

Drewsteignton Parish Post

ISSUE NO 160

SEPTEMBER 2019

NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

August's Parish Meeting heard a report that the Council-owned Movable Vehicle Activated Sign (MVAS) had been installed on the western approach to Crockernwell. The MVAS is triggered by the **speed** of vehicles exceeding the legal limit and in the first two weeks of deployment there had been a significant reduction in the speed of vehicles entering the village. "Reduce Speed Now" signs will be added to the Village gates in Crockernwell & Widdon Down in the coming months. Concerns remain re. vehicles exiting the village, coupled with the noise and excessive speed of high-performance cars and motorcycles building speed towards Hooperton Cross and Barley Meadow Touring Park.

Devon Air Ambulance grant paperwork, enabling use of the playing fields as a night-landing site, has been signed. Western Power will undertake the work in the coming months.

Planning Application Appeal closing date has passed for additional objections/support re. the proposed development of a new shop, café, storage & offices on land off the A30 junction by JW Mann Ltd (APP/Q1153/W/19/3230781). Further objections had been raised by local residents. Councillors noted that instances of fly-tipping should be reported using the following link; <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>. An instance at Venton lay-by was cleared within days. Funding is available from DCC to renew parish paths. Parishioners are encouraged to nominate their favourite path for improvement work. Cllr Redman was thanked for repairing the fingerpost at Veet Mill which had been "sawn off" and the bank damaged by persons unknown!

Use of the Drewsteignton WC's by contractors at the Old Rectory: this item raised to the Council since the last meeting. The Council declined the offer of monies for the use of the toilet block by the Main Contractor and noted the responsibility for on-site welfare facilities lays with the contractor. The situation will be monitored to ensure no deterioration in the cleanliness of the toilet facilities. **Next meeting 7:30 16th September, Whiddon Down**

~~ Drewsteignton Parish Council, vacancy for Parish Clerk~~

This is a part-time post of 10 hours a week. The successful applicant will be required to work from home, attending monthly meetings alternatively at Drewsteignton and Whiddon Down village halls, and extra meetings as required. Hours of work are flexible with the exception of Parish Council meetings - held on the third Monday of each month from 7.30pm. Duties include responding to emails & phone calls from parishioners, arranging the Council's administration, attending meetings and taking minutes, fulfilling the statutory role of the Responsible Financial Officer, advising councillors and carrying out other duties as required appropriate to the post of Parish Clerk. The post is subject to 3-month probationary period, salary is LCI, SCPI5, £9.77/hr. For more information please email clerk@drewsteigntonparish.co.uk. To apply please forward your curriculum vitae and covering letter to the same email address. The closing date is 9th September 2019.

Drewsteignton Gardeners' Club

The Annual Village Show sponsored by the Gardener's Club attracted many entries despite what had been a challenging growing year. Thanks to all who supported the show by entering and to all those others who came to look, admire, buy raffle tickets and enjoy the lovely tea. We were grateful for the break in the weather!

Congratulations to the following Cup Winners:

Chairman's Cup for flower classes: Angela Thomas

President's Cup for flower arrangement: Zelda Lambert

Paul Greener Memorial Plate for vegetable classes: Rosemary Payne

Manley Cup for art classes: Fiona Ridgers

Wood and Rush Bowl for domestic classes: Claire Smith

Westaway Cup: most points in show: Bunny Johnstone

Clerk's Cup: most points for exhibitor who's not won a trophy before: Sue McNeil

Hope to see you all again next year with even more people entering! **Carole Mason**

Editor's note: Thank you to the DGC for a most enjoyable afternoon. Discussion has been had and **Ed** will be submitting plants, vegetables and photographs to next year's event. **Ed** smells victory on the incoming wind! (Well maybe not but will give it a go.)

~ The Drewe Arms ~

28th September

Pudding night with a Pub Pianist Sing-Along – proceeds to the Playing Field

12th October

Club Drewe presents the super-dancy **JoLo Disco**
Tickets £5 with proceeds going to FODC

19th October

Oktoberfest: German-themed meal and oompah band £8 with £1 per ticket going towards FODC

New opening hours

Monday - closed day and night

Tues to Saturday

Bar 12 to 3pm - 5pm to 11pm

Food 12 to 2.30 - 6pm to 8.30pm

Sunday

Bar 12 - 6pm

Food 12 - 3pm



Healthwatch Devon shortlisted for national award

After reviewing almost 150 entries, Healthwatch England are pleased to announce all of the finalists for the Healthwatch Network Awards 2019.

Healthwatch Devon has been nominated for an award under the category *Giving people the advice and information they need.*

Janie Moor, Citizens Advice Devon

“We are incredibly proud of our Champions. The information, advice and support they provide helps people in Devon make decisions about their health and wellbeing. They listen to people’s health and social care stories and give them the knowledge and confidence they need to find their way forward.”

Devon Historic Churches – Ride & Stride Saturday Sep. 14th

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

Visitors, riders and striders (on two wheels, four wheels or 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 donations and monies raised are returned directly to the parish and the balance goes to funding grants for the maintenance of Devon's churches.

HTC will be open for refreshments from 10:00 – 4:00 and warmly welcomes all offers of cakes, cookies or other delicacies for sale on the day. Sponsorship forms for teams of Striders and/or Riders will be available in the village shop **Contact: Shelley Mansfield**

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, 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.

~ St. Mary's Dunsford EX6 7DB ~

The Tea-Time concert series will have a welcome return visit on **Sunday 22nd September at 3pm from Grace Notes** - a small (but perfectly formed) *a cappella*

group for upper voices; the ensemble is made up of friends who enjoy singing together and performing a variety of both sacred and secular music. St. Mary's Dunsford EX6 7DB

Tickets £5 on the door to include Tea & cakes.

Future dates for your diary (subject to confirmation)

Sun Nov 3rd 2020 "Les Nuits D'Ete" Christine Marsden - Soprano
& Andrew Daldorphy- Piano

Sun April 26th 2020 - Piano Duets with Paul McLure & Roger Stephenson (It'll be fun!!)

Sun Sept 20th 2020 - Duo Flute & Violin – Details to follow.

**** Dartmoor National Park Climate Emergency Declaration ****

A parishioner in Sandy Park is very interested in what is happening at a Parish level in relation to the DNP declaration of a Climate Emergency. She wondered if other people might also be interested and perhaps want to get involved with local efforts? Contact the Editor (details on back page) and we'll look at creating a discussion group.



There's No Planet B



If you have watched TV or read the news recently, it won't have escaped your notice that the world is facing a climate emergency. The Paris Agreement aims to encourage all nations to take action to reduce harmful carbon emissions by the middle of this century in order to limit global warming to 1.5C, and therefore avoid climate catastrophe.

We all know there are massive global changes we need to make in order to limit our impact on the environment, but there are lots of small changes we can all make in order to help the situation. In this column I hope to persuade you to modify your behaviour slightly in order to ensure a healthy planet for the future generations.

For example: **transport**. Obviously **avoid air travel** wherever possible, use **public transport** if you can or even better, **cycle** or **walk** to work. We live in a rural area and many of us depend on our cars BUT even here we can make some small changes:

TOP TIP(S) for September:

- Reduce your speed. A car travelling at 80mph uses 10% more fuel than one cruising at 70mph (according to the Department of Transport)
- Make sure your tyres are inflated to the correct pressure, and therefore make each journey 2% more efficient (according to the RAC) - not a lot, but every little helps!



September Events at Okehampton Library

Wednesday 11 & 18 Sept. 10:00-12:30 – Free Computer Lessons. This course runs over 2 sessions Are you confused by computers? Sign up to our free IT sessions for beginners! The sessions is delivered by Elite Training South West - Free course, booking essential

Saturday 14 Sept. 10:30-12:00–Booktrack Pirates Ahoy! Pirates taking over the library

10:00-10:15 Pirate stories and sea shanties

10:30-11:30 Pirate-themed Lego

10:00 and 12:00 Make a pirate ship

Guess where the treasure is hidden on our pirate map, 10p per go These events are supported by the Friends of Okehampton Library.

Booktrack - a challenge to read 100 books and to chat about them with library staff & volunteers. Badges are collected as you read your books, and a certificate, gold badge and £5 book token when all 100 have been completed. No time limit, free to join, for ages 6+

Wednesday 18 Sept. 14:00-17:00 – PaddleBoat Theatre Company present

Clare Hollingworth and the Scoop of the Century - An interactive family show – straight from the front line! Telling the tale of fearless journalist Clare Hollingworth. From the busy newspaper offices in London to the frontline during World War II, Clare's

adventures tell the remarkable true story of one of the most important writers of our time. The show will be followed by a free storytelling workshop for all the family! (cont.) The workshop lasts approximately 1 hour and everyone is welcome to stay after the show to join in. Recommended age 4+ Tickets £4 per person or through the Eventbrite link (booking fee payable)



NEDCARE NEWS

A big thank you to all the local businesses who have donated prizes for our grand summer raffle and to those that are helping us by selling tickets.

We are raising money for our Legacy fund, through which we subsidise the cost of care for people who can't afford it – about half of all the work we do.

Tickets can be brought online via our website, which also lists all the local shops and pubs where you can pick them up.

Raffle draw will take place at our Community Meeting, Saturday 5th October, at Moreton-hampstead Parish Hall (10.30-12.30) which promises to be fun, informative and fulfilling!

We will be starting with a short entertainment, followed by a thought-provoking session to cover NEDCare's impact to date, an in-depth look at our business realities and a chance to hear from our Care team about the difference they make.

Stay with us for lunch by Knead to Connect - A hearty selection of homemade soups and artisan bread. The event is free but booking would be appreciated, particularly for those wanting lunch. Please call 01647 279211 or email julia@nedcare.org to reserve a place.

You can also go to www.nedcare.org to buy raffle tickets and to book yourself a place at the Community Meeting. We do hope to see you there!



What's on in September 2019

www.acorncommunitysupport.co.uk

Cheriton Bishop Lunch Club – Lunches are held on the first Thursday of each month, this month it will be September 5th at the Red Lion. Come along and meet new people, please phone; Jean Martin 01647 24586 or ring the Acorn Office on the number below for details. Minibus trips to Sainsbury's from Cheriton – Dates are September 4th & 18th. Help is provided in-store & we will help carry your shopping too! The fare is just £5 return.

Acorn monthly Cheriton Bishop Outing - Date & venue to be confirmed! £5.00 per person for a return trip. Call the office for more information.

Teign Valley Memory Café - September 12th & 26th

Meetings held 10.30-12.30 at Strawberry Hill, Dunsford on the B3212-look for the sign.

Coffee Morning at Teign Valley Community Hall - on Tuesday September 3rd & 17th - The Bowden Room, Teign Valley Community Hall 10.30 – 12.00. Please drop in for a tea or coffee, a slice of homemade cake & meet up with friends. Everyone 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 Office: 01647 252701 for further information or to join our wonderful team of volunteers



DARTMOOR LOCAL PLAN
guiding planning applications in Dartmoor National Park

We are pleased to attach our latest Local Plan newsletter confirming dates and details of the final draft Local Plan consultation. The consultation will run from 16th September until 1st November 2019, and will include four public drop-in events in the Dartmoor Local Centres which we did not visit during the last consultation.

Further information is on our website: www.dartmoor.gov.uk/localplanreview, and you can follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) for regular updates. If you have any questions or comments please don't hesitate to get in touch.

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News from the Castle

Hi everyone

What a summer it has been at Castle Drogo. The 'what's the story' trail in the grounds has been a big hit with lots of families taking part. I have really enjoyed watching visitors staring open-mouthed at the scaffold removal with huge cranes moving sections around. It is such a joy to see the building emerging from its cocoon. It is looking spectacular and it really feels like we are on the home stretch now.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the outdoor theatre performance of 'Private Lives'. Dartmoor gave us a reminder of who's in charge by throwing down significant amounts of water on the gathered 280 audience members. A huge well done to anyone who managed to stay for the whole performance!

News from the estate is that the ranger team plan to start some limited clearance work in preparation for the fencing in September. They expect that the fencing itself will be installed in October, and the ponies will be going in soon after. You might also notice other changes such as the provision of drinking areas for the animals.

Finally, I just wanted to remind you all that the annual Heritage Open Day is approaching. The castle and gardens will be open FOR FREE on Saturday 21 September, 11am – 5pm. Everyone is welcome to join us that day and it is a great chance to bring friends or family along too. It will be a busy day though so car sharing, getting the bus, cycling or walking in might be an ideal!

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

Bird Notes

As reported last month, this has been a great year for swifts in Drewsteignton with 13 young hatched from 12 nest boxes. They are now absent from our skies as they journey back to overwinter in Africa. Information from tracking with Geolocators in 2010 indicates they will already be in the Congo, travelling to the east coast in December, using the abundant food supplies in the region. I missed the last of the swifts leaving the village as we were away on holiday from the 2nd of August but on the 31st of July I still had young swifts in just one of my nest boxes with all the others having fledged. Our travels took us to Sweden and Denmark where I saw many swifts up until the 13th of August. We spent a few



National
Trust

days in the south, staying with an old friend of Kate. She had borrowed bicycles for us all and we spent some lovely days cycling around lakes and through woods on great cycle paths on level ground. One of the highlights was seeing an osprey catch a large fish from the water and fly to a tree to eat it. I saw a few other birds of prey during our train journey from Stockholm to Malmo and then on to Copenhagen via the bridge (The Bridge!) linking Sweden and Denmark: a kestrel, buzzards and a harrier.

A few days after we got home, I spotted what appeared to be a large swift over the village, and then realised the house martins and swallows had either disappeared or gone silent. It was a Hobby gently circling overhead. They are smaller than a peregrine and have long wings, similar to swifts, which gives them great maneuverability in the air when catching prey. Hobbies are the only migratory falcon breeding in the UK, preying on swifts, swallows and house martins, as well as on dragon flies, damsel flies and flying ants. It spent about two minutes gently circling before drifting away to the south. It was the first Hobby I've seen locally this year but we used to have a breeding pair not far down the valley.

I have decided that this is my last article for the Parish Post after ten years of writing about my local observations of birds and wildlife. I wrote my first article about swifts, appealing for information on other nest sites in the village, in the old 'Parish Newsletter' in June 2002, and the a few articles in the summer of 2009 in the Parish Post before undertaking a regular monthly piece. As the seasons change, I have written on what I have seen locally, at work and on holidays abroad. I have kept most of the Parish Posts and decided to dip into some before writing this, being amazed at the variety of things I've written about.

The Exeter peregrines have featured strongly over the years especially their (and our) exploits at ringing and fledging time, and also with their unique and unbelievably aggressive territorial behaviour towards buzzards, which continues. I have also written about peregrines in Woking, Leicester, Scotland, Wales, Madrid, Barcelona, New York, Melbourne and Brisbane, plus visiting conferences in Dublin, Belfast, Poland and Hungary. Barn owls have often featured during the winter months due to my spotting many road casualties on the A30, and still being reckless enough to try and recover the carcass to see if it is a ringed bird. In recent years, I have written about breeding barn owls in the parish and the joy of watching these magnificent birds flying in the twilight.

I have written about the birds I have seen locally including ospreys, red kites, waxwings, redstarts, short-eared owls, cuckoos, nightjars, raven, lesser spotted woodpeckers, green woodpeckers, kestrels, sparrow hawks, hobbies, woodcock, long tailed tits, bull finches and a hoopoe. Some slightly more exotic birds seen on holidays include golden eagles, white-tailed eagles, vultures, bee-eaters, eleanora's falcons, red-backed shrikes, stone-curlews, purple swamp-hens, black-winged stilts and a glossy ibis. Mammals have featured in my articles too, and otters, red deer, foxes, badgers, hedgehogs, stoats, weasels, mink, rats, moles and voles were all mentioned over the past ten years. I have plugged the county bird group 'Devon Birds', the British Trust for Ornithology and the Woodland Trust too. However, one of the most exhilarating sights I have ever witnessed over the village was on the 24th of September, 2011 and I wrote about it in the October Parish Post. It wasn't a bird high in the sky that stopped me (and everyone else who saw it) in my tracks, but a plane. I was in the garden when I heard a very loud and noticeable exhaust note from a low and fast-flying plane over the village. The noise was from a Rolls-Royce V12 Merlin engine and it was a Hawker Hurricane, a single seater fighter plane, taking part in the Second World War event at Castle Drogo. It was an amazing experience to watch as it

circled the castle, the village and surrounding countryside as it gave a spectacular flying display for what seemed like ages but was probably about 15 minutes.

I would like to thank all those who have passed on their own observations to me which has not only enabled me to visit properties and places I would not normally see, but I have also met some lovely and interesting people along the way. Thank you also to all those who have commented favourably on these articles over the years.

Nick

VILLAGE EVENTS CALENDAR

1 September	9.30am HC	Holy Trinity Church
3 September	5.30-6pm - Journey into Silence	Holy Trinity Church
5 September	Talk: Dams	Fingle Bridge Inn
7 September	Quiz Night	Drewe Arms
8 September	5:00 Family Service	Holy Trinity Church
10 September	5.30-6pm - Journey into Silence	Holy Trinity Church
14 September	<u>Ride & Stride</u>	Holy Trinity Church
15 September	11.15am Holy Communion	Holy Trinity Church
16 September	Gardeners' Club	Drewsteignton Village Hall
“	7:30pm Parish Council Meeting	Whiddon Down Village Hall
“	Harvest Festival & Produce Sale	Whiddon Down Mission
17 September	5.30-6pm – Journey into Silence	Holy Trinity Church
21 September	Heritage Open Day	Castle Drogo
“	Night Walk	Fingle Bridge Inn
23-28 September	Chagford Film Festival	Chagford
28 September	Pudding Night	Drewe Arms
29 September	6:00pm – Joint Harvest Service	Spreyton

The Drewsteignton ParishPost ContactDetails:

If you have trouble reading this publication please do 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** 27th September - Thank You

