

CLYST VALLEY NEWS



August 2023



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EDITOR'S NOTE



Hello and welcome to this August edition of the CVN. My thanks to Sandra Porter for this month's cover photo of a 'wonderfully decorated' post box in Clyst St Mary. Very quirky! We've got another content-packed issue of the magazine so apologies that our Monthly Giggle is a bit light this month.

We've just got back from a very enjoyable couple of weeks on the continent, taking in France, Germany, Switzerland and a glorious week on the shores of Lake Como in Italy. We've done this sort of trip many times over the years and, among other aspects, I personally get a buzz from trying to dredge up my languages (with varying degrees of success!) to make sure we can keep ourselves fed each day, etc! What amazes me, without fail, is the incredible diversity of this rather small patch of land. If you look at a globe, Europe (minus the massive Russian landmass that stretches into Asia) looks almost insignificant in square miles terms. But take a closer look and you'll discover a deliciously varied patchwork; north to south, west to east, country to country. Just think of the differences in weather, topography, culture, the way people look and dress, cuisine, language, customs and traditions, politics. The list could go on. I guess the point I'm trying to make is that I believe that we here in the UK should never forget how lucky, privileged and enriched we are to be part of this incredible melting pot.

Enjoy the magazine – and the rest of the summer. Best wishes. Peter Skelton

Contributions, photos and letters to the editor for the September 2023 issue of the Clyst Valley News should be sent by email, to the editor, Peter Skelton, at clystvalleynews@gmail.com by Tuesday 15th August 2023 at the latest, please. Please note that contributions may be edited.

If you experience any difficulty in receiving your copy of the CVN, please contact your local distributor, as follows:

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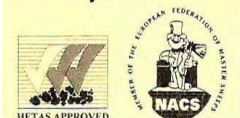
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YOUR PHOTOS ALWAYS NEEDED FOR THE COVER OF THE CVN!



There must be a lot of photographers out there snapping away around our villages. After all, our neck of the woods is rather photogenic. Why not share your results with our readers? Most months we aim to put one nice pic on the magazine cover and we need yours! So please do send in your efforts to the editor, Peter Skelton, who'll choose one each month. Try to use relatively high-definition settings but that's not a must. Just email them to clystvalleynews@gmail.com and we'll do the rest. Simples!

CLYST ST MARY



Village Hall

New Status for the Village Hall. The Village Hall officially transferred to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 1st July. Apart from a having to make payment to the CIO rather than the Village Hall, users should not notice any difference in hiring or using the Hall. The changes make it easier for Trustees to run the Hall and relieve them of some liabilities. As Trustees are all volunteers, we are hoping that this will make it easier to recruit new Trustees. Village Hall meetings are now open to everyone. If you have ideas about events, clubs or activities or just want to know what groups you can join, you are welcome to come along to our next committee meeting on Monday 18th September at 7.30 pm in the Hall. There will be an open session for any points people would like to raise. Our Treasurer will be retiring in December and we are looking for someone who could replace him. If you think this is a role you could fill, speak to our Chairman on 01392 874305 or come along to the meeting. Recruiting a new Treasurer is essential for the continued running of the Hall.

Defibrillator. The Village Hall now has a defibrillator which is fitted near to the entrance in a fully accessible cabinet. There are RevivR posters and flyers in the kitchen at the Hall. If you are in the Hall, feel free to take one away. If you scan the QR code on these resources with your 'phone, you will be taken directly to RevivR training. You can also use this link for a short instructional video [Learn CPR in 15 minutes with RevivR™ CPR Training](#).

Many of us will witness a cardiac arrest in our lifetime. Be ready for that day. The BHF's digital training tool – RevivR, teaches you vital CPR skills and how to use a defibrillator, in just 15 minutes on your mobile phone or tablet. Created by BHF's medical experts, the tool will take you through a real-life scenario, so you feel prepared for an emergency. You never know when you'll need to give someone CPR, so learn today. Our thanks go to British Heart Foundation and Bishops Clyst Parish Council for grants towards providing this equipment.

Our website <https://www.clyststmaryvillagehall.co.uk/> gives details of hiring availability and prices but if there's anything else you'd like to know, please drop Ali West an email on: bookings@clyststmaryvillagehall.co.uk. We look forward to seeing you soon



Clyst St Mary Primary School



The second half of the summer term has been a hive of activity for the whole school, all jostling to go on trips and make the most of the wonderful weather

we've had (until this week!).

We've had a few Forest School sessions, on site, which in a day trip to Exmouth. As always, the children had a great time trying a variety of activities, including marshmallows over an open fire; den building; carving; mud pie making and rope balancing!



culminate in a day trip to Exmouth. As always, the children have had a great time trying a variety of activities, including marshmallows over an open fire; den building; carving; mud pie making and rope balancing!



Our youngest two classes had an amazing day at the Aquarium in Plymouth in the last week of June. They started their day in an Ocean Scientist Workshop where they were introduced to all sorts of fascinating creatures



and relics – and carried out some experiments of their own. They spent the rest of the trip touring around the various tanks, looking in wonder at our incredibly beautiful and diverse underwater environment. They saw octopus, starfish, sharks, stingray – and much more!



Next on the calendar was a Beach Festival in Exmouth for a selection of Year 6 children. They had perfect weather for the day: sunny, dry, and not too warm. They were set three challenges and didn't stop all afternoon!



Another sporty activity was the Soccer Friendly, held at our federated school, Stoke Canon. They all had a great time – and certainly looked the part in their special kit. They were still singing football songs when the minibus tipped them out at school at the end of the afternoon!



Years 5, then 2 and 3 visited Dawlish Warren – a week apart. We always look forward to this trip: it's a lovely way to round off the school year. While at the Nature Reserve they take part in a workshop looking at life cycles and plant reproduction, which help bring their Science and Environmental topics covered in class this year to life. The workshops usually involve pond-dipping and beachcombing which is always fun! Class 5 managed a paddle in the sea to round off the trip before returning to school. Still to come is the much-anticipated Years 5 and 6 Summer Production, *The Island That Rocks!*, held at the Village Hall on Wednesday 19th July. Both classes have worked very hard, practising their songs and dance moves, and decorating scenery (with the help of Mrs Smith – thank you!). I'm sure it'll be a smash hit! We'd like to take this opportunity to wish all the children leaving CSM at the end of this term, be they moving up to secondary school or moving away to other primary schools, every success for the future. We'd love you to stay in touch and let us know how you're getting on. We'd also like to extend a warm welcome to those who will be joining our family in September. Have a lovely summer everyone: stay safe and be kind!



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Maintain and improve the sports ground in Clyst St Mary.

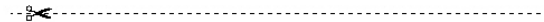
We would be grateful if you would join the Clyst Valley AFC Lottery to help the club maintain and improve the sports facilities within the village which are used by the club, the primary school, the preschool and other organisations within the village.

To join you buy a lottery ticket number which will be entered in to every draw during the season. Each lottery ticket costs £1.00 and there is no limit on the number of tickets that individuals may hold. There will be 4 draws during the season where we will pay out £250 in prize money at each draw allocated as follows: 1st prize £100, 2nd prize £50, 3rd prize £20 and 8 joint 4th prizes of £10 each. Your number and the results of each draw will be published on the club website.

So each number has the chance of winning up to £400 over the 4 draws!!!

To join the lottery and help improve village facilities please complete the tear off slip below and forward it together with your payment by the 1st of November to:-

Peter Cain (Chairman) 110, Windlade Park Ave, Clyst St Mary, Exeter EX5 1DA or pass it back to the person who gave you the form.



I/We wish to purchase tickets in the Clyst Valley AFC Lottery at £1.00 each and enclose £.....

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Please print your name, address, postcode, telephone number here and date and sign the form.

THANK YOU

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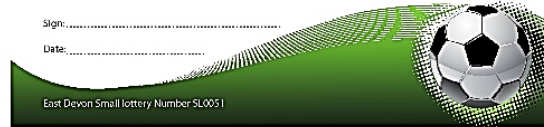
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Date:

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governance and transparency, finance, meetings, projects and news (www.bishopsclyst.org.uk).

Parish Council meetings are open to the public so do come along and get to know how the Council operates. Agendas and minutes are posted on the website and parish noticeboards, and if you feel strongly about an issue there is an opportunity in the open session for members of the public to speak.

Your Councillors. Councillors get involved in community projects, they take part in debates and make informed decisions in the best interest of the community and, collectively, are responsible for ensuring the Council finances are managed appropriately and transparently. When carrying out Council activities, Councillors have a legal duty to adhere to the Council's Code of Conduct which is based on the 'seven principles of public life': selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty, leadership. Training and support are available for all Councillors.

Diversity. The Council needs people from all backgrounds and experiences who reflect the community to put themselves forward for election.

Community Grants. Community grants of up to £500 are available to groups, clubs and voluntary organisations based in the parish for non-commercial activities which benefit

Bishops Clyst Parish Council

Clyst St Mary Upper Car Park – Thursday 31st August 2023. Please avoid parking in the upper car park on Thursday 31st August as tree surgeons will be undertaking tree coppicing and cutting back. Specifically, all spaces on the lefthand side as you look into the car park from the road and the top three spaces on the righthand side (Rydon Garage side).

Parish Councillors Urgently Needed. There are vacancies for Parish Councillors which we need to fill urgently. If you would like to be involved, you can be co-opted on to the Council at our next Parish Council meeting. Just email your details to the Clerk (bishopsclyst@gmail.com) or drop a letter in to the Village Hall. *Get to Know Your Parish Council.* The role of the Parish Council is to represent the views and needs of its community. It is funded by you and works for you, with integrity and transparency at the heart of everything it does. The Parish Council website contains information on

governance and transparency, finance, meetings, projects and news (www.bishopsclyst.org.uk).

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Community Grants. Community grants of up to £500 are available to groups, clubs and voluntary organisations based in the parish for non-commercial activities which benefit

residents of the parish. Please see further details on our website (www.bishopsclyst.org.uk/community-grants/).

Parish Council Meetings. Council meetings take place each month and dates, agendas and minutes are posted on our website (www.bishopsclyst.org.uk) and on noticeboards in Clyst St Mary, Cat and Fiddle Park and Sowton Village.

Contact the Parish Council. Karan Bennett, PC Clerk, working from the PC office in Clyst St Mary Village Hall on Monday to Wednesday, 9 am to 12.30 pm. Call 01392 874405 or email bishopsclyst@gmail.com. *You are very welcome to drop in, but we recommend making an appointment to ensure someone is available to see you.*

Walking Group



The August walk will be based around Woodbury Common. We will meet as usual at 10 am in the Village Hall car park on Tuesday 15th August. The walk will be approx 5 miles and will include a picnic lunch along the way, so bring your lunch and join us. As always, we walk at our own risk. For any further information please contact Sue on 01392 879333.

Exton Drama Club Are Looking for Contributors for Their Pantomime!



Quite a few of us Clyst St Mary residents belong to the Drama Club and we wanted you to know that we are planning a pantomime at the beginning of December in Exton Village Hall. I know that we have true supporters in the village and do hope that more of you will come along and enjoy the fun that pantomimes can give us. We are always looking for new members who have often wondered if they could do this or not so now is your chance to come along and find out what it is all about. Musicians; painters; backstage workers; stage organisers; refreshment teams; and of course ACTORS. The Hall is an intimate space and we are a friendly bunch with amateur dramatics as one of our hobbies. So 14th August at 7.30 till 9.30 pm at Exton Village Hall is the place to go. If you would like to go along with someone else please contact me and we can arrange that. It often helps. Thank you and please give me a ring (01392877907) if you would like to chat through your thoughts; or use my email pat@cusa.org.uk. Hope this has got you thinking.

Clyst Valley Preschool



The end of the summer term finishes the school year. Our 'big' children enjoyed visits to their new schools and met their teachers. They performed brilliantly at our preschool Graduation for an audience of very proud parents and families...as their preschool teachers, we are exceptionally proud of them all.

Both our leavers group and the children returning to us in September also enjoyed their own special Fun Days, with party food, games, dancing, a visit from some unusual animals and a bouncy castle!



Badminton Club
Clyst St Mary Village Hall



The club, which plays on Tuesday evenings in the Village Hall will re-start after the summer break on:
Tuesday 5th September 2023 at 8 pm.
ALL are welcome (young and not so young!!) so come and join us. It is good exercise and a sociable evening.
For more information please contact either:
Hilary 0139 2874722 or Anne (annecurryer@gmail.com)
Thank you.



If you are looking for a nurturing and fun Early Years setting for your child with dedicated, experienced and highly qualified staff please check out our Instagram account and our website www.clystvalleypreschool.org. Alternatively call us to arrange a visit on 01392 876615. We have spaces available for September and beyond, but these are filling fast!

Table Tennis Club



Please come and join us! New members always welcome. We play at the Village Hall every Thursday, 4 - 6 pm. The minimal fee of £20 for a 10-week session includes use of all equipment and refreshments. Alternatively, fees may be paid on a weekly basis if preferred. For further details please contact Pam Gardner on 07714 097220 or by email to pamelamgardner@gmail.com.

CLYST ST GEORGE AND EBFORD



Clyst St George Parish Council Chairman's Notes: August 2023

Our July meeting did not happen as not enough Councillors were available due to vacations and sickness. We will reschedule soon so we can discuss the current planning applications. Following the local elections East Devon has a backlog of applications, so still no news on the

Ebford Planning.

I have noticed that garden rubbish is being disposed of in ditches and hedgerows. Please get a green bin from East Devon – you and a neighbour could share one! If the ditch is blocked the road could flood or worse.

The next coffee morning will be in September. All the best.

John Manser

john@jmanser.co.uk

01392 874861

Clyst St George Parish Hall



The Parish Hall committee has been busy ensuring we are up to date with health and safety and fire regulations. If you wish to hire the Hall and bring your own electrical equipment, please ensure that all items used at the Hall are in good working order. A new fire alarm will be installed in the Hall during July and we are undertaking a review of the sound system.

The Big Breakfast. This will be back on Sunday 17th September from 9.30 until 11.30 am. Full English breakfast with unlimited tea, coffee and toast for £7.50 and breakfast bap with tea or coffee for £4.

Quiz Night. This will be back on Saturday 11th November. Tickets will be on sale after the summer break at £5 per person. The Model Citizens are the reigning champions, but with new quiz topics added for the winter event will they retain their title of Parish Brainiacs? A sneak peek at the questions indicates quiz competitors may wish to swot up on such topics as *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, unusual world records and film posters.

Save the Date. The Christmas Party will take place on Sunday 10th December. With free flow of Prosecco and delicious canapés, this is a wonderful start to the festive season.

If you would like to get involved in our community events, please contact Isobel Stubbs (Chair) on 07826 806919.

[This section continued on page 10.]

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Clyst St George Pimms Party, 15th July 2023
 Instead of drinking Pimms amongst the wild flowers in the Nature Garden, the wind and showers resulted in us drinking amongst the church pews. It was a very relaxed, friendly occasion and a big thank you to all those who provided canapés, raffle prizes and support. The event raised £401 towards repair of the Parish Clock for which the PCC is truly grateful.

Norman's Weather Report
 The first 19 days of June continued the warm, dry conditions of middle and late May. So we endured a second period of little rain here at Ebford during 2023; this time lasting 5½ weeks. Also, it was the hottest June for many years in the country. The only significant rain fell in the third week and provided most of the monthly total of 26 mm (1 inch). This was much less than any long-term average over the last 23 years. Norman Cann

Nature Garden
 Clyst St George has a delightful nature garden by the side of the parish church. The aim of the garden is to grow local Devon indigenous plants and trees and to encourage a Devon meadow with local wild flowers. Should you wish to help develop this 'green' facility, you can come along on the first Saturday of every month from 9.30 to 11 am.

Little Dragons Pre-School
 As some of you may be aware Elly won't be at Little Dragons from September but the rest of our lovely staff will continue to be there and work within the Federation. We just wanted to give our new parents a heads up of what Little Dragons will look like going forward.
 Little Dragons is in the process of being taken over by the First Federation. This has enabled them to look at their class structures for the future resulting in Little Dragons and Reception children being together to make a foundation stage unit. Little Dragons' provision will work



Lady Seaward's CE Primary School
Consultation on Change of Age Range

Proposal
 It is proposed to lower the age range of Lady Seaward's CE Primary School from 4 – 11 years to 2 – 11 years of age with effect from 1st January 2024

Background
 Little Dragon's Pre School is an independently run, committee led Pre-School on the school site with a capacity to take 20 children. The Pre School committee feel that they cannot sustain the increase in staff costs and have approached the school about merging the settings in order to best meet the needs of the children and the community.

The School and the Trust feel it is very important to the community to continue with this provision. First Federation Trust has experience of Nursery classes within the school structure and there is plenty of support available to the school. There will be no change in relation to the age range offered, nor reduction in places offered. If the proposal is approved, the main difference is that the pre school will become a Nursery Class or part of a Foundation Stage Unit within the school. The children currently in the pre-school will be registered on the school roll. Parents will still need to make a separate application to Devon County Council for a place in the reception class.

Capital
 The assets of the PreSchool will transfer to the School and continuing staff will LUPF across. The proposal will not affect the capacity of the School nor the Planned Admission Number and will not put pressure on existing classroom space.

The Process
 All responses to this consultation will be considered by the School, The First Federation Trust and shared with decision makers at Little Dragon's Pre School committee.

The proposed timetable is as follows:

Consultation:	Wednesday 5 th July 2023 – Friday 29 th September
Proposed implementation:	1 st January 2024

Responding to the consultation
 You can respond to the consultation by writing to: Mrs Michela Firth, Head of School, Lady Seaward's CE Primary School, Clyst St George, Exeter EX3 0RE or by emailing: admin@clyst-st-george.devon.sch.uk by the closing date of Wednesday 10th September.



alongside the Reception class; the children follow the same early years curriculum. Although the legal change can't happen immediately, we will start working closely together from September. We will also work towards extending Little Dragons' provision to be five days a week. Although there is risk the transfer could take time, we are passionate about ensuring the provision can stay open and continue to flourish. You can see the consultation announcement elsewhere in this section of the CVN. If you have any questions, please let us know at littledragons@live.com. Thank you. Elly, Sam, Emma, Emily and Codie

WOODBURY SALTERTON



New Kitchen for the Village Hall

The Committee felt that the present kitchen in the Hall leaves a lot to be desired so the plan is to move the kitchen to the green room at the end, which is currently used for storage. The project is in its early stages but fund raising for this has now started (see below).

Cream Tea for Village Hall New Kitchen Fund



Uncertain weather created problems for the members of the Village Hall Committee on Saturday 8th July as a cream tea had been planned in the Glebe Field. They hedged their bets by setting up some tables in the field and some in the Village Hall. Steady rain early afternoon decided the issue and tea was served in the Hall. Committee members had the extra work of bringing back tables from the field. Despite the rain, the event was well supported and raised £272. Thanks to all committee members for their hard work and especially to Louise Lee for organising a walking quiz for adults and children with questions for both age groups being posted up around the village. This was much enjoyed.

Ruby Wedding Anniversary



Congratulations and all good wishes to Patrick and Gill Bricknell who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary in July. Friends were invited to join them in their garden but were advised that they did not want presents. Anyone who wished to give was asked to contribute to Woodbury Salterton Village Hall New Kitchen Fund.

SOWTON VILLAGE



Mission Community Service

On Sunday, 30th July St Michael and All Angels hosted the mission community's fifth Sunday service which was also the welcome service for Richard Brooks, the new community assistant curate based in Broadclyst. Welcome, Richard and also a very warm welcome to your whole family!

Thank you to all who came to our lovely church and to everyone who helped to make the day go so well. Particular thanks to Ian and Jane Dodd for allowing us to use their field for parking. Also, to Mark Kvesic for always looking after the front churchyard, mowing and strimming it to make it look presentable! And, of course, to Valerie Fernbank and Sue Sturdy for providing refreshments after the service in the Village Hall and to all the bell ringers!

More Tea, Vicar?



What better way to get to know the new vicar than over a cream tea on a rainy afternoon? We got together with Gudrun Thomas and her husband Darryl on Saturday, 15th July and 'put away' quite a large number of delicious scones. Thank you to star bakers Sue Sturdy and Dee Galloway and to everyone who came and made it such a fun afternoon!

Sowton Village Summer BBQ

The by now renowned Sowton Village summer barbecue is planned for Saturday, 19th August. It is usually a sold-out event. We are praying for good weather on the day!

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WHITE CROSS MISSION COMMUNITY



A dedicated section of the magazine for news and information from the WCMC and our village churches. The list of services for May is, as always, on page 23.

Clyst St Mary



Church Services. Sunday 2nd June saw our Family Service taken by the Archdeacon, Venerable Andrew Bearne and he certainly got us sitting up straight in the pews with his enthusiasm and fun with the story of the Loaves and Fishes. Andrew's wife kindly made up the dough for us all to make our bread to take home for lunch. We do not have a cooker at church so we had to take it home but it worked! We were very pleased to have Andrew to join us at CSM and he has promised to come again. That date is Sunday 6th August at 9.30 am and we will be having a Baptism for our latest Family Service baby Charley. You are invited to join us at what promises to be a special service. Please chat to Pat at church if you are interested in having your children baptised at Clyst St Mary.

There will be a Family Communion Service on 20th August, at 9.30 am as usual. Tea and coffee will be served after the service, and we encourage people to stay and enjoy some fellowship. We welcome new families who would like to bring their children to join us in these services.

Looking ahead. We are beginning to plan the coming months in the church which will include Harvest and Christmas so it will be busy. Please look out for notices that I usually put out on the two village Facebook pages, on our noticeboard and emails to our list. If you are missing out on news and would like to be added to our mailing list, please get in touch with me.

Summer Fest. We held our Summer Fest on 15th July on a very windy and wet Saturday but you turned up regardless and we had a fun time making jewelled post, pebbles, bird seed cones and other things you thought up yourselves. Oh and we ate cake!!! Thank you everyone for coming and we do hope you will join us again. Have a wonderful summer.

Thank you from all of us St Mary's. Best wishes. Pat Cusa, Church Warden

Devon Historic Churches' Trust Annual Fun Day. This will take place on Saturday 10th September. It is a fun day out and a good way of helping the church. Get as many sponsors as you can and see how many churches you can visit on the day; or hold another event. Money raised goes to help the Trust and your local church. Sponsor forms available in the church.



Clyst St George



Cards for Sale in the Church. Recycled cards are again available in the church. They can be used for any occasion, eg notelets, birthday, get well, sympathy, anniversary, new home, new baby, etc. You are welcome to visit the church at any time and spend time looking through the boxes of cards. The church is open every day between 9 am and dusk. I'd also welcome any cards you may wish to recycle, except for Christmas cards. These can be left in the church for collection. Many thanks. Linda Wilkerson (01392 873699)



Woodbury Salterton



Wedding. The marriage took place in Holy Trinity Church on Saturday 24th June of Jack Kane Stuart and Isabella Marissa Pyne. The ceremony was conducted by the Archdeacon, Venerable Andrew Beane. He gave the couple a teapot and advised them always to make time in their marriage to have a cup of tea together and however busy they might be to take time to talk and listen to one another. The floral






decorations included a stunning arrangement of two towers of flowers and foliage around the arch of the church door done by Sarah Broom and her colleagues.

The bride arrived in a large skip on the back of a lorry and after the service the bride and groom left for their reception in the same way, the skip being lifted high up which was watched with much interest by villagers as well as the

wedding guests.

Jack was a pupil at our village school and his father Troy served for a while on the Governing Body as a member of the Finance Committee. We pray for Jack and Bella and wish them a long and very happy marriage.

June Family Service. This fell on Fathers' Day and was conducted by Jill Dupain. It is encouraging to welcome several families to this each month, some of whom live outside the village.

Coffee Mornings. Every Saturday morning from 9.30 till 10.30 outside in the churchyard but  inside the church if wet. A chance for a friendly chat and raise some funds for our church.

~~~~~  
**POETRY CORNER**

*Introspection*

By John Smith, of Clyst St Mary


Murmur softly when you speak my name  
For I am the past that once was you.  
Choose words with care to describe our deeds,  
And try to be honest and not glorify.

Self-pride is the hallmark that all of us share,  
But truth will endear more to the listener,  
Since failings create our common bond,  
Highlighting our humanity.

Then you and I shall be content,  
The you that was me speaking from the past.  
Know that we leave little that will endure  
Except an impression on other's minds.

© John Smith

~~~~~  
MONTHLY GIGGLE

 Policeman to driver he had just pulled up: 'You were going too fast.'
Driver: 'I was trying to keep up with the traffic.'
Policeman: 'There isn't any.'
Driver: 'I know. That's how far behind I am.'
[Thanks to Lesley Richardson]



A little city kid was taken away to the country for his first holiday and as he got out of the train at his destination he looked around in bewilderment. 'Blimey! What a lot of grass to keep off.'

Kids' Corner

What's happening this month?

FIFA Women's World Cup

The FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 is being hosted by Australia and New Zealand this year from 20th July to 20th August. 32 nations will compete on the international stage, with some of the best footballers in the world competing for their national teams. The women's World Cup is held every four years (quadrennially) like the men's competition. Despite running since 1991, there have only been four previous winners: USA, Germany, Japan and Norway. The USA are the favourites to win this year's competition as well. For more information about the competition and to find the fixtures, scan the QR code below.



Get involved...

Have a go at solving the riddle below. Send your answers in via email to clystvalleynews@gmail.com and you could be featured in the next issue.

Riddle: What two things can you never eat for breakfast?

We would love to have some children writing for the Clyst Valley News. If you would like to get involved, please email clystvalleynews@gmail.com

Last month's answer: What can you break, even if you never pick it up or touch it? A promise!

AND FINALLY...

The Sky Tonight: August



I'm sure you will have heard the saying 'once in a blue moon'. Well actually, it's twice. Let me explain. The time between one full moon and the next is 29.5 days so usually we only see one full moon each calendar month. However, as many of our months are a day or so longer than this, occasionally, two full moons squeeze in – as they do this month. When this happens the second is called a blue

moon. By chance both are also supermoons (joining the one in July that was mentioned in the BBC News), and that of the 31st will be the brightest full moon of the year. Although blue moons still look yellow there have been moons that were really blue. After the explosive eruption of Krakatoa in 1883 the volcanic dust thrown into the atmosphere treated the world to blue moons and unusually coloured sunsets for nearly three years!

Of course the Moon is not always full. Twice each lunation it can be a thin crescent, half or almost full (called gibbous). Only the half of the Moon facing the Sun is ever illuminated and when the Moon is between us and the Sun this lit side is facing away from the Earth so we can see nothing – a New Moon. As it begins its orbit around the Earth we begin to see a small part of the lit side, a crescent. (At this phase the rest of the Moon's disk may be faintly seen. This Earthshine is caused by the Sun's rays reflecting off of the clouds of the Earth on to the Moon.) As the orbit continues, more of the lit side becomes visible until the Sun, Earth and Moon line-up is a straight line and we see all the illuminated side and the Moon is full. (This alignment is called syzygy. A useful word for Scrabble perhaps?) The reverse happens as the Moon wanes and the orbit is completed after 27.32 days. But why is the time between full moons 2+ days longer than this? The Earth has also been moving along its orbit and it takes the Moon that time to catch it up to realign with the Sun and show this phase again.

Lunar eclipses – and there us one due in October – occur when the Full Moon moves into the shadow cast by the Earth into space. We don't get an eclipse every Full Moon because the Moon's orbit is tilted at 5 degrees to that of the Earth, so most of the time the position of the Full Moon is slightly above or below the Earth's shadow. Only if the orbit of the Moon happens to be crossing that of the Earth at Full Moon is the alignment perfect for an eclipse. Eclipses can be predicted. Even by observing the position of the Moon through its trilithons along with moving marker stones around the bluestone circle and the Aubrey holes our Bronze Age ancestors could have used Stonehenge to predict an eclipse! During an eclipse the Moon doesn't usually disappear but goes copper-coloured because the rays of the Sun, especially the red ones, get refracted (bent) by the Earth's atmosphere and strike the Moon, dimly illuminating it.

For a satellite our Moon has a relatively large mass and gravitational attraction. This prevents the Earth from wobbling too much on its axis, helping to stabilise our climate and its suitability for life. It also plays an important part in creating and controlling tides. The attraction of the Moon pulls the sea out into a bulge towards it creating a high tide (which is even larger if the Sun is also pulling in the same direction, as at New or Full Moon, creating a spring tide). This bulge stays facing the Moon whilst the Earth spins under it so 24 hours – and a bit more – later the Earth has rotated once and the same place gets another high tide. Why the 'bit more'? Because the Moon has also been moving on and the Earth has to catch up with the bulge. 'Just a moment!' I hear you say. 'We get two high tides each day!' True – because the Moon's gravity

not only pulls on the seas, it also pulls on the Earth itself causing it to move slightly towards the Moon leaving the sea behind to form a second bulge opposite the first! Of course gravity works both ways and the pull of the Earth on the Moon has caused its rotation to lock and synchronise to one rotation each orbit. This is why, from the Earth, we always see the same face of the Moon.

I'm not even going to try to describe where to find the various features of the Moon – seas, craters, mountains, etc. Go to www.moon.nasa.gov and on the Observe drop-down menu click on Daily Moon Guide for a day-by-day guided tour around the Moon.

Just before I sign off for this month a couple of other sights need a mention. On the nights of 12/13th the Perseid meteor shower will be in full swing. This is usually the best display of the year. And on the 27th Saturn is at opposition (ie at its closest to the Earth). *Look for a bright yellowish 'star' quite low down in the SE. If you can keep your binoculars really steady you should be able to see the famous rings and maybe close by it a point of light. This is its largest satellite, Titan.* Clyde Bish

Love Topsham's Summer Entertainment -- August



Hello from the Love Topsham team, in the middle of making this a summer of music, dance and relaxation across our town. Having enjoyed performances from samba band Street Heat and making waves with the Exmouth Shanty Men, our next grand performance is *Alive & Kicking* on Saturday 12th August at 1 pm on Topsham Quay. This is a terrific and unusual group of Exeter women (including one or two familiar Topsham faces) who perform music and dance from the Appalachian Mountains region. It will be an event to remember so get your drinks from the Lighter or your coffees from the local cafés and see these brilliant performers in action!



And talking of Topsham Quay...the *Love Topsham community benches*, which have seen extensive use for some three years now, have recently been complemented by our first *wheelchair-accessible benches*. These are similar to our existing seating but have been specifically designed to allow wheelchair users more easily to be part of any group sitting together. Our benches, introduced during the early Covid lockdowns, have been a tremendous success since the end of the pandemic, too. Please remember they are for community use for any and everyone, and are not part of the Lighter Inn's pub table section.

We close this month with two other items: The first is a diary date – Thursday 18th September. This is when we are holding our *Love Topsham new residents' meet-up at The Lord Nelson*. Our last one, two years ago, was a great success at helping newcomers feel part of our fantastic town. More details will be in September's edition of this magazine, and of course on lovetopsham.co.uk and in particular on the Topsham Town Calendar on the website. The second point is a big Thank You to our *hanging baskets volunteers' watering team*, who continue to do a fantastic job each day making our beautiful town look better still. You're bloomin' wonderful!

Thanks for reading this month's update and have a great August..and of course all the very best to our friends in the Topsham Charter Day organising committee ahead of another terrific end-of-summer celebration in late August. Good luck and thanks for all you do! From your Love Topsham Team.

Making the Deserts Bloom. Part 1



The issue of the environment is now a global concern. The following illustrates one area of hope.

Deserts now cover one third of the planet's landmass and they are still increasing rapidly due to desertification, eg the Sahara is increasing by over 250,000 acres per year and there are many other examples around the world.

How can this be stopped? Huge efforts are being made and one great example is the Negev Desert of southern Israel at Yatir

Forest, started in 1964 and which currently extends to 7,000 acres. It is designed to provide a green place for the people of southern Israel as well as helping to stop erosion, create new topsoil from tree litter and encourage the return of wildlife. The principal tree is the drought-resistant Aleppo pine (*Pinus halepensis*) plus some Italian cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) and the blue acacia (*Acacia cyanophylla*).

The photographs show just a part of this hugely encouraging development which, hopefully, will provide inspiration for many more much-needed reclamation projects around the world. Tony Rule



...and how it ends.

Researching Family History: A Short Guide. Part 2 of 3



In Part 1 we covered getting started, using the websites, the census, births, marriages and deaths and parish records.

Names. Some family names and given names change over time. If the provider enables you to do so, input similar names when searching. Given names, eg Ann and Anne, usually do not pose a problem. Changes in family

names can be more troublesome because some changes can be almost unrecognisable.

Dates. When searching for the record of a death or burial, do check three things. First, if the name of a parent (or of both parents) is given in the record, that usually means that the record refers to a child and therefore not one of the people you are researching because they would have had no children. Second, and this is especially relevant to those families whose first born males are named after their father, do check that you are looking for a particular generation. It is tempting to think that you have found the death or burial of X when really you have found the death or burial of X's father or son. Third, if the family has a name (eg Hope) which is common in a locality and the given name (eg John) is also common, you might find entries for the death or burial of several John Hopes in an area. Check that there were no children with that name who were born or christened up to a few years before the death or burial of the individual you are researching in order to rule out children who died young.

Places. Place names can change over time. I run a Google search for a place I'm unfamiliar with to check the current spelling. The other reason why I Google place names is that 'geography matters'. The further one goes back in time the more likely it is that births, marriages and deaths/burials for an individual occur in the same place or locality. Mobility within the country was limited especially for those you are likely to find in the mid-19th century and earlier. The most common occupation for male heads of households in rural areas then was labourer or agricultural labourer and typically they would have limited knowledge of opportunities elsewhere and the resources to get there. Parish records of marriages typically include the parishes of the groom and bride. So if you find a woman was married in parish X but another

search suggests she was born 50 miles away in parish Z, ask yourself is that likely to be the same person. So, when you Google a place, access a map of its location and work out how near or far it is from another family event; the nearer it is, the more likely it is what you are looking for. If you don't find the event you are seeking in a particular county then search its adjacent counties. *Looking horizontally – widening your search.* Be patient. If at first you do not find what you are looking for, think of another way of getting to the information you seek. This is what I call 'looking horizontally'. For example, instead of trying to find a person's parents look for what you know (or think you know) about that person's siblings. Accessing information on siblings or children may confirm or otherwise a particular record/event or family relationship. Malcolm Macmillen

Conflict is Inevitable; Resolution is Achievable



George Bernard Shaw said, 'The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place.' What we say, and what people hear can be two very different things, and when emotions are running high, or we feel very strongly about something, it can be even more confusing.

Some time ago I was sat at a table with some friends, and they were discussing a situation to do with their teenage son. It wasn't heated or argumentative, but both were coming from slightly different angles and, instinctively, I got involved in their conversation, asking questions, and clarifying what I thought they were both saying. As we left the restaurant my friend said, 'You should train to be a mediator,' and that's what I did. On hindsight, it makes perfect sense. Why? Because I've always enjoyed making order out of chaos, whether that's putting my home back together after the visit of three grandchildren, helping my friends through tough times, training people in a variety of situations, or the privilege of watching a son restored to his family as he anticipates leaving prison.

Unfortunately, mediation is often known as something forced on couples going through a divorce, where various compromises are expected, bringing more anger and heartache, but mediation is so much more than that. It is a way for each person to be seen and heard, then agreeing a positive way to move forward with their lives, whether the conflict has been short or long term, or a one-off.

Are you wondering if mediation would work for you? Then there is one question to answer that will let you know, 'Do I want to be **right or reconciled?**' Does my relationship with the other person mean more to me than proving my point and getting my way, whether that be my partner, child, relative, work colleague, neighbour?

I've had to ask myself that question many times after 44 years of marriage. 😊 Julie Hodge

Woodbury Camera Club



The club organised a day out in Otterton to see what we could capture. The weather wasn't great but we still had some lovely shots to show at our monthly meeting. The object of the exercise is to challenge ourselves to take something interesting despite the weather and the location. As it turned out, Otterton is a great location and apart from some lovely photographs, meeting together for coffee at one point in the day was also part of the enjoyment. The shots taken were very varied despite the difficult light and showed off Otterton and some of its quirkiness well. If you'd like to join the club please contact me on debbiejung16@gmail.com for further information. Next meeting: 15th August, Church Rooms, 7.30 pm. Talk by Gary Holmes on the South West Coast Path. Debbie Jung





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WCMC SERVICES AUGUST 2023

Sunday 6th August

09-30 WST Holy Communion
 09-30 CSM Family Service and Baptism
 11-15 AYL Holy Communion
 11-15 WBY Holy Communion

Week 1

Rev'd Peter Nikols-Rawle
 Archdeacon
 Rev'd Chis Cant
 Rev'd Sid

Sunday 13th August

09-30 EXT Holy Communion
 09-30 CSG Family Service
 11-15 FAR Holy Communion
 11-15 WBY Holy Communion

Week 2

Rev'd Margaret
 Rev'd Sid
 Rev'd Nigel Mason
 Rev'd Tony Raven

Sunday 20th August

09-30 CSM Holy Communion
 09-30 WST Breakfast Family Service
 11-15 AYL Family Service
 18-30 WBY Evensong

Week 3

Rev'd Sid
 Debbie Jung
 Rev'd Nigel Mason
 TBA

Sunday 27th August

09-30 FAR Morning Worship
 10-30 WBY Café Church
 11-15 CSG Holy Communion

Week 4

Carolyn Keep
 Lay led
 Rev'd Karen

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 01395 232161.

KITCHEN & BAR AT COURTYARD

VISIT KITCHEN & BAR AT COURTYARD FOR
**UNLIMITED TEA & COFFEE, SLICE OF
 CAKE, COMPLIMENTARY WIFI &
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 ONLY £10 PER PERSON***



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*T&Cs Apply. We reserve the right to withdraw offer at any time. £10 per person (excluding optional service charge) is for one person only and cannot be shared. Offer is valid for a slice of cake and unlimited Tea and Coffee only and cannot be substituted for other drinks. On day of purchase this offer is to be used within the hours of 9am-5pm of that day, offer available Monday - Friday only. Car parking registration to be given to server and is subject to availability.

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