

CHURCH WARDENS' REPORT— Carol McCann

Our Priest recruitment has come to a non-entity the applications closed on the 3rd October, and 3 people asked for applications however none sent them back so we will be starting again in the new year.

We had the annual inter church skittles matches at the Feniton Bowls Club and this year the winners of the cup were Honiton, Combe Raleigh came 2nd and Gittisham 3rd with Buckerell 4th and Awliscombe 5th. We had a very nice meal and there were lots of prizes for the raffle.

Services for the next few weeks, all at 11.00 unless stated otherwise, November 2nd Family Eucharist with refreshments, 9th is Remembrance Sunday a short service starts at the Lychgate at 10.50 with the laying of wreaths and after the 2 minute silence carries on in church with a Eucharist, 16th lay-led sung Matins, 23rd Parish Eucharist, 30th Advent Sunday Parish Eucharist, 7th December Family Eucharist with refreshments, 14th Parish Eucharist, 21st will be our Carol Service at 11am and on Thursday 23rd will be Carols on the Green from 6.00pm with bar-b-q'd bangers and mulled wine.

Our last monthly coffee get-together was on 18th October and the total for the 7 get-togethers amounted to £239.53. Our Harvest Festival Supper was a splendid one and many thanks for all those who cooked for the meal and helped in any way. We made a nice profit for church funds and the cash collection at the festival service for Water Aid raised £116.75. The non perishables went to the Honiton food bank,(I took 3 large boxes and 4 carrier bags of goodies to them). The perishables went to St. Petrock's. I am still collecting items of adult clothing and sensible shoes – male and female – plus blankets, sleeping bags, towels and toiletries etc. for the homeless I have a contact who comes to Honiton fortnightly. If you could offer anything, please let me know. I have also heard from the food bank who have written to say they are desperate for certain items – Long life full fat milk, sugar, fruit juices and squashes, savoury rice and noodles, pasta sauces, tinned tomatoes, vegetables, fruit, custard, rice puddings, sponge puddings and biscuits. There is a blue collecting box next to the font in church. But if you would like me to collect any items, please phone me on 851113 I am hoping this year to make up parcels for poor families in Honiton which will be distributed through the food Bank. Items might include toiletries, small gifts for children, maybe woollen hats, gloves or scarves, plus maybe a Christmas Pudding, some stuffing, gravy mix, and any other seasonal goodies (non perishable) They can be taken to church during the first 3 weeks of December or I can collect.. Many thanks.

Other events within the team -

Sun. 9th Nov Doug's Shed Buckerell there is a WW1 & WW2 commemorative exhibition with tea and cakes from 3pm .

Fri 21st Nov, Quiz night at Combe Raleigh with ploughman's supper 7.00 for 7.30 with Max Pipe as quizmaster, bookings through Jacky on 42130 £5.00 per person teams 4 – 6 but individuals can be included in smaller teams.

Sat. 29th St. Paul's have a bazaar in the Mackarness Hall from 10.00

Sun. 30th Nov. Mission Community Advent service at St. Paul's 6.30

Richard Saunders

Richard Moved from the Exmouth Hospital to Hembury Fort House on Wednesday 29th October, he has a lovely room at the top of the house with a view that when sunny you can see as far as the sea at Sidmouth. I do hope he will be happy there and one can visit him at any time but they prefer not at mealtimes. I have also been asked by the manager to say that they would prefer not too many visitors at a time, so perhaps like the hospital visiting we can have a rota so as not to tire Richard too much. I know next Tuesday he will have Jane Hopson-Hill and Caroline Shuttleworth. The address is Hembury Fort House, Awliscombe, Nr Honiton, EX14 3LD and the phone number for the house (Richard does not have a phone there) is 01404841334. If you do plan to visit Richard, certainly in the near future can you please liaise with me. Thank you, Carol McCann 851113

MYSTERY TOUR!

Twenty seven unsuspecting souls from 7 families boarded the mystery bus on a sunny Saturday morning and headed off to the other side of the motorway. Starting with cow counting and an inspection of a fence, the tour alighted at Knightshayes. Russell's nuts 'conkered' in the first challenge and Alice triumphed as she crossed the raging torrent without even a nibbled toe. A fantastic picnic was shared under dappled autumn sunshine with 12 children doing their best to eat whilst climbing trees. The final Knightshayes-based challenge was a traditional Gittisham Eggathon, leaving Fiona grinning bravely through an egg-to-the-head injury. The final Mole Valley Challenge left all participants confused but happy. Back on the bus, Clara rose to the challenge of the First Person to Fall Asleep Award but could not beat Russell's high score, leaving him as overall champion of the day. Big thanks to The Village Hall Committee for organising and subsidising this event, which was a truly memorable day of good old fashioned fun.

Editor's comment—Our thanks to Carol Hall for this report. You certainly had lovely weather for your trip.

GITTISHAM FARM'S NEW HOUSE IS NOW IN OPERATION.

We are pleased to say we are at last in our new home and very nice it is too, we are so very lucky. Once again we must thank everyone for their support over the last three and a bit years, the team of builders who have produced a home built to a high standard. Of course Richard, his family and all at Combe estate who have included us from beginning to end in the process of the creation of the third Gittisham farm house (that we know of). Our new house tel. no. is 01404 758334. Russell, Helen, Edmund and Alice Hayman

Editor's note: *On behalf of all our readers we wish you much happiness, laughter and partying in your new home for many years to come. If you get lost in all that space just pick up the phone!*

THE UDDER SIDE OF THE HEDGE—Carla Hulbert

Where to start! It's been a very hectic last couple of months here at Shermans. Animals need feeding, watering, cleaning out and cows milking everyday regardless of whether you're not feeling well, got time off booked, or how many people are actually there to do the jobs. August seems a long time ago, but it's still taking its toll. Our new 'herdsman' is no more. Many reasons, but he left the first week of August, just when I had time off booked to do change overs at my student properties in Bournemouth. So between us, Ben and I had to juggle milking twice a day, kids and Bournemouth trips. There were several nights of arriving in Bournemouth at 9pm, doing a few hours cleaning etc to arrive home at 2am then starting work at 5am. But, we coped and are just about still standing although still lacking in sleep especially as we're just starting a new batch of heifers calving and they seem to like to do it at about midnight.

Another thing taking its toll is the fact that when here, our 'herdsman' did all the inseminating of the cows. Ironically enough he left the week before we started doing the pregnancy scans on his serves. Over 5 weeks he did a total of 120 inseminations, of which he got a grand total of... (drum roll...)... 6 cows in calf! That has many implications in that their actual fertility drops slightly the longer they are calved, as does their milk yield. Well, lesson learnt there I think.

We are advertising again, and despite stating 'experience essential' we get the normal "we live near a field of cows", "I've been a painter and decorator for 25 years" (!) and even someone from the meat counter at Morrison! So, in conclusion, if anyone fancies turning their hand to milking cows (or calf feeding, or farming in general) then get in touch.

ALIEN FIRES By Max Erhmann

When will the nations live by reason's light,
And not by deeds that terrify?
New groups of nations win with every fight;
An endless feud, and always men must die.

When will the nations cure the itching palm?
Change curse of national pride to love of peace?
When shall we know again the gift of calm?
Dear God, when will this killing cease?

We crossed the seas to curb a nation's lust,
We sought by force to quench an alien fire,
From now we strive to understand, and trust
Fair play to bring the world's desire.

How can we look these veterans in the face?
We snatched them from their dear familiar round.
Is our dream mad to school a wayward race?
And what of them beneath the ground?

We include this poem in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the end of the first World War...it was chosen by Jan Sutcliffe, who will read it in church on Remembrance Sunday, 9th November

DISRUPTION TO TRAF-

FIG...From Monday 3rd November there will be major road works through the village while South West water lay new pipes. All households affected should be kept regularly informed of progress and when to expect the water supply to be cut off. If anyone experiences transport problems please ring 851255 for assistance.

PS—Barbara and Jan will keep a list of anyone willing to help with driving people who are stranded due to changes to the bus routes. Please let us know if you are willing to add your name to the list and when you might be available.

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.

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GITTISHAM GAZETTE

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HARVEST FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS

Yet again the Harvest Supper was a fantastic evening when the hall was packed with hungry parishioners salivating in anticipation of what was to come...a delicious pork casserole, piping hot, with roast potatoes and a selection of vegetables. For pud we had treacle tart and ice cream. This sumptuous banquet was beautifully served by Sue Fallows ably assisted in the kitchen by a select team of 'disher-uppers' and then delivered to the tables by a band of brave waiters; brave because the plates were also hot and it was not easy to squeeze between the chairs! Nick Agg-Manning was on top form keeping everything running smoothly while Carol McCann gathered together a multitudinous selection of superb prizes for the raffle. Michael Hawkins' vote of thanks, spoken from the heart, voiced the thoughts and gratitude of everyone present. The present format of this annual event bridges the generations and has become a wonderful occasion on which to celebrate the togetherness of those wishing to give thanks for another harvest tide.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

November 29th - Quiz Night with raffle in the village hall 7.00 for 7.30 prompt start. Teams up to 6. Cost £6.50 per person to include a bangers and mash supper. Vegetarian option available if pre-booked. Bring your own drinks. Quiz master Marty Richards. Book your table through Carol McCann 851113.

December 13th - An evening of musical entertainment mostly, by the children of our parish, in Gittisham Church at 6.30pm. John McGregor will join us, accompanying and playing the organ and piano. There will be refreshments and entry is free with donations welcome.

If anyone else is interested in joining us please contact Helen : haymanhelen@googlemail.com

December 19th—Stage Right Children's Drama Club presents 'CINDERS' - a modern take on a traditional pantomime. In the village hall, doors open 6.30pm Light refreshment will be available. In aid of Children's Hospice South West. Further details in next month's Gazette.

200 Club—November

1st Prize	Ms K. Marker
2nd Prize	Mr N Agg-Manning
3rd Prize	Mrs J Sutcliffe
4th Prize	Mrs C Broom
5th Prize	Mrs A Stansell

COMINGS AND GOINGS

At last we have new neighbours at 2 riverside, Amelia and Ollie, their work is cut out for them after the property being empty for over a year so welcome to them both.

On another note it is with sadness that we lose our wonderful neighbours Pierre, Fiona and their lovely girls who have moved out of the village and into Feniton, they have had to put up with our bees swarming into their apple trees on several occasions! luckily Fiona is to remain Gittisham parish clerk.

It is also very good to see the old bakery has been re thatched though still empty after 7 years.

Ken and Roy

CHRISTMAS FAYRE - The Kings School, Friday 5th December, 6.30pm-8.30pm. Large variety of stalls, lots of raffle prizes and mulled wine along with Father Christmas, a great time for christmas giftst. For more information contact [h a y m a n - h e l e n @ g o o g l e m a i l . c o m](mailto:haymanhelen@googlemail.com) Still time for booking a table, just email details to the above.

HOLY DUSTERS (Nov)

Sarah Sproule
Jan Sutcliffe and Barbara Mullett

YEAR'S MIND—NOVEMBER

Barbara Neal
Dorothy (Dot) Chapman

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

THE BARTLETT FAMILY held a Big Breakfast event in the Farm Coffee Shop in aid of the new Day Hospice in Honiton. Their hard work and generosity raised the magnificent sum of £780. Well done to them all...the breakfast was delicious!

PIERRE, FIONA, ROSE AND SOLENNE have now moved to Feniton and are now enjoying their new 'flood proof(?) and cosy home. They will be sadly missed in the village although they assure us they will keep in touch. We do hope so.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"Life, you know, is rather like opening a tin of sardines. We are all of us looking for the key."

Alan Bennett,
British Playwright.

"In my house I'm the boss, my wife is just the decision maker."

Woody Allen, American Film Actor and Director.