395 | Ext: 201

#### **PARISH COUNCIL**

The next parish council meeting will be held on Wednesday 13 January 2016 at 7.30pm.

#### **LADIES SKITTLES**

The next Ladies Skittles evening will be held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at 7.30pm.

#### **PTFA BINGO**

Eyes down at 7.30pm, doors open at 7.00pm come along and support the School PTFA.

#### **ASHWATER FOOTBALL CLUB**

Thank you to everyone who helped us raise £750 for much needed funds at our wine & wisdom. Our next fundraiser is a dance to a 'Bit of Luck' at Ashwater Parish Hall on sat 30th January from 8pm with a bring and share supper and a draw. Please ring Lin 211212 for information.

#### **ASHWATER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

The next meeting of the Horticultural Society will be the **Annual Winter Walk & Lunch**. Following the success of last year's walk - although we can't promise the same lovely sunshine - we are going back to The Weir near Bude where we will have a delicious lunch, with a varied choice to suit all appetites and budgets, followed by a walk along the Bude Canal for those who wish.

This year we will be meeting at 12.30pm for lunch followed by the walk, weather permitting. This event is open to everyone, members and non-members, but booking by Sunday 17th January is essential.

Menu choices have been sent to all members by email. Non-members please contact Letitia Yetman  
Email: [lmynetman@btinternet.com](mailto:lmynetman@btinternet.com) Tel: 01409 211131 for further information, a menu and booking.

The date for the February meeting will be finalized shortly as we hope to be able to visit the Snow Drop display near Dolton.

#### **PARSON JACK RUSSELL ART & PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION**

##### **Animals and Flowers**

St Mary's Church, Black Torrington. In memory and dedicated to Richard Lane-Fox. The inspiration behind this exhibition *3<sup>rd</sup> June-6<sup>th</sup> June-2016 -Start creating now*

Dogs, cats, ponies, horses, rabbits; farmyard animals – cows, sheep, ducks, chickens; wildlife – birds, badgers, foxes, otters; lions, tigers, hippo, elephant., not forgetting plants and flowers

Open exhibition – all welcome. Send for details!

Exhibition Secretary, Parson Jack Russell Animal Art & Photography Exhibition, The Old Forge, Black Torrington, Beaworthy EX21 5PX Telephone: 01409 231598 Email: [bill.smithers@utdsl.com](mailto:bill.smithers@utdsl.com)

#### **ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH UK**

Alzheimer's and dementia – your questions answered in a free 16 page guide. Would you like to know more about Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia? Do you know anyone who has been affected?

The guide is free and has been created by Alzheimer's Research UK to help dispel some of the common myths around Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia. It also contains vital information for carers, friends and families of those who are affected. 850,000 people in the UK have dementia and 24.5 million have a close friend or family member with the condition. If you would like a free guide or more information contact us by Telephone: 0300 111 5333 or Email: [reception@alzheimersresearchuk.org](mailto:reception@alzheimersresearchuk.org) or write to:

Alzheimer's Research UK, 3 Riverside, Granta Park, Cambridge CB21 6AD

#### **CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND (CPRE)**

2016 year will mark the 90th anniversary of CPRE as guardians of England's beautiful and irreplaceable country side and will see them looking even further forward to their Vision for the Countryside in 2026, the

centenary year.

During 2015 a number of successful campaigns were undertaken including persuading Government to set out long-term funding to increase cycling and walking. Ministers listened and now we're looking forward to the publication of the first Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy.

In June, we delivered our Charter to Save our Countryside to the Prime Minister, with more than 80,000 signatures. Alongside our Waste of Space campaign, this helped us influence the Government to announce incentives worth close to £1 billion to boost building on brown-field sites; regenerating our towns and cities, and helping to protect the countryside.

The year marked the 60th anniversary of England's Green Belts which limit urban sprawl and provide a breath of fresh air for millions of people living in towns and cities but are increasingly under pressure from development. Our members helped demonstrate how valuable and vital the Green Belt is by sharing stories and memories on Our Green Belt website, inspiring others to go out and enjoy it, too.

Just over three years ago, thousands campaigned with CPRE and the Break the Bag Habit coalition in writing to MPs and sending letters to local papers calling for a compulsory charge on plastic carrier bags. Finally, in early October a 5p bag charge came into force, an important step in helping to reduce litter that has shown results – an 80% drop in plastic bag use has already been reported by some supermarkets.

In past years the Devon branch of CPRE have organized the Best kept Village Competition but decided to take a break for 12 months whilst considering how to promote a new competition. Details are being finalized and will be issued early in 2016. There will also be a new map competition for primary schools to enter with suitable awards for the winners.

Locally the Torridge branch scrutinized a huge variety of planning applications and assisted with advice in other districts of Devon and Cornwall at the same time hosting a number of well attended seminars on a range of topics securing the services of Devon MP's and well known figures as speakers.

We hope you will celebrate with us in marking our 90th birthday as there will be a number of events held throughout 2016 with new initiatives covering research and topics of local, national and international interest and in the meantime CPRE wish you a very happy New Year.

For more information about CPRE in Devon and Torridge go on line to [www.cpredevon.org.uk](http://www.cpredevon.org.uk) and if you find it interesting why not join?

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The recent introduction of wind turbines at Swingdon and Nethercott may appear as tall structures and have attracted some comment in the parish but, at 55m and 77m in height are small in comparison to the 2015 winners of the 'Onshore Turbine of the Year Awards' – the machine gaining "Gold" was 142.5m tall with a 130m rotor span and "Silver" was gained by a turbine 166m tall with a rotor span of 125m. Both rated at well over 3MW capacity. Even these however, are babies alongside the Vesta V164 with a rated capacity of 8.0 MW, an overall height of 220 m (722 ft) and a rotor diameter of 164m (538 ft). It is for offshore use although unlike others does not float (yes really, they float on a platform) – watch out Roadford Lake! Blades are getting longer and towers becoming taller, yet the ultimate design (for the moment) seems to be for kites mounted with turbines that fly autonomously generating power on a megawatt scale! What next in 2016? Turbines trailing behind passenger jets or underground in disused coal mines? You saw it here first!

#### **..... AND FINALLY**

The Parish Council kindly bears the cost of printing the newsletter with occasional donations of ink from readers. Others have also donated regular supplies of paper or give up their time to deliver hard copies throughout the parish – thank you all concerned. Ink costs however continue to rise so the price of small adverts is being increased to £25 per issue. The publication is an information and news letter for Ashwater Parish and friends run on a voluntary basis rather than a magazine with commercial sponsors and pages of advertising to raise revenue, but when space permits local adverts are accepted.

## ADVERT

### Join the Revolution!

We are a local postal service operating from Brandis Corner, five miles outside of Holsworthy. Collections (EX20, 21, 22 & 23 postcodes) are made daily from local businesses, with delivery the same or next day to their customers. Geared towards business traffic, Postees offers same or next day delivery of letters and packages for a delivery charge at least 10% less than its competitors. We offer credit facilities – so use the service before you pay for it!

Postees runs alongside BAC Couriers, a delivery service for over 100 online shopping outlets such as Next, Amazon, Dorothy Perkins, Cotton Traders and many more well known brands. They currently deliver up to 6,000 parcels per week to an area stretching from Week St Mary to Whiddon Down, Tavistock to Torrington. Both businesses are looking to expand into Exeter, then Barnstaple.

Postees / BAC Director Mike Clark said: "This is an opportunity for people to both save money and support local enterprise. Currently we have created 12 jobs and believe with local support this could build to over thirty within 12 months. As we succeed and grow further we will in turn, support local charities and worthwhile causes".

For further information – or to explore the possibility of working for us – please contact Mike, Jane Drummond or John Ody on 01409 231106.

PS – We can even hire you a bouncy castle with Jump On Us via 07814 442667!



- Your local Hermes delivery agent in the EX19, 20, 21, 22, 23 & 38

postcode area

- Drivers always required for local delivery work
- Contact us on 01409 231106



Postees Mail Services

- Delivering postal services for local businesses offering safe storage, pick, pack & dispatch for would be eBay entrepreneurs and local businesses.
- Contact us on 01409 231106 for more detail.

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