

GITTISHAM GAZETTE

A monthly Community Newsletter

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PANTOMANIA HITS GITTISHAM

Yet again the local talent took to the stage to entertain us with this year's rip-roaring inter-galactic extravaganza! A double portion of panto magic for all ages, from the sublime to the proverbial. The plot, yet again, skilfully woven by Nick Agg-Manning, centred around the present, past and future of the village...the prospect of a mammoth super-market replacing Combe House Hotel brought tears to the eyes, thankfully tears of laughter! Although, who knows? A huge thank you to everyone who contributed in whatever way to bring this fun event to fruition. Where would we be without a bit of nonsense in our lives to take our minds off some of the less enjoyable aspects of life.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

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REPORT
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DIAMOND WEDDING CELEBRATION

**Douglas & Jean Bruce-
Merry**

On Saturday 6th June the Honiton Town Band and the Sheldon Singers will play and sing on the Gittisham Green for a hour. The concert will commence at 12.15, providing the weather is fine. All are welcome, please come, relax and enjoy some music. Chairs will be provided.

Forward notice for 19th June there will be another 'Community Play' in the village hall "Happy Birthday Hetty" Posters will be around soon.

YEAR'S MIND

May

Pam Blackmore
Reginald Rowland Chown
Amy Nicholas
Cedric Summers

HOLY DUSTERS—May

Helen Hayman,
Helen Fuller
Jan Sutcliffe and
Barbara Mullett

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

CHARLIE AND ALICE (nee Hill) VYNER-BROOKS announce the birth of daughter Cecily Rose, born in London on 21st April 2015. A sister for Lettice and Margot. Congratulations to the proud parents.

STEVE AND CALISTA DOBSON have moved into 3 Mitchell's Cottages. We welcome them to the village and wish them many happy times here.

Happy 90th birthday to Bob Gilling on 14th May.

Dear friends,

Thank you for publicising events being held in the Sidholme Music Room. The organ restoration is proceeding well. However, during the course of the work, it has been discovered that the beautiful 1855 colouring and stencilling of the display or facade pipes was 'emulsioned' over at some point. We hope to rectify this. Therefore the fundraising continues. I hope you will be able to come to to hear Nigel Ogden play the organ on Friday 24th July 3pm. at Sidholme (light lunch at 2pm.). Invitations will be sent to you in due course. Kind regards,
John McGregor

200 CLUB

1st Prize Mr K Hopkins
2nd Prize Mr G Carstairs
3rd Prize Mr & Mrs R Pew
4th Prize Mrs N Wakely
5th Prize Mrs C Rowe

PARISH COUNCIL – MAY REPORT

The new parish council met on 12th May. Six councillors, Susie Bond (EDDC) and Claire Wright (DCC) were present. David Fallows was elected Chair and Russell Hayman Vice Chair. The Chair welcomed all members, including new councillor for Gittisham Vale, Richard Pratt.

DCC / EDDC Report.

Claire Wright said the Boundary Commission had released its draft recommendations on proposed changes to Devon's electoral boundaries. Currently the parish is split between Honiton St Michael's and Ottery Rural. The recommendations propose the creation of one ward called Feniton & Honiton, which includes Buckerell and Gittisham. Residents can submit comments on this proposal until 6th July by visiting <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/4141>. Claire Wright also reported there was finally some progress on the two flood gauges which are due to be installed either side of the railway bridge by the forge. Susie Bond outlined the make-up of the new East Devon District Council, which has a Conservative majority.

Crime. 1 assault: at music festival male member of staff assaulted by unknown male.

Finance. Members approved the annual accounts and governance statement for 2014/15 and noted the finances this month.

Planning applications.

Members had no objections to the following:

- a) The Laurels, 1a Hayne Lane Gittisham EX14 3PD Variation in condition 4 of planning permission 03/P1818 to allow the annexe to be used as a unit of holiday accommodation
- b) 2 Riverside Cottages Gittisham EX14 3AE Side and rear single storey extensions to include restoration and blocking up of existing windows and re-positioning of internal door
- c) 2 Riverside Cottages Gittisham EX14 3AE Side and rear storey extensions

Limited residential development in Gittisham village.

The meeting between EDDC, Combe Estate and the parish council to discuss this is still to be fixed, as a suitable date has not been found yet. Members discussed whether there was a desire among village residents for small-scale housing, and whether there was a need. Maggie Walker argued the population of the village was dwindling, and this had an impact on activities. The clerk agreed to organise another date for the meeting and to urge EDDC to include a planning specialist.

Local Plan.

David Valentine agreed to work with David Fallows on the parish council's representation regarding the 15 hectares of employment land proposed at Hayne Lane. They will present this at the next parish council meeting. The council has already objected to the proposal in a previous iteration of EDDC's Local Plan. The deadline for submissions is 12th June.

Play area.

David Fallows said members should attend to the low to medium risk aspects highlighted in the annual safety inspection. Richard Pratt said he had got hold of some logs to make stepping stones in the play area, and was hopeful of getting these delivered in the next few weeks. David Fallows agreed to contact people to organise a working party to install the logs.

Next meeting. This will be on 9th June at 7.30pm.

SAVE THIS DATE!

Gittisham Village Fete

will be held on

Saturday 19th September

Duck race, stalls, games, entertainment....all you could want from a fete.

All offers of help, or contributions to stalls will be very welcome. Please contact any of: Helen Hayman, Helen Fuller, Jayne Bramley, Clare Chapman, Sue Fallows. More details in a later edition of the Gazette! Thank you

**ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH GITTISHAM
'NURSERY RHYMES' FLOWER FESTIVAL
FRIDAY 22ND – MONDAY 25TH MAY INCLUSIVE**

10.00AM – 7.00PM,

**WITH REFRESHMENTS (MORNING COFFEES,
LIGHT LUNCHESES, & AFTERNOON TEAS) DAILY IN
THE VILLAGE HALL. FROM 10.00AM – 5.00PM**

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**WANTED PLEASE** Can you offer a couple of hours either stewarding in church or serving refreshments in the hall, I am in need of help desperately to fill the slots. Please give me a ring if you can offer any time, we are raising much needed funds for the church.

I hope to hear from you soon.

Many thanks. Carol 851113

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**Churchwardens' Report—Carol McCann**

Services for the next few weeks, all at 11.00 unless stated otherwise, Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May lay-led Morning Worship, 24<sup>th</sup>, Parish Eucharist, 25<sup>th</sup> Songs of Praise for the flower Festival 7.30pm, 31<sup>st</sup>, NO SERVICE IN GITTISHAM, all parishes go to St. Paul's at 10.00am 6<sup>th</sup> June Family Eucharist with refreshments, 13<sup>th</sup>, Parish Eucharist, 20<sup>th</sup> Lay-led Matins. 27<sup>th</sup> SEE BELOW \*

Our monthly coffee get-togethers are going well, the next is on Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup> and each 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday thereafter finishing with the 17<sup>th</sup> October hopefully with a bring and buy table each time.

At our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) both Roger Hutchings and I were re-elected as Churchwardens, Roger has given notice that this will be his final year as warden and has asked for someone to 'shadow him this year to 'learn the ropes' and take over next April, if you would like to offer please contact Roger or myself, thanks. Amanda Acland remains as secretary, Ian Warne treasurer and Nick Agg-Manning is the Lay-chairman. The other council members are Jayne Bramley, Christine Broom, Helen Hayman, Jan Sutcliffe and Maggie Walker.

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 will be putting the lists for our organists together very soon so please be hasty if you want yours included over the month of June initially.

**\*Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June** as Gittisham will be hosting the Team Choral Evensong and I am asking if we cancelled the morning service and just had the evensong would you a) agree and come to evensong or b) agree but not come to evensong or c) disagree with cancelling the morning service. I would appreciate your comments please. Our Team Choral Evensongs have the team choir with Kevin Lane as both choirmaster and organist, we sing an anthem and the psalm and it is a thoroughly uplifting service. I look forward – as soon as possible – to hearing your comments.

Many thanks Carol McCann

## THE UDDER SIDE OF THE HEDGE—Carla Cheffey

I think that maybe when I write this column it should be renamed 'By the Aga'. Currently by the Aga we have six litters of kittens; twenty in total. Sadly one little ginger kitten died so its mum Spooky-Raspberry-Ripple, stole a ginger one from Cupcake-Amanda-Treacle which started a bit of a kitten snatching war. Now they all just seem to share boxes and mums! One cat, Sniper, had to have a caesarean (about £400!) but sadly her kittens were very premature and were either born dead, or died shortly after. She also has taken to feeding everyone else's babies.

Around the other side of the kitchen I have 4 goslings, 10 chicks and 4 orphaned baby rabbits. It was my own fault for not shutting the hutch door properly after cleaning the rabbits out; the dog found Leona the mum before I did! The babies were 2 weeks old at the time, I did debate seeing whether they'd feed from one of the cats, but I wasn't sure whether the maternal instinct would be greater than the natural instinct of the cat to eat them! So after 'Googling' I bought some Goats milk and bottle fed them for a couple of weeks. They are now 5 weeks old, and eating and drinking well by themselves, and they are the friendliest rabbits ever.

With regards to the farm...same old really...the never ending cycle of spreading muck, working down the fields, and planting the maize continues, as does mowing the grass for silage. The heifers and the lows groups of milking cows are going out to grass, although they are still fed once a day to help with nutrition and maintain milk yields. If anyone has been stuck waiting for the cows to come in from the fields recently and wondered why they all have a green line sprayed down their leg then this is from one of our staff decided to put the group of 93 lows in the same field as the 132 heifers! Annoyingly it is never the person that messes things up that has to sort it out, so I had to mark each cow and pick them out to go back to the right group. The high yielders do not go out to graze mainly because there's not enough grazing ground with the farm, but also because they are at the peak stage of their lactation and turning them out to grass wouldn't produce as much milk as just feeding them does.

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## "Nations' Favourite Wildflower":

As part of celebrations for its 25th anniversary, Plantlife has launched a poll to find the nations' favourite wild flower (also the favourites in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland). Will it be the common poppy, cowslip, more elusive ragged robin or that woodland favourite, the bluebell? Voters have until 5 June to vote online for their favourite and the results will be announced soon after. As the people have their say, they will be able to [see what difference it makes to the chart...](#) "I love this shortlist produced by Plantlife members" says Plantlife expert Dr Trevor Dines. "It's slightly bonkers and in many ways reflects us as a nation. There are country icons we can be proud of, like [dog rose](#) for England and [wild daffodil](#) for Wales. There are familiar plants we all know and love – bluebell, primrose and foxglove. But then there are some real oddities... Who would have thought [chickweed-wintergreen](#), a rare plant of woods in Scotland and northern England, would have made the list? I've only seen it once, although that was enough to confirm its undeniable beauty. On the contrary, cow parsley is seen as road verge weed by some, but is clearly loved by many. There are powerful symbols too – we cherish poppies to remember our fallen soldiers – while legend has it that Pasqueflowers grow on the graves of Viking warriors, springing up from their blood. It's an eclectic mix; one that perfectly reflects our countryside and our relationship with it."

Katie Cameron, Publicity Manager (maternity cover)

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## OUR CENTARIAN

Ronnie Pew had a whole day of celebrations when he reached his 100th birthday on Friday 1st May, suitably rounded off with drinks and nibbles in the Village Hall. It was lovely to see so many turn out for Ronnie and Ann on this very special day.

Roy Abbott made a splendid cake depicting a golf course(!) and Pam Chown had organised a spread of food donated by villagers to soak up the drinks offered by Ronnie.

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## DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Please contact one of the editorial team below if you have something that you would like to be included in the Newsletter.

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Carol McCann    | 851113 |
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