

GITTISHAM GAZETTE

A monthly Community Newsletter

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Cliff's 100th Birthday - Speech at his party by Derek Wensley

Cliff Wensley was born at Southcott Farm, Sheldon 28th July 1918, moved to Mount Stephens Farm, Luppitt 1919 then to White's Plot, Luppitt 1920. Started Luppitt school 1923. Moved to Fishponds, Luppitt 1930. On leaving school he worked at Bywood and Dolish farms before moving to Ararat, Luppitt 1935. Called up to War 1939 - joining the Queens Royal Regiment In 1940 sent to France, taking part in the Evacuation from Dunkirk then on to North Africa (Desert Rats) Egypt, El Alamein and Tunis. 1944 on to Italy, Salerno. He joined the Wiltshire Regiment later in 1944 for the Normandy (D-Day +6) landings then pushing on to the River Seine, into Belgium and Holland, crossing the Rhine at Arnhem; finishing in Bremen Germany in 1945, Finally ending up with the rehabilitation and dispersment from the Belsen, Bergen concentration camp. So clearly one way of seeing some of the world outside Devon, but not on the tourist trail !!.

Cliff married Gladys Churchill, during the war at Hemyock Church 1944. He was de-mobbed 1946 and lived at Hagdon Farm, Hemyock where Rodney and I were born. Worked at Crockers, Bywood and Abbeywood farms

Moving to Houstains Farm, Gittisham 1953 – just in time for Queen's Coronation party at Alfington, farming there for just over 30 years. On his retirement he and Gladys moved to Westgate, Gittisham . In 1985 employed part time by Husseys at Honiton Market and the Auction Room Sales.

They moved to Church Mead, Gittisham 1997 and that brings us up to date.

In his restricted recreation time, Cliff was involved in Skittles, Pheasant Beating, Whist Drives and, in his younger days, the Church Choir. He has always been a bit of a handyman with DIY and Gardening – growing much of the fresh food always available. He enjoys games and still plays cards and other games now. He was Churchwarden here at Gittisham for several years and is still an active church attendee.

Father is always cheerful and never complains about anything despite a fairly harsh existence and looks on the bright side of life.

Dates for your Diary August

16th Film 'discussion' night Grease £2.00 entry with supper at 6.00 £2.00 please book place if having supper 07854492347 / 01404 850793 with Carol Hall

18th Coffee get-together 10.30 – 12 noon outside if fine in Parish room if not. Everyone welcome

September

8th Plant sale at the Bartletts Farm Shop Hayne Farm 10.00 – 2.00 in aid of the Gittisham Vale and Heathfield defibrillator. Please see article over the page .

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Cleo Elizabeth Howe arrived at 00.06 hours on Sunday 5th August weight 6.9lbs. Many congratulations to Rosie and Steve and welcome to Gittisham, Cleo .

Alan Babbage passed away at the RD&E on Wednesday July, his funeral took place on the 1st of August at St. Michael's Gittisham where he is now re-united with his wife Audrey in the churchyard. He lived in Gittisham Vale and was a regular member of the congregation. RIP.

Wendy Hawkins who used to live in the village and worked at Combe House sadly died on Friday 3rd August following a bravely borne illness. Her Daughter Clare is due to be married on 11th August. Other daughter Emily looked after Wendy throughout her illness.

News from Hayne Farm - Jack Bartlett

Last time I wrote I think I touched on how wet the spring had been... well it's safe to say we're experiencing the other end of the scale now ! I'm sure the gardeners know how although the grass needs cutting less, there's much more time spent keeping things watered ! Although we asked for it to dry up we didn't quite ask for this, farmers are never happy with the weather ! We're fortunate that we have made two cuts of grass silage, because yields were down the quality looks to be up. Similar to Gittisham farm we ended up whole-cropping most of our winter wheat instead of combining it, this will help the forage stocks. We decided that we will be able to buy straw and grain if needed although probably at a very high price. But the chances of buying forage to feed the cows will be very slim. We're supplementing most of the grazing cattle with a concentrate and much more than normal because of the grass shortage. This increases cost as grass is our cheapest commodity. Young farmers sheep arrived this week, each member in our young farmers club purchases four ewes and it is down to the individuals to put them with the ram, look after them through the winter, they will then lamb in January, In April we will be off to the annual show and sale in the where the ewes and lambs will be shown off to see who's have done best ! Maybe next time I write the grass will be green again, fingers crossed anyway !

Gittisham Flower and Produce Show

On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank all those who helped organise, participated in and came to view all the wonderful vegetables, flowers, cookery, handicraft and children's exhibits on the day. The refreshments and cakes were enjoyed by everyone and there was great excitement when the buckets of potatoes were emptied and weighed. Please keep your buckets for your entry next year - anyone can join in the fun and grow potatoes, we have lots of buckets! We look forward to seeing you all again on Saturday 3rd August 2019.

The cup winners were - most points with vegetables and also best in show – Len Abbott, most points for flowers and best in show plus Handicraft Cup – Sarah Abbott, most points for a junior in adult classes - Emily Branley, children 6 – 12 years Henry Rowswell and up to 6 years Ava Marker-Morgan. The first prize men's bake of a swiss roll was Matt Jones

Angie Hutchings

People in the news

Edward and Thomas Fuller

Ed and Tommy Fuller have had a busy time this year competing all over the country rowing both single scull (Ed) and double sculls (both) in their age range. The season started in April at the Inter Regional Championships held in Nottingham where they both won gold medals rowing double sculls, Edward then won the J15 1x (j= junior) Eton Dorney at The Scullery Regatta against fierce competition. On the local West of England Amateur Rowing Association regatta circuit they both row singles, doubles and quads with their crews and continue to top the leader board in each category. We all spent 4 days in Nottingham at the British Junior Championships in July where Edward and rowing partner Ollie once again became British J15 2x Champions out of 40 crews and more surprisingly Tommy and his rowing partner Tom won silver medals for J14 2x out of over 90 crews!! Last weekend we attended Henley Town and Visitors Regatta which was a scorching day surrounded by beautiful scenery. The boys again rowed well gaining wins in all races entered. Both boys train hard each week at Exeter Rowing Club and we have their dedicated coaches to thank for their success.

PARISH COUNCIL – JULY REPORT

Six councillors met for the July meeting. Susie Bond (EDDC), Phil Twiss (DCC) and two members of the public were also present.

DCC / EDDC Report. Phil Twiss said he had asked about rumours concerning hospital closures and had been told this was not the case for Honiton (and others).

Devon County, West and Teignbridge District Councils, Exeter City Council and the Police, are all working with Crowdfunder, to build opportunities for community groups to bid for finance to help local projects get off the ground. Crowdfunding is a way of raising money from people who are happy to donate it to good causes, or it's given in return for some sort of reward later on. Phil Twiss said the Crowdfund Devon pilot partnership will enable DCC, West, Teignbridge and Exeter City Councils and the Police, to explore crowdfunding as an alternative way to support communities and to see if bringing together their funds with those of the public and other funders will make a greater impact. Crowdfund Devon launched in July, and could potentially be useful to the parish in the future.

Finance. Members agreed the finances.

Planning applications. a) Meriden House Nags Head Road - change of use of part of dwelling to self-contained holiday accommodation

Members had no objections to the above.

The Codfather. Councillors discussed the new siting of The Codfather fish & chip mobile van, which had caused disruption in June to residents in certain parts of the Vale. Susie Bond agreed to remind EDDC Licensing that this part of the Vale falls within Gittisham parish, and therefore the parish council needs to be part of the consultation process in future. (It was not on this occasion.) Andy Wilkins agreed to monitor the situation.

Vale defibrillator. Richard Pratt said he and Andy Wilkins were working together to organise a fund-raising plant sale in early September.

Traffic. Councillors heard there had been a number of accidents or near misses in recent weeks, and agreed it was not appropriate to wait for an incident to take action on this issue.

Andy Wilkins said he had contacted DCC to initiate a speed compliance action review, which involves DCC and Devon and Cornwall police. The process also looks at solutions for speed reduction, which could include a mandatory speed limit if felt appropriate. Carol Hall said several parents had written to The Pig, asking the hotel to remind staff, guests and contractors to drive carefully through the village, and had received a positive response. She said this was particularly important in the summer holidays. Phil Twiss added that horse riders were also at risk from motorists driving too fast for the road conditions. He said that there would be a DCC Highways & Traffic committee meeting towards the end of the year; if there had been no progress from DCC before then, Cllr Twiss said he could add it to the committee's agenda.

Hayne Lane. Andy Wilkins said the road was being washed periodically, which was helping to reduce dust. He added there seemed to be some confusion over speed restrictions, as recently installed signage indicated different speeds on the same stretch of road.

Play area. David Fallows reported that the working party on 30th June had been a success in tidying up the play area, and thanked all who had taken part.

Next meeting. This will be on 5th September at 7.30pm

Calling all dog owners: the village hall garden is not a place to let your dog do its business. Someone didn't clear up after their dog in the hall garden, but someone else has cleaned up for them. A huge thank you to the clearer up! Thanks Sue

Church Wardens Report Carol McCann

Gittisham is delighted to announce that we have secured a Licenced Lay Reader to look after us along with the wider Mission Community. Mrs Julia Barrett will be joining us in November and will be Licenced by the new Bishop of Crediton on the 22nd of November here in St. Michael's at 7.30. At the Honiton show the Mission Community churches ran a 'Rest and Refresh' tent serving hot and cold drinks with homemade biscuits. We had a children's play area along with baby changing and feeding facilities. We were kept very busy throughout the day and thanks to all who helped. The donations pot made £372.00 which goes to the Mission Community Welfare fund which provides needy wayfarers with vouchers for either fish and chips or a change of clothes from a charity shop to help them on their journey.

Forthcoming Church Services Gittisham and Mission Community 11am unless stated

August

12th Parish Eucharist
19th Lay-led Sung Matins
26th Parish Eucharist

September

2nd Family Service with refreshments
9th Parish Eucharist
16th Lay-led Morning Worship
23rd Parish Eucharist
23rd M.C. Choral Evensong at Awliscombe
6.30 (choir practice 5.30)
30th Parish Eucharist

200 CLUB RESULTS AUGUST 2018

1st	Daphne & Clara Hall	2nd	Cliff Wensley	3rd	Ron Kallmeier
4th	Richard Marker	5th	Clare Chapman		

There are still several numbers available if you would like to participate. The monthly prizes are £40, £20, £15, £10, £5 and 2 x 6 monthly of £48 and the cost is £12 per year ring Carol on 851113.

Calling all gardeners!

Plant Sale! Saturday 8th September 2018, 1000 to 1400 at **Bartlett's Farm Shop**, Hayne Lane. All proceeds towards the Gittisham Vale & Heathfield defibrillator. Refreshments and produce available from the Farm Shop as usual. Plant donations gratefully received, please arrange to leave with David Fallows at Parker's East, Richard Pratt at 1 Champion Way or Andy Wilkins at 1 Honeysuckle Drive in the week leading up to the sale. Contact Richard Pratt 01404 46551 or Andy Wilkins 01404 371084 for further details.

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Distributors, Carol McCann, Helen Fuller, Carol Hall & Judith Turner and in Gittisham Vale Peter and Ann Sellick. Copy date for September 2018 - Wednesday 29th August. If you have any news, dates events for inclusion in the Gazette do please email it to Carol as early as possible.

If you are moving away from Gittisham/Gittisham Vale the Gazette can be sent by email on request. With the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) now in place with all who receive this newsletter by email must sign a form to allow us to contact them and hold their personal data, This can be forwarded by email on request.