

“IMPISI” by Clive Essame

Since the funding for my job at Magic Carpet in Exeter ended I have been working on my first book which has developed from a play that I wrote in South Africa a few years ago. I self published the book on Kindle, it is called “Impisi” and there is also a play script. It is about a young lion about to take over the pride, until he is caught in a wire snare. He escapes but is badly injured. Then help comes from a very unexpected place. The story is suitable for people of all ages, at the simplest level it is a story of a lion and other wild animals, but there are different layers to the story which will appeal and interest people of all generations. It can be used as an educational resource as well. The play script is suitable for schools, amateur and professional companies.

[http://
www.impisiproductions.com/](http://www.impisiproductions.com/)

[https://www.facebook.com/
ImpisiProductions](https://www.facebook.com/ImpisiProductions)

FROM GRAIN TO CREAM—Russell Hayman

Crumbs, the year is going quickly (must be getting old). In a months' time, all things being equal, harvest will be under way. Winter Barley is the first crop we cut, then the oil seed rape. The winter crops have recovered remarkably well after a very poor start, that is if they survived! Some are still thin and a bit weedy but given some sunshine worth running the combine through; got to be really bad not to give it a go. The spring crops after a slow start are also looking all right but we haven't got it yet, long way to go. Not until its gone over the weigh bridge can you say how good it is, as we know all too well from last year. Before we cut there is one more thing we have to do which is check the fields for wild oats; we walk every field and, if seen, they are pulled up; not many farms do this still but, if there are just a few, it is an effective means of control; as you can imagine a bit time consuming, nice walk in the country though. Now there's a good idea! I could get Helen to do them all...she is in training for Three Peaks so would be doing her a favour! As for the animals, they are enjoying the sun and hanging around in the fields growing and producing milk we hope! That's what keeps us here. Dennis, the wonky bull, is still with us though his new home has arrived (a freezer)... hope he tastes better than he looks! He was never a commercial proposition but didn't have the heart to get rid of him as a calf; poor chap. he does like a back scratch. Edmund is training a heifer so he can show it with the young farmers; at the moment it is halter training and getting her used to being groomed. She is liking it quite a bit; most of them like a bit of pampering. Speaking of training I am having to give the Jackdaws and Rooks a bit of education! They have taken a liking to our maize silage and are getting used to the scarier; they are clever birds, just wish there were a lot less, then natural food would be enough for them and we could all live in harmony. Have to watch the crops next or they will be destroying them! Must go... just heard one squawk overhead Watch out mate there's a mad farmer about!

SMILE AND THE WORLD SMILES WITH YOU!

Churchwarden's report—Carol McCann

The weekend of 22nd/23rd June was a busy one, on the Saturday there was a Blessing of Marriage ceremony for Kate and Adam Barber who both work for the Met Office. On Sunday Karrissa Marker and her partner Matt Morgan had their baby daughter Ava Ruth Baptised, the service was conducted by Revd. Jane, there was a lovely full church. In the evening Gittisham hosted the monthly team evensong, we had a lovely choral evening but a disappointing number in the congregation there were 10 members in the choir and 10 in the congregation, we will probably be hosts again in January 2014 and I hope to have more support as the only 3 from the parish were Doreen & Ernie and myself.

This month our services will be 7th Family service, 14th Parish Eucharist. 21st Sung Matins and 28th we will commence our new Morning Worship – non Eucharist. As we are now in what is known as ‘proper time’ It would be good if you would like to choose up to five hymns to be included at a Sunday service from July, please take them all from either the Hymns Old and New or the Ancient and Modern hymnal for matins services, do please let me know fairly soon if you would like to choose from August to October, as I did not have any suggestions I have already chosen for July.

The July 200 club was drawn at the Gazette editorial team meeting.

The Honiton food bank are still desperate for more items especially tinned items, vegetables including potatoes, fruit, sponge and milk puddings and ready meals. Plus tea/coffee, long-life milk, cereals, porridge and biscuits, when I took a very full blue box to the Food bank on the 18th (a day when they are open for business) the shelves were really empty and it was only about an hour before opening.

The 200 club has still got some spare numbers, the cost is £12 per year, if you would like to take a number, please let me know (01404 851113), the draw is done at the family service on the first Sunday each month.

VILLAGE BARBEQUE

This was another of those situations where “despite the weather” the Village Hall Committee was determined to make certain that everyone had a good time. And they succeeded! It was lovely to see so many happy faces, tucking into their meals. Doreen, Angie and Sue worked like seasoned professionals. And many hands at the end of the meal offering help to clear etc. was typical of the community spirit that these events inspire. Our thanks also go to Bill, Hamish, Ernie and Carol. An amount of £157 was made towards Village Hall funds.

Jan Sutcliffe

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Please contact one of the editorial team below if you have a happy event to report or village memory to share.

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

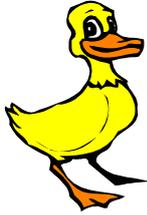
GITTISHAM GAZETTE

A monthly Community Newsletter

published by St Michael's Church and the Parish Council, Gittisham

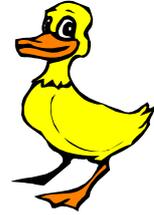
July 2013

Edition 137



GITTISHAM FETE

Saturday 27th July from 2.00-5.00pm



TEAS, STALLS, ACTIVITIES, DRAW, LICENSED BAR,
DUCK RACE 4.00PM

COOL RUNNINGS at 7.00pm

after the Fete

Caribbean Supper, Bob sled racing, Calypso Disco

Licensed Beach Bar Best dressed prizes

£7.50 entry (includes supper), kids under 12 free

Ticket sales from Doreen Wensley 45774

Two man kart racing, call Hamish for entry 850793



DATES FOR THE DIARY

July 7th—Cream Tea in aid of Farway Methodist Chapel. Join Gerald and Janet Phillips at 31 Pine Park Road, Honiton from 3.30pm. Janet is Ada Summers' daughter. Everyone welcome.

July 10th—Leading Intercessions Workshop in Buckerell, 7.00pm. Ring Carol—851255

July 20th—Coffee Get-Together on St Michael's Cottage patio, next to the church. 10.30-12.00. Bring & Buy stall. In the church if weather is wet!!!

July 20th—'Eight to the Bar' with Merv Joslin 8.30pm in the village hall, £5 on the door. Relive the sounds of the 70s. Come and have a night of fun and nostalgia dancing to this local band. Licensed bar.

July 21st—Hospiscare Open Garden at Manna House in Honiton. 11.00—5.00

August 3rd—FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW. Entry forms and fees must be delivered to Pam Chown by midnight on 28th July. Doors will open at 2.30pm to view the exhibits and enjoy a delicious afternoon tea.

August 11th—JURASSIC CLASSIC CYCLE RIDE. For the second year, Gittisham is manning a food station at the village hall. Carol needs volunteers for a couple of hours...ring her to get involved 851113.

July 13th Buckerell Fete

July 13th The Mikado at Combe Raleigh 7.00pm

July 17th Mission Community Council Meeting at Awliscombe School 7.00pm

July 25th Worship Committee, Awliscombe Vicarage 9.30am

July 26th-28th Flower Festival at Combe Raleigh

200 Club

The winners this month were:

1st Prize	Mr T Ballantyne
2nd Prize	Ms J Bruce-Merrie
3rd Prize	Mrs P Carstairs
4th Prize	Mrs A Stansell
5th Prize	Mr B Gilling

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

POLLY AGG-MANNING has two events to celebrate! She and Neal got married in Bath...congratulations! One week later, 17th June, she gave birth to a son, Otis Samuel, at Wonford Hospital. He weighed 7lbs8oz. We send love and best wishes to Polly, Neal and Otis.

MYRTLE, LADY ACLAND is in Ottery St. Mary hospital awaiting results of tests. She has been in hospital for several weeks. We wish her well and hope to see her back in the village soon. Her daughter, Victoria, is over from South Africa and is staying in Myrtle's cottage.

AMANDA ACLAND's mother, Sonia, over for a holiday from East Africa, has had a fall and broken her hip. She is in Wonford hospital recovering from an operation. We wish her a speedy recovery.

FRED BLACKMORE will be 90 on July 10th. We send love and Congratulations.

CLIFFORD WENSLEY will be 95 on July 28th. Congratulations and our love to Clifford.

YEARS MIND—JULY

Lily Chown
Felix O'Reilly

HOLY DUSTERS for July

Maggie Walker
Jane Bramley and Sue Fallows

PARISH COUNCIL – JUNE REPORT

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

EDDC / DCC Report.

Susie Bond asked if the parish had a significant issue with dogs fouling the area, as East Devon has introduced a new scheme where wardens will stencil a temporary message on the road or path where dog mess is a problem. Members did not consider dog mess to be a significant enough issue to warrant this, and the type of road surface where dog owners let their dogs defecate would not support the stencil. Susie Bond also updated members regarding ex-EDDC councillor Graham Brown. Specialist officers within Devon & Cornwall Police are now considering the matter.

Crime. There were two reported crimes since the last meeting:

Non-dwelling burglary – Forced entry to commercial premises and quantity of cash stolen

Theft – Mobile telephone stolen at a private party.

Finance. Members noted the finances this month. The clerk reported that the internal audit of the council's annual accounts had been successful. The accounts are now with the external auditor.

Active Villages project.

Councillors were informed that Leisure East Devon, which runs the Active Villages project, has been in touch to say it is in the process of setting up a Pilates/Yoga/Body Balance type of class which will be free to the community for 6-8 weeks. Should it prove popular, a small charge will be made subsequently to keep the activity going. There may also be a multi-sports session over the summer.

Limited residential development.

Councillors met Justin Lascelles (representing the Combe Estate) and Richard Marker in May to understand more about the estate's plans for small-scale development. As understood, the estate is keen to develop 10-12 homes, a proposal which chimes with the parish plan. Members said in principle the parish council would support a planning application along those lines. David Fallows said he had stressed the importance of having the greater proportion of any potential homes available for rent, rather than sale. Members agreed this would guarantee residents with a year-round commitment to the parish. They noted there had been a rapid increase in empty properties in recent months in Gittisham village. Mike Edmonds circulated a leaflet from Gleeson Developments, which has been distributed in the Vale, outlining a proposal for 180 houses at Heathfield. The clerk will contact the company to outline the council's objections, i.e. it is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, it adds traffic flow and nuisance to Honeysuckle Drive, and it is relatively remote from Honiton amenities and transport links, which adds to carbon footprints.

Play area.

Members heard that progress had been made as regards some of the items outlined in the annual safety inspection report. David Fallows thanked in particular Rufus Lyle for rebuilding the wall and Nick Agg-Manning for providing the bricks. Work on the wall has revealed damage to stonework on one side, possibly both, so members agreed to inspect this. They also said molehills would be leveled in future. Russell Hayman said the gate to the wild area should be kept shut. The clerk is to draw up a rota for weekly inspections of the play area equipment in line with insurance policy conditions.

Roads.

Russell Hayman reported poor surfacing along the road to Sherman's Farm, and the highway around Truances Cottage has collapsed. Mike Edmonds said the road surface was suffering at the Vale end of Old Elm Road. These will be reported to DCC. The clerk reported that the stretch of old A30 from the Iron Bridge to Roebuck Farm would now be called Nag's Head Road, following a consultation she had carried out with residents of that road.

Telephone box.

The clerk agreed to pursue BT regarding the status of the telephone box in the village. Sara Trumper said she thought the parish council had agreed to buy the structure as long as the apparatus was decommissioned.

Japanese knotweed.

Japanese knotweed is proliferating in the village. Members said it was the responsibility of property owners to deal with this invasive species in the correct manner. Advice available on the Devon County Council website.

Next meeting. This will be on 7th August at 7.30pm.

Claire Wright, Independent Devon County and East Devon District Councillor, Ottery St Mary Rural Ward, is a member of the group that is moving forward plans for a cycleway in the Otter Valley, and have launched an online petition for the scheme...email to support plans for the "Otter Trail"

http://www.claire-wright.org/index.php/post/click_to_support_plans_for_the_ottertrail/

BEES ARE WELCOME by Roy Abbott

Well, the weather is still having a strong influence on our bees, one day it's wet and cold keeping them all in their hives; then for a bit of relief we actually get some SUN for them to get out and gather nectar and pollen, only to be followed by more cold and wet then a little more sun; this must confuse the girls completely!

They have been very busy when the sun is out and reared a good amount of brood; also they have made some honey for us to take off, so we did the sticky job of extracting then bottling our first crop of honey this season. If any one would like to buy some we are selling it at the same price as last year at £5 per pound jar (we bee-keepers like imperial measures). We now need summer to arrive so they can carry on and make use of the summer flowers.

I was asked the other day if bees would bother people eating outside? The answer is no problem. Bees aren't interested in sweet drinks or cakes and sugary food...it is wasps that do the pestering and stinging; the only thing bees would have a interest in would be honey, they might want to take that home again!

Bell Ringers' Outing – by Maggie Walker

Saturday, 29th June, dawned bright and clear for Awliscombe, Buckerell and Gittisham's annual bell ringing outing to four churches in South Devon. The ringers congregated at Awliscombe Village Hall's car park and by 9.00 a.m. the party of fourteen set off in high spirits and with keen anticipation of a glorious day of ringing. Mike (our bus driver) made excellent time and by 10.00 a.m. we pulled up outside The Church of St Mary, Dartington.

Jan and Barbara, who had travelled down independently, were there to greet us. We were all eager to begin the exercise of the day. A churchwarden was there to welcome us with generous steaming mugs of coffee and biscuits. The tower has six bells and, under the expert guidance of Crispin Denny (Buckerell Tower Leader) and Roger Sprigg (Awliscombe Tower Leader), we rang a variety of call changes, interspersed with some scientific method ringing. When we were not ringing we joined the non-bell ringers amongst us (our loyal fans) and enjoyed reading up on the history of the churches and drinking in the marvellous scenic views. We journeyed onwards through the lush and verdant Devon countryside to St Mary's Church, Berry Pomeroy to delight the parishioners, as they prepared for their summer fete. The bell tower can only be accessed by climbing up a hazardous spiral stone staircase of some stature. A thin iron rod, acting as a bannister, was grasped grimly as each bell ringer wended their way precariously in a seemingly never-ending upwards trajectory. Nevertheless, the bells pealed forth with sombre magnificence, delighting the pasty-eating tower captain who sat in the churchyard listening intently to the labours of those so far above. Richard (retired, beloved vicar from Gittisham) particularly delighted in the unspoilt, pastoral surroundings, which would have inspired Wordsworth and Coleridge had they ventured southwards.

And so we were off again, by now ravenous from our labours and keen to satiate our appetites in the alternative town of Totnes. Bill (Gittisham Tower Deputy Leader) and Sara (Spokesperson) were overheard discussing the merits of the 'toothsome veggie nibbles' to be sampled; Maggie, being familiar with all things 'other', directed some members of the party to Willow Restaurant where copious quantities of organic, vegan, gluten-free fare were digested. The remaining diners sought out more conventional gastronomic establishments, with Jan Sutcliffe's moules mariniere being the highlight of the courses consumed.

By 2.30 p.m. the bus was rolling along the lanes once more on the way to the Church at Collaton St. Mary. The six bells here were much lighter than those in the previous two towers and the team of ringers confessed to finding the belfry somewhat cramped. This may have had something to do with spreading waistlines, and one thinks it was here that Roger began to have some trouble securing his trousers. Fortunately, being country folk, a piece of bailer twine was found and Roger was able to improvise a belt. A merry little ditty sang out from this tower as the ringers once more produced a selection of call changes and scientific ringing from their extensive repertoire.

Once more we were on the road and hastening towards a pre-ordered Devonshire cream tea, which Mary and Sue (Awliscombe ringers) had been anticipating all day. Richard, having succumbed to a chocolate brownie in Totnes, was unable to eat his scone, yet Sara seemed unaffected by her earlier indulgence. Roger had butter instead of cream on his scone, and no-one really knew whether this was in deference to his cholesterol intake or the bailer twine holding up his trousers. At this stage in our adventure Barbara and Jan conceded defeat and, taking Richard with them, returned to East Devon.

The team concluded their expedition at The Church of St. Bartholomew, Coffinswell. This was a most picturesque setting and a fitting backdrop to the mellifluous chimes of this superlative set of six bells. At this stage all ringers had completely mastered their art and Geoff (Harpford Church) astounded us all with his tenacious stamina, as he continued to ring when other younger ringers were wilting. Roger surprised everyone by suddenly setting his bell to 'stand' and then we realised that his trousers were falling down, as the bailer twine could no longer take the strain. We all agreed that we had had a lovely day and that it is necessary to repeat such events, so that the art of campanology never dies in our wonderful churches. Thank you to Roger and Rosemary for organising such a memorable day.