

# GITTISHAM GAZETTE

## A monthly Community Newsletter

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Edition 162

### FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW

Another year and another very successful Flower and Produce Show. The hard work of the gardeners, the handicraft and cooking skills of Gittisham folk and the imagination of the children were very much on display at the 36<sup>th</sup> Show. During the course of the afternoon many visited to view the entries, enjoy a cream tea, chat with friends and maybe think to themselves – “my flowers / vegetables are as good as that”! So, make a note of the date for next year – Saturday August 6<sup>th</sup>.

The cup winners were: Vegetable Cup - Len Abbott, Best Vegetable - Len Abbott, Flower Cup – Pam Chown, Best Floral Exhibit – Angie Hutchings, Homcraft Cup – Sue Fallows, Best Home Craft – Carol McCann, Men Only Cup (cake baking) – Charles Vyner- Brooks, Children's Cup 3-6 years Will Fuller, Children's Cup 6 – 12 years Florence Arbuthnott.

A big thank you to all for making the event such a success namely, the organisers, the exhibitors, the helpers on the day and perhaps most importantly, all who came along to support this, the best of village events.

Roger Hutchings

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Fridays 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**LUNCHTIME CONCERTS** at St. Paul's Honiton 1.00 – 1.45 with lunches available from 12.00, see posters for details.

**August 15<sup>th</sup>—COFFEE GET TOGETHER** 10.30am—12noon on the Rookery, or in the church if weather is bad. A Bring and Buy stall.

**August 16<sup>th</sup> JURASSIC CLASSIC cycle ride** for Prostate Cancer, Gittisham is again hosting a feed station. Riders will start arriving from about 9.30. if you could spare an hour or so to help please let Carol McCann know so she can prepare a rota. We will once again be offering tea/coffee, cakes etc, if you would be able to provide a cake or tray-bake (you will be paid as I do give the charity a bill for our refreshments) could you please let me know 851113 thank you.

### 200 CLUB

1st Prize	Mrs F Trevelyan
2nd Prize	Mrs J Greiner
3rd Prize	Mr P Wakley
4th Prize	Mrs P Rowswell
5th Prize	Mrs C Rew

### FETE INFORMATION

For the fete afternoon, anyone wanting a stall of their own please contact Helen Hayman, and anyone willing to help with stalls or teas to get in touch with Sue Fallows, Clare Chapman or Helen Fuller

### PRE-FETE EVENT

The cream tea on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> was a success and raised £85 towards the fete. The sun shone, the flowers blossomed (thank goodness) and it was too early for many wasps. A huge thank you to the hard-working waitresses - Alice, Georgia, Ellie and Emily. They were tireless and smiled throughout the afternoon, contributing to everyone's enjoyment. Thank you to Helen Hayman and Clare Chapman for helping and providing the charming tea sets. Also - thank you to all for coming and enjoying the afternoon. Sue and David

### QUOTE FOR THE DAY

Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind it doesn't matter.

Mark Twain (1835-1910)

### PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

**BRENDA ABBOTT** has been in hospital for a few weeks following a collapse at home. Brenda was greatly missed at the Flower and Produce Show...she kept it going for many years. We wish her a full recovery very soon.

**FRANK CHAPMAN** is in hospital following a fall at his home. We wish him a speedy recovery and return to the village.

**MARTIN SAUNDERS** Sadly we announce the death of Martin Saunders, son of Richard, following a long illness. We send our condolences to Louise his wife, Ben and Leo their sons and to our own dear Richard.

### 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

### Letter to the Editor...

Dear Grumpy Old Woman,

I feel I need to respond to your letter you wrote last month. Combe House is still Combe House. Combe House Hotel, sold the business, to The Pig Group and so now the name of the business is The Pig @ Combe. I must admit it did take me a little while to accept the name, but it is only the name of a business. It is no different than if it was called Gordon Ramsay @ Combe. Names do change over the years and sadly some of our old properties have had their names changed such as – Faraway Farm was called Swinesloose, Olive Tree Cottage was called Lewis Cottage, Box Cottage was called No1 Mitchells and Cornerstones was called The Root House. Combe House is still an important landmark and will be for centuries to come.

Richard Marker

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### GAZETTE GIGGLE

Have you heard about the magic tractor? It turned into a field!

### The Udder Side of the Hedge—

by Carla Cheffey, Shermans Farm

I recently went to the end of term music concert, of which Kadence was in one of the first acts, and the very last one. In between I sat and had a cup of tea with another mum who is new to the area. I said I really needed a cuppa because I'd been up until nearly midnight playing hide and seek with the cows in the woods. She looked confused and said "why were you playing hide and seek with the cows?" I explained that 11 of our dry cows had gone for a wander in the woods and although the discovery was made at about 8pm, nobody had told me until about 10pm so off we went following tracks in the woods to try and find them. Which was fine I said, until my torch died? "Your tortoise died!?" she replied "Why did you have your tortoise with you in the woods?" Honestly, didn't she realise that us farmers always take our tortoises with us when we play hide and seek with the cows! Bless her! The cows were found by a farmer in Alfington who kindly kept them in a shed overnight.

Other than that the farm continues as normal. We've had a couple of tricky calvings recently. One cow had the calves feet showing but the head was still tucked a long way back and she had a slight twist (torsion) in the uterus which was stopping the head from coming up. This turned out to be a vet job, but after a lot of manoeuvring and patience we had a live calf – a bull of course. Then the next day there was a similar one with the head right back, but without the torsion, and I just managed to reach far enough to pull the head up enough to flick it over the other side of the legs so it came out fine. Another bull calf, but quite a satisfying feeling to know I'd managed to calve it myself.

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### Blackdown Hills Natural Futures – Wildlife Discovery Day

Families in the Blackdown Hills can connect with nature this summer at an exciting Wildlife Discovery Day at Otterhead Lakes on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August. The free event is being organised by the Blackdown Hills Natural Futures team to give everyone the chance to meet the creatures that live at this beautiful site. From 1pm-5pm there will be fun, family-friendly wildlife activities, and at 8pm there will be a bat and moth walk. Throughout the day, local wildlife experts will be on hand to help children and adults hunt for birds, butterflies, reptiles and river-dwelling mini-beasts. There will be a nature treasure hunt and homemade cake and refreshments will be on offer. For full event details, visit the website at [www.blackdownhillsnaturalfutures.org](http://www.blackdownhillsnaturalfutures.org)

The Blackdown Hills Natural Futures project is being run by the Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) team for the next three years. This summer, the project is giving trainee ecologists and volunteers the chance to get involved in extensive survey work, and local people can take part in a packed programme of events and activities. The project team also is working closely with schools and communities to get new nature projects established to discover, protect and celebrate our local wildlife. To find out more about getting involved, visit the website.

**GREAT  
VILLAGE BAKE  
OFF  
12th  
September  
in the  
Village Hall  
10.00—12.00  
In aid of  
KINGS HOUSE  
DAY HOSPICE  
Cake competition  
see posters for further  
details.**

## **PARISH COUNCIL – AUGUST REPORT**

Six councillors met for the August meeting. Susie Bond (EDDC) and Claire Wright (DCC) were also present.

### **DCC / EDDC Report.**

Claire Wright said the local clinical commissioning group (CCG) had announced last month that it would be closing all beds at Ottery and Axminster hospitals. She said she was disappointed that the CCG appeared to have ignored the recommendations of the stakeholder group to keep some beds available, and also that the CCG had said it would ‘move’ beds, rather than close them. Devon County Council’s health and scrutiny committee will review the decision next month, and Neil Parish MP is speaking to the Health Secretary. Members resolved to write to the head of DCC’s committee to express their objections to the CCG’s decision, as it could potentially put pressure on an already over-stretched Honiton Hospital. Susie Bond said EDDC had been told by the Local Plan inspector to present more evidence of its five-year land supply by the end of August.

**Crime.** No crimes reported this month.

**Finance.** Members noted the finances.

### **Planning applications.**

Members had no objections to the following:

- a) 8 Campion Way, Honiton: Oak tree, re-pollard
- b) 1 Hamlet Cottages (land adj to) Weston: Construction of 2 detached dwellings
- c) The Old Rectory, Gittisham: Construction of oak-framed garage to north east of dwelling house.

### **Limited residential development in Gittisham village.**

David Fallows said he, David Valentine and Susie Bond had met East Devon District Council, Combe Estate and the Community Council of Devon (CCD) on 3rd July to discuss the possibility of developing small-scale housing in the village. The only way forward on this, members heard, was if a housing needs survey was carried out to determine whether or not residents and people with links to the village would support any limited development. If a need can be demonstrated, a community housing trust is eventually set up to manage things. Combe Estate has proposed a choice of two sites where 8-10 houses could be sited: the old estate office and land opposite Clysthayes, both of which are outside the conservation area. The clerk agreed to invite the CCD to the October meeting, as the CCD says it will provide support in organising the survey.

### **Honiton Neighbourhood Plan.**

David Fallows said that Honiton Town Council had applied for the designation of the parish of Honiton as a neighbourhood plan area. The area outlined does not include the Vale. David Fallows said he would continue to attend meetings with Honiton TC and Awliscombe PC. A copy of the application has been posted on the two parish noticeboards, and parishioners are welcome to comment before the deadline of 14<sup>th</sup> August.

### **Local Plan.**

David Valentine said he thought the inspector would declare the Local Plan sound. The alternative, he said, would be disastrous for EDDC. Susie Bond added that the plan could be adopted by Christmas, all being well.

### **Play area.**

David Fallows thanked councillors and parishioners for their help in tidying up the play area last month. Maggie Walker said she would continue to research costs for an outdoor ping pong table, as proposed by a former resident. Russell Hayman said it was time to make progress on plans for the wild area, and Sara Trumper agreed to speak to Bill Griffiths about drawing up a design for a structure that could be presented at a future meeting.

### **Parish lengthsman.**

Members heard that Len Abbott had attended the Chapter 8 training required by DCC to maintain drains and ditches, so he is now considered qualified. Maggie Walker said she would speak to him about his assessment of what needs to be done.

**Next meeting.** This will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 7.30pm.

## Launch of a Devon Social Enterprise Network – from Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

Dear Partners and Colleagues,

Over the last 10 years DCT has seen the fantastic work done by social enterprises across Devon to improve people's lives, tackle social problems and improve communities and the environment. To support this work and to help grow and strengthen the sector we wanted to create a hub where rural social enterprise can collaborate, connect and find relevant information and resources. The network is free to join for all social and community enterprises based in rural Devon. Members of the network will be part of a stronger united voice for social enterprises across Devon and the UK.

Other benefits include:

Ø access to shared promotional opportunities and funding bids

Ø regular updates on the latest sector news about events, training and trends; and

Ø access to a like-minded network to collaborate with/share ideas and learning with one-another

The network was launched on **Thursday the 23<sup>rd</sup> July**, when DCT invited over 200 social and community enterprises to become members of the network. On the day we teamed up with the inspiring Grow@Jigsaw Project based in Bideford and we promoted the launch on our website and via social media - so look out for **#socentdevon**. To join the network and for more information visit our website [here](#) or call 01392 248919 to speak to Dawn or Tom. Kind regards, **Tom Butt and Dawn Eckhart Social Enterprise Team T: 01392 248919 ext\*171**

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### Churchwarden's report—Carol McCann

I must apologise that the family service in August was not a pet one, we had a Baptism and as such couldn't combine the two and have transferred the pets' one to September. Services for the next few weeks, all at 11.00 unless stated otherwise August 9<sup>th</sup> Parish Eucharist, 16<sup>th</sup> Sung Matins – lay-led 23<sup>rd</sup> Parish Eucharist and 30<sup>th</sup> Parish Eucharist. September 6<sup>th</sup> outdoor Family Pet Service 13<sup>th</sup> Parish Eucharist, 20<sup>th</sup> lay-led Morning Worship 27<sup>th</sup> Parish Eucharist.

Our monthly coffee get-togethers are going well, the next is on Saturday August 15<sup>th</sup> and they will finish with the 17<sup>th</sup> October hopefully with a bring and buy table each time. Our Harvest Festival will be over the first weekend in October, with the supper on the Saturday in the Village Hall and the Family Eucharist with refreshments on the Sunday. So please put these dates in your diaries. Speaking of Diaries, the 2016 church diaries are now available and are on the middle bench in church, the cost is £1 with the money being put in the wall safe by the door please. As we are in 'Proper Time' or 'Trinity' if you would like to choose some hymns over the next few months, please let me know as soon as you can as I am putting the lists for our organists, together so please be hasty if you want yours included.

**August 29<sup>th</sup>—Roger Hutchings** is asking for volunteers to help with a general clearing up of the churchyard...clearing brambles and trimming shrubs etc. Meet at 10.00am outside the church, come suitably dressed(!) and bring your shears, pruners and anything else you think might be useful.

**August 30<sup>th</sup>** Buckerell choral evensong at 6.00pm for their Patronal festival and from 3.00pm an old fashioned afternoon tea at Doug's Shed, if anyone would like a lift please let Carol know.

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### RICHARD SAUNDERS—update by Carol McCann

Richard had a lovely few days in London with his grand-daughter Efuia and her family. He is learning to use an electric wheelchair which will give him more scope to get around under his own 'steam'. I hope to arrange to gather friends to meet at the Otter Inn on the 10<sup>th</sup> September to celebrate his 98<sup>th</sup> birthday, we will need to book a vehicle to transport him and perhaps we can club together to do this. If you would like to be part of his special day please let Carol know so we can book a table for lunch.

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You may see some cameras in the village in the early part of September. A young filmmaker is producing a short film that takes place in a fictional village and he has chosen Gittisham as the location for it. The crew will number between 10 and 15, and it's hoped the filming won't cause too much disturbance.

Fiona Clampin

How do you approach an angry Welsh cheese? Caerphilly!

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### DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Contact one of the editorial team if you have a happy event to report, an interesting tip or village memory to share.

Carol McCann	851113
Barbara Mullett	851255
Jan Sutcliffe	851255
Doreen Wensley	45774
Ernie Wensley	45774

Email: [barbaramullett@aol.com](mailto:barbaramullett@aol.com)

## **AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN THE VILLAGE ?**

### **WE NEED YOUR VIEWS**

When we surveyed the community for the Parish Plan in 2010, residents felt that there should be more affordable housing for local people. There was a broad agreement that there should be more housing available for rent and that uses should be found for redundant buildings.

It has been five years since then, there have been some changes in the village population and planning permission has been agreed for 300 houses on the Hayne Farm fields.

In the meantime, Combe Estate and the parish council have been talking about whether there is still a need for some new housing in the village on, possibly, the old estate office or land opposite Clyst-hayes. We have agreed that the number of dwellings should be small (no more than 10 or 12) and that most of these would be affordable and for rent.

The Parish Council wish to ensure that the houses should be the main residence of the occupants because we are concerned at the proportion of village houses that are second homes or holiday lets and are keen to strengthen the community links that year-long occupancy encourages. The Estate is in accord with this wish.

However, in discussion with EDDC it has become clear that the council would only agree to any residential development in Gittisham Village in exceptional circumstances. Their view is that development should only occur in the larger villages and towns where there is a full set of services. Small communities such as ours are deemed to be unsustainable.

The exceptional circumstances may apply if we could demonstrate strong community support and evidence of a local housing need. The parish, with the cooperation of the estate, would then have to form a community housing trust that would take the project forwards and run the eventual development.

**This is where your views are vital.**

**Are you in favour of some small scale development within the village ?**

**You can reply to David Fallows or Richard Pratt. Contact details below. Your other thoughts would also be welcome. Thank you for your time.**

David Fallows: Parkers East Gittisham 01404 850922 [dfdfallows@gmail.com](mailto:dfdfallows@gmail.com)

Richard Pratt: 1 Campion Way 01404 46551 [clrrichardpratt@rajp981.plus.com](mailto:clrrichardpratt@rajp981.plus.com)

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**I am in favour of some small scale development in the village YES/NO**