

GITTISHAM GAZETTE

A monthly Community Newsletter

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Edition 178

GITTISHAM'S YEAR

Traditionally this is the time when we look back over the year gone by – and, just thinking locally, what a year it's been!

We have lost too many good friends, who have been such valued members of our community, and as we remember them with affection we also think of their families in their loss.

We do, however, welcome new friends and neighbours and hope they will be very happy here and enjoy their new surroundings.

Finally, a big thank you to all those who have contributed so much to the community through supporting and helping at the numerous events that have taken place over the year. Actions big and small, from organising to washing up, contribute so much to the success of an event, and its enjoyment by all.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all and your families and friends.

Scenes of Christmas

Our display of Nativity and Christmastide Scenes is in the church until Christmas, and at weekends Teas/coffees will also be served in the Parish Room. A Christmas tree in the Chancel onto which you can place tags with messages or in remembrance of loved ones, do please help to decorate the tree with the tags,. The church will be open daily and manned when possible between 10.00 and 4.00, if you could offer to help by manning the church please let Helen know Hayman on 01404758334 or 07806480246.

Dates for your diary

From 3rd December Displays of Nativity Scenes in St. Michael's Gittisham, open daily from 10.00 – 4.00 with refreshments in the Parish Room at weekends and whenever otherwise possible

10th Spirit 11 Spirit Choir Advent Meditation Upottery Church with flute from 6.00pm – refreshments 7.15 – 7.45 plus carols old and new from 7.45 – 9.00pm

17th Coffee get-together 10.30 – 12 noon in the Parish Room

18th Service of Carols and Readings Gittisham Church 6.30pm with refreshments.

23rd Carols on the Green 6.30 with bar-b-q'd bangers and mulled wine

23rd Smoked and Uncut at the Pig see separate advert

7th January Quiz Night Village Hall 7/7.30 Teams up to 6 Soup & Ploughman's No bar info from Hamish Hall 850793 or Carol McCann 851113

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Edith and Sid Phillips had a very serious accident on Wednesday 30th November in Exeter At the time of printing Edi is still in Intensive Care and Sid moved to a surgical ward, both at Derriford. We wish them both speedy recoveries and hope that they may be able to be transferred to Wonford in the near future then back to Gittisham.

Alex Rowe Congratulations to Alex who has recently passed his driving test.

Kay O'Donaghue Sister of Betty Madden sadly passed away in Bristol, following a long illness we pray that her family and Betty can find comfort in their grieving.

Hamish and Sophie Boswell congratulations on the birth of your first son Blake

CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT CAROL McCANN

The Remembrance Service on the 13th was well attended for the short act of Remembrance with wreath laying at the Lych-gate but only 29 people went on into church for the Eucharist. The Royal British Poppy collection from Gittisham Village amounted to £131.31. We have been getting ready for our Scenes of Christmas display (see page 1 for details). The village was sad to lose another resident (no. 6 this year), Ada Summers died peacefully in her sleep her funeral was at the Methodist Chapel in Farway on 23rd November she is much missed. On Advent Sunday 27th November there was a lovely Mission Community service in the evening at St. Paul's Honiton with Advent hymns and carols and readings and poems culminating with mulled wine and gingerbread stars and stollen.

Forthcoming Church Services 11am unless stated

December

- 11th Parish Eucharist
- 18th Service of Carols and Readings
with refreshments 6.30pm
- 24th Midnight Mass 11.30pm
- 25th First Eucharist of Christmas

- 23rd Carols on the Green 6.30 with
Bar-b-q'd bangers and mulled wine

January 2017

- 1st No service in Gittisham, Service at St.
Paul's, Honiton, 10.00am
- 8th Family Christingle and Epiphany
Eucharist with refreshments
- 15th Parish Eucharist
- 22nd Lay-led Sung Matins
- 29th Parish Eucharist

200 CLUB RESULTS DECEMBER

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1st Dawn Merchant | 2nd Lilian Hayman | 3rd Joyce Underdown |
| 4th Owen Cleverdon | 5th Felicity Trevelyan | |

ROY'S BEES CHRISTMAS PRESENT IDEAS

Are you looking for local Christmas present ideas? We have some Gittisham Honey for sale at £6 per 1lb jar, we also have some Comb Honey at £7 per pack. To make a purchase or treat yourselves (it is delicious) please contact Roy or Ken on 01404 850550.



Post-Christmas 'VILLAGE DRINKS PARTY'

Thursday 5th January 2017 6:00pm – 8:00pm

We would like to invite you to join us in the Folly between 6:00pm and 8:00pm on Thursday, 5th January 2017 for a glass of mulled wine and home-made mince pies.

Spaces are limited in the Folly so please ensure that you RSVP by 1st January 2017 to Rebecca Stones on 01404 541770 or events@thepigatcombe.com to ensure entry on the day

Editorial team.

Editor Carol McCann 01404 851113 charli.mcc@mypostoffice.co.uk Doreen & Ernie Wensley 01404 45774 January edition will hopefully go to print on 10th, any articles should be with Carol by 4th please, preferably by email.

GRAIN TO CREAM - RUSSELL HAYMAN

Another year will soon be over not been a bad one down on the farm. What an autumn we have had couldn't really ask for better. All the animals are now in and settling down for winter as are we.

More good news just had a clear T B test one more in 60 days then it will be back to yearly testing so fingers crossed.

This is the time of year for meetings it seems I think there is two or three a week some government funded trying to train us in the latest thinking from above; lots of experts telling us how its done then they can boast how much has been spent helping us! I know, very cynical and there are always ways of doing it better just have to make sure I go to the right meetings. Also had the Tesco annual meeting very well attended they couldn't get everyone in and yes we are going to have to more for the same as always but that's improvement and must remember now that milk prices are slowly climbing up Tesco has paid a fair price all the time not 10p or more below the cost of production which brings me on to the other important meeting I have been to with my milk processor.

There is lots of pressure on the retailers re our price and treating their suppliers right but the processors I believe have a lot to learn in how to treat their suppliers too. For ages they have offered up product at cheap prices knowing they can get it from the suppliers. I have just been shown a new contract, which I am expected to sign in a few weeks if I don't it, is implied no price rises and eventually the existing contract will be terminated. Part of this contract requires me to forecast the amount of milk I will send for the next 15 months with the nearest quarter accurate to 5% either way or there will be deductions to the price. This could be relaxed a bit but what it says to me is I have to either buy and sell cows to match my forecast not practical in a TB area, look to house them all year round or factor in a price reduction for when I'm not quite right. Could always look for a new buyer but they are all much the same. The co-op's (not the shop) which have paid some of the lowest and the lowest prices around using their members money to sure themselves up or invest in new plant as if farming doesn't have enough capital evolved all on the promise of better returns in the future. Some of the smaller companies are no better declaring that they are going to pay over 30p by Easter before deductions for the time of year and only a few months ago the very same company was giving suppliers notice leaving them with nowhere to sell their milk; not much changes it seems.

Can't end on a down note Christmas is coming and I'm going to get fat (er) My not so small children put that 'er' in



FESTIVE SMOKED AND UNCUT FESTIVAL
THE PIG-at Combe WEDNESDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2016 6:00pm – 10:00pm

**Get into the spirit of Christmas by joining us at THE PIG-at Combe
for our festive Smoked and Uncut Festival As well as music and entertainment there will be food and drink
available throughout the evening.**

**Tickets are available at £25.00 each (food and drink not included) and can be purchased through our website at
www.smokedanduncut.com Entry will be on ticket basis only**

PARISH COUNCIL – DECEMBER REPORT

Three councillors met for the December meeting. Sara Randall Johnson (DCC) and one member of the public were also present.

DCC / EDDC Report.

Sara Randall Johnson said they had not yet heard what the county council's grant from central Government would be. DCC's draft budget has been published. As regards the A30 between Honiton and Devonshire Inn, councillors are being recommended to put the so-called "orange route" to the Secretary of State as the preferred option for a £180 million improvement scheme for the road. In her absence, Susie Bond's report said that EDDC had refused the application by PegasusLife for 113 'extra care' apartments on the Knowle site, which will probably now mean a delay in EDDC's HQ moving to Honiton. The applicant is expected to either go to appeal or put in a revised application.

Crime.

- 1) 21st Nov scrap metal and car batteries stolen from premises; CCTV cameras damaged.

Finance. Members agreed the finances.

Planning applications.

- a) Old Estate Yard Gittisham - retrospective change of use to convert existing builders/storage yard to staff parking area.
- b) Old Estate Yard Lane to Catshayes Farm Gittisham EX14 3AE - construction of path and footbridge (retrospective application)

Members said they had no objection in principle to these applications. However, they expressed a wish to be assured that the Environment Agency and DCC Highways were content with these applications. Also, that the concerns of local residents over increased usage of the lane and associated disturbance have been noted. Ken Hopkins said he was concerned over whose responsibility it was for keeping the bridge and stream clear, especially in the light of recent heavy rain. It was agreed to ask Susie Bond (EDDC) to follow closely the progress of these two planning applications.

Limited residential development in Gittisham village.

David Valentine said the meeting with the Wessex Community Land Trust (CLT) had gone well, and he promised to present a report on the next steps at a future parish council meeting. The site appraisal at the end of November had favoured one site out of four possible.

Play area.

The clerk said she had ordered two signs which will be installed shortly to deter people from bringing dogs into the play area.

Otter Rotters.

Richard Pratt encouraged people to respond to the consultation on community composting. The proposals could threaten the future of community composting groups such as Otter Rotters, which would see a 50 per cent reduction in garden waste credits. <https://new.devon.gov.uk/haveyoursay/consultations/community-composting-credits/>

Footpaths.

Prior to the parish council meeting, DCC's Public Rights of Way officer gave a presentation on his review of footpaths in the parish. The PC intends to hold a public meeting to discuss footpaths in January; details in the next edition of the Gittisham Gazette.

Next meeting. This will be on 4th January at 7.30pm.