

GITTISHAM GAZETTE

A monthly Community Newsletter

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FABULOUS FLOWER FESTIVAL IN GITTISHAM CHURCH

Please come and visit our beautiful church, St Michael's, Gittisham, the venue of our 'Games and Board Games' Flower Festival from Friday 24th May to Monday 27th May inclusive, from 10am to 5pm. 26 ladies and gentlemen very kindly agreed to interpret their chosen game – see if you can spot your favourite board game. We look forward to welcoming you over the Bank Holiday weekend. Morning coffee, ploughman's lunches and afternoon teas will be served in the village hall from 10.30am to 4.30pm. All funds raised will go to St Michael's Church

There will be a special Flower Festival Songs of Praise on Sunday 26th May at 6.30pm (no morning service) with the Mission Community Choir. Please do join us on this special occasion.

Would you be able to offer any help with either stewarding in church or with refreshments in the village hall over the long weekend, if so could you please contact Angie Hutchings re stewarding 01404 45101 or for refreshments Carol McCann 01404 851113. Also any offer of cakes would be gratefully received by Carol. Many thanks.

Julia Barrett our Lay Minister has organised a poetry competition, please see separate article for details

Dates for your diaries May

- 12th Christian Aid Week commences with a tea and service at St. Paul's Honiton 3.00pm**
- 16th Gittisham Community Land Trust Open Meeting 7.00 in the Village Hall**
- 18th Coffee Get-together 10.30 – 12.00 in the Parish Room, everyone welcome,**
- 18th Neighbours Day an afternoon of fun in the playground 1.00 – 5.00 (see Village Hall events)**
- 24th St. Michael's Church Flower Festival "Games & Board Games" 10.00 – 5.00 daily**
to Refreshments of morning coffee, ploughman's lunches and afternoon teas served
- 27th daily 10.30 - 4.30 in the Village Hall with children's poetry competition entries displayed**
- 26th Flower Festival Songs of Praise 6.30pm (no morning service) with Mission Community Choir**
- 25th Concert by Thomas Bowes 'Bath Pilgrimage 2019'. Awliscombe Parish Church 7.30 £9.00?**
child £7.00, tickets from 01404 45145.
- 30th Ghostbusters in the village Hall. 6.30pm with popcorn £2.00 (see village Hall events)**
- 30th Ascension Day Mission Community Service Awliscombe Church 7.30pm**

June

- 1st Revision of the Mission Action Plan Awliscombe Village Hall from 9.00 – 4.00**
- 9th No service in Gittisham Mission Community joint service at St. Paul's Honiton for Pentecost**
11.00 followed by lunch to thank our retired clergy.
- 15th Coffee Get-together 10.30 – 12.00 in the Parish Room, everyone welcome**
- 23rd Mission Community Choral Evensong at Farway Church 6.30 (choir practice 5.30)**

A muse from Genevieve We drove to London a couple of weeks ago and were delighted to see the Blackthorn with a profusion of white flowers, all along the road except for the Broom by Chobham Common. We were also in Sidmouth recently where I saw the new coaches which are a third larger. How did they get permission, as the 40 ton lorries that were allowed some 30 years ago that are now driving everywhere. I certainly hope the new giant coaches do not come into Gittisham as our lovely little bridge over the little Git has been bashed again and again and still lies faulty in both corners.

VILLAGE HALL EVENTS COMING SOON

Neighbours' day on Saturday 18th May

Following the success of the last neighbours' day of 2017, the Village Hall Committee has organised another day to bring villagers together to share some good times. The event will be held in the playpark (if sunny) or in the village hall (if wet) and run from 1pm to 5pm. Please bring a dish to share and some outdoor games.

If there's something strange in your neighbourhood

Who ya gonna call? Ghostbusters! Thursday 30th May at 6.30pm. A mere £2 for popcorn and some tips on how to get rid of those ghouls. Hope to see you there. For further information, please phone Rosie on 01404 850873

CHILDREN'S POETRY COMPETITION

A reminder that the children and teenagers of Gittisham and surrounding town and villages are NOW invited to submit poems on the theme of their favourite game to complement the Flower Festival, which is going to be held in St. Michael's Church, Gittisham over the weekend of 24th – 27th May. The poems will be displayed in the village hall where refreshments are to be served.

The winning poets will be requested to read their work (or nominate another reader) at the Songs of Praise Service planned for the Sunday evening at 6.30. This is a wonderful opportunity to once again showcase the talents of our young people and we are delighted to say we have secured the services of a published poet to be our judge. The deadline date for all poems is set for 21st May 2019.

We would also like our adult poets to participate in this exciting exercise and invite you to compose a piece, not exceeding forty lines, on the theme of your favourite childhood game. Again, the winning entrant will be requested to read their poem at the Songs of Praise Service.

Notices with further information have been placed around the village and in the neighbouring parishes. You can also contact Maggie Walker with any queries or to submit your poem at this email address: maggie@maggiewalker.plus.com Entries can also be posted through the letter box at, 3 Church Mead, Gittisham, Honiton. EX14 3AH or you can post them directly through the letter box of Julia Bartlett, St. Michael's Cottage, Gittisham, Honiton, EX14 3AH.

GITTISHAM COMMUNITY LAND TRUST UPDATE

DAVID VALENTINE

I have commented in the past of the need to engage with the local community at various key stages in matters to do with the GCLT. The project to provide a small affordable housing scheme must be seen to be community led and the forthcoming Open Public Meeting to be held on Thursday 16th May at 7.00pm in the Village Hall will focus on the background to the GCLT Board's recommendation having identified a preferred site.

This meeting is a key milestone in the overall timetable and the endorsement of the preferred site by the community will provide the platform to appoint solicitors, a Housing Association partner and consultants to undertake site surveys and to prepare briefing documentation prior to the appointment of architects. We are currently preparing a grant application to cover some of the initial costs and further grant applications will be made to cover consultant costs etc.

This is another opportunity for the community to show its support for the work of the GCLT Board and its adviser's and we look forward to discussing the preferred site with you during this important meeting.

PARISH COUNCIL – MAY REPORT

Five councillors met for the May meeting. Phil Twiss (DCC), and one member of the public were also present. Russell Hayman was elected Chair and Carol Hall Vice Chair.

DCC / EDDC Report. Phil Twiss said the Care Quality Commission (CQC) had carried out a routine announced inspection at the RD&E in January and February this year. The hospital has retained an overall rating of 'Good' in the CQC's report. He added that as the DCC appointed RD&E Governor, he considered this a fantastic achievement, which reflects well on the quality of the services provided to people and communities in East Devon. The report also rated the Minor Injuries Unit in Honiton as 'good'.

Phil Twiss said the Director of Public Health's annual report had been published, and it focuses on the theme of mental health. The report suggests there should be wider recognition of, and action to address, the inequality that exists for people with serious mental health issues in terms of physical health, employment and housing.

Regarding beavers, Phil Twiss reported that the trial on the River Otter, led by the Devon Wildlife Trust, is now in its fifth and final year. The beavers are currently thriving, with this winter's survey having identified activity hotspots throughout the river, with at least 7 or 8 family groups present. He said that preparations are now well advanced for providing the required information to the Government, so a decision can be reached on whether the beavers will be allowed to remain on the river.

In her absence, Susie Bond sent a message to say that following the election on 2 May, there has been an immense change in the make-up of the new district council with the Independents now the largest group with 31 seats.

Finance. Members approved the annual accounts and governance statement for 2018/19 and noted the finances this month.

Crime. 2 crimes, March 2019 on or near Parsonage Lane: 1) Anti-social behaviour 2) Violence and sexual offences.

Councillor vacancies. The clerk said that two vacancies for parish councillors representing the Vale remain. Applications are particularly welcome from people living in the Vale or the new Hayne Lane development. Please contact the clerk for details if interested by emailing clerk@gittisham.eastdevon.gov.uk

Play area. Councillors noted the annual safety inspection report, and agreed to replace the rotting benches. Carol Hall said the East Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty partnership had awarded the parish council £250 to fund the cost of enhancing the wild play area. She said she would source bird, bug and bee houses. Maggie Walker said she would ask the lengthsman to review how the small gate closes.

Off-road vehicles. Some residents have raised concerns about the large number of off-road vehicles using bridleways in the parish. Part of the bridleway near Summer Lane is severely worn and one part in particular now has a very deep drop and only a very narrow and unstable path for a horse or walkers to use. Susie Bond understands that if the issue is on private land, the landowner should get in touch with the police. It was agreed to contact Combe Estate to seek their agreement to put up some posters prohibiting illegal use of bridleways. The clerk said she would ask the police for advice on how to address the issue.

Next meeting. This will be on 12th June at 7.30pm in the Parish Room

Quiz night with Daphne Hall Saturday June 15th 7pm with supper

Raising money for Children's Hospice £6 adult, £4 child In the village hall table bookings 850793. Daphne and her friend are abseiling the 220 foot high Canonteign Falls and raising money for Children's Hospice. Please come along to a fun quiz night and support them.

FREE TO A GOOD HOME! I have an IKEA wooden desk, 130 cm x 70 cm which needs a new home. It is in good condition. Please contact Angie 01404 45101.

Church Wardens Report Carol McCann

We are getting ready for the flower Festival (see leader article). I attended the archdeacon's Visitation on Tuesday 7th May along with many others to be sworn in as Churchwarden for another year. Kilmington church was very full. Our current Archdeacon is moving on to take over duties in Cyprus living in Larnica. His new diocese is Cyprus and the Gulf and is a sister diocese to Exeter. We wish him and his wife Ann every happiness.

Forthcoming Church Services Gittisham and Mission Community 11am unless stated

May	June
12th Parish Eucharist	2nd Family Service with refreshments
19th Lay-led Morning Worship	9th No service in villages, Pentecost joint service St. Paul's Honiton 11.00 with lunch afterwards all welcome.
26th No morning service Flower Festival Songs of Praise 6.30 with Mission Community Choir practice at 5.30	16th Lay-led Sung Matins
	23rd Parish Eucharist
	23rd Mission Community Choral Evensong Farway Church 6.30 (choir practice 5.30)
	30th Parish Eucharist

200 CLUB MAY 2019 RESULTS

1st Sarah Agg-Manning 2nd Nicky Wakley 3rd Vicky McLachlan-Clark
4th Margaret Hall 5th Amanda Acland

The 200 Club has numbers available and cost £12 per year. Subs can be paid by cash, cheque or standing order – if the latter is preferred I have a form for your bank. It is important to fill all the numbers as this is a vital source of income for our church, There are 12 monthly draws paying £40, £20, £15, £10 and £5 with 2 six monthly (March & September) of £48. If you would like to join our 200 Club do please let me know. Carol McCann 851113 07946409142 charli.mcc@mypostoffice.co.uk

St. Michael's Church are needing more Holy Dusters to keep our lovely building spic and span, there are several gaps needing filled. Usually done in teams of 3 or 4 and done on a monthly basis some teams do two turns others one. If you could spare some time please let Carol know 01404 851113 and she will let you know where the gaps are.

HAYNE AND SHERMANS FARM NEWS

JACK BARTLETT

There we are, the cows have mooved! On Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th of April it was all hands on deck. Two robots were disconnected and reinstalled on each day, whilst the install team were going as fast as they could it was our job to safely move all of the cows. This went really well with help from neighbours and family.

It was a very strange feeling seeing the cow sheds at Hayne empty but very exciting seeing the Sherman's shed being occupied! End of an era as they say. The cows have settled in really well at Sherman's and are certainly enjoying the water beds ! We still have some calves and dry cows at Hayne so still running the roads a bit but the aim is to get them moved in the next few weeks. I expect the new residents at Hayne farm developments will be glad to not hear the calves blaring! Most of the maize is planted and the first cut silage is in the pit and sheeted down with minutes to spare before the rain! Pleased with the quality on the day but the analysis will interpret this at a later date. I guess we have a reason to let out a sigh of relief, although still plenty on the to do list as always with farming!

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Distributors, Carol McCann, Helen Fuller & Judith Turner and in Gittisham Vale Peter and Ann Sellick. Copy date for June 2019 - Wednesday 29th May If you have any news, dates events for inclusion in the Gazette do please email it to Carol as early as possible (using Arial font please) If you are moving away the Gazette can be sent by email on request.