

GITTISHAM GAZETTE

A monthly Community Newsletter

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

May 2017

Edition 183

ARTHUR JOHN DOWN (ARCHIE)

With great sadness Doris, Cynthia, Lynda and Teresa wish to announce the death of Archie who passed away peacefully in his sleep at the Exeter Hospice on Sunday 30th April.

Archie came to live at Stockers Farm in Gittisham as a very young child, and apart from his two years of National Service spent the whole of life, as country boy and man, here in the village and attended the village school alongside his now beloved wife Doris. He became a carpenter/craftsman and worked all his life in this trade; the majority of homes in this village and the surrounds bear some mark of his expertise. He was also a wonderful gardener and was never happier than when out working the land in all wind and weathers. Sometimes, especially in later years, he enjoyed a little sit down in his garage, where he would have a little nip of something to ease the aches of his labours, or maybe a pause and a well-earned rest with Doris to enjoy a mug of tea and look out at the wonders of Church Mead, their own utopia. Archie, with Doris as his devoted companion, loved everything about Nature: the sights of snowdrops, daffodils, bluebells and the wild orchids coming into flower; the sounds of each songbird, each one correctly identified by its own distinctive note; the contrasting smells of all the seasons; the touch of a recently dug, crumbling clod of wet earth and the tastes . . . Archie loved the tastes that the bounty of nature delivered: freshly caught trout and eels from the River Otter, the tang of a bite of sweet raw onion, the juicy munch of well ripened Russet apple from the trees at Parkers to name but a few.

This huge, mischievous, fun-filled, country-loving character is surely irreplaceable . . .

R.I.P. Archie Down (aged 78 years)

Archie's funeral will be in Gittisham Church on Friday 12th May @ 1.00 p.m. This will be followed by a short service for the family at the East Devon Crematorium. Doris and family would then like all those attending to join them in the Village Hall for refreshments.

The family would like the villagers to know how much Archie appreciated everybody's concern and kindness shown throughout his illness.

Maggie Walker

Dates for your Diary May

13th/14th May Gittisham Memories! - a full display in the village hall, 10-4 pm, with plenty of memorabilia, photos, newspaper articles, (and still collecting) please contact Helen Hayman on 07806480246, Coffees, teas and light lunches will also be served on both days!

14th Christian Aid United Service Methodist Church Honiton 6.30pm, to begin Christian Aid Week (please see back page regarding this year's Christian Aid collections).

18th A Night at the Musicals, with the Honiton Community Players in the Village Hall 7.00 for 7.30 start £8 adults, £4 child under 12. No bar, bring own wine/beer, snacks provided, raffle. Tickets, from Sue Fallows 850922 or on the door.

20th Coffee Get-together in the Parish room 10.30 – 12 noon everyone welcome for a cuppa and a chat

29th Social Sequence Dance 7.30 – 10.45pm at Gittisham Village Hall, Music by Elaine. Bring and share savoury supper, soft drinks provided. Raffle. Tickets £4.00 information from Christine & Alan Broom 01404 44641 or Elaine 07713283494. Proceeds to Gittisham Church

PARISH COUNCIL – MAY REPORT

Five councillors met for the May meeting. Susie Bond (EDDC) and two members of the public were also present.

DCC / EDDC Report.

Susie Bond said that from 12th June there would be a change to recycling services. Under the new contract, cardboard and cartons will be collected at the roadside, in addition to the items collected currently. Residents should all have received an information leaflet. The Chair said he had spoken to EDDC to report a mistake in the literature; the last landfill collection for Gittisham village is Weds 31st May, not Tuesday 30th as shown, as the previous Monday is a bank holiday. The Gittisham Vale collection will also be a day later, as the usual bank holiday timings apply. Cllr Bond added that if anybody had issues with litter following the collections, they should photograph and send to EDDC.

Crime.

- 1) Burglary – entry gained to compound and caravan within, damage caused to numerous items at the site and some items stolen.

Finance. Members agreed the finances, and approved the annual accounts and governance statement.

Planning applications.

- a) 1 Mitchell Cottages, Gittisham EX14 3AF; external and internal alterations to existing utility and new window to existing first floor bedroom
Members had no objections.
- b) Land West of Hayne Lane, Gittisham; reserved matters application in respect of matters of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the construction of 85 no. residential dwellings and associated garages, infrastructure and landscaping together with discharge of condition 4 (Construction Management Plan) all in association with outline permission 13/1744/MOUT
Councillors agreed more time was needed to consider this application, due to its nature and importance. It was resolved to discuss at the next parish council meeting, with EDDC's permission.

Defibrillator

Stella Adamson outlined some of the different options available for the defibrillator. She agreed to establish the exact cost with the charity the Community Heart Foundation, which is the only organisation to work with BT to install defibrillators in adopted telephone boxes. Members agreed it would be a good idea to offer an event such as a coffee morning or light lunch in September, where people could find out more about first aid. A date of 9th September was agreed. The clerk said she had spoken to Colin Butler at Feniton Primary School, where they have recently installed a defibrillator. The costs, he said, had been met by fundraising activities, with no need for grants.

Potholes.

Members reported potholes by Rapshayes Farm and the road to Church Mead outside Gorse Cottage. Maggie Walker agreed to speak to Len Abbott about work in the Vale to control the weeds on the kerb line. The clerk reported that EDDC's Parishes Together funding had been received for this year, totalling £512.60, to be used for lengthsman work.

Next meeting. This will be on 13th June at 7.30pm.

People in the News

On Saturday 27th May, **Hattie Agg-Manning and Ollie Harrison** will be married in Gittisham Church, we wish you both a very happy, successful and fruitful life together and fingers crossed for a beautiful day!!

THE UDDER SIDE OF THE HEDGE CARLA CHEFFEY

As I write this I can hear the mower out in the field and smell the fresh cut grass. A lovely time of year. Every 'phase' of farming has a mix of feelings with it for us, thinking it will be the last time we do it. This year we will only be silaging 100 acres for our first cut; normally this would be about 500 acres. The maize has also just gone in and this was only 49 acres and none of it is at Shermans. Son Maverick has enjoyed riding around in the tractors and seems to know everything about the different equipment and linkages.

We're now only milking 130 cows and there will soon be some more barren ones whose milk is dropping off that will 'go on the lorry'. Calf feeding is also a fraction of what it was with only 20 calves to feed twice a day rather than over 100 as it used to be. All calves now are beef animals, not dairy, and will be reared at Oakfield. We have one Angus calf who is adamant it wants to be 'free range' it escaped from the pen and spent a couple of weeks in the field with a sick cow; we brought it in again and then on Saturday we had someone drive down to the house and say "is that your calf walking down the road". We managed to shut it in with the calving cows at the end of the drive and whilst we were making the pen even more escape proof it re-appeared standing behind us so we put it back with the other calves – only to later discover that the calf we had shut in with the cows was still there, so there must have been two out!

Our Tesco Farm Assurance inspection is coming up at the end of the month, something I had hoped to avoid doing again, but it's a good excuse to get a head start on the tidy up.

The Kings School report - Helen Hayman

Congratulations to many students on their headteacher commendations! Daphne Hall received one of these for fantastic work in food technology, well done Daphne! The 'mad group- make a difference', raised over £100.00 for cancer research, selling cakes and other refreshments.

The social skills & anti bullying poster competition saw many entrants, the schools Anti- bullying Ambassadors had the tough decision of choosing a winner!

With so many sports happening around the school, the minibuses are in constant use travelling to various places, along with parents, from rugby to athletics, girls rounders, badminton, boys cricket, boys and girls tennis, dance club, and sessions in the fitness studio!

Other events include: sports council, clubs for radio, languages, table-top, choc & chat choir, film, writing & book, volleyball, computer science, IT homework, mini pp Ella, teen health group, g. c. s. e. textiles drop in, g. c. s. e. PE support session, STEM club & musical theatre.

Year 11 have their celebration day approaching before their examinations start, good luck to Ellie Chapman!

Year 8 students are off to visit the Eden project! & The Annual Ten Tors challenge, last weekend saw dry weather and hundreds of entrants, well done to Hamish McLachlan-Clarke (who used to live at Raps-Hayes Farm!) for taking part & completing the challenge! Such a busy, varied schedule with so many things happening! Please let me know if anyone else has won an award or taken part in a challenge, Helen

Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Awareness Day

When: Saturday 9th September 2017

Where: Gittisham Village Hall

Why: Fundraiser for a Defibrillator to be installed in the Telephone Kiosk in Gittisham

We are holding a CPR awareness day when you will be given the opportunity to learn from qualified instructors (Stella and Sarah Adamson) when and how to perform CPR on someone who has had a Cardiac Arrest. You can also gain an insight into the importance of the use of Automated External Defibrillators (AED). Come along for a fun learning experience and help us raise money for an AED in our village. Watch this space. Details to follow.....

CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT Carol McCann.

A huge thank you to all who collected change for WaterAid over Lent and for supporting the coffee morning and cake stall on the 8th April also for WaterAid. The total raised along with donations was £426.67. Helen Hayman as our Lay-Chair conducted the Church Annual Meeting in the absence of Rev'd Sue who is off sick. Amanda Acland will be living overseas for a time and Judith Turner has taken over as Secretary, Ian Warne remains Treasurer with help from James Matheson (new PCC member), I remain as Churchwarden. We had 2 resignations and welcomed 3 new members to the PCC.. Thanks to all who came to hear the Church's year reports a copy of the finances is in the church porch. The Rev. Philip Butcher, Curate to the Honiton Mission Community will be taking up a post of Rector of a 5 parish Benefice in the Bath and Wells Diocese in early July and along with his new wife Michelle will be living in Tatworth. His licencing will probably be on 11th July.

Forthcoming Church Services 11am unless stated

May		June	
14th	Parish Eucharist	4th	Family Eucharist with refreshments
21st	Lay-led Morning Worship.	11th	Parish Eucharist
28th	No morning service	18th	Lay-led sung Matins
	6.30 Choral Evensong (choir practice 5.30)	25th	Parish Eucharist

200 CLUB RESULTS MAY

1st Sid Phillips	2nd Dawn Merchant	3rd Carol Hall
4th Sara Trumper	5th Russell Hayman	

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Christian Aid Week runs from 14th – 20th May, Julia Harris 01404 45634 is looking for people to distribute and collect envelopes in the Gittisham Vale area, if you could help please give her a ring asap. Also on the 20th there will be a street collection in Honiton, Julia would welcome collectors too. Envelopes in Gittisham Village are being distributed with this Gazette and those who wish to contribute to Christian Aid are asked to bring them to church, to the coffee get-together or put through Carol's door, if you need me to collect please ring on 851113. Many thanks.

TREATMENTS AT THE PIG AT COMBE

The Pig are offering residents in the Parish of Gittisham a 10% discount off their treatments on a Tuesday. A selection of treatments and therapies take place in The Potting Shed up at the Pig and can be booked through the Events Manager, Bex, on 01404 540400 or online at thepighotel.co.uk

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Copy date for June Monday 5th If you have any news, dates events for inclusion in the Gazette do please email it to Carol.