

GITTISHAM GAZETTE

A monthly Community Newsletter

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HAS SPRING SPRUNG?

I hope at last we can say goodbye to winter!! The lovely colourful spring flowers are adorning the landscape and magnolias, forsythias and other flowering trees have come to life and the lambs on the corner of Honiton and Hayne Lanes are gambolling around the fields. Hopefully the Easter Holiday will have good weather.

WISHING EVERYONE A VERY HAPPY EASTER

People in the News.

Edward Fuller . Edward went to the National Junior Indoor Rowing Championship in London at the Olympic Park, as mentioned last month. He gained a Silver Medal (only being beaten by 2 metres) out of 212 rowers, many congratulations a wonderful result.

Alice Hayman Alice gained her Baden Powell badge in girl guides after many hours of community events and trips away to meet more girl guides from different counties , also stewarding at the Devon county show! So now onto senior section to learn leadership skills and much more!

Edmund Hayman Edmund passed his driving test at the end of February so is now able to drive to sixth form at school and is able to take on more tractor driving on the farm!

Hamish Hall took on the Jurassic Coast Challenge of 3 marathons in 3 days. The route runs from Charmouth to Studland and is full of spectacular views and challenging hills. Hamish not only completed this ultra marathon event but came an amazing 14th out of 350. What a way to spend your birthday!

A Gittisham Welcome to Jim and Annette Tucker who have moved in to 2 Marker Close we wish them every happiness in their new home.

Rose and Solene Graeber ran a cake stall outside church recently and raised £28.00 for the Feniton School Library Fund. Congratulations girls, your cakes were delicious.

Dates for your Diary April

8th Coffee Morning with bring and buy cake stall for WaterAid, Gittisham Village Hall 10 – 12, donations of cakes gratefully accepted. Bring any change jars collected for Water Aid from what you have given up for Lent.. Details from Carol 851113.

15th Coffee Get-together in the Parish room 10.30 – 12 noon everyone welcome for a cuppa and a chat

27th Gittisham PCC Annual Meeting in Church 7.00 everyone welcome to hear how the church has done in the last year, only those on the church electoral can vote. Refreshments will be served after the APCM and before the first PCC meeting.

29th Food and Drink Quiz for WaterAid Mackarness Hall 6.30 for 7.00 teams up to 6 £6.00 inc. buffet, bring own drinks. Bookings/details from Parish Office 44035 Mon-Fri 9.00 – 1.00

13th/14th May Gittisham Memories! - in the village hall, 10-4 pm, plenty of memorabilia, photos, newspaper articles, a full display , and still collecting so please contact Helen Hayman - 07806480246, refreshments will also be served on both days!

PARISH COUNCIL – APRIL REPORT

Six councillors met for the April meeting. Susie Bond (EDDC), Sara Randall Johnson (DCC) and one member of the public were also present.

DCC / EDDC Report. Sara Randall Johnson said there was the possibility of more money becoming available for Highways, depending on the outcome of a meeting on 12th April. Members noted that double yellow lines had been painted along part of Devonshire Road; they asked if DCC could consider painting these along the narrowest section of the road at its west end. Susie Bond reminded councillors of several public consultations currently out for consideration, including the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan and the East Devon Villages Plan. Due to boundary changes, Sara Randall Johnson will not be representing the parish after the next election. The Chair thanked her for her many years of service for the parish.

Crime. No reported crimes since the last meeting.

Finance. Members agreed the finances.

Planning applications.

- a) Unit F Land off Devonshire Road Heathpark Industrial Estate – change of use of building from light industry / storage to health club and gymnasium
- b) Old Estate Yard Gittisham - change of use to convert existing buildings / storage yard to staff parking area
- c) Old Estate Yard Lane to Catshayes Farm Gittisham – retrospective application to construct a path and footbridge

Members had no objections to the above in principle. However, with respect to a), councillors asked if there would be sufficient parking for the customer base and sufficient sound insulation. Regarding c), the clerk agreed to forward DCC's observations on the bridge construction to Homegrown Hotels and Combe Estate.

Defibrillator. John Adamson presented two options for the defibrillator on behalf of his wife Stella who could not attend the meeting. The clerk said she would speak to the headteacher at Feniton Primary, where they have successfully raised money for equipment and training in the use of a defibrillator. Claire Wright from DCC had arranged for £500 from the council's locality budget to be put towards the costs in Gittisham. Members agreed to seek further advice from Stella Adamson and supported the decision to fundraise.

Limited residential development in Gittisham village. David Valentine advised that a public meeting should be held later this year to discuss the formation of a Community Land Trust with members of the parish. Councillors agreed this should be a community-led project.

Play area. The clerk said the annual inspection of the play area had been carried out at the end of March, and there were various recommendations which would need action. Members agreed to find a suitable date for a working day which would coincide with building the new item in the wild area.

Broadband. Members heard that for progress to be made, the next step for installing faster broadband would be for Combe Estate, its tenant and BT to decide on a route for burying the cable. The clerk said she would ask the estate for an update.

Next meeting. This will be on 3rd May at 7.30pm and will be the annual parish meeting.

Thankyou! To all those who helped out with the churchyard tidy up, which made such a difference uncovering graves that had been hidden for very many years, clearing paths and hedges, weeding clearing ivy from the walls! Especially to James and Helen for disposing of all the clippings from hedges etc.

Thank you to Julian Bazjert for his mammoth work in the photo-shoot of villagers you will be able to see the pictures at the Gittisham Memories in May

GRAIN TO CREAM RUSSELL HAYMAN

As I write the sun is shining, it all looks so much better now the plants are growing. Which means its busy busy for us. Fields for mowing need to be rolled to push any stones down that may have risen since last year (don't make good eating) it is also the only time of the year when most farmers become artistic all those lovely stripes is there no end to our talents!

We have been vaccinating the animals prevention is much better than cure unfortunately we can't vaccinate for everything, it is also quite pricey so the vet bill gets a bit heavy.

The cows are calving away and getting back in calf quite well usually the case at the end of the winter as all feeding issues are under control. Change does not suit them much. Speaking of which they will be soon charging around the fields and blocking the roads off to get some doctor green.

A few weeks ago I went to France to have a look around the Massey Ferguson tractor factory and the SIMA show near Paris (France's large machinery fair) most interesting. Huge machines as well as small but as a country agriculture is valued so much more. The factory was impressive nearly all the tractors that we saw were being made for Russia and China and they where high end models, but engines did not have to comply with any emission regulations so a lot less complicated even so the factory was running at about two thirds capacity European sales have not been buoyant. Edmund was supposed to be coming with me but a school field trip got in the way much to his annoyance. Speaking of school went to his parents day with his teachers and one of them made the comment that agriculture is a failing industry I did bite my tongue and I know it is a primary industry and has been under a lot of pressure but with the food industry is one of the major employers and creator of wealth for our country with lots of opportunities, it is saddening to hear our educational establishment refer to it in that way. If you talk a thing down it will be, farmers are good at that but we have to be positive and with our industry I know everyone wants a full belly especially me!

GITTISHAM FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW

Participate in the fun and excitement on 5th August by growing potatoes in a bucket for only £1. Everyone (young and not so young) can take part. Collect your bucket and seed potato now from David and Sue Fallows, Parkers, Gittisham (01404-850922). Buckets will be emptied and weighed during the show. Quantity not quality is the name of the game!

The Kings school report - Helen Hayman

Many students have received the head teachers commendation awards and as before are all in various subjects, also many sports competitions have taken place across the county from cross country to badminton and sports leadership!

Even the teachers took part in a ' Devon teacher climbing championship ' in teams !

The annual year 11 political speed dating event was a success with two councillors, Josefina Gori & Susie Bond both being crowned winners!

Kings Radio Club held a soldering challenge with students competing to produce a perfect circuit board, next time students are building their own radios from scratch & a few students are sitting their foundation licence this month so we wish them luck!

Science week kept all students occupied with a variety of activities & local primary schools were hosted too! Finally world book day saw the library inundated with fascinating objects for ' give us a clue' ! A fun interesting way to explain your book! Items included were a real tooth, model furniture and a butternut squash with beady eyes!!

CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT Carol McCann.

Were you able to collect change for Lent? Water Aid, is a most worthy cause and enables people to have access to clean and safe drinking water. I do hope you are able to help, if so can you let me have your change and if you would like me to collect please let me know. I would like to thank Carol, Daphne and Clara Hall for the lovely posies given out on Mothering Sunday, and also May Puckey, along with Rose and Solene Graeber for their poems on Mothers and to Rev'd Philip who during his 'talk' along with the 10 children made a cake in a mug which we were able to sample at coffee time. Next month I hope to publish the poems written for Mothering Sunday. On Good Friday following the service there will be coffee and hot cross buns served in the Parish room for those who attend the service.

Forthcoming Church Services April 11am unless stated

9th Parish Eucharist

May

12th Holy Week Eucharist 7.30pm.

14th Lay-led Good Friday Reflective service with hymns

7th Family Eucharist with refreshments

14th Parish Eucharist

16th Easter Day Eucharist

21st Lay-led Morning Worship

23rd Parish Eucharist

28th No Morning service,

30th Parish Eucharist

6.30pm Mission Community Choral Evensong (choir practice 5.30)

Mission Community Choral Evensong 23rd April 6.30 at Combe Raleigh (choir practice at 5.30)

Other Holy Week Eucharist services 7.30pm. Monday 10th Buckerell, Tuesday 11th Combe Raleigh, Wednesday – see above, Maundy Thursday St. Paul's, Good Friday St. Paul's, The Lord's Passion, Holy Saturday 8.00pm. Vigil and First Eucharist.

200 CLUB RESULTS APRIL

1st Pam Chown

2nd Mr J. Zebers

3rd Mary Ward

4th Ada Partridge

5th Sarah Sproule

200 Club subscriptions were due in March, £12.00 per year, if yours is still outstanding please pay asap (by cheque/cash or annual standing order – forms available from Carol McCann 01404 851113 / 07751240873).

SAD FAREWELL

Brenda Abbott sadly passed away in her sleep on Saturday 1st April at her Residential Home in her 93rd year. Brenda was one of the 'Queen Bees' for many years in the Gittisham W.I. and with huge responsibility for the annual Flower and Produce Show which used to be run by the W.I. She was a fount of all knowledge about the village and 'who's who, where they lived what they did, a great help to visitors wanting to know about relatives who formerly lived in the village and to me when I had requests for information. Although Brenda had left the village she was and still will be greatly missed, R.I.P. Brenda. Please keep Leonard, Sarah and family, Roy and Ken, and Dennis, Linda and family in your prayers that they have comfort and peace in their grieving. Brenda's funeral will be at the East Devon Crematorium, Whimble on Friday 21st April at 1.00pm.

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