

THE UDDER SIDE OF THE HEDGE—Jane Hulbert

Afraid you have to put up with my ramblings this month; Carla is too busy scrubbing chickens legs! Having a 'chicken ready on the kitchen table' at Shermans today means it has had a shampoo, blow dry and legs scrubbed all ready for Honiton Show tomorrow. They actually seem to like the attention.

Keith is talking about silageing again at the end of the week, this will be third cut, the grass has grown very well this year, not quite as good quality silage as last year but a little more of it.

We 'whole cropped' our wheat rather than combine it which means it could be cut earlier and is not quite so dependent on the weather. The whole plant is chopped and put into the silage clamp saving several different processes. The difficulty with doing it is getting the grain just right, too hard and it passes straight through the cow, too soft and the energy/starch is reduced.

The recent rain was very welcome as grass was in short supply for the milking cows. Thankfully it seems to know when to stop for the moment.

Everyone's maize is looking good this year, after a slow start the weather has been ideal for it.

Our straw barn is now full of beautiful golden straw which we have to buy in, this must mean that we are almost prepared for winter!

Churchwarden's report—Carol McCann

No news as yet on getting another vicar, I hope we can re-commence advertising very soon. Services for the next few weeks, 10th Parish Eucharist, 17th, Lay-led sung Matins, 24th, Lay-led Morning Worship, 31st Parish Eucharist. 7th September Family Service, 14th Parish Eucharist, 21st Lay-led sung Matins. There will not be a service in any of the parishes or Honiton on 28th September as our Curate Rev. Phillip is being fully ordained at St. Gregory's Seaton at 10.30, and afterwards back in Honiton there will be a lunch in the Mackarness Hall with each parish providing some part, Gittisham is providing some salads. On Tuesday 30th Philip will preside over his first Eucharist in St. Paul's at 7.30pm. On Sunday 3rd August Rev Phillip gave us a very memorable family and pets service under the tree on the green, his two children also accompanied him, we had 29 adults, 11 children and a good assortment of pets from dogs to a tortoise, stick insects and a chicken, Phillip gave each pet an individual blessing. I laid out a board onto which all the congregation placed tea-lights as a commemoration to WW1, unfortunately it was too windy so at the end of the service Philip and I took the board into church and placed it on the font, lighting all the candles which burned for most of the day. I replaced them on Monday with a note to ask visitors to light a candle in memory, this will go on all week so if you would like to remember someone lost in WW! or any other conflict please do come and light one, used candles will be replaced daily. Our monthly coffee get-together for August will be on Saturday 16th from 10.30 to 12 noon I hope we can have a bring and buy table. Hosts this month are myself with hopefully a helper get-togethers will continue on each third Saturday ending with the October one.

I am still collecting items of adult clothing and sensible shoes – male and female – plus blankets, sleeping bags, towels etc for the homeless through St. Petroc's in Exeter. I have a contact who comes to Honiton fortnightly. If you could offer anything, please let me know. I have also heard from the food bank who have written to say they are desperate for certain items – Long life milk (not skimmed), sugar, fruit juices and squashes, savoury rice and noodles, pasta sauces, tinned tomatoes, vegetables, fruit, custard, rice puddings, sponge puddings and biscuits. There is a blue collecting box next to the font in church. But if you would like me to collect any items, please let me know. Many thanks.

Each Friday in August from 12 noon light lunches will be served at St. Paul's before their Summer Music Concerts. Information from the Parish Office at St. Paul's 44035 (9-1 weekdays)

HAYNE LANE HOUSING

The Parish Council has received donations totalling £1120 from people in the Parish towards the cost of consultancy provided to oppose the planned building site in Hayne Lane. They wish to thank everyone who has contributed to the fund.

PUBLIC MEETING

Parishioners are invited to attend a meeting in the Village Hall on Saturday 20th September between 11.00-1.00. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the future use of the Telephone Box. Coffee and cake will be available. Please come along with your ideas.

THE FARE CAR SCHEME

Flexible transport into and from Honiton is available by ringing TRIP Community Transport on 01404 46529 between 09.00am and 4.00pm Monday to Friday. Several journey opportunities are available Mondays to Saturdays (excluding Bank Holidays) at a cost of £3.50 per person each single journey. The National Bus Pass is not valid on this service but children under 5 years travel free. Journey requests may be made up to 1 week in advance.

Other events within the team, **Friday 8th August** Honiton Mission Community Team Bar-b-q at Jackson's Nurseries, Combe Raleigh 6.30 for 7.00pm **Monday 25th** Combe Raleigh are having a fun day in the afternoon, going into the evening with a bar-b-q.

Sunday 31st is Buckerell's Patronal Festival celebrated with a Songs of Praise at 6.30

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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Next printing 8th September

GITTISHAM GAZETTE

A monthly Community Newsletter

Published by St Michael's Church and Gittisham Parish Council

August 2014

Edition 150

FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW

This year was the 35th Show and what a wonderful turnout of entries were exhibited, a total of 225 in all. It never ceases to impress those who take the time to view the exhibits and marvel at the variety of flowers, vegetables, cakes, jams, fruits and stitch craft on display. Plus, of course, the imagination of the children who produce such creative decorations. The cup winners this year were -

Vegetable Cup—Len Abbott. Best Vegetable—Reg Chown. Flower Cup and Best Exhibit—Sue Fallows. Homecraft Cup—Jayne Bramley. Best Exhibit—Pam Chown. Men Only Cup—Stuart Bramley.

Children's Cup 3-6 years—Lettice Vyner-Brooks. Children's Cup 7-12 years—Florence Arbuthnott.

Pam Chown wishes to thank everyone who made this a very successful day.

Following the presentation of the Cups and prizes to all the winners, Pam announced that she is stepping down as Show Organiser. Together with Brenda Abbott, Ada Summers and other past members of the W.I. she has kept the show going for 35 years so I think we would all agree that she has earned her 'retirement'. Pam, thank you so much for all your hard work over the years and to the others who have worked so hard to keep this village tradition going. A meeting will be called next April for all those interested in continuing this event to find a way forward.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

August 16th—COFFEE GET TOGETHER 10.30am—12noon on the Rookery, or in the church if weather is bad. A Bring and Buy stall and friendly conversation is on offer so why not come along and spend a while relaxing with a cup of something.

August 16th—COMMUNITY CINEMA at the Beehive in Honiton, showing "Frozen". For cost and time of the performance look in the Midweek Herald.

August 17th—JURASSIC CLASSIC CYCLE RIDE coming through the village. This is the third year that Gittisham has been chosen to man a Feeding Station for the cyclists. Volunteers are needed to serve refreshments in the hall. Contact Carol McCann (851113) if you are willing to be included on the rota.

August 24th—VILLAGE HALL CLOSED for one week while the floor is being oiled.

200 Club

The winners this month were:

1st Prize Mrs R Webber
2nd Prize Mr B Gilling
3rd Prize Mr s P Rowswell
4th Prize Mr E Wensley
5th Prize Lady M-A Denham

100 YEARS OF WORDS AND MUSIC 1914—2014

Presented by Jan Sutcliffe and Nostalgia Incorporated on Saturday 6th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Tickets from Jan (01404 851255) on sale now price £10 to include a delicious finger buffet and a glass of wine. All proceeds of the evening to be divided between St Michael's Church, Gittisham and the new East Devon Hospice in Honiton.

ROAD CLOSURE

The road past Shermans Farm will be closed 8th – 21st September inclusive. Any queries regarding this closure, contact South West Water on 0844 346 2020.

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

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

BRENDA ABBOTT will be celebrating her 90th birthday this month. Congratulations, Brenda, we hope you have a lovely day.

SAMUEL (Roy) BRIGHT died on 4th August. He is the last of the brothers who played for the village football team.

RODNEY WENSLEY is in hospital. We send our best wishes.

ADA PARTRIDGE is recovering slowly following her operation. We wish her well.

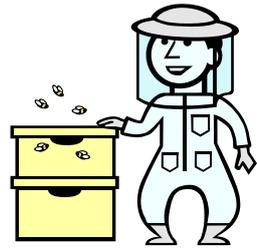
Our prayers are for all those receiving treatment and who need support at the moment.

PARISH MYSTERY TRIP

On Saturday 27th September there will be a mystery coach trip starting and ending in Gittisham. It is rumoured that there may be a stop for an evening meal at a nice pub, yet to be identified. Places will be limited, price to be arranged. Please contact any of the following for more information—Bill Griffiths (851428), Sue Fallows (850922), Carol McCann (851113), Hamish Hall (850793), Doreen Wensley (45774). Please ring any of the above to book your seat on the coach—deadline for bookings is 31st August.

HONEY BEES by Roy Abbott

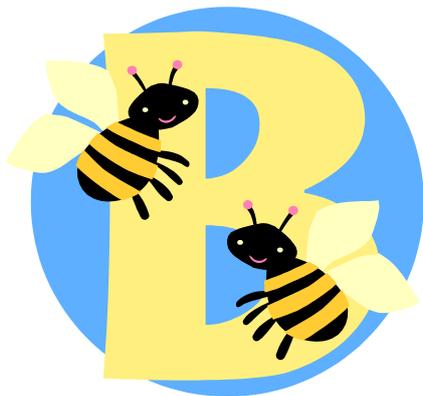
Swarming is the natural way of a bee colony multiplying, if they didn't swarm they would run the risk of dying out if any disease wiped out the colony, so for them it is just natural reproduction, as it is the colonies survival not an individual that is important to them. When bees swarm about half the colony (approx. 25-30 thousand bees) and the queen leave the hive at once, they do this very quickly and it is quite dramatic plus the sound of so many bees in the air at once is tremendous, for a beekeeper like myself it is a worry as we are losing a huge amount of bees, plus we don't want them being a nuisance to anyone, bees in a swarm are not posing any harm to anybody as all they want to do is find a new home plus before they leave the hive they fill up on honey so like any well fed person they are very gentle and contented. Well as nature did its thing we had a swarm !!! We received a call from Fiona & Pierre to tell us a swarm had gathered in their apple tree, so off we go to collect them, all equipment gathered together, skep to put them in, a pair of steps to reach them, luckily they weren't very high. a smoker just to mask the smell of the queen when we remove them from the branch a sheet to they on the ground beneath them and that was it (oops nearly forgot the all important bee suit.) Well luckily these bees were in a easy position it was just a matter of up the steps, skep under the swarm give them a good shake so they fell into the skep down the steps tip the skep upside down onto the sheet raise the edge of the skep with a stone to let any flies in and smoke the branch they had been on to get rid of any queen smell then success we had them, all flyers picked up the scent of their queen and joined the rest in the skep, so we wrapped the sheet around the skep and took them home and put them in a hive which has become their new home. Many thanks to Fiona and Pierre for their help and understanding. We checked on this colony and they are building up very well and are also very gentle and quiet so these girls should be in top condition for the winter; we will keep you informed.



THE BEE BOY'S SONG by Rudyard Kipling

Bees! Bees! Hark to your bees!

'Hide from your neighbours as much as you please,
But all that has happened, to us you must tell,
Or else we will give you no honey to sell!'



A maiden in her glory, upon her wedding day,
Must tell her Bees the story, or else they'll fry away.
Fly away—die away—dwindle down and leave you!
But if you don't deceive your Bees, your Bees will not deceive you.

Marriage, birth or buryin', news across the seas,
All you're sad or merry in, you must tell the Bees.

Tell 'em coming in an' out, where the Fanners fan.
'Cause the Bees are just about as curious as a man!

Don't you wait where the trees are, when the lightings play,
Nor don't you hate where Bees are, or else they'll pine away.
Pine away—divine away—anything to leave you!
But if you never grieve your Bees, your Bees'll never grieve you.

ON YOUR BIKE!

I have organised a fun, family bike ride for anyone to come along to in the village. It will be on Saturday the 9th of August at 11:00am meeting on the village green. Its free to come along and we will finish at the Otter Inn for lunch. The route will be marked out and is 10 miles long, hopefully a challenge for some but not too hard! Someone will be driving on behind to offer lifts and give out water just in case. It would be great to see lots of people have a go and enjoy it.

Yours sincerely Edmund Hayman

Also, I am taking part in the Jurassic classic 100 kilometre bike ride in aid of Prostate cancer U.K. It would be great if some people could sponsor me for it which would be highly appreciated. I have donation forms or you could find me online at [www.justgiving.com/EdmundHayman\(jurassic bike ride\)](http://www.justgiving.com/EdmundHayman/jurassic-bike-ride).

Editor's comment—do we have another budding Bradley Wiggins in our midst?

PARISH COUNCIL – AUGUST REPORT

Six parish councillors met for the August meeting. Susie Bond (EDDC) was also present.

DCC / EDDC Report—Susie Bond said EDDC's full council had passed the proposal to limit public speaking at council meetings, much to her disappointment as she and Claire Wright had campaigned against this. It means all public speakers must be registered before the publication of any agenda. There will be a limit on the number of speakers and only those who have previously submitted a comment as part of the consultation are allowed to subsequently register to speak. Susie Bond said the Local Plan is not likely to be published until summer 2015, as a report on housing numbers which would inform the plan has been delayed.

Crime. No reported crimes this month.

Finance. Members noted the finances this month.

Planning applications.

- a) The Stables Combe House Hotel: re-roofing of stable building and stone repairs to gables of the northern wing
- b) 1 Hamlet Cottages (land adj) Weston: creation of two dwellings
- c) St Michael's Church Gittisham: installation of bunded central heating oil tank

Members had no objections but expressed concerns regarding the high water table at Hamlet Cottages which could lead to drainage problems. Several members had reservations about building in open countryside, as this application is outside Honiton's built-up area boundary.

Proposed solar farm at Crowpits—Following a public consultation that day in the village hall, members heard a presentation from Mark Harding-Rolls, the head of development and planning at British Solar Renewables (BSR). The company is looking to develop a solar farm on land owned by Combe Estate in a neighbouring parish, but has not yet submitted a formal application. It would cover a 60-acre site, 44 acres of which would be for the company's use. The south-facing panels would be sited 800mm off the ground to allow sheep to graze underneath. In principle the solar farm would generate 10.9mw of energy, enough to supply 3,500 homes. The majority of members said they were in favour of solar power as stated in the Gittisham Parish Plan. However they were concerned about the sensitivity of the location in the East Devon AONB and whether there would also be an effect when viewed from the Blackdown Hills AONB. The company hopes to put in a planning application in five weeks' time.

Residential development, inc. land west of Hayne Lane—David Fallows reported that at EDDC's planning inspection committee on 11th July their councillors had voted to defer the review to consider the late entry reports from key stakeholders such as Natural England and the NHS. After the local MP Neil Parish intervened, the Planning Minister has issued an Article 25 direction to EDDC. This means that EDDC cannot grant permission for this development without specific authorisation and gives the Secretary of State Eric Pickles the option of calling in the application. David Fallows thanked Susie Bond for corresponding with Neil Parish MP, and also Mike Edmonds for his work in encouraging Vale residents to donate towards the consultant's costs.

Drains and ditches—The clerk said a parish resident had expressed an interest in maintaining ditches and drains. She agreed to check what paperwork was necessary. Members agreed that some parts of the village were looking down at heel and encouraged residents to unblock drains and gullies outside their properties; failing to do so may have a knock-on effect.

Defibrillator / telephone box—There will be a public meeting on Saturday 20th September to discuss proposals for the use of the village telephone box, of which the defibrillator is one.

Play area—Maggie Walker said brambles would need to be trimmed in the play area. Russell Hayman said he would move the large sand bag in the wild area onto the boules pitch, and members agreed it would be necessary to arrange a day for filling sandbags before the autumn.

Next meeting. This will be on 3rd September at 7.30pm.