

Crockernwell, Drewsteignton, Sandy Park, Venton, Whiddon Down



Drewsteignton Parish Post



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July 2012

JUNE NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

The continuing problem with speeding vehicles through Whiddon Down and Crockernwell was addressed after a reply from the police stating they were no longer able to prioritise the enforcement of the speed limits. The Council have decided to explore the possibility of setting up a Community Speed Watch group in the two villages. This is similar to Neighbourhood Watch where the community take responsibility for the problem and would entail a team of volunteers being trained by the police and then monitoring the speed of vehicles at problem times and forwarding the details to the police for follow up action. We have since heard that at least six volunteers would be required with at least one person being responsible for the administration of the team.

If you feel strongly enough about the problem of speeding vehicles going through your village and would be prepared to help, please contact the Clerk or your ward councillor (Bill Savage & Joy Walker for Crockernwell, Graham Hester, John Dyke & Stuart Hardie for Whiddon Down). We have also requested a site meeting with the police and Devon County Highways to see if some further Traffic Calming measures can be undertaken.

The Council were grateful to Dr Nigel Padfield for updating us on the Fingle Shoot – the terms of the lease will be much tighter, adhering to the British Asso-

ciation for Shooting and Conservation guidelines and a reduction in area covered by the shoot.

We received a reply from DNPA regarding the extension of the conservation area in Drewsteignton but it did not address the problems we had raised. Following on from last month's Parish Post, no Councillors had received any further comments from parishioners affected so if you were affected please contact the councillors or the clerk so we know how much time to devote to this subject.

Funds are now available to proceed with parking restrictions outside Drewsteignton Post Office so the Clerk is contacting highways to progress this. It is worth remembering of course, how long it has taken to arrange the closure of Turnpike Road at Whiddon Down which has now been finalised and only awaits contractors to be appointed and complete the job.

Following the Parish Council's request to Health & Safety to check the poor road surface at the entrance to the Whiddon Down service area we have heard that Esso have approved finance and the job should be completed within a month, we will wait and see!!

Following a site visit at West Ford Farm Drewsteignton the Council revisited their decision and on the recommendation of the councillor who attended have changed their decision to object to a neutral view.

(Continued on Page 2)



Bravo To Akela And Kaa

The cubs were joined by ex-cubs and parents on the last night of term to say thank you to Paula and Sarah for running a fantastic pack for 10 years in Drewsteignton. We are all very grateful for the commitment & enthusiasm they have shown and the fun they have given the children in the village. The cubs rounded off the evening with a BRAVO to show their appreciation!

Get Behind The Wheel With Okehampton Community Transport

Support parents and families with
Community Lynx

Discover your local past with

Time for Life's Moor Memories

For these and many more opportunities

Drop in Tuesdays and Wednesdays

10am-2pm 13 East St. Okehampton

9am-1pm Thursdays Tavistock Library

1pm-4pm Fridays Tavistock Library

Freephone 0330 660 0357

Email volunteering@westdevoncvcs.org.uk

We look forward to hearing from you!

Drewsteignton Church Fête

Please turn out your cupboards and drawers and donate any unwanted items to the Bric-a-Brac stall at the church fete on the 21st July.

Contact Jill or Pauline. You can bring along your unwanted treasure to 3 Glebe Cottage or to the fete on the day.

No rubbish please.

(Parish Council Continued)

We have also asked the Caravan & Camping Club and DNPA for advice on the granting of a camping licence at this location so we can be better informed on the subject.

We welcomed the news that a new and enlarged Playing Field Committee and group of helpers has been formed and look forward to working with this group through councillors Joy Walker and Paul Ridgers.

More good news at Whiddon Down, we have heard that a planning application has been put in for the building of a new link road from Exeter Road to the North Tawton Road. We hope to see the details shortly and will report further.

The date of our next meeting is **Monday 16th July at 7.30pm at Whiddon Down village hall.**

TEIGNTON FAYRE 2012

The Teignton Fayre committee would like to say a big THANK YOU to everyone who turned out and braved the awful weather on the evening of this years fayre and helped to make such a success of the event.

We are very lucky to have so many supporters and thanks must go to all those at the Village Shop, the Drewe Arms and Fingle Bridge Inn. The Colton Family are thanked especially for their huge donation of the pig for the hog roast.

Without all the helpers – not only at the Fayre but also at the Duck Race earlier in the year, this event would not take place and so our thanks also go to the stallholders, draw ticket sellers, those who gave so many donations of bric-a-brac, cakes, bottles and plants and of course to Beatroute and Jiggery Pippery, but especially to all of you who turned out and spent your money on what must have been one of the worst nights weather-wise so far.

The proceeds from the Duck Race and the success of the Fayre, meant that after the running costs had been paid including the insurances, the ever popular Jiggery Pippery band and other expenses, the committee

were able to 'honour their promise' of a donation of £1000.00 to the organisers of the Drewsteigton Diamond Jubilee Celebrations and were also able to send the nominated charity – Force – a cheque for £400.00. (See more about this charity on page 6 on the Whiddon Parish Magazine).

In the past Teignton Fayre has been able to give to Devon Air Ambulance, HeartSWell Southwest, Royal British Legion, Hospiscare and ELF as well as to our local organisations such as the village hall, church, playing fields and youth club among others and none of this would have been possible without your continued support.

If you would like to give us any positive suggestions on how you think the Duck Race or the Fayre could be improved, please email your ideas to Jane Hocking at j.hocking05@btinternet.com or send to her in the post at 2 Prestonbury View, Drewsteigton, EX6 6AT and the committee will give them careful consideration.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you at future Teignton Fayre fund raising events.

Jubilee Photo

Please contact John Sheill if you would like a copy of the Jubilee photo taken after the Jubilee tea in Drewsteigton.

email: johnsheill@yahoo.com

Tel: 281282

Whiddon Down Village Hall – Summer Garden Party

3 00 p.m. Saturday 18th August at Southcott, Whiddon Down

This year we are having a Summer Garden Party at Southcott by kind invitation of Gaynor & Alun Williams. Come and enjoy a proper Devon Cream Tea, explore a lovely garden, meet and chat with friends and neighbours. We shall have a cake stall, a bottle stall and of course a raffle.

Come to the party!

Entry is £1.50 and includes the cream tea and free ice creams for all accompanied children.

Donations of cakes, bottles and raffle prizes welcome: speak to Ann Hall 231634

Swifts In The Village And The Continual Poor Weather.

Over the last two months, we have had pretty poor weather for what are normally (but not over the last four years!) considered to be good conditions for our returning migrant birds, especially those that are reliant on airborne insects for food. The first swift I saw here this year was on the 30th of April, and by the 3rd of May, a pair were screaming (calling) from one of my nest boxes. Their numbers built up over the first weeks of May, and since then on the occasional good days, with sun and light breezes, they have been very much in evidence over Churchgate and the surrounds.

When I have been out in the garden in the early evenings, or walking across the churchyard during the odd sunny, mild or even drizzly days, I have seen numbers of screaming swift parties of up to nearly 30 birds during June. These are mainly the non breeding birds joining up with the resident breeding birds collecting food for juveniles in the nest boxes on my house and the other natural nest sites in the village.

When the weather has been bad, there are still single swifts to be seen coming back to feed their young and over the last few days, I have observed swifts returning into nest boxes, followed immediately by the shrill sound of the young calling for food. I believe that we have at least 4 successful nests from my 8 nest boxes up on my house, but I am hoping we may have more.

On the Friday evening before Teignton Fayre, whilst enjoying a beer with friends outside the Drewe Arms, I noticed we had over 30 swifts over the square and flying around the church tower, but with the good conditions, these would have been both resident breeders and non breeding birds.

I actually had a call from a friend at Sandy Park this week to tell me of about 100 swifts overhead there in the morning, which must have been birds taking the opportunity of catching airborne insects, with different parties of swifts gathering together and just moving about looking for good feeding conditions.

At the moment, many of this year's non breeding swifts are chasing around and also investigating possible nest sites for next year.

The British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) has just published some fascinating results of a study of swifts, that have been tagged with geolocators. These are tiny data loggers fixed to the swifts here which then using satellite technology records their positions over time during their continual flight to their wintering grounds in southern Africa, and their return. One swift, known as A320, having been tagged in the UK in July 2010 was recorded over Mozambique at Christmas 2011. It then spent two months over the Congo before flying across the Atlantic up the western seaboard of Africa to Liberia on the 17th of April. It stayed here for 10 days before travelling north to the skies over the Sahara by the first of May. Between the 3rd and the 6th, it was over Morocco then heading north to arrive back at its breeding site in Cambridgeshire on the 8th of May. A staggering journey and made by a bird that weighs just 56 grammes. **Nick Dixon**

DREWSTEIGTON BRANCH R B L WOMEN'S SECTION

Saturday 11th August 12—2pm.

Drinks and Buffet

Undermoor, Broomhill, Chagford.

Raffle

Recipe Corner

Lemon Drizzle Cake

Ingredients

180g butter or low fat spread

180g caster sugar

3 eggs, beaten

180g plain flour

1 tsp baking powder

2 lemons

1 tbsp Demerara sugar

Cooking Instructions

Preheat the oven to 150C, 300F or gas mark 2

Cream the butter or low fat spread with the caster sugar, gradually add the egg.

Sieve in the flour and baking powder mix again adding the finely grated zest of both lemons.

Line a loaf tin with greaseproof paper or cooking parchment pour cake mixture in and bake in a preheated oven for 60mins until a skewer inserted into the thickest part comes out clean. Remove from oven and pour the juice from the 2 lemons over the cake and sprinkle with the Demerara sugar, allow to cool then serve.



If you would like to share a favourite recipe please contact me Pauline Rowe. email: pauline_lily@hotmail.com or pop them in my letter box at 3 Glebe Cottage, Drewsteigton.



CHAGFORD SHOW

Thursday 16th August 2012.

A great day out for all the family.

Horse, Pony, Cattle & Sheep classes,

Great children's entertainment, dog show.

Imps motorcycle Display Team and

Bob Hogg's sheepdog display in the Main Arena.

Beer Tent Corner, entertainment including Johnny Fuller Band, Sun Taiko Drums.

For further details or if you would like to help on the day and become involved in

Chagford Show please contact The Secretary 01647 24306

Email sally385@btinternet.com



West Devon Connect

In July, West Devon Connect will be at:

July 13th - Chagford Library, 10.30am - 12.30pm - including advisors from LINK Devon (your voice for health & social care issues).

July 17th - Hatherleigh Market, 9.30am - 12noon including advisors from The Community Voluntary Service and Devon & Somerset Fire Service and Rescue Service.

July 27th - Chagford Library, 10.30am - 12.30pm including advisors from Action on Hearing Loss.



Every year, thousands of families all over the country are involved in the UK's biggest reading event for children in libraries, the Summer Reading Challenge. In 2012, the Challenge is called Story Lab.

The aim of the challenge is to get children to read six books from their library during the summer holidays.

It's great fun for kids, it keeps them reading through the summer preventing their reading ability from dipping and what's more, it doesn't cost a penny to join.

How do I sign my child up?

Just head to your local library at the beginning of the summer holidays. Staff will enrol your children - it's completely free of charge - and every child will receive a membership pack.

What books can my children read?

The Summer Reading Challenge is designed for children of all ages and reading abilities. They can read any books they like - fact books, stories, joke books, picture books - it's up to them. Audio books count too! As long as you're borrowing them from the library, they all count.

Do the children who finish the challenge receive anything?

Yes, everybody who reads six books or more will receive a certificate and a medal. There are stickers and other small prizes to collect along the way.

Will anything else be going on in the library over the summer?

To find out what other activities are happening in your local library go to <http://www.devon.gov.uk/thezone> or pop in and say hello.

Drewsteignton Ladies Club



Devon Cream Teas
£2-50
Plants
Bring and Buy
Raffle

Saturday 4th August
2.30pm to 5pm
Drewsteignton
Village hall
Proceeds to
Riding for the Disabled
Hittisleigh

Cancer Research UK, Chagford Street Market

Please join us on Saturday 4th. August from 9.00am until 12 noon for the Annual Cancer Research Street Market and in the afternoon for the Jumble sale, beginning at 2.30pm.

During the morning there will also be a **Hog Roast**, from approximately 11.45am.

We would be grateful for donations of books, cakes, bric-a-brac, plants, bottles, raffle prizes, baby clothes, toys, nearly new clothes and jumble.

We would also be pleased to hear from anyone willing to help in any capacity, for however long or short a time, on the day of the Street Market. If you wish to donate any items, we will collect, or if you can help, please contact:

Jane Bearder (01647 433533) or
Gloria Brewer (01647 432601).





News From The Castle

The Long Walk Home

Some of you may have met Eleanor Redgrave, who has been working at Castle Drogo as a full-time volunteer, for the past year or so. Now, Eleanor's time with us is coming to an end and she will shortly be going back home to Suffolk. However, she's not travelling the easy way – instead she's getting sponsored to walk the entire journey, stopping off at a variety of National Trust properties along the way, in order to raise funds for the 'Save Castle Drogo' appeal. In total she will cover an amazing 350 miles! Why on earth is she doing this? Well, I'll let Eleanor tell you in her own words:

"I moved to hilly Devon two years ago from the flatlands of East Anglia. But now the big skies are calling and it is time to return. I have made the 350 mile journey dozens of times, mostly by train. But rather than standing on platform number 5 at Exeter St. David's for the last time, I thought; why not walk?"

For the past fourteen months, I've had the once in a lifetime opportunity to live in Castle Drogo as part of my full time volunteer role. It has been a wonderful experience and, as my way of saying thank you for the fantastic opportunity, I would like use this walk as a way of raising money for the 'Save Castle Drogo' appeal. The Castle is battling for it's survival as the building suffers from leaks! I would hate to see this big piece of granite crumble into 'another' Castle ruin – and besides its still only a hundred years old, lets give it a bit more of a life first."

If you would like to support Eleanor's marathon (or should that be 13 marathons!) effort, whether actively or in a more passive way, then the following will give you some ideas:

You can sponsor her by going to www.justgiving.com/Eleanor-Redgrave

Or you could join her for all (or part of) the first leg of her journey, on Friday 3rd August, when she will be walking from Castle Drogo to Killerton. If you intend to join her, or would like more info, please let Eleanor know by sending an email to elea-nor.redgrave@nationaltrust.org.uk - everyone will be welcome!

We would like to thank Eleanor for all her hard work, over the past year, and wish her well on the 'Long Walk Home' and in her future career.

Andy Dawson

Compliance & Environmental Practices Co-ordinator

Dartmoor Properties

Telephone: 01647 434117



DREWSTEIGNTON GARDENERS' CLUB

ANNUAL SHOW

SATURDAY 18th AUGUST

(Village Hall)

Staging of Exhibits 9-11am

Open to public 2.30pm

Refreshments /Raffle

OPEN TO ALL IN THE PARISH

Our Last Term At Chagford School

I am in year 6 at Chagford primary school and will soon be moving in September to Okehampton College. Our class went on a visit day where we were honorary year 7s for the day. Okehampton College is so much bigger than Chagford and I can easily see myself getting lost there. We were all a bit nervous at the beginning of the day but as soon as I got there I was fine. It was busy but we had very enjoyable lessons and lunch was great. It was very different to Chagford, for a start at break time, you normally talk where as at Chagford we run around. I have heard that there is an increase in home work. What I am pleased about is that I know everybody from Drewsteignton and a lot of the other people who used to go to Chagford school, so it's not like I don't know anyone. I am now really looking forward to going to Okehampton, even though I'm still a bit nervous but I guess everyone is.



This term me and my class took part in a local competition, it is called The Kingfisher Project. This year's theme was on 'What's in an Orchard?' so we went on a class trip to a nearby orchard and went around in groups discovering about orchards and their wildlife. We also made some fabulous apple juice that we squeezed ourselves. Then we had the task of finding various facts about orchards bees and apples and we had to try to make the best display. We made 2 massive models, one of a blue tit and one of a bee, both were great. Their main structure was chicken wire and we painted them and made them look life like, except that they were much bigger than normal! All our class contributed and we made a recipe book full of recipes with apples in them. We also made a class book of British mammals. On the 4th of July, The Kingfisher Project competition was judged at Newton St. Cyres and lots of us went along for the award ceremony. We also had lots of poems, fact files, pictures and life cycles of various animals found in orchards. We had loads of fun making and designing our project. It was also fun showing our exhibit and talking to the judges, and to top it off we came 1st out of 8 schools. **Tilly Dixon**

Drewsteignton

Parish Post

Contact Details:

For Editorial John Shiell

Contributions

For Parish Council Bella Snook

Business

drewsteigntonparishpost@hotmail.co.uk

☎ 281282

clerk@drewsteigntonparish.co.uk

☎ 231046—www.drewsteigntonparish.co.uk

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

Pauline Rowe: pauline_lily@hotmail.com

☎ 281638

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