

# GITTISHAM GAZETTE

A monthly Community Newsletter

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Edition 158

## ROBERT BROWNING SAID IT ALL...

Oh, to be in England  
Now that April's there,  
And whoever wakes in England  
Sees, some morning, unaware,  
That the lowest boughs and the brushwood sheaf  
Round the elm-tree bole are in tiny leaf,  
While the chaffinch sings on the orchard bough  
In England - now!

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

**APRIL 17th and 18th**—  
"COMBE TREK" the traditional Village Panto. Friday and Saturday evenings at 7.30pm—tickets £6. Matinee on Saturday at 2.30pm, £6 adults £3 children.

Tickets available in advance from Carol McCann 851113.

**APRIL 23rd** - Church annual meeting 7pm in church everyone most welcome.

**APRIL 25th** - Quiz Night with Ploughman's supper £5.50 per person teams up to 6. No bar so bring own liquid libation. There will be a raffle. Ring Carol McCann 851113 to book a table.

**May 4th** - Social Sequence Dance 7.30 - 10.45pm with music by Elaine at Gittisham Village Hall. Bring and share savoury supper, soft drinks provided, raffle, £4.00 per person, details from Christine Broom 01404 44641 or Elaine 07713283494.

### 200 Club

The winners this month were:

- |           |                 |
|-----------|-----------------|
| 1st Prize | Mrs O Collis    |
| 2nd Prize | Mrs J Sutcliffe |
| 3rd Prize | Mrs B Abbott    |
| 4th Prize | Mrs V Clifford  |
| 5th Prize | Mr O Morgan     |

### REMINDER

Subs. For 2015/16 are due now, if they want to change to paying by standing order contact Carol McCann 851113



### AN INVITATION

Everyone is cordially invited to attend the celebration of

**Ronnie Pew's**  
100th Birthday on  
Friday 1st May. Do  
come to the village  
hall between 6.00  
and 7.00pm for  
drinks and nibbles.

### YEARS MIND

#### APRIL

Pat Carstairs  
Rosemary Marker  
Roy Langworthy

### PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

**RONNIE PEW** celebrating his 100th birthday on 1st May. Since moving to the village in 199 Ronnie has been a valuable asset; his expertise as a Master Horologist has kept the church clock working. Whenever there was a problem, Ronnie would clamber up the vertical ladder in the bell tower to use his charm and skills. Understandably, he now answers Peter Stansell's questions over the telephone! Peter winds the clock every week and calls on Ronnie for help whenever needed. We wish Ronnie a very happy day.

### CONGRATULATIONS!

### BELL RINGERS NEEDED!

Anyone interested is invited to come and learn a new skill. We are running short of bell ringers in the village and need some keen new campanologists to keep the bells going for services and weddings. Tuition is provided free of charge on Tuesday evenings either in the village church or in another church nearby. Transport is usually available too!. All ages welcome. Ring Peter Stansell 42559 or Bill Griffiths 851428 for further details.

### HOLY DUSTERS

#### APRIL

Doreen and Ernie Wensley  
Margaret and Tom Ballantyne



## GITTISHAM FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW

1 AUGUST 2015

For all aspiring veggie and flower growers now is the time to plan your planting and sowing activities to ensure the best possible produce and flowers on 1 August 2015. When announcing the date of the 2105 show it is most fitting to also thank Pam Chown for all her hard work organising the event over the past many years – thank you Pam.

A full schedule for the 2015 event will be distributed in late April; but meanwhile to enable the gardeners to prepare the vegetable and flower classes are:

### Vegetables

1. 3 White Potatoes
2. 3 Coloured Potatoes
3. 1 Cabbage
4. 1 Lettuce
5. 1 Table Marrow under 12"
6. 5 Onion Sets
7. 6 Sprays Parsley
8. 3 Beetroot
9. 3 Carrots
10. 6 Pods Broad Beans
11. 6 Pods Peas
12. Trug or basket of 4 different Salad vegetables normally eaten raw
13. 5 Tomatoes
14. 3 Courgettes under 6"
15. 6 Runner Beans
16. 2 Parsnips
17. 3 Sticks Rhubarb
18. 4 Different culinary herbs (not parsley) in a jar
19. Any other vegetable not listed above

### Flowers

20. Any flowering plant (pot not exceeding 8")
21. Vase of 5 small French Marigolds
22. 1 Spike Gladioli
23. 3 Dahlias
24. 6 Stems Sweet Peas
25. 4 Stems different cut flowers
26. 1 Specimen Rose
27. A flower arrangement not exceeding 15"x 15"

As always, entries are welcome from all who reside in the Parish of Gittisham, which of course includes Gittisham Vale. Additionally, entries are also welcome from those who no longer live in the Parish but have previously done so and continue to actively support the village.

If you require any further information or are willing to help organise the show please contact Roger Hutchings 01404 45101 / [roger.hutchings134@btinternet.com](mailto:roger.hutchings134@btinternet.com) Meanwhile, grow well!!

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### GRAIN TO CREAM—by Russell Hayman, Gittisham Farm

Spring is here and it's all go now. Fertiliser to be spread and crops to be sprayed (sprayer has to have its MOT before it can be used). It costs twice as much as doing a car and it has no engine or brakes. Not that complicated really, always used to do it ourselves but now got to have a piece of paper.

Spring is definitely in the air for the cows; heifers are now calving fast after hanging on for a while. Different sire of the calves which has a shorter gestation length after one with a bit longer one so consequently a grouped up a bit as nice as it sounds not really spring. It is for the rabbits though!

The cows have a foot bath every week to keep infections at bay in their feet and also to help with the hoof condition which should help as they are out at grass now, so they will have to use their legs more. Not much of a problem to start with but give it a week or too and steady will be the name of the game again.

Spring is also the time for form filling. A new scheme this year with environmental focus areas, enforced mixed cropping and all to be recorded on line. Oh what a joke, the system has crashed so back to pen and ink. Not surprised at all...would have been more so if it had worked. It does mean that the time I had already spent on it is wasted which is a little frustrating.

On the domestic front we have at last been able to level the garden and plant some grass seed, put some hedges in and got the fence up. All good, will just have to keep the lawn cut now; could always have a dip in the pond if it gets a bit warm for a change.

## PARISH COUNCIL – APRIL REPORT

Five parish councillors met for the April meeting. Susie Bond (EDDC), Sara Randall Johnson (DCC) and Justin Lascelles (Combe Estate) were also present.

### DCC / EDDC Report.

Sara Randall Johnson said she is trying to track down maps which will show the land owned by DCC that will definitely be cleaned as part of highways maintenance, and the land which belongs to landowners for which they should have responsibility. Clearing out gullies under the road is still DCC's responsibility. Sara Randall Johnson said that looking long term, it seemed likely that more than 60 per cent of DCC's budget would be spent on children and adult services, and there would be very little budget to continue the type of road maintenance it has done up to now on land it does not own.

Susie Bond said the figures from the report on housing numbers which would inform the Local Plan had been made available. The recommendation is for EDDC to build 950 houses per year in the district for the next 18 years. She said the figure was higher than previously estimated, but now stretched over a longer plan period. EDDC's Development Management Committee approved last week an application for 900 houses between Cranbrook and Exeter. David Valentine questioned where these 900 houses would go, and said that there was now considerable competition for developers between district councils. Mid-Devon District Council, for example, is keen to expand Cullompton. He argued that it's becoming easier for developers to not contribute towards infrastructure, and this risks putting far too much pressure on services such as health and education over the next five years. The revised Local Plan will now go before the planning inspector, and if approved there will be an eight-week public consultation. Susie Bond explained that the plan would therefore be adopted by December 2015, following this timetable. Members agreed it would be important to contribute to the public consultation in view of the 15ha of employment land proposed near Hayne Lane.

**Crime.** Two crimes:

- 1) 13th March, drink and drive: after road traffic accident, male driver arrested
- 2) 25 /26th March, Non-dwelling burglary: attempted burglary to garage, nothing stolen

**Finance.** Members noted the finances this month, and resolved to set up a direct debit to make payment of employee salaries and to HMRC easier.

**Planning applications.** a) 3 Bracken Close Honiton EX14 2YS Raising of roof over garage and replacement rear extension . Members had no objections.

**Limited residential development in Gittisham village.** David Fallows said the parish plan of 2010 supported the idea of limited residential development. Previous discussions with Combe Estate had established that this was a shared goal to help stem the increase in second homes and allow the community to evolve. Justin Lascelles (Combe Estate) said that if the parish council felt that low cost, small-scale housing to rent would be of benefit to the village, the estate would pursue this on a partnership basis. He explained that elsewhere in the county there were examples where landowners had developed a site and parish councils have a say in the choice of tenants, with a score system related to the tenants' connection to the area. It was agreed that the best way forward would be for the parish council and Justin Lascelles to arrange a meeting with EDDC in the next few weeks to look at the options. Combe Estate has two preferred sites: the Dutch barn opposite Clyst Hayes and the old estate yard by Talbots. David Fallows asked Justin Lascelles if, in the light of the development approved west of Hayne Lane on estate land, a footpath could be created from the west end of the site to the village.

### Drains and ditches.

The clerk reported she had put Len Abbott's name forward for Chapter 8 training in the future, which DCC requires to carry out lengthsman-type work. Len has agreed to find out what needs to be done in the parish.

### Play area.

The clerk said the annual safety inspection had been carried out, the report will be circulated to members.

**Next meeting.** 12<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm, following the election. A chair and vice-chair will be elected.

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## CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT—Carol McCann

Services for the next few weeks, all at 11.00 unless stated otherwise, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April Parish Eucharist, 19<sup>th</sup>, Lay-led sung Matins, 26<sup>th</sup> Parish Eucharist, with the Team Choral Evensong in Combe Raleigh Church at 6.30, 3<sup>rd</sup> May Family Eucharist with refreshments, 10<sup>th</sup>, Parish Eucharist, 17<sup>th</sup> Lay-led Morning Worship. I would like to thank Carol Hall for making the lovely posies given out on Mothering Sunday. Also all the Flower arrangers who made the Church look lovely for Easter. I hope those who tried the treasure hunt on Easter Sunday had fun and thanks to Len Abbott for devising it. The cream tea afterwards was well supported, thank you to all who came and to Sue Fallows for making the scones. Our monthly coffee get-togethers commence on Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup> and will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month, finishing with the 17<sup>th</sup> October hopefully with a bring and buy table each time.

## DEADLINE FOR

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

Contact one of the editorial team below .

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