

*Crockernwell, Drewsteignton, Sandy Park, Venton, Whiddon Down*

# Drewsteignton Parish Post



ISSUE NO. 75

APRIL 2012

## MARCH NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

The subject of fly tipping was previously mentioned in **last December's Parish Post asking for parishioners** to inform the Council of any instances seen in the parish. We are grateful for those who pointed out the earth and debris left along about 100 yards of verge on the old Harepath Straight and it was already included on the agenda for the last meeting. As with many subjects raised, all the Parish Council can do is to pass the observations on to those responsible and in this instance we have asked West Devon Borough Council (WDBC) who have to clear up any fly tipped rubbish, to look at it and we have notified Devon County Highways who we suspect were responsible for the nuisance to stop any further tipping. Please do not feel that it is only the Parish Council who can report these matters, as a council tax payer and parishioner you can too.

An example of this is when a number of councillors were contacted about a large pothole in the road between Whiddon Down and Drewsteignton near Spinsters Rock – this turned out to be a complete collapse of a culvert under the road and required an immediate closure of the road for safety until repairs were undertaken, credit to Highways this closure and work was done very quickly. We have reported other potholes to be dealt with.

We have agreed a suggested donation for the use of Drewsteignton car park should be £1 and the toilets 20p – **there's inflation!!**

We have been told the Traffic Order for the closure of Turnpike Road at Whiddon Down is now to be published in April – watch this space one day it will be shut!!

WDBC have given a response to our request on their policy on solar panels but we are referring to a specific site and have asked them to make a fur-

ther response – Cllr Ridgers WDBC is dealing with this matter now and more details will follow.

We resolved to take a neutral view on an application for a certificate of lawfulness at Tor Down and the widening of a gateway at Netherton House Drewsteignton and have supported the Parochial **Church Council's proposals at Church Cottage in Drewsteignton Square.**

A vote of thanks and letters are to be sent to Mr Tony Coates, Alan Brooks and the Mudge family members who assisted councillors voluntarily cutting back the trees in the car park at Drewsteignton. It was noted by the Council that quite a bit of timber left was removed by a person or persons **unknown within 24 hours, a shame they didn't do** the public spirited thing by helping on the day or making a donation, still it did help clear up I suppose.

Cllr Walker updated the Council on the Parish map **to be produced to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee**, the original will hopefully be hung in the church with permission and prints available for purchase, full details will be published later.

The Council resolved to provide £150 to assist in **parish celebrations for the Queen's Jubilee £100 at Drewsteignton and £50 at Crockernwell.**

Our next meeting is at Drewsteignton on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2012 at 7.30pm, and a date for your diary is Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2012 when the Annual Parish Meeting will be held at Whiddon Down at 7.30pm where there will be a presentation on Solar Energy, all parish organisations, County Councillor James McInnes, WDB Cllr Paul Ridgers are invited to give their reports and your opportunity to comment on our work for the year.

Whiddon Down Village Hall.

Village Market, Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April and Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May (both) 10am - 12 noon at the Village Hall.

## NEW EDITOR.....



### John Shiell

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is John Shiell. I live at Burrow Farm with my wife Jackie, where **we've been since**

1974 and where our children Tom and Jessie were born and brought up. They have families of their own now and have managed to establish their own homes close by. So some of you will

already know us and hopefully through **the pages of this magazine we'll get to** know more of you.

**Bear with me whilst I find my feet, I've** not done anything like this before but I hope my commitment to our community will outweigh my lack of journalistic experience. And I promise not to hack into your mobiles and email. If there is anyone keen to contribute an article or snippet of information relevant to the area the Parish Post covers please email me with the details.

### Afternoon Tea At Lower Puddicombe.

Despite being an EU country, Bulgaria has the highest number of orphaned and abandoned children in the whole of Europe. These children are forced to leave the orphanages at the age of 18, with no education, no money, no home and with very little hope.

'The House of Rachel', run by a small group based in Okehampton, provides a varied program of diverse projects aimed to improve the lives of these vulnerable children. In July of this year, I hope to travel with a group of Okehampton College 6th form students, to the orphanage of Provadia, Bulgaria. Here we will assist the staff, and entertain the children, for example with us teaching them English and hopefully picking up some Bulgarian, as well as helping with site development projects.

To be able to be part of this life changing experience I am hosting an 'Afternoon Tea', in the hope to raise funds for my journey. This will be held on the 14th April, 2-5pm at Lower Puddicombe, Drewsteignton.

Come and have a lovely afternoon, your support will be greatly appreciated.

Thank You.

*Naomi Rubbra*



## Parish Profile.....

The Parish Profile has been an occasional feature of the Parish Post for some time now. This month it is the turn of another local Parish Councillor.



### Wayne Mudge - Drewsteignton

Wayne was born in Drewsteignton, in the cottage that he lives in now with his wife Diane and three children Alison, Sam & Lucy. He went to school at Drewsteignton briefly till its closure in 1971. He then transferred to Chagford Primary School and then on to Okehampton Comprehensive. On leaving school Wayne worked on a number of farms in the parish before going to work in our local quarry until it was closed in December 1991. After that he was employed delivering food to hotels and restaurants all over the South-West. Wayne now works for a local tree surgery company covering an area from Bridgewater to Torquay. The work involves mainly trimming trees from power lines.

### Bible Book Club

All welcome, all meetings 8pm, Thursdays at the back of Holy Trinity Church, Drewsteignton, refreshments provided.

26th April, Genesis chapters 1-11, sponsored by Ruth Merrittens.

24th May, Genesis chapters 12-50, sponsored by Jennifer Mullins.

21st June, Mark, sponsored by Harriet Every.

19th July, 1 Samuel, sponsored by Philip Evans.

August, summer break.

27th September, Acts of the Apostles, sponsored by Catherine Martineau.

25th October, Ruth & Esther, sponsored by Ian Merrittens.

I have historical notes available for each of the books so do let me know if you would like these in advance. *Jennifer Mullins 281647 [pmjmrmdm@aol.com](mailto:pmjmrmdm@aol.com)*

### CROCKERNWELL VILLAGE GET TOGETHER & CELEBRATION OF THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE

It is proposed to hold this event in Stanbury's Orchard on Monday 4th June 2012. Starting at 3pm for the younger members of the village there will be a bouncy castle, face painting, fancy dress, cake decorating and a treasure hunt. This will be followed by a sports event for the older youngsters to include five a side football. As the day progresses there will be a bring and share Bar B Que cooked by the noted Stanbury's Orchard chefs Dave & Colin. There will be a bar and entertainment provided by village talent to include Tribal Belly Dance!! Can YOU help in any way?

Contacts for the events are:

Sam Shorey 24676 & Tasha Wheeler-James 24585 for the young children ( Can You Face Paint? ) Sporting event and logistics Peter & Ciaren Brennan 24853.

Catering Jane Madge 24491.

This is a community event but as always some finance will be needed, initially we are requesting help from the Parish Council and Teignton Fayre - the last time Crockernwell asked for financial help was 2005!! Any donations would be appreciated - contact Mary Graham 24503

We already have £100 promised.

## The Summer Migrants Return, Along With Cold Weather

**As I mentioned in last month's Parish Post, the first sound of Spring for me is always the arrival of the chiffchaffs, with their distinctive call, and this year I heard my first one whilst working in Cornwall on the 20<sup>th</sup> of March, I heard another the following day in Exeter and my first one in the parish on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March. This was slightly later than last year (13<sup>th</sup> March) but earlier than 2010 (26<sup>th</sup> March). I am now hearing them almost everywhere when near hedgerows, copses or woodland.**

I normally expect to see house martins a few days later than the swallows in the village, and this year, the swallows arrived providing me with my first sighting on Monday morning (26<sup>th</sup> March) as I put my girls on the school bus. I saw single birds occasionally through the week flying over the thatched roofs of the square and saw a pair sitting on telephone wires on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup>. With the weather being so pleasant through most of March, there has been lots of food (flies) available for the swallows and I thought we would be seeing the house martins but I have still not seen one yet. I did notice bats flying up and down Froggy Lane last week, and out of hibernation due to the very pleasant weather.

I have been brought the first fledgling of this year on Friday 31<sup>st</sup>, a baby blackbird which was almost ready to fly and my advice was to return it to where it was found. This is always a better option than trying to feed and rear wild birds. They should ideally be left **where found but if they are on the ground, put it up in a hedge so out of harm's way from cats or cars.** The parents are nearly always close by and can feed them what they require. I have really enjoyed the bird song in the early mornings and at dusk over the recent warm period, especially from song thrushes and blackbirds, and if awards were made for performances in the bird world, I am convinced they would get an Oscar. Mittens, gloves and scarves have not been required so far this April despite the recent change in the weather to the arrival of colder conditions again. Depending on how long this colder spell lasts here, it will be interesting to see just when the house martins arrive this year.

As we are now getting into April, I would like to remind people that if they see red kites passing through the parish or near the village to please let me know as soon as possible. April and May are the months with the most sighting of kites passing through the county each year. Also if people see kestrels in the parish or near to the village, please can you let me know. Hopefully by the time this comes out we will be back with good weather again and the skies over the village will be full of the sound of our summer migrants.

*Nick Dixon 01647 281681*

## Establishing A Meat And Dairy CSA\* In Drewsteignton Area

We are looking to establish a meat and dairy CSA in Chagford/ Drewsteignton area to compliment what Chagfood is doing with veg.

We want to understand local demand and get local feedback on our proposals.

We have a survey on our website that we really want people to fill in plus a facebook page for communications.

If you want to chat about this please give me a call on 07779652333 or email your number and I will call you back. It would be really great if you could help us.

*Davon Friend [www.happylifestock.org](http://www.happylifestock.org)*

\*Community Supported Agriculture

## A Trip To The Theatre

For my 11<sup>th</sup> birthday I went to see War Horse at the New Theatre in Drury lane in London. My grandma took me to see it (my birthday is in November but I waited because my grandma wanted to take me and my cousin!)

We went up by train, and had lunch so close to the theatre we could see it from the cafe. Two of my aunties came as well as grandma, mum, dad and my cousin. Although I had to wait 4 months to see the play, it was so worth the wait!!!

**War Horse is a spell binding book by former Children's Laureate, Michael Morpurgo, that has now been adapted into a play that left me speechless!**

The story is set in World War 1, where a farm horse, called Joey is sold off to the army in order for the family to pay the mortgage. Joey and Tophorn (another fine horse) start their adventures in the English cavalry, but when both sides are using machine guns and tanks and so many horses are dead, Joey, Tophorn and the other horses are used to pull **guns. When Joey's owner Albert is old enough to join up, he goes in search of his horse on the battlefields.** Joey and Tophorn witness the war from both sides, and Albert finally finds Joey and after the war, takes him back to the farm.

Sadly, Tophorn stays on the battlefield forever.

War Horse is a perfect example of a theatrical play, it made me want to laugh, cry and **jump for joy. "Moving" sounds like a well suited word, but is an understatement. It is a difficult play to try to explain, but in the book, the story is set from Joey's view point. In the play, it is from an onlookers perspective.**

The life-size wooden, leather and metal puppets that are the horses are beautiful and unbelievably life-like, their ears always twitching and tails swishing. These are just some of the aspects that bring the horses to life.

War horse is not just one of those plays where you see it, enjoy it and forget about it. This play will stay with you forever. This must-see theatre performance will entrance 10 to 110 year olds.

I have read the book, now I have watched the play and am very much looking forward to seeing the film!!

*Tilly Dixon*

## Police News

For those of you who have been wondering where I have been, I have been on maternity leave and have just returned to work. There have been several changes whilst I have been away and I would like to bring to your attention that the Police Service have a new non emergency telephone number which is 101.

I expect that most of you are aware of the theft of garden equipment and chainsaws etc that have been occurring. I would like to ask all of you to keep your eyes open and report any suspicious activities to the police on 101.

Please keep garden sheds locked and secure and write down serial numbers of expensive items such as chainsaws.

I would also like to introduce to you to your new PCSO 30558 Sarah Coleman, Sarah will be working alongside myself and is contactable via the force website or leave a message for her via 101 and she will return your call as soon as she is able to.

*PC 4647 Nadine Wilson*

## Acorn Community Support

Acorn Community Support, based in the Teign Valley is looking for an outreach Community Care Manager to work within the area covered by the Cheriton Bishop & Teign Valley GP Practice.

This is a part-time post based on a 15 hour week working either fixed or flexible hours. The successful applicant will have a high level of interpersonal and communication skills and experience of dealing with elderly and frail people. They will be self-motivated and able to contribute to new service development and implementation.

Experience of working with clients with dementia and/or some medical knowledge would also be an advantage, but not essential. Applicants should have use of their own

car and established IT capabilities, especially around word, excel and email.

Duties will include working closely with the GP practice team and our Office manager who is based at Christow surgery, visiting referred clients to assess their needs, appointing and organising volunteers for our new befriending service, working with the Trustees to plan new initiatives to expand our overall community wellbeing services and providing occasional help with medical appointments transport.

For a more detailed job description and/or an application form please e-mail our Chairman at johnbarker3@btconnect.com no later than May 12th, 2012.

JB/08.03.2011.



We opened the Youth Centre for the first time on Monday and Tuesday this week! In total, we've had 40 different young people attend over those two days, which is great! What is also encouraging is that 27 of them have never been to a youth group run by On The Edge. Minus the young people I know from the skate park project, 18 of the 40 have never interacted with the project on any level! I think that is amazing and I hope it continues to grow!

The largest age group of young people is the 11-14! This is the age group I was wanting the centre to attract more of, as a number the older ages already attend the Thursday youth group.

It is exciting to finally see it being used and hope it will be supported by all in the community.

If you would like to subscribe to £1 a month to help the centre keep going, please visit this site to download a copy of the standing order/gift aid form: [http://](http://chagfordhub.typepad.com/home/2012/03/the-mess-open-day-report.html#more)

[chagfordhub.typepad.com/home/2012/03/the-mess-open-day-report.html#more](http://chagfordhub.typepad.com/home/2012/03/the-mess-open-day-report.html#more)

Thanks. Wez

## Drewsteignton Church AGM

Holy Trinity Church Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Thursday 19th April at 7 pm in the Village Hall.





## News from the Castle

After Christine Gray's piece, in last month's Parish Post, I did say that I would be back this month. However, as I haven't been at the castle over the past few weeks, I am taking this opportunity to take another break and, for this month, hand over to Paula Clarke; who is one of the team that are currently working on the forthcoming project, which is now called 'Saving Castle Drogo – Ensuring it's a Design for Life!'. However, if all goes according to plan, then I will be back next month. *Andy Dawson*

### **Saving Castle Drogo – Ensuring it's a Design for Life!**

It has been an incredibly busy couple of months for the team at Castle Drogo. Not only have we taken the project plans to the National Trust Board of Trustees and been given their full support and approval, but our bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for £2.5 million has also been submitted. There is nothing more for us to do now except wait patiently for HLF to give their answer in mid July. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the whole team of Drogo staff and volunteers and the local community for their support in helping us to reach this point. Thank you!

There have also been lots of exciting community related activities over the past couple of months, including a group volunteering day by Exeter University, a visit from Get Changed Theatre and Chagford Brownies had a sleepover in the castle. **That's right! 14 Brownies** spent the night in the Service Corridor and we all survived to tell the tale. Needless to say, they loved every minute of it.

We will continue to share the plans and reasons for the upcoming project with our visitors with project related guided tours every Friday. Also, on the first Wednesday of the month (2pm – 4pm), we will have a 'Peeling back the Layers' event where we will have project information and a number of items from the archive on display in the Castle. If you would like to know more about the project to save Castle Drogo, please join one of these events or pop in and chat with our staff and volunteers.

It feels like the castle is starting to get us prepared for what the project will mean for us. A couple of months ago, we took the decision to prop the roof in the scullery. The Scullery looks very dramatic and has got everyone at Drogo talking. It also reinforces the urgency of getting the project to save the castle underway and gives us a great opportunity to tell our visitors about the project. The support from all of our staff, volunteers, visitors, supporters and local community has been incredible. There is obviously a lot of love for this amazing place and we will do everything we can to save it and ensure it is still here for future generations to love and enjoy.

*Paula Clarke*

Telephone: 01647 434130

Email: [paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk)

## Spring Fayre

The Friends of St. Andrew's, Moretonhampstead announce that there will be a Spring Fayre at Mardon House, Moretonhampstead by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Graham Wilson on Sunday May 20th from 2pm to 5pm. It promises to be a really great occasion with lots of fun things to do and enjoy. Please come and have a wonderful afternoon.

For further information contact:-

Wendy Cannon Tel. 01647 440281 or Jo Wymer Tel. 01647 440117

## DREWSTEIGNTON GARDENERS CLUB

### SPRING PLANT SALE

SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> May 10am - 12.00

VILLAGE HALL, DREWSTEIGNTON.



EVERY ONE WELCOME TO BROWSE AND BUY

## Charity Clay Shoot

In Aid Of Devon Air Ambulance & CLIC.

At Bowbeer Farm, Drewsteignton.

Sunday 13th May 10am - 4pm

50 Bird Challenge	Entry Fee
Team Competition	Team of 4 £50
Individual	Individual £15
BBO	
Draw	

The Harepath Shoot & Tedburn YFC hope you can join us to help raise money for devon Air Ambulance & CLIC Sargent.

Prize Fund
Team 1st £100
Individual 1st:
Under 21 £30
Over 21 £30

Contact: Adrian Bowden 07747 023178 or Richard Gould 07920 791509

## Playing Field News

Bangers and Mash  
28th April

Outdoor Cinema  
5th May

Playing Field AGM  
17th May

## Royal British Legion Drewsteignton Branch

Women's Section,  
St. Georges Day Tea,

Village Hall,  
Drewsteignton.

Saturday 21st April 3.30pm  
Raffle



Drewsteignton

Parish Post

Contact Details:

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Business

If you have trouble reading this publication please let me know and I will arrange for a large format version to be sent to you

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Contributions for the next edition by  
1st May — thank you