

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

Drewsteignton Parish Post

ISSUE NO 98

MAY 2014

NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

Many thanks to the owners of the apparently abandoned vehicles left in Drewsteignton car park for removing them, it has saved West Devon Borough Council and us time and money. It has also freed up two spaces for other users. Still in Drewsteignton, we are required to provide hot water in the public toilets as they are used in conjunction with the village hall. This means we will have to spend in the region of £600 for the repair of the outdated hand-washing facilities which had not been planned for. Councillors decided as the last time we had a problem was in 2006, we would not at this stage enter into a maintenance contract with the providers at a cost of a further £600. To update and replace with modern units would cost in the region of £3800 so that idea was put on the back burner for the present time, but the problem will have to be addressed. It is good to know we have the honesty box which will give us a little bit towards the expense.

Devon County Cllr James McInnes has informed us the objections by the National Park to parking restriction lines outside the Post Office in the village have now been withdrawn, new councillors were informed about the previous position of the Council which was to assist where we could, but not provide council tax money from the Parish for the project. It would have to be self financing and this decision was unanimously confirmed.

As and when the link road at Whiddon Down is built, the old road passing C J Saunders and the couple of private houses should be used for access only which would require a Traffic Order for it to be enforced. We are contacting WDBC to ensure this was part of the original planning decision and if not then it should be included.

The usual list of potholes was given to the Clerk by Councillors and it was noted South West Highways are beginning to do some work within the Parish.

A planning site visit had been carried out concerning two items at Venton. The first was a ret-

spective application for a polytunnel which we decided to take a neutral view on and the second was for a replacement dwelling and garage which we decided to support. Both decisions were unanimous. A reply has been received from Stephen Belli, head of DNP planning department, to the effect they no longer have the resources to give individual reason for differing from the Parish Council's views on planning decisions. We had asked for this information to better inform Parish Councillors. Council were informed a recent decision to refuse an application at Torr was now going to appeal at the Planning Inspectorate and Councillors agreed to continue their original support to the applicant.

Various matters of end of year financial documents were discussed, agreed and signed by the Chairman and Clerk before they are sent for audit and we are claiming back £142.62 from the VAT man!!

Cllr Anna Imrie reported the playing fields had a yearly safety examination which has identified the need to update some of the equipment and the removal of some unsafe items. The playing field committee (which acts as a subcommittee of the Parish Council) also wish to construct a veranda to the shed to extend their options for events. It was agreed to seek advice from DNP on the planning implications and to ensure the insurance position is up to date.

It was brought to our attention that some parishioners in the Furlong/Great Tree areas have not received a Parish Post recently. Delivery is on a voluntary basis and if you are able to help or if you do not receive your copy please contact the Clerk (231046) or the editorial team Pauline (281638) or John (281282).

Our next Council meeting is at **Whiddon Down 7.30pm Monday 19th May.**

Future Volunteer Opportunities At Fingle In 2014



For more info talk to David Rickwood of the Woodland Trust on 07827 820637 or by email to davidrickwood@woodlandtrust.org.uk

- 14/05/14 - Weds - Cod Wood - Pheasant Pen/Rubbish Removal
- 07/06/14 - Saturday - Butterfly Survey - Starting at Fingle
- 18/06/14 - Weds - Track Surveys and Mapping
- 05/07/14 - Saturday - River Teign - Dipping / Species / Balsam Pulling
- 20/08/14 - Weds - Repairs to riverside path and creation of dog dipping areas
- 10/09/14 - Weds - Repairs to riverside path and creation of dog dipping areas
- 04/10/14 - Saturday - Native Woodland/Secondary - removal of regenerating conifer
- 15/10/14 - Weds - Riverside Track/Halls Cleave - Cut and burn Rhody/Laurel
- 01/11/14 - Sat - Nest Box Making Dormice/Pied Flycatchers
- 12/11/14 - Wed - Track /Culvert Maintenance/ Conifer removal
- 10/12/14 - Weds - Nest Box Making Dormice/Pied Flycatchers

Please note some of the activities may change.

If you are part of a group or cannot make the dates selected or wish to undertake a specific type of task please call and speak to David Rickwood.

Tilly's Parish Post

Last month I wrote about how West Exe Under 13 Girls became Devon champions in the FA cup. I decided this month I would fill you in on another cup final that I played a few weeks ago.

This was a knockout competition and the only teams were the other ones in our league, so it wasn't quite as big as the previous one, but nevertheless it was still very exciting.

We played at Dawlish football club which was a neutral ground which neither team had been to before. When we got there, there was a bit of commotion about where we would be playing as there was an under 15s match at the same time as us. In the end we ended up on a full-size pitch with full-size goals, which was a pain as we weren't used to playing on that size pitch. And we only had 9 players a side so as you can guess by the end we were all shattered!

The score went 1-0 to them about 5 minutes into the game due to an unfortunate own goal from one of our defenders. But we soon equalized bringing the score to 1-1! It was a pretty even match but they were quite a physical team so lots of barging and pushing into us. And just before half time our main striker got another goal. After half time, because they were losing, they came back on the pitch stronger than before and soon brought the score

back up to a draw. We then managed to get two pass them, but that just seemed to aggravate them more and in the final 10 minutes they got a goal back. This was bad news for us as they were doing everything they possibly could to get a goal, even if it meant blasting the ball straight at us. The score was 4-3 and they really wanted that extra goal that meant the match would go to extra time thus giving them a chance to win. Unfortunately for them, they were playing West Exe Under 13 Girls and we were way too shattered to let it go to extra time. So in that final 5 minutes we clung on and defended to the best of our ability and stopped them from scoring. We had won!!!

Afterwards, there was a presentation and we all went up and got a box with a medal in it and a little plaque that read 'Devon Girls Football Under 13s Champions'. Needless to say the other teams medals read 'runners up' and they weren't too happy about that judging by the looks on their faces; they wanted revenge!

And they got it. We played them last weekend and they won 4-3, but it doesn't matter as we've already won the league and both cups. So yes they did beat us but we beat them when it really mattered! Also I scored our first goal with a header from a corner so I wasn't too disappointed! **Tilly Dixon**

Okehampton Neighbourhood Police

Okehampton Neighbourhood Police have had officers move patches in line with the recent changes and so PC Nadine Wilson is no longer the Neighbourhood beat manager for rural east Okehampton. To increase officers in frontline positions Nadine & other Neighbourhood beat managers have moved onto our response section as there is a much larger area to cover when responding to incidents.

PC Dave Pickles is Okehampton's new Neighbourhood Beat Manager. He has worked in Tavistock previously & been a Neighbourhood beat manager for 7 years. He will be responsible for the whole of Okehampton patch. PCSO Danielle Moore-Dunstan has been allocated the rural east patch so she will be covering for the foreseeable future.

Danielle would like to introduce herself to the local community by attending events & meetings over forthcoming months, becoming involved with the schools and being pro active in resolving local issues/concerns.

Okehampton Police would also like to update residents of some ongoing operations –

The annual "Moorwatch" scheme is being operated by Police whereby local beauty spots and rural car parks that may get targeted by criminals are patrolled and security signs are on display to visitors, in conjunction with security reminder leaflets distributed on cars. Do not leave keys in cars or appealing items on display when you are leaving your vehicle unattended or whilst parked in beauty spots.

Currently Devon & Cornwall Police Officers and staff are working in line with an enforcement theme for policing the roads during May 2014 which is "Driver Distraction". Officers are encouraged to engage in enforcement activity around this particular theme throughout May to actively make a contribution to reducing harm in our communities. As one of the main contributors to harm on the roads and one of the 'fatal 4' KSI (killed, serious injured) causations, it is important that driver distraction is enforced robustly. Significant complacency exists around the use of mobile devices when driving which primarily, but not exclusively, concerns the use of a hand held mobile phone.

Drivers who commit more serious offences may be prosecuted but the majority are more likely to be dealt with by means of verbal warning or other diversion schemes as appropriate when other offences are disclosed

Please call 101 if you witness driving which you consider fits this criteria as we want to educate drivers and reduce the amount of potential accidents on our roads.

Kind Regards

Danielle Moore-Dunstan

Police Community Support Officer

Rural East

Okehampton Police Station

Exeter Road

Okehampton

EX20 1NN



Join us at Stone Lane Gardens for an art workshop at 10.30am – 4.00pm on Tuesday June 17th 2014 (includes tea/coffee and optional picnic)

How to create an illustrated nature diary: a session on how to produce artistic nature diaries with artist Jennie Hale: this will introduce the skills of the art of nature recording and will establish a Stone Lane Gardens Nature Journal to which participants can continue to contribute. For more information, see the diary tab on Jennie's website www.jenniehale.co.uk

Advance Booking Required: (we need a minimum of 7 participants to run the course. If we cancel the course, your money will be returned)

Price: workshop and tea/coffee £40 picnic £5

Please book and pay via our website www.stonelanegardens.com or

email: paul.bartlett@stonelanegardens.com or phone Paul on 01647 231311

DUCK RACE

Thank you to everyone who sold and bought ducks, turned out on the day to cheer them on and helped in and out of the water. The weather delivered on the day so there was a really good turnout and the committee are delighted with the funds raised. Look forward to seeing you at **TEIGNTON FAYRE**



TEIGNTON FAYRE – JUNE 7th from 5pm

No doubt you have the 7th June in your diaries – it's going to be a night to remember, a time for the community to get together and an opportunity to raise money for local good causes.

This year, we are starting the event at 5pm because we have so much to pack in.

Apart from the stalls selling cakes, plants, cream teas, hog roast and barbecue we have some truly brilliant sideshows including the ever-favourite coconut shy, guess the baby picture, a bottle stall, slippery pole and a human fruit machine, no less. For the kids there is a children's-movie-character-themed fancy dress, a treasure hunt, a good old fashioned Punch and Judy show, a bouncy castle and some fun, child-friendly sideshows. There are some crowd games and we also have Moob performing on stage, and a host of other local musicians. We also have a raffle with the first prize set at £100, second at £50 and a load of other prizes for runners up. Phew!

This year we are raising funds for Drewsteignton Village Hall, Drewsteignton Playing Field and Whiddon Down Village Hall. We are also aiming to raise enough funds to purchase a publicly accessible community defibrillator. (For more information go to: www.communityheartbeat.org.uk.)

Obviously Teignton Fayre, and the subsequent funds raised, wouldn't be possible without the incredibly generous support from the people of Drewsteignton and surrounding areas, for which we are eternally grateful. People donate their time, money, cakes, bottles and all manner of things to make this work and we are also indebted to many local establishments, in particular Drewsteignton Village Stores, Fingle Bridge Inn and The Drewe Arms.

We are still very much in need of help so if you can ...

- * spare a few hours on the night
- * can help with putting up bunting, signs etc
- * can donate any raffle prizes
- * can make a few scones
- * have a First Aid certificate

... please get in touch by emailing teigntonfayre@googlemail.com, or phone 01647 281394.

We look forward to seeing you on the 7th June for the usual fun and frivolity!

Teignton Fayre Committee

Bird Notes

Over the last month, we have seen the return of the swallows, housemartins and swifts back to the village, with swallows arriving first, and seen by me on the 16th of April. They were back at Woodbrooke on the 15th, but I was away for a few days and am told they were spotted in the village around the 11th. The housemartins arrived the following week and I first saw them on the 23rd of April. My first sight of a swift came on the 1st of May, when a single bird was over Churchgate and attempting to get into one of my nest boxes around 8 in the evening. I keep the entrance holes blocked to deter house sparrows occupying them through the winter and filling them with nesting material before the swifts return. I unblocked the entrance hole and watched as almost immediately the swift attempted to enter it. I haven't seen any more over the Bank holiday weekend, but watched 4 over Cowick Barton playing fields in Exeter on Sunday during Tilly's football match. I hope that by the time this comes out, we will have them all back and they will be chasing around in their family groups over the roof tops. Their screaming calls are the sound

of summer for me.

This is a wonderful time of the year for listening to the birds, especially the dawn chorus, as birds sing to attract mates and advertise territories. While I really enjoy the assorted bird song, I find it frustrating that I cannot identify more birds from their calls, especially the very vocal warblers when hidden by foliage. I would be delighted to hear from anyone in the parish who can tell me what birds they are hearing when out and about, as I am sure I miss a lot of interesting birds locally by not knowing their song.

I previously wrote about blue tits and house sparrows arguing over one of my nest boxes in the garden. Well, the blue tits won and both parents are now frantically bringing food into the box to feed their brood. I am not surprised they took over the box as I have heard them described as 'gnarly little critters' (I think that was the phrase) by a friend who has been studying them for an MSC.

'The cuckoo arrives in April, it sings its song in May, it lays its eggs in the month of June, and then it flies away'. This ditty is not strictly true as they do spend most of the summer here before migrating south. I have not yet heard a cuckoo this year but was told (thank you, Jill) one was calling from the direction of Piddledown on the 30th of April.

Devon Birds (the County bird society) are very keen to hear if you have heard a cuckoo calling. Have a look on their website at www.devonbirds.org, there is a fascinating map of this year's sightings, with the vast majority heard on Dartmoor and the immediate surrounding countryside.

Over the last month, I have been watching the peregrines at St. Michaels Church in Exeter, from the comfort of my home via the webcam we installed in their nest last year. They laid 4 eggs towards the end of March, and three hatched on the 26/27th of April. I have been online this morning and the 3 chicks are growing daily and are now a week old, but it is fascinating to watch, especially at feeding time.

The adults will stop brooding them in about a week but they will not fledge until they are 42 days old, and so will be visible via the webcam until about the 8th June.

It is a live feed with infra red so they can be watched at night too, plus audio which picks up every sound in the nest, plus bird song and occasional traffic sounds from outside the church. Have a look at Devon's most famous peregrine falcons on the church website at www.stmichaelsmountdinham.org.uk

Nick

Green Hill Arts News

Nicholas White: The Militarisation of Dartmoor

New exhibition - May 3 - Jun 25 10am-4pm Tuesday-Sunday

Nicholas White is an Okehampton-based photographer, whose work is themed around landscape, exploring narratives related to human intervention, the environment and ways in which we interact with our natural spaces. Graduating from Plymouth College of Art in 2013 with a 1st Class Hons in Photography, his subsequent series 'The Militarisation of Dartmoor' is an award-winning show. The exhibition examines the way in which Dartmoor, one of 15 designated National Parks in the United Kingdom, is used for the training of our Armed Forces.

Volunteers Needed!

We're looking for volunteers to join our friendly team at Green Hill to help on reception, setting up exhibitions, admin and tasks like stuffing envelopes! All training provided. At the moment we need volunteers on reception on a Sunday afternoon. Volunteering can be very satisfying and enjoyable and gives you valuable new skills that are transferable and look good on a CV. You will also join in with our volunteer social events so that you get to know the whole team. Please do get in touch!

Studio Available

Artist's studio available on easy in/easy out terms. Light and airy and you benefit from being part of a community of artists at Green Hill where we hold exhibitions and other events. Please do call to arrange a visit and find out more.

**Contact Katheryn Hope, Manager, on 01647 440775,
or email gallery@greenhillarts.org www.greenhillarts.org**

Green Hill

Fore St

Moretonhampstead

Newton Abbot

TQ13 8LL



Moretonhampstead Hospital

Local people working together to develop future services for Moretonhampstead

People from Moretonhampstead and surrounding areas have been working closely with the NHS to come up with ideas of services they would like to see run from the town's community hospital.

Local residents, patient representatives, GPs, voluntary sector representatives, elected representatives and other organisations have formed a group and signed a 'statement of intent' for the future of health in the town.

They agreed that the community hospital should be adapted and developed as a community health and wellbeing hub offering a wide range of health and social care services from one site.

It will mean that some services currently available only in Exeter, Okehampton and Newton Abbot will be accessible from a single local centre better able to support the wider needs of the local community and, in particular, to cope with the increasingly elderly population.

The move also reflects the present national financial environment and, coupled with the difficulty of recruiting professional staff at the hospital, means the temporary closure of the inpatient beds will become permanent.

Local GP Dr Tim Dudgeon said: "I am pleased we are progressing with the formation of the 'hub'.

I hope that in the next few weeks services will be up and running and will be available for patients to use."

Philip Fowler, chair of the Moretonhampstead Hospital League of Friends, said: "Moretonhampstead Hospital has been a key part of the health care provision in North East Dartmoor and while it may not now have inpatient beds, it will provide a new range of care that previously might only have been accessible by going out of the area.

"The League of Friends looks forward to being involved in this exciting, ground breaking new health hub in North East Dartmoor.

Richard Foxwell, of Moretonhampstead parish council, and Mike Elleston, from the Moretonhampstead and Chagford patient group, said: Moretonhampstead, Chagford and the surrounding area is rural and remote so often health care for residents means travelling to Exeter or beyond. Overwhelmingly, the community supported converting the hospital to a Health and social care hub. Already, it is the base for the Community Nurses, and many regular clinics plus extra health services planned for introduction in the next few months.

Converting the time-honoured Moretonhampstead Hospital into a health and social care hub is fundamental for the future. The parish councils see the increasing number of services opening here enabling many of the health treatments currently provided at Exeter or Okehampton becoming localised. It is the NHS moving to provide daily care in or closer to the patient's home."

"The group will also look at how services could be designed in the local community, how to overcome transport issues, financial planning and how best to communicate the plans to local people."

The statement of intent was agreed following a series of public meetings and engagement events where the Northern, Eastern and Western Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (NDHT) invited people to get involved in securing the future of health services in the area.

It was also agreed by the respective Boards of the CCG's Eastern Locality Board and NDHT, NDHT, which owns the hospital building and provides community health and social care services to local residents. To see the full statement in intent or for more information, or to get involved, go to

www.healthypeoplemoreton.co.uk

For more information contact Paul Hopkins on 01769 575 153 or 01392 267 647

Drewsteignton Playing Field

The Drewsteignton Playing Field AGM is being held on Monday 12th May at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

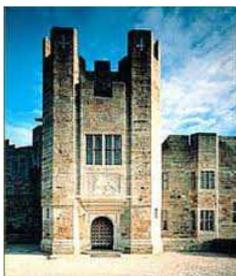
All welcome. **Alison**

Once again I have been asked to remind all dog owners to clear up after their dogs.

There has been an increase in the Churchyard and Sunnybank area of the village.

Please think of other people when walking your dogs.

News from the Castle



Hello again everyone

As I write this on the first day of May, our brief spell of sunshine has gone and it is drizzling. Boo! My hope is that the sunshine is saving itself for our community open evening due to take place on Friday 16th May. Our youth panel is really excited about this event and we have some great local musicians performing for us. I hope that many of you join us on the night.

Building work is progressing well and we have even started to put some things back together again. The first window returned in April and has enabled us to reinstate the room that is a registered war memorial to Adrian Drewe. This room is a very moving and poignant room and it feels right that this room is open as we mark the centenary of the start of the First World War.

Get Changed Makes History

Our art and theatre project with the lovely people from Get Changed Theatre is well underway. Get Changed is based in Okehampton and works with local adults who have learning and/or physical disabilities. We have a range of artwork on display including poppy windmills by the Luncheon House and beautiful poetry 'listening posts' dotted around the garden. All of their work is inspired by the stories of Castle Drogo. The Get Changed team is now busy preparing for their 'glimpse theatre' days which are coming up over the summer:

Friday 30th May - Experience a glimpse of the past as ghosts of a bygone age wander the castle.

Sunday 15th June - Keep your eyes open for our magnificent animated stag as it moves around the grounds.

Sunday 27th July – Re-enact a Drogo family portrait to be snapped by our period photographers with their vintage camera.

Friday 1st August - Keep your eyes open as our magnificent animated stag returns and moves around the grounds.

Finally, I would like to mention our community notice board which is just outside the entrance to the visitor centre. This board is for all local people to use to promote any community events or important notices. If you have anything that you would like to display please drop it in to the castle and it will go up straight away.

Best wishes,

Paula

Community Engagement Officer, Castle Drogo

01647 434130, paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk

Teignton Fayre 2014



Bouncy Castle, Punch and Judy, Barbecue, Hog Roast, Human Fruit Machine,
Slippery Pole, Fancy Dress, Treasure Hunt, Puddings, Cakes, and Games,
Stalls and Sideshowes Galore
Live Music including MOOB,
Saturday June 7th 5pm – late
See you there !

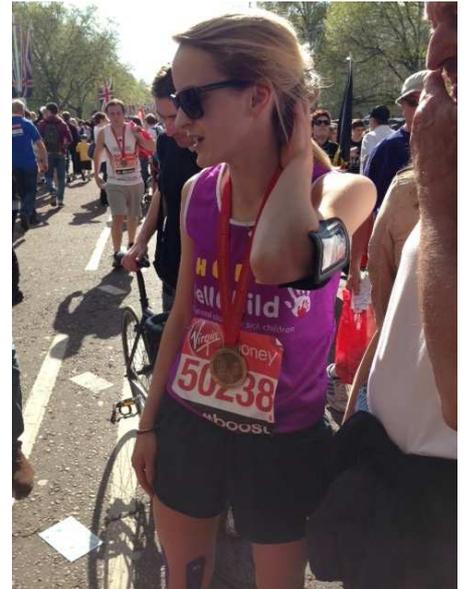
Thank You!

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone in Drewsteignton who supported me in running the London Marathon and donated to Well-Child. I have raised over £1500 for the charity, so thank you so much, to everyone who came to the clothes and cake sale, donated in the Post Office or on my JustGiving page.

Most people have said I am crazy for saying this, but the marathon was probably the most enjoyable thing I have ever done. Being part of such a big event was an amazing feeling, and it is overwhelming how much support the crowds give the runners. Running over Tower Bridge was the highlight for me.

I will most definitely be running a marathon again, and I would encourage anyone who was thinking about doing one to go for it. The training is certainly hard, but it is so worth it when you are able to run 26.2 miles through London with 35,000 other people, and Mo Farah!

Hope



The Parish Post

The Post is designed to keep everyone in touch with life in the Parish. We'd love to hear about your forthcoming events, hair-raising experiences, fundraising efforts, funny stories, memories, recipes.

Your thoughts, opinions, comments, views and concerns are important too.

Please tell us. You don't have to be a great writer, just email or phone John Shiell or Pauline Rowe, details below.

If you don't tell us we can't print it

John and Pauline

Drewsteignton

Parish Post

Contact Details:

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Contributions	Pauline Rowe

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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The Parish Post reserves the right to edit contributions and wishes to state that views expressed are not necessarily those of the Parish Post.

Contributions for the next edition by
1st June - Thank You