



**OCTOBER 2018**

## **EDITOR'S NOTES**

Thanks to all those who set up the Harvest Home last month. It was pleasing to see so many enjoying the sports and excellent food in the hall afterwards. You will see some events for October in more detail inside. There is the Film Night on the 12th and the Bickleigh Drama Group on the 27th and 28th - also other events itemised on the last page of the Bugle. We are lucky to have so many talents here in the parish, bringing their hard work into village life.

We hope the repairs to the bridge did not cause too many problems. It was strange that although there were plenty of warning signs from Exeter there appeared to be none from Tiverton. A betting person wondered if a local betting shop would accept a bet on how long it would be before the bridge is damaged again. It seems the answer would be pretty quickly - damage was noted to the raised curb one day after the repairs were finished! The bridge is a scheduled monument but surely something could be done to mitigate the consistent damage. Ideas have included downgrading the road so as to ban lorries, putting up traffic lights and sinking metal bollards where the vehicles clip the bridge together with CCTV to catch the offenders. Send your ideas to County Hall on a postcard...?

Have a good month.

The Editors:

**Tim Scott**  
Calendar Cottage

**Steve Batt**  
The Old School

# HALBERTON HISTORY GROUP

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At the next event to be organised by the Halberton History Group, Michael Gee will be presenting an illustrated talk "Orchards – How Devon turned to Cider" on **Thursday 11th October** at the Jubilee Room, Halberton Village Hall, starting at 19:30. Entry is £3.00 (£2.00 for members of the Halberton History Group)

Michael is an orchard historian and he will explore the history and future of Devon's orchards since Tudor and Stuart times. Originally from Manchester, he studied Geography at Oxford and Town and Country planning at Edinburgh. He worked in local and central government, consultancy and the charitable sector, before moving to Devon in 1987 as Director of the Dartington North Devon Trust. In 1990 he inaugurated North Devon's 'Save our Orchards' campaign and became chair of Orchards Live. He has planted his own orchard, and in 2013 was awarded a BEM for services to orchard conservation.

Over the last few months we have been setting up a new website for the History Group and we are delighted to announce that you can now view the results at <http://halbertonhistorygroup.btck.co.uk/>

*Dave Charles*, Halberton History Group (Publicity)



**ORCHARDS – HOW  
DEVON TURNED TO  
CIDER**

**PRESENTED BY  
MICHAEL GEE  
Orchard Historian**

Everyone is  
welcome

ENTRY  
£3.00 each  
(Members £2.00)

**THURSDAY 11<sup>TH</sup>  
OCTOBER  
7.30  
HALBERTON  
VILLAGE HALL  
JUBILEE ROOM**

historygroup@halberton.org

## OCTOBER

### A POEM BY PHYLLIS NICHOLS

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October brings the wind and rain  
Christmas will soon be here  
The clocks alter once again  
On ar back I can never remember  
But we have had a lovely summer  
Everyday we try to keep busy  
Rushing around to get everything done.

Next we will think of Christmas fun  
How quickly the months go flying past  
We will still enjoy the lovely warm sun  
Making the most of it while it lasts



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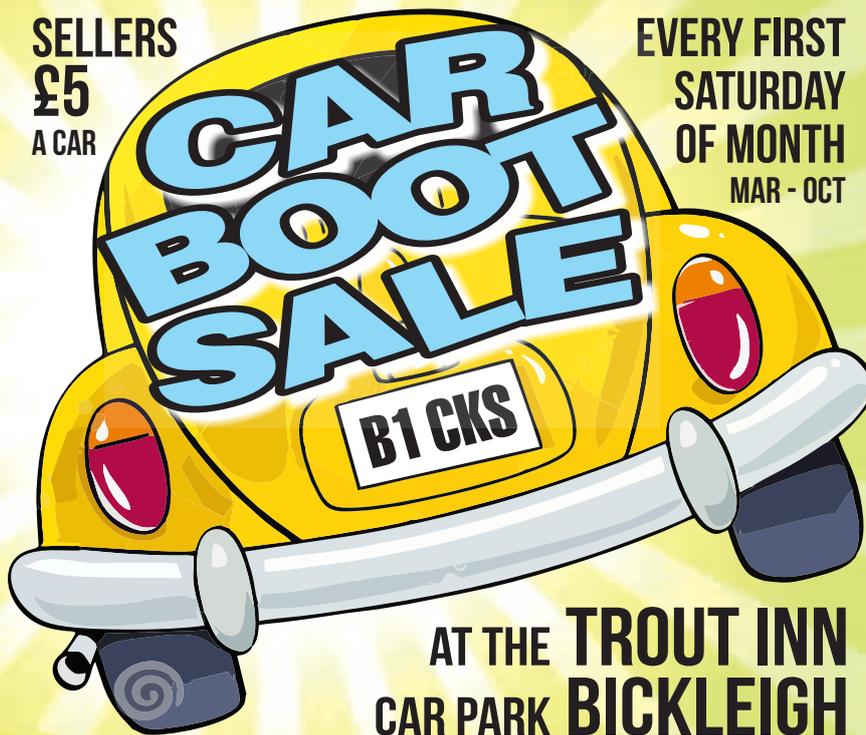
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**SATURDAY JULY 7TH**  
**SATURDAY AUGUST 4TH**  
**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1ST**  
**SATURDAY OCTOBER 6TH**

# CHARITY PLAY NIGHTS AT BICKLEIGH VILLAGE HALL

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Rehearsals are going well for the presentation of this year's chosen play "The Sharp End" by Geoff Bamber. It is a comedy and set at Hillcrest Manor.

"The Hillcrest Estate is to host a lavish trade function. Lady Elvira Hillcrest is not convinced that this is a good idea despite the efforts of event manager, Matthew Sharp and his assistant, Elaine Jenner. Fortunately Lady Hillcrest has other things on her mind, principally son and heir Tarquin's continued inability to acquire a bride with a view to carrying on the family line. The flamboyant French stylist Juste Valadier is called in to turn Tarquin into a more attractive proposition. Also in attendance is a sinister Eastern European hitman seeking out an as yet unnamed victim and clearly willing to eliminate anyone who gets in his way. Add to the mix the homeless and possibly inbred Finneran family and blunt Yorkshire Businessman, Norman Arbuthnot, with whom the Hillcrests have "history", and the words of Matthew Sharp's mantra - "A Successful Event is an Uneventful Event" - seem to be falling on stony ground."

Please come and support this small local group who, for the fifth year running, are presenting a full-length play in aid of the Devon Air Ambulance Trust. You will be promised an evening of fun and laughter with good food and company. Don't miss it!!

**Rose Chanin**

***Bickleigh Drama Group***  
(In aid of Devon Air Ambulance Trust)  
Bickleigh Village Hall  
**Sat 27th and Sun 28th October**  
**from 6.30pm**  
Thai Meal (Saturday)  
Ceylon Curry (Sunday)  
and  
"The Sharp End"  
(A comedy by Geoff Bamber)  
Bar Tickets £15 Raffle  
Contact: Rose Chanin  
Tel: 01884 855251  
Mob: 07856 057 006



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2016

# VILLAGE HALL AUTUMN EVENTS

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The Village Hall Committee have been busy in September! We have been sprucing up the hall stage and painting the walls below the rail around the hall with a more durable paint. Massive thanks to Steve B and Richard S for all the hard work you have put in. Thanks to Mary B and Kerry P for your time too. Some of the more eagle eyed among you may have also noticed that the wooden rail now goes all round the hall. Thanks Steve for sorting this. We are also looking to carpet the two stage extension blocks which will make the stage area look much smarter in time for the "Curry and a Play" nights at the end of October.

Lauren H has been doing a great job keeping the hall clean and managing bookings and enquiries. Thanks so much Lauren for all you do. We would also like to welcome Sue Mountjoy as a new Bickleigh Village Hall Committee Member. Thanks so much Sue for offering to help us.

If anyone is able to donate a hour or so of their time to assist the Hall Committee in the running of the hall, we would be extremely grateful. With our increasingly busy lives, any offers of help are very much appreciated...even if it is just for one hour per year! This could involve a spot of painting/weeding/path cleaning/help with hedge planting/gutter clearing etc etc. On this note, we are having a Working Party on **Saturday 3rd November 2018 at 11.30am** for a couple of hours to tidy up some messy areas around the exterior of the hall. Please call Richard on 855053 or Kerry on 855856 or fb message one of us if you would like to help. We will provide Tea and maybe even Bacon Butties!

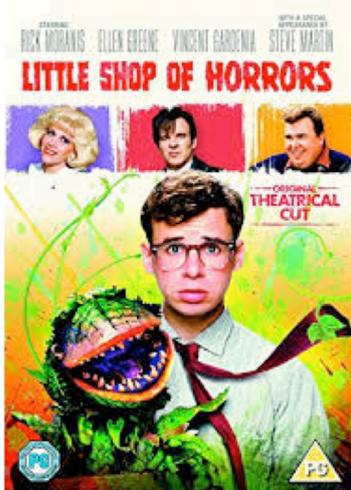
Cheers! and hope to see you soon.

**The Bickleigh Village Hall Committee**

Richard S, Lauren H, Kerry P, Matt M, Steve B, Derek H, Sue M



**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Sept**  
**7pm for 7.30pm start**  
Free Entry with Cash Bar. £1 per book.  
Bingo Pens £1  
Lots of edible prizes!!



**Film Night**  
**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October**  
7pm for 7.30pm start  
Popcorn and drinks on sale. Suggested entry donation: £2 per person



**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Nov**  
**7pm for 7.30pm start**  
£2 entry per person  
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Teams of up to 6.  
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# BICKLEIGH WEATHER WATCH

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As the nights draw in and we wake up to the first ground frosts of the year, we realise that summer is over and the endless march of the seasons continues. We take it for granted that the days will get shorter and temperatures will start to drop, but what actually causes this? Why are the seasons so much more marked in the Arctic than here? Why are there such weak hot and cold seasons at the equator?

Let's first clear up a common misunderstanding about defining the seasons. The astronomical seasons, marked by the winter and summer solstice and the spring and autumn equinox are determined by the position of the Earth in its yearly journey round the sun. Under this definition, autumn begins at the equinox around 21 September. However, this date varies year to year by a day or more and so there is also a meteorological definition of the seasons. This simply begins the autumn at the start of the month in which the equinox occurs – i.e. September and gives the simple definition of Sep-Nov for autumn and so on for the other seasons.

So why is it cold in winter and warm in summer? Is the answer obvious? It's often assumed this is because we are further from the Sun in winter, but actually that is completely wrong - the Earth is actually nearer to the Sun in winter! Instead, the answer lies in the tilt of the Earth's axis compared to its yearly orbit around the sun. This tilt is fixed in space, so as we travel around the Sun the North Pole point away from the sun in winter and towards it in summer; aiding the ability of the Sun's rays to warm the surface. This also explains the change in daylight hours through the year. When the North Pole points away from the Sun, places in the Northern Hemisphere face the Sun for only a short time. If you live far enough north, beyond the Arctic circle, then for parts of the year

there is no daylight at all. This occurs at the North Pole and every place up to 23.5 degrees further south. This special angle is the exact same angle as the Earth is tilted in space.

In many places the temperature lags behind the sun. UK temperatures normally peak about a month later than the solstice and they lag even more in the ocean. This is because the oceans continue store up energy from the Sun after the longest day, so it really is best to go swimming in the sea in September! Finally, anyone who has lived in the tropics will be familiar with the seasons being marked by rainy seasons instead of hot and cold. This is because the sun is closer to being overhead all year round at the equator. Nevertheless, it does still pass back and forth over the equator each year and tropical rainbands follow the overhead position of the Sun. Personally, I like the big contrast in temperature between summer and winter in our part of the world and the dramatic effects it has on the natural world around us.

## *Resident Scientist*



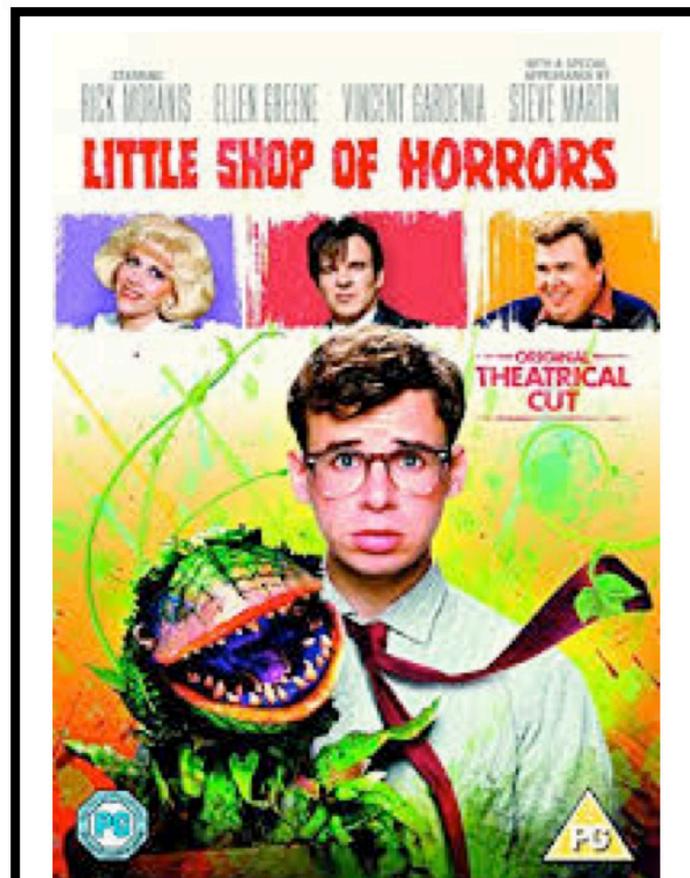
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**Film Night**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

7pm for 7.30pm start  
Popcorn and drinks on  
sale. Suggested entry  
donation: £2 per person

# ST MARY'S PEWS NEWS

OCTOBER

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**A reflection** - The current fashionable colour as I understand from reading magazines and those parts of our daily newspapers that report on such matters, is yellow. Yellow is the colour in the summer of our corn fields before harvesting, the colour of our "Harvest Soup" at last month's "Soup n Pud" event in the village hall and very definitely the colour of the Evening Primrose bushes I see waving about in the breeze from our kitchen windows. These flowers are self sown and been with us for many years. Even in the heat of this summer they continued to flower, in the heat just one or two to each plant. Then, with more equitable weather bringing rain, they now flourish though the flowers last hardly a day. Their resilience brings to my mind how the Jewish understanding of the remnant has sustained this ancient faith through a history of millennia to this day. Those who attend our Sunday services might well feel rather like a remnant of the more who once worshiped in St Mary's church. But church services alone are no litmus paper to who the remnant are. Rather I suggest it as Jesus of Nazareth is reported as saying in the Gospel according to St Matthew, "For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother, sister and mother" (Matthew Chapter 12 verse 50). At the time Jesus was being pursued by his mother and his brothers for they were concerned for him. Jesus, in response, pointedly defined who his true friends were, those he was talking at that time by inference, not in fact his concerned mother and brothers,

**Harvest Home 2018** – The church having been beautifully decorated with flowers the previous day, Class 3 led Bickleigh School's Harvest Festival

service in St Mary's on the Friday afternoon of the Harvest Home weekend. Seeds, looking for signs and sharing bread were messages of faith planted in poems and hymns as the service developed. Thank you also to Class 1 for the lovely harvest loaf that lay on the altar with a basket of corn and a wheat sheaf from the field. These three harvest signs were brought to the Village Hall prior to the start of the Harvest Tea after sports on Saturday afternoon. The Rev Judith Wright led our harvest service on Sunday so continuing the tradition of thanksgiving for food on the table at this time of the year

## **A prayer at Harvest time from Faith and Worship.com**

*As a part of nature's wondrous cycle  
Of new birth, growth, fruitfulness and death  
We rejoice in the creation of new life,  
For parenthood, the passing on of knowledge,  
For understanding and the wisdom of years.  
We are grateful for those who have gone before  
Passing on to us our spiritual heritage.  
May our lives blossom as the apple tree in Spring  
May we become fruitful in thought and deed  
And may the seed of love that falls to the ground  
Linger beyond our time on this earth.*

**Soup and Pudding** – The next "Soup n' Pud" meal in the Village Hall on **Tuesday 16th October**. The meal starts at 12 midday. This remains a convivial opportunity to meet and greet and chat whilst raising funds for the Shelter Box charity

**Rev Thom Thompson**

Assistant Minister, tel: 01884 855309



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# BICKLEIGH HARVEST HOME 2018

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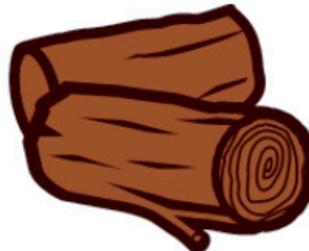


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## October 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Holy Communion St Mary's 8 am Trinity 19 <sup>th</sup>	8	9	10	11 History Group Halberton Village Hall 7.30pm	12 Film Night Village Hall 7pm	13
14 Evensong St Mary's 6 pm Trinity 20 <sup>th</sup> (Prisons week)	15	16 Soup 'n' Pud Village Hall Midday-1pm	17	18	19	20
21 Family service St Mary's 11 am Trinity 21 <sup>st</sup> (Health Care Sunday)	22	23	24	25	26	27 Charity Play Nights Village Hall 6.30pm
28 Holy Communion St Mary's 11 am Last after Trinity / Charity Play Nights Village Hall 6.30pm	29	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***