

April 2022



Writing this in unseasonably warm weather is an apt reminder that summer can't be far away. As always once we make any pronouncements about weather it will no doubt change - probably wet and cold!

It was wonderful to see so many supportive of the appeal for Ukraine. The church was tasked as the reception for the clothes and food which was we understand forwarded with all due haste. It was pleasing to learn that even if not required in

Ukraine nothing would be wasted.

We seem to have forgotten about Afghanistan so thanks for Polly and team organising the coffee morning which went well. British people always respond magnificently to such appeals.

A reminder about future events coming along - do look inside for times and dates.

Have a good April.

**Your editors
Steve and Michael**

Your contributions to the Bugle are very welcome!

***Email us by the 20th of the month
at bickleighbugle@outlook.com***

Plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend celebrations

	Thursday 2 nd	Friday 3 rd	Saturday 4 th	Sunday 5 th
	Village 'royal' scarecrows, with trail. Coronation menu at Bickleigh Mill with possible Morris Dancers			
Morning	Church service			
Afternoon	Cream tea in Joan's Orchard and the Village Hall	Fun football match at the recreation ground	Children's tea party in Joan's Orchard and the Village Hall. Unveiling of plaque on commemorative Jubilee tree.	Bring and share lunch and croquet at Bickleigh Castle.
Evening	Valleyside Escapes bar in the barn open. Possible games/ quiz.		Leading on to village barbeque Joan's Orchard Village photo.	

The Parish Council, other village organisations and individuals have been putting their heads together to think of how the village might celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June. Please have a look at the possible plan below. We are also looking for volunteers to help with particular areas of this. Hopefully this will be a memorable weekend.

The school will hold their own activities during class time prior to the half-term break and possibly:

- hold a jubilee party in Joan's Orchard and possibly invite members of the community/ possible May Pole dancing.
- The parish Council to purchase Jubilee gifts – enough for school and village children.

- Plant out planters with flowers, fruit and vegetables – possibly red, white and blue flowers.

We need volunteers to help with the following:

- Take part in a crafting day to make the decorations for the occasion – date and further details to follow.
- Make and serve a cream tea.
- Make and help at the children's tea party.
- Help to tidy up after the barbecue.
- Help the school prepare and plant our their planters with the children.

Please contact me if you are able to help out in any way or have any other ideas. Thanks!

**Amanda Somerwill, 07582778410/
amanda.somerwill@hotmail.co.uk**

A photograph of a wooden sculpture in a grassy field. The sculpture consists of several wooden beams forming a structure. A red ball is on a beam in the foreground, and a blue ball is on a beam in the background. The text 'ART OUTSIDE' is written in large, colorful letters across the top of the sculpture. The text 'ROUND THE BEND' is written in blue letters along one of the beams.

ART OUTSIDE

ROUND THE BEND

22 - 24 April 2022
11am - 5pm daily

Bickleigh Crest
Bickleigh
Tiverton
Devon
EX168RR

Collaborative
and solo work by
Millie Laing-Tate
Katherine Laing
John Pitts

IN AID OF

ShelterBox

Village Hall News

Upcoming events

>> **Fri 8th April - Film Night** <<

A Beautiful Day in the Neighbourhood
(starring Tom Hanks)

6.30 for 7.00pm start, bar with cans, teas & coffees, snacks. £3 each or £10 per family. Just turn up, no need to book!

>> **Sat 7th May - Coffee morning, 10-12** <<

With cakes as well!

>> **Sat 4th June - Coffee morning, 10-12** <<

With Village Hall maintenance!

>> **July - live music at the hall** <<

Details to follow soon!

Maintenance morning

Many thanks to those who helped out earlier this month- Amanda, Rachel, Katinka, Steve H and Steve B all gave their time and made a big difference to the village hall environment.

Work included re-fixing trunking to ceiling, cleaning ALL the outside windows, trimming, layering and weaving in existing hedge, clearing moss, preparing ground for new hedge planting at the front of the hall.

Steve Batt has since finished planting hedging plants along the front fence- give it a couple of years and it will look fantastic!

Village Hall Usage

Recently you will have received an invitation to a meeting at the village hall to discuss future usage.

Following Covid, bookings have dwindled and we need bookings to both provide opportunities and a focus for our community to come together as well as needing to cover the not insubstantial cost of insurance, servicing, cleaning and utilities. We will now have:

- A Thursday evening pilates session
- A socially based crafting session, maybe alternating between afternoons and evenings
- Once a month Saturday morning open sessions/ coffee mornings between 10 and 12 (starting in May) DETAILS OF ALL TO FOLLOW

If you know of a local group needing a venue, please consider suggesting Bickleigh Village Hall to them!

From your Village Hall Committee: Richard, Michelle, Matt, Steve, Katinka

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St Mary's Church Bickleigh

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

TO BE HELD AT

25 APRIL @ 6.30PM

All welcome

Steve Batt – Secretary

West Country Wedding Flowers

Mrs Polly Thompson

Individually Designed Wedding
Bouquets, Headdresses, Buttonholes
and Sprays to suit all budgets.

Flowers for Church and Reception if
required. Also Private or Corporate
Functions To make an appointment
for me to visit you at your home,
daytime, evenings or weekends.

Please contact me on 07772 070818
or pollysflowers@yahoo.co.uk

Gardening Club

Our next meeting will be held on 11 April 2022
at 7.30pm, we meet at Bickleigh Village Hall.

Our speaker is Richard from Wicked Willow
and he will give a talk on working with willow
and give a practical demonstration to make a
willow plant support.

There is a monthly competition for Flower of
the Month which you are invited to bring a
spring flower to enter.

Membership is £10.00 and visitors pay £2.00
per meeting. We look forward to welcoming
you to our friendly club.

**For further information please contact either
Wendy Baker 01884 855548 or Judith
Williams 01884 855093**

Attitude of Gratitude

How can we ignore the events in Ukraine?

Have you noticed the mood of the nation has shifted in the past month? Think back to February 23 and we were all, "Where's my Amazon delivery?" and "why won't it stop raining" but not so much now. The fact is that while some of us were busy choosing whether to have roast beef or roast chicken for Sunday lunch, Putin was plotting war against a totally innocent country. So maybe we're finally waking up to the small and large ways in which we've become a lot more spoiled than we like to think we are.

So, this month it feels wrong to be writing about village events when people are being killed for no good reason.

Therefore, you won't see me bemoaning the fact that Bickleigh bridge has been hit yet again, or that my football team has lost. Nor will I be complaining that things in the village are not what they used to be or that people aren't interested in doing anything about it.

Instead, I'm full of gratitude for our surroundings. I'm grateful for seeing our first weasel in the garden this week. I'm grateful to all those that help with village events at the village hall, St Mary's church, the gardening club and with the parish council, and I'm grateful to hear about the generosity of villagers in supporting the Ukraine appeal.

So here are some of the things we shouldn't be doing, saying or putting up with anymore; I'm sure you can think of others!

- "It's freezing in here." Is it really or is it 19.5C and actually cosy by pre-pampered standards?

- "Sorry, I can't eat that." Think we probably could, if push came to shove.
- Bottled still water, when our tap water is top notch and plenty cold enough.
- The three-day wedding abroad. Apologies to anyone planning one of these, but the old-style afternoon wedding was more than enough, and now's the time for guests to admit they simply don't have enough holiday and cash to celebrate all their friends' love on that scale.
- Designer cat and dog food. In our day, they were fine on Chum, Winalot and yesterday's leftovers. Don't get me started on special doggie sofas.
- Diets, all diets. Skip breakfast or eat more fruit by all means, but can't we ditch the fancy food fads and just eat sensibly?
- "I've just had to queue for hours." Was it really hours or was it 5 minutes? Get a grip, you can't get everything instantly, sometimes you have to wait your turn - it's a very British thing!
- "I really need some sun/me time" or, "the Easter holiday flights are so expensive, it's a nightmare booking a family holiday for five." Nightmare, is it?
- Excessive use of the "I" word as opposed to "we". More "we" and "us" would make a big difference and make us feel better about things.

Until next time, let's enjoy all we have and be thankful,

Clive

Bickleigh craft and social get-together group



At the recent meeting at the Village Hall many people were keen on starting up a group where anyone could attend to have a space to do their own crafts, have a tea and biscuit and have a natter with others. Of those present it was decided that Mondays would be a good day to get this going.

So if you would be interested in finding out a bit more/ work out the best times and days for all who are interested/ decide on a catchy name for the group/ meet with others, the inaugural meeting will be:



2.30pm - 4.30pm Monday 11th April in Bickleigh Village Hall

Come along and kick-start a new village social group.



Any questions and thoughts please contact me, Amanda Somerwill, on 07582778410 or via the Bickleigh Messenger page.

Bickleigh Village Hall



Available to hire for private functions

**£10ph with kitchen
£8ph without**

Phone 01884 855256

Barnabas Fund Ukraine Appeal

A very big **thank you** to all who responded so generously to the recent appeal supporting the charity, Barnabas Fund . At 4.30 pm on Sunday 13th March, all the many gifts of food and warm clothing, recently so generously donated, were collected from St Mary's church and packed into a covered trailer and towing van for onward transmission to a Barnabas distribution centre in Swindon. This all came about due to the initiative of Chris Roe, of Cadeleigh. It was Chris's idea to appeal to the four Churches in the benefice for food, clothing and bedding. The response was generous as our Rector Paul acknowledged in his Sunday Newsletter. A gang of local worthies helped Chris

to empty the churches of the donations on Sunday 13th March. He and his trailer load drove over to the Barnabas Fund's depot at Swindon. On the following Wednesday other volunteers loaded a 30 tonne lorry which reached the Romanian border with Ukraine . The goods are being distributed to refugees there and in Ukraine.

The Barnabas charity is an international agency based Coventry, supporting Christians who face discrimination and persecution as a consequence of their faith. Barnabas channels aid to Christians in more than 50 countries.

Rev Thom Thompson

St Mary's Church - Services in April

1st April - 5th of Lent

11 am Holy Communion

Thursday 7th April

2.30pm Bickleigh School End of Term Service

10th April - Palm Sunday

11 am All Age Worship

Wednesday 13th April Holy Week

6pm Tenebrae service of light

17th April Easter Day

11 am Holy Communion

24th April 2nd of Easter

11 am All Age Worship

All invited – all welcome!

J's Cleaning

Domestic cleaning

Window cleaning

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**For all your cleaning needs, please
call Jacob for more information.**