

DREWSTEIGNTON PARISH POST

Parish Post Issue No. 237

July & August 2026

News from the Parish Council

The Parish Council (PC) met on 15th June 2026 at 7.30pm in The Church Space, HTC, Drewsteignton.

Planning Matters: DNPA approval granted for 0126/26 Old Rectory, Drewsteignton, EX6 6QT, variation to planning to install LED lighting & 26/0036 works to trees; Tilford Cottage, 1 Stonelands, Crockernwell, EX6 6NB, removal of branches close to house roof. WDBC refused planning for 1105/26/PDM Land at SX 683 928 (Land at West Farm / Martin Farm), Whiddon Down, for change of use of 3 agricultural units to 7 dwellinghouses.

Glebe & Trinity Cottages Update: Corbel Conservation Ltd reported work is continuing at pace on the redevelopment project, with recording, salvage and careful demolition activities progressing across the site. Corbel's skilled operatives are currently focused on clearing waste and preparing areas for the next phase of construction. With access recently secured to the oldest part of the property, orders are now moving forward for replacement structural roof timbers, marking an important step in preserving and restoring this section of the building. The application for the new storage/car park has now been submitted and is awaiting feedback from the relevant authorities. The volume of material being removed from the site remains significant, and to keep the project on schedule, skips are now being delivered and exchanged daily to support ongoing waste removal operations. Residents are reminded that Site Manager Jake Shufflebotham is regularly present on site and remains available to discuss any questions, concerns, or comments regarding the works. The project team thanks local residents for their continued patience and support as progress continues on the redevelopment.

Works to the car park edges and pathway have been completed, with thanks to Good Gardens (07737 475852) for their hard work. Quotations for general repairs and a new roof for the toilet block are still invited — please contact the Parish Clerk for more information.

Draft minutes will shortly be available on the parish website.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 20th July 2026 at 7.30pm** in the Long Room, Drewe Arms, Drewsteignton. All are 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: www.drewsteigntonparish.co.uk



West Devon
Borough Council

West Devon steps up support for residents facing money worries

WDBC are stepping up support for people who are finding it hard to make ends meet, using £300,682 from the new Crisis and Resilience Fund.

The fund, which started in April 2026, replaces the Household Support Fund and is designed to do more than provide short-term help. It is there to support people when something unexpected happens, while also helping them feel more secure and better able to cope in the longer term. Working in partnership with South Hams District Council, we will create a dedicated Financial Advice and Support Team to help people access the right support at the right time.

The support on offer will include crisis payments for low-income households, with Devon care leavers identified as a priority group. Help will also be available for practical everyday essentials, and later in the year, items such as slow cookers, electric blankets, warm clothing and other basics that can help households through the winter.

Funding will also help people build the skills, confidence and support networks needed for longer-term financial resilience and independence.

We will also look at how communities might work together to buy or access energy in bulk, while working with partners and other organisations that offer free energy advice, so that residents can get practical support as well as financial help.

Residents can find out more about the Crisis and Resilience Fund and how to apply for support on our website at www.westdevon.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/other-available-support/crisis-and-resilience-fund



We welcome everyone aged 10-28 to our very active club with a meeting & social each month. Check out our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/cheritonandtedburnyfc/> or follow us on Instagram.

Road Closure Notices – DCC Highways

Temporary restriction to enable surface dressing commencing **Saturday 18th July to Wednesday 22 July** 07:00 to 19:00. Road over East Fingle Bridge & road from Trundle to Greystone Cross & road past Netherton House & road from Trennaway Cross to the Rectory, Drewsteignton.



The A382 between **Moretonhampstead and Bovey Tracey** to all traffic from **20th July to the 28th August** for essential retaining wall repairs and drainage works. The closure will significantly impact local businesses and community services during the peak summer period.

Devon County Council has confirmed these dates and has received concerns from businesses about the timing and potential disruptions.

HOLY TRINITY, DREWSTEIGTON

News from Holy Trinity

At last, the two years of planning, fund-raising, bureaucracy and prayer are coming to fruition. We have our 24 solar panels on the roof – and the electrics will hopefully be completed by the time you are reading this article. We may well be generating our own, home-grown electricity! Let us celebrate together what is a really important precedent: we are the first Grade 1 listed church in the Dartmoor National Park, and as far as we know in Devon, to achieve this. Such are the obstacles placed in the path of anyone in this



position. I vividly recall standing in the church at the start of the process in April 2023 with many advisers from the different planning authorities. English Heritage, Devon, the Diocese of Exeter, the DNPA were all there – quite an imposing array of ‘experts’, especially for those of us preparing to engage in all the work involved in the application.

Consider the situation then. We had no money with which to pay for the panels and install them. The DNPA insisted the panels could not be visible whilst other planners were cautious, perhaps even doubtful. However, Nigel and I were not alone. We were part of a massive team effort, with people from not only FODC and the PCC but from the whole community offering help and supporting our endeavours. People recommended surveyors, other experts offered time and advice; we got political support from our local councillors, emotional support from our friends and neighbours. Finally, and crucially, we received the all-important financial support from four well-wishers who made generous loans to enable the project to become a reality. And thus, we now have our panels – truly a cause for celebration.

Plus, we have further excellent news. Our roof has been repaired, with great skill and care, using the vast majority of the existing slates. Tom Orchard and his family (three generations of roofers) have worked through the month, despite extreme weather in the form of heat waves and strong winds, to enable the installation of first 10, then 11 and lastly the final 3 solar panels on the three south-facing roofs. They have treated each individual slate with care, working in the way good traditional artisans work, and thus been able to re-use where a more rushed commercial approach would have prioritised speed over re-cycling. We are super grateful to our roofers and also to the scaffolder and all those in our community who have helped with this work in various ways, including guarding the materials stored inside our church.

As well as changes to the *outside* of the church, better things are happening inside the building. We are finally setting up our dedicated children's area. We have a small climbing frame, some toys and lots of Lego. We are about to install the larger 'jungle' climbing and playhouse, and also a 'kitchen' unit play area. Additionally, there will be small ride-on bikes, big bricks, plenty of roleplay equipment and books. Various community members have offered donations of soft toys and books which we shall gratefully accept. This area, dedicated to young children, will also include some educational and play equipment for older children and adults. I fully intend to develop the educational activities provided and have many ideas about exciting maths groups and creative art workshops! Watch this space – and maybe cross the road if you see me coming, as I am always on the lookout for 'volunteers'!

A final loud cheer for improvements to the inside of the church is required as we have our new oak doors, making the kitchen and the rest of the church draught-proof and cosy. No more will the west wind whistle through and freeze us all despite the radiant heating! There is a lovely story to the oak from which these doors are made. It is Normandy oak, which is apparently very good, and it was commissioned and supplied to Notre Dame in Paris, for the reparations after the fire. However, this bit was surplus to requirements and it was acquired by Exeter Cathedral. Local craftsman Jasper Emanuel was doing work on the cloisters and used some of the oak on that and brought the remainder to us to use on our doors in Holy Trinity! What a great provenance. Plus, the doors were designed by our son, Mon, and fitted by Finn whom I taught many years ago in Chagford Primary School, so they represent a truly local contribution to our lovely church.



Services for July & August

Family Service – 5th July at 5pm with a special baptism in our new children's Area – be there or be square!

Family Communion – 12th July at 11:15, informal service, all welcome, including dogs!

Bible Read Through – 19th July at 2:30pm, reading a gospel starting with a short lecture by Nick McKinnel on William Tynedale.

Reflective Meditation – 19th July at 6pm, start the week in quiet reflection rather than in guilt mode!

Morning Worship – 26th July at 11:15, a lovely thoughtful service led by a member of our Worship Planning Group.

Family Communion – 9th August at 11:15, informal service, all welcome, including dogs!

Reflective Meditation – 16th August at 6pm, start the week in peace and contemplation.

Morning Worship – 23rd August at 11:15, a lovely thoughtful service led by a member of our Worship Planning Group.



Whether the issue is personal or business related, FCN is here for you. We run a confidential, national helpline and e-helpline which is open every day of the year from 7am to 11pm and our volunteers provide free, confidential support to anyone who seeks help. Over 10,000 people a year benefit from FCN's support and we can help with a variety of issues. It can be daunting to ring a helpline for the first time and for some people this can become a blocker to seeking support. There are many reasons why someone might be hesitant to contact a charity. But FCN has a track record of helping people to explore their options and find a way forward – each year we help thousands of farmers and farming families with a wide variety of issues. Please call our Helpline 03000 111 999 or email help@fcn.org.uk – we may be able to help.



Thursday 20th August

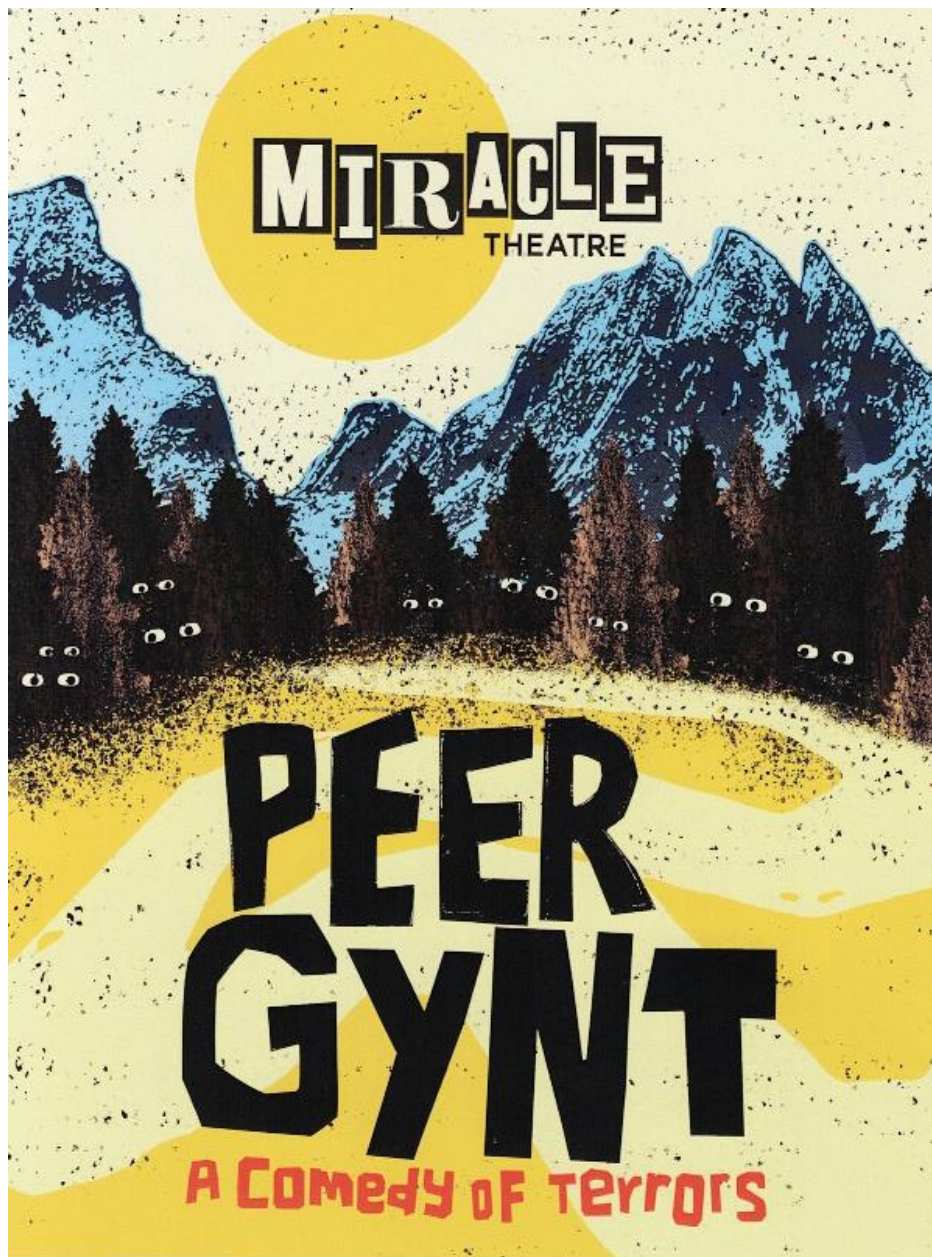
Volunteers needed. We are always looking for volunteers to help steward the Show each year. Specifically, we need help with:

- Car Parking
- Entry points/checking wrist bands
- Selling Programmes and Raffle tickets
- Marshalling the Vintage Parade.

All we ask, is for you to do a single 2-hour stint throughout the day, between 8.30am to 6.30pm, and in exchange you will get free entry to the Show, entry to the Secretary's Tent where light refreshments are available and an invite to the exclusive Stewards Party held shortly after the Show.

If you are interested, please contact Clare Rowe

Email: stewards.chagfordshow@gmail.com Or phone: 07754457137



miracletheatre.co.uk

Stone Lane Gardens, Chagford, TQ13 8JU
24 July, 7pm

Enquiries boxoffice@miracletheatre.co.uk



Chagford Singers

A Community Choir in the Heart of Dartmoor

A musical invitation in Chagford!

Come and sing Poulenc's glorious *Gloria*!

On Saturday June 27 choral director and singing teacher Tina Guthrie will be leading a choral workshop day in Chagford focussing on Poulenc's *Gloria*. This wonderful piece is both dramatic and expressive and is often described as playful and exuberant, having a joyful, dance-like quality.

During the course of the day singers will dip into each of the six sections of the *Gloria*, while also exploring aspects of vocal technique such as breathing and tone production through vocal exercises and simple songs. The day will end with an informal performance at about 3.40pm, for which we are delighted to be joined by soprano soloist Josie Walledge. Friends and family are invited to come along to this and enjoy (free of charge) the fruits of our labours!

The workshop is being organised and hosted by the Chagford Singers, for whom Tina was appointed musical director in September 2024. However, any singers with some choral experience will be warmly welcomed. Tina is very keen that as many singers as possible should come and share an enjoyable and rewarding day and experience singing this great music together.

It will take place at the Jubilee Hall, Chagford (TQ13 8DP) on Saturday June 27, beginning with Registration (and tea/coffee) at 9.30am and ending at 4.30pm (following the short performance at 3.40pm). Tea, coffee and cake(!) will be provided, but participants are asked to bring their own lunch.

Tickets cost £18 to include score hire (Salabert Edition) and refreshments. They can be obtained in advance from www.ticketsource.co.uk/chagfordsingers or they can be bought on the door on the day.

For any enquiries, please do email chagfordsingers@icloud.com
Happy singing!

Charity Number 1183032

Send us an email at chagfordsingers@icloud.com





"Everything good, everything magical happens between the months of June and August."

~ Jenny Han

The year is flying by – with heatwaves followed by early Autumn Esque style weather followed by more heatwaves. We don't know which way is up! However, in the Land of Acorn, we keep things on a more even keel with our consistent focus on FUN (and cake!)

Activities From Cheriton Bishop/Tedburn/Drewsteignton/Crockernwell

- Lunch Clubs, at The Kings Arms - Tedburn St Mary Tuesday 7th July 2026 - contact Jean Martin on 01647 24586 to book (2 days in advance please). *(the next one is 4th August 2026)*
- Shopping - Sainsburys Alphington – Wednesday 8th & 22nd July 2026. The bus will collect you from home and return you safely back with your shopping. *(Shopping in August 5th & 19th)*
- Outing 14th July 2026 Teignmouth *(11th August–Drive to Widdecombe and Lunch)*

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, Cake and a mingle, making new, and catching up with old, friends. Friday 3rd, 17th and 31st July 2026 No need to book just turn up. *(August dates are 14th and 28th)*
- Memory Lane Café – 9th and 30th July 2026. If you know of someone who you feel may benefit from this targeted club, please call as below. *(The dates in August are 13th and 27th)*
- Rainbow Club – Carers Support Group. Friday 17th July 2026. Do you care for a partner or a close family member? Then perhaps a monthly get together with other Carers in a similar position might be just what you need. Free informal/confidential chat with a cup of tea. Please call the office number below to learn more. *(August date is 21st)*

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



Devon Air Ambulance Trust is actively promoting CPR and defibrillator training events to empower the community. They have trained over 600 members of the public in the last two years and have defibrillators available in their shops. The charity aims to raise awareness and confidence in using defibrillators, especially during cardiac emergencies. They offer free training sessions and encourage community centers, sports clubs, and parish halls to host events. The Devon Air Ambulance Trust is committed to making defibrillator use a common practice in the community, ensuring that more people can step in and help someone suffering from a cardiac arrest. **Save the date:** 21st September 2026 7pm, Devon Air Ambulance volunteers will be providing “Defib Training” @ Whiddon Down Village Hall.



MORECARE - Providing transport to get you to your medical and other healthcare appointments.

Morecare volunteers can provide transport services to and from medical facilities, collect prescriptions and help with other needs, where possible, to those registered at Chagford Health Centre or living in Chagford and the surrounding area. Instead of set charges, donations are suggested for our services. If you need health-care related transport, please contact Morecare by phone or text on 07914 853 726 or email via our website www.morecarechagford.co.uk

WHIDDON DOWN VILLAGE HALL

Our usual programme of meetings and classes are in full swing. Volunteers wanted to boost our Committee team

New booking enquiries welcome.

Best wishes Jenny

07708634426 or email jennyjturner21@gmail.com

or **Village Hall:** 07928966744

whiddondownvillagehall79@gmail.com



DREWE ARMS

COMMUNITY PUB

News from The Drewe

Whether it's meeting friends for a drink, enjoying a meal out, celebrating a special birthday, getting married, hearing great music, stretching yourself with yoga, getting yourself informed about swifts, dancing with the Morris, buying and selling plants or bric-a-brac.... all this and more are happening at The Drewe. With pubs closing at a rate of almost two a day, there's no doubting that we are living in challenging times. The beauty of a community pub, though, is in the word "community". And luckily, we have a committed community of people passionate about using and actively engaging in the running of the pub.

Over the last few months, we've been much more organised about utilising this important resource. You will now see front of house volunteers at work alongside our wonderful paid staff. What you might not see are those sorting lots of admin and accounting, planning and negotiating. Then there's the washer-uppers, veg peelers, grounds-maintainers, bed-changers, food-servers, log-stackers, junk-removers and more, who make our lovely pub tick. This huge effort is really starting to make a difference to what is a challenging financial situation. If you can; come and join us!

So, what is on the horizon for The Drewe? Here is a brief outline of what is coming up ...

Drewe Food: our chef Cressy has moved on to pastures new and Bill and his team have done a great job in the kitchen whilst we work towards Cressy's replacement. We have some good news on that front, having been recommended and met up with a chef currently working in Dartmouth. He is very keen to come and join us to put together and deliver a good, honest menu of simple, tasty, popular food. More news soon ...

Drewe Events: here are a few things for your diary through the summer and into the autumn. There will be more, so look for posters, Facebook posts and emails (if you are on the mailing list).

- World Cup Football: we will obviously be showing all the England games - keep an eye out for posters and Facebook for more information.
- Thursday 13th August 6.30pm: Exeter Morris
- Friday 11th September: Into the Breach, a one man play (tickets available soon)

And finally, thank you all for your continued support; see you in The Drewe.

The Drewe Team. www.drewearms.org Tel: **01647 281377**

DREWE ARMS COMMUNITY PUB

OPENING TIMES

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	4pm – 10pm
Wednesday	11am – 10pm
Thursday	11am – 10pm
Friday	11am – 11pm
Saturday	11am – 11pm
Sunday	11am – 6pm

FOOD SERVED TUESDAY TO SATURDAY

12.00 - 2.30 AND 6.00 - 8.30

SUNDAY LUNCH 12.00 - 4.00

Bird Notes - Swift Season Update

Bird Notes – the Swift season approaches

The first arrival of Swifts back in Drewsteignton on 23rd April was the earliest I have recorded since 2001. There were even earlier arrivals at Upperton and Wallon which I have subsequently heard of, but these were all the first birds to return to their breeding sites. Swift numbers slowly grew over the following days and I heard the first screaming party of six birds chasing over the rooftops on the 27th April.

We have had changeable weather since early May, and when it has been sunny and calm, there have been amazing numbers over the village as the sub-adults (non-breeding birds) chase about and investigate breeding sites for next year. It has been great to see these birds periodically checking out the nest chambers installed behind the louvres in the bell chamber of the church tower. I counted 60 individuals in the evening over Churchgate on 23rd May, but as June's weather was windier, the numbers of prospecting birds has diminished. The good weather brings them back and I am hoping to record bigger numbers here before Malcolm and his team come to check breeding success and later, ring the Swift chicks in the nestboxes.

Nick Dixon



Summer is here and the FBI is basking in the sunshine!

We have an updated menu with lots of good pub food favourites returning and we look forward to seeing you all soon.



Cream Teas & Cakes Indulge in our beloved Cream Teas and freshly baked cakes, served daily from 11am right up until half an hour before closing. Whether you're after a comforting bowl of soup or a full three-course feast, our menu caters to every appetite—with a focus on top-quality ingredients, generous portions, and a welcoming atmosphere.

Current Opening Hours:

Monday - Thursday open 11am– 5pm (food available 11am – 3pm)

Friday open 11am - 9pm (food available 11am – 3pm & 6pm – 8pm)

Saturday open 11am – 9pm (food available 11am – 8pm)

Sunday open 11am– 5.30pm with food available 11am – 4.30pm

Many thanks for your continued support,

The FBI Team.

Tel: 01647 281287 or email info@finglebridgeinn.co.uk



Medication Delivery Service

Acorn offers a medication delivery service for those who have no other way of getting their medication delivered. Please call Mandy or Fran at the Office on 01647 252701



The Chagford Agricultural and Horticultural Show, a traditional country fair now entering its 124th year, will take place on **Thursday 20 August 2026**. Set on the beautiful banks of the River Teign at Mill End, Chagford (TQ13 8JN), the show is held courtesy of the National Trust, the Malseed family, Mr P. Morrish, Mr H. de Ferranti and Miss B. Hayter-Hames. There is ample free parking on site, and free buses will run throughout the day from Moretonhampstead and Chagford.

With competition classes for agricultural produce, horses, sheep, cattle, dogs and a vintage section, the Chagford Show celebrates the very best traditions of a true country show. It's not too big, not too small, and easy to get around. Visitors can enjoy more than 200 trade stands, a Rural Crafts area, a Food Hall showcasing the finest local producers, a beer tent, lots of refreshment outlets and plenty of live music throughout the day.

The Knight Frank–sponsored Main Ring will host a full programme of special attractions, including Flyin' Ryan & Dog Agility and the return of the ever-popular Sheep Show. There will also be Ridden Hunter classes, Retraining of Racehorse classes, terrier racing, a parade of vintage tractors and cars, and much more. In the Huish Horseboxes Rings, a wide range of horses and ponies will showcase their breeds, while the Stringer Equine Vets Family Ring will give younger riders a chance to experience show day, with a fun gymkhana and Handy Pony classes. For those with smaller four-legged friends, the Moorgate Vets–sponsored Dog Show is a fun way to take part. All entries can be made on the day. The Horticultural Marquee will feature a wonderful display of locally grown produce, flowers and crafts.

The Chagford Show truly offers something for everyone and promises a fantastic family day out. Full details of the 2026 show are available at www.chagfordshow.co.uk, where tickets can now be purchased online. Early bird tickets are £15 until 16 August, rising to £18 thereafter and on the day. We look forward to welcoming you all.

Cheriton Bishop & Teign Valley Practice

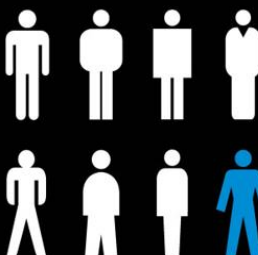
Upcoming Dispensary Improvements

The next phase of improvement works at the practice will begin at the start of August. This project will involve the reconfiguration of our Dispensary to create additional working space for staff, helping to improve efficiency, increase prescription throughput, and provide a safer working environment for our dispensing team. During the building works, dispensary facilities will be significantly limited. To minimise disruption and reduce pressure on the service while the work is taking place, patients who normally receive repeat medication through the Dispensary will be issued with up to three months' medication during July, where clinically appropriate. We would ask you to:

- Order your repeat medication in good time during July.
- Check your medication supply when collected.
- Contact the practice promptly if you have any questions

We appreciate that the building works may cause some temporary inconvenience, but these improvements will help us provide a more efficient and sustainable dispensary service for the future. We thank all our patients for their understanding, patience, and support while these important improvements are carried out.

1 in 8 men will get prostate cancer



Check your risk of prostate cancer in 30 seconds.



prostatecanceruk.org/risk



Speak to our Specialist Nurses
0800 074 8383
prostatecanceruk.org

Prostate Check

There is a blood test called the prostate specific antigen (PSA) which can gauge the activity and size of the prostate. However, there are some issues with the test so it is not used to screen all men from prostate cancer. We recommend those considering the test to read through the NHS guidance.

► Should I have a PSA Test? Visit..
www.nhs.uk/tests-and-treatments/psa-test/

Men who have changing urinary symptoms or who notice blood in the urine should discuss this with their GP.

Recycling & Waste Collection Dates

					
6 th July	Monday	✓	✓	✓	
13 th July	Monday	✓	✓		✓
20 th July	Monday	✓	✓	✓	
27 th July	Monday	✓	✓		✓
3 rd August	Monday	✓	✓	✓	
10 th August	Monday	✓	✓		✓
17 th August	Monday	✓	✓	✓	
24 th August	Monday	✓	✓		✓

Check Bin Day! <https://westdevon.fccenvironment.co.uk/mycollections>

Useful Contact Information

Doctors Surgeries

Cheriton Bishop	01647 24272	Out of Hours	111
Chagford Health Centre	01647 433320	Emergency	999

Drewsteignton Parish Clerk & RFO: Lou Butler 07764683412

clerk@drewsteignton-pc.gov.uk

Acorn Community Support: 01647 252701

Whiddon Down Village Hall: 07928966744

DPC Rural Crime & Community Alerts WhatsApp Community Group – scan the QR code to join



Parish Post Editor (Temp)

Cllr.Brennan.Drewsteignton@outlook.com

The Parish Post reserves the right to edit contributions and wishes to state that views expressed are not necessarily those of the Parish Council.

Parish Post Copy Deadline

Our next issue is the September edition, so please send your **September events** and articles by:
Sunday 26th August.

