

THANK YOU to **ALL** who kindly made or bought cakes from our stall. The cakes raised approximately £250 so thank you, everyone. From Christine, Sarah and Ann.

CATHY EVELEIGH, having moved out of Pomeroy Lodge, is staying with her daughter, Tracy, at Monkton until she can move into her new home in Honiton. We hope she will be very happy in her new home...we look forward to seeing her at events back in the village.

**FREE SUMMER BIKE RIDE
IN GITTISHAM**

Saturday 31st August 2013

- Meet 1.30pm at the Village Hall Rides approximately 2½ hours long
- Please bring a roadworthy bike and helmet
- All children to be accompanied by an adult
- 12 places on each ride

Email: bookings@execel.co.uk
or ring 01395 255083

Churchwarden's report—Carol McCann

I would like to thank everyone who helped at, donated to or merely attended the Fete, especially Jayne Bramley who made all the scones and was the mastermind behind the stall bookings and bar purchases. A big thanks to the river "dammers" James, Peter, Russell and assorted children for making the duck race a success, the first duck home was 'owned' by Brian James the son-in-law of Doreen & Ernie Wensley

This month our services will be 4th Family service, 11th Parish Eucharist with baptism. 18th Sung Matins and 25th lay-led Morning Worship – non Eucharist. As we are now in what is known as 'proper time' it would be good if you would like to choose up to five hymns to be included at Sunday services, please take them all from either the Hymns Old and New (green book) or the Ancient and Modern hymnal (red book) for matins services, do please let me know fairly soon if you would like to choose hymns until October/early November. If you would like to lead the intercessions at a Sunday service I would appreciate your input, especially for the lay-led services on the third and fourth Sundays.

On Saturday 14th September the annual Historic Churches Trust 'Ride and Stride' will take place, it is designed for groups/individuals to try and get sponsorship to visit as many churches within and out of their own area during the day, all monies collected goes to the Trust and each church receives half their collected money back. Gittisham has in the past benefitted from the Trust by receiving grants for major repairs. If you would like to get up a "team" I have sponsorship forms. I shall be arranging for refreshments to be left in the porch for visitors. If you would like to know more, please let me know. It is all in a good cause and can help us to gain some much needed funds.

The Honiton food bank are still desperate for more items. I took another full blue box on the 30th July and would like to thank all those who have supported this worthy cause, if you could offer any items but cannot get them to the church please let me know 851113 and I will collect from you.

THE UDDER SIDE OF THE HEDGE—Carla Hulbert

Well, we farmers have finally had some long awaited sunshine. Hooray. This year we have grown some Triticale which is a crop created from wheat and rye in the 19th Century. We have whole cropped it, which means that instead of having separate straw and grain it all gets chopped up together so it can be easily fed to the cows. We've done this to try and replace the poor maize crop from last year offering more starch to the diet. The maize though this year is looking fantastic, very different from last, so fingers crossed for a nice balance of sunshine and rain for a little longer. The highlight of our farming calendar was the Honiton show, and this year I decided to enter some chickens, some in my name, some in Kadences. I ticked down the entry form thinking 'we've got one of them... and one of them...' In the end we entered 13 classes with a total of 17 birds. I asked the organiser beforehand how seriously people took it and her reply was "it's just a bit of friendly fun. If you wash them all a couple of days before hand and use a soft toothbrush on their legs and claws, then all you have to do on the morning is oil them up!" Well, we didn't do them all and, as per usual, we were a bit behind schedule, but 10pm on weds we were showering cockerels in the bath tub and sitting them on the kitchen table for a blow-dry. Funnily enough they seemed to like it. And it was worth the effort; between us Kadence and I got 11 rosettes, 3 first, 6 second and 3 third, with our trio of gold spangled appenzellers getting a special 'Champion' rosette as well.

However, we did have to leave the show early after I received a phone call to say that there were only 10 cows in the field that should have had 140 in. They had gone up Landscore lane, up the road and into our fields at Crowpits, with the exception of one who had found her way right back to Catshayes to the field where she'd had her calf. I had the job of stopping traffic – with my face painted as a purple tiger – they must think there are some funny folk around here!

Editor's note: CONGRATULATIONS! Not bad for a first attempt!

**Exhibition at The Art Room
in Topsham.**

Paintings by Robert Jennison RWA and pollen sculpture by Jo Golesworthy feature together in a former warehouse on the quay. Robert's landscapes include Dartmoor and Brittany and are based on a series of drawings and photographs exploring the subject. Jo uses Scanning Electron Microscope images to reproduce large pollen forms in limestone compound—botanic illustration with a modern twist. 10th August to 1st September weekends and Wednesdays 11am – 5pm. www.theartroomtopsham.co.uk

**DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES
IS THE FIRST WEDNESDAY
OF EACH MONTH.**

Contact one of the editorial team if you have a happy event to report, or have an interesting tip or village memory to share.

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Doreen Wensley	45774
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GITTISHAM GAZETTE

A monthly Community Newsletter

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FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW

Still going after 35 years, the first show was held in 1979, this annual event remains hugely popular. The number of exhibits this year was again affected by the bad weather with the flowers being particularly hit. Nevertheless, new entries appear each year and the competition is still healthy, with 'would be' winners picking up tips from the regular champions. The hall was packed for the results which were announced by Pam Chown, ably assisted by Sandra.

Vegetable Cup: Reg Chown 50 pts, Len Abbott 33 pts, Doris Down 23 pts. **Best exhibit:** Len Abbott for his tomatoes. **Flower Cup:** Sue Fallows 13 pts Doris Down 12 pts Angie Hutchings 8 pts. **Best exhibit:** Sue Fallows. **Homecraft Cup:** Sarah Abbott 11 pts Jayne Bramley 11 pts Sue Fallows 9 pts. **Best Exhibit:** Jayne Bramley for her savoury plait. **Mens cake:** Len Abbott 3 pts Stuart Bramley 2 pts David Fallows 1 pts. **Children 3-6:** Alexander Arbuthnott 5 pts Rosie Arbuthnott 4 pts Lettice Vyner-Brooks 4 pts. **Children 7-2:** Emily Bramley 5 pts Georgie Bramley 5 pts Florence Arbuthnott 4 pts. **Special Vegetable Class:** 1st Len Abbott, 2nd Reg Chown, 3rd Roger Hutchings.

Mrs Summer's daughter, Janet, and her husband provided refreshments, which were delicious and much appreciated. And a special thanks to Pam Chown for organising the show and keeping this tradition going after all these years. Long may it continue.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

August 5th—FREE PILATES CLASS. Village Hall 6.45—7.45pm. Call Gillian on 07968917808 to see if you can book a space. Aimed at improving your core strength, mobility and overall posture. The classes are a series of exercises for any ability and fitness level.

August 17th—COFFEE GET TOGETHER 10.30am—12noon will be hosted by Nick and Sarah Agg-manning at **Eveleigh's Farmhouse.** If weather is bad we will retreat to the church. **Friday lunchtime** concerts in St. Paul's with a lunch from 12pm.

August 18th—Team Sports Day at Awliscombe.

August 25th — Quiz Night at the Honiton Inn in aid of Awliscombe church roof repair, details from Mary Boulton on 44431.

September 1st— Boules competition at Buckerell ... details Patricia Craig-Macquade 850593.

200 Club

The winners this month were:

1st Prize	Mr F Blackmore
2nd Prize	Mr T Rew
3rd Prize	Mr T Ballantyne
4th Prize	Mrs E Warne
5th Prize	Mr N Agg-Manning

AUCTION OF PROMISES

September 14th

7.00pm in the Village Hall. Please put your thinking caps on and come up with some really original ideas for this ever popular event. All Promises should be sent to Helen Hayman well in advance so that she can produce a programme for the night. Ring Helen 07806480246

Jurassic Classic Cycle Ride for Prostate Cancer Sunday 11th August.

Gittisham has again been chosen as a major feeding/watering station. Cyclists will be leaving from and returning to Exmouth and will ride 100kms or 100 miles. The first riders will arrive about 09.30 and I would be grateful if anyone could offer to do a two hour stint to help making tea/coffee and handing our sustenance. I especially need people from 10am – 12 noon+ as I will be in church as we have a baptism that day too. Please give me a ring 851113/07751240873. Carol McCann

The 200 club has still got some spare numbers, the cost is £12 per year, if you would like to take a number, please let me know (01404 851113) Carol McCann

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

KATE RUSCOMBE-KING is now renting St. Michael's Cottage, along with Effie her Lucas Terrier and Arlo, her half Siamese cat. We hope they will all be very happy here and not find the church clock too invasive! **MYRTLE, LADY ACLAND** is now back home following a stay in hospital. It was so nice to see her at the Fete; we wish her a speedy return to full health.

SARAH AND LEN ABBOTT celebrate their Ruby Wedding on 8th September. Congratulations.

NEAL VEN has moved into Pomeroy Lodge. We welcome him to our village and hope he will enjoy the peace of the countryside surrounding him.

YEARS MIND

AUGUST

Eddie Bright
Bessie Broom
Jim Eveleigh
Jim Pointing
Arthur Rowe
William Snell
Robert Theodas

HOLY DUSTERS

For August

Liz and Ian Warne
Angie and Roger Hutchings

HONEY BEES by Roy Abbott

Well, we waited for the summer to arrive and it did; the weather was glorious and our girls loved it, they were out and about gathering nectar and pollen, from early morning until late into the evening. Mind you, the position of our hives puts them in the shade quite early so our girls are of the 'early to bed early to rise' variety. We have been very lucky with our colonies building up to full strength at the right time to take advantage of all goodies the plants have on offer, so we hope every one has good pollination of their crops. The problem, at the moment, (always something!!) is wasps; we seem to have a huge number of them now. We have put in entrance blocks to reduce the size of their entrances to give the guard bees a better chance to defend themselves; wasps kill bees, take the larvae. if they get into the hive. as well as steal honey, so we have wasp traps set up around the apiary to catch as many as possible, plus wasps sting for no reason at all and keep on stinging. We hope to be taking the main lot of honey off in the next week or so if all goes well. We have added some more predator mites to control varroa; they seem to be doing a great job. So far we are very pleased with this natural form of pest control; the test will be in September when we do a full on check though. The bee and honey tent at the Honiton Show was very good and well supported; we hope all who attended visited it and had a insight into the workings of a honey bee colony. The Princesshay shopping centre in Exeter has created a roof top garden where they have placed 3 hives and plan to add a third later this year; they have taken specialist advice on bee friendly plants and installed an irrigation system to ensure they all survive. This type of venture helps keep this important species part of the UK habitat. Together, of course, with small apiaries like ours; plus they are incredibly fascinating little creatures. Thanks to everyone who supported us at the village fete, we hope you all enjoy your honey. Jars of honey also make wonderful gifts,

STOP PRESS—FROM MONDAY 9th SEPTEMBER THE BUS TIMETABLE WILL BE REVISED...THERE WILL NOW BE A BUS LEAVING HONITON AT 11.57 ARRIVING IN THE VILLAGE AT 12.08. THIS REPLACES THE BUS WHICH CURRENTLY DEPARTS AT 12.57 HOORAY!!!

EDMUND HAYMAN won 2nd prize for his silage sample and 4th for his painted bucket at the Honiton Show. Well done Edmund!

PARISH COUNCIL – AUGUST REPORT

Four parish councillors met for the August meeting. Cllr Susie Bond (EDDC) and Cllr Claire Wright (DCC) were also present.

EDDC / DCC Report.

Cllr Bond said she would report fully at the next meeting regarding broadband provision, but that it had been confirmed that Feniton's exchange would be upgraded.

Crime. There were four reported crimes since the last meeting in June:

Non Dwelling Burglary – Gittisham Vale - Attempt burglary to commercial premises by smashing a ground floor window - No entry gained.

Assault - Domestic Incident - At a private location assault between ex-partners at a private location.

Burglary Dwelling - Gittisham Vale - Entry gained through insecure doors and property stolen.

Assault - Gittisham Vale - Domestic Incident - At private location after a verbal argument assault between current partners.

Finance. Members noted the finances this month. The clerk reported that the external audit of the council's annual accounts had been successful.

Planning applications.

Curlditch House, Gittisham - Alterations including removal of conservatory, minor internal alterations inc. provision of ensuite bathroom & external cast iron ventilation terminals

Rapshayes Farm, Gittisham - Installation of satellite dish

Members had no objections to either application.

Active Villages project. Councillors were informed that the first Pilates class had been successful, with a waiting list drawn up as only a certain number can be accommodated. The clerk has also received table tennis bats and balls from Leisure East Devon that can be used with the table in the village hall, once terms and conditions for its use have been arranged. LED has organised a free cycle ride from the village on the afternoon of 31st August.

Signage. The clerk reported that the contractor Balfour Beatty had received the necessary approval from Devon County Council regarding amending the signage to the village at the iron bridge.

Next meeting. This will be on 4th September at 7.30pm.

VILLAGE FETE

What a difference a day makes! Having enjoyed 'wall-to-wall' sunshine for several weeks our Village Fete was, dare we say "fated" with heavy downpours of rain and really cold temperatures! However, we stoic 'brits' never let a little thing like the weather get in the way of having fun and so everyone soldiered on and made the most of it! There were loads of stalls scattered about. Plenty for the children to do, including petting the Alpacas before bouncing on the castle! Because Gittisham has a reputation for putting on a really good day, the visitors turned out in droves to indulge themselves in the cream teas in the hall, test their skills on the rifle range and coconut shy, stock up the pantry with cakes, adorn themselves with hand-made jewellery, invest their savings in draw tickets and cheer on their ducks as they raced down the river. Needless to say all this was, of course, only made possible by hours of planning and hard work by a trusty team—ably managed by Jayne Bramley who is a true master of delegation! Jayne has the ability to motivate people to such an extent they don't even realise they have volunteered! Gittisham can be justly proud of what was achieved this year, from our professionally painted boards (thanks to Rob Jennison) advertising the Fete which were admired by many passengers on the passing buses, to the military precision of the parking attendants (thanks to Nick Agg-Manning), the scores of delicious scones (thanks to Jayne Bramley), the enticing list of draw prizes (thanks to Sarah Goodman), and many, many others who helped to raise money for the church and village hall.

The final sum raised by the fete was £1666.24 **WELL DONE EVERYONE!!**

COOL RUNNINGS by Maggie Walker

Wowers - what a night! Of course, I am talking about the Caribbean night in Gittisham when the music makers from Hemyock came to town. The village hall shimmied and shuffled to the excellent tunes of those masters of 'skiffle'; young and old sang and danced along, and joyful was the mood . . . The weather was in sympathy with the ambience of the evening, being warm, sultry and moist with expectation.

Not another sentence must drift by without mentioning the delicious Caribbean food, lovingly prepared for carnivores and herbivores alike. A note of congratulations has to be extended to Bill for successfully ensuring that Sara now takes her rightful place in the kitchen. I understand that Sara made a huge effort to keep up with Bill's culinary expertise, as they created and served our flavoursome fare. (A note must be added in recognition that Sara had already exerted strenuous efforts as a 'holy duster' in the church for the month of July – friends, I sense the emergence of a new domestic goddess to challenge the position already jointly held by Mrs Fallows and Mrs Bramley.)

Blimey Blaise – those days of watching 'Mr Maker' on CBeebies certainly paid off. Who else could produce a VW Camper van from a twig and a couple of rolled-up newspapers to take the prize of most pleasing exhibit in the bobsleigh championship? Truly unbelievable! And when you wobbled and wobbled with ever-increasing speed was there even one person that thought you would make it in one piece, let alone your cart?

Did any of you hear the incessant din of a chainsaw raging day and night just over the hill? Well – Russell, Edmund and Alice are the culprits, as they felled a dozen trees to go into the creation of their Marley Monster Machine, and for what purpose . . .? Hear the words of the wife and mother, as her brave youngsters made their descent, "I had difficulty watching especially at the speed whilst coming down the hill." (Helen Hayman Facebook posting) Yes – this is the same woman who throws herself into a cowshed to TB test hundreds of cows, wearing only a pair of wellington boots, armed with needle and syringe, as the cows stampede around her in a crazed panic.

Helen Fuller, however, showed an excessive amount of bravery as she, single-handedly constructed the Tottering Tortoise for her three brave boys. She sat out in the burning sun with wood, wheels, sellotape and drawing pins and was forced, yes forced to find a cushion to sit on, as the patio became so hot with the steam of her strenuous exertions. After the race, it was noted that James mirrored his wife's discomfort and he too, found it necessary to recline on a number of cushions to recover his composure.

Now we arrive at the Hamish Hall Hasty Hellraiser – a splendid contraption, boasting a cubic capacity of 2cc; Carol and Clara. As everyone knows, the fearless Clara would have won the race without the added handicap of her mother (even though, in a daring feat of defiance, this matriarch did snatch up the cart and sprint through the village, breaking all registered records). Nevertheless, six-year old Clara, being forced to wear a helmet, was systematically stymied in securing success.

Bill Griffiths, since Sara's latest extravagance, having been forced to tour scrapyards and junk heaps, was fortunate to secure for the princely sum of £7 the materials to create the Bluebird of all old bangers, and what a beaut she proved to be. With Charlie (Alice Hill's husband) in the driving seat, being whipped mercilessly throughout by a tyrannical Thomas this trouper adopted a one-handed cavalier approach and raced to a triumphant victory, winning for his team the lovely thermos flask – a worthy trophy for such a splendid event. Thank you Hamish and Bill for organising this momentous night!

Editor's note: Although the evening was more about having a great time the money raised came to £273.43

