Crockernwell, Drewsteignton, Sandy Park, Venton & Whiddon Down

DREWSTEIGNTON PARISH POST

Parish Post Issue No. 240 November 2026



Holy Trinity Church, Drewsteignton

News from the Parish Council

The Parish Council (PC) last met on 19th October at 7:30pm in the Long Room, Drewsteignton. Draft minutes are available on the parish website.
Planning Matters: No matters arising & no updates from DNPA or WDBC.
The Post Inn (WD) defibrillator has been adopted by the Parish Council and has been reactivated with the Defib Network https://www.defibfinder.uk
Snagging list and adjustment to the Zip-Wire will be completed in November. In the meantime, Sovereign Play Equipment Ltd have issued a "Safe to Use" statement. Appreciation noted, to numerous adults who have given their time to thoroughly test the Zip Wire!
Parishioner concerns regarding road safety between Venton Straight and Sandy Park, following a series of accidents, will be raised with Highways. Options to improve signage and use of vehicle activated signs (MVAS) to be considered. Highways informed of the poor condition of the road from Couples Corner to Fingle Bridge, following reports through the summer of vehicle damage – suspension, wheels and tyre punctures.
Invitation extended to Parishioners, to put forward suggestions for projects, expenditure and financial priorities for 2027/28. Initial agreement for the freeze on the Parish Precept to be extend for a sixth year.
Land at Thompsons Field, Whiddon Down has been offered for sale as Amenity Land with strategic development potential. Following the refusal of the previous planning application, the marketing details highlight limited opportunities for development.
Report from HTC noted the successful commissioning of the the air source heat pumps in the church and the immediate benefit. Congratulations to all involved, a tremendous effort.
Our Parish Council meeting, will be held on **Monday 16th November 2026 at 7.30pm** at The Whiddon Down Village Hall. 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**

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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

Road Closure Notices – DCC Highways



Temporary prohibition of through traffic to enable SWW to "supply new water source". Commencing **Monday 2nd November to Friday 6th November the road from Trennaway Cross to the Rectory, Drewsteignton.** The alternative route will be signposted!

Temporary prohibition of through traffic to clear blockages. Commencing **Thursday 12th November to Wednesday 18th November the road from Hask Lane to Holewell Lane, Crockernwell.**

Temporary prohibition of through traffic to clear blockages. Commencing **Monday 7th December to Friday 11th December the road from Toll House Cross to Stone Cross, Whiddon Down.**

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.

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

We are a busy charity run entirely by volunteers, always in need of more car owners to drive or to help with receiving calls from clients who request our help. Volunteer drivers may claim statutory mileage. Established over 30 years ago, Morecare provides transport services to and from medical facilities, collects prescriptions, and helps with other needs where possible, for those registered at Chagford Health Centre or who live in the surrounding area. Instead of set charges, donations are suggested for our services according to distance driven. If you are in need of health-care related transport, or would like to volunteer, please contact Morecare by phone or text on 07914 853 726, or email us via our website: www.morecarechagford.co.uk

National Trust

Hi everyone,

I hope that you are all keeping well. It's been another busy month with lots to share with you as we shift into our winter opening.

A big moment has been the launch of the **Dartmoor Challenge Badge**. This has been a collaboration between National Trust, Dartmoor National Park Authority and Dartmoor Preservation Association, with input from Devon Girl Guiding, and tested out by loads of local groups and organisations.

The challenge badge is built around six themes that showcase the many stories of Dartmoor: Natural Environment, Built Heritage, Myths and Legends, Working Dartmoor, Exploration, and Who Looks After Dartmoor. Participants complete at least one activity from each category, choosing from 36 different options designed to appeal to a wide range of ages, interests and abilities. The activities encourage hands-on learning and creative exploration. Budding archaeologists can build a miniature Bronze Age roundhouse, storytellers can bring ancient myths to life through comic strips, and nature lovers can create artwork using fallen leaves and natural materials. Each activity offers a different way to engage with Dartmoor's rich heritage and distinctive character.

If you would like to know more, just search for 'Dartmoor Challenge Badge' and you will find it on the Dartmoor Preservation Association website. I am incredibly proud of it. It was a joy to work with our partners in creating this together, and huge thanks to all the groups who tested it out for us before launch. I hope you will take a look.

We have also been working closely with Fostering Devon, inviting foster families across Devon to visit National Trust places, spend some time together and make memories. Over the next couple of months, the Fostering Devon team will be joining us at Castle Drogo to chat with potential foster families. If you would like to know more, please drop me a line.

We will soon be decorating the Castle to celebrate 100 years of Drogo Christmas. The castle will be open and dressed for Christmas every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 27 November, then daily from 21 December until 31 December (excluding the 24, 25, 26 December when the castle will be closed). For those of you who visited last Christmas, I hope you are as happy as I am that the Service Corridor disco will be returning. See you there for a boogie!

Cont'd.

At Lydford Gorge, we are going to trial being open at the waterfall entrance in November and December. The tearoom will be open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays up until 13 December, 10am until 2.30pm, for intrepid winter explorers to warm up with a cuppa after an adventure down to the waterfall. Don't forget that we may occasionally need to close Lydford Gorge for safety, due to forecast high winds or flooding, so please check the website before travelling.

Best wishes all,

Paula

Community, Participation &Volunteering Manager, Dartmoor

07826 945107, paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk

Bonfire Night – Saturday 7th November

5:00pm Gates Open

5:30pm Lighting the Bonfire

7:00pm Fireworks

Tickets are available from The Drewe Arms and Oinkers Farm Shop.

Are you entitled to extra money?

Do you know what benefits you're entitled to? Our online benefits calculator can help you quickly and easily find out what you could be claiming.

https://www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/money-legal/benefits-entitlements/benefits-calculator/

Email: infoandadvice@ageukdevon.org.uk
Telephone: 0333 241 2340

Age UK Devon offers a free and confidential information and advice service for older people, their families and carers.

HOLY TRINITY, DREWSTEIGNTON

As I type this, the air source heat pumps are being installed, the plumbers are laying pipes along the walls beneath the side pews and the electricians are bending really thick cables round ancient stone pillars and uneven corners. This is all part of sustaining our ancient and much-loved church.
Ever since we started this journey, many obstacles have been thrown in our path (some annoyingly placed there by either DNP or diocese). But what we have also found, which we did not anticipate, is a group of really dedicated and wonderful local artisans who are not only prepared to go the extra mile, but also have fallen in love with our church and our whole community. When we discovered that all of the slate-fixings on the roof were decayed, Tom Orchard and his extended family stepped in at short notice and re-roofed that whole side, all three roofs, for a fraction of the price of the other estimates. We know it really was a labour of love for them. Similarly, our fantastic solar panel engineers, and currently, our heating team of plumbers, chippies and sparkys, demonstrate on a daily basis not only a high standard of work, but an exceptional affection for our building and the people who use it. Rikki and Jerry have been caught pointing out some of the historic features to visitors and gently nudging them toward the donations box!

This affection for the church mirrors that of the whole community in Drewsteignton. With its shop, Tuesday market, fantastic children's play area and quiet candle-chapel, it really is the beating heart of the village.



One of the things we intend to do now that we are zero carbon, is to reduce the running costs by installing the remaining panels we were initially refused by the park, plus one or two batteries to support. Watch this space!

We are relocating the **war memorial bench** that was by the shop and placing it in the churchyard. We would like everyone to have a say as to where it is situated. We have notices + maps in the pub and church so that people can state a preference and vote! **Don't miss out – have your say.** Cont'd.

PARTY TIME! - Friday 13th November 2026 at 7:30

HTC is celebrating becoming the very FIRST grade 1 listed church in the whole of the south west of England to be zero carbon. (We will also be wallowing in our lovely warm church.) We plan wonderful Romany music, accordions, fiddles, penny whistles, banjos... Plus Tom dancing for us! Also, two stories by award-winning storyteller Wilf Merttens and our resident poet, Chris Southgate has promised a couple of poems.
There is no charge for entry - drinks and nibbles on offer. It will be a really entertaining and joyous evening and all those who have worked so hard to bring this amazing achievement about will be joining us.
PLEASE come and celebrate with us, in an evening of thankfulness and joy!
Ruth Merttens –Church Warden ruth@merttens.co.uk or 07781334669

Holy Trinity Church Services in November

1st November 5pm - Family Service all welcome, especially children and dogs with well-behaved carers! High tea provided.
8th November 10:50 Remembrance Sunday Service
15th November 6pm - short, reflective communion service
22nd November 11:15 Morning worship, a thoughtful and thought-provoking service



Protecting Yourself from Telephone Scams

Police and trading standards have issued an urgent warning regarding increasingly sophisticated telephone scams. Fraudsters are specifically targeting household landlines and mobile phones, pretending to be from your bank, the police, or a fraud investigation unit.

How the Scam Works: Scammers often use "number spoofing" to make your caller ID display a genuine bank telephone number. The caller will typically tell you that your account has been compromised, that a fraudulent payment has been spotted, or that they need your help with an undercover operation. They will then attempt to pressure you into:

- Transferring money to a "safe account."
- Withdrawing cash or purchasing high-value items (watches or gift cards).
- Handing over cards or cash to a courier who will arrive at your home.

Remember: The Police and Your Bank Will NEVER:

- Ask for your four-digit bank PIN or banking passwords.
- Ask you to withdraw cash or transfer money to a different account.
- Send a courier to your house to collect cash, bank cards, or valuables.
- Ask you to take part in an "undercover investigation."

What to Do If You Receive a Suspicious Call

1. Hang up. Do not engage in conversation or try to argue with the caller.
2. Clear the line. Scammers can hold your phone line open even after you hang up. Wait at least 5 to 10 minutes before making another call or use a mobile phone to ensure you are connected to a real dial tone.
3. Verify independently. Call your bank using the trusted number on the back of your debit card or call the police on 101 to check if the caller was genuine.

How to Report Scam Calls: If you have been targeted, reporting the incident helps authorities track down the fraudsters and protect others in our community.

- If you have lost money or shared details: Call your bank immediately using the number on your card or dial 159 (a secure hotline that connects you directly to most major bank fraud departments).
- Report the fraud: Contact Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or report it online at actionfraud.police.uk.
- Report the phone call: If you received the scam on a mobile phone, you could forward the details of the call or suspicious text message to 7726 (a free service that spells "SPAM").

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Acorn Community Christmas Carols 2026



with

The University of Exeter Chapel Choir

2 December at 7pm

The Great Barn

Higher Ashton, Exeter, EX6 7QP

Scan for tickets

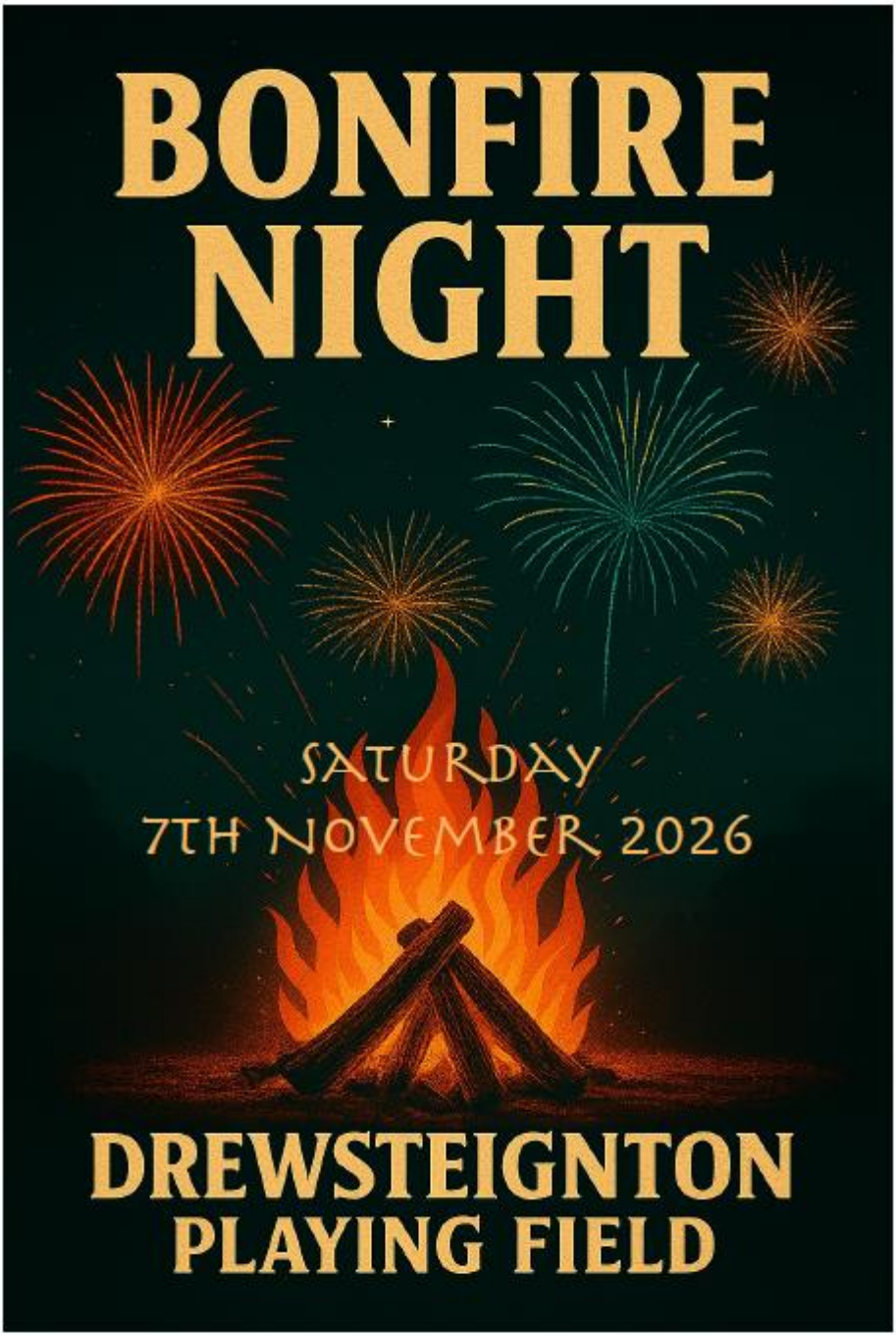
Tickets £15 from **www.acorncommunitysupport.co.uk**

Mulled wine and mince pies included

With huge thanks to our generous supporters

heltor Canonteign FALLS JACKSON-STOPS TOZERS

the great barn


BONFIRE
NIGHT
SATURDAY
7TH NOVEMBER 2026
DREWSTEIGNTON
PLAYING FIELD

BREAKFAST CLUB MENU

EVERY LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
8:00AM - 10:30AM

THE DREWE BIG BREAKFAST £14
2 SAUSAGE, 2 BACON, 2 EGGS, 1 HASHBROWN, GRILLED TOMATO, BLACK PUDDING, BAKED BEANS, PORTOBELLO MUSHROOM AND TOAST

VEGGIE BREAKFAST £12
2 VEGGIE SAUSAGE, 2 EGGS, GRILLED TOMATO, BAKED BEANS, 1 HASHBROWN, PORTOBELLO MUSHROOM AND TOAST

AVOCADO ON SOURDOGH £8.50
2 POACHED EGGS, AVOCADO AND GRILLED THYME AND GARLIC TOMATO

EGGS BENEDICT £8.50
ENGLISH MUFFIN, 2 POACHED EGGS, 2 SLICES OF HAM AND HOLLANDAISE SAUCE

FANCY SOMETHING DIFFERENT ?

AMERICAN STYLE PANCAKES £11
STACK OF 3 PANCAKES, 3 BACON RASHERS AND SYRUP

AMERICAN STYLE PANCAKES £10
STACK OF 3 PANCAKES
WITH FRUIT COMPOTE
AND GREEK YOGURT



CHOICE OF FRIED, SCRAMBLED OR POACHED EGGS ON THE BIG BREAKFAST AND VEGGIE BREAKFAST

PORRIDGE £4
FRUIT COMPOTE AND HONEY

HOMEMADE GRANOLA £7
WITH FRESH FRUIT AND GREEK YOGHURT

BREAKFAST BAPS

BACON BAP £4
3 BACON RASHERS, ON A WHITE BAP

FRIED EGG BAP £4
2 FRIED EGGS ON A WHITE BAP



THE DREWE BIG BAP £ 6.50
2 BACON RASHERS, 1 EGG AND 1 SAUSAGE, ON A WHITE BAP.



Please let a member of staff know if you have any allergies or intolerances when ordering.

THE DREWE ARMS
COMMUNITY PUB

@THE DREWE ARMS COMMUNITY PUB
@DREWEARMSCOMMUNITYPUB

DREWE ARMS
COMMUNITY PUB

The Power of Contribution

At our recent AGM we explained how the Drewe is now very much a community run pub. This is having a profound impact – not only in reducing costs, but in building a unique and loyal relationship with our customers and staff, and a sense of purpose and wellbeing in those who contribute. To create resilience and share the load, we are always looking to broaden this volunteer base. Your ideas and time are hugely valued – do please reach out to let us know how you can contribute info@drewearms.org

Recognising our volunteers. To recognise and celebrate the contribution made so far, we would like to invite all those who have volunteered their time, however and whenever spent - from getting the pub ready to open to the current day - to a celebratory supper in the **Longroom on Thursday 26th November from 6:30pm.** RSVP by 15th November via email to: pub-team@drewearms.org with 'volunteer supper' in the subject line to indicate your attendance and if you have any dietary requirements.

Upcoming Events

Winter Season Quiz Nights. These will be held on the second Tuesday each month 7:30pm and now including a tasty traditional 'basket meal' of chicken, fish or vegetarian goujons and fries. Register your team with Meg on pub-team email above. There will also be a special Christmas Fundraiser Quiz 2nd December.

Drewe Breakfast Club. Initially being held on the last Thursday of the month between 8-10:30 am. Book a table with Meg info@drewearms.org

Supper Club. Alex is planning to get this monthly event launched in November with a not to be missed Curry Night. Look out on the socials for further details.

Upcoming Gigs. The Curve and The Juliettes – an original music gig 14th November. REM pretend band Friday 20th November. Tuesday 8th December – St. Basils Beer and Carols in the Long Room.

Wine Tasting Evening. Saturday 12th December – become a wine tasting expert in 5 easy (and very enjoyable) steps! Again, please register your interest with Meg.

Cont'd.

The Drewsteignton 'Office' Party. Continuing the long-standing event of a full-blown Christmas lunch in the Long Room for friends and colleagues. Friday 18th December from 1pm. Please register with Meg on the pub-team email. info@drewearms.org

Our Winter and Christmas Menu
Alex is making some seasonal tweaks to keep our core menu exciting and seasonal. He and Fyn have also been trialling some truly awesome Cream Teas. You know you want to come try one! And their delicious Christmas menu is now published - do make your family or work Christmas bookings now.

WHIDDON DOWN VILLAGE HALL

Events are now posted on the new WDVH Facebook page, which includes booking information.
https://www.facebook.com/p/Whiddon-Down-village-hall-new-61559483912555/

Village Hall: 07928966744
whiddondownvillagehall79@gmail.com



Outdoor Candles of Remembrance

There will be a short (30 mins) special service (**Light, Love & Loss**) to remember loved ones on All Souls Day (**6pm, Monday 2nd November)**, 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 memoriam outdoor 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 01647 281657 or 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 the Drewe Arms and the Church from 27 October.

Changing lives, one wet nose at a time

What we do. We support veterans living with complex mental health challenges through highly trained assistance dogs and long-term, trauma-informed support. Our work is built around one core belief; that with the right support, recovery, confidence, and independence are all possible.

At the heart of our work are carefully matched assistance dog partnerships. Each dog is trained to support a veteran in managing the challenges of PTSD, trauma, anxiety, and daily life, offering grounding, reassurance, and a renewed sense of safety and stability.

These partnerships are not created quickly. They are built with care, expertise, and time.

Everything we do is grounded in professionalism, care, and ethical practice.

Our work is trauma-informed, focused on long-term outcomes, and designed to support both veteran wellbeing and dog welfare.

Volunteering at Veterans With Dogs is vital to our work. From supporting our dogs in training to helping us raise vital funds, our volunteers enable us to change lives, both for veterans and their assistance dogs. Whether you can give a few hours a week or help occasionally, your time and skills can make a meaningful difference.

Get involved : We'd love to welcome you to our volunteer community. Whether you are ready to apply or just want to find out more, please get in touch or complete our volunteer enquiry form: https://veteranswithdogs.org.uk/volunteering/

Boiler Upgrade Scheme

The Boiler Upgrade Scheme (BUS) is a Gov.UK scheme that helps cover the cost of installing low-carbon heating systems, including heat pumps and biomass boilers. Living in a rural Parish, you could get a BUS grant of between £2,500 and £7,500 depending on the technology chosen. **Ready to get started?**

To get a quote, visit MCS and find a heat pump installer in your area or contact your energy supplier.

https://mcscertified.com/find-an-installer/nd An Installer - MCS



Remembrance Sunday offers us a national moment to honour the service and sacrifice of everyone who has defended our freedoms and protected our way of life. Together, we remember the British and Commonwealth Armed Forces and their families, the vital contributions of our emergency services, and all those who have lost their lives to conflict or terrorism.

Observing Remembrance Day in 2026 remains an essential act of collective memory and profound respect. While it marks the anniversary of the Armistice that ended the First World War, its meaning extends far beyond history. On Wednesday 11th November, we pause to recognise the courage of all who served in conflicts past and present, remembering the true cost of peace.

The national two-minute silence at 11:00 am is a powerful gesture that brings to life the human stories behind the statistics. Whether you choose to wear a poppy, attend a local service, or reflect quietly, your participation ensures these sacrifices are never forgotten. In a world continually shaped by the legacy of war, Remembrance Day is a call to learn, remember, and recommit to peace.

Please join us on **Sunday 8th November 2026 at 10:50 am at Holy Trinity Church, Drewsteignton**, as we gather to reflect on those who gave their lives for our future.

If you cannot attend in person, we invite you to share in this prayer of thanksgiving to honour the dedication of our Armed Forces:

"We thank you for the bravery and dedication of the men and women who served selflessly for our freedom. May we honour their memory by living lives that reflect gratitude and service to others."

Supporting Our Local Farmers Through the Bluetongue Outbreak

Our rural landscape and the farmers who manage it are the backbone of our community. However, British agriculture is currently facing the **worst bluetongue season on record**. As of **October 2026**, confirmed cases have reached more than **3,300 farms across the UK**, with the South West—particularly **Devon and Cornwall**—identified as a major hotspot. Farmers are losing their livelihood, as stock is lost to this disease.

As parishioners and walkers, there are vital steps we must take to support our local farmers during this difficult time.

What is Bluetongue?

Bluetongue is a viral disease affecting ruminants such as **sheep, cattle, and goats**. It causes severe fevers, mouth ulcers, lameness, and swelling of the head. The virus is **transmitted by biting midges**, not spread from animal to animal.

⚠ **Crucial Note:** Bluetongue **does not affect humans** and presents **no risk to public health**. Meat and dairy products remain perfectly safe to eat. However, it is highly debilitating—and often fatal—for livestock.

How Parishioners and Walkers Can Help

The emotional and financial strain on our farming neighbours is immense. We can show our solidarity by practicing responsible countryside citizenship:

- **Strictly Stick to Marked Footpaths:** When walking through fields, please stay directly on the designated public rights of way. Do not wander across pastures, as minimizing unexpected disruption keeps livestock calm and reduces stress on animals that may be fighting off sub-clinical infections.
- **Keep Dogs Strictly on Leads:** A loose dog can cause livestock to stampede. For a pregnant ewe or an animal already weakened by the virus, the exhaustion of being chased can be fatal.
- **Leave Gates Exactly as You Find Them:** Farmers carefully partition their herds to monitor health, manage movements, and isolate vulnerable stock. Leaving a gate open can undo weeks of careful disease management.
- **Do Not Touch or Feed Livestock:** Keep your distance from sheep and cattle to prevent adding undue stress to the animals.

"Fallen leaves lying on the grass in the November sun bring more happiness than the daffodils."
— *Cyril Connolly*

So, we continue this rather extraordinary year with changes, firsts and news both good and bad. However, one thing is constant, here at Acorn we keep the routine going whatever is going on in the outside world. The Coffee mornings, afternoon teas, lunches and outings all continue to be enjoyed by our clients. Also, a shout out to our wonderful, kind and patient volunteers without whom Acorn could not exist, giving up hours and days to drive here, there and everywhere. We Thank You!

Activities from Cheriton Bishop, Tedburn, Drewsteignton & Crockernwell

- **Lunch Clubs**, at **The Kings Arms** - Tedburn St Mary **Tuesday 3rd November 2026** - contact Jean Martin on 01647 24586 to book (2 days in advance please). (***next one is 1st December 2026)***
- **Shopping** - Sainsburys Alphington – **Wednesday 11th and 25th November 2026.** The bus will collect you from home and return you safely back with your shopping.
- **Outing 10th November 2026 Tavistock Covered Market**

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 6th and 20th November 2026** No need to book, just turn up.
- **Memory Lane Café – 12th and 26th 2026**. If you know of someone who you feel may benefit from this targeted club, please call as below.
- **Rainbow Club** – Carers Support Group. **Friday 20th November 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.

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***

National Trust - Volunteering at Finch Foundry



Volunteers at Finch help to share the forge and its history with visitors, conserve it for everyone to enjoy, and help raise funds to maintain it for the future. Volunteers help to welcome visitors, run guided tours of the forge, and demonstrate the water-powered hammer mill to bring Dartmoor's industrial past to life. Volunteers also help to catalogue and conserve the items in the Finch collection; plus raise funds through the sale of second-hand books to ensure it'll be here for future generations to enjoy.

Why join us?

There are lots of reasons to join us; making the move to volunteer could be the best decision you ever make.

- Become part of a friendly and dedicated team
- Meet people from all walks of life and forge new friendships
- Utilise your existing skills and learn new ones
- Strengthen your CV and help to develop your career
- Learn about the history of this special place.

Please get in touch about opportunities to join the team.

Get in touch about volunteering at Finch Foundry

We're looking forward to hearing from you.

Please give us a call on 01837 840046 or email finchfoundry@nationaltrust.org.uk. Please note, we cannot accept volunteer applications from under-16s.

Devon County Council

DCC Cabinet has rubberstamped an extra £4.5 million to be spent repairing local roads, improving key diversion routes and tackling drainage problems across Devon.

Devon County Council's Cabinet today (Wednesday 14 October) approved the funding as part of its highway maintenance programme for 2026/27.

The funding boost follows an extra £3 million for reactive highway maintenance and an extra £4 million for rapid-response road repairs announced earlier in the year. The new funding package will fund the resurfacing of the Whiddon Down to Crockernwell road, a key route that provides an important diversion routes when the A30 is closed.

Funding will also pay for an expansion of the Rapid Response Teams and four additional dedicated drainage teams, providing extra reactive capacity to tackle local drainage problems alongside the council's existing drainage resources.

The Rapid Response Teams have been working since June on small and medium-sized stretches of damaged road which cause problems for local communities but do not meet the criteria for an immediate safety repair. The extra funding will allow more of this work to be carried out.

Reminder: You can report a pothole in our area directly to Devon County Council (DCC) using their online reporting tool https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/ or by calling their customer service line at 0345 155 1004 if it poses an immediate safety hazard. https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/

What Counts as a Reportable Pothole?



Pothole

Large 40 mm vertical-edge hole that is also greater than 300 mm wide

Do not assume someone else has already reported!

Stone Lane Gardens – Autumn

Autumn has well and truly arrived in the garden. Some trees are turning beautifully golden. Others are standing bare, within a carpet of fallen leaves. While a few provenances are still cloaked in green. That is the nature of a National Collection. Provenances from across the northern hemisphere will go dormant and shed leaves at very different times. The instructions within their DNA hard-wired for their native habitat and weather patterns. We have a couple of birch from Iceland that lose their leaves in early September. While a small copse of Spanish birch is the very last to shed theirs. But this all adds to the multi-faceted sensual feast that is Autumn. A wonderful time to visit the garden, and also to take in the broader picture. A walk up to our viewpoint in the new arboretum reveals how the local Dartmoor landscape is changing too, as it prepares for Winter.

We grow and sell many of the unusual and attractive birch in our National Collections. All our trees are field grown. We lift and sell them in the winter when they are dormant. So, at the beginning of November, we will start lifting them for our customers. A 3- or 4-year-old tree will soon become a beautiful feature in your garden. Most have attractive peeling bark and the colours range from the pure white Himalayan birch through creamy pinks of *Betula* 'Fascination', the coppers and reds of the *Betula albosinensis* cultivars to the dark chocolate brown bark of our *Betula utilis* 'Mt Luoji'.

Our website shop has full details of our stock and trees can be collected from the nursery by prior arrangement.

The garden remains open 5 days a week through the autumn and winter. Closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

See you soon,

Paul Bartlett

Stone Lane
garden sculpture nursery

RHS PARTNER GARDEN

Stone Lane Gardens, Chagford, TQ13 8JU — stonelanegardens.com
OS map ref: SX 708 907 (OL28 Dartmoor).
What3Words: keys.trombone.crab

The Sandy Park Inn

The Sandy Park Inn invites you to call in for a quiet pint or a catch-up with friends. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Opening times:

Monday closed

Tuesday – Thursday 4pm to 9pm

Friday - 4pm to 10pm

Saturday - 3pm to 9pm

Sunday - 4pm to 8pm



We advertise short hours as we don't like pubs shutting before their advertised hours, if we have customers in at close, we will keep serving.

Contact: 07919283002

Chagford Singers

A Community Choir in the Heart of Dartmoor

A Ceremony of Carols - festive music for choir and harp.

The Chagford Singers are delighted to announce that they will be joined by the renowned local harpist Elizabeth-Jane Baldry for their Christmas concert on Saturday 12th December in St Michael's Church, Chagford at 7.30pm. Together they will be performing the wonderful *A Ceremony of Carols* by Benjamin Britten, a work which consists of nine short carols, each individual in their mood and style, ranging from gorgeously lyrical to wildly dramatic, with a beautiful harp solo at their centre. (This ever-popular work will be a particular favourite with choirs this Christmas as December 2026 marks the 50th anniversary of Britten's death). They will also present a selection of well-loved songs for Advent and Christmas by British composers including Chilcott, Rutter and Warlock.

However, a real highlight of the concert will be the premiere of a new piece specially composed for the choir by Elizabeth-Jane. Written for upper voices and harp, it is a setting of gorgeous 15th century words from a manuscript in the Bodleian Library, entitled *Of a Rose Synge We*. The Singers are extremely excited about this and look forward to offering their audience a delicious musical feast with something for everyone to enjoy!

Tickets for the concert (£15 includes programme and interval drink) can be obtained from Sally's Newsagents, Chagford, on the door, or online: Ticketsource.co.uk/chagfordsingers



Chagford Singers

A Ceremony of Carols

by Benjamin Britten

with a selection of carols by British composers

Including the World Premiere of

Of a Rose Synge We

by Elizabeth-Jane Baldry

Directed by Tina Guthrie

Elizabeth -Jane Baldry - harp Nigel Guthrie - organ

Saturday 12th December, 7.30

St Michael's Church, Chagford

Tickets £15
Includes programme & interval drink
Available from Sally's Newsagents
Chagford, on thedoor, or online at
ticketsource.co.uk/chagfordsingers


DREWSTEIGNTON
CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
Saturday Nov 28th: 11am - 5pm
Sunday Nov 29th: 11am - 4pm
Please come and support our talented local crafters offering their unique works.
DISCOVER UNIQUE HANDMADE GIFTS:
• Hand-thrown pottery
• Outstanding prints
• Seaglass pictures
• Hand-carved wooden creations
• Unique walking sticks
• Wonderful textiles
• Dried flower garlands
• Babies' booties
• Local summer honey
• And much more!
HAZEL'S POP-UP CAFÉ
Join us for delicious refreshments across both days, including:**
• Coffee & Teas
• Soup Lunches
• Afternoon Treats
IMPORTANT INFORMATION:
• BRIC-A-BRAC STALL: Please bring Quality items to the church on Friday 27th Nov. For collections, contact Jane: 01647 281605 or j.hocking05@btinternet.com
• CASH APPRECIATED: Not all makers have card machines.
15% of Crafters' Sales Donated to Holy Trinity Church

Post Inn – Re-Opening Soon

The Post Inn is getting ready to reopen!

We are absolutely delighted to share the news, that **The Post Inn is planning to reopen its doors, hopefully in mid-November**. This is fantastic news for Whiddon Down and the community, and we cannot wait to offer a warm welcome to locals and visitors alike.

Having our village pub back up and running is a huge boost for the community. It is a vital village asset, and seeing everyone back inside will be the perfect way to keep it alive and thriving for the future.

Final details and official opening dates are being locked in, so please **keep a close eye on Facebook for the latest updates.**

FCN THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

How FCN can help with farm issues: Animal health

For farmers, their livestock is not only a basis for business, it is their life. It is also a matter of pride in the quality of the animals and the manner in which they are kept and reared. Health problems among stock are not only a threat to the business but can also be difficult to address from a personal point of view.

Sometimes circumstances crop up which prevent the paperwork from being completed and it's tempting to think it can be put off till later when there is more time. Eventually, the task grows to the point where it gets out of hand and even knowing where to start is a problem in itself. Having someone by your side, can make all the difference to tackling the immediate problem and ensuring that it doesn't recur.

Are any of these things worrying you or someone you know in farming? Maybe there are other problems not mentioned here which you need to talk to someone about. **Please call our Helpline 03000 111 999** or email help@fcn.org.uk – we may be able to help.

FCN relies solely on donations and grants in order to support the farming community and a significant amount of our income is spent on supporting our volunteers in their work. Scan this QR code to be taken to the donation page.

SCAN ME


CHRISTMAS MENU
STARTER
BUTTERNUT SQUASH AND SAGE SOUP WITH SQUASH FONDANT AND CRISPY SAGE LEAVES.
SMOKED SALMON WITH CAPERS, PICKLED CUCUMBER, LEMON CREME FRAICHE AND ONION SEED CRACKER.
CHICKEN AND CRANBERRY TERRINE WITH CRANBERRY CHUTNEY AND BRIOCHE ROLL.
MAIN COURSE
ROAST TURKEY, PORK CHESTNUT AND HERB STUFFING, PIGS IN BLANKETS. ROAST POTATOES, HONEY ROAST PARSNIPS, CARROTS AND BRUSSEL SPROUTS.
BRAISED BEEF CHEEK WITH RED WINE AND THYME JUS, HORSERADISH MASH, ROAST ROOT VEGETABLES AND CRISPY ONIONS.
WILD MUSHROOM, CHESTNUT AND CRANBERRY WELLINGTON WITH ROAST POTATOES, HONEY ROASTE PARSNIPS, CARROTS, BRUSSEL SPROUTS AND MUSHROOM GRAVY
DESSERT
TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS PUDDING, BRANDY SAUCE, SUGARED CRANBERRIES AND ICECREAM
DARK CHOCOLATE AND ORANGE TART, CHOCOLATE GANACHE, CANDIED ORNAGE PEEL, CHOCOLATE CRUMB AND ICECREAM.
SPICED APPLE AND CRANBERRY CRUMBLE WITH TOFFEE SAUCE AND ICECREAM.
DREWE ARMS
COMMUNITY PUB
TWO COURSES: £30
THREE COURSES: £38



November in the Woods at the FBI

As the autumn season deepens and November brings a crisp, frosty chill to the woods, the FBI is looking especially inviting. The days are shorter, a canopy of copper and gold carpets the forest floor, and it's the perfect time to wander down to escape the cold and enjoy something comforting and delicious.

Our menu is packed with all your favourite hearty pub classics, along with robust seasonal additions designed to warm you right up after a bracing stroll among the trees. And of course, our much-loved Cream Teas and freshly baked cakes are served every day from 11am until half an hour before closing—the ultimate late-autumn afternoon treat.

Whether you fancy a steaming bowl of homemade soup, a cosy lunch by the fire, or a full three-course feast, we've got something to satisfy every appetite. Top-quality ingredients, generous portions, and a roaring, welcoming atmosphere remain at the heart of everything we do.

We look forward to welcoming you soon as the woods prepare for winter and the cosy season truly sets in.

Current Opening Hours:

Monday - Thursday 11am– 4pm (food available 11am – 3pm)

Friday 11am – 4pm & 6pm - 9pm (food available 11am - 3pm & 6pm – 8pm)

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

Sunday 11am– 5.30pm (food available 11am – 4.30pm)

Cream Teas and Cakes will be served daily – from 11am until half an hour before closing

Many thanks for your continued support,
The FBI Team. Tel: 01647 281287 or email info@finglebridgeinn.co.uk

Household Emergency Planning

It will probably not have passed many parishioners by, that the world feels a bit ‘unstable’ at the moment, and, that the elements are affecting us in ways that are changing and challenging. Luckily, there is a bona fide place to look for practical guidance to prepare for an emergency. If you are concerned, or if you are just curious about what you can do to help yourself and your family should any emergency arise, then take a look at the following website which has been set up by **'Devon Communities Together**' with all of us in mind. Go to the "Household Emergency Planning" page where you will find useful information and lists of things to consider. These include a simple Home Emergency Plan, what to put in a Grab Bag, and advice on Emergency Supplies and Flood Preparedness. Visit and bookmark:
https://www.devoncommunities.org.uk/household-emergency-planning

Cheriton Bishop & Teign Valley Practice



Cheriton Bishop Opening Hours

Monday: 8.00am to 6.30pm

Tuesday: 8.00am to 8.30pm

Wednesday: 8.00am to 6.30pm

Thursday: 8.00am to 6.30pm

Friday: 8.00am to 6.30pm

Urgent clinical queries and non-urgent online requests available 8-6:30 Monday-Friday.

Dispensary: Monday to Friday: 8.00am to 6.00pm (closed between 1pm-3pm for prescription collection)

Recycling & Waste Collection Dates

					
2nd Nov.	**Monday**	✓	✓		✓
9th Nov.	**Monday**	✓	✓	✓	
16th Nov.	**Monday**	✓	✓		✓
23rd Nov	**Monday**	✓	✓	✓	
30th Nov.	**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
West Devon Borough Councillor: Cllr Steve Guthrie,
cllr.steve.guthrie@westdevon.gov.uk
Devon County Councillor: Cllr Sue Davies sue.davies@devon.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 bumper December & January, full colour, edition. Please send your events and articles by **Sunday 22nd November.**

