

GITTISHAM GAZETTE

A monthly Community Newsletter

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GET BETTER SOON

Barbara Mullett, our Editor has just undergone a hip replacement she did not feel able to prepare this month's Gazette so you will notice a slightly different format owing to my not having the same programme to do it with. Hopefully we will be back to normal next month, however Barbara has indicated that as she has been editor since the conception of the Gazette, and the fact that she will soon have other commitments we need to find someone who might be willing to take over in due course. If you are interested, please get in touch with Barbara to discuss. I hope you will soon be up and 'running' again soon Barbara and wish you well. Thank you for your sterling work each month. Carol McCann

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FEB

19th Bible study course. Matthew in a Nutshell, (5 weeks) in St. Paul's 2.30 – 4pm, with Rev. Philip Butcher, ring Parish Office to book your place 44035

22nd Fun Quiz Gittisham village Hall 7pm/7.30 teams up to 6 with ploughman's platters, no bar BYO drinks. £5/£3 ring Carol or Hamish Hall to book a team 850793

23rd Team Choral Evensong, Gittisham 6.30

26th Piano, Poetry & Prose, John McGregor & friends 3pm at Sidholme Hotel, Temple St. Sidmouth. donations welcome for the organ restoration fund. Details John 01395512728

28th Kings School PTFA Quiz Night at Kings School 7/7.30 teams of 6, bar available bookings at the front desk or details from Helen Hayman 07806480246

DATES MARCH.

1st 'Neil Diamond' Show with Phil Richards in Gittisham Village Hall 8pm reserve tickets from Carol McCann 851113 or Tina 07591962723 pay on the door £7.50 no bar, BYO. tea/coffee available

4th Tip Tip Toe meet at 4pm for tea then going round the village contact Carol Rowe 42510

7th 'Motherland' a provocative wartime black comedy (see page 4 for info) Gittisham Village Hall, 8pm. Tickets £7 (£5 conc) from Doreen Wensley 45774 or Ella Galinski 822518

22nd 'Saturday Swap Shop' jumble, white elephant, cakes, plants, teas, for village hall funds Clean goods received from 10am. Event starts 2pm ring Sue 850922 or Carol 851113 for details

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Congratulations to **Florence Hill** who has become engaged to **Will Wolsey** we wish them every happiness.

200 CLUB RESULTS

1st Mrs M. Ward
2nd Mr R. Hayman
3rd Mrs A. Partridge
4th Mrs E. Cligg
5th Miss V. Quick

Subscriptions are due during March, if you would like to join the 200 club, ring Carol 851113 the cost per number is £12 per year.

Regular weekly events

Mondays Pilates 6.45 -
Weds 1st Parish Council
All others 8.00pm
Folkdance Club
Thursdays Salsa Evenings
7.30
Fridays Stage Right Drama
Club 5.15

Churchwarden's report

On Wednesday 5th we interviewed a prospective successor to Canon Richard everyone on the panel agreed to offer the post, we now await his decision, please pray for a successful outcome.

Services for the next few weeks are, 9th Parish Eucharist, 16th A Service of the word plus Baptism of Otis Whitfield Polly and Neal's young son, please note it is not matins. 23rd lay-led Morning Worship, and at 6.30 choral evensong. 2nd March Family Eucharist with refreshments, 9th Parish Eucharist. There will be two Family services in March as the 30th is Mothering Sunday with refreshments and posies for the Mothers. The first Sunday in April will be a Parish Eucharist. Lent begins on the 5th of March, are you considering giving something up, if so, would you like to collect your saving for Water Aid, if so please contact Ian Warne 42146, who will give you the details. As mentioned in the diary dates, Rev Philip is running a 5 week course called 'Matthew in a Nutshell, exploring Matthew's Gospel and his use of the Old Testament. If you are planning to go and need a lift, please give me a ring 851113. Carol McCann

.Honiton Community

Cinema is looking for new members and helpers.

Films screened monthly on Fridays usually from 7pm if you can help or wish to join please e-mail admin@honitoncommunitycinema.co.uk

next film Captain Phillips
21st Feb 3.00 for 3.30 &
7.00 for 7.30 tickets from
the Toy Shop, Library or
T.I.C.

The udder side of the hedge
Carla Cheffey,

The weather! What can I say, the chickens are beginning to wish they were ducks, and the cows are very reluctant to brave the few meters between the cubicle shed and the milking parlour. Funnily enough though the geese seem to think spring is here as they started to lay about 3 weeks ago. We have a total of 7 geese, nothing special, and I don't know what they are gender wise, but there's definitely males and females since all 20 eggs I put in the incubator are developing nicely – not too sure what I'll do with them if they do all hatch but they are supposed to be a bit more tricky than chickens as they need more humidity to stop the membranes drying out. I've seen 2 different geese laying and they have chosen a spot next to the stables – the others stand guard whilst they're on the nest and are pretty vicious (and loud) if you go anywhere near them.

Budgies are also laying, and our first litter of rabbits have been born. So just need to accommodate everything somewhere warm and dry (preferably not the kitchen by the aga).

We had our bit of drama a couple of weeks ago when one of the staff came to the kitchen window to tell me the tractor was on fire! It was attached to the slurry pump and we didn't stand a chance of saving the tractor. We managed to get another tractor moved from next to it and dad put the pressure washer going on the Yorkshire boarding of the shed to stop that going up whilst we waited for the fire brigade to arrive. It did seem to take them rather a while to get here but they managed to put it out eventually. Poor tractor, we had bought it new when we moved here in 1989.

Lets hope that's it for disasters this year.

PARISH COUNCIL SUMMARY – February

Five parish councillors met for the February meeting. Susie Bond (EDDC) was also present.

EDDC / DCC Report. Members discussed the super enquiry at Feniton, which had ended that day (5th February). Susie Bond said the outcome will not be known until June, and it was difficult to know which way it would go. David Fallows thanked David Valentine for speaking on behalf of Gittisham PC at the enquiry. The clerk read out a letter from Feniton Parish Council, regarding Gittisham's gesture of £500 towards Feniton's Fighting Fund. "Please can you pass on our heartfelt thanks to all in both your council and the community."

Susie Bond said EDDC had committed an additional £800,000 to look at moving its premises from the Knowle. The Save our Sidmouth campaign group has agreed to pay for an independent surveyor to assess the building, which has a £1 million maintenance backlog.

In her absence Claire Wright sent a report regarding proposed cuts by DCC to services for both older people and younger people, which are currently out for public consultation. On a more positive note, she also informed members of proposals to build a new walking and cycling route between Sidbury and Sidford.

Crime. None.

Finance. Members noted the finances, and reimbursement of VAT for 2012/13 totalling £1,213.79.

Planning applications.

- a) 14/0063/LBC Combe House Hotel Gittisham EX14 3AD Alteration to tapered lead valley gutter over rear (East) wing

Members had no objections.

Play area maintenance contract. Members discussed four bids, and resolved to award the contract to PLandscape.

East Devon Local Plan. David Valentine said the enquiry into EDDC's Local Plan would run for a couple of months. He explained that the enquiry takes the form of a roundtable discussion. There are various key dates for Gittisham parish, and the council will have an opportunity to speak: 12th & 13th February, and 5th March. David Valentine said the parish council's previous argument had centred on the issue as to whether the 450 homes proposed for Honiton had already been met by windfalls and therefore whether or not the town needs a reserve site at Hayne Lane. Additionally, figures for inward migration that have emerged through 2011 census data do not, he argued, match those presented in the Local Plan.

Flooding, gullies and drains. DCC had been in touch to say that they would be suspending programmed gully cleaning, lengthsman visits, routine patching and planned cleaning of ditches and easements for the rest of this financial year. It said council workers had been redeployed to tackle the backlog of potholes that have appeared on the highway network, which create a safety issue. The clerk reported a conversation with Buckerell Parish Council's clerk about employing a lengthsperson. Buckerell has found somebody in the village who is willing to do it, but they are currently investigating insurance. Buckerell's chair will ask this person if he would also consider helping out in Gittisham.

David Fallows said he had removed eight bags of leaf litter and soil from a drainage channel opposite Willy's Wood. He said he had reported to DCC some time ago the drains outside the village hall which are blocked underground, but no one from the council has been out to inspect them. Members also discussed the possibility of installing flood barriers outside properties, as well as the issue with water on the road at Truances, where there is a concrete gully.

Play area. Members agreed to resume discussions about options for the wild area, and they hope to be speaking to residents about these over the next few weeks and months.

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

GITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL HAS A NEW TWITTER PAGE

Do have a look at <https://twitter.com/GittishamPC> there will be more details in next months edition.

KINGS SCHOOL PTFA REPORT - HELEN HAYMAN

Our first meeting of the year gave lots of praise to our Christmas fayre which had been a huge success, an amazing event which seems to enlarge every year with lots of participation from students and their families.

Following this, started preparations for our quiz which is at the end of February (28th) and always makes the competitive side appear in members, giving a buzz for future events.

The 200 club with large prizes was drawn and letters of correspondence were read out to all attending. It was decided to contribute funds to the art department for help towards purchasing a kiln, funds for the PE department to purchase smaller goals for the under 12's to play football, funds for the school lego club, funds for T-shirts for the students who are travelling around Moldova to be easily identified and loans of our tea/coffee etc was approved for students raising funds for this trip. The PTFA cutlery was also approved for loan to the catering department.

A busy year lies ahead with supporting of all our students and with the Arts evening provisionally booked for the 18th June when the PTFA will provide the bar and barbeque, many volunteers will be required so if anyone can help or wishes to know more about the PTFA please contact myself, helenhayman@googlemail.com or via the Kings School Front Desk.

'MOTHERLAND' A WARTIME BLACK COMEDY BY SUZE GARDNER GITTISHAM VILLAGE HALL FRIDAY 7TH MARCH AT 8.00PM

The play explores the issues of women in the first half of the 20th century for whom contraception was non-existent and Dr Marie Stopes' work in this field setting up birth control clinics in London's East End to address this. It examines her character and the appalling prejudices against her and her family.

Whilst being extremely entertaining, Motherland offers a rare insight into one of the most dynamic (if flawed) women of the 20th century. This is the third play by the highly talented, humorous writer and historian Suze Gardner. The cast have all worked in many Exeter productions at the Northcott, the New Theatre and at various Theatre Festivals and Tours.

More information re this production from <http://www.tivertontheatre.com/forthcoming-events/62-motherland/event> details

Tickets can be booked through Doreen Wensley 01404 45774 or Ella Galinski 01404 822518

"Nothing is so strong
as gentleness;
nothing so gentle
as real strength"
Francis of Sales

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES FIRST WEDNESDAY IN MONTH

Contact the editorial Team if you have something to report

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Next publication will be about 7th March