

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

Drewsteignton Parish Post

NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

ISSUE NO. 126

OCTOBER 2016

If you are a keen walker, dog walker, cyclist or horse rider and you could lend a hand in the upkeep of the footpaths and bridleways in the parish, the Dartmoor National Park Ranger team are offering training and support to volunteer teams who would help them maintaining the paths.

Could you form a volunteer group, please get in touch with the Clerk, Councillor or direct to our DNP ranger Pete Rich 07730064470.

We have not had any luck in finding a contractor to undertake small works within the parish and are still looking, any help would be appreciated. We now understand the Council can apply for a grant towards the expense of the parish lengthsman from a district & county council fund for town and parish councils (TAP funding). This may not be a large sum but anything is better than nothing. We should hear in November if we have been successful.

At Whiddon Down, drivers are continuing to ignore the traffic signs associated with the new link road so we are making representations again to the police to enforce the orders and Devon county council for any improvement in engineering (if you are tired reading about this easily rectified continuing problem, take a thought for me writing about it every month!!) On the plus side, bollards have now been placed at the junction of Chapel Hill & Turnpike road so we will see if they make any difference to the use of the road and safety of pedestrians using it.

Along Harepath Straight, Cllr Hazel Hunt is monitoring the graffiti removal on the underpass and we are still awaiting the replacement of the Drewsteignton village direction sign. The unsafe pedestrian protection fence at Crockernwell is still awaiting replacement.

One item of planning was considered. DNP 0477/16 which was a retrospective listed building consent for replacement windows on a cottage in Crockernwell. Council agreed to support the application as it had no significant detrimental effect on the property itself, the street scene or the conservation area.

We are monitoring a campaign to re-instate the Exeter to Okehampton rail link and will be discussing the likely closure of beds at Okehampton Hospital at our next meeting. If you have an interest in either subject please let us know.

The Devon Community Resilience Forum have sent us their news letter and a few points included are: Since 6th September, if you suffer a power cut a new national telephone number of **105**, which is free from landlines and mobiles, will give you information from your power supplier, in our case Western Power. Devon Fire and Rescue Service are reminding users of woodburners or open fires to ensure their chimneys have been professionally swept before the winter. Nationally there were over 5000 chimney fires in one twelve month period. Free home fire safety advice is available by telephoning 0800 0502999 or from DFRS on 01392 872288. From the oil suppliers remember not to wait until it gets cold or starts to snow, order early, consider joining or forming a community buying group to negotiate a price in bulk. Finally, don't forget your 'flu jab!! Our next meeting will be at **Drewsteignton on Monday 17th October 2016 at 7.30pm.** (as the Clerk is on her hols, the agenda will be published a few days early)

Soup and Sandwiches

On Saturday 12th November there will be soup and sandwiches at Ford House, Drewsteignton from 12-2pm in aid of the Poppy Appeal.



AUCTION

With Pub Supper and Welcome Drink

Saturday 12th November at 7 p.m.

at Fingle Bridge Inn

By kind permission of Zoe Colton

Tickets £15 and further information from

prflick@dartmoor-it.co.uk or

Telephone: 01837-840670

Lots of interesting items to bid for, including:

Local Fishing - Gourmet Meals - Fine Wine -

Luxury Hamper

The Big Quiz

Saturday November 26th 7.00pm

At Fingle Bridge Inn

Time to start thinking of getting a team of six together.

£6 per person includes half time refreshments.

Entries by **Sunday 20th November**

Entry forms from Drewsteignton Post Office or

Angela Thomas 01647 281602

All proceeds to the

Friends of Drewsteignton Churchyard



Cheriton Bishop Lunch Club – Lunches are held on the first Thursday of each month, this month it will be 3rd November. 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 19th October and 2nd November. Help is provided in store and a wheelchair service is also available. We will also help carry your shopping too! The fare is just £4 return.

Teign Valley Memory Café - This month it will be 27th October and 10th November. 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. Please drop in for a coffee and a slice of homemade cake and meet up with friends, everyone welcome. This month it will be Tuesday 18th October and 1st November. Please ring the number below if you would like a lift.

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

Who should you contact - Should you need transport to an appointment, a prescription delivered 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 or Jackie in the Acorn office 01647 252701 – answering machine available 24 hours.

Acorn Office Telephone number 01647 252701 for further information.

Visit our website at www.acorncommunitysupport.co.uk



Drewsteignton Playing Field

Bonfire Night

Bonfire Night will be Saturday 5th November at Drewsteignton Playing Field.

As always, it's free to attend.

Hot food, mulled wine, beer, wine, soft drinks etc will be available from 5pm.

The torchlight procession will start at 5.30pm outside the playing field shed. We will then light the bonfire. The fireworks will take place about 7pm. We are happy for people to bring sparklers but we do ask that they are only lit in the separate sparklers area.

We are looking for wood for the bonfire. If you have any clean wood, eg pallets, large pieces of brush wood etc, can you drop them off at Ford House or add to the pile in the playing field?

No old furniture, painted or treated wood please.

Climbing Frame.

You may be aware that a new climbing frame is now up and running in Drewsteignton Playing Field. The committee would like to thank our main funders, being Dartmoor Communities Fund, Teignton Fayre Committee, Gidleigh Park Hotel, West Devon Borough Council, Lions Club of Okehampton and District, Chagford Show Committee and Waitrose. Many thanks also to the community who have given us such great support and made all the difference to our events and our funds. **Alison**

Holy Trinity Church Exhibitors Craft Sale

Thank you to all the sellers and buyers who came to the Exhibitors Craft sale in Drewsteignton Village Hall. The agreement was that the sellers did not have to pay for a table but instead give 15% of their sales to the church so, along with a very generous donation from sales by Christopher Drewe, I was able to hand over £197.61. Lots of good feedback has been received so.....we're going to do it all again on the weekend of December 3rd and 4th with the same agreement of 15% of sales to Holy Trinity Church.

I am trying to keep this as local as possible (Drewsteignton, Crockernwell, Cheriton Bishop, Sandy Park, Venton, Whiddon Down) so if you have a hidden craft and would like to participate in this event please email me at j.hocking05btinternet.com or call on 281605. There will also be lunches and refreshments served on both days in the church – as was at the last event.

Watch this space for more news on this event in the next Parish Post.

Many Thanks

Jane Hocking

Okehampton & District Community Transport-Group

Saturday 22nd October – Castle Drogo (National Trust) £6

Non members £9 for house and gardens, £5.70 gardens only

Saturday 29th October – Totnes £12

Saturday 5th November – ODCTG Coffee Morning then lunch (venue to be agreed. £5

Saturday 12th November – Lifton Farm Shop £10

Saturday 19th November – Atlantic Village, Bideford £12

Lots of stores in one location!

Saturday 26th November – Tavistock – Lovely market town £10

Saturday 3rd December – Homeleigh Garden Centre, Launceston £10

Plants, Clothing, Homeware, Aquatics and much more

These trips will only run if we have sufficient bookings to make them viable, please book as soon as possible in order for us to confirm with everyone, thank you.

If you are not in Okehampton or along the route of the trip, there will be an additional charge.

Co-operative Foodstore Membership - Community Fund

We are delighted to have been chosen as one of 3 local charities to benefit from the new community fund. Please choose us as our charity when you use your Co-op membership card each time you shop.

1% of every purchase will be donated.

Thank you

Sue

Animals Afternoon Off!!!!

A massive thank you to everyone who came and supported our animal charity event last Sunday. With your incredible generosity we raised nearly £2,000.

The Brooke charity were overwhelmed and said it will make a major difference for the hard-working donkeys, horses and mules.

Looks like another one maybe on the cards for next year as everyone seemed to have a great time.

Thank you all.

Emma



Thank You and Goodbye.

Some of you may have heard that the Women's Section of the Royal British Legion is going to be amalgamated with the men's section. It was due to happen this year but has now been extended to next year.

Too late for a lot of branches who have already closed including Drewsteignton, and all branches in Devon. Devon County closed on the 30th September. Tony Wright, National Secretary and Accountant for the Women's Section, has already left along with two other members of staff, three other staff members have had their finish date extended up to the end of March next year.

Unfortunately the amalgamation has been handled badly by the Board of Trustees causing a lot of unhappiness and stress for members of the Ladies Section.

On behalf of the ladies of the Drewsteignton Branch I would like to thank everyone who has supported us over the years of fund raising.

Over the last ten years we have raised the following amount:

Amount raised through fund raising	£9,959.03
Donations	£2,056.90
Total	£12,015.93

The annual Poppy Appeal soup and sandwiches will still take place at Ford House on Saturday 12th November 12 to 2. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Thank you again for your support.

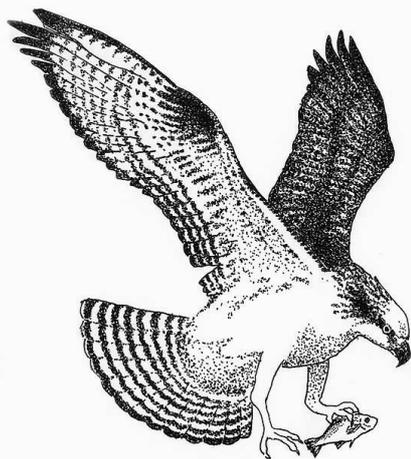
Pauline Rowe

Bird Notes

There is a strong sense of season change at the moment with the first hints of autumn colour seen in the woods and hedgerows, and with it going dark at 7pm and feeling colder during the day. I have been watching the swallows and housemartin numbers diminish through September, apart from the occasional days when numbers increase due to groups passing through. I last saw swallows in the village on the 10th Sept, but have seen small groups and individuals heading south up to 1st October. The last date for housemartins was 20th Sept, but I have seen others passing through up to the 4th October.

A couple of weeks ago, a friend told me there had been three ospreys seen on the Exe estuary between Exeter and Exmouth in one afternoon. I had no opportunity to get to see them at the time, and am often reluctant to go off chasing rare birds, as experience has proven that I "should have been here twenty minutes ago", and once I am in the right place, the rarity is never seen there again. These ospreys were heading south on their migration from Scotland to central and west Africa, but when I looked at the 'Devon Birds' website in the evenings, it was apparent that they were not just passing through. More ospreys were reported on a variety of different estuaries in Devon, and I believe seven was the maximum seen on the Exe in one day. After a fortnight of hearing about ospreys in the county, I was chatting to a friend who lives in Newton Abbot, who said he had seen two on the Teign estuary that day. The next day was Saturday 1st October, and by 10.30, I was in the car park of the 'Coombe Cellars' at Combeinteighhead. The Coombe Cellars is a pub right on the southern edge of the Teign Estuary and set midway between Newton Abbot and Teignmouth. As such, it offers great views of the estuary in both directions. I had spotted an osprey over the river about 60m away before I had even parked the car. Ospreys are big birds, about 60cm from head to tail, with a wingspan of about 160cm. They feed solely on fish, and when hunting will fly about 30m above water and search out fish beneath the surface. Having spotted one, either while hovering or flying over the surface, they will dive down before plunging in feet first and grabbing their prey.

Ospreys, along with almost all other birds of prey suffered intense persecution during the 19th and early 20th centuries, from egg collectors or shooting for skin collections. They were extinct as a breeding bird in England by 1840, and in Scotland by 1916. Each year, a few ospreys returned to Scotland and attempted to breed, and in 1954, were successful at Loch Garten. They have now nested every year since 1959 at Loch Garten, and it is now famous for its osprey viewing centre and its conservation work. Ospreys first bred again in England in 2001 at Bassenthwaite in the Lake district, and also at Rutland Water



where there had been a successful introduction of Scandinavian birds. It is estimated there are now about 200 to 250 pairs of ospreys breeding in the UK, with the vast majority nesting in Scotland each year.

Ospreys move through Devon from their wintering grounds in Africa to their breeding sites in Scotland and the north of England in April and May. During this period, they will not linger long as they are eager to return to their breeding sites, but if the climatic conditions are good in the autumn, they may stay and fatten up here before making the long journey to Africa. This has been one of the best years to see ospreys in the county for over ten years, and I was not disappointed.

We spent about two hours watching from the beer garden of the pub, and had almost continuous views of two ospreys over the Teign. One spent about twenty minutes perching in a dead oak tree on the opposite bank just preening and looking around. We saw one carrying a fish but unfortunately didn't see the catch or it eating it. During our stay, the tide was receding which worked in our favour as it brought the

ospreys down-stream and much closer to us as they hunted over the river where it was still deep enough to hold big fish.

Looking at the 'Devon Birds' website on the 'recent sightings' page over the past few evenings, there are no more records or photos of ospreys on our estuaries, and so it would appear they have now gone and continued their long journey to Africa.

Nick

Consultation – Issues for the New Local Plan

We are taking the first step in reviewing Dartmoor's local plan. The local plan is the starting point when we make a decision on a planning application in the National Park.

We have a [current local plan](#) for Dartmoor, but a lot has changed since it was produced.

This first consultation is an opportunity for residents, communities, visitors, businesses and other organisations to offer views on how the new local plan should guide future development on Dartmoor.

The local plan will cover issues such as; house extensions, design, the environment, listed buildings, housing, business, farming, tourism, quarrying, and land for development.

We would like everyone interested in Dartmoor's future to tell us what is important about Dartmoor for them.

Please visit www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk to view or download our consultation paper, where you will see a number of 'Talking Points' we would like you to comment on.

You can also join us on Twitter [@DartmoorPlan](#) or [facebook/DartmoorPlan](#), or come and talk to us at one of our consultation events this autumn.

The closing date for comments on this consultation is the 16th December 2016. If you have any questions about the consultation or the local plan review, or would like to discuss some of the issues, please do contact us.

Dan Janota MRTPI

Forward Planning Manager

Dartmoor National Park Authority

Parke, Bovey Tracey, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ13 9JQ

Tel. 01626 831066

djanota@dartmoor.gov.uk

Drewsteignton Holy Trinity Church

Craft and Flower Festival

A huge thank you therefore to everyone who contributed in any way to this weekend. Including a very generous donation, the event in the Church made £862.00 which was bolstered by a percentage of sales returns from Jane Hocking's Craft Sale amounting to £197 giving us a total of £1,059 for the Church Restoration Fund. (Without the support of so many people outside the congregation we would be unable to keep up with the ongoing costs of repairs, insurance etc. necessary to keep this ancient building safe and watertight and open to all.)

Visitors From Foreign Parts

Between May 1st to September 1st this year entries in the Church Visitors Book included the following:

Germany	12
USA	8
Netherlands	5
Canada	4
France	3
Tasmania, Australia South Africa, Belgium	2 each
Chile, Madagascar, Switzerland, Spain, Poland, Italy	1 each

Each of these is a separate entry, so for instance the 12 Germans were not all in one party on one day but different dates.

News from the Castle



Hello all

Some of you may have noticed that there is a significant lull in activity on the building site at the moment. The National Trust's Project Manager was informed in August that the main contractor, William Anelay Ltd, was having serious cash-flow problems. Since then, on 8 September, the company has gone in to administration. This has resulted in the building site being closed and all site staff being made redundant with immediate effect. Despite this setback and delay the Trust, and especially the Castle Drogo team, are still fully committed to the successful completion of the project. We are working closely with the administrators to develop interim plans and, of course, Castle Drogo is still open as usual – it's just a bit quieter up here at the moment. I will keep you all posted as and when we have more details.

Building work aside, we have been having a great start to Autumn. We are looking forward to lots of half term fun with the usual trail through the garden and some great art activities in the hut. We are starting to think about Christmas too – eek! The date that is firmly in my diary (highlighted in bright yellow) is the Drogo Christmas market taking place on Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 December. The visitor centre will be packed full of goodies and great gift ideas so I hope many of you will pop in for a cuppa and a browse.

Best wishes everyone and thanks, as always, for your support.

Paula

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

Football Mad

Now I am in Year 11 at Okehampton College, the work load has been upped and my free time dramatically slashed. To those who dislike football I apologise for the incredibly football originated column this month...

Over the past month, West Exe Under 16 Girls football team have experienced something that hasn't happened to us for many a season, we lost two consecutive matches!

Our first match of the season was away to Twyford Spartans on the 11th September, and considering we hadn't had that many training sessions for the new season and overall, our team fitness wasn't nearly up where it should have been we were disappointed yet perhaps unsurprised to lose 5-7. (It was a very high scoring match).

Our second match took place at Barton Fields (our home turf) in Exeter and our opposition was Dawlish United. Dawlish have upped their football as a team since last season and play a very neat passing game, with several strong players battling forward. This left our defenders and midfielders short of breath, for the first part of the match at least. We conceded two goals in close concession early on in the first half and as disparaging as this was West Exe battled and brought the ball back into our possession many times. For the second 40 minute half, as a team we started to come together and with our new-this-season left winger we were constantly pressing in on goal. For some reason, however close we got we didn't manage to score and Dawlish pulled off another goal making it 3-0 to Dawlish at full time.

I have another match this weekend so fingers crossed that we shall break this streak of losses.

Tilly



Drewsteignton Gardeners Club

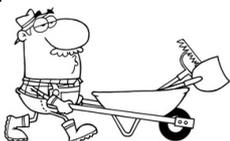
Autumn-Winter Programme

November 14th Compost

December 12th Christmas Supper

All meetings 7.30pm Village Hall, Drewsteignton

All welcome.



Devon and Cornwall Police

Devon and Somerset Trading Standards have received reports which suggests rogue traders offering tool/knife sharpening are operating in the Devon area. We would advise residents to exercise caution before agreeing to any work offered by unsolicited doorstep callers. Work can often be of poor quality and cost more than first agreed. If you need to have tools etc. sharpened or any general maintenance works undertaken, take time to get three quotes from reputable businesses you trust and make your decision on who to use in your own time.

Get recommendations from family, trusted friends or www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk.

If someone knocks on your door and you are not sure, don't open the door. If you are concerned rogue traders are operating in your area, always report it.

If you are concerned someone is at risk, always call the Police.

Service of Light, Love & Loss

6pm, Wednesday 2nd November

Holy Trinity Church, Drewsteignton

A short (30 mins) candlelit service: a few poems, some music and an invitation to light a candle(s) in memory of our loved ones

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 November - Thank You