

Crockernwell, Drewsteignton, Sandy Park, Venton, Whiddon Down

# Drewsteignton Parish Post

ISSUE NO. 192

MAY 2022

## NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

There was no Parish Council (PC) meeting in April.

Next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday, 16th May, 2022 7.30pm at Drewsteignton Village Hall. We extend an open invitation to all to come along.

**The Annual Parish Meeting will be held the following week on Monday 23rd May, at Whiddon Down Village Hall, with invitations issued to local groups to attend. Please note that any changes to meeting dates or venue will be posted on the Website.**

DNPA approved planning applications 0069/22 Canopy and extension to Farm Shop at Oinkers at Drakes Farm, Higher Fingle Farm, Crockernwell and 0052/22 Part-conversion of barn / change of use to ancillary accommodation and formation of wildlife pond at North Cuma, Drewsteignton.

Parishioners are reminded the Government Consultation on the Landscapes Review is asking parishioners to engage in an online survey to gauge support for proposed legislative changes and their potential effects on different groups and interests. Survey link: <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/future-landscapes-strategy/government-response-to-the-landscapes-review/>

If your Council Tax Band is A to D you may be eligible for a £150 Council Tax Rebate. If you already pay your Council Tax by Direct Debit you do not need to do anything; you should receive your rebate in your bank account by the end of April. If you don't pay your Council Tax by Direct Debit and want to claim your rebate you will need to complete a Direct Debit form using the following link: [www.westdevon.gov.uk/CT-direct-debit](http://www.westdevon.gov.uk/CT-direct-debit). If you choose not to pay by Direct Debit, you can apply for the Council Tax Rebate using the form on WDBC's website. If you do not have access to WDBC's website, you can call 01822 618800 between 9am and 5pm.

**Cllr. Peter Brennan**

**Chair, Drewsteignton Parish Council**



## Drewe Arms

**OPEN MIC NIGHTS - 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month.**

**Next Open mic night may 11th and every 2nd Wednesday of the month . 8pm start**

**Pre-concert suppers and dinners, home-made and delicious, available ahead of the Chagford Singers' concert on May 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**Please call Jayne and Phil to book in advance: 01647 281377**

## Holy Trinity News -

### **Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**

Quite a few villagers have come up with brilliant ideas for our Jubilee Celebrations. Posters will be displayed around the village.

Three exhibitions will be displayed in the church throughout the Jubilee weekend. SEE BELOW. Please make sure that you are all a part of this! The church will be staffed over the period of the exhibitions. Jubilee events planned include:

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday – Exhibitions in the church: 70 years in our village.**

**Friday and Saturday – Pop-up Café – open 11am to 4pm. Eat as you view!**

**Saturday – Bell Ringing Festival – late afternoon and early evening. Listen and enjoy.**

**Sunday – Songs of Praise – 12:30 – tell us your favourite hymns (list in shop) and we'll make sure we sing them!**

**Sunday – Picnic in the Square – 1:30. Bring your own picnic, free drinks and desserts provided by Holy Trinity church, tables and chairs supplied by the Drew Arms.**

### **Exhibition: Who are Drewsteignton? Everyone - Get Involved!**

*Collect a large piece of card from Drewsteignton Village Stores or from the church. It's free!*

*At home, in your own time, create a poster of events in your family over the last 70 years.*

*Use photos, drawings, paintings, speech bubbles, descriptions, newspaper cut-outs, headlines and even attach small items. Don't forget to add the family's names!*

*Bring your poster back to the church on or before Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May*

### **Exhibition: Weddings**

If you, or someone you know, have been married in Holy Trinity within the last 70 years, we would love to be able to put a photo on our Wedding Display table. Please ensure that you add the wedding date and name of the happy couple and, if possible, who married them. Bring along to the church on or before May 30<sup>th</sup> or post to Jane Hocking, 2 Prestonbury View, Drewsteignton, Exeter, EX6 6AT.

### **Exhibition: Kneelers in Holy Trinity**

We have an inventory book giving information about the church kneelers, but we are always hungry for more. We would be very pleased to hear from you if you have any knowledge of their history. Please email [j.hocking05@btinternet.com](mailto:j.hocking05@btinternet.com)

***A candle is kept burning in the Ladies' Chapel at all times to symbolise our thoughts and prayers for all those suffering in the war. We are all praying for peace.***



**Drewsteignton  
Allotment Gardens**  
**All the patches are now let**  
 With best wishes,  
**Samantha Johnstone**



**The Chagford Singers**  
*Spring Concert*  
 Saturday 7th May 2022, 7.30pm  
 Holy Trinity Church,  
 Drewsteignton EX6 6QN

*Gloria*  
 Antonio Vivaldi  
 and a selection of short sacred and secular  
 pieces from the 16th to 21st centuries,  
 including works by Gibbons, Farmer, Morley,  
 Bruckner, Franck, Gjeilo, Lauridsen & Rutter.

**Daniel Maw, Conductor**  
**Laurence John, Organ**

Tickets £10, available from Drewsteignton Post Office,  
 and at Sally's Newsagents, Chagford, or phone 01647 433 770

**The Chagford Singers' Spring  
Concert in Holy Trinity Church  
at 7:30pm on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>.**

The gorgeous Vivaldi Gloria will be followed by an interval for drinks and nibbles and then a varied selection of short pieces, from the witty and face-paced to the stately and beautiful.

Tickets £10:00 (children under 16 go free) available on the door or in  
**Drewsteignton Village Store:**  
 01647 281220

**Drewsteignton Village Hall**



Our sincere thanks to villager, Kate Powell, for her generous gift of curtains to the village hall. Also, for her kind flower-planting outside the hall, bringing order and bright colour to the Westerly bed.

We are delighted to report that the curtains have been resized for the hall's variously-sized windows and that they will keep the hall smart and warm through cold weather.

**Hamish Dumbreck**

**STONE LANE GARDENS** volunteer with us. Now that summer is here, Stone Lane Gardens is more in need of volunteers than ever. Join our team managing the Gardens and wildflower meadows - no specialist gardening knowledge necessary, just an enjoyment of the open air. In our visitors' tea room and tea garden help to greet our visitors, serving tea & cake in a pretty setting. If you love gardens or enjoy meeting people and can contribute a couple of hours a week in a friendly environment, call on 01647 231 311 or e-mail



We look forward to hearing from you. Stone Lane Gardens is an RHS Partner Garden and a Charitable Trust. Stone Lane Gardens, Stone Lane, TQ13 8JU. Best wishes, Anna. [www.stonelanegardens.com](http://www.stonelanegardens.com)

### **TEIGNTON FAYRE – WINDING UP**

After an unavoidable two-year absence, Teignton Fayre will not be returning. Sadly, there is insufficient support within the village to continue or form a new committee. Many parishioners have been happy to suggest how the Fayre should continue, adapt and otherwise evolve, but have not been able to commit to a role on the committee. The Fayre, in its last incarnation, had been running for about 20 years, holding various annual events, including the Easter Duck Race, Race Nights, Treasure Hunts and Musical events, bringing the community together & raising funds for local good causes. The outgoing committee is in the process of disposing of its assets such as chairs, Skittles alley and Ducks. Having discharged all relevant responsibilities, the committee will be formally wound up.

If you have any interest in any of the Fayre's accoutrements, please contact us at [fayre@drewteignton.org](mailto:fayre@drewteignton.org). **Hamish Dumbreck (Outgoing TFC Chair)**

### **WHIDDON DOWN VILLAGE HALL**

As we amble into May, new ideas and challenges lay ahead. We have the Platinum Jubilee celebrations to finalise. I believe it to be a magnificent achievement by the Queen and should be celebrated as such. WDVH will be planting a shrub and placing a plaque in recognition. Although poorly supported, the bingo made a profit, albeit not as much as we had hoped. We have no other events planned until the autumn. For those who follow us on Facebook, you will have seen the latest posts. As yet, no-one has claimed responsibility for the damage to the Carpark entrance or to the ownership of the grey car HN08 ZMY, abandoned there many weeks ago. If anyone information regarding the above, please contact me. On a brighter note, we have received delightful comments about our newly decorated village hall. We are pleased to have been able to complete the work. Many thanks to all concerned.

**Best wishes, Jenny Turner**

**A huge 'THANK YOU' to Jenny who had to stand down so this is a shout-out to anyone willing to deliver the DPP to: Grendon, Batesdown, Tor Hill, Redlake, Glenview on Harepath straight, Tenants Piece, Treable, East and West Fursham on the road to Fursham cross, Chapple farm, Flood Cottage, Flood Farm Homefield and Thornbury Farm on the Hittisleigh road.**

**A Thief and Vandal in Whiddon Down Community Gardens and 2 Tyres Slashed on a VW Transporter**

It saddens me to report recent thefts and vandalism in our village community gardens. These first incidents occurred between Feb.15 and March15 (approx). This has involved the theft of several young Budleia,, a Nadine shrub, an Hellebore and branch breaking of an Anchusa shrub. It was then followed on by an attempt to remove several of the post that hold the village compost heap together, something that would have taken considerable strength and effort.

**Two tyres slashed weeks apart at 2 different locations in WiddonDown.**

One incident occurred while my white VW transporter van was parked up in the layby on Turnpike Road, sometime between 15<sup>th</sup> Feb. and 13<sup>th</sup> March.

The second event happened while my van was parked up beside the main road, at the end of the path nr the bus stop, somewhere between 26<sup>th</sup> March and April 1<sup>st</sup>. Another incident occurred on 7<sup>th</sup> of Feb. (Queen's Jubilee Day) when I was working safely behind 3 traffic cones, on the main road through the village clearing silt along the verge. A man hurled verbal abuse and threats at me using the F... and C.. words. I have reported these incidents to the Parish Council and Police who have asked me to help spread the word and ask if anyone has any information about these events to please ring 101 and quote .. Crime Reference Number CR/030751/22. ref. PC Robin Craig. You can contact me with any relevant information. Please share on all social media, notice boards, Facebook etc. Watch out for malicious antisocial behaviour. Further, I would like to thank all the many 'Unsung Heroes' in our community who have cared for our village and the many who have generously donated money and plants to our community garden project. For the words of support, encouragement and appreciation, it gladdens my heart. A few who deserve a special Thank-You are Graham and Jill Hester who worked hard to prepare the bed and plant the 45k of daffodils at the North Tawton junction and have taken responsibility for one of the flower beds, Paul Gardener for helping to prune and maintain the trees along the main road, Titch Scott who helps to keep the abundant brambles in check, so that the wildflowers get enough light to grow and blossom, Richard Dean for much help clearing silt along the main road and for path-clearing, Bob from Barn Close for grass-cutting, stump-cutting and caring for Barn Close, Joe the electrician near the roundabout for litter-picking, Anne Marie Mills for the evening rose primroses and Forget-me-Nots that now abound and self-seed.

You may be interested to know the back story about the abundance of snowdrops at the top of the village which I uncovered when I started to trim the banks 3 years ago. They were donated by Mrs Perriman, who gave a large bag of bulbs to Titch Scott and Terry Hocking when they were 10 yrs old as a 'bob a job' task, instructing them to plant one here and there on the bank and wait till they multiply. (cont.)

Multiply they did over the next 50 yrs, though were mainly unnoticed due to the number of brambles that covered the banks. Martin Perriman has since told me that they are an old English variety planted in memory of a family member who fought in the war. I am endeavouring to replant some of the strays into other areas of the village. Anyone who wishes to volunteer for this task please contact me. Once again thank you all for your support and I am pleased to announce that I received a Mayoral Recognition Award for the Years 2020/2021 for my work in the village.

**Best Wishes, Dee Douglas.**

**Bird Notes** - March and April are my favourite months of the year as the visible changes in the countryside are a joy to observe, as is the bird song and the day length increases along with the temperatures. It is also when I really start to notice the spring arrivals with many migrant birds arriving back to breed.

I first heard a Chiffchaff on March 15, a day earlier than last year and saw my first Swallow on 14 April, a week later than in 2021. My wife, Kate heard her first Cuckoo of the year on 24 April on the Chagford Commons and we now hope to hear one in the parish. I have yet to see a House Martin this year but cannot help feeling saddened that there seem to be a lot less nests in the village than when I moved here 25 years ago. I hopefully we will have good numbers arriving over the next few weeks along with the Swifts which should be with us in the first week of May.

Swifts are only with us for three months of the year having spent the winter in South and East Africa. Just last year, they were added to the UK's list of most endangered birds due to population decline of 58% in the last 23 years, due to loss of nest sites in old buildings where they lay eggs in a tiny cavity under the eaves. While this is truly sad, we can make a difference. Swifts thrive in Drewsteignton due to the number of nest boxes put up over the last 15 years. We need to retain these boxes and put up more to maintain the wonderful sight and sound of these phenomenal birds whipping over our rooftops in their screaming parties for the short time they are with us.

Please contact me on 281681 if you are interested in putting up a nest box for swifts. Over the last two weeks, I have been spotting hedgehog poop on my lawn which is a joy to find as it means they are out of hibernation and still hanging out in the garden. I occasionally see single hedgehogs in the car park or churchyard on late night dog walks but over the last few nights, we have had a pair outside our front door.

**Nick Dixon**

**What's right with me?** We are all worthy of love, happiness, joy and peace. We are all good enough. We are all enough. Many of us have a tiny version of ourselves that lives in our brain and occasionally, or frequently, pipes up with a little voice which incorrectly says that we are not enough.

Imagine if from now on, we spend our future celebrating and approving of ourselves and asking the question 'what's right with me?' we're all human, on our own paths, trying to figure out how to be happy and peaceful in this life.

With love and appreciation!

**Joe Arnold** (Doctor of Chiropractic, MChiro)

[www.dartmoorchiropractic.co.uk](http://www.dartmoorchiropractic.co.uk) | 07308148159 | [dartmoorchiropractic@gmail.com](mailto:dartmoorchiropractic@gmail.com)



## Acorn Community Support

"And after winter folweth grene May." —*Geoffrey Chaucer*

Our beautiful county and indeed country, is definitely green and lush at this time of year. The bees, birds, animals and humans are all busy with the energy of late spring and hopefully being warmed by the beautiful sun. (

May is usually a social time of year with friends and family visits and much gardening in progress. However, we hope our lovely clients and equally lovely volunteers will manage to take time out to join in the various activities on offer this month.

The next meeting of the **Cheriton Bishop Lunch Club**, at The Red Lion in Tedburn St Mary is **3<sup>d</sup> May 2022**. (*If you missed this month then next month it will be 7<sup>th</sup> June.*) Always room and a big warm welcome for a few more so if you are interested then please do contact Jean Martin on 01647 24586 to book (a couple of days in advance please.)

**Minibus from Cheriton Bishop** fortnightly on Monday for Shopping at Sainsburys with plenty of room for more eager Acorn shoppers. This month it is **Monday** the **2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022**.

**Cheriton Bishop Outing** – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May – Destination Sidmouth (weather permitting). Please phone the office to book your place.

**From the Teign Valley** - Shopping at Sainsburys – **Fri. 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022**  
Outings – **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022** – Destination to be decided – Please phone for details.

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> May** are the dates for **Lunch Club** (different venues each time). This is very popular.

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> May for Coffee Morning** at the Teign Valley Community Hall. Activities such as Bingo, Quizzes and much more with plenty of chatter to go with your coffee and cake!

Please contact the office if any of these activities appeal, and we will book you on. Our **Memory Lane Café** is also running – held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and last Thursday of the month. So, for **May it will be 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>**. Please contact the office if you know of someone who would benefit. We have a great time.

At the time of submitting this article, it is still unclear whether Acorn will be able to access free lateral flow tests. It is our sincere hope that government policy will be amended so that they become available to us, our clients and volunteers. However, this is not a certainty. We will, of course, let you know as soon as we get any clear direction. In the meantime, we are asking that all clients and volunteers maintain usage of masks when travelling with Acorn, either on the bus or in cars.

If you would like to book a seat on the minibus for any of our trips, lunches 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.com](http://www.acorncommunitysupport.com)



**National Trust** News from the Moor

Hi everyone, I hope that you are keeping well and enjoying the fine weather. There is lots to update you all on this month. The full gorge walk at Lydford is now open so, for the more intrepid explorers out there, pop on your walking boots and brave the challenge of the gorge walk. I am always grateful of a tearoom conveniently placed at the halfway point! The second-hand bookshop is doing well so a big thank you to all of you who have donated books or visited to top up your shelves at home. Finch is also open and the sound of the wheels and hammers is ringing once again. This year, we will be opening the old tearoom (now known as the Roundhouse) for pop-up exhibitions and activities. We are currently planning a pop-up gallery with 2 local artists. Watch this space for more info.

At Drogo, the Nursery Corridor is now re-displayed and we open it whenever we have enough volunteers. The views from that top floor are glorious! The displays tell the story of life as a child living at Drogo and Julius Drewe's love of the local area and fishing. If you would like to join the volunteer team, please do get in touch.

**Finally, I have a request for help from the Castle Drogo research team. They are trying to find out about the location of two houses called Moorlands and Alta Vista in Drewsteignton. Does anyone remember them or where they were? There is a chance that the houses have changed name since. If you have any information, please do drop me a line on the email below. Thank you in advance for any information.**

Best wishes all, **Paula** - Volunteering & Community Manager, Dartmoor

## 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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|                                       |                   |  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
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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 25<sup>th</sup> (24<sup>th</sup> if possible). Thank you, Ed**

