

# GITTISHAM GAZETTE

## A monthly Community Newsletter

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### BARBARA MULLETT

It is with the greatest sadness that I must report that Barbara, our editor from the very beginning of the Gazette very sadly passed away peacefully in the Exeter Hospice early in the morning of Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February at the age of 80. Barbara has lived in the village with her life-long friend Jan for 19 years and has always been an active member of the community, bell ringing, a spell being treasurer to the PCC, and formulator of several successful grant applications. Barbara was an excellent golfer having been Ladies Captain at Honiton Golf Club and latterly President of the Devon Ladies County Golf Association. Barbara was a volunteer for Hospiscare for many years driving patients, administration, visiting and fund raising. Plus administration for the Martha and Mary Charity. We send our condolences to her sister-in-law Anna, Niece and Nephew, Susannah and Thomas and especially Jan. We shall all miss her. There is a Committal Service at the East Devon Crematorium at 10.00 and a Thanksgiving Service to celebrate Barbara's Life in St. Michael's Gittisham at 11.00am.

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#### Roy's Bees

It has been a long winter for the bees. It was milder but so wet and windy even on mild days they have been unable to get out very much to take advantage of any early pollen and nectar bearing flowers. During the cold weather the bees cluster tightly together to keep warm, they change places frequently so those on the outside of the cluster don't get too cold or they will drop off and perish. Now is the time the queens are starting to lay, so we really need spring to arrive so they can rear new bees as the winter bees are now coming to the end of their time, so they have a lot of work to do in a short time to ensure the survival of the colony. We have been lucky so far as we have seen bees flying from the hives, but it will need to be much warmer before we can take a look inside to see how they are getting along.

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#### DIARY DATES

- 13<sup>th</sup> Car Treasure Hunt at Combe Raleigh set off from Village Hall at 2.00 details from Rosemary Mapleston 47156
- 18<sup>th</sup> Honiton festival lunchtime concert 1.00 preceded by lunch from 12 noon
- 20<sup>th</sup> Spirit to Spirit Choir, with choirmaster Andrew Hague will be performing 'The Love of God comes Close' a Service/Concert at Upottery Church at 7.00pm appropriate refreshments will be served. There will be a retiring collection split between Upottery Church and the Send a Cow Charity.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Good Friday Reflective Service with Hymns, Lay-led at 10.30am Gittisham
- 27<sup>th</sup> Walking Treasure Hunt and Tea from 2.30 Gittisham Village Hall, proceeds for St. Michael's Gittisham
- 31<sup>st</sup> Comedy Thriller Musical at the Beehive 'Kiss your Love Goodbye' Tickets £9 & £6 from 01404384050. Also on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

#### Forward Notice

**Gittisham St. Michael's Annual Parochial Church Meeting.** In Church 7.00pm on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April, all parishioners are invited to attend to hear the reports on the Church's year and future hopes for it's growth and wellbeing. Refreshments will be served prior to the first PCC meeting of elected members.

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#### 200 Club Results for March

6 monthly	Mrs S. James
1st	Mrs O. Collis
2nd	Ms M. Hall
3rd	Mrs J. Lawrence-Jones
4th	Mrs C. Chapman
5th	Mr & Mrs D. Thomas

Subscriptions are now due for 2016/17 £12 per number. There are some spare numbers available if you would like to join or add one. Please contact Carol McCann on 01404 851113. Payment can be by cheque – made payable to Gittisham PCC or if preferred I can send a standing order form.

## **GRAIN TO CREAM      RUSSELL HAYMAN, GITTISHAM FARM**

I know this issue will have a lot to say about Barbara passing away but I have to add my condolences, as it was she who persuaded me to write this article many issues ago. She will be greatly missed but I have had the pleasure of knowing her.

The yellow thing in the sky has made an appearance at last so spring is on the way watch out now there will be tractors every where lots and lots of muck to spread as it has been wet for what seems like years now, fertiliser to spread got to get this grass growing.

As for prices no good news there, my prediction that it may get a little better by the end of the year looks like I was most probably been a little optimistic.

Never mind we have seen the barn owls out hunting quite a bit this last month and have come quite close to the house.

I also had a little triumph the other day. Got up as usual and went to see the expectant mums to be greeted by one with a head at each end and one extra foot. Mum was certainly mucking this up and needed some help. There really should have been two front feet on show, I needed to push it back and get the other foot forward. (going to get in trouble for this) So as with all things female they know best going back was not on the agenda there was only one way she intended it to go. So an hour passed by with the poor little thing been pushed from both ends back and forth it was going. It was not looking good its head was now swelling up and resembled an over inflated rugby ball even the "Chiefs" wouldn't be able to sort this out and just to show its gratitude for my efforts it was sticking its tongue out at me. After this amount of time with me prating about this was looking like a dead calf even so it had to come out. In the end I could just get my hand over the tips of its toe then when I eased it forward mums pelvis was in the way anything else! Its got to come, a twist and a pull no good, pull and a twist no better, pull twist twist pull a prayer to him above in a little more colourful language than comes out of Church and hey presto the offending limb came forward. The rest of the birth was straight forward I really thought there was no chance of it been alive but on this I was thankfully wrong it was a heifer calf and was up and walking twenty minutes later. So the morning went from deep winter to spring in the shake of a calf's tail. It will most probably kick me in the googlies when it's older, revenge for taking so long!

## **CHURCH WARDEN'S REPORT**

**Gittisham Sunday services for March—at 11am unless stated otherwise.**

**6th Family service for Mothering Sunday with refreshments**

**13th Parish Eucharist**

**20th Lay-led Matins for Palm Sunday**

**25th Good Friday Lay-led Reflective service with Hymns 10.30**

**27th Easter Day Eucharist**

**Holy Week evenings all in St. Paul's**

Monday/Tuesday Holy Land Presentation 7.30

Wednesday Stations of the Cross 7.30

Thursday Liturgy of the Lord's Supper followed by Vigil 7.30

Friday Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 2.00pm (also see Gittisham services above)

16<sup>th</sup> Deanery Synod Meeting at the Minster Axminster 7.00 for 7.30

27<sup>th</sup> Easter Day walking treasure hunt with tea 2.30 at the village hall. Details from Carol McCann 01404 851113

A small committee from the PCC have met to revise both the advert and the profile to enable us to re-commence recruitment for a new priest for the village.

Church cleaning rota (Holy dusters) I am in great need of offers of help to fill this rota. If you could spare one month a year (in teams of 3/4) please do let me know so we can keep our lovely Church spick and span.

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### Barnaby Walker

Congratulations to Barnaby Walker, who has been awarded a PhD in Philosophy from the University of Warwick for his thesis 'Enquiry and the Value of Knowledge'. According to the ancient philosopher Callicles, 'Philosophy is a pretty toy if one indulges in it with moderation at the right time of life. But if one pursues it further than one should, it is absolute ruin'. Unfortunately, Dr Walker has no plans of giving it up any time soon.

### Edward Fuller

Edward has been rowing for two years with the Exeter Rowing Club. He has won several races for his age group, coming 4<sup>th</sup> at the British Rowing Indoor Championships (BRIC) in London and second in the South West Schools Indoor Championships at the University of St. Mark and St. John, Plymouth, completing 869m in 3 minutes.. An achievement, as a severe haemophiliac. Ed is looking forward to getting his new boat and will be racing up a year for under 14's during this summer's outdoor regatta season. He rows as a single, in a double and sometimes in a quad. Did you see him being interviewed on the ITV Westcountry news on the 25<sup>th</sup> February? Well done Ed, good luck for your future events, keep it up and let us know how you get on.

### Edmund Hayman

Edmund has passed his tractor test so you will probably meet him in the lanes, congratulations Edmund, we look forward to seeing you out and about,

### The Valley Troopers

Present 'On a Bicycle Made for Two', an evening of music and memories from Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> to Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April in Northleigh Village Hall 7.30 £8.50 call Pauline Knight in 01404 871516 for tickets or details.

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### Ottery St. Mary Parish Church

Are holding an Anniversary Concert on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30, featuring The Military Wives Choir, Exmouth Town Concert Band and Ottery St. Mary Silver Band, to celebrate 30 years of the Rotary Club of Otter Valley. Tickets £10 from Curious Otter Bookshop Ottery or A. Dimond & Co. Honiton.

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Helen and James Fuller are kindly cutting the church hedge at the back, is there anyone who could offer to help clear up the trimmings? Please give James a ring 01404 851018.

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There was no Parish Council meeting this month the next one is on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April.

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The Gazette is now being done by Carol McCann until further notice and will hopefully be available during the second week of the month depending on the Parish Council and 200 Club details. Please send items to Carol.

The editorial team are  
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If you would like to receive your Gazette by e-mail please let me know. As I do not know who usually has an e-mail version I apologise if you miss this edition, do please let me know.

**Copy date for April is Monday 4<sup>th</sup>.**