

# GITTISHAM GAZETTE

A monthly Community Newsletter

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## Scenes of Christmas at Gittisham Church

From the beginning of December there will be a display of Nativity and Christmastide Scenes in the church, and at weekends Teas/coffees will also be served in the Parish Room. It is hoped that there will be scenes in each window and other spaces throughout the church. If you have a Nativity set or other items of the season that you would like to be displayed please get in touch with Helen Hayman on 01404758334 or 07806480246. There will also be a Christmas tree in the Chancel onto which you can place tags with messages or in remembrance of loved ones, do please help to decorate the tree with assorted tags, last year's tree looked good but could have done with a few more message tags. The church will be open and manned between 10.00 and 4.00, if you could offer to help by manning the church please let Helen know so she can form a rota.

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## Dates for your diary

### November

**13th Remembrance Sunday** starting at the Lych-gate at about 10.50 for a short service of remembrance with the laying of wreaths before going into church.

**19th Coffee get-together** 10.30 – 12 noon in the Parish Room – no sales table

**22nd Gittisham P.C.C.** meeting in the Parish Room 7.00 for 7.30

**25th/26th** Amanda Acland and her sister Elizabeth Glaysher are holding a viewing and sale of Jewellery and accessories from across Africa, from 10.00 to 6.00 at Sanders, Gittisham Honiton EX14 3AQ details from Amanda 850936

**27th Mission Community "Journey into Christmas"** Joint Service for Advent Sunday 6.30 in St. Paul's, with Advent Carols and Hymns, readings and Poems. Refreshments will be served after wards

### December

**From 1<sup>st</sup> December Displays of Nativity Scenes in St. Michael's Gittisham, open daily**

**2nd Kings School Christmas Fair 6.00 – 8.00pm**

**6th Feniton School Carol Service** Gittisham Church 2.00pm

**10th Spirit 11 Spirit Choir Carol Concert** at Upottery Church from 6.30pm see posters for info

**17th Coffee get-together** 10.30 – 12 noon in the Parish Room

**18th Service of Carols and Readings** Gittisham Church 6.30pm with refreshments.

**23rd Carols on the Green** 6.30 with bar-b-q'd bangers and mulled wine

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## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

**A warm Gittisham welcome** to Duncan and Lottie Riches who recently moved into No 2 Westgate and congratulations on the birth of Florence May who arrived on the 19<sup>th</sup> October we hope you will all be very happy in your new home.

**Mary Jarrett** following Mary's stroke and subsequent stays in Wonford and the Ottery Stroke Unit I am pleased to report she is now safely home in her cottage.

## CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT CAROL McCANN

On October the 18th the annual Team Skittles took place at the Feniton Bowls Club all five churches in the Mission Community had teams, congratulations to Combe Raleigh who won the cup, Gittisham came second with Buckerell third, Honiton fourth and Awliscombe fifth. The ladies of the club gave us a delicious buffet supper. As the clocks have gone back, the church will be locked around 5.00pm. On the 30<sup>th</sup> October there was a most moving service for All Souls at St, Paul's where the congregation lit a candle in memory of a loved one, these were then placed on a cross in front of the altar.

### Forthcoming Church Services 11am unless stated

#### November

**6th Family Eucharist with refreshments**  
**13th Remembrance Sunday 10.50 at Lych-gate with wreath laying Parish Eucharist in church**  
**20th Lay-led Morning Worship**  
**27th Parish Eucharist Advent Sunday**

#### December

**4th Family Eucharist with refreshments**  
**11th Parish Eucharist**  
**18th Service of Carols & Readings with refreshments at 6.30pm**  
**24th Midnight Mass 11.30pm**  
**25th First Eucharist of Christmas**

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**NOVEMBER CONCERTS AT SIDHOLME MUSIC ROOM, SIDMOUTH - ALL FREE ENTRY WITH RETIRING COLLECTIONS FOR MUSIC ROOM RESTORATION FUND**

**SUNDAY 6TH 3.30 – 4.30 THE SONGS OF IVOR NOVELLO**

**SUNDAY 13TH, FOR REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 3.30-4.30 TRIO EXE - DEBUT CONCERT**

**20TH 3,30 – 4.30 SOOTHING SONGS FOR A SUNDAY**

**WEDNESDAY NOV. 23RD COFFEE CONCERT 10.30-12 Young Musicians from Colyton Grammar**

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### ROY'S BEES

The beekeeping year has now well and truly finished, all our girls are tucked up for the winter, they had plenty of honey and pollen stored the last time I looked in the hives which actually was several weeks ago now, so we hope it will be enough to take them through until the spring.

At this time of the year the colonies have reduced to around 15000 bees per hive the older ones would have died off and just the younger winter bees which have a much longer life span as they have to get through the winter then start rearing the next generation in the new year

In the winter they stay in a tight cluster around the queen, the girls keep the temperature up to 17oC to survive then they push the temperature up to 33oC when the queen starts to lay early in the New year, they do this by beating their wings and moving around the cluster, they change places frequently as if they become too cold they would drop off and perish. to feed they move over the combs of honey consuming it as they travel around, the girls will stay with the queen at all costs she is their future.

Now we hope for a nice gentle winter to give the girls the best chance of survival we have very small entrances to the hives at this time of year to keep mice out as they like the warm dry hives, Now we hear Asian hornets have arrived !!!!!!! as yet another pest to contend with, they feed on honey bees the larvae and the honey and can destroy a full colony in a few hours so we will have to be on guard for them from early in the New Year.

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### Editorial team.

Editor Carol McCann 01404 851113 [charli.mcc@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:charli.mcc@mypostoffice.co.uk) Doreen & Ernie Wensley 01404 45774, December edition will hopefully go to print on 7<sup>th</sup>, any articles should be with Carol by 1<sup>st</sup> please, preferably by email.

## THE UDDER SIDE OF THE HEDGE by Jane Hulbert

I write this as the lawn is white over and it feels very cold. Must bring some logs in!  
October has been a beautiful month, all the maize was harvested without making any mess on the roads, which is always a worry and hedges have been cut making fields everywhere look tidy, the roadside should be done shortly, these are left by the contractors until last in case it becomes wet, then they can continue working without damaging the field.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> October 1989 we moved to Shermans, I'm not sure where the last 27 years have gone! We started farming in Shropshire in 1981 on a 54 acre county council farm, being 1<sup>st</sup> generation farmers it was the only possible way. Sadly most of these farms have now been sold leaving little hope for today's youngsters that don't come from a farming background. It is impossible to express our gratitude to firstly Shropshire CC and then Mr Marker for giving us the opportunity to farm.

It's with mixed feelings that we have now decided to sell the dairy herd and relinquish the tenancy at Shermans. Initially we were cutting down due to staff problems and some health issues but after many discussions the joint decision is to just continue with the young stock unit at Fenny Bridges.

The cows are being sold about one month after calving, they have to be TB tested and booked in at market. Catalogues are printed showing their parentage going back several generations. Milk production for these are also shown so that you know the potential of the animal. The quality of the milk is listed because cow's milk varies individually on their butterfat, protein etc. content. On market morning they are fed early and collected by lorry. Upon arrival at market they are washed, clipped and put into stalls with some very nice hay and water. Keith and I get there about an hour before the sale and watch with 'fingers crossed'!

I think 2017 is going to be an interesting year for us. I will keep you posted with the ups and downs!

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## KINGS SCHOOL REPORT - HELEN HAYMAN

The Kings School has been honoured to host a visit from 5- time Olympian & ex-student Jo Pavey, after a tour students were able to take photos and obtain autographs.

Also G.B hockey player & gold medallist Giselle Ansley attended an under 14' s Exeter & East Devon tournament hosted by Kings.

Year 7 attended an outdoor activity residential at Escot, a batch of sixth formers travelled to Tamil Nadu, India, to volunteer in an orphanage , after raising a staggering £6.000 through events. They also collected various items to take with them to donate to the children.

The annual sports presentation evening celebrated students successes & progress, all of this can be viewed on the Kings website .

Our major event is fast approaching- the tarr barrels in Ottery St Mary, here the PTFA run the Kings burger stall for the night, raising major funds to support the school's curriculum and added extras!

After this will be our Christmas Fayre on Friday 2nd December , 6 pm- 8 pm with Father Christmas and a huge variety of stalls , outside traders and of course mulled wine!

More details : [haymanhelen@googlemail.com](mailto:haymanhelen@googlemail.com)

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## 200 CLUB RESULTS NOVEMBER

1st Roy Abbott,

2nd Anne Thomas

3rd Maurice Gray

4th Lady Mary-Ann Denham

5th Cliff Wensley

## PARISH COUNCIL – NOVEMBER REPORT

Five councillors met for the November meeting. Susie Bond (EDDC), Claire Wright (DCC) and two members of the public were also present.

### **DCC / EDDC Report.**

Claire Wright said that the decision to remove inpatient beds from Honiton Hospital would be discussed at DCC's health scrutiny committee w/c 7<sup>th</sup> November. There has been a considerable degree of protest against this decision. However, she warned that further cuts to community hospitals would present themselves in due course. Susie Bond said the application to create a wedding and conference venue on the Combe Estate had been turned down. She is waiting to hear from an EDDC planning officer as regards a pavement on Devonshire Road, and she confirmed that EDDC would be moving its headquarters to the Heathpark Estate in Honiton.

**Crime.** None.

**Finance.** Members agreed the finances.

### **Speed limits.**

Genevieve Evans and the clerk (for Mr Graeber) voiced concerns over vehicles driving too fast through Gittisham village, particularly in the light of recent accidents and the safety of children. Claire Wright said it would be possible to set up a community speed watch initiative. She also advised residents to note examples of speeding and dangerous driving through the village, to then draw up a petition to present to County Hall. Claire added that the village would be unlikely to obtain a 20mph speed sign, as one in front of Feniton Primary School was refused. If you are concerned about speeding through Gittisham village, please contact the parish clerk.

### **Ward boundaries.**

There is a consultation on changing ward boundaries within East Devon district to even out the number of electors in each ward Richard Pratt said the variety of boundaries for both parish and ward in Gittisham Vale was confusing. David Fallows said the parish council would wait to see what was proposed, as the ward is considered to be the right size at the moment.

### **Limited residential development in Gittisham village.**

David Valentine said a site appraisal had been scheduled for 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov with EDDC, Combe Estate and Devon Communities Together. He added that he had arranged a meeting with the Wessex Community Land Trust (CLT), which advises on setting up a CLT.

### **Play area.**

David Fallows said the person who carries out the annual safety inspection of the playground had looked over the plans to build a structure in the wild area, and given them broad approval, subject to more detail. The Chair agreed to arrange a meeting with Bill Griffiths, Russell Hayman and Hamish Hall to further this proposal.

### **Honiton Neighbourhood Plan.**

Richard Pratt said the questionnaire would appear in the local paper and online.

### **Ditches and drains.**

Claire Wright said she would speak to DCC's Highways about the state of the road near Rapshayes.

**Next meeting.** This will be on 7<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm.