

#### OCTOBER 2017

#### **EDITOR'S NOTES**

So far so good, we seem to be back on track for each month. Thanks to some new volunteers it will be easier each month for the magazine to be produced and distributed. For those who have asked about subscriptions these will be due in January to cover 10 issues over 2018 and the price remains the same at £3 for individuals but free to those who just have electronic copies or access it from the upcoming website. Our only expense is the printing for which we thank the School which does this "at cost".

It was lovely to see a good turnout for the harvest home last month. We were so luckily to miss the threatening clouds that seemed to be taunting us for much of the afternoon, the rain only coming when seated inside the village hall whilst eating a delicious spread. As always many thanks to so many for the hard work in making this very traditional event so enjoyable.

A brief update on the Phone Box. Money is available to refurbish it, quotes have been received to clean it back to the metal, repair the door, paint it and move to the village hall site so it is hoped that work will commence shortly. Again thanks to voluntary effort from several villagers to keep the cost down.

We understand a few tickets are still available for the Village Event on Saturday 7 October featuring the "Castletown Boys" so do try and support the event. We also have the Bickleigh Charity Play Nights this month. Full details are in the Bugle.

It has been good to see people picking blackberries, which are abundant this year. It appears that the early hot and dry weather followed by the cooler wetter weather has helped the production of autumn fruits and we may see good colours on the trees later.

The Editors:

**Tim Scott**Calendar Cottage

Steve Batt
The Old School

NB Any outstanding subscriptions to Steve.

#### **OCTOBER**

#### A POEM BY PHYLLIS NICHOLS

October it is Autumn time again
Getting darker now in the morning and night
We have had a lot of wind and rain
But the sun has been shining oh so bright

It is time to alter the clocks very soon Now that October is once more here At night it is lovely to see the moon And Christmas time is coming so near

The birds will soon be flying far away
To a warmer place I hope they enjoy it
We will still put the food out every day
For the little birds like the Robin and Blue tit

#### CHURCHYARD CONSERVATION

It has been a reasonable summer but we were hoping to see more butterflies especially with the early drier weather. We were able to input into the National Butterfly Survey but perhaps we were too early as the numbers seen were quite low although it was pleasing to see a couple of marbled whites.

The laurel hedge has thickened up nicely and we have a range of wildflowers that have been established in front of the hedge. Some trimming back will take place during the early winter to help set more seeds and give plants a chance to grow next year. It is also pleasing to see that the Diocese is taking an active role in promoting wildlife across their churches and recognizing the importance of churchyards as (in many cases) the last strongholds of many species of flora and fauna under severe decline elsewhere.

Many Thanks



#### ST MARY'S PEWS NEWS

#### **SEPTEMBER**

The speaker at our recent Mission Community Men's Breakfast posed a question which intrigued me. In 21st century Britain how do we define ourselves? Is it by who we are or what we own? This was said in the context of our Judeo-Christian heritage. The question took me back to 1974 when we bought 1 Bell Cottage (now Gable cottage). We thought nothing of the fact that there was only one cold water tap that ran into a butt sink in what passed for the bathroom. There was no kitchen. The loo was outside. There was electricity but no heating beyond three small fires places of the Victorian style of which one was in a bedroom and the others in the main sitting room and a small snug. The floor boards were bare and the walls painted with lime wash, the roof thatch. The place we entered in 1974 was, barring running water and electricity, no different from what it was probably, when built some 250 years before. It is said that at one time a family of nine lived there. I remain intrigued by the question and tend towards an uncomfortable reality that I may be defined by what I own rather than who I am.

Speakers at our Men's Breakfasts are well worth a trial if you have not been before. Our next speaker is Barry Townsend who will share his experiences as a Truck Service Manager, who turned his poorly performing branch into a top performer using Christian ethics. The date is **Saturday 4th November** at Cadeleigh Village Hall; 8 for an 8.15 start.

HARVEST 2017 - The Parish Harvest Home was spread over three days starting on the Friday morning with the provision of flower arrangements in St Mary's in preparation for the afternoon with Bickleigh School's own harvest service and the Sunday service. This year Class 3 prepared and led the service with an emphasis on thankfulness (despite occasional hardships) for the bounty of

nature which in the Bible's explanation of creation was created by the word of God on the third day and thus already laid out before humankind came to be created on the sixth day. In contrast to the pouring rain at the end of the summer term the afternoon was blessed with fine sunshine. Once again the children sang with confidence and gusto and the readers all played their part in providing a very fine start to the harvest festivities.

On Saturday the by now wet weather relented to the extent that the sports in Joan's Orchard were possible. All the traditional races and competitions took place. The the field flooded with families thoroughly enjoying themselves. Our thanks to Michael and Shirley Ware the organisers. We then retired to the village hall for a sumptuous Harvest Tea provided by Mrs Christine Harris with many volunteers and a raffle organised by Mrs Mary Vearncombe. This raised £90.00 and donated to the long term repair of the Parish Clock housed in St Mary's Church tower. Finally we enjoyed a very happy parish church service celebrating harvest time in St Mary's on Sunday morning, a beautiful day which raised all our spirits.

Car Boot Sale - The next sale takes place at the Trout Inn car park on Saturday 7th Octoberr, 9 am to 12 noon. (The setting up of stalls at 8 am. Private cars  $\mathfrak{L}5$ , vans and trailers  $\mathfrak{L}10$ ). All proceeds go towards the cost of maintaining the changing rooms and the Bickleigh Recreation Field.

The Gospel According to St John – The topic for study and discussion as the House Group continues to meet at 7.30 pm on Thursday evenings at Gable Cottage. Please see the Mission Community weekly newsletters for confirmation of days when we meet.



#### **BICKLEIGH CHARITY 'PLAY NIGHTS'**

A cast of 12 locals are busy rehearsing for the popular "Play evenings" which are to be held at the Village Hall on **Saturday 28th** and **Sunday 29th October**.

The chosen play this year is a comedy, called "The Finish Line" and is set in 2012 in the tumbling down mansion of brother and sister pair, Lord and Lady Parmington. The household is held together by the maid, Maisie, and the faithful Cook, but things become disrupted when the old folks' sister, Hester, returns to the family home to claim her share of its value. In the meantime, Lord Parmington has his own guests, a set of old participants of the Russian Olympics that he became friends with back in 1972. As if that weren't enough mayhem, a rascal Cockney "fence" with his step-daughter, Brittany, add to the mix causing misunderstandings aplenty. The ultimate confusion surrounds the Sanitary Inspector,

who's identity gets mistaken, but there are numerous heart-warming moments where Sir Humphrey Parmington's true feelings are revealed and the story has a surprisingly happy ending.

The performances will be held on **Saturday 28th** and **Sunday 29th October** with the evening beginning with a hot supper at 6.30pm. This year there will be the option of a "Thai" supper on Saturday and the regular "Ceylon Curry" on the Sunday. Tickets are £15, including the sit-down meal and are available from Rose Chanin 01884 855251 or 07856 057 006.

The play has been licenced for performance by Lazy Bee Publishing company and all profit from the evening will be in aid of The Devon Air Ambulance Trust.

Rose Chanin (01884 855251 or 07856 057 006)









### **Devon County**

Royal British Legion

## A Concert for Remembrance

Thursday 2nd November 2017



## The Okehampton Community College Band Cassy Jane (mezzo-soprano) Pupils of St Sidwell's School, Exeter

at

The Mint Methodist Church, Fore Street, Exeter, EX4 3AT

Doors open 6.30pm (Refreshments available)

Concert starts at 7.30pm

Tickets: £7.50

Email/Telephone: rbldevon.events@gmail.com / 07588 129131









#### **BICKLEIGH GARDENING CLUB**

It was good to see so many members and friends again on Monday evening 11th September. After giving out various notices, the Chairman introduced the Speaker for the Evening – Mary Benger, who gave an excellent slide show and talk on the gardens she has developed over the years at Dulwood. In particular she showed a wide range of plants that love to live in the sun, followed by pictures and details of shade loving perennials, shrubs and trees. Mary answered questions from the audience before members rushed forward to purchase plants from the delightful selection she had brought along. Tea and coffee were served and a range of sandwiches and biscuits consumed. The draw was made for

the raffle prizes and the joint winners of the "Flower of the Month competition" were announced. (Congratulations to Helen Cooper and Janette Greenslade).

The next evening meeting of the Gardening Club is on Monday 9th October at 7.30 pm when the speaker will be Alan French. There will of course be the usual Refreshments, Raffle/Draw and "Flower of the Month Competition". This will be the last evening meeting before the AGM on Monday 13th November. Members will be pleased to hear that the AGM will be followed by entertainment by the Tiverton Ladies Choir and the usual AGM finger

#### LEARNING TO LOVE SPIDERS

Whilst we tend to look at spiders and their webs as rather a nuisance, indoors at least, perhaps we should look at them in a different way. They do good work in keeping our homes clean by controlling hygiene by eating pest species and other disease carriers. Spiders do not spread disease by themselves and are key parts of the food chain, increasing quantity and diversity of prey available to birds and mammals and ultimately maintaining diversity of life on earth.

There are over 45,000 known species across the world whilst we have about 670 different species in Britain, none of which do us any harm here with only a tiny fraction capable of biting us - with no harm. Biting flies are more likely to cause infections.

It will probably not surprise anyone that spiders are struggling to cope with habitat loss and other threats.

Why do we tend to see more spiders at this time of year? The timid house spiders (which are often seen running across the floor) reach sexual maturity at this time of year and are therefore more active in searching for mates. For most of the year they just go about their business quietly keeping pests at bay. Notice also the beautiful orb-weavers in the hedges and gardens, placing their webs in just the right place to catch prey - again they are of no threat to us.

So, love your spiders. Every one matters!

Steve Batt

#### **BICKLEIGH VILLAGE HALL NEWS**

Date for your Diaries...Evening of **Saturday 7th October 2017**. The Castletown Boys from Bradninch will be playing "charged up folk songs about ships sinking, sailors drinking and ladies winking..." at the Village Hall. More info below, but the evening will involve local food and drink and a chance to have a good old fashioned knees up and catch up.

Approximately 60 tickets have been sold/reserved for the evening at the point of writing this, so it promises to be a fab night! If you would like to come, get your name on the list asap by calling Kerry on 855856 or 07968 889673! Some tickets will be available on the door on the night.

Many Thanks

Kerry Peters, Bickleigh Village Hall Chairperson

Kerry, Michelle, Robin, Matt, Chris, Derek and Richard

# LIVE MUSIC AT BICKLEIGH VILLAGE HALL

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2017 7.30pm

#### **Castletown Boys**

https://www.reverbnation.com/castletownband



"Charged up Folk Music influenced by The Pogues and Steeleye Span ..."

Cash Bar with Local Ale, Wine, Cider and soft drinks Tickets: £6 per person to include a pasty (over 18's only)

Tickets are limited and on sale in advance.

Please call Kerry on 855856 or 07968 889673 or email <a href="mailto:kerry.peters3@btinternet.com">kerry.peters3@btinternet.com</a> to reserve tickets.

Organised by BVH Committee. Proceeds to hall funds to improve the stage area/sound/lighting. Hope to see you!

#### **BICKLEIGH WEATHER WATCH**

Reports from across the Atlantic in the last few weeks have shown us how devastating the weather can be. The power of hurricane Harvey and hurricane Irma have shocked the world with a double dose of destruction this summer. Even though weather forecasts warned of the impending events many days ahead, allowing people to evacuate some areas and prepare to some degree, many lives were lost and damage runs into many billions of dollars. So what causes these immense storms? And is this a taste of the future? Will climate change make them worse?

Hurricanes (known as typhoons in the Pacific) are the most powerful storms on the planet. Yet they often start life as relatively minor tropical rain storms in west Africa, nestling in wavy undulations in the winds blowing off the tropical coast of Africa and out over the Atlantic. This is where the trouble starts; once over the ocean, they have access to enormous energy sources from the warm tropical waters. Evaporation from the surface condenses high in the atmosphere and releases enormous quantities of heat into the hurricane to power what is essentially a massive heat engine, hundreds of kilometres across. To put them into perspective – a single powerful hurricane can dissipate energy at a rate greater than our global rate of electricity production.

Despite their frightening power, there are some things that can knock the wind out of a hurricane. The simplest occurs when they cross from the ocean and make 'landfall'. This is a time of great danger for

local residents but it also causes a rapid decline in the strength of the hurricane winds. Deprived of its oceanic source of energy, the hurricane soon starts to run out of steam, and the intense friction between the circulating winds and the land surface mean that the storm is doomed unless it can 'recurve' back out over the ocean. This simple mechanism, and the tidal surge that follows the storm, is why coastal regions are at greatest risk and you never see hurricanes far inland. The other thing hurricanes can't stand is wind shear – this is the difference between winds near the surface and winds high in the atmosphere. If the wind changes direction with height it can shear out the hurricane before it has even had chance to grow and disarm what could otherwise be a deadly storm.

So what does this all mean for the future? Will storms like Harvey and Irma be common in years to come? Well the ocean is certainly warming and this is not good, as it will energize the storms even more than usual and add to the amount of rainfall that the storms produce. However, there is a twist; as some predictions show fewer hurricanes in future due to changes in wind shear. So perhaps we are in for fewer, but stronger, more dangerous storms in the future.

You can track the latest hurricane developments at the U.S. national hurricane centre here: www.nhc. noaa.gov or at the Met Office here: http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/storm-tracker

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#### **CHILDREN'S SHOEBOX APPEAL 2017**

Over the last few years members of St Mary's Church, Bickleigh School and villagers have supported Children's Shoebox Appeal into Romania over the Christmas period. The idea is very basic, you find an empty shoebox, wrap the lid and box separately in wrapping paper, decide if your gift is for a boy or a girl, fill your box with gifts, donate £2 to cover transport and bring it into Bickleigh Pre-school where it will then be passed on to children in Romania.

If you would like to take part a leaflet may be found by the font in St Mary's church with my contact details and all you need to know about how to fill the box, the permitted contents and how to prepare the filled box for posting. The local co-coordinator is Mrs Jenn Syres who works at Bickleigh Pre-School. If there are queries please contact me in the first instance.

Please return your full box/es to Pre-school by **Wednesday 8th November**. Jenn Syres will make the necessary arrangements to deliver the boxes to a central point for further distribution

Thank You!

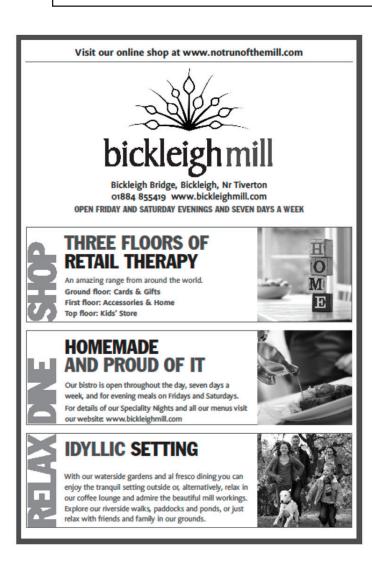
**Rev Thom Thompson** 



#### **PYONEER BOWEN TREATMENT**

Bowen is a remedial therapy that consists of a series of moves across muscles, tendons and other soft tissue. The therapist uses fingers and thumbs with no harsh manipulation to relieve tension and realign the body.

Two local, qualified therapists are able to offer treatment. Please contact either **Anna Hodgson on 07971395088** or **Pippa Perry on 07794467071** for more information. Alternatively visit the website at www.pippaperrybowen.com



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#### BODY CONTROL PILATES

#### BICKLEIGH VILLAGE HALL EVERY FRIDAY AT 9.30AM

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Contact Angela Mead on 07811855182 or email angela.mead@gmail.com for further information.

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functions

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(inc Light & Heat)

Robin Maynard, 01884 855597



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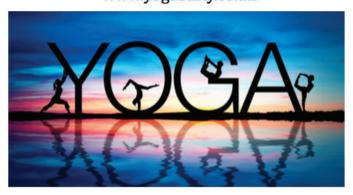
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## Lyons International Medallist

"Pale gold, gentle yeastiness, hints of apple and pear, fresh acidity & a creamy texture. "( sparkling Vintage Brut white ).

Paris La Revue du Vin" A beautiful example of English fizz " (sparkling Vintage Brut pink Pinot Noir).

Roger & Juliet





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October 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Holy Communi on – 8am	2	3	4	5	6	7 Car Boot Sale – Trout Inn 9-12 noon
8 Evensong - 6pm	9 Gardening Club Evening – 7:30pm	10	11	12	13	14
15 Family Service – 11am	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Holy Communi on – 11am	23	24	25	26	27	28 Bickleigh 'Play night' – 6:30pm
29 Matins – 11am; Bickleigh 'Play night' – 6:30pm	30	31				

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT YOU WANT EVERYONE TO KNOW ABOUT JUST SEND US AN EMAIL AND WE WILL SHOUT ABOUT IT FOR YOU!

bickleighbugle@outlook.com