

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



Drewsteignton Parish Post



ISSUE NO.101

AUGUST 2014

NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Drewe Arms have applied to Dartmoor National Park Authority for the relevant permissions **for their 'new' signage. This item will go onto the agenda for the August meeting as the application was incomplete.**

Also under planning, a tree works proposal at The Old Rectory, Drewsteignton has arrived since the agenda was published, so the clerk will contact the Tree officer Brian Beasley at DNPA for advice.

Cllr Imrie has continued with the Commemorative Stone project; Finch Foundry are unable to make the gnomon (pin of a sundial) now, but Ben Jones has offered to help out. Cllr Imrie has also met Jennifer Mullins and agreed to act as liaison for the planned World War I exhibition.

The work on the eastbound Crockernwell bus shelter has been completed. The westbound shelter is next on the list.

A resident from Chapel Hill, Whiddon Down has contacted the council about continued illegal traffic using the road as a rat run. Cllrs agreed to repeat the previous requests for help from highways and the police to enforce the law, and to make the route less appealing to these drivers.

Potholes and ragwort are all over the Parish, the Clerk sends locations to the authorities twice a month, but residents can also report directly to Devon County Council. The more complaints received by DCC the more likely we are to get the works done. The potholes from Woodbrooke to Wallon have been filled!

Since the meeting we have been notified of works for Long Lane. These notices go on the website and notice-boards, so keep an eye on these for this information, as it is often at quite short notice.

Dartmoor Arts have kindly donated £50 for the additional cleaning of the public toilets needed during their week-long event.

Teignton Fayre have asked to site the Defibrilla-

tor on the alley wall by the public WC's. The Cllrs felt it should be sited in a more visible spot, and suggested the Post Office or pub wall.

The Playing Field committee have sent in their accounts which look very healthy. They are moving on well with new projects, and these can be administered through the Council to enable a reclaim of the VAT at the end of the financial year. The next meeting is on Monday 18 August at Drewsteignton at 7.30pm.

WWI Exhibition Update

The World War One commemorative exhibition will run from Saturday 25th October through to Remembrance Sunday (9th November) with a wine and cheese launch event 7-9pm, Friday 24th October to which all are welcome.

We are very fortunate that Paula Clarke will be producing a special display board on the history of WWI and the Drewe family/Castle Drogo connection. We are already beginning to gather photographs and letters relating to parishioners relatives - it would be great if you could get in touch with one of the committee (see below) if you have something we could use.

While the exhibition's main focus is the first world war, if you have a living memory of WWII (or good family story relating to it) we would love to hear from you as we are hoping you will come along for cake and a cuppa and share your stories with us. If we have a good response then we are thinking we might be able to film some of these beforehand to have playing during the exhibition.

We are also investigating a screening of the film **'War Horse'**. **If you have any other ideas, or would like to volunteer to help in anyway, do get in touch with me or one of the other committee members.**

Many thanks *Jennifer Mullins* 01647281657
pmjmrmdm@aol.com

Elaine Chudley, Jill Lock, Daphne Greener,
Jane Hocking and Pauline Rowe

Dartmoor Grants

Dartmoor National Park Authority are offering two grants in 2014/15 for projects which protect or enhance Dartmoor, and are appealing for organisations on Dartmoor to come forward if they have suitable ideas.

Your Dartmoor Fund

The "Your Dartmoor Fund", (previously Dartmoor Sustainable Development Fund) has £75,000 available for projects which help to sustain the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of Dartmoor, support local people and visitors to enjoy and learn more about the National Park, and help local communities and businesses prosper. Projects most likely to receive support are those that are innovative, create a lasting positive change and provide a range of environmental, social and economic benefits.

Since 2002 this fund has provided over £2.1million to local organisations. Projects supported have related to themes such as; wildlife conservation and education, local food, sustainable energy, eco-building, sustainable travel and cultural heritage.

Dartmoor Communities Fund

The new "Dartmoor Communities Fund" has £36,000 available to community groups and parish/town councils within the West Devon and South Hams areas of Dartmoor. This Fund will support capital projects that ensure the long term viability of valued existing community facilities and services, or create new community infrastructure to meet identified community needs. So if you have plans for your village hall, are thinking of setting up a new community shop or want to make the most of a valued local heritage asset the Dartmoor Communities Fund may be able to help! Applications will open at the beginning of September, but if you would like to discuss your project idea beforehand please contact Jo Rumble.

More information about both grants and how to apply can be found at:

www.dartmoor.gov.uk/livingin/grants

Ruth Leonard-Williams (Your Dartmoor Fund) 01364831069, rleonardwilliams@dartmoor.gov.uk, or Jo Rumble (Dartmoor Communities Fund) on 01364 831024, jrumble@dartmoor.gov.uk.



Devon Sensory Bus

The Devon Sensory Bus, a free, confidential and impartial service for people with hearing and/or visual impairment.

We offer advice and training in using equipment to help with everyday difficulties such as hearing the doorbell, telephone and television or with reading newspapers and books.. The equipment can be for demonstration, trial and loan.

Simple maintenance of NHS hearing aids, including supplying batteries, cleaning and retubing.

The bus has a regular timetable covering Mid, West and North Devon. This service is provided by Devon County Council

We visit Chagford , Town Square on the 3rd Tuesday each month between 10.30 am and 1.30 pm and Mortonhampstead Court Street Car Park on the 3rd Tuesday each month between 2.00pm and 3.00 pm.

Current timetables and information available online at:

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/adultsocialcareandhealth/support-for-adults-with-disabilities/services-for-people-with-sensory-disabilities/sensory-team-staff-and-services/>

Further enquires please contact

Graham Morford , Sensory Bus Co-ordinator or Anne Humphreys
Rehabilitation Officers for Hearing Impaired People.

Graham.morford@devon.gov.uk 07966596879

anne.d.humphreys@devon.gov.uk 07966 596881

Teignton Fayre

After a very successful Teignton Fayre, and an equally successful Duck Race, the committee are very pleased to announce that there are now enough funds to get our defibrillator, and award our local good causes nearly all of the funds that they requested. The defibrillator will cost £1750 plus the cost of electric installation which is yet to be confirmed. The Playing Fields will receive £900 to go toward replacement of play equipment, Drewsteignton Village Hall £720 for the replacement of doors and Whiddon Down Village Hall £225 for the replacement of heaters. We would like to thank all the people from these organisations that helped on the day.

Following investigation into a suitable location for the defibrillator, the Post Office has been identified as **the best place as it is central and prominent (and the power supply in the telephone box isn't fit for purpose)**. Marg and Ian have very kindly agreed to housing another bright red box on their wall, and many thanks to them for accommodating this lifesaving piece of equipment.

A defibrillator sub-committee has been set up with Judith Colton, Sam Peirce, Gary Read and Fiona Rynn charged with the installation and long term management of the device, along with setting up awareness training. In order for the defibrillator to be of the maximum use in the event of an emergency, it is essential that parishioners are confident in using the device so the local ambulance service will come along and show us how simple it is to use. Please, please come along to the sessions. Spread the word and watch this space for further information.

A further facility that will be adopted is the recruitment of VETS (Village Emergency Telephone System) volunteers. Response time is crucial in the event of cardiac arrest, and in situations where there is only one person with the casualty (around 67% of cases), the VETS system activates a community First Responder. As soon as the ambulance is called, the VETS system rings all the volunteer numbers and the first to respond rushes to the patient to assist, or collects the defibrillator. This is especially important for those parishioners who live on the outskirts of the village. VETS receive additional training in CPR and for operating the defibrillator.

Please think about volunteering for this, if you are able. We don't need many but having this extra facility to call upon could mean the difference between life and death.

Once again, thanks to all who have helped and participated in the fayre. I hope you agree in thinking that it is comforting to know all that fun and hard work results in something worthwhile and beneficial for all of us who live here. For more information: 01647 281394 (Sam)

The Teignton Fayre Committee

Royal British Legion

Drewsteignton Branch Women's Section

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Buffet and Drinks

At

"Undermoor"

Broomhill, Chagford

We raised £250 for the benevolent fund.

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Page.

Drewsteignton Gardeners' Club

Chairman: Phillip Evans 01647 281285

Hon Sec: Bunny Johnstone 432068 & Carol Mason 281185

Gardener's Club September meeting

Monday 8th September 5pm

Fruit Tree Pruning Demonstration in Public Car Park

bring pruners if desired!

non-members welcome for £ 1.00

(Practical Demonstration by Benedict Murrell Head of Gardening at Bicton)

Advance notice our AGM is Oct 13th why not join for the year for £ 5.00!

Acorn Community Support

Cheriton Bishop Lunch Club – Are now having 1 lunch a month which will be the first Thursday of each month. If you would like to come along please phone Jean Martin 01647 24586 for more details.

Minibus trips to Sainsbury's from Cheriton – Dates are Wednesday 13th, 27th August and 10th September. Please phone Sylvia on 01647 24267 or Jackie on 01647 252701. Help is provided in store and a wheelchair service is also available. The fare is now £4 return.

Teign Valley Memory Café - This month it will be 14th, 28th and 11th September. Please call Margaret on 01647 252622 for more details. Meetings are held at Strawberry Hill, Dunsford on the B3212 – look out for the sign.

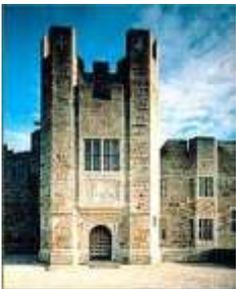
Acorn Coffee Morning at Teign Valley Hall – The Bowden Room, Teign Valley Community Hall 10.30 - 12. This month it will be Tuesday 12th, 26th August and 9th September. Please do pop in for a coffee and meet up with friends, everyone welcome. Please ring Jackie on 06147 252701 if you need a lift.

Acorn Services - Should you need transport to an appointment, a prescription delivered or any other Acorn service, please phone Sylvia Tripp on 01647 24267. Please leave a message on her answering machine if she is not at home and she will call you back. If you have not heard back within 24hours please call Jean Martin on 01647 24586.

Message from the Trustees – New blood required!

The Trustees invite applications from adults residing within the local GP Practice area to join the Board. There are two Trustees vacancies in October. Elections will be held at the AGM on Wednesday 22nd. October 2014. The current Board consists of 9 trustees - 4 of which are Officers (Chair/Deputy Chair/Treasurer/Secretary). Trustees are expected to serve for three years and officers for five year maximum terms. The committee meets Quarterly in Dunsford for evening meetings. New Trustees selection policy is to choose from candidates who will strengthen the skills base of the remaining group. Trustees are also involved in planning and arranging occasional fund raising activities. Interested? Then please apply via email to johnbarker3@btconnect.com providing your background details by 31.08.14.

Please check out our website www.acorncommunitysupport.co.uk



National Trust

News from the Castle

Hello again everyone

There is something lovely about putting the castle back together again. The East Window has been re-installed and hopefully will be unveiled soon as we start to take down the protection work. The amount of granite block-work along the drive is starting to reduce as more and more of the south parapet walls go back in.

Our behind the scenes hard-hat tours are fully booked every time so it may be wise to book early for the next lot next year. Of course, you still get a great view from the scaffold viewing tower which is open every day weather allows and we will soon be getting ready for our next Meet the Builders day in October half term.

We have had some great community events this year. Thank you to everyone who supported the Hatherleigh Players performance of The Importance of Being Earnest in July. We raised over £500 towards the project and it was a great evening. Thank you to everyone who made that event possible, especially the cast and crew of course!

Earlier this year, a great swath of woodland (870 acres) was purchased jointly in an initiative by the Woodland and National Trust. From Saturday 6th September to Monday 6th October, there will be a fantastic photographic exhibition by local photographer Paul Moody at the Fingle Bridge Inn. This exhibition will focus on the Teign Valley and will promote awareness and understanding of this exquisite natural Landscape. It will be well worth a visit.

And finally, tickets are still on sale for 4 evening performances by Get Changed Theatre Company. They will be on-site at Drogo on the 4, 5, 6 and 7 September. Please go to the Get Changed website for more info www.getchanged.com.

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

A Sky Full Of Swifts

The last four weeks have been dry and warm resulting in a great month for the swifts in the village. Malcolm has made various visits to not only ring the young swifts in my nest boxes but also to catch adults to retrieve the tiny data loggers that he put on some birds last year. He catches the adults by observing them going into nest boxes to feed the young, then puts up a very fine mist net to catch them safely as they then leave the box. He recovered two geolocators from swifts and during the proceedings found we **had 6 nesting pairs with good size broods of 2's and 3's. He also caught non breeders that were going in-** to some of the unused boxes to roost at night and was able to put leg rings on them too. One of the ringed swifts he recovered was a bird that he had ringed last year as a nestling at Upperton, about three miles away down the Teign valley.

The good weather has meant there has been a plentiful supply of food (a wide variety of flying insects all caught in flight) so the adults do not have to range far to find enough food for the young. The local food supply also enables the younger non breeders to stay around in good numbers and it is mainly them that have been screaming around the village rooftops in their frantic groups. The numbers of swifts over Churchgate seem to increase in the early evenings, and I love watching them from the garden, while trying to count them to see when the numbers peak. The highest count I have this summer of flying birds was 24 on July 2nd, but am still getting counts of mid to high teens most days.

I have seen some other nest sites in the Parish this year, new to me with at least two breeding sites in a thatched house near Sandy Park, where the owner has been telling **me for a few years about the swifts but I haven't had the** opportunity to visit. I finally managed it a month ago and as Paul and I were looking at the holes under the thatch eaves, swifts flew into both sites. I have also been told of another thatched house in the village where the owner had seen what he thought might be a swift go in. While we were chatting, a swift did swoop down and enter the cavity. That nest site could have been there for a hundred years or may be a newly established one this year. Welcome to the world of swift watching Joe!

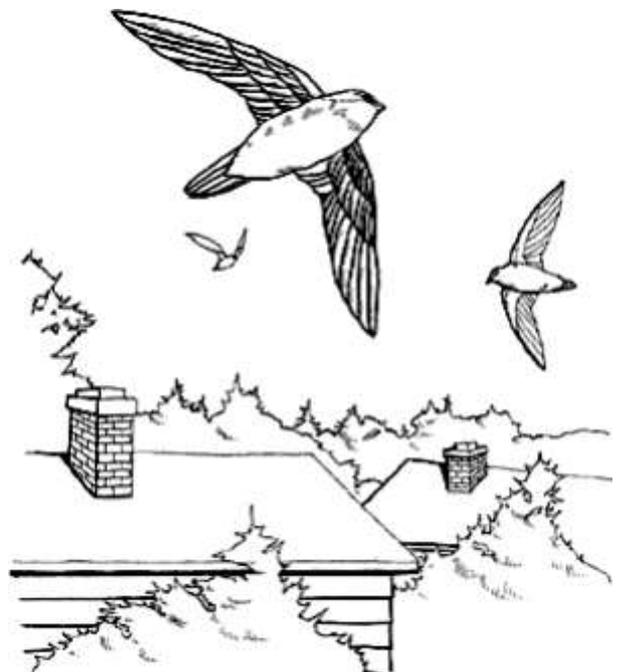
Despite this being a good year for our birds at Churchgate and in the village, the outlook for swifts is not great. They have declined by 39% in the last decade and research projects such as ringing and putting on the geolocators all help to understand why this is happening.

It is much more difficult to determine the exact reasons for population declines in migratory birds such as swifts as they are only with us for three months of the year, and many property owners where swifts nest do not even know they are there. They have a wingspan of 40cm in flight but can easily access nest holes of 8 by 5 cm. What is understood is that nest sites are continually being lost here due to home repairs and few new nest sites are being created in modern buildings unless specially installed.

I have only found swifts nesting under thatch roofs here in the village and we have erected some nest boxes under thatch eaves at the other end of the village but these have not been used yet. The playing of swift calls is meant to be effective at drawing their attention to the new sites but requires vigilance and dedication during their brief time here.

By the time this Parish Post comes out, I suspect the swifts will have left us again on their long journey back to south east Africa. The screaming of the swifts as they chase over our rooftops is the sound I love most about our summer, and I would like to do more in future to increase the numbers we have in the village. Please get in touch with me if you think you have swifts nesting under your eaves this year, or in the past and would like to get them back.

Nick



Health And Social Care In Moretonhampstead Is Changing



To the community of Moretonhampstead and surrounding district the community hospital is sacrosanct. For years it has provided health services and support to all ages, but just as **everybody's health changes over the years, so** life challenging events erupted for the hospital. Difficulties in staffing the hospital meant the inpatient unit had to temporarily close, and the local community proposed a revolutionary plan that is now being copied in other areas.

Healthcare for communities was under review, nationally. Changes were necessary, due either to cost or services required.

Moretonhampstead serves a very rural com-

munity. Transport to the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, or other hospitals, is disjointed, and time consuming. Increasingly, health services were being centralised, but a dementia patient on Dartmoor needs the same care as one in central Exeter.

The future of the hospital became an everyday conversation topic amongst groups, patients, surgeries and the Dartmoor public. The resulting Public Meetings showed that local services were essential, and a steering committee was formed. Membership and interest came from the patient panel groups of Moretonhampstead, Chagford and Cheriton Bishop.

"Parish councils' participation is important in this rural area. We decided the most efficient way of helping was for two representatives to attend and then disperse the information to all the parishes. We represent the whole population and health services are vital," said Richard Foxwell, Moretonhampstead Parish Councillor.

Throughout Devon, each doctors' surgery has a Patient Participation Group (PPG). Mike Elleston, a member of the Moretonhampstead and Chagford PPGs, explained: "These groups are fundamental forming the direct link between the doctors, surgeries and the general NHS services and providers. I represent Moretonhampstead Health centre patients, but also Chagford at the steering group meetings. From the outset, we stressed the importance of keeping the hospital open and keeping everybody informed about progress"

The plan is to create a health and social care hub for the wider community on Dartmoor by bringing to **the community many of the services available in the hospitals at Okehampton or Exeter. "Constantly people told us about the problems of attending clinics, consultants appointments or hospital treatment caused by the rurality of the area" said Richard Foxwell. "By creating the Hub many of these services will be available in Moretonhampstead. At the same time access to them will be improved with Moorcare and Acorn providing transport when needed."**

"Already a number of clinics are operating from the hospital and the community nurses are based here. Over the coming months an increasing number of clinics will be introduced. Health services for all ages from babies to the elderly will be available from a single point. Care for patients in their homes is the target and it is clear this objective will be achieved." reported Mike Elleston.

"The community on Dartmoor created a quiet revolution and the NHS listened, supported and acted. Now other similar schemes are being undertaken elsewhere. It's a team effort by the community, the Clinical Commissioning Group of the NHS and NDHT to provide health services where they are needed," explained Richard Foxwell.

Further information from:

Mike Elleston Tel: 01647 433388 Email mike@andwords.com

Okehampton District Community Transport Group

100 Club

Thank you for your support which is a great help to ensure our scheme can continue to offer as many people as possible the services they require. You may receive a written or telephone reminder when it is time for you to renew.

Congratulations to the winners of our recent draws – Thank you for your support. You can join the 100 Club at any time during the year, just send a cheque, payable to ODCTG for £12 to me at the address below. Please note new address.

Coffee Morning

Thank you to everyone who supported this event, we raised £400 thanks to all the donations of goods and cash!

Saturday Trips

We are still having problems with recruiting a driver for these trips and are struggling to find volunteers to cover with the Peugeot so ask that you bear with us a bit longer while we continue to advertise. If you are interested in joining any trips then please let us know and we will keep you informed when these are arranged.

It may be easier to run a trip with the Peugeot during the week, please let us know if you would be interested in these with a preference of day/s.

Sunday Lunches

We also run a regular Sunday lunch trip, at present it is once a month but if we get more interest then we can increase this. If you are interested in joining us on one of these then please let us know.

Community Car Service Drivers

We welcome back Michael Bendix from Okehampton to our team, also Bill Pringle from Hatherleigh and Ray Aucote from Chagford.

FORCE Cancer Support Services

Available every Wednesday at Castleham Lodge, the team can help you with: information and advice from experienced nurses (drop in), support and counselling (by appointment), complementary therapies (by appointment), help with referrals to welfare/benefits advice (drop in). The services are FREE to anyone affected by cancer. For further details or to book an appointment call 01392 402086 or 01392 406151

Co-operative Family Fete – Sunday 30th August 10am – 5pm

Simmons Park, Okehampton. Free entry with car boot sale, refreshments, traditional fete games and fun for all the family. Please support this event if you can as all proceeds are going to the three charities they are supporting this year, ourselves, Okehampton Rainbow Preschool and Devon Freewheelers.

FOR SALE

We have been offered a wheelchair accessible vehicle to purchase, at the moment we do not need another one but thought that one of our clients may need one or know someone who does. It is a Fiat Doblo ELX JTD estate 1.9 diesel, 04 registered, 12 months MOT, 6 months tax, 28,420 miles, new alternator, starter and battery, rear seats fold forward with electric winch, removable ramp, nice drive, now surplus to requirements, £4,750 ovno. Drewsteignton 01647 281271 or 07970 253668 and speak to Michael.

OFFICE

Please note that we are moving to Unit 3 (just down the corridor!) at the beginning of August.

Sue & Liz, ODCTG, Unit 12 Okehampton Business Park, Higher Stockley Mead, Okehampton, Devon EX20 1FJ 01837 55000 sue.odctg@btinternet.com www.odctg.co.uk
We also have a Facebook page.



Community Care Manager

Acorn Community Support are looking for a 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 up to 20 hour week working either fixed or flexible hours. We are looking for a caring person who is a good communicator and who has experience dealing with elderly and frail people. Experience in working with clients with dementia and/or some medical knowledge would also be an advantage.

Applicants should have use of their own car and have modest IT skills including ability to email and type up documents in Word. Duties 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, working with the Trustees to plan new initiatives to expand our overall community wellbeing services and helping with medical appointments transport.

For a more detailed job description and/or an application form please email our Chairman at johnbarker3@btconnect.com or telephone 01647 252622 no later than 15th August 2014.

Barn Dance

Saturday 16th August

Teign Valley Community Hall 8 til late

Fully licensed bar

Tickets £8 in advance from Jackie 252574 or Maria 252317

All proceeds to Acorn Community Support, Christow Show's chosen local Charity for 2014

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

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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 September - Thank You

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: plr43@btinternet.com ☎ 281638