

GITTISHAM GAZETTE

A monthly Community Newsletter

Published by St Michael's Church and the Parish Council Gittisham

July 2015

Edition 161

FATHERS' DAY BBQ

June 21st as well as being the longest day - was a great success. Chicken, sausages and a variety of delicious salads made up the menu, followed by fruit salad, ice cream and Carol's fantastic chocolate sauce. The weather was kind, and conversation flowed. It was good to see so many people both from the village and outside. One couple on a walk from the caravan site ate heartily and said what a lovely atmosphere there had been, and how lucky we are to live in such a friendly village.

Many thanks to all who helped out with cooking, setting up, washing up and clearing away - the back office is always busy!

FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW

The date of the annual Gittisham Flower and Produce Show fast approaches. Entry forms, which have been distributed, should be returned to Sarah or Len Abbott 4 Church Mead, Gittisham, EX14 3AH by 25th July. If you have not yet received your form, please contact Sue Fallows, Parkers East, Gittisham, EX14 3AS - 01404 850922.

With your support 1 August will continue the long tradition of the community spirit which is Gittisham, where **all** are welcome to take part and enjoy the fun. So please, now is the time to complete the entry form and send / take to Sarah Abbot.

(Entries are welcome from all residents of Gittisham Parish, which includes Gittisham Vale. Entries are also welcome from those who no longer live in the Parish, but used to, and continue to actively support the village)

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Roger Hutchings 01404 45101 or Sue Fallows. See you on 1 August and meanwhile keep gardening!!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

July 7th Village Hall AGM in the hall at 7.00pm. Everyone is welcome so please come and support the hall committee.

July 11th Sweet Honi & Soul choir with Andy Hague are doing a concert at the Beehive at 7.30pm.

July 18th Coffee Get-together on the Green 10.30-12.00. Bring and Buy table.

Everyone welcome

July 18th Hembury Fort's Open day/Fete with military re-enactment, stalls teas, games etc from 2.00p, and Richard would be delighted to see his friends from the village.

Gittisham Fete starts here!

CREAM TEA

Sunday July 19th

3:30-5pm

At PARKERS EAST

(David and Sue Fallows)

~~~~~

#### GITTISHAM FETE

**continues**

**19th SEPTEMBER**

Starting at 2.00pm

Cream Teas 2.30pm,  
duck race, stalls, street  
entertainment, Story  
Teller, cream tea, games  
from 3.30pm

### PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

**KADENCE CHEFFEY** has received her Gold Book award from Honiton Library for reading 100 books. The last of which was Roald Dahl's Matilda.

**MIKE EDMONDS** it is with sadness that we announce the death of Mike Edmonds following a long fought fight. We send our condolences to Valerie his wife (a member of Gittisham's craft club) and their family. It is believed that his funeral will take place in Bath.

### FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW

**1st AUGUST**

Doors open 2.30pm to view the exhibits and enjoy a delicious afternoon tea. Entry forms and fees to be delivered to Pam Chown by midnight on 27th July.

### 200 CLUB

|           |                   |
|-----------|-------------------|
| 1st Prize | Mrs L Bannister   |
| 2nd Prize | Mr K Horn         |
| 3rd Prize | Lady M-A Denham   |
| 4th Prize | Mrs C Broom       |
| 5th Prize | Mrs S Agg-Manning |

### YEARS MIND—JULY

Lily Chown  
Felix O'Reilly

### HOLY DUSTERS for July

Maggie Walker  
Jane Bramley and Sue Fallows

Dear Readers

I feel a compulsion to write a few lines regarding the planned changes to Combe House. For centuries it has been an important landmark, not just in the village but in the whole of Devon. When I read in the press that the new management intend to call it "The Pig at Combe" I was not just shocked but deeply saddened. Why, oh why, would anyone in their right mind choose to call an historic building by such a name? Perhaps my advancing years are adding my brain but I despair!

Grumpy Old Woman, (Editor)



**COMBE ESTATE** has a vegetable allotment to let on the outskirts of the village. Please contact the Estate Office for further details on 01404 45576.

### **THE UDDER SIDE OF THE HEDGE—Carla Cheffey**

It's always difficult to think of things to write when farming is in general just everyday life to us. Having looked back through my articles from this time last year and the year before it really has just been more of the same. Silaging seems to have been a weekly event for the last month and now the first cuts are finished we're on to the second cuts. The clamps are full and we have mountains appearing in various fields. Sheeting the one at the end of our drive was fun – all hands, and legs and any other body part on deck to stop the sheet blowing away! I'm not a great fan of height but so long as Tommy – our most accident prone worker – was still standing I knew I'd be ok. The kids love silaging time as they get to ride in the tractors and have sausage and chips out there for tea and Kadence could put some men to shame with her ability to throw tyres on the clamp.

Our kitchen is now our own again having sold kittens and moved various other livestock out. I can't say it's much tidier though so it obviously wasn't them making the mess. It always fascinates me what people call their kittens. We seemed to have started a trend for 'Gizmo' having nicknamed one that we then had two more people take the name on. Funnily enough two were going to be called Jeff, and then there was a Winston, a Chilly and various others. It's always a bit sad to see them go, but nice to think they'll get more attention than they would as farm cats.

Next up I guess is Honiton Show – Kadence has already received her entry form for the chicken classes so she'll have to pick the select few to bath and oil up ready. The things we do for fun!

---

### **Churchwarden's report—Carol McCann**

Services for the next few weeks, all at 11.00 unless stated otherwise, 12<sup>th</sup> Parish Eucharist, and in the evening there is hopefully an Ecumenical service hosted by the Community Church at the Beehive at 6.30. 19<sup>th</sup> Morning Worship and 26<sup>th</sup> Parish Eucharist, plus Choral Evensong at St. Paul's at 6.30.

**JULY 11<sup>th</sup>** Playground maintenance day with resurfacing of Boules Pit with a tournament afterwards, bring own picnic and the bar-b-q will be lit later. For further details contact Sara Trumper.

**AUGUST 2<sup>nd</sup>** we are having an outdoor Family Pet Service all kinds of pets acceptable, refreshments will be served afterwards.

**AUGUST 16<sup>th</sup>** Jurassic Prostate Cancer cycle ride, Gittisham is once again hosting a feed station. Riders will start arriving at the hall 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, I haven't heard yet if we or the charity are providing the sausage rolls like last year.

**AUGUST 30<sup>th</sup>** Buckerell are hosting 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 to Buckerell please let Carol McCann know.

As we are going into 'Proper Time' or 'Trinity' if you would like to choose some hymns over the next three 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 from the month of July.

## **PARISH COUNCIL – JULY REPORT**

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

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

Susie Bond said sessions to hear the latest version of EDDC's Local Plan would be held the following week. She reported that the development at Ottery Moor Lane in Honiton had been approved, with 17 per cent affordable housing and no funding for education, health or infrastructure due to the cost of removing asbestos from the site. Five companies are bidding for East Devon's recycling contract, and Feniton and Exmouth have been chosen for a trial recycling scheme. This will include plastics and cardboard as part of the kerbside collection, and landfill will be collected every three weeks as part of this trial. David Fallows said he had written to Claire Wright to thank her for the unmissable flood gauges which have finally been installed by the railway bridge.

**Crime.** Two crimes reported this month:

- Burglary, caravan window smashed to gain entry, nothing stolen
- three windows smashed on a motor vehicle at a private location.

**Finance.** Members noted the finances.

### **Planning applications.**

Members had no objections to the following:

- a) Blamphayne Sawmill: construction of workshops, stores and office/shop with associated landscaping and parking
- b) 1 Westgate Cottage: construction of a first floor extension on north elevation, use of roof space for living accommodation and ground floor extension for WC.

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

David Fallows said that with new managers taking on Combe House Hotel, there could potentially be a large increase in staff numbers and consequently a greater need for affordable housing close by. He, David Valentine and Susie Bond are meeting East Devon District Council and Combe Estate on 3rd July to discuss the possibility of developing small-scale housing in the village.

### **Honiton Neighbourhood Plan.**

David Fallows said he'd been to a meeting to discuss Honiton's Neighbourhood Plan with the town council and Awliscombe PC. He said there was a risk that the Vale and the Hayne Lane development would be left out of the process if Gittisham were not a part of Honiton's plan, or if Gittisham did not develop its own Neighbourhood Plan. He reminded councillors that Neighbourhood Plans are community plans and therefore membership is drawn from the community – not parish councils. Richard Pratt said he would see if anybody in the Vale would be interested in working on this, and councillors agreed to keep the dialogue going with Honiton TC and Awliscombe.

### **Local Plan.**

David Valentine said EDDC had received the parish council's representations, but he could not see any reason for the parish council to speak at the hearing sessions on the Local Plan the following week. Councillors discussed the employment land allocation, which is not part of the hearing sessions. David Fallows said that Honiton Town Council is not in favour of the employment land allocation west of Hayne Lane.

**Next meeting.** This will be on 5<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30pm.

## HONEY BEES by Roy Abbot

Here is the update on the swarm we collected 22nd May, These bees are so quiet and gentle they are a real pleasure to have, the queen was very elusive for several weeks, no matter how hard we looked for her. We only knew she was there by the presence of eggs and young brood, but we persevered and the last time we checked on them she was spotted, how we missed her i don't know as she is a really beautiful large black queen, she now sports a bright blue spot so she will be a lot easier to find in the future. The colony is coming on really well and are now housed in a full size hive as before they were in a nuc box ,this is really a half sized hive which is a lot easier for a small colony to regulate their temperature and keep the brood warm. The down side of our bees this season is the weather we have had, is not conducive to nectar gathering as it has been too cold and windy for the girls to venture out as often as they would like ( I'm writing this on yet another dull grey showery Sunday in June all the bees are at home ) also as it has been very dry with a strong wind drying every thing out further, the plants aren't producing the normal amount of pollen and nectar so the girls are working hard to feed themselves, This time last season the girls had made surplus honey so we could remove some but not yet this year. We hope for a good July and August; I am sure we all do. It is such a pleasure to see a lot of verges being left uncut this helps all pollinating insects to survive as so many bumble bee species are under threat, every little helps as I've heard somewhere. So if you can spare a little space sow wild flower seeds, create a wild flower meadow , we all need the pollinators.

---

### Bee Scene! Popular family-friendly survey of wild flowers

Plantlife's hugely successful 'Bee Scene' survey has been rescued by family-owned cereal maker Nature's Path, after its original funding had ended. Over 30,000 children have already taken part in the wild flower survey since its launch in 2010. Now thousands more will have the opportunity to explore the nature on their doorstep and learn about the wild flowers growing there. Families can discover whether their local area is good for bumblebees by looking for bee-friendly wild flowers such as foxgloves, dandelions and clovers in their local green spaces. The results are then uploaded onto a virtual meadow map of the UK.

**The survey** raises awareness and understanding in children of the importance of biodiversity in their local area, starting them on a path to enjoying wild flowers and realising their importance as part of our natural heritage. It also helps them understand the importance of wild plants for our declining pollinators. 90% of teachers who did the survey reported that 'Bee scene' had given them new learning about the natural environment and helped pupils understand that different wild plants are important for bees.

'**Bee Scene**' is a simple and effective way to encourage children and their families into their local parks or countryside - to enjoy them together away from the television screen, computer games and other pressures of modern life. By using a simple flower key, they are able to count different flower shapes and colours and look out for bumblebees, so helping children understand how valuable their local green spaces are for wildlife. **Full details and bee scene resources are available online at [www.plantlife.org.uk/beescene](http://www.plantlife.org.uk/beescene)**

### MARKER FAMILY 'RACE TO THE STONES' CHALLENGE

Richard Marker is taking on a new challenge a little closer to home this year. Along with his four daughters, he will be taking on the Race to the Stones in July. This challenge involves walking 100km along the Ride-way starting at Lewknor in Oxfordshire and finishing at Avebury Stone Circle. The aim is to complete the route in under two days and will involve a night under canvas . Richard and his family have chosen to raise funds for Hospiscare and his target is £15,000.Sadly Karissa hasaj had to pull out as she is six months pregnant and has been advised not to do the walk. Anyone interesting in donating can do so via <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/RichardMarker>

---

### 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  |

