



CHRISTMAS EVENTS



XMAS FAIR
2:30 - 5
 In the village hall
SATURDAY
DECEMBER 7th

A Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday December 7th in the Village Hall from 2pm. Come and do some early Christmas shopping in the relative tranquillity of the village rather than the hustle and bustle of the towns. Anyone who would like to have a stall should contact either Jayne Bramley (850084) or Sue Fallows (850922). Refreshments will be available. All profits to go to the Playing Field.

LET'S MAKE MUSIC— Gittisham Church

On Saturday 14th December at 6.30pm—a very informal evening of singing and musical instruments with John McGregor accompanying. Anyone wishing to take part please contact Helen Hayman 07806480246. There will be refreshments provided. All instruments can be catered for!!



King's school PTFA

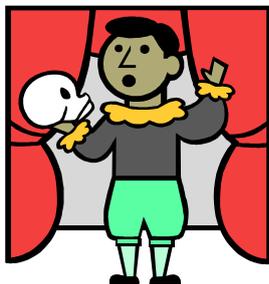
are holding their annual Christmas fayre on Friday 6th December, from 6.30 - 9pm, and would love for you to join us for an evening of entertainment, shopping and festive fun. It's a great chance to start (or finish!) your Christmas shopping, aided along with a glass of mulled wine & a mince pie! We have a variety of local crafters offering some original & unique gifts, or you can visit Santa in his grotto (if you've been good!), be entertained with carols and the Talaton Handbell ringers, try your luck on the Grand Draw and tombola, pick up a bargain on our second-hand stall, enjoy a variety of games that may test your nerves and skills, rest up with a delicious cake and a cuppa, or purchase a fabulous gift package from our present stall. The children will be involved in running their own business enterprise stalls, along with homemade products from the team fundraising for Ethiopia. Entrance is only 50p for adults and we look forward to seeing you there.

GITTISHAM'S STAGE RIGHT Children's Theatre Group

invites you to a 'Celebration of Christmas' with an informal performance of a traditional Mummer's play in Gittisham Village Hall on Friday, 20th December at 6pm. We hope that this little playlet, together with some Yule Log and Christmas Punch, will make for a relaxing pre-Christmas hour or so.

The evening will be full of cheer
With Christmas fun a plenty

We'll charge for drink and food you eat
So our coffers are not empty!
Our entertainment is for free
But bring some pennies do
To give unto our charities
And may God bless you!



Sarah Agg-Manning and Jan Sutcliffe

CAROL'S ON THE GREEN SUNDAY 22nd DECEMBER AT 6.00PM

Come along and spend an hour singing carols outside the Lychgate as a run up to Christmas. Once again Carol McCann will have the BarBQ alight and will be serving hotdogs...



CHRISTIAN AID BIG SING

The united Big Sing Christmas Service will take place on Sunday 15th December at 6.00pm in the Methodist Church, Honiton. Refreshment will be on offer and a collection taken for the refugees in Syria.

PARISH COUNCIL SUMMARY – November

Six parish councillors met for the November meeting. Cllr Claire Wright and Cllr Sara Randall-Johnson (both DCC) were also present.

EDDC / DCC Report. Susie Bond provided a report, despite her absence, and explained that the police investigation into the activities of former councillor Graham Brown is continuing. A report by EDDC's internal auditors on governance of councillors has concluded that EDDC's systems and processes are adequate, and that councillors' declarations of interest are in place. It can demonstrate that exempt and sensitive information is well managed and that a robust complaints procedure is in operation. Claire Wright said she would be providing strongly-worded statements from the heads of Feniton and Ottery primary schools, and King's School at DCC's cabinet meeting the following week regarding development in their area which could put pressure on school facilities. Sara Randall-Johnson provided figures on how school applications had been carried out in the last round of admissions, and these show a high proportion of parents are completing applications online which should cut down on admin costs.

Crime. The police did not provide a crime report this month.

Finance. Members noted the finances this month. David Fallows said he'd intended to buy the village telephone box for £1 under BT's Adopt scheme, following last month's meeting. However this would involve BT removing the working apparatus. Members resolved to support this action and David Fallows said he would now proceed to purchase it on behalf of the parish council.

Discussion with Welbeck Strategic Land and others. Three representatives of a consortium looking to develop 300 homes and an employment site west of Hayne Lane attended part of the meeting: Ed Heynes (Ed Heynes Planning), Charlotte Robinson (Welbeck Strategic Land) and Jeremy Penfold (WSP Group, engineering & environmental consultants). Members had attended the public consultations in the parish and in Honiton regarding their proposals, and made it clear that the council would like to reserve its position until a formal planning application is submitted. Questions were raised as to the nature of the relationship between the three companies, Savills and the Marker estate. Members also asked for figures regarding the proportion of affordable housing, research into the target market for the development, and compensation arrangements between the tenant farmer and the landowner. There was much discussion regarding infrastructure, and access to the development via Hayne Lane. Members were told Old Elm Road would only be used temporarily for construction traffic, if the development goes ahead. Jeremy Penfold said they would be considering changing priorities on Hayne Lane, and providing an additional pedestrian footway along the side of the road with a defined narrowing under the railway bridge. Members were concerned about the impact on Turks Head junction; Jeremy Penfold explained that he was confident a solution could be found to accommodate existing and future traffic. David Valentine asked for an explanation of the timetable of this development, suggesting that any application would be premature pending the local plan enquiry. He said the outcome of the application may not be determined before the enquiry. Ed Heynes said they would be looking to submit the planning application by the end of this year, and everything seemed to indicate that a scheme of this nature should be acceptable to the local authority at this time. He would not be drawn on why this proposal should come forward now, as he felt this could prejudice the outcome of the planning application.

Active Villages project. Members heard that the village hall committee was considering having a regular evening or afternoon of table tennis, with a responsible adult in charge on a rota basis.

Feniton developments. David Valentine asked members to reflect on whether they wanted to provide input to the Feniton super enquiry which begins on 7th January 2014. The PC's interest is primarily an educational one; David Valentine said he would report back at the December meeting on discussions with Susie Bond and Claire Wright about this.

Parish boundary sign. A parishioner had been in touch requesting once again a parish boundary sign in the Vale. However, previous investigations by the clerk with both DCC and EDDC had found little enthusiasm for this, and members agreed not to pursue this further.

Stagecoach bus. Continuing confusion over the bus timetable among certain Stagecoach drivers has been reported to Claire Wright to take up with DCC officers.

Salt bins. A parishioner had been in touch to say the Vale's salt bin was empty, but it has since been filled.

Next meeting. This will be on 4th December at 7.30pm.

VILLAGE HISTORY—Can you help?

I would like to record peoples' memories of life in Gittisham since the 1920s as part of an oral history project I'm putting together. I think it's important to leave a legacy of what life was like in the village in the mid-20th century, the experiences people had, how events shaped their lives and what makes a community. So if you would like to volunteer as a contributor, it would involve nothing more than a chat over a cup of tea with me asking a few questions and recording what's said with a microphone and a simple piece of kit. No cameras, honestly! If you're not one of the older members of the parish, do you know somebody who no longer lives in Gittisham but might fit the bill? I'm hoping eventually this could be turned into an online archive or exhibition, or even something that could feature in the village telephone box when it's eventually 'adopted' by the parish council. To get in touch call Fiona Clampin on 851442 or email fionaclampin@gmail.com

GITTISHAM GAZETTE

A monthly Community Newsletter

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HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN HAYNE LANE—Public Consultation report

With only six days notice of a Public Consultation meeting in the Village Hall, and half the parish not even receiving a flyer, the number of people who turned up on the night was indicative of the level of concern about this major development. And what an appropriate date, the 5th November, for the people representing Welbeck Strategic Land to hold a Public Consultation meeting! For fireworks were abundant in the Village Hall when questions were answered by trite phrases such as “we are working closely with EDDC”, “statistics show.....”, “all the local planning needs are being met”; so much for the Gittisham Parish Plan! I imagine that the majority of us who live in the village and the Vale are most unhappy that planning permission is to be sought for 300 homes to be built on the 28 acres of land between Hayne Farm and the railway line. Gittisham Parish Council has been advised that pre-application discussions have already taken place between Welbeck, who are representing Combe Estate, and EDDC Planning and DCC Highways. However, has any thought been given to the knock-on effect to the infrastructure, so vital to the lives of those who already live in this area? I was told that any children living on the new estate would be in the Honiton catchment area for schooling...when I said that the schools in the Honiton area are already full I was told that the Council has said that there is room for more! When I asked about the traffic ‘bottle-neck’ at the Turks Head junction I was told that it is being looked at! I know that it has been looked at and talked about for the past 10 years at least but nothing has happened. Vital services such as doctors and dentists are already stretched...try getting an appointment! Sadly, I believe that our community feels under threat by this proposed building development. A Petition is coming around urging Richard Marker to reconsider. I invite Richard Marker, as custodian of Combe Estate, to respond to this article in our December edition.

Barbara Mullett, Editor.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

November 14th Concert in Awliscombe church by Exeter Police and Community Choir 7.30.

November 22nd Quiz Night Combe Raleigh village Hall. Teams up to 6. Details from 42130

November 21st —An Evening of Ivor Novello at Sidholme Hotel in Sidmouth 7.30 tickets from Ann Liverton 01395 579792

December 7th—Christmas Fayre in the Village Hall. See page 2 for details.

December 8th—Table Tennis in the Village Hall 2.00pm. Adults will be charged 50p and children will be free.

December 15th—Carol Service in the church at 11.00am.

200 Club—November

1st Prize	Mrs Maggie Walker
2nd Prize	Mrs Jan Sutcliffe
3rd Prize	Mr Cliff Wensley
4th Prize	Mr David Fallows
5th Prize	Mr A Babbage

APOLOGIES!

We got it wrong!

The lots for the Auction of Promises were organised by **JAMES FULLER and HELEN HAYMAN** not as previously reported. Well done, those two.

The 200 Club 1st Prize was won by **SIDNEY** Phillips not **EDITH** as shown last month...we expect that Sid shared the money with Edith anyway!

TRICK AND TREAT!!!

Those scary ghosts and witches were about in the village again this year... although they seemed to be a really cheery bunch! There must have been about 15 in total and, providing they were happy with whatever goodies they were offered, they slipped away in the night never to be seen again ... until next year!

HOLY DUSTERS (Nov)

Sarah Goodman
Jan Sutcliffe and Barbara Mullett

YEAR'S MIND—NOVEMBER

We remember Barbara Neal.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

ELIZABETH ACLAND got engaged to Tim Hay on Saturday, 19th October. The wedding will probably be December next year.

HELEN AND BRUCE LITTLE of 22 Cypress Close are the proud parents of newly born Rory, a brother for Connor. Congratulations.

FRANK CHAPMAN has celebrated his 90th Birthday on Monday 11th November. His son, Paul, flew over from Singapore for the ‘party’! We all send our best wishes to Frank and congratulate him on 90 glorious years!

AND ANIMALS...

CANDY, the puppy at Sherman's Farm, is home! She has been missing for 5 days! Carla said that she disappeared on Firework Night and had not been seen since, despite searching all the buildings and surrounding areas.

GRAIN TO CREAM by Russell Hayman, Gittisham Farm

Autumn is well and truly with us now; we have finished the last of the harvest and the maize is in the clamp. Sowing is well under way, most of it is already growing and above the ground; just two fields to go as I write. After the maize, which will be planted with wheat, some difference from last year. The fields will be sprayed to control weeds and also aphids as they spread a virus which will kill the plant and this will not show until the spring. This is more of a problem in the south west because of the milder weather; we generally get frosts which will knock the aphids on the head. The animals are still out at pasture; we have just put in a new track for the cows so they can get to the fields more easily and make less mess in the fields they cross. If we could just helicopter them into the fields most of the problem would be solved as the gateways are the most vulnerable areas. Then if I had hundreds of feet with half a tonne on top of them walking over me I think I would be a bit the worse for wear. We have also replaced a roof on one of the cubicle sheds to help improve the ventilation as it was getting a bit hot and stale inside. They have also had the treat of some electric brushes; the cows give it a push and the brush rotates slowly for about two minutes which they love but it has given another reason not to be milked (we're just doing our hair!). The non-milking animals are coming close to been housed for winter but for the moment the grass is still growing and the ground conditions are still good so they will be out for as long as possible... saves work and straw all good. We have wormed the young stock as it looks as though they could be out for a while, we hope, then they will have to be done again when they come in to make sure they're clear of parasites for the winter. The other bit of news is that work has at last started on the new house; the foundations will hopefully be in soon. Exciting times ahead.

CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT—Carol McCann

Our Harvest Festival weekend was very successful with a delicious supper on the Saturday raised £246 for church funds and at the service our collection of £149 went to the charity Farm Africa, there were several pairs of beautifully decorated wellies filled with non-perishable goodies which along with many other assorted boxes of cereals, soups, pasta/rice, puddings, tea/coffee etc have been taken to the Honiton food bank, I had a lovely thank-you letter to the village from the food Bank thanking us for our support, the blue box to collect items is still beside the font in church, soups, porridge/cereals, tinned meat/fish/vegetables/puddings, rice, long-life milk especially needed. All the perishables went to St. Petrocs who feed and clothe the homeless, they would also be grateful for any clothing, (for men or women), blankets, towels, sleeping bags, woolly hats etc. I have a contact who will collect from the village any Tuesday. If you would like to donate any items either for the food bank or St. Petrocs and need them collecting please let me know 851113. Thank you.

This year's Team Skittles competition was won by Combe Raleigh with the Gittisham team coming second.

This month our services will be 3rd Family service with refreshments, 10th Parish Eucharist for remembrance Sunday, starting at the Lych-gate at about 10.50am, 17th Sung Matins, 27th lay-led Morning Worship – non Eucharist Sunday service. On Sunday 1st December (Advent Sunday) we will be collecting toys for local poor children it would be helpful to those distributing them if they were left un-wrapped or in open gift bags so they can match each gift to a particular child. If you would like me to collect please let me know. Also that evening there is a Mission community Advent Service at 6.30 in St. Paul's. Our monthly coffee get-togethers this year raised £206.88 for church funds; we will start again in April 2014. The 200 club has spare numbers, please let me know (01404 851113), as we are so far into our year, payment would be pro-rata up to March 2014.

Thomas Vincent found this on the internet...

The law locks up the man or woman
Who steals the goose off the Common
But leaves the greater villain loose
Who steals the common from the goose.
The law demands that we atone
When we take things we do not own
But leaves the lords and ladies fine
Who take things that are yours and mine.
The poor and wretched don't escape
If they conspire the law to break
This must be so but they endure
Those who conspire to make the law.
The law locks up the man or woman
Who steals the goose from off the Common
And geese will still a Common lack
Till they go and steal it back.

Anon—

17th century protest against enclosure.

The Open Field System

Private ownership of land, and in particular absolute private ownership, is only a few hundred years old. "The idea that one man could possess all rights to one stretch of land to the exclusion of everybody else" was outside the comprehension of most tribespeople, or indeed of medieval peasants. The Lord of the Manor might have owned an estate but the peasants enjoyed so-called "usufructory" rights enabling them to graze stock, cut wood, draw water or grow crops, on land at specified times of year.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Contact one of the editorial team if you have a happy event to report or have an interesting tip or village memory.

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