

# Drewsteignton Parish Post

ISSUE  
AUGUST 2019

NO.

159

## NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

This month's parish meeting was mostly about speeding between Crockernwell and Whiddon Down. As Martin Brant from Barley Meadow Touring Park stated, there is significant speeding in the area. He has contacted WDBC and DCC Highways and neither were able to help. The weekends are the worst and there are concerns regarding accidents. Cllrs noted that Sticklepath's traffic calming measures were more extensive and we could look at some of their ideas. Tracey Preston read a statement from Crockernwell parents, requesting that children in the local area design some Slow Down! signs for the new village 'gates', The Clerk was asked to contact highways and prompt them to give the parish council the dimensions of the posts for the VAS so that this could be used more widely in the parish. A speed survey was also suggested, and the Speed Camera Partnership will be contacted. Parents in Crockernwell are keen to help where possible.

Cllr James received a request that a footpath between Crockernwell and Cheriton Bishop be provided so that local school children could walk to school and as both Cllrs Brennan and Redman were attending planning training they were asked if they could make enquiries on how this could be achieved, Look out for future posts about this. The councillors were also given 'their' footpaths to walk to ensure that issues are reported. Cllrs Brennan and Wood remain keen to organise a Beating of the Bounds event(s) and this will be on November's agenda, so if anyone would like to get involved in organising this please contact the Clerk.

Grass cutting and hedge cutting were also discussed. More news later in the year. The Sandy Park Phone box is listed and cannot be removed. BT do have an 'Adopt a kiosk' scheme should this be of interest. Cllr James has noted that the Fingerpost at Veet Mill has been cut off, Cllr Redman will have a look and repair. In re. the Devon Air Ambulance night landing at Drewsteignton project, the estimate from Western Power has increased by £818.45 The Clerk is awaiting an explanation via Toby Russell of the DAAT.

The revamp of the playing fields is in full swing and Jimmy Bell reported that the costs for the replacement of the zip-wire and building of the rope bridge were over budget, mainly due to the need for extra concrete and requirements from ROSPA. Cllr James had attended the recent Family Fun Day and remarked on how well the new equipment had been received. Cllr Wood said the works was a tremendous effort and a credit to the village.

The PC was informed that the Ground Up Cookery School have applied for a liquor licence and I am looking forward to seeing what concoctions they come up with.

Cllr James attended the Dartmoor National Park Forum. The presentation by David Ramsden MBE on climate change supported local parish and town councils which are committing to becoming carbon neutral by 2025. They are looking at supporting carbon reduction/ balancing projects such as tree-planting and electric cars. If you are interested in looking at projects (cont.)

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for this parish, please contact the Clerk. The Cllrs noted that the Local plan will go out for second consultation in September, when it will be circulated for 6 weeks and, if no major

revisions, would be published. Future planning funding is on hold due to political upheaval. Cllr Imrie had attended an Eastern Links meeting. Cllrs noted that TAP funding is available again, and Cllr McInnes Locality Fund is also available. If you have a project that would benefit from additional funding look at the website [www.westdevon.gov.uk](http://www.westdevon.gov.uk).

The Police are targeting speeding on the moors and hope this will reduce speeding throughout the county. WDBC are extending recycling to include Tetra-Paks but are unable to use electric vehicles for the collection of rubbish due to cutbacks and a £500,000 budget shortfall.

Happily, the resurfacing on the flyover at Whiddon Down is complete and Cllr Redman reported that white lines and services signage would be completed shortly.

Looking back on the minutes from 10 years ago it was reported that the white lines outside the Services at Whiddon Down had disappeared!

**Our next meeting will be on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August at Drewsteignton Village hall**

### **Drewsteignton Playing Field - Family Fun Day**

Thank you to everyone who came to our Family Fun Day. I hope you had a great time. Many thanks also to all the people who put in lots of work to make it happen. We made a profit of £334.

### **New equipment**

Those of you came to the Family Fun Day, or have been to the Field recently, will have seen our new zip wire and rope bridge. These are both really good fun and I have had a few goes on both myself. The kids have been having a great time, especially on the zip wire. At the moment any adults using the zip wire are likely to touch the floor unless you can pull yourself up. We will be making a few amendments.

Many thanks to Mike Scott and Phil Davis for the work they put in towards building these two pieces of equipment. Very special thanks must go to Jimmy Bell for the enormous amount of hours he has spent researching, planning, building and testing, particularly to get the equipment finished by the Fun Day.



### **Next events**

We have spent quite a lot of our money on the zip wire and rope bridge and we do need to build up our funds. To this end it would be great if you could support us at our next two events. The Puddings Night will be on Saturday 28th September in the Drewe Arms and the Bonfire Night will be on Saturday 9th November at the Playing Field. Please make a note in your diaries.

**Alison Chapman**

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### **On the Edge**

The area's youthwork project, 'On the Edge' has been running since 2006. Many will have met the worker Wez Cutler at Teignton Fayre or elsewhere, or seen the premises 'The Mess' in Chagford Square. The project was started by the churches as a gift to the communities of the area. It's entirely funded by local donations and charitable grants.

It's now entering a new phase with a new constitution and group of trustees, who will shape the project for the future. Five trustees will come from the wider community, two from the churches. I'd love to hear from anyone who feels they could give the energy and vision to the new direction of the project, to serve and encourage secondary-age young people in this

increasingly confusing world. Please email me if you're interested. Chris Southgate, [c.c.b.southgate@ex.ac.uk](mailto:c.c.b.southgate@ex.ac.uk).

**Local events**

• D - G - C -  
**Drewsteignton Gardeners' Club Village Show**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August**

**Village Hall and Holy Trinity Church**

**ALL ages are invited to enter. ALL classes are inclusive and FREE!**

**There are classes for everyone:**

**Bake a cake, Take a photo, Grow a lettuce, Bring a painting of your favourite plant and lots more classes**

**Many classes for Flowers, Vegetables, Fruit.**

**Schedules are available in the Village Shop from 1<sup>st</sup> August**

**& must be handed in by 4.30pm August 15<sup>th</sup>**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Devon Historic Churches – Ride & Stride Saturday Sep. 14<sup>th</sup>**

Devon Historic Churches Trust supports churches across the county and is promoting its annual Ride & Stride.

Visitors, riders and striders (on two wheels or four hooves) are invited to stop for a cup of tea, a piece of cake AND, in the case of Holy Trinity Church, a hot, buttery fish finger sandwich (whether plain, with tomato ketchup or mayonnaise).

50% of all donations and monies raised are returned directly to the parish and the balancing 50% goes to funding grants for the maintenance of Devon's churches.

Holy Trinity Church will be open for refreshments from 10:00 – 4:00 and would warmly welcome offers of cakes, cookies or other delicacies for sale on the day.

Sponsorship forms will be available in the village shop. **Contact: Shelley Mansfield**

**- Whiddon Down -**

WHIDDON DOWN METHODIST CHURCH  
HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICES  
SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

Service at 6.30pm

MONDAY 16<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

Service at 7.15pm

Followed by the sale of produce,

Proceeds are for Church Funds

COME YE THANKFUL PEOPLE COME

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**The Mythic Garden Sculpture Exhibition 2019 Stone Lane Gardens, TQ13 8JU**

As spring turns to summer Stone Lane Gardens is glorious in its array of verdant greens. Scattered throughout the arboretum and water gardens are this year's captivating 'Mythic Garden' sculptures. Over 20 artists from Devon, Hampshire, Surrey, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire are showing work as diverse as clouds suspended from trees to cast marble barn owls, in media ranging through ceramic, wood & stone. The exhibition is on until 31 October. The gardens are open all year round every day from 10am to 6pm. Dogs on leads welcome.

"Stone Lane Gardens is a gem" - Joe Swift, The Times.

Stone Lane Gardens is an RHS Partner Garden near Chagford, Whiddon Down and Drewsteignton. Further details: [www.stonelanegardens.com](http://www.stonelanegardens.com). Find us on Trip Advisor.

**Saturday 13th July - Saturday 7th September**

Space Chase, Summer Reading Challenge 2019 (SRC2019)

This year's theme is 'Space Chase'. Each child who reads 6 library books to collect the special stickers and complete the Space Chase Summer Reading Challenge by 7th September will be given one free ticket for entry to the Milky Way Adventure Park at Clovelly, a certificate and a medal, and be able to have a photo taken in our 'flying saucer' and add a space rocket to our finishers board. Free event, no booking necessary.

The Milky Way Adventure Park offers an out-of-this-world adventure for the whole family, with rides, shows and play designed to delight all ages. New for 2019 is Ziggy's Blast Quest where visitors are invited to pilot top-of-the-range Cyber Scooters, and as they ride, use powerful Blasteroid Lasers to shoot asteroids and meteors before they enter Earth's atmosphere. The aim is to hit as many as possible before returning to Earth Base Zero—and to beat your friends' and family's scores! Near Clovelly in North Devon. [www.themilkyway.co.uk](http://www.themilkyway.co.uk)

**Wednesday 7th August 14:30-15:30** – 'Space Cats' by Boo to a Goose Theatre

Space Chase, (SRC2019) Two curious kittens, Gumdrop and Spider, discover a spaceship while exploring Professor Agena B. Armstrong's secret laboratory... IGNITION SEQUENCE START! 3, 2, 1...Space Cats is an interactive and multi-sensory show for children aged 0-8 years and their families. Tickets in advance £3.50 per child over 6 months (adults free)

**Wednesday 14th August 14:00-15:00 or 15:15- 16:15** – 'Alien Animals' Encounter from

Really Wild Learning Space Chase, (SRC2019) An amazing 'Animal Aliens' encounter exploring weird and wonderful creatures and the adaptations that allow them to survive in a range of habitats. Magnifying glasses ready, we can explore which animals would be best suited to space and why! Science meets fantasy fiction. Did you know that geckos and newts have been on space missions and demonstrate an ability to survive at zero gravity!

Suitable for children aged 3+ Tickets in advance £3.50 per child (adults free)

**Friday 23rd August 14:00-15:00** – Space Shadow Lanterns, Space Chase, (SRC2019) Design and create your own space-themed shadow lantern complete with electric tea light. Perfect for bedtime. Suitable for ages 8+ Tickets £1/child, booking in advance

**Tuesday 27th August 14:00-14:30 & 15:00 15:30** – Space Lego Animation Workshop Space Chase, (SRC2019) Create your own animated space story using our Lego. You will need to download the Aardman 'Animate it!' app onto tablet or smartphone with camera. Please bring your device with you to make the animation. These are 30-min. taster sessions - look out for more animation in September. Suitable for ages 7+

Free event, donations welcome. Please book in advance as spaces are limited.

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### **NEDCARE SUMMER RAFFLE**

Since achieving regulated status with the Care Quality Commission NEDCare has supported 70 individuals, delivered 10,000 hours of care and covered an amazing 26,000 miles! But we wouldn't be able to continue without the support of local people and the ongoing donations to our subsidy fund – where we subsidise the cost of care for people who can't afford it.

So we are very grateful for all the kind donations of prizes for our Grand Summer Raffle! These include a spa day at Bovey Castle, afternoon tea for 2 at Gidleigh Park, a 6 month pass to Merlin Cinemas, a private wood fired sauna for 4 in a beautiful secluded setting, a Chagstock 2020 family ticket, a Mole Valley hamper, acupuncture and other treatments, Union Inn carvery, clay pigeon shoot, Devon Guild of Craftsmen cream tea, Penny Simpson Ceramics, Papillon Gin and others!

Tickets will be on sale at the beginning of August across the three GP Surgery areas of Cheriton Bishop, Chagford and Moretonhampstead and we are keen to hear from local shops and pubs that would be happy to sell tickets from the counter. Check our website to find

where to buy tickets, [www.nedcare.org](http://www.nedcare.org) or contact us on 01647 279211, email [info@nedcare.org](mailto:info@nedcare.org)

NEDCare is a not-for-profit and community owned enterprise. Come to our AGM on 5<sup>th</sup> October, 11am to 1pm at the Moretonhampstead Parish Hall followed by raffle draw and community lunch. (Lunch booking advised.)

**Julia Darby - Executive Director**

### **Okehampton District Community Transport Group - CHAIRS REPORT 2019**

I feel very privileged & proud of what we achieve and hope it will continue for years to come.

I extend my grateful thanks to both Sue and Liz in the office, which is busier than ever plus arranging our successful Coffee Mornings, attending the odd Car Boot sale to try and bring in money from the goods generously donated to us for sale. This also includes this year, setting up the Pop-Up Shop in the Arcade. Many thanks to all those who volunteered in the shop. (A special thanks to those who run the Arcade for letting us use it).

I add an extra thank you to Sue for attending various meetings and other groups thus spreading the message as to what we do and where we are. We certainly benefit from spreading the word about what we do, even after all these years.

Grateful thanks to Mark for all he does as our main bus driver, and those we pay to drive the bus when he is away. Hopefully the problems we have had with our bus are now done. Thanks to our other Bus Drivers, especially those that take out our new bus on lifestyle trips.

Thanks to all our volunteer drivers (and their partners) who give up their time so readily.

At this point I would like to thank everyone who sits on the management committee for all they do during the year. Special thanks to Graham for keeping our finances in order, and for the time he has put in with Sue to look at applying for various grants. Plus, my thanks to the other Trustees for their time and support.

A big thank you to all those people that have funded us for the year, including those local like OUC, Okehampton TC, West Devon BC and all the other local organizations that have given us monies. Thank you to Devon County Council and thanks to Karen Rose for being available to help us, it is great that they believe in us providing a good local service and are willing to show it with their much-needed funding.

Anyone who would like to become a driver for us, or a Trustee, please contact us. Here's to next year which looks to be busier than ever as we wait to see what DFT changes to Sec. 19 are proposed. One thing is sure, Community Transport is never boring! **Pat Sawyer - Chair**



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### **News from the Castle**

#### **Hi everyone**

I am struggling to believe that we are over halfway through the year. Where has the time gone? I have a couple of events to share with you.

Firstly, you are warmly invited to join us on the morning of Tuesday 16 July for a small celebration event we are doing as part of our involvement in the National Lottery Heritage Fund project 'All the Moor Butterflies'. Our friends from Butterfly Conservation will be with us as we do some walks and talks to share the results of the project and the impact it has had for butterfly habitats on Dartmoor. Please come to Piddledown Common between 10am and 1pm if you would like to join. If the weather works against us, the event will take place on Thursday 18 July instead but fingers crossed for a lovely sunny day so plan A can go ahead.

We are also gearing up for the summer holidays and looking forward to seeing many of you

out and about either walking on the estate, taking part in the trail around the gardens or even perhaps at the open-air theatre performance of Noel Coward's Private Lives on Thursday 8 August. Tickets are available from The Plough in Torrington. We will also be hosting National Play Day out on Piddledown Common on Wednesday 7 August from 2pm to 4pm. This event is free so please do pop up for playtime – everyone is welcome.

Finally, many of our local dog walkers will have noticed that we now have some covered seating outside the café by the entrance to the visitor centre. This is so people visiting with their four-legged friends have somewhere dry to sit while they enjoy tea and cake from the café. We also had a basket of blankets for those chillier days. Sadly, all these blankets have vanished (perhaps people got too cosy wrapped in them). If you have any unwanted blankets that you would be willing to donate, we would be very grateful. Just drop them off to our visitor welcome team in reception any day you are passing. Best wishes and thank you all,

I am delighted to let you know that we are starting to dismantle the large scaffolding at Castle Drogo. This is a momentous occasion for everyone who has supported the project and a clear sign that we are in the final stages of building work.

This work to remove the scaffolding will take up to 8 weeks with a crane coming to site via Long Lane. I would be very grateful if you could spread the word so that people are aware that there will be some vehicles moving around. We are planning for any moves to take place first thing and late afternoon to minimise any clash with local traffic.

If you have any issues or concerns, please get in touch. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Best wishes, Paula, Community Engagement Officer, Castle Drogo 01647 434130

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

### **ACE Archaeology Club**

We are now focusing on our Moistown excavation; advertising for diggers and other helpers at the dig Our Director is busy getting last year's Interim Report ready and that will be on the website as soon as it is finished.

Please check our website for details of dig dates and our other activities. Also online are a couple of our past Newsletters. <https://acearchaeologyclub.wordpress.com/>.

Between now and the dig we have a couple of archaeological themed walks on Dartmoor.

If you can't manage any of those do come to our Moistown Dig Open Day on the 10<sup>th</sup> August 2019 from 11.00am to 4.00pm, tea, coffee and cake available.

For more information please contact Erica on [surica47@gmail.com](mailto:surica47@gmail.com)

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### **Bird Notes**

It has been a really good year for the swifts in Drewsteignton, mainly due to the good weather we have enjoyed in the south-west over the last month and the number of available nest sites that have been provided. I really hope everyone has been aware of the considerable numbers over the village and enjoyed the visible and audible presence of so many of these amazing migratory birds that are known to arrive last and leave first in the UK.

They first arrived in Drewsteignton on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May, and we had many going straight into my nest boxes, indicating that these were adult birds returning to their traditional nest sites. We have had really good numbers of swifts over the village in their screaming parties checking out available nest sites for next year.

Malcolm and his team of ringers came in early July to check the nest boxes and ring the juveniles in the nests. We recorded the highest numbers of juvenile swifts in the boxes on Churchgate, and the additional boxes installed up on the row at Stillenhay with 31 nestlings in 12 nest boxes. While these numbers are really heartening, it has resulted in quite a few of the

juveniles coming down to the ground slightly before they were ready to fly properly, and so I would really like to thank all those who have kept an eye out for grounded swifts, and brought them to me to see what we could do to get them airborne again.

As I now write this on the evening of the 28<sup>th</sup> of July, the numbers seen overhead this evening, and over the last few days has diminished considerably, and I am only aware of one nest box left with chicks in at the moment at Churchgate. I am saddened by the fact that by the time this Parish Post comes out, our skies will be bereft of the best summer sound to be heard over English towns as the swutfts will be again heading south again to over-winter in southern Africa.

I was delighted to see that the Swallows that have been in and out of our (very small) woodshed since their first arrival, and they now have 4 young chicks in the nest.

Nick

### **Drewsteignton Village Store & Post Office**

The village shop hosted a celebration on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July.

There was champagne, a magnificent cake, flowers and cards.

Judy celebrated a significant birthday with friends, the generosity of baker Stuart and bubbly-pourer Cheryl. Our thanks to Cheryl and Stuart for the delicious calories and a very happy birthday Judy, from all of the parish.



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### Village Calendar

4 August	9.30am HC	Holy Trinity Church
6 August	5.30-6pm - Journey into Silence	Holy Trinity Church
8 August	'Private Lives' - Noel Coward	Castle Drogo
13 August	5.30-6pm - Journey into Silence	Holy Trinity Church
15 August	Chagford Show	
17 August	Village Show Gardeners Club	Village Hall and Church
18 August	11.15am Holy Communion	Holy Trinity Church
19 August	7.30pm Parish Council Meeting	Drewsteignton Village Hall
20 August	5.30-6pm - Journey into Silence	Holy Trinity Church
25 August	11.15 Morning Worship	Holy Trinity Church
27 August	5.30-6pm - Journey into Silence	Holy Trinity Church

28 August	Hydro Turbine Open Day	Castle Drogo
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*\*\* Only very few comments were received but all were positive re. continuing with parish-wide print copies of the Parish Post. Offers of assistance with distribution were well received - with many thanks \*\**

## The Parish Post

**Drewsteignton Parish Post** If you have trouble reading this publication please let me know and a large-format version will 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** 28<sup>th</sup> August - Thank You

