

OBITUARY—JIM EVELEIGH

There cannot be many people living in Gittisham Village who did not know Jim...He followed in his father's footsteps as the village baker, in the bakery beside the bridge.

At his funeral so many people were talking about their memories of Jim we thought it would be a fitting tribute to him if we put them in the Gazette.

Many memories of Jim but the one that stands out for the kids, is when we were having a family get together. Jim was being very helpful in handing out a bowl of peanuts when he walked through the room with a big bowl of nuts, he made out he had tripped over something and threw the whole bowl of nuts over the floor, they went everywhere. We were picking up nuts for weeks after. Still a great laughing point when we all think of him.

Rita, Larry and family

(sister-in-law and brother-in-law Lyme Regis.)

What you saw was what you got. A kindly man in so many ways. He was always ready to help you and he did help us out many times. Jim was always cheerful, even when the going got really tough. His family meant a lot to him and he believed there was nobody better than the Eveleighs, and that stood him in good stead. We will miss you, Jim, you were a good and faithful friend.

Doreen and Ernie Wensley

On a charity walk for "Otterhayes", from Ottery St Mary to Budleigh Salterton, some years ago Jim 'took me under his wing' as I was walking alone. I had a wonderful day listening to his stories about the village. He helped me over the stiles and generally kept me going for the 10 miles! As a neighbour, he was always there to help when called upon. Barbara Mullett



Jim with the Boules Cup which he won the first year of the village knock-out competition.

When I was at Primary school, I remember going to Exmouth one day on an outing. We children were in the water when a huge wave swept me off my feet. I was being carried along by the current so I started to crawl towards the beach, except I was moving in the wrong direction! Jim managed to turn me around and pointed me in the right direction... I believe that he saved my life that day!
Len Abbott, friend.

BEES by Roy Abbott

In my last mutterings I said that it was the worst summer for honey bees on record, well it is now official. I was chatting to Roger Lacey, the President of the Devon Bee Keepers association and he told me that this is the worst summer ever, plus it is worsened by having the varroa mite to contend with which all puts extra stress on the bees. Well it got to the end of July early August and we had to make a decision on removing honey from the bees or leaving it for the bees to have over the winter. We removed some from our strongest colonies and we still left them with some uncapped honey, honey needs to be capped before removal as the bees only cap it when the moisture level is correct, if removed before capping it will probable ferment. Then we had the sticky job of extracting the honey, first removing the cappings then spinning, leaving for a couple of days to ripen then bottling, sticky but good fun. We have now needed to start the varroa control, as their numbers need to be minimised before the winter. From now on the number of eggs laid by the queen reduces but the varroa continues to expand unless treated; this would lead to a huge ratio of varroa to bees, plus they introduce viruses as well which would further weaken the bees. We use an organic treatment which is safe and very effective against varroa and we don't like to put chemicals on our girls. Later in the month we will need to assess if the girls need extra feeding to boost their stores for the winter, the way the weather is at the moment we most certainly will need to do that; they need approximately 40lbs of honey per colony to get through the winter. The end of this month we will also see the drones (male bees) being evicted from the hives as their services are no longer needed and they are just extra mouths to feed, so they are doomed. We now have some honey for sale - if anyone would like to purchase some come along or give us a call 850550 , our honey contains a lot of pollen as we do not over filter it so it is very good for hay fever sufferers and we think it tastes great as well (but we are biased!).

GITTISHAM GAZETTE

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WIGGLE JURASSIC CLASSIC CYCLE RIDE COMES TO GITTISHAM

This was held in aid of the charity Prostate Cancer UK and had to be postponed due to the terrible weather experienced in July. However, over 700 riders took on Wiggle Jurassic Classic, and cycled through the spectacular surroundings of East Devon on Saturday, 18th August. The ride offered two distances of 100k or 100 miles, both of which started and finished in Exmouth. Family and friends joined the riders and enjoyed the atmosphere of the ride. It took the winner of the Epic Race, rider 681, just 5 hours and 20 minutes to complete the 100 miles, a clear 40 minutes less time than his nearest rival! And rider 246, 3hours 23 minutes to cover 100 kilometres. Carol McCann agreed to take on the task of setting up a 'feeding station' in the village, and was successful in recruiting a team of volunteers to serve coffee, tea and cakes in the hall, as well as mixing the energy drinks and filling the riders' water bottles. The charity also provided helpers who manned a sandwich stall (provided by Marks and Spencer) and bananas supplied by Fyffe's. Nick Chapman and Thomas Vincent entertained the riders and supporters with musical entertainment. We have learned that Wiggle organise cycle rides on a regular basis and they have expressed an interest in using Gittisham again as a feeding station...they said that it was the best one on the day! Carol has received several thankyou cards and has been sent a medal in recognition of her efforts...well done, Carol! She, in turn, wishes to thank everyone who helped out on the day; the Gittisham volunteers raised about £100 for the charity by their efforts. For other cycling events email cycling@prostatecanceruk.org

DATES FOR THE DIARY

September 9th—Dragon Boat Racing at Exeter Quay 10am-5pm incorporating a Bandstand Marathon (!).

September 10th—Whist Drive 7.00 for 7.30 in the Village Hall.

September 15th—Coffee Morning 10.30 to 12.00 outside St Michael's Cottage or in the church if wet! Also a Bring & Buy stall. Everyone welcome.

September 15th—"Holiday Postcards". A concert in the Village Hall 7.30pm. Lots of local talent so come and enjoy an evening of music and songs. Entry £4 adults, £2 children. Nibbles provided but bring your own drinks. All proceeds in aid of the Village Hall.

September 29th—Quiz Night with supper. In the Village Hall, 7.00 for a prompt start at 7.30pm. Bring your own drinks. See posters for more information.

200 Club

The winners this month were:

1st Prize Mr S Phillips

2nd Prize Mrs P Chown

3rd Prize Mr K Hopkins

4th Prize Mrs C Batty

5th Prize Mr R Bannister

6 monthly draw—Mrs G Evans

DATES FOR THE DIARY

(October 7th - Harvest Festival Church service 11.00. We welcome donations of garden produce and flowers to decorate the church. They will be sent to St Petrochs. Any dried produce will be given to the Honiton Food Bank. Collection (not the white envelopes) in aid of Farm Crisis Network

October 6th—Harvest Supper in the Village Hall 6.30 for 7.00pm. Tickets, £1.50 for a 2 course meal, to be purchased in advance from Doreen Wensley (01404 45774). Bring own wine and glasses. Sue Fallows would welcome fruit and vegetables to cook for the village supper.

October 13th—Soup and Pud! At 21 Cypress Close, The Vale 12.00—2.00pm, £4.50. In aid of wedding kneelers for Gittisham Church. Ring Margaret Hawkins (47114) for information.

October 15th—Village Hall AGM. Everyone is welcome.

October 16th—Team Skittles at Feniton Bowling Club. Ring Carol (851113) for details.

December 8th—Family Musical Evening in St Michael's church, Gittisham at 6pm. Ring Helen Hayman (850204) if you would like to take part.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

JIM EVELEIGH died on 18th August following an illness, bravely borne. His funeral service was held at St Michael's church, Gittisham on 29th August with a burial in the churchyard. He will be greatly missed by so many. Our condolences to Kathy and all the family.

ELLIE CHAPMAN is attending King's School in Ottery at the start of term. We wish her good luck and much happiness at her new school.

JAYNE BRAMLEY has joined the Gittisham Parochial Church Council. Good luck, Jayne.

ANGELA, LEONARD, NICOLA AND REBECCA BARTLETT had a lovely sunny day for their Cream Tea fund raising event last month, which brought out a fantastic number of supporters. The result, following much hard work, was a cheque for £1200 to CLIC Sergeant and a cheque for £800 for the Bells' fund at St Michael's church, Gittisham. What a great result, well done!

YEAR'S MIND

Audrey Babbage

Winnie Britton

Joan Rowe

Cath Ward

HOLY DUSTERS (Sept)

Phyllis & Julie Broadhurst

Ann & Peter Stansell

BIRTHDAYS in September

- 18th May Rose Puckey
19th Keith Hulbert
20th Alan Madden
23rd Andrew Cardy
Carla Chaffey
Lettuce Vyner-Brooks
24th Sarah Agg-Manning
26th Simon Boswell
28th Auguste Oldham
29th Mark Cardy
30th Stewart Davey

in October

- 1st Ada Summers
3rd Helen Hayman
Maggie Walker
7th David Broom
8th Karen Miller
9th Miriam Wedlake
13th Jayne Bramley
John King
14th Charlotte Lapping

ROSIE CHAPMAN Writes on her blog..."So we have been super busy here in Lamjung. My team prepared and hosted a Global Citizenship Day based on gender equality. We put a lot of work into it, preparing information, planning group work, energisers (which included games like "wife beater", and a game where a community tries to support a victim of gender based violence). We are preparing a community action day on child health in 3 different schools, I think it should be good, hopefully we can pull it off. I work all day in the school teaching on health and hygiene as well as teaching English in my leisure periods. So pretty full on at the moment. I am loving it though."

Nick Chapman adds -

We are quite relieved that Rosie has got over her initial doubts and worries (including a snake in her bedroom!), and now after a month seems to be getting stuck in and enjoying the experience.

Grain to Cream by Russell Hayman

Well what can a farmer say! As the weather is dominating everything at the moment, and in a not very nice way, I think we can deal with too dry a lot better than too wet. Harvest is now underway... well it's supposed to be! The winter barley came off in the brief spell of good weather we had at the beginning of August which yielded better than expected, but that is just a small crop for us. Winter wheat is the main one and we have now got about a third of it cut, last year we were finished by now, and the yields look like we will be down 50% on last year and the quality is rubbish. It's also wet, so we're having to dry it. We really are just pushing it through the combine and I've had it bung up in places it's never done before and I have had the combine for 16 seasons. We had Jake Fuller out for a ride, which he seemed to enjoy. It was on one of the better days so there was less swearing at inanimate objects and wet straw then! The cows are been housed yet again as its too wet out in the fields but the younger ones, which are harder to house, will have to stick it out; which they are quite capable of doing they just don't like it much as you might imagine. I have not been on any of the milk demonstrations...I am not sure that is the way forward. There is a lot wrong with the way our milk is sold, the big retailer contracts have gone some way to correcting the problem, but until we really get together and get our buyers worried over their supply we will not see any meaningful change, just a bit of window dressing, so there will be more problems in the future. And what about the future, Honiton mud bath/ Show (sorry slip of the tongue) will have happened and hopefully will be a success, even if a muddy one . Then it's get the crops off some more silage and finish with the maize. Might be Christmas by then the rate we are going, and in most of those fields we have to sow some crops for the next year. We have planted some fresh grass leys, which are looking well, one more to go, but the Oil seed Rape needs to be in immediately (bit more food for your bees Roy next year even if it is a little difficult to extract). Then it's onto the Barley and Wheat planting so it's all to do. By then winter will be upon us...oh what a miserable old farmer I am ! This month can only get better. And on that note we have a new enterprise...well Alice has! She has started to keep snails much to Edmund's amusement... just hope they don't escape in the caravan!!

Editor's note: We are sure all the gardeners would be only too happy to supply Alice with more snails! Is she training them to walk the tight rope for a circus act?

CHURCH BELLS

We are pleased to tell you that, thanks to a wonderful response to our appeal last month, we have received donations which will more than cover the cost of new ropes. We have, therefore, decided to have the five bells professionally serviced...they have not been inspected for 20 years! Our grateful thanks to the Bartlett Family, Charlie and Alice Vyner-Brooks, Emma Young, Paul and Karen Loveland, Mr and Mrs Miller, Mr and Mrs Rew, Rob Jennison for their generosity; we will keep you informed of progress.

Peter Stansell, Tower Captain

KINDNESS can be a postcard, a phone call, a bunch of flowers, a word of thanks, a cup of tea, a lift in the car, a trip to the chemist, a listening ear.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Please contact one of the editorial team if you have something would like included in our newsletter.

Carol McCann	851113
Barbara Mullett	851255
Jan Sutcliffe	851255
Doreen Wensley	45774
Ernie Wensley	45774