

Crockernwell, Drewsteignton, Sandy Park, Venton, Whiddon Down

Drewsteignton Parish Post

ISSUE NO. 207

SEPTEMBER 2023

NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 18 September 2023 7.30pm, 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. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who supported the Chagford Show which was a great success and, like many activities in the Parish, only possible as a result of parishioners giving up their time. Thank you. The Crockernwell defibrillator appeal has achieved another milestone, with the junction box now installed in the Bus Shelter to allow connection to the National Grid supply. Donations can be made via the 'Just Giving' page www.justgiving.com, just enter "Crockernwell" into the search box.

Cllr. Peter Brennan, Chair. Cllr.Brennan.Drewsteignton@outlook.com

We Are Getting the Drewe Arms Open Again!!!

Friends of the Drewe Arms gathered to celebrate passing the second major pledge sum. NOW ... Over £330,000 Pledged! Our Offer is Accepted

Launch Party in The Square!

To celebrate the launch of our crowdfunder and the tremendous support we have had to date for The Drewe, we feel it's only right we have a party.

Please put Friday 29th September 2023 in your diary - big pop-up party!!!



Drewsteignton Village Hall

Friday Night Socials resume on Friday evenings from 6:00 – 8:00

Come along, catch up on the news and share a glass or two. We have had a lot of positive comments about the newly upholstered chairs in the Hall.

We would like to do more for which we need additional fabric, so, if you have any spare fabric that would be suitable, can you let me know please?

My contact details are on the back page. **Alison Chapman**

News from Holy Trinity

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

*Will be offering refreshments
from 10am to 4pm on Saturday September 9th
as part of the Historic Churches*

Fundraising Day.

*There will also be a few exhibits on show
giving an insight into some of the history
of our beautiful building.*

*View and read about the stunning
Royal Coat of Arms of Elizabeth 1st.*

See our amazing collection of over 150 kneelers.

*Stand in front of our beautiful carved altar which is a replica of
the one in Tokyo Cathedral.*

*Please check out the website for other churches in this area who
are involved.*

www.devonhistoricchurches.co.uk

DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST



Charity Registration Number 1189807

Please call Jane on 01647 281605 or Sue on 01647 24398. THANKYOU

News from Holy Trinity continues over



Byrd Takes Flight

@ DREWSTEIGTON CHURCH

Wednesday 13th September 2023, 8:00pm - Concert no. 1

Renaissance and present day coalesce in an atmospheric candlelit concert, commemorating 400 years since the death of one of England's greatest composers, William Byrd (c.1549-1623).

'Byrd Takes Flight' explores Byrd's enduring influence on composers across the centuries by placing his artistic voice into direct dialogue with four of today's brightest young composers. Each newly-commissioned work responds to a particular piece by Byrd, taking the same text and drawing musical inspiration from Byrd's original. This concert sees the world premieres of all four new commissions, presented for the first time alongside the music that inspired them.

The candlelit interior of Drewsteigton Church provides the perfect setting for this groundbreaking convergence of old and new, as voices and instruments intertwine to explore soundworlds that transcend the centuries between them.

This performance will last approximately one hour without interval.

Pre-concert drinks from 7pm.

Contact: hello@whiddonautumfestival.co.uk

HEADS UP – we have some exciting events planned for October.

PET Family Service at 5:15 on 1st October. A chance to celebrate all our furry, feathered and scaly friends. Every creature and human is welcome! This is always great fun and will be held in the back of the church. Animal-friendly music and a high tea for all.

QUIZ NIGHT at 19:30 on 7th October in the back of the church.

Beer, wine and soft drinks, bread, cheese, biscuits and cakes (of course) provided. The Quiz has a local theme of 'Our Village' and will be hosted by our very own quiz-master, Gary Read.

There will be rounds on famous faces and places, geography, history, sport and music and general knowledge all associated with the village. This is an unmissable event so make up teams of four and put it in your diary!

Music & poem ideas please:

6pm, Thursday 2 November, Light, Love and Loss

I would very much welcome any suggestions of music or poetry for this year's service where we remember our loved ones.

Please contact **Jennifer on 01647 281657** or pmjmrmdm@aol.com by the end of September.

****Date for your diary****

November 25th/26th

Drewsteignton Christmas Craft Fair

I know that it's only September but time soon flies and so this is to remind you that the date for our ever popular Christmas Craft fair, complete with the wonderful pop up café, is Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th November. If you would like to have a stall then please do let me know by the 30th September and, as usual, there is no charge for a table but we ask that 15% of your sales are doat Church!ed to Holy Trinity Church Funds. Thank you.

Jane Hocking j.hocking05@btinternet.com or 01647 281605

FINALLY ... Yes, we were facing-off with Spain...A large screen was installed in Drewsteignton church,a generous selection of nibbles, tea and coffee, supplied.

We arrived from 10.30am to get the best seats.

As anticipated, the sofas were taken early.

'Here we go, here we go, here we go' we sang but ... Lioness supporters were quieted by the dazzle of the Spanish team. Hopes faded as, alas, victory went elsewhere. Our thanks to hosts Jenny+Pete Mullins.

Better luck next time. Bien Hecho Espana! **Ed.**

Drewsteignton Gardener's Club

Autumn Programme 2023

Monday 11th September Fungi talk from Phil Page

Monday 16th October Nursery selection form Day Spring Nursery

13 November More Adventurous Planting

All meetings at Whiddon Down Village Hall 7.30pm

Subscription £5.00 per year or £2.00 per meeting

Any queries call **Bunny 01647432068**

STONE LANE GARDENS



The advertisement for Stone Lane Gardens is presented as a central white text box flanked by two vertical photographs. The left photograph shows a dense stand of birch trees with their characteristic white bark. The right photograph shows a wooden boardwalk or bridge crossing a stream in a lush garden setting. The text box contains the following information:

Stone Lane
garden sculpture nursery

Stone Lane Gardens,
Chagford, TQ13 8JU
RHS Partner Garden
Open all year round
Woodland and Water Gardens
National Collection of Birch and Alder

Summer Sculpture Exhibition
www.stonelanegardens.com

WHIDDON DOWN VILLAGE HALL

Greetings from Whiddon Down Village Hall. Hopefully everyone is feeling relaxed and refreshed ready for the run up to Christmas!! All classes and meetings held in the hall should resume as usual after the summer break.

Just one event next month in aid of Hall funds. Quiz Night, hosted by Tich Scott on Friday 20th October 2023. Entry 7.30 for 8.00pm start. Teams of up to Six, £2.00 per person. Cash prize for winning team. BYO booze. Hot and cold drinks and nibbles available for sale on the night. Booking prior to the night essential to manage nos.

Please contact Debbie Scott, tel. 07375705862 Email debsscott@icloud.com

Finally, Thank-you to the kind people who remembered to leave a donation for using the Carpark over the summer. Best wishes **Jenny Turner**.



Acorn Community Support

"Nostalgia—that's the autumn, dreaming through September.

Just a million lovely things I will always remember."

Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE LOOKING TO VOLUNTEER?

If you think that you know someone who could spare an hour or two a week or a month and would love to know more about volunteering then please ask them to visit www.acorncommunitysupport.co.uk/get-involved or contact Mandy or Fran on 01647 252701.

September Some liken it to January as in “New Beginnings” – memories of the new school year. However we would like September weather, not January! Another month of chat and laughter and wonderful memories made with friends old and new, the Acorn way! If you would like to join in, then just call us to find out what is available to suit YOU! ***Please phone to book any of the activities you are interested in.***

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 5th September 2023** - contact Jean Martin on 01647 24586 to book (a couple of days in advance please). (Tuesday 3rd October is the next one)

Shopping is at Sainsburys – Fortnightly on a **Wednesday 13th and 27th September 2023**. The bus will collect you from home and return you safely back with your shopping.

Outing – Tuesday 12th September 2023 – Exmouth (weather permitting)

For those in any Area of Acorn’s domain!

Tea @ the Hub – Fortnightly 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, making new and catching up with old friends. **1st, 15 and 29th September.**

No need to book, just turn up.

(Cont.)

Activities From the Teign Valley

Lunch Club – Tuesday 5th September 2023 – The Bridford Inn

Shopping at Sainsburys – Friday 1st, 15th and 29th September 2023

Outing – Monday 18th September 2023 – Shaldon and The Ness Pub

Coffee Morning - Tuesday 12th and 26th September 2023 at the Teign Valley

Community Hall. Activities - Bingo, Quizzes and 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 – **14th and 28th September 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 such as befriending, transport to medical appointments, prescription delivery for the housebound, equipment loan and Time for You sitting service, so please do call us or if you just want a chat then you know where we are. *Best wishes The A(corn) Team*

ACE Archaeology Club

Our last article started with a note about the days getting longer, now they are getting shorter and with the weather being rather mixed, there is a feel of autumn in the air!

The last week of July and the first week of August saw us digging at Moistown again. We have had some new diggers this year which has been a treat. We had younger people, which is really good, both for us but also for the long term future of archaeology and the history of our area. We do have to have any under 16s accompanied by their responsible adult though. Our insurance won't let us do otherwise.

We pulled out all the stops, well, several of them, to advertise our Open Day and it paid off. We have never had so many visitors just coming to look at what we were doing. It was great to see everyone.



The usual view of diggers! Uncovering the wall that shouldn't be quite there. And the wall not quite where we expected it.

(cont.)



A couple of this years finds. A little worked flint blade and a jug handle still in the trench. Both undated as yet.

In September, this year, we hope to be able to do a little dig at Coldridge Church. If you have never visited the church it is well worth a visit. A lovely interesting church in a spectacular position. We visited as a group earlier this year and can wait to get back. Lovely screen and an interesting story linked to Richard the Third and the Princes in the Tower.

Our year has also seen us on Dartmoor again and at North Tawton looking for the Romans.

For more information take a look at our website:

<https://acearchaeologyclub.wordpress.com> or our Facebook page.

Bird Notes

Have you noticed that the swifts have left Drewsteignton and we are no longer able to watch and listen to their frenzied screaming parties as they whip over the roof tops and around the trees in the churchyard? My last sighting of swifts over the village was of two on the morning of 14 Aug, almost a week earlier than the previous three years departure dates. I did see a single bird flying high and heading south over Alphington Sainsburys on Saturday 19 August.

My thanks again go to those who have nest boxes up on their properties, and to Malcolm and Robbie plus their team, who come and spend evenings watching nest boxes, ringing chicks and trapping adults as they leave the boxes after feeding their chicks. The Swift project in Drewsteignton began quietly when I first put up a nest box on Churchgate Cottages in 1999, and has developed into a highly successful model on what can be achieved in a small community to benefit swifts.

Malcolm and his team ringed about 36 chicks in boxes this season, taking the total since ringing first started here in 2008 to well over 300. Malcolm and I have just written a detailed article on this project, coming out in the September issue of 'Devon Birds', the journal published by the Devon Birdwatching and Preservation Society. It is hoped that what we have achieved in Drewsteignton can be replicated in other villages in Devon: to help reverse the national decline of these wonderful birds due to the loss of traditional nest sites. Please contact me if you would like to read the article or have a copy.

While the swift story in the village is a real success, I am aware that other species are not faring so well. This is the second consecutive year that we have not had swallows nesting in our woodshed which saddens me as I loved their twittering as they dart in and out to feed their young. Both swallows and house martins appear to be far less numerous than they used to be when I first moved here in 1996 – **Nick Dixo**

National Trust News from the Moor

The summer holidays have brought their usual mix of weather. There have been gloriously sunny days followed by amber weather warnings for high wind and torrential rain. It's certainly been keeping us on our toes! All part of the joy of Dartmoor and what makes it such a wonderful place to be. People still seem to be having a lovely time despite the weather..... and we have had a few damp campers coming in to dry out with a warm cuppa.

Those of you who regularly walk in the Castle Drogo and Fingle woods will have noticed a fair bit of activity recently. This is connected to our work with the Lottery funded RiverTeign Restoration Project where we hope to create quiet spaces for fish as well as improving access to the river for people (and their dogs) in other areas. We will monitor the impact on the riverbank and the species in the river.

Tree felling is underway in Cod Wood along the riverside path between Clifford Bridge and Steps Bridge. There is some Larch which is under a statutory plant health notice (Phytophthora disease) which has to be removed. Work will be completed by the end of September and the riverside path will be closed during this time with an alternative route through Dunsford Nature Reserve on the other side of the river. Once the felling in Cod Wood has been completed, the contractor will move on to thinning a block of Douglas Fir between Fingle Bridge and the Iron Bridge on the south of the river. There will be a path closure on the river path (Forester's Path) for roughly 6 weeks. During this time, walkers will be encouraged to use Fisherman's Path if walking or the lower Deer Stalker's Path if cycling or horse riding. The riverside path from Fingle Bridge towards Clifford Bridge is an alternative accessible route during this time.

Finally, just a quick reminder that we have a series of free entry days coming up in September as part of Heritage Open Days. The Hydro Turbine House (cont.) a Drogo will be open on Sunday 10 September and Castle Drogo will have free entry on Thursday 14 September. Lydford is open for free on Friday 15 and Saturday 16 September and Finch Foundry on Sunday 17 September.

Best wishes all, **Paula** Volunteering & Community Manager,
 , paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk Dartmoor 07826 945107

I am hugely grateful to Master Jacob Gillard, working at Oinkers, who has offered to deliver copies to our more northerly parishioners **Ed**

For Editorial Contributions	Shelley Mansfield	shelley.mansfield@me.com Tel: 07714 253484
Village Hall Bookings Drewsteignton	Alison Chapman	callum.chapman@btinternet.com Tel: 01647 281197
Parish Council Business Drewsteignton	Alice Turner	clerk.drewsteigntonpc@outlook.com Tel: 01837 83484
Village Hall Bookings Whiddon Down	Alison Chapman	callum.chapman@btinternet.com Tel. 01647 281197
Village Space @HTC Drewsteignton	Ruth Merttens	ruth_merttens@me.com Tel: 01647 281649

