

October 2019



Apologies for the rather late delivery of last month's Bugle. We will do our best to get this out on time!

The Harvest Home on 21st September was a great success and just managed to avoid the change in the weather. From memory very few have been spoilt by bad weather over the years.

As always we are indebted to the sterling band of volunteers who ensure this very traditional event carries on. The church service the next day reflected the efforts of our farmers who work tirelessly to feed the nation; we thank them too.

A reminder of events coming along:

- Gardening Club AGM 11 October
- Work Party Village Hall 19 October
- Music Evening 26 October
- Play Nights 2/3 November
- Film Night 11 November

There is always room for you the residents to feed any ideas through to us, for events you would like to have. It has been suggested for instance that we have more films from the past and we open the hall perhaps once a month for just a get together. What do you readers think?

Enjoy the fruits of Autumn!

Your editors, Steve Batt, The Old School and Michael McAndrew, 2 Bell Meadow

Your submissions to the Bugle are very welcome!

Email bickleighbugle@outlook.com by 20th September

Bickleigh Drama Group presents...

The Creature Creeps

A Comedy play by Jack Sharkey



with Thai Meal (Sat) / Ceylon Curry (Sun)

Sat 2nd and Sun 3rd November from 6.00pm at Bickleigh Village Hall

In Aid of The Devon Air Ambulance Trust

Contact Rose Chanin on 01884 855251 or 07856 057 006

Bar - Tickets £15 - Raffle

Ringers Wanted

Open morning Sunday 20th October at 10am in the church.



"Can't you put it on vibrate?"

We would love to build up our loyal band of ringers. Ringing is a very old tradition and

we really need to keep it going. If I can ring then anyone can!

Come and have a look at what we get up to in that tower! Therefore do come along at 10.00 am prior to the family service on 20th October and have a chat with us.

Have a look at the bells whilst we explain the workings and the history behind them. You are all very welcome - we look forward to seeing you (all ages).

Steve Batt



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Village Hall News

Support your village hall!

We have put a lot of time and energy into organising a series of events for the village over the year. This is continuing into next year. However, we really need your support!

We try our best to advertise through posters, leafleting and through our Facebook page but numbers for some events have been quite low and it has been a lot of work to drum up support.

Therefore we urge you to come along and support our events- they are good fun and a lovely opportunity to socialise as part of our local community- and also drag some friends along!

Village Hall AGM

I meant to put this in last month, but forgot It is my report from our AGM in July.

It has been a busy year at Bickleigh Village Hall. In terms of the condition of the building, we arranged for a new floor to be laid. Although this turned out to be more expensive than originally predicted, due to the condition of the sub-floor, it has improved the building greatly and made it safer (due to it's grip), warmer (due to the damp-proof membrane and hence more desirable for hiring out. Committee members kindly gave their own time over the summer to re-paint parts of the hall walls and the stage blocks and following this, there were three Saturday morning work parties through the year for which we were very grateful to committee members and locals turning up to help. We have maintained the outside of the hall to a good standard and

having a condition survey and improvement plan, this will help with prioritising need for inside and out. A significant move forward has been the revival of the outside play space, and the preparation and planting of a border hedge between school and the Village Hall.

There have been a number of events at the Village Hall over the last year, arranged by the committee. We have held two chocolate bingo nights, a film evening, two quiz nights, a New Year's Eve party, a gig (with the Embezzlers) and a Hidden Kitchen event run by Jim Janes. These have been well supported, but maybe we need to improve our publicity- arranging for our own group Facebook page could be a good way forwards.

Our committee has lost two valuable members recently- I would like to publicly demonstrate my appreciation for the work of Kerry Peters, who was the driving force in the Village Hall being re-roofed and having a new kitchen fitted. Also Derek Harrison who represented the PCC on our committee- giving 22 years service to your community is quite some achievement.

I would like to thank the ones still standing on the committee for their fantastic work and dedication over the year- Michelle, Matt, Lauren and Steve- you are the heartbeat of the village- your magnificent efforts keep our community going.

Our Facebook Page

Please follow Bickleigh Village Hall on Facebook- we are advertising all of our events on it.



Richard Somerwill

WHAT'S ON AT THE VILLAGE HALL?

Village Hall work morning

Sat 19th October at 10.00am

Please help us with keeping the building in good condition, even if you can just give an hour of your time.

Film night

Fri 11th November

'The Greatest Showman' 6.30 for 7.00pm start, bar and snacks available.

£3 donation requested

Christmas Table Top Sale

Sat 16th Nov: 10.00am-1.00pm.

We are advertising for local craftspeople to attend so that there is a chance for some Christmas shopping.

Also tea, coffee and cakes!

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New Year's Eve Party

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Origins of sayings

Even more origins of some of the sayings we use today!

A gruesome one this month. England is old and small. The local folks starting running out of places to bury people, so they would dig up coffins and take the bones to the bone house and reuse the grave. When opening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realised they had

been burying people alive. So they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie a bell to it. Someone would sit out in the graveyard all night (the graveyard shift) to listen for the bell; thus someone could be saved by the bell or was considered a dead ringer!

Thanks again to Olive. More next month for your edification!

Bickleigh Village Hall



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Pews News

A reflection - Someone (no names no pack drill) given the time of the year, thought my short piece last month on newsletters a bit too waspish. I apologise, for it is never my intent to cause offence; rather to try and explain or suggest an alternative.

This has been for me the year of re-thatching. It has been fascinating to see the master at work. Re-thatching disturbed the birds' nests accumulated over forty years. They took flight to the hedge on the other side of the road. From there the successive generations of fledglings have come this year to feed in our garden with all their squabbling, chattering, fluttering and flitting. Hopefully they will find their new nests placed for them in the thatch next year. How pleasant our countryside is reminding myself daily, to count the many blessings that come my way.

Harvest Celebrations There was a quality of simplicity and family fun to our harvest celebrations this year that I felt was different from former years. We have much to thank those who take a lead in continuing a tradition that is attributed to Parson Hawker (1803-1874) when Vicar of Morwenstowe in the north west of Cornwall. He introduced a thanksgiving for the harvest of grain when bread was a staple of life for many. Thus it was entirely appropriate this and every year that the sheaf, the grain and the bread form a central part of the Harvest Tea and are blessed at the School Harvest service. So thank you to all who contributed to a happy and important Harvest Home. The service was led by Class Three. The weather proved just right for the sports on Saturday afternoon in Joan's Orchard organised by Michael and Shirley Ware. Thank you also to

Christine and Robert Harris with their helpers for the the following scrumptious Harvest Tea and to Mary Vearncombe for the raffle.

Soup and Pudding – Our next Soup and Pudding event takes place in the Village Hall on Tuesday 15th October starting at 12 Midday. Last month was so successful that we were still eating and jawing at 2 pm. October is the month in which at the national level we recall the events of the World War 2 "Battle of Britain". Perhaps this month we might add a touch of the RAF Roundel to our meal and offer the proceeds to the RAF Benevolent fund.

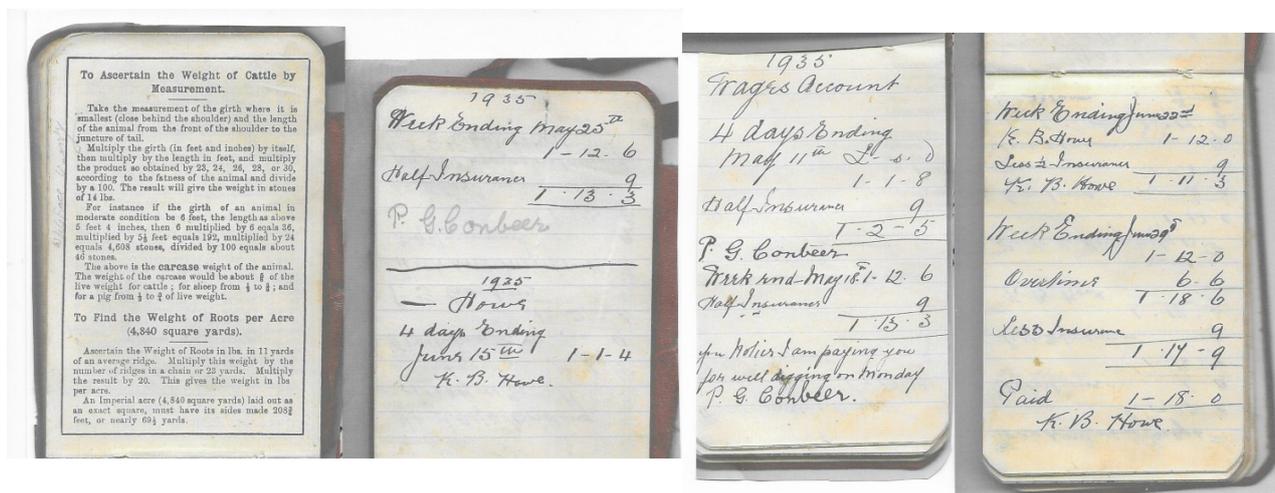
Looking ahead - Saturday 9th November – It is Bickleigh's turn to host the next Mission Community Men's Breakfast. Our guest is the Revd. Ed Channing a Permanent Deacon in the Roman Catholic tradition. More details to follow next month.

Remembrance 2019 – In consultation with others I am to receive some contemporaneous information on the setting up of the stone 1st World War monument outside St Mary's Church porch. Our hope is that the name of a former member of RAF Bomber Command, who was killed in action over Germany in the 2nd World War, may yet be added to the list of those whose names appear on the brass plate on the west wall of St Mary's Church. His name is Len Vowler whose father was Jack Fowler, lived in Bickleigh with his family and worked as the local Blacksmith.

Our annual Service of Remembrance takes place in St Mary's Church on Sunday 10th November starting at 11 am.

Farmer John's time machine

Farmer John thought readers may be interested in a glance at his father's wages book. We attach a couple of pages. Two things stand out: the very low rate of pay compared with today and ascertainment of weights by imperial measures. A certain politician in the news of late may be delighted if we abandon metric measures and revert to "proper British" values?



Thanks John for letting us have sight of the book!

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What's on October 2019

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
30	October 1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Gardening Club AGM	12	13
14	15 Soup and Pud	16	17	18	19	20 Bell ringing open morn
21	22	23	24	25	26 Music Evening Village Hall	27
28	29	30	31	November 1	2 Bickleigh Play Nights	3 Bickleigh Play Nights

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