

Drewsteignton Parish Post

ISSUE NO 150

NOVEMBER 2018

NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

For parishioners who are patients at the Cheriton Bishop Doctors surgery we have received an email which will have an effect on you. Following on from last winter the surgery are looking to put a detailed plan together, should we get more severe weather this winter, to assist vulnerable and elderly patients. Firstly they are looking for volunteers who have a 4x4 vehicle, (or of course a tractor), who would be able to convey staff to work or visit patients and to deliver urgent medication. Secondly, any volunteers who would be prepared to walk medication from designated drop off points to patients. This predominantly affects those in Crockernwell and Drewsteignton so if you feel you can help please make contact by telephoning Tina McCleod or Julia Mercer at the surgery on 01647 24272. The designated drop off points will be notified later.

Talking of winter, the post of community snow warden remains vacant. If you feel you could help please contact a councillor or the clerk.

The parish notice board at Sandy Park has not been in situ for some months as it is awaiting repair. The Council have not received any complaints about it not being there so, rather than spending several hundred pounds to replace it, we have decided not to. Agendas, minutes and other council business can be viewed on the parish website.

We are progressing with the Devon Air Ambulance night landing site at the Drewsteignton playing field and a planning application will be submitted to the Dartmoor National Park shortly.

Pete Rich, the DNP ranger, was in attendance at our last meeting when he received councillors' reports on the footpaths which had been walked and the faults which required attention. He was thanked for his continued hard work on our footpaths and rights of way, despite the increase in his area of work giving him now over 90 miles of footpaths from Whiddon Down to Bovey Tracy!

Various locations have been identified for work to be undertaken by the community payback scheme which is hoped to be done during November.

Cllr John Redman reported that the work to reduce the height of the road hedge in the playing field had been undertaken and was a good job well done.

Many thanks to the contractors C. B. Trees from Chagford.

It will not go unnoticed that it is the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I and the council have approved the purchase of a memorial steel bench which will be placed outside Drewsteignton Post Office, thanks to Ian & Marg. Both the Chairman and Vice Chairman are unavailable to attend the Remembrance service this year, Cllr Anna Imrie will lay the Parish Council wreath on behalf of the parish.

The council resolved to take a neutral view on a planning application for a certificate of lawfulness at Stone Lane Gardens (DNP 0531/18) as we have no further evidence to either support or object to the application. Cllr Graham Hester had represented the Parish Council at the West Devon Borough Council's planning site visit at Whiddon Down regarding the application for a farm shop and gave a report to councillors. Cllr Paul Ridgers who is also our WDB councillor said he will be opposing the application and will be addressing the planning committee. At the date of writing we have not heard when this matter is to be considered.

James Gibbs from Jacksons Stops who are acting as agents for Thompsons Transport, addressed councillors on a proposed development on land next to the roundabout at Whiddon Down. This is only a proposal at this time and full planning procedure will have to be gone through but councillors asked the clerk to write to DNP and asked them to look at the proposal.

Ten years ago architects had been appointed to produce the plans for the new housing in Lamb Park, now Prestonbury View.

The enforcement of speed limits was being discussed (nothing new there!) and the potholes in Knowle Lane had been repaired.

Our next meeting is at **Whiddon Down on Monday 19th November at 7.30pm**



DREWSTEIGTON
CHRISTMAS
CRAFT FAYRE



Saturday 1st December 10 am—5pm
and

Sunday 2nd December 11am—4pm

In Holy Trinity Church

Local Crafters – for that ‘something different’
15% of sellers sales to Holy Trinity Church



Home made refreshments including
morning coffee and cake, light lunches
and afternoon teas
available on both days



Whiddon Down Methodist Church

CAROL SERVICE

At the Chapel

Sunday 2nd December

at

6.30pm

Led by Rev. Julian Albrow

Collection for Action for Children

Tea & Mince Pies

All Welcome

The 5th Annual Big Quiz

This will again take place at Fingle Bridge Inn starting promptly at 7.00 p.m. on Saturday 24th November. Teams of 6, entry £8.00 per person to include sausage and chips at half-time. Entry forms will be available from Drewsteigton Village Shop from 1st November. Please don't leave it until the last minute as space is limited and for the last two years we have had to turn people away. Tickets for the Big Draw with, as always, great prizes will be available from the shop at the same time as the entry forms. We look forward to seeing you all on the 24th. for another evening of fun and friendly/fierce competition.
In aid of Friends of Drewsteigton Churchyard.





Race Night
A Fun Night Out
CHERITON BISHOP VILLAGE HALL
16th February 2019
HELPING RAISE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS.
JOCKEY & HORSE OWNERSHIP

DOORS OPEN 6.00 pm

TOTE OPENS 7.00 pm

FIRST RACE 7.30 pm

***Tri-Cast = £1.00 per bet – 1 prize of £50 to be won –
 You can place as many bets as you wish on the Tri-Cast**

BAR, BUFFET & RAFFLE

£5 ENTRY FEE TO INCLUDE FIRST DRINK

We are holding a Race Night to help raise funds towards James Bowden's USA Rugby Scholarship – he is following his dream and has secured the chance of a lifetime to study in America on a Rugby Scholarship. Please come along, support us, and have a great night out at the same time.

Tickets available now in advance or on the door.

Donations can also be made on the Crowdfunding page below:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/james-bowden-10?utm_term=y4jY87np7

To purchase tickets or to place a Tri-Cast* bet please contact:

Di Bowden, 07900 366401 di.bowden@yahoo.co.uk

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

This Remembrance Day will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end First World War.

Men from Drewsteignton Parish bravely played their part in WWI, as they did in the Second World War, and some sacrificed their lives in doing so.

On Sunday 11 November at 11:00am 2018, due to the angle of the earth, the exact time will be told to the minute for the first and only time - ever in history - by a memorial stone in Drewsteignton public garden. On that minute, and never again, the shadow of the sundial's gnomon, a pointer made from a bullet, will fall precisely between the 11. The war memorial was commissioned in 2013 and put in place in 2014.

The design of the sundial and the precise measurement of the time, was a collaboration between Ben Jones from Peter Randall-Page's studio and Anna Imrie, a volunteer at Castle Drogo and member of the Parish Council, who proposed the memorial. The pillar, on which it sits, was commissioned from the stonemasons at Castle Drogo, then undergoing restoration 100 years after it was built. Their chosen design echoed the Cenotaph in Whitehall, London, which was designed by Edwin Lutyens, the architect of Castle Drogo. Between 1914 and 1918, many of the stonemasons building the castle went off to war, putting construction on hold for the duration, some never to return. This included Adrian, the much loved eldest son of Mr Drewe the owner of the castle, who was killed in 1917. Founding a commemorative stone 100 years after WWI resulted from a simple and natural consensus among like-minded people in 2014-2018: At the going down of the sun and in the morning - We Will Remember Them 1914-1918.



WINTER WONDER AMONG THE BEAUTIFUL BIRCH TREES AND VOLUNTEER WITH US

Open every day all year round, Stone Lane Gardens, a small friendly conservation charity near Chagford, is urgently seeking volunteers to help in the office.

Our mission is to conserve birch and alder trees by promoting, researching, propagating and displaying our National Collection in a beautiful arboretum to educate and inform the public, alongside an educational display of high quality art in a natural setting. The charity is run by volunteer Trustees and we have regular volunteer groups working in the garden

Currently, we have two office posts that need filling as soon as possible. One is for a **Book-keeper/ administrator**, which would suit a retired book-keeper. Knowledge of the software 'VT transactions' and PAYE would be helpful. Half a day a week would be ideal for the book-keeping and optionally an additional half-day or more for administration. If you are interested, please contact Tim Imrie admin@stonelanegardens.com 01647 433771

Also, we have need of a **Social Media and Website Volunteer**. We need to keep our website up to date and promote the work of the charity on our facebook page and any other social media that you would like to use. There is also the potential to be creative with photography. You can work from home or from our office on a half a day per week basis. If this appeals to you, please contact Pru Barnes pru.barnes@stonelanegardens.com 01822 841686

Stone Lane Gardens, Stone Lane, Chagford, TQ13 8JU. (Charity number 1141252)



We hope you are well aware of Acorn Community Support and its activities in your community and are asking you if you are interested in becoming a Trustee of this very worthwhile and very local charity?

If so we would very much like to hear from you!!

Our purpose is the advancement of health and wellbeing with elderly, frail and disabled people in our community. We help our adult community in a variety of ways, delivering medicines, transport to medical and dental appointments, running a Memory Café and other social events including regular lunches and coffee mornings.

The users of Acorn tell us how much they value it. By joining us you could help us maintain and develop this beneficial local service.

To register your interest please call Donna at the Acorn office on 01647 252701 or email office@acorncommunitysupport.co.uk

'Acorn Community Support - Lending a local helping hand since 1989'

Cheriton Bishop Lunch Club – Lunches are held on the first Thursday of each month, Dec 6th 2018. If you would like to come along and meet new people please phone; Jean Martin 01647 24586 or ring the Acorn Office on the number below for more details.

Minibus trips to Sainsbury's from Cheriton – Dates are Wednesday December 12th .Help is provided in store. We will also help carry your shopping! The fare is just £5 return.

Teign Valley Memory Café - December 13th. Meetings are held 10.30 – 12.30 at Strawberry Hill, Dunsford on the B3212 – look out for the sign.

Coffee Morning at Teign Valley Community Hall – The Bowden Room, Teign Valley Community Hall 10.30 - 12. Tuesday December 11th . Please drop in for a tea or coffee, a slice of homemade cake & meet up with friends, everyone welcome.

Dunsford coffee morning- Strawberry Hill, Dunsford on the B3212. December 5th & 19th. 10.30 - 12.00. All very welcome.

What else do we do? – We have a fantastic group of volunteers who help to provide transport to medical and wellbeing appointments, we can deliver prescriptions, we can also loan equipment to assist you in the home.

Acorn Community Support will be closed from 21st December until 2nd January 2019.

Acorn wishes you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Acorn Office: 01647 252701 for further information.

Dartmoor Local Plan Consultation

We're publishing a draft new Local Plan for Dartmoor, and consulting on it between **3rd December 2018 and 4th February 2019**.

The Local Plan sets out what type of development is and isn't acceptable in the National Park, it is what we use to decide planning applications, and sets out where future development may take place.

Help us plan for Dartmoor's future by commenting on it – it's important to tell us what you like, as well as anything you'd like to see change. View and comment on the plan online or at libraries, parish councils and information centres during the consultation period.

Have a chat with us about the Plan and how it might affect you at our public drop-in event in your area:

North Dartmoor:

Whiddon Down Village Hall 13th December 3pm - 6pm

East Dartmoor:

Moretonhampstead Community Club 18th December 3pm - 6pm

A list of other drop-in events happening throughout December is available on our website:

dartmoor.gov.uk/localplanreview

Join the discussion:

Twitter: @DartmoorPlan

Facebook: /DartmoorPlan

dartmoor.gov.uk/localplanreview

forwardplanning@dartmoor.gov.uk

01626 832093

Drewsteignton Playing Field

Puddings Night

Thank you to everyone who came to our puddings night in October. We raised £180, which is good considering it's our first attempt. We had loads of fabulous puddings, so many thanks to the makers. Particular thanks to Gary at the Drewe Arms for his generosity and support.

Bonfire Night

Thank you to everyone who attended our Bonfire Night on 3rd November. We hope you had a good time. I assume you agree with me that the guys did a great job with the fireworks display, the torchlight procession and the bonfire. If you didn't catch the procession, you missed a great visual display of over 60 flaming torches parading around the field.

We had a huge number of people (before, during and after the event) helping us in all sorts of vital roles. There are too many of you to mention here but we are truly grateful for all your help as we couldn't have done it without you. Particular thanks must go to Dave Woolston and his team, who created and put on our impressive fireworks display yet again, and our main supporters Chris Gosnay, Drewsteignton Parish Council and Fingle Bridge Inn.

We made a profit of just over £1,200 this year, which is really good and goes a long way towards re-doing the zip wire, which is our next big task.

Alison Chapman

Dog Attacks

There has been another attack on sheep by dogs on Piddledown Common. Please when walking in or near fields with livestock in keep your dogs on a lead at all times. Just because you cannot see the livestock it doesn't mean to say they aren't nearby!

There are some wonderful places for dog walks in and around our local area without having to walk through the fields when the animals are in, but if you do, please put your dogs on a lead.

Bird Notes

I am now convinced the house martins have left, after saying almost the same thing in last month's Parish Post. I was sure I had seen the last of them on the 30th of September at East Prawle as they were about to cross the channel, but I then spotted one on the 9th October at work in Cornwall, another over Whiddon Down on the 10th and then the final one over my garden on the 16th.

The very next day on the 17th, I heard and then saw my first redwings of this winter. Redwings have a distinctive high pitched 'seep' call which can be heard by day or night as they move across the countryside. Two days later, at work in Cornwall, I saw large flocks of fieldfares flying overhead and then landing in nearby trees. Both species are members of the thrush family and have moved here from northern Europe to avoid the extreme winter conditions. I have also started seeing very large flocks of woodpigeons, and far more starlings around locally than a month ago. Despite the increased numbers of the visiting winter migrants, there is very little bird song to be heard, other than robins, which I often hear singing before it gets light in the mornings.

The local seasonal changes in bird species are also reflected in the fallen prey remains dropped by the peregrines at St. Michaels church at Mount Dinham in Exeter. Over the past few weeks, I have recovered feathers, wings and the odd skull from teal, woodcock, redwing and golden plover. It is a very quiet time of year for the peregrines with this year's juveniles now gone, and the resident adults spend the majority of their days on regular perches on the church retaining their possession of the territory and breeding site.

The weather over the past month has been mainly dry apart from odd few days of rain in mid-month, followed by a few days of early frosts. Around Drewsteignton, we have some glorious views and the mixed woodland of Rectory woods, just to the south of the village, looks stunning at present, especially the larch blocks. The variety of tree species are providing the most wonderful autumnal hues as the leaves are turning. As they are gradually falling, and the branches are becoming barer, I have been seeing mixed groups of tits working their way along hedgerows, including blue, great and long tailed tits.

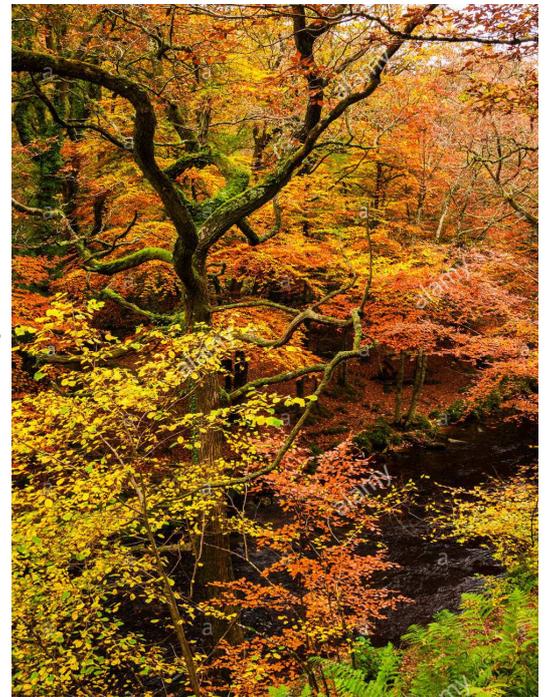
Last month, Kate (my wife) and I were asked by a friend if we would like to help guide a group of visually impaired and blind people for a day walk. The walkers were members of Milton Mountaineers, a charity formed in 1969 to give blind and visually handicapped people recreational opportunities and was named after the blind poet John Milton. Members of the club have already scaled the Lake District's Scafell Pike and Blencathra, along with Ben Nevis, in Scotland, Snowdon, in Wales, and Kinder Scout in the Peak District.

Kate helped out the day before I did and spent the day in the Teign valley, with equal guides to members, and walked about eight miles on a circular route. The guiding was as simple as the visually impaired walker holding Kate's elbow and being given the occasional warning as to hazards on the path.

My day involved meeting up at the Two Bridges Hotel, where the group were staying and after being introduced to everyone and two guide dogs, we set out towards Princetown along the road before heading south along a track built by conscientious objectors held in Dartmoor prison during the First World War.

It was a beautiful day and I guided a lovely woman called Lyn in the morning, and we just chatted all the time, with the occasional warning about rocks underfoot. I had hoped to hear ravens, skylarks and meadow pipits while we were walking on the moor, and tell the group what we were hearing, but it was quite quiet and I saw very few birds in the morning. We were well led by a Dartmoor guide and he picked a great place to stop for our picnic lunch on the West Dart river. There were a pair of kingfishers flying up and down the river calling loudly which I was able to inform the group, plus a buzzard mewing and a kestrel calling from nearby trees. In the afternoon, I guided David, the group leader as we walked back and up to Powder Mills before returning to the hotel for a well-earned beer after our eight-mile walk. It was a wonderful day, a very rewarding experience and hot enough to get slightly sunburnt.

Nick



News from the Castle



Hi everyone.

It seems like winter has arrived early! I went off for a week's holiday and came back to ice and frost. Brrrrr!

Just a couple of things to let you know about this month. Firstly, we would like to invite you to a 'locals open day' on Wednesday 28 November 2018, 11am – 3pm. You will get a sneaky peek in to the Castle as the team start to re-present rooms ready for the end of the building project, have a natter with us over a brew about what 2019 is going to look like and, if you would like to join the Castle Drogo team, find out more about volunteering. I hope to see many of you there to meet you in person.

You are also warmly invited to a Christmas late opening in the visitor centre on Thursday 29 November. The shop and cafe will have extended opening from 4pm-7:30pm with mince pies and mulled wine, a 10% discount on purchases made (this does not include items that are already discounted and it cannot be used with staff or volunteer discount or any other kind of discount). Sue and the café team will be offering a wonderful range of one pot meals and other delights for supper from 6pm (hot drinks and cake available beforehand) and the Tedburn Choir will be here at 6:30 until 7:30 singing for everyone a mix of Christmas songs, classics and new songs.

Thanks again everyone and we hope to see many of you soon,

Paula

Community Engagement Officer, Castle Drogo
01647 434130, paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk

News from Holy Trinity

Hopefully, by the end of this month the work to remove the rotting cherry tree on the north side of the church and pruning works to the yew by the west lych gate will be complete. We are just waiting on written confirmation of permission from the DNPA. There will, inevitably, be a certain amount of disruption, particularly on the public footpath to the car park, for which we apologise. There will be a certain amount of wood available for logging and removal. If anyone would like to put in a bid for this please contact one of the churchwardens.

We will, again have a full house for the Big Quiz on November 24th. Tickets for the Big Draw are available now from the Village Shop. Eight great prizes to be won, tickets £1. This year's offering has a Christmas theme and alcohol appears to feature quite often, including in the Big Christmas Hamper. Proceeds to Friends of Drewsteignton Churchyard

Christmas services begin with the Candlelight Carol Service at 4.00 p.m. on Sunday 16th December, when we will again welcome the Whiddon Community Choir, followed by mince pies and mulled wine. Carol singing for charity will take place around the village on the week before Christmas, date to be decided according to weather conditions. Christmas Eve Communion service at 10.00 p.m. on the 24th and Family Service followed by Communion at 10.00 a.m. on the 25th. Everyone is most welcome at all services. The collections at each Christmas service will go to the St. Petrocks charity for the homeless in Exeter.

Wanted.

After nearly ten years as editor of the Parish Post I feel it is time I handed over to someone else, so I am looking for a volunteer to take over.

It only takes about six to seven hours a month, less if regulars get their contributions in on time.

I am willing to help you for the first couple of months.

If interested please contact me on 01647 281638 or pauline_lily@hotmail.com for further details.

Pauline Rowe

Pumpkin Soup

Whip up this easy pumpkin soup when you need a bit of comfort.

Ingredients

- * 2 tbsp olive oil
- * 2 onions, finely chopped
- * 1kg pumpkin or squash (try kabocha), peeled, deseeded and chopped into chunks
- * 700ml vegetable stock or chicken stock
- * 150ml double cream
- * **For the croutons**
- * 2 tbsp olive oil
- * 4 slices wholemeal seeded bread, crusts removed
- * handful pumpkin seeds

Method

Heat 2 tbsp olive oil in a large [saucepan](#), then gently cook 2 finely chopped onions for 5 mins, until soft but not coloured

Add 1kg pumpkin or squash, cut into chunks, to the pan, then carry on cooking for 8-10 mins, stirring

occasionally until it starts to soften and turn golden. Pour 700ml vegetable or chicken stock into the pan and season with salt and pepper. Bring to the boil, then simmer for 10 mins until the squash is very soft.

Pour 150ml double cream into the pan, bring back to the boil, then purée with a [hand blender](#). For an extra-velvety consistency you can pour the soup through a fine sieve. *The soup can now be frozen for up to 2 months*

To make the croutons: cut 4 slices wholemeal seeded bread into small squares. Heat 2 tbsp olive oil in a [frying pan](#), then fry the bread until it starts to become crisp.

Add a handful of pumpkin seeds to the pan, then cook for a few mins, more until they are toasted. Reheat the soup if needed, taste for seasoning, then serve scattered with croutons and seeds and drizzled with more olive oil, if you want.

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.

Drewsteignton Parish Post

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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 November - Thank You