

Buckland Filleigh Newsletter

June/July 07

Diary Dates

June

1st Library van (see below)

3rd Family Service 9.30am

Sheila Deane's Cream Teas, Buckland Filleigh churchyard from 2.30pm to 5.00pm

5th Mother's Union

15th Library van (see below)

17th Holy Communion 9.30am

24th Evening Prayer 6.30pm

27th Shebbear and Buckland Filleigh Historical visit to Winkleigh Castle

28th Coffee and Buns Morning at 16 Aish Park at 10.30am

29th Library van (see below)

July

1st Family Service 9.30am

3rd Mother's Union

13th Library van (see below)

15th Holy Communion 9.30am

14th Summer Family BBQ and Car Boot Sale: From 2pm, Shebbear Village Hall

21st Fete at West Heanton Residential Home

22nd Evening Prayer 6.30pm

27th Library van (see below)

29th Team service at Langtree Church 11.00am

Birthdays

Belated Birthday wishes to Sheila Deane 23rd May

June 4th Gill Fowler

July 16th Vron Martin

Wanted

Old stamps and coppers for the Bell fund. Phone Steve and Mel 281385

Library Van

Every other Friday the Library Van calls at West Heanton 10:30-10:50 and then at the Village Hall 11:00-11:15

Hiring the Village Hall

The committee room upstairs is just £5 per evening and the hall itself can be booked from £8 per evening (heating extra). Call 281372 for more details.

Church News

It was lovely to see so many people at our Easter Day Service and thanks go to everyone who helped make the church so attractive with their flowers. The Easter Egg Hunt following the service was a great success with the children.

April 25th was a day of church meetings:

*Vestry Meeting. Mrs Jane Cox agreed to serve for another year as Churchwarden.

*Annual Parochial Church Meeting: The Electoral Roll now includes 22 members and all members of the PCC agreed to serve for another year.

*Friends of St Mary's: The Chairman's report was read by the secretary as Nancy Thurley was ill.

Happily she is now recovering well. A total of £222 was raised in the year but it is hoped that we may improve on this in the coming year.

Dates for your Diary.

*Sunday 3rd June: Sheila Deane's Cream Teas in the churchyard from 2.30pm to 5.00pm. By kind permission of Ralph and Susanne Nicholson visitors may also walk in the park and the woodland belonging to Buckland House.

*Thursday 28th June: Erica and Andy Tod will be holding their annual Coffee and Buns Morning at 16 Aish Park at 10.30am.

Brenda Hulm

SUTCOMBE SAWMILLS

SOLDON, SUTCOMBE, HOLSWORTHY

We are now stocking a wide range of Quality stakes, posts, gates, fencing and sawn timber.

Firewood, sawdust, and bark peelings available.

Look out for our quality garden furniture and decking arriving soon.

Delivery Available

Pick up service available after hours by prior arrangement.

Cut to order.

Call into see us with your requirements.

Tel 01409 241480 Mob 07767 755876

PARISH COUNCIL

A new Parish Council is now in place, following the local elections on 3 May 2007.

Your Councilors are;

Dickie Deane (Chairman)281372

Alistair Nethacott (Vice-Chairman)281614

Jane Cox 281731

David Balsdon 281444

Vron Martin 281535

RING AND RIDE - MAY TO SEPTEMBER 2007

The Ring and Ride service for the Buckland Filleigh area operates on Tuesdays on the following dates:

To and From Barnstaple To and From Hatherleigh/Okehampton

5 June 22 May

3 July 19 June

31 July 17 July

28 August 14 August

25 September 11 September

The pick-up time is about 9:30 am, with the return journey starting at about 12:30 pm

Pick up from your home and returned home. All fares £3.00 return.

To book your journey or to enquire about the service, ring 01237 423232 between 9:30 and 12:30 on weekdays.

The service is provided by the Torridge Community Transport Association.

A Letter sent from the Clinton Ward Councillor

Dear Residents

Thank you for returning me as your Ward Councillor. The past 4 years at Torridge have been interesting to say the least but I am pleased to say there is clear evidence that TDC is improving in many areas.

I shall continue to represent the community views to the best of my ability, although it's not always easy so I do value feedback wherever possible. I attend most of your Parish Council meetings and am aware of many of the local issues raised. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any comments or concerns regarding your parish or ward matters or if you prefer, your own parish councillors.

I strongly believe in the importance and values of local communities and will support them wherever possible. Transport, housing, employment are all important issues in this area and as your Ward Councillor my role is also to make decisions for the whole of the Torridge District area on your behalf which also includes such things as leisure facilities, Burton Art Gallery, parks, play areas, refuse collection and of course car parking!

I can be contacted at the following:

Work Tel: 01805 603 443

Home Tel: 01085 603 656

Email: prc@barometerworld.co.uk

Mowhay, Merton, Okehampton, Devon, EX20 3DS

Yours sincerely

Philip Robert Collins

Ward Councillor

Clinton Ward

From the Team Rector (Tel: 01409-281424)

I am sitting writing this on Ascension Day (May 17th this year). Ascension is now a little known Christian festival in the calendar. Christmas, yes; Easter mostly; possibly even Pentecost (although still many will remember it as Whitsun). But Ascension? It's midweek – always a Thursday – and doesn't get much press. In many other countries it's a public holiday, but not here. Tucked away, not many are aware of Ascension Day.

Actually we all have dates like that. Anniversaries in our life that pass everybody else by but mean a lot to us. It might be the anniversary of a death; it could even be our birthday. Unless you're born on Christmas Day, relatively few people – even your own family sometimes – can recall the date from year to year.

Yet to us they matter. They recall some significant event that shaped our life. Without that we wouldn't be who we are – maybe we wish we weren't! The date comes round once again and the memories are stirred. Events are relived, even reshaped. This year may not be as painful as last. A joy we had forgotten may come to the surface this time round. Maybe this year there is a fresh integration of that time past that enables us to move on in a new way. It's all part of the healing and/or growing process.

So don't ignore those seemingly insignificant dates, even if they don't seem to matter to any one else. They do to you and are part of you are.

Oh – and Ascension Day. It's when we recall Jesus' return to heaven, 40 days after the resurrection at Easter.

Yours, Martin Warren.

Services at St Mary's Church

Jun 3rd 9.30am Family Service

Jun 17th 9.30am Holy Communion

Jun 24th 6.30pm Evening Prayer

Jul 1st 9.30am Family Service

Jul 15th 9.30am Holy Communion

Jul 22nd 6.30pm Evening Prayer

Jul 29th 11.00am *Team service at Langtree* (Preacher: Bishop of Crediton)

From the Registers. Funeral: Our prayers for those bereaved

18th May Lily Kyles (West Heanton)

Pilgrimage to Iona: 8th – 15th September, 2007

Fancy a trip to the West coast of Scotland? Wonderful scenery, fascinating history, spirit-filled characters. Visit Iona Abbey, Staffa (with Fingal's Cave), Whithorn (the earliest Christian community outside the Roman Empire), etc. Opportunities to walk Iona, take boat trips to the islands, share the fellowship of the journey. Enter into the spiritual history of our land, and experience the mystery of the divine presence in creation today.

Dates: 8th – 15th September

Cost: £450

Further details: Martin Warren (01409-281424), or Jim and Brenda Collins (01805-601604)

TWO PARISHES FESTIVAL

22nd September – 14th October

Celebrating Food and Farming

It hardly seems possible that two years have passed since our last festival, but they have and so, for 2007, the theme will be Food and Farming.

The events this time will be linked to our Harvest celebrations in the parishes at St Michael's, St Mary's, Lake and Rowden.

Planning is still in the early stages but we hope to include the following:

22nd Sept Farmers' Market – Shebbear Square (Village Hall if wet) 9 am -2 pm

23rd Sept St Michael's Harvest Festival

24th Sept Under 5s Harvest celebration

26th Sept Evening of music at Lake

29th Sept Village Harvest Supper in Village Hall

30th Sept Taize worship at Buckland Filleigh

2nd Oct Film – 'Inconvenient Truth' Buckland Filleigh Village Hall

6th Oct Ladies' Breakfast

13th Oct Men's Breakfast

7th Oct Lake and St Mary's Harvest Festivals

14th Oct Rowden Harvest Festival

We are surrounded by verdant countryside producing the best local food and we need to support the producers of this bounty. There will be a Farmers' market in the Square on 22nd Sept. If you are a local producer of any kind of food and would like a table at this market please let us know.

The primary school aged children in the 2 parishes have already been given their sunflower and pumpkin seeds, kindly donated by Brooks Garden Centre, and are hoping for good growing weather.

Other ideas that we have come up with but have yet to finalise dates are:

Display of farm implements and photos, Scarecrow Trail, Farm walk, Gardeners' Question Time, and of course there will be banners!

If you feel able to help in any way with the festival please contact:

Pat Kirby 281 148 or Margaret Mason 281 548

Buckland Filleigh and Shebbear Mothers Union

Meets at 2.30pm on the 1st Tuesday

In the month in the Parish Room at

St. Michael's, Shebbear

Visitors always welcome

Contact Margret Mason for more information 281 548



LITTLE BEARS PRE-SCHOOL AND BEAR CUBS TODDLER GROUP NEWS

We would like to welcome Harrison Shepherd to Little Bears Pre-school and very much hope that he settles in, makes friends and he enjoys learning with us all.

Our themes for last term were animals and dinosaurs. We learnt how animals survive in the wild, what they eat and how they look after their young. We looked at both animals & dinosaurs, using texture, colour, patterns, size and sounds as areas to explore the nature of past and present animals.

Jackie Powell very kindly invited us to her house to meet all her animals, but especially her horses. Thank you Jackie and thanks to the parents who helped us take the children on the trip.

Sorry to have to cancel the Wine & Wisdom evening that was due to be held on the 12th May. However, we will ensure that the licence is in place in time when we re-arrange the event in the autumn! However, please do support us at our Summer BBQ and Car Boot Sale. Details below:

FUTURE FUNDRAISING EVENTS

-Summer Family BBQ and Car Boot Sale: From 2pm 14th July, Shebbear Village Hall & Playing fields (if you are interested in selling at the car boot, just turn up before 1:30pm. Each pitch will be £5.00)

-Autumn Wine & Wisdom: Date TBC

Was there something in the Water?

Many readers will know from my Buckland Filleigh book that infant mortality in the Parish in early 19th century was much lower than average, and that many 19th Century residents lived to “a good age”. Recently I have been entering the later (post 1837) baptism entries onto the computer. This has revealed another interesting anomaly.

Between 1838 and 1858 there were 155 children baptised in the Church, but only 148 birthings - there were 7 sets of twins. The normal incidence of twins in the population at that time was about one set of twins in 80 births.

In 1838 James Vanstone and Mary Elizabeth Woods were born at the Parsonage, in 1843 Rebecca and Susanna May were born at Hembury, in 1844 Samuel and Thomas Lewis were born at Galmington, in 1850 Helen Louisa and Catherine Bewes were born at Black Mote (I realise this is in Sheepwash Parish but only just, and the children were baptised in Buckland Filleigh), in 1855 Thomas and Edwin James were born at Filleigh Moor Gate, in 1856 twins again arrived at Black Mote when Thomas and Charles Bewes were born, and in 1858 Susanna and Alfred Moore were born at Way. (In 1862 a further set of twins was baptised, though their place of birth was Sheepwash) Presumably the above phenomenon was just one of those coincidences which occur naturally from time to time, but it must have had the young women of the Parish puzzled and perhaps apprehensive. Have readers any ideas?

Jane Taylor

Shebbear and Buckland Filleigh Historical Society

The Historical Society has enjoyed a busy few months. Our Annual General Meeting took place on the 30th March in the Church Room, Shebbear. There was excellent attendance, confirming the high level of interest this organisation has generated since its formation. Unfortunately, the meeting was something of a milestone with the retirement of Rose Buse as Secretary and Robert Coggins as Treasurer. We owe them both our thanks and appreciation. Rose has been instrumental in the creation of this society and we will miss her in the secretarial role. However, I am pleased to report that she will continue to attend meetings and lend us her advice and full support. Robert Coggins has been meticulous in his handling of the finances whilst also drafting our constitution.

To summarise, the position of Treasurer has been filled by Robert McCurrah and the vacancy for a Secretary has been filled by myself. In addition, the Society now has parish representatives; Jane Cox for Buckland Filleigh and Joan Curtis for Shebbear.

Following the conclusion of the AGM we were treated to an interesting presentation on the 'History of the Cottage Garden' with journalist Glen Hedland. We must thank Mike Wye for loan of his projector, and members for the excellent tea afterwards.

Our next meeting took place on the 27th April at Buckland Filleigh Village Hall. The subject of the evening 'The History of Local Passenger Transport' centred on the services of Hill's Buses, based at Stibb Cross. David Hill, nephew of the firm's founder Ken Hill, brought along his outstanding hand-built scale model of Stibb Cross as it appeared in the 1940s. In addition, there was a superb collection of old photographs, models of buses and other memorabilia. The story of Hill's Services is recorded in the book 'Half a Crown from Stibb Cross'. Interestingly, the importance of the local bus service in bygone days is encapsulated the book's first paragraph: 'This is the story of a family who helped to change the way of life in many parishes lying between Holsworthy and Bideford'. Indeed they did and Shebbear and Buckland Filleigh were two of those villages to benefit. Our thanks to David & Margaret Hill and to all the members who contributed to the fine tea.

Our next meeting will take place on the 27th June with a visit to Winkleigh Castle, in conjunction with the Langtree History Group. (See local posters for further details) It is proposed that we meet at Langtree Village Hall Car Park at 6.30pm and arrive at the Castle for about 7.00pm.

As a taster of future events, we plan a major autumn exhibition of old photographs of Shebbear and Buckland Filleigh, together with maps, local books and journals relating to the two villages. I appeal to anyone with items of interest to contact me or your local representative (Joan or Jane) in advance. Other events in the melting pot include a talk with slides from the Beaford Photographic Archive, a presentation by the Devon Historical Records Office, a talk on the History of the Clay Industry at Petersmarland (thank you to Patricia Brinklow for supplying me with the contact details) and an evening reflecting on the life and works of the social historian and Old Shebbearian writer Ernest Martin. Ideas for future meetings are always most welcome. My number is 281922.

Harvey Paulger

Greenthumb

JUNE

The month of June is remarkable for the brilliancy of its sunlight. For those who are engaged in gardening it provides plenty to occupy their time, as much work requires attention in all departments. Put greenhouse and conservatory plants outside this month for the rest of the summer. You should be reaping the benefits of early sowings in the veg garden now as crops start to mature. Divide primroses and polyanthus and replant. Nip the tops out of broad beans infested with black fly. Make sure all your tubs and baskets are watered for a good display right through the summer. 23rd June is Midsummer's Eve this is the night when witches and fairies are supposed to be particularly active, so it is fitting time to take a few precautions against the one and enlist the help of the other. To protect your home against evil spirits, make a garland of the "herbs of St John" - St. John's Wort, plantain, corn marigold, yarrow and ivy - and burn it on the Midsummer fire. Hazel twigs cut on Midsummer's eve are supposed to be particularly good for water divining.

JULY

High summer approaches and the garden will be thirsty, but with water an ever more precious resource, it needs to be used sensibly. Let established plants search of their own supply by sending down deep roots. Water thoroughly only when necessary - a quick sprinkle with the watering can has the adverse effect of encouraging surface roots and dependence on you. Pick sweet peas regularly to prolong flowering. Sow biennials - sweet rocket, wallflowers, sweet Williams and forget-me-nots. Take cuttings of shrubs such as hydrangeas, lavatera and viburnum. Harvest and prune blackcurrants back to strong new shoots and pinch out the tops of runner beans when they reach the tops of the canes.

3rd of July The Dogs Days begin now and last till August 11th. Linked with the rising of the Dog Star Sirius, these are the hottest and unhealthiest days of the year. So with that thought in mind I will leave you to your gardening.

Shebbear and Buckland Filleigh Website

Paul Watts has got the new website for Shebbear and Buckland Filleigh up and running. It can be found at www.shebbearvillage.co.uk please do log on and see all the news and latest goings on in both villages. Paul would like to start a section that gives personal views of life in the area, hobbies, work, Birthdays, weddings etc anything that you would like to say or contribute please get in touch.

Email- tyrella@btinternet.com Tel- 01409 281968

Anyone with any Birthdays, announcements,

For Sale's or Wants do let me know.

Deadline for next August/September Newsletter **20th July**

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