

Crockernwell, Drewsteignton, Sandy Park, Venton, Whiddon Down

# Drewsteignton Parish Post

ISSUE NO. 187

NOVEMBER 2021

## NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council (PC) Meeting took place on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021 (7.30pm) at Whiddon Down Village Hall in accordance with the latest Covid-19 safety protocols. Several members of the public attended and actively contributed to witnessing local democracy in action.

The PC was delighted to approve the co-option of Andrew Di Battista as Parish Councillor for the Ward of Drewsteignton. Andy works as a scientist converting innovations into commercial opportunities and has an interest in learning about the pressures, challenges and opportunities facing parish councils. He and his wife Alexis are keen horse riders and can regularly be seen riding around the Parish.

The public speaking time heard concerns from parishioners regarding speeding issues, particularly through Whiddon Down and the number of weekend motorcyclists exceeding national speed limits. The potential to install an electric vehicle charging station in Drewsteignton Car Park was discussed - funding and operational options will be investigated. It was noted that the Re-Advertisement of the proposed Farm Shop development at Whiddon Down had received over 50 objections in recent weeks. The objections were consistent with the PC's own submission, with additional economic impact concerns to local businesses and an expansion of the development area not being consistent with a re-advertisement, noted by Parishioners.

Planning applications 0392/21 Netherton House, Drewsteignton, 0427/21 East Fingle Farm, Crockernwell and 0455/21 West Fingle, Crockernwell all received approval by Dartmoor National Park Authority (DNPA). New applications - WDBC 3600/21/FUL erection of a drive-thru coffee shop at Whiddon Down Services and DNPA 0541/21 partial conversion of garage block/store/workshop into domestic accommodation at Dormouse Lodge, Sandy Park - will require site visits to be arranged.

The PC agreed to support DNPA's proposed alterations to Dartmoor's byelaws. The public consultation remains open and Parishioners are encouraged to complete the online survey.

<https://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/about-us/who-we-are/byelaws-consultation>

Cllrs have completed an inspection of the network of pathways across the Parish and a report will be shared with the Park Ranger next month. The finances of the Parish Council remain in good health. A draft copy of the full meeting notes will shortly be available on the PC website.

Our next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 15th November 2021 7.30pm at Whiddon Down Village Hall. We extend an open invitation to all parishioners to come along and participate in local democracy.

**Cllr. Peter Brennan     Drewsteignton Parish Council**

## **Drewsteignton Village Store & Post Office - News from your Post Office Posting early for Christmas**

Royal Mail published their 'Delivering Christmas' leaflet a few weeks ago but last recommended Posting dates for some international destinations have now been changed. The list is random and parts of Europe are now much earlier than expected (e.g. Greece is now 6<sup>th</sup> December). We've to make sure that all necessary customs documentation has been correctly completed as many countries are refusing parcels without this. Delays are exacerbated by lack of international flights. On the positive side, we have all received further training, so we are able to advise and guide you through the processes to ensure that your parcels arrive in good time and successfully clear Customs. We do ask you for your patience if the transaction takes longer than it used to as there are more processes for us as well.

We have a stock of Christmas stamps and these will go on sale at 8.30am Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. We did run out last year so please get in quick!

Remember your local Post Office will only survive if you support it. If you are deciding where to do your posting please remember that we have easy & free parking, regular opening hours, friendly, experienced staff and a well-stocked village store. We hope to see you all soon.

**Cheryl, Stuart & Judy**



### The Drewe Arms

Open daily 12:00 til  
23:00

Come and say 'hello'  
**Jayne 01647 281377**



### Drewsteignton Village Hall

Just a short note this month, to let everyone know that the Village Hall is once more available for booking. Contact details for bookings are at the end of the post.

Apart from the ongoing contest with spiders that everyone will be familiar with, we have been working on the kitchen area, thinning out the phenomenal collection of crockery and cleansing cupboards and drawers. We plan to repaint, firstly in the kitchen area, and then other areas that require it most.

We would like volunteers who would be willing to help us with decorating for a few hours one Saturday. Please contact us at [village.hall@drewsteignton.org](mailto:village.hall@drewsteignton.org) or call me on 01647 441166 during office hours if you can lend a hand.

**Hamish Dumbreck (DVHC Chair)**

### Holy Trinity News

**6pm, Tuesday 2 November  
Light, Love and Loss**

A special short (30 mins) service for All Souls' Day will be taking place in Holy Trinity Church, Drewsteignton to include poems, music and an invitation to light a candle in memory of a loved one. Followed by light refreshments.

### **Outdoor Candles of Remembrance**

There has been a special service to remember loved ones on All Souls Day for the past few years, an important part of which is the lighting of candles of remembrance. Holy Trinity Church would like to gift, to anyone who would like one, a memorial outdoor candle.

If your loved one rests in Holy Trinity Churchyard the idea is that the candles will be placed on the graves and lit before the service: if they rest somewhere else you would be very welcome to choose a special place within the churchyard to light your candle.

If for some reason you will not be at the service, Holy Trinity would like to offer you a candle which someone could light on your behalf (please contact Jennifer 281657 or [pmjmrmdm@aol.com](mailto:pmjmrmdm@aol.com)). Or, if you prefer, you may wish to collect a candle to light and place at a location special to you, at a time of your choosing.

The candles will be available from Drewsteignton Post Office, the Drewe Arms or the Church from 27 October.

### **Remembrance Service, Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November, 10.50am.**

We will have a special service for 'Reflection' on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November in the evening at 6pm. There will be music, meditation, prayers and peace and we will be led by Rev.Mark

On 28<sup>th</sup> November at 11.15am we will be joined by Archdeacon Douglas so please do come along and listen to his talk.

Thank you

**Jane Hocking**



**Bell ringers wanted!!**



For a good many years now, we have only been able to keep Drewsteignton bells ringing with the gratefully received help of Martin Sharland & Hannah from Dunsford, and various members of the squad from Chagford, Gidleigh & Throwleigh, and, latterly, Moreton. From October last year through to midsummer this year we also benefitted considerably from the assistance of Will Carew, from Kingsteignton. In June, Natalie joined Mandy as a second ringer in the village, making her live debut in both Chagford and Drewsteignton the same morning! At the current rate of progress, Jackie will become a third ringer in the parish. As with Mandy & Nat before her, Jackie has undertaken her initial bell-handling training in Chagford. We are looking for more recruits within the parish so would love to hear from you if you would like to learn to ring & join our sociable all-age group. I am currently training up five others, all of them based in Chagford, including a mother & her Y6 daughter. Wouldn't it be great if, in this special Jubilee year, we could attain a full complement of ringers based in Drewsteignton parish for our lovely old Pennington six?!

**For further information, please contact me on 07967 374593. Many thanks, Jon Bint**

### **Church kneelers**

In the new year I am hoping to start on a project to photograph and write a brief history on each church kneeler.

I feel that these are a very important part of our village and church history and would welcome any help with identification and information that you could give me.

If you are able to help, please do get in touch **after Christmas**, preferably by email [j.hocking05@btinternet.com](mailto:j.hocking05@btinternet.com) or 01647 281605.

### **Sofas and horses in the church!**



### **Holy Trinity is a hive of activity these days.**

The Pet service on 3<sup>rd</sup> October was a wonderful occasion with 15 dogs of all different types and the two wonderful horses, Oly and Wally. Simon helped us collect two dismantled sofas from Exeter during the week. Brand new throws and freshly washed cushions make these a lovely addition to the space, and several people have been spotted relaxing there with a cup of tea and a biscuit. We intend to set up a notice board so that folk can advertise notices of events, things wanted/given away or sold, lifts offered or required to Exeter or – perish the thought – lost pets! Mid-October saw Harvest Festival, with thirty or more gathered for a delicious meal. The WiFi in this lovely space is now up and running

### **Drewsteignton Christmas Craft Fayre 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> December**

Please come along to Holy Trinity on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 5pm or Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> 11am to 4pm and support our very talented local crafters, Having not been able to be here last year we are all very much looking forward to being again in the wonderful atmosphere of the church – and using some of the new space.

Refreshments will be served on both days with coffee from 11am, soup lunch 12 to 2pm and tea and cakes until 3.30pm.

There is always a great variety of wonderful unique, quality handmade items to start your Christmas shopping or a special gift just for you. Bring plenty of shopping bags.

In addition to the craft stalls there will be a **QUALITY** bric-a-brac table with all proceeds going to Holy Trinity Church. Please bring any good quality items to the church on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> between 2pm and 4pm or contact me on 01647 281605 by November 28<sup>th</sup> if you need a collection.

Please no broken items or anything with missing parts!!

**Thank you – Jane Hocking**

**MED THEATRE - ORIGINAL WRITING ACROSS GENERATIONS**

Following the success of *Salmon*, the local arts organisation has launched a **poetry and creative writing competition** in partnership with The River Teign Restoration Project; an opportunity to get creative, put pen to paper and explore your connection to the river. MED Theatre is inviting writers of all levels to submit their entries before February 1st. For more see [www.medtheatre.co.uk/projects/our-river](http://www.medtheatre.co.uk/projects/our-river)

MED Theatre will be showcasing the talent of their very own 'Wild Nights Young Company' in this year's *Dartfest*, a celebration of original work by young people aged 12-19 in the Dartmoor area. Inspired by 'The Elements', festival offerings include performances of poetry, movement, short plays and mime. *Dartfest 2021* is part of MED Theatre's two-year programme of work with rural communities in Devon called 'Reaching Communities', and is funded by the National Lottery Community Fund. **The event will take place over two days in Moretonhampstead Parish Hall, on Saturday 20th November at 7.30pm and Sunday 21st November at 11am. Tickets are available via eventbrite on the MED Theatre website: [www.medtheatre.co.uk](http://www.medtheatre.co.uk).**

**MED Theatre's Christmas Ceilidh** will take place in Moretonhampstead Parish Hall after the Christmas lights switch-on event. There will be a bar, food, raffle, and an evening of Ceilidh dancing

Towards the end of the year we will be **recruiting a multigenerational community cast** for their next touring production. The play will be performed in March, and will take a closer look at moorland 'peat', its importance as a wildlife haven and relationship to the climate crisis. **If you are interested in finding out more about this performance opportunity please contact MED Theatre via Education Officer, Helen Gilbert, on 01647 441356 or [helengilbert@medtheatre.co.uk](mailto:helengilbert@medtheatre.co.uk).**

**WHIDDON DOWN VILLAGE HALL**

Autumn is well and truly upon us. Hall bookings have improved, and normality appears to be returning slowly. Unfortunately, Covid cases have increased in our locality in recent weeks. The Hall committee request that Hall users continue to follow sensible hygiene procedures. Hand sanitizer and antibacterial products are still available in the hall. Please use them to help protect yourselves and others.

Hopefully the window refurbishment is now complete. Re-decoration will take place when there are suitable gaps in bookings.

Many thanks to the kind person who left a very generous donation in an envelope (with registration details), in return for parking in the Carpark. This gesture is very much appreciated. It would be helpful if other people who use the Carpark regularly identify themselves similarly to avoid any bad feelings. Thank-you to those who already do so. Any hall related enquiries, please contact me:

**Jenny Turner (chairman)** 01647231179 or [jennyturner21@gmail.com](mailto:jennyturner21@gmail.com)



## Acorn Community Support

"Welcome sweet November, the season of senses and my favourite month of all." —Gregory F. Lenz

Where has the year gone? Here at Acorn, we can tell you that it's gone on trips and fun, lunches and laughter, coffee and cake and sunny smiles all round. Time flies when you are having fun as we are sure everyone will agree!

The Cheriton Lunch Club always looked after so well at The Red Lion in Tedburn St Mary has been well attended with numbers growing. Always room for a few more so if you are interested then please do contact Jean Martin on 01647 24586 to book.

**Next one is 2nd November 2021.**

The Dunsford Coffee mornings will be on the **3rd and 17th November** in the Dunsford Village Hall dressing room, and everyone is welcome no booking necessary just turn up and enjoy.

The Cheriton Bishop area outing to Sidmouth was an eventful occasion with the weather being one of the worst days so far this Autumn. Despite the rain and wind, the participants all claimed to have enjoyed themselves immensely. However, as we journey through the Autumn our day trips have taken a less blustery approach and turned to more indoor pursuits. Garden Centres and covered markets being the order of the day.

**From Cheriton Bishop**

**Outings – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – Tavistock Market 2021**

**Shopping at Sainsburys - Monday 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

**From the Teign Valley**

**Outings - Monday 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021 – destination TBA**

**Shopping at Sainsburys - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

Fortnightly Coffee Mornings at the Teign Valley Community Hall are now interspersed with the Tuesday Lunch Club so that's Tuesdays taken care of in the Teign Valley! Lunches have been enjoyed at the Artichoke in Christow, The Royal Oak in Dunsford Brookside Café in Bovey Tracey.

November's dates: **2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> November for Lunch Club, 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**November Coffee Morning** at the Teign Valley Church Hall. Please contact the office if either or both these activities appeal to you, and we will book you on. We ask that EVERYONE on our bus trips, however short the trip, wear a face mask and observe safe hand-sanitising practices. We want you all to have fun and keep safe!

If you would like to book a seat on the minibus for any of our trips or coffee mornings, then please contact **Mandy or Fran at the Office on 01647 252701**

Acorn continues with all its usual services so please do call us and if you just want a chat then you know where we are.

**The A(corn) Team**

[office@acorncommunitysupport.co.uk](mailto:office@acorncommunitysupport.co.uk)

[www.acorncommunitysupport.co.uk](http://www.acorncommunitysupport.co.uk)

**Drewsteignton Gardener's Club****October 2021- January 2022**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November Big gardens & parksMonday 13<sup>th</sup> December Christmas supper Fingle BridgeMonday January 10<sup>th</sup> January (members meeting)**All meetings held in Whiddon Down Village hall 7.30pm**

Annual Membership £ 5.00 or £ 2.00 per meeting

Everyone most welcome

**Queries: Bunny 01647432068****Stone Lane Gardens in November**

The nights may be drawing in, but Stone Lane Gardens remains open to visitors every day from 10am till dusk. In the arboretum the trees are starting to loose their leaves although Autumn is later than usual and the days are still surprisingly warm for the time of year. The water garden is at its best with rainfall beginning to increase and as Dartmoor's natural springs overflow. This month, we sadly say goodbye to Lorraine who has managed the tea room during the year with great enthusiasm and success and welcome garden apprentice Jack who, thanks to a government grant, will work alongside garden manager Paul to benefit from his experience. At this time of year tree wrapping and dispatch of saplings gets underway as nursery sales increase. See our website Shop at [www.stonelanegardens.com](http://www.stonelanegardens.com) for tree purchase details and for all other information about visiting the Gardens year-round.

**Stone Lane Gardens, Long Lane, TQ13 8JU.****TOWARDS A WILDER DARTMOOR**

The way people look at England's upland areas is changing. There is a growing realisation that many areas of the UK, including Dartmoor, would naturally be more wooded. Restoring native woodland can bring multiple environmental benefits, as trees (and their soils) help to retain water and reduce flooding, as well as sequestering carbon. It would also allow many species of animals and plants currently confined to remnant fragments of woodland, to flourish.

Moor Trees has a Vision of a wilder Dartmoor, with woodlands that form part of a mosaic of restored natural habitats, offering significant benefits in the fight against climate change and biodiversity loss. Woodlands that coexist with farming, archaeology and recreation, connecting people to nature and to their heritage. We are ready to play our part in shaping a new Dartmoor for the future. A climate-resilient Dartmoor where wildlife and people can thrive.

<https://moortrees.org/about-us/vision-for-dartmoor/>

**Tim Ferry****Trustee****07855 073876**

## RESET

Time for the great reset to begin.  
 We been living separately and lost  
 within.  
 Self Importantly, as we have tread.  
 Competitive, and amassing riches that  
 have been spoon-fed.  
 Consumerism and all trappings,  
 have distorted, our thinking.

As we are trespassing and trashing,  
 our home.  
 A deeper understanding,  
 of our living breathing planet.  
 Requires this egotistical species to,  
 redefine, re-evaluate and assimilate.  
 As we are just passing through.

**Julia Whatley**

### News from the Moor

Castle Drogo, will close from 31 October to get dressed for Christmas. However, we have a new display in the Gun Room which has been developed in partnership with the River Teign Restoration Project on the plight of the salmon which make the journey from the sea up to the high moor to spawn every year. The Gun Room will be open daily, 11am – 3pm, as part of the garden visit so worth popping in to take a look next time you come up. The castle will re-open for weekends in December but please check the website for opening dates and times as the weather is unpredictable at that time of year.

Take care everyone, stay warm as Autumn arrives and I hope to see you soon,

**Paula** Volunteering & Community Manager, Dartmoor

01647 434130, [paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk)

*'Fear is always an anticipation of what has not yet come to pass. Our fear and our separation from calm are great but the truth of our connection is greater still'*  
 love, zen x

### The Drewsteignton Parish Post

If you have trouble reading this publication,  
 do 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 end of 25th. Thank you, Ed**