

Crockernwell, Drewsteignton, Sandy Park, Venton, Whiddon Down

# Drewsteignton Parish Post

ISSUE NO. 202

APRIL 2023

## NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

Our latest Parish Council (PC) meeting was held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March at Drewsteignton Village Hall. The minutes of the meeting will shortly be able on the Parish Website. [www.drewsteigntonparish.co.uk](http://www.drewsteigntonparish.co.uk)

Guest Speaker, Mr Stuart Rogers BEM, Postmaster of Ashburton Post Office, presented his proposal to operate a mobile Post Office van, once a week in Drewsteignton Village Square. The scheme requires 10 villages to “sign up” to the scheme and for PCs to subsidise running costs. Each weekly visit would require a minimum of 20 transactions, ranging from purchasing stamps, posting letters/parcels to checking bank balances. Cllrs agreed to support the scheme in principal and for Mr Rogers to share anticipated costs with the Clerk.

Parishioners updated the PC on progress to secure the future of the Drewe Arms. A meeting was held on Friday 25 March to share progress and details of plans. The survey responses have been very supportive. Parishioners who have not yet completed the survey are encouraged to do so via the link <https://drewearms.org/survey> Progress has been made on collating the information required to establish the pub as an Asset of Community Value and an application will go to WDBC in April. Cllrs expressed their appreciation of the group’s efforts.

Cllr Ridgers provided an update of WDBC efforts to defend its refusal to grant planning permission for the development of a farm shop at the Whiddon Down A30 junction. Despite the short notice, the WDBC believes it has developed a strong defence, with Cllrs volunteering their own time to meet the 20 March deadline.

Planning matters update. New application 0029/23 change of use of Plant Hire Depot to holiday accommodation at land adjacent to Martin Farm, Whiddon Down. Owing to the Clerk’s absence, a site visit had not been arranged. Cllrs discussed the plans and parishioner feedback and agreed to provide a negative view, with additional notes for WDBC to review.

New Planning Application: WDBC: 0562/23/TPO T1: Beech Tree – reduce limb loading & crown stabilisation at Martin Farm, Whiddon Down, EX20 2QL. Cllrs agreed to support the application. New Planning Application: WDBC: 0687/23/AGR Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed agricultural barn 18.2m x 9.1m x 4.3m height at Land at SX 688 925, Okehampton. Cllrs discussed and agreed that prior approval should be required.

Cllr di Battista provided an update on the habitat disturbance at Black Aller Quarry, Drewsteignton, with both DNPA and EA failing to action parishioners calls for action. An update from WDBC site visit will be presented next month. Parish council elections take place every four years with the next vote on 4 May 2023. (Cont.)

If you are interested in being a Parish Councillor, there is still time to apply. Please contact the Parish Clerk for an application form remembering, the closing date for nominations is 4pm on Tuesday 4th April.

Cllrs recorded their appreciation for the work of volunteers who regularly litter pick our hedgerows, lanes and open spaces. Anyone interested in volunteering, is recommended to wear a Hi-Vi vest, otherwise there is no formal training or previous experience required, as you will pick it up as you go along.

**Cllrs reluctantly accepted the resignation of Alice Turner as Parish Clerk, who has graciously extended her notice period until May. Cllrs thanked Alice for all her hard work on behalf of the Parish. The Role will be advertised locally and the PC is hopeful an appointment can be made before Alice leaves.**

Our next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 24th April 2023 at 8.00pm at Whiddon Down Village Hall, with all welcome to come along, engage and participate in matters affecting the Parish. Please note that any changes to meeting dates or venue will be posted on the website.

**Cllr Peter Brennan** *Drewsteignton Parish Council*

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

## Drewsteignton Village Hall

### **April 1 Disco - Oh NOooo !**

I'm sorry to have to announce, that I can no longer stretch to providing equipment and running the Disco next Saturday. We have a serious and consuming issue which I need to concentrate on, especially having taken last Saturday off as well. Really sorry for the disappointment and to let everyone down, but must do what needs to be done. **Hamish**



**Keep the date!!**

**Drewsteignton Gardener's Club**  
**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April 10am until sold out!**  
**Don't be late!! All sorts of plants for sale:**  
**at BARGAIN PRICES**

## **DREWSTEIGNTON PARISH LANDS CHARITY** **WANTED:**

The above charity is looking for a new Clerk to take minutes at the Annual meeting etc. **For further details please contact Pauline Rowe**  
**email: pauline\_lily@hotmail.com** **Tel: 01647 281638**



The Drewe Arms Community Pub

[drewearms.org](http://drewearms.org)

[info@drewearms.org](mailto:info@drewearms.org)

**"It seemed like old times" .....**

**"It really might happen this time" .....**

**"This is a once in a lifetime opportunity" ....** These are just some of the things that were said after the **community meeting on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March** when we met in the Church to discuss the possibility of buying the pub and creating **The Drewe Arms Community Pub**.

A very big thank you to all those who managed to come and to those that couldn't. Thank you for your Questionnaire responses, thank you for your enthusiasm, thank you for your questions and thank you for being involved in what for many of us will be an opportunity of a lifetime.

We really have that unique opportunity as the pub is now up for sale and through creating a community benefit society, together we could buy the pub, renovate it and then find the best landlord possible to run it...for the community.

Funds will be needed to do this, and shares will soon be on offer giving everyone a chance to own just a little bit of the pub... or a large bit if you want.

**The society will be run on a one member one vote basis and shares will be sold at £1 each. To be a member just 100 shares need to be held albeit it's hoped that most people will hold many more.** Details of the share offer will be made available as soon as we have them.

**We have a web site where everyone can sign up to be Kept Informed as matters progress. The slides from the community meeting are also available there and a link to ask questions.**

**Just go to [drewearms.org](http://drewearms.org)** and you will see everything there. We will be updating the website regularly and so pop back as often as you can. For those who don't have access to the internet, just leave your contact details in the post box in the church porch and we will get in touch with you.

This really is an opportunity of a lifetime that we mustn't let slip.

## News from Holy Trinity – Learning Curves

Well, we have had six weeks of Store in the Back of the Church and Mini-Markets on Tuesdays and Fridays. Not forgetting the Pop-up-Café and Pizza Van which come on Saturdays when they can. It has, for sure, been a steep learning curve for all of us!



We have learned that stock flows out in mysterious ways, making it very hard to predict shortages or establish a pattern; that sell-by dates are more important than price when restocking, and that everyone loves eggs, milk, fusilli pasta, loo rolls, crisps and chocolate – even in Lent!

The Store is starting to feel like it truly *belongs* to the whole village. The number of folks using it is increasing and everyone seems to know that it is there, waiting and ready for when we run out of marmite or need eggs and bacon in the morning.

The mini-markets have had a variable success, with Tuesdays mostly attracting a much greater footfall than Fridays. This may be because the weather has been consistently dreadful on Fridays or it may be that Tuesdays were established as ‘coffee in the square’ by *Milk-on-the-Moove* well before we started the mini-markets. Whatever the cause, the market on Fridays will cease to operate from the end of March. From now on, we can promise the following provision for the village:

**Store in the Back of the Church** – open 8 to 8, and stocking all the non-perishable basics, as well as, eggs, butter and—frequently—bread, bacon and sausages.

**Mini-market on Tuesday** – 11:30 to 1:30 with fresh vegetables, fruit, bacon, sausages, lots of lovely bread, pasties, sausage rolls and the wonderful *Milk-on-the-Moove*!

**NB NO market Fridays from April 1st.**

**Saturday Pop-Ups** – Natalie’s lovely coffee and cake café from 11 to 4pm and Taste of the Wild Pizza from 5pm to 7:30

**Pop-Up Market** – we shall run the occasional Pop-Up Market when something’s happening or it’s a special occasion. The first one is planned for **Easter Saturday** so watch this space.

The back of the church has been humming this month with several events, most worthy of mention being the wonderful Wurlitza evening on 18<sup>th</sup> March which was both spectacular and awe-inspiring. It had a full crowd and everyone was bowled over. We definitely hope to do this again. Mothering Sunday saw a lovely crowd as well, and then on the Friday there was a beautifully organised village meeting about the pub where more than eighty people came to drink draught beer and hear the results of the pub-survey and listen to the plans for setting up an organisation to enable a community-owned pub. This was a professionally run, informative and very positive meeting and we are super grateful to the organisers. (Cont.)

Coming up we have a variety of services over the Easter period:

**Palm Sunday Family Service 17:00**—everyone welcome to join us for palms, passion and potatoes. The Easter story acted out for children, then fellowship over baked potatoes with trimmings and cake!

**Maundy Thursday 7pm** – meal to remember the Last Supper at 7pm. A mixture of fellowship and prayer, bring and share supper followed by a short vigil.

**Good Friday 11am** – Stations of the Cross around the posters specially positioned in the church yard.

**Easter Saturday Night Vigil 11pm** – service in the church with a bonfire at midnight outside to celebrate the resurrection.

**Easter Sunday 11:15**—Family Easter communion service with Easter Egg and Dog-Biscuit Hunt afterwards in the church yard. All welcome, especially children + dogs!

**A huge thank-you to Ruth and the team for creating an in-village store that deals with our last-minute needs and stocks treats too. Thanks also to the Drewe Arms team for the barrel of ale in the back of the church., selling at £1/pint until it's gone. Cheers! Ed**

## STONE LANE GARDENS



## WHIDDON DOWN VILLAGE HALL

Well , hello April. The Village hall remains busy. We are due to proceed with further improvements in the next few months. Owing to an incident with a hand sanitizer malfunction at our last meeting , it was agreed to update the flooring in the entrance hall. We have decided to cover the floor with a nonslip vinyl as opposed to the painted floor which is there now. This will be safer and more hard-wearing for the future. We are also intending to update our security measures on the outside of the building, due to the antisocial behaviour of recent months.

This may cause a little disruption to hall use. We will endeavour to give enough notice of the planned work and keep closure to a minimum. We ask that hall users remain vigilant and report any concerns to the Committee. We again apologise for any inconvenience.

My request for ideas on how to celebrate the Coronation had no response, which was very disappointing. Following last year's successful Jubilee drawing competition, we have decided to hold another to celebrate the Kings Coronation. This time we'll have 3 age groups, 5 yrs and under, 6-10 yrs and 1-15yrs. Children can use paint, crayon or felt tip pens on A4 paper. The subject should be to do with the Coronation and drawn freehand, not computer generated. A prize will be awarded for the best

in each age group. Entries can be left at Miss Margery Wonnacott's, 1, Exeter Road. Whiddon Down EX202QT by 30/4/23.

We will combine the prize-giving with an afternoon tea over the Coronation w/end. Look out for details next month. All entries will be displayed in the hall afterwards.

Any enquiries please contact me, Jenny Turner on 07708634426 or

[jennyturner21@gmail.com](mailto:jennyturner21@gmail.com) Best wishes, **Jenny Turner**

## Acorn Community Support



"Winter's done, and April's in the skies,

Earth, look upwith laughter in your eyes!" *Charles G. D. Roberts*

**WE WOULD LOVE YOU TO JOIN US!**

If you think that you could spare an hour or two a week or a month and would love to know more about volunteering then please visit

[www.acorncommunitysupport.co.uk/get-involved](http://www.acorncommunitysupport.co.uk/get-involved) or contact Mandy or Fran on 01647

252701. Well March did what March does and came in like a LION!!! Whether or not

it goes out like a Lamb is another matter. At time of going to print its still being very LION-ISH!!!

March saw the end of the Winter Warmth visits to **Exeter School** and

we would like to thank all at the school so much for some wonderful Friday

Afternoons. There were games, crafts, singing, talks, music and always A-MAZE-

ING cakes. The school pupils were wonderful, and we hope they enjoyed the

interaction too! We even got some techy advice for our phones and other devices! It

certainly made the winter pass by warmly and pleasurably for our lovely clients and

the accompanying volunteers. HOWEVER, all the extra activity has pushed our

volunteers to the edge of their free time. No one has been let down and the wonderful

volunteers juggled and compromised and shuffled their lives to accommodate Acorn's

for which we cannot thank them enough! Big Cheer to Acorn Volunteers!

*As we said last month sometimes our buses are running at capacity so, please phone to book any of the activities you may wish to join as the office does not always have the chance to ring everyone.*

*Spaces are allocated on a First Come, First Served basis. 01647 252701*

**Activities From Cheriton Bishop**

**Lunch Club**, at The Kings Arms - Tedburn St Mary **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023** - contact

Jean Martin on 01647 24586 to book (a couple of days in advance please.) (**2<sup>nd</sup> May**

**will be the next one**)

**Shopping** is at Sainsburys – Fortnightly on a Wednesday. For April this will be 12<sup>th</sup>

and 26<sup>th</sup>. The bus will collect you from home and return you safely back with your

shopping.

**Outing** – 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 – Tavistock Covered Market.

**Cheriton Afternoon Catch-up** – Once a fortnight on a Friday 2-4pm at the Young

Farmers Head Office Building in Cheriton Bishop. Join us for Tea, Talk, Coffee and

cake and a mingle with friends old and new. For April this is 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>

**Activities From the Teign Valley**

**Shopping** at Sainsburys – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023

(Cont.)

**Outing** – 17<sup>th</sup> April – Shaldon Beach and the Ness Pub for lunch

**Lunch Club** – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023 – The Bridford Inn (Thursday this month only, due to Bridford Inn availability)

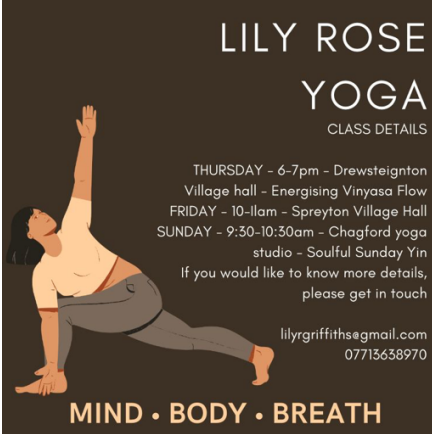
**Coffee Morning** Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at the Teign Valley Community Hall. Activities such as Bingo, Quizzes and much more with plenty of chatter to go with your coffee and cake! Our members always LOVE to see new faces.

**Memory Lane Café** – the second and last Thursday of the month – 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023. If you know of someone who you feel may benefit from this targeted club, then please call as below.

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

Remember 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.

*Best wishes The A(corn) Team*



LILY ROSE  
YOGA  
CLASS DETAILS

THURSDAY - 6-7pm - Drewsteignton Village hall - Energising Vinyasa Flow  
FRIDAY - 10-11am - Spreyton Village Hall  
SUNDAY - 9:30-10:30am - Chagford yoga studio - Soulful Sunday Yin

If you would like to know more details, please get in touch

[lilygriffiths@gmail.com](mailto:lilygriffiths@gmail.com)  
07713638970

MIND • BODY • BREATH

## National Trust

Hi Everyone

This month, we are going to have a focus on some work using traditional methods which has taken place at Finch Foundry. We have had a busy winter of work in the outside spaces at Finch Foundry. The mighty StOC group of volunteers have helped us out hugely by laying the hedge between the Secret Passage and the car park. This may seem like a strange thing to do - the secret passage is currently not so secret. However, hedge laying is an ancient method of hedge management and has previously been employed on the secret passage hedges at Finch. Have a look at the section between the secret passage and the picnic area that hasn't been laid this year and you will see old layers of hedging. Hedge laying is used to re-generate old hedges by encouraging new growth. Large stems are partially cut and bent down and pinned in place. Since they remain attached to the plant, they are still alive and will

## *News from the Moor*



send up fresh young vertical growth from along their length. This leads to the production of dense living fence which can be a haven for wildlife. Hedges produced in this way can house nesting birds, insects and small mammals and are known to provide links across countryside helping animals move around safely. At the moment, the Secret Passage hedge is a little thin, so we are planning to bulk it up by planting small trees such as hazel and blackthorn in the gaps. This should allow us to build up a lovely dense hedge over time. It is great to be able to start work like this to improve the environment around Finch Foundry and to make it a more wildlife friendly area. Another piece of work that has been completed this winter is to remove three ash trees which were succumbing to ash die back disease. Two of these are in Mill Meadow and one in a stand of trees near the exit. The trees were becoming unsafe and the removal of those in Mill Meadow gives us more room to plant other trees in the area. This is likely to happen next winter. Finch re-opens for the new season on Wednesday 22 March. As Finch is small, it is best to book your preferred time online by visiting [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/devon/finch-foundry](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/devon/finch-foundry). Best wishes all,

**Paula** Volunteering & Community Manager, Dartmoor  
01647 434130, [paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk)

***The village and family packed Holy Trinity as they said a fond farewell to Amy Manley, who died on 13<sup>th</sup> February. Drewsteigton born, christened, married to Ivor and deceased, she was a central part of the village, her life woven into the village's history. Donations in her memory for Hospicecare and Marie Curie Cancer Care should be sent, in her name, to A White & Sons, Crediton EX17 2BZ***

## The Drewsteigton 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 25<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, Ed***





