



**FEBRUARY 2018**

## **EDITOR'S NOTES**

Welcome to the New Year edition. Before Christmas, whilst enjoying some old carols and the history of the season, it was surprising to learn that whilst we may think Christmas gets earlier and earlier each year in past times it seems the season was enjoyed for longer than you may imagine. It was explained that in fact the whole of December and the whole of January formed part of the old season of celebration whereby *árra géola* referred to the period before the Yule festival (December) and *æftera géola* referred to the period after Yule (January). How would this fit in with our modern society? Two months of merry making may be just too much!

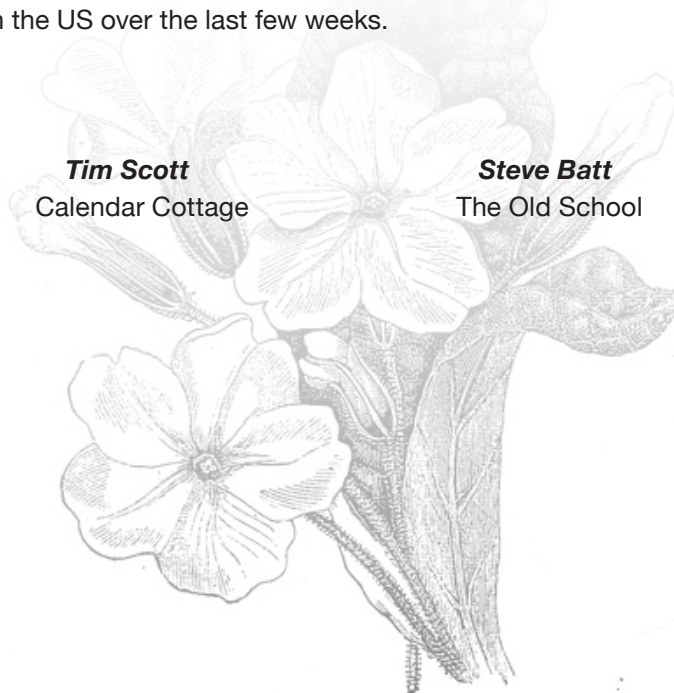
Like many, decorations were taken down on 12th night but again it would appear that other Christian countries historically remove them on Candlemas, the 2nd of February. So if you have not taken them down perhaps not to worry too much? Anyway, enough about Christmas until much later this year.

It looks as if Spring is starting early, already primroses are in flower as are snowdrops and celandines. Daffodils in full bloom have been seen in other areas. At least it has not been cold as in the US over the last few weeks.

The Editors:

**Tim Scott**  
Calendar Cottage

**Steve Batt**  
The Old School



# FEBRUARY

A POEM BY PHYLLIS NICHOLS

---

February the second month is here  
The wind and rain is not far away  
When the sun comes out it will soon clear  
And then the children can go out to play

The rivers have been flowing quite strong  
Coming out into the fields I can see  
Hoping it won't last too long  
For the sheep to lie down and the deer

We all look forward to the Spring  
When the weather gets warmer every day  
It is lovely to hear the birds sing  
Some have been so far away

## BICKLEIGH WEBSITE

---

Bickleigh website is up and running - have you logged in for local news, events, organisations, businesses and services? Find it on the above address or in Google 'Bickleigh village web site.'

Visits to the site are recorded and a very pleasing number have been made including from Canada, Australia and Russia! The more 'hits' we have the higher we go up the Bickleigh rankings on Google.

We would like to encourage individuals to register on the site and add content and photographs. Help with this is available. All work on setting up and running the site is being done voluntarily and at a recent review meeting it was agreed that all income would be held in a fund and used to benefit the local community. So please give it support.

If anyone has ideas as to how the site could be improved or has skills or an interest in joining the working group, please get in touch. Anyone wishing to add a local business or service can have this done free of charge in the standard directory or can pay between £5 - £20 a year (depending on business size) for a rotating banner advertisement.

Thanks to members of the working group and particularly to Michael McAndrew of Bell Meadow for pushing all the right buttons and providing us with advice, expertise and encouragement.

**David Meredith**  
meredithdavid01@gmail.com  
01884 855210

Visit our online shop at [www.notrunofthemill.com](http://www.notrunofthemill.com)



# bickleigh mill

Bickleigh Bridge, Bickleigh, Nr Tiverton  
01884 855419 [www.bickleighmill.com](http://www.bickleighmill.com)

OPEN FRIDAY AND SATURDAY EVENINGS AND SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

SHOP

## THREE FLOORS OF RETAIL THERAPY

An amazing range from around the world.

Ground floor: Cards & Gifts

First floor: Accessories & Home

Top floor: Kids' Store



DINE

## HOMEMADE AND PROUD OF IT

Our bistro is open throughout the day, seven days a week, and for evening meals on Fridays and Saturdays.

For details of our Speciality Nights and all our menus visit our website: [www.bickleighmill.com](http://www.bickleighmill.com)



RELAX

## IDYLIC SETTING

With our waterside gardens and al fresco dining you can enjoy the tranquil setting outside or, alternatively, relax in our coffee lounge and admire the beautiful mill workings. Explore our riverside walks, paddocks and ponds, or just relax with friends and family in our grounds.



# BICKLEIGH CHURCHYARD CONSERVATION

---

We have been laying and trimming back the northern hedge and associated bank behind the church. As in our previous article we mentioned the problems with modern hedge maintenance which does not allow, in many cases, the development of a nature friendly thick stock-proof hedge. We are hoping that our work will allow this hedge to become less “spindly” and much more attractive. We intend to plant some native whips (small hedging plants) along the western boundary, where the Yew has been trimmed back. If time permits before the spring growth begins we will be laying back the southern hedge, which will again thicken it up and make it more attractive.

We are pleased to see a variety of wild plants growing where the laurel hedge has been trimmed back (behind the cottages) so we should see some good flowering during the year.

***Matt Melksham, Adam Scaife, Steve Batt***

# HISTORY: BICKLEIGH SPRING

---

Following David Meredith’s very interesting article on the water supply to the Old School. This is the house where Steve and Mary Batt now live. The water comes from an excellent spring rising in the small paddock behind Exeland Cottage. In the days when it provided water for the school and the Rectory there was (and still is) a large brick built holding tank in the field. Apparently, in the late 40s or early 50s, some children were suffering some illness at the school and it was said to be from pollution from the spring water. At that point Bickleigh became a customer of South West Water when pipes were put in for the village and mains water became available for all.

The spring is still producing water all the year. It even produced water during the drought of 1976. With the

torrential rain of recent weeks the vast quantities of water produced are very much polluted with red Devon sediment. In normal moderate rainfall the supply of ice-cold sparkling water is normal, it would be interesting to get a bacterial analysis to see how polluted it is, or if the pollution, which I think is more likely, comes from the tank.

Now the tank in the field is a great source of tadpoles and sometimes newts.

The water supply came from the field but the sewage was also piped into the front field of the rectory. It was not until 1982 a soil pipe was connected in the road for the Old School.

***Jill Brownlow***



Lodgehill Hotel,  
Ashley,  
Tiverton.  
EX16 5PA



No Room for friends or relatives? We do!  
We are open to non-residents.  
Cream Teas. Restaurant.

Bar and Beer Garden.

Sunday Lunch for £10.25 for 2 courses.  
We also have a small meeting room and can provide buffets for all occasions.  
JUST CALL: TEL: 01884 251200

## BODY CONTROL PILATES

### BICKLEIGH VILLAGE HALL EVERY FRIDAY AT 9.30AM

These classes are mixed ability for posture and general fitness. The classes are suitable for all ages and given by a fully qualified village tutor with 15 years of experience. One ON One is also available.

Contact Angela Mead on 07811855182 or email [angela.mead@gmail.com](mailto:angela.mead@gmail.com) for further information.

### Bickleigh Village Hall

Available to hire for private  
functions

Village Hall Rates: £8 per hour  
(inc Light & Heat)

• Robin Maynard, 01884 855597



### WEST COUNTRY WEDDING FLOWERS

Mrs Polly Thompson

Individually Designed Wedding Bouquets, Head-dresses, Buttonholes and Sprays to suit all budgets.

Flowers for Church and/or 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:*

Tel: (01884) 855309

[www.westcountryweddingflowers.co.uk](http://www.westcountryweddingflowers.co.uk)





# BICKLEIGH GARDENING CLUB

---

The Club held its Annual “Christmas” Lunch at Bickleigh Mill on Wednesday 10th January. Twenty five members were able to attend and enjoyed an excellent meal. It was good to see familiar faces again! The Club next meets in Bickleigh Village Hall on **Monday Evening 12th March**. The evening begins at 7.30 pm and we have arranged a talk “Iris in your garden”. This will be followed by a raffle/draw and refreshments. There will be the usual “Flower of the Month” Competition. Annual Fees are due (just £5 for a whole year!) Visitors are always welcome – just £1 per evening. HAPPY NEW YEAR.

## PARISH CLOCK

---

### ***PARISH CLOCK - ST MARY'S CHURCH AND A BRIEF HISTORY OF STANDARDISED TIME***

You may be aware that the clock on the tower is having the internal movements overhauled and restored. Although it is working well the view obtained from experienced clock repairers was that it is best to overhaul it now rather than leave it any longer. This means the clock will be out of action from early February until it is re-installed, hopefully by the end of April (if not sooner). Readers may recall a previous article explaining that when the clock was installed (by Pollards of Crediton) in 1810 very few had any timepieces in those days so like many parish/town clocks our clock would have served to indicate the time to those living in the vicinity.

The UK was among the first countries to establish a standardised time or Railway time as it became known. Before this, towns and cities set their own time depending on where they were and this could vary by tens or twenties of minutes. The key goals behind introducing railway time were to overcome the confusion caused by having non-uniform local times in each town and station stop along the expanding railway network and to reduce the incidence of accidents and near misses, which were becoming more frequent as the number of train journeys increased. Great Western was the first to apply this in England in November 1840, the first recorded occasion when different local times were synchronised and a single standard time applied. Railway time was progressively taken up by all railway companies in Great Britain over the following two to three years. The schedules by which trains



were organised and the time station clocks displayed were brought in line with the local time for London or “London Time”, the time set at Greenwich by the Royal Observatory which was already widely known as Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

The railway companies sometimes faced concerted resistance from local people who refused to adjust their public clocks to bring them into line with London Time. As a consequence, two different times would be displayed in the town and in use, with the station clocks and the times published in train timetables differing by several minutes from that on other clocks. Despite this early reluctance, railway time rapidly became adopted as the default time across the whole of Great Britain, although it took until 1880 for the government to legislate on the establishment of a single Standard Time and a single time zone for the country.

**Steve Batt**

## **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](http://www.pippaperrybowen.com)

### **Yearlstone in 2017**

Open by appointment for 2017 due to exciting building works onsite please call 01884 855700 [info@yearlstone.co.uk](mailto:info@yearlstone.co.uk) for more details.

10% discounts for cases for village residents only....

What they are saying about your village wines lately...

**London International Wine and Spirits Competition Medallist**

“ Very pale lemon with green lights, greenfruited ( apples, pears, greengages) lively on the palate, quite delicate, young but with enough hidden flavours to augur well for next 18 months” ( Number 5 dry white)

**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



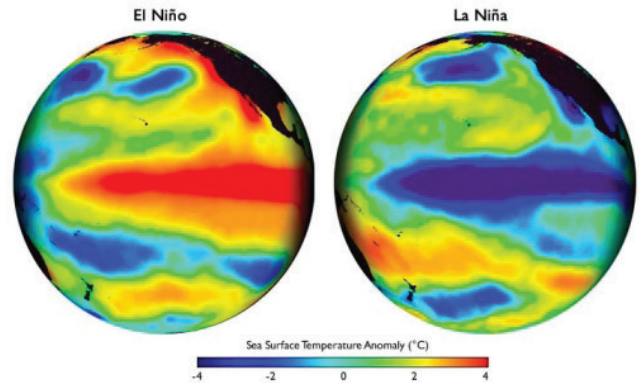
# BICKLEIGH WEATHER WATCH

---

Thousands of miles away, on the equator in the Pacific Ocean, a rhythmic cycle slowly wanders back and forth, cooling the ocean for a year or two, then warming it again, then cooling it and so on. This cycle is called the El Niño-Southern Oscillation, or just ENSO for short. The name El Niño is from the Spanish for 'The Boy' and originates from the Spanish speaking south Americans who first named it after the Christ child, as it tends to peak around Christmas time.

Peruvian fishermen were among the first to notice that the changing sea temperatures had other remarkable effects. In fact they had known about El Niño for hundreds of years. They had devastatingly poor catches when the ocean was warm and bumper years when it was cold. It also changed the rainfall, with lots of coastal rain and flooding when the sea was warm, then drought when it was cool. ENSO still has a massive impact on the local economies and agriculture in South America and its effects are felt across the globe.

The cold phase of the ENSO cycle also has a name: La Niña, which is Spanish for 'the girl'. La Niña is the cold little sister of El Niño. I say little sister because the La Niña cooling only reaches about 2 degrees Celsius and is not as intense as the warming from El Niño, which can reach 3 degrees. This difference is still a mystery, but although it's less intense, La Niña still has big effects on the weather. In fact La Niña is occurring right now in the Pacific, it's not a big event; the equatorial Pacific ocean is about 1 degree cooler, but as it was developing in the autumn of 2017 it



*Image: Centered on the Pacific Ocean, these maps show patterns of sea surface temperature during El Niño and La Niña episodes. Credit: Steve Albers/NOAA.*

boosted the intense hurricane season that caused so much damage in America. Although only temporary, it will also likely keep global temperatures just below record levels in 2018.

We now know that the cycling between El Niño and La Niña has been going on for thousands of years because they are recorded in the annual growth of corals in the Pacific Ocean. The corals do not respond well to the high temperatures of El Niño and are 'bleached'; turning white as they die in response to the elevated sea temperatures. This is an ominous warning of the effects that global warming is already starting to have on our coral reefs.

El Niño and La Niña can be predicted months in advance and you can see the latest outlooks here: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/climate/seasonal-to-decadal/gpc-outlooks/el-nino-la-nina>

**Resident Scientist**



## NJ SERVICES

**Handy man for hire  
Painting, Building maintenance,  
Gardening, General DIY.**

**£15 Per Hour.  
Tel: 07940762411  
Email: northernjohn@yahoo.com**

### Tiverton Plumbing and Heating Ltd



[www.tivertonplumbingandheating.co.uk](http://www.tivertonplumbingandheating.co.uk)

Email: [info@tivertonplumbingandheating.co.uk](mailto:info@tivertonplumbingandheating.co.uk)

Tel: 01884 855018 or Mobile 07860 504222



- Oil or Gas boiler replacements & Servicing
- Boiler breakdowns
- General plumbing
- Full central heating system installations & Upgrades

### KERRY PETERS

**1 to 1 Swimming Lessons for ages 5 years+**

Water Confidence/Learn to Swim,

Stroke Improvement

Swim Technique for Triathletes

Adult with Child Lessons

ASA Level 1 and 2 Qualified

DBS Checked, Fully insured

**Call me** on 01884 855856

or Text 07968 889673

Historic building conservation  
Lime mortars

ORCHARD  
  
stonemasons

Carving  
Worked stone  
Walling  
Stone cleaning  
Consultancy

01884 855617

[www.orchardstonemasons.co.uk](http://www.orchardstonemasons.co.uk)

Stone Robots Silverton Devon EX5 4BU

# ST MARY'S PEWS NEWS

FEBRUARY

---

**Christmas 2017** – Christmas can be a kaleidoscope of events and experiences. The wonderful plays developed over years remain for me the start of Christmas in the village. The Christmas services were again well supported. The Carol service evoked a wonderful response even though some regulars were elsewhere no doubt visiting family members. This welcome response I believe stems from a traditional format for the Christmas Eve service. Spontaneity plays an important part of such services as well. So many thanks to all who read and a special mention to our organist Mr Michael Lowman who at this time was busier than me.

**Soup and Pudding** – The organisers of the monthly midday meal in the Village Hall, every third Tuesday in the month, are looking to see whether the format remains of interest to villagers. The aim at present is to make use of the new village website to promote these happy occasions which include a door to door service. This will take a little while to organise in the mean time why not come and try us out on **Tuesday 20th February at 12 midday?**

**Revd Thom Thompson**

(01884 855309) or [tmdfthompson@uwclub.net](mailto:tmdfthompson@uwclub.net)

**Men's Breakfasts** – The next Men's Breakfast takes place in the Village Hall on **Saturday 24th February meeting at 8 am** for an 8.15 am start. Our speaker is the Revd Nigel Mason who is the Chaplain to the Searle House hospice collocated with the Royal Devon and Exeter hospital. Nigel, who started his working life as a barrister at law, is very experienced in the work of the hospice movement. Please contact me if you would like to attend (see below). Dates for the remainder of 2018 are **26th May at Butterleigh; 22nd September at Silverton and 3rd November at Cadeleigh.**

**Lent 2018** – In the Christian calendar the season of Lent starts early this year with the first Lent study meeting on **Thursday 27th February at Gable Cottage from 7.30 to 9 pm.** Open to all, please just turn up or contact me for details.

**The Gospel According to St John (Chapter 18 onwards)** – The topic for study and discussion as the House Group continues to meet at 7.30 pm on Thursday evenings at Gable Cottage.

## ROAD CLOSURES

TREE FELLING

---

Be aware that there are planned road closures in the Bickleigh area in early February due to tree felling in response to ash dieback. Roads affected:

**ROAD FROM WHITEHALL COTTAGE TO BICKLEIGH BRIDGE [A396] & ROAD FROM CHILTON GATE TO DART BRIDGE [A3072] & ROAD FROM BICKLEIGH BRIDGE TO BURN CROSS [A396], BICKLEIGH**

The alternative, signed, route for vehicles will be via:

**SECTION 1 (4th February)** between 08:00 – 16:00hrs):  
A396 - A361 NDL - A38 WATERLOO CROSS -

B3181 - CUMBERLAND WAY - HONITON ROAD - RYDON LANE - TOPSHAM ROAD - WESTERN WAY - BONHAY ROAD - COWLEY BRIDGE ROAD - A396 & VICE VERSA

**SECTION 2 (5th February)** between 09:00 – 15:30hrs):  
A3072 - A377 - A396 & VICE VERSA

**SECTION 3 (6th February)** between 09:00 – 15:30hrs):  
A396 - A377 - A3072 & VICE VERSA

For additional information contact:

DEVON COUNCIL COUNCIL Telephone: 01392 385084



ALL ASPECTS OF CARPENTRY UNDERTAKEN  
 PROFESSIONAL FRIENDLY SERVICE  
 FULLY QUALIFIED & INSURED

City & Guilds  
 Qualified

Find us on 

[www.slchanincarpentry.co.uk](http://www.slchanincarpentry.co.uk)

Tel: 01884 855 060 | Mob: 07708975156

Email: [stuart@slchanincarpentry.co.uk](mailto:stuart@slchanincarpentry.co.uk)



## KINDLING

£3 per bag OR 4 for £10

Pick up from Shute,  
 Bickleigh

(next to Cullompton Lane)

Or ring Richard on 855053  
 or 07508071791 for free  
 local delivery.

## SOUP N' PUD LUNCHES EVERY THIRD TUESDAY

**IN THE VILLAGE  
 HALL**

**FROM 12 MIDDAY TO  
 1PM**

**BOWS OF SOUP, AND  
 PUDDINGS FOR £4.50  
 P.P.**

**COME AND SUPPORT  
 THE SHELTER BOX  
 APPEAL**



**ENJOY SOME  
 REAL HOME  
 COOKING WITH  
 GOOD COMPANY  
 AND HELP TO  
 RAISE FUNDS FOR  
 SHELTER BOX IN  
 2016**



Tel : 01884 855596

Email : [contact@thetroutinnbickleigh.co.uk](mailto:contact@thetroutinnbickleigh.co.uk)

BGB

Real Ales

Fine Wines

Excellent Food

Exeter Road  
Bickleigh  
Tiverton  
Devon  
EX16 8RJ

## Dealing with The Black Stuff...



Robin Maynard of Bickleigh

### **THE EXE VALLEY CHIMNEY SWEEP**

Fully insured for professional sweeping  
of solid fuel appliances and open fires.  
Certificate issued for insurance purposes.  
CCTV surveys if required.

*It is against company policy to employ small children*

**Tel: 01884 855597 or Mobile: 07980 146076**  
email: [exevalleychimneysweep@btinternet.com](mailto:exevalleychimneysweep@btinternet.com)



# YOGA

Bickleigh Village Hall Thursdays 7.00-8.30

Classes also in Calverleigh, Bishops Nympton, Bampton, Butterleigh

Pat 01884 253 229 pat\_bell@hotmail.co.uk

[www.yogability.co.uk](http://www.yogability.co.uk)



## The Nail Box

Gel nails, spa manicures and pedicures

### Michelle Dennis

Bio Sculpture Nail Technician, based from home

Lilac Cottage, Bickleigh, Tiverton, EX16 8RH

Tel: 07956314237

Email: michelledennis79@gmail.com

Please contact me for an appointment or to discuss your requirements



ALL ASPECTS OF CARPENTRY UNDERTAKEN  
PROFESSIONAL FRIENDLY SERVICE  
FULLY QUALIFIED & INSURED  
CSCS ACCREDITED

**S.L. CHANIN & CARPENTRY**

City & Guilds Qualified

[www.slchanincarpentry.co.uk](http://www.slchanincarpentry.co.uk)

Tel: 01884 855 494 | Mob: 07708975156

Email: [stuart@slchanincarpentry.co.uk](mailto:stuart@slchanincarpentry.co.uk)

Lee Cross, Thorverton, Exeter, Devon, EX5 5LN

## IS YOUR DOG MICROCHIPPED?



TAKE THE STRESS OUT OF VISITING THE VETS FOR YOUR DOG TO BE CHIPPED WHILE AT YOUR HOME. AT £10 PER DOG, IT GIVES YOU PEACE OF MIND FOR LITTLE MONEY. CONTACT DAWN ON 01363 866319 OR 07976175943

## LOGS FOR SALE



£75 FOR A LOAD  
ALSO CAN SUPPLY BAGS OF KINDLING £3 PER NET  
CONTACT ROBERT OR DAWN ON 01363 866319

# February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Holy Communion 8am St Marys - Road Closures	5 Road Closures	6 Road Closures	7	8	9	10
11 Evensong 6pm St Marys	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Family Service 11am St Marys	19	20 Soup 'n Pud 12pm Village Hall	21	22	23	24 Men's Breakfast 8am Village Hall
25 Holy Communion 11am	26	27 Lent study 7:30pm Gable Cottage	28			

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***