



**MARCH 2019**

## **EDITOR'S NOTES**

Spring certainly seems to be coming along early this year. As this is being written the forecast is for a warm weekend and long may it continue. We are trying to think of a winter where the snowdrops were out in early January and now coming to the end, whilst the daffodils and primroses are already in a race to be at their best even before the snowdrops disappear.

When hearing the (seemingly) endless depressing news about climate chaos, ocean pollution, soil depletion, population growth and so on it is lovely to be able to see Spring coming to life on its endless cycle. Our National Trust properties of Killerton and Knightshays are well worth visiting at any time of the year but the spring displays are peaking right now. Don't forget the Burn valley is resplendent with snowdrops and our own churchyard is showing signs of a good showing this year. Perhaps if all the news gets too much, visit some of our wonderful displays if you can and even bring to mind the words of Willam H Davies:

What is this life if, full of care  
We have no time to stop and stare.  
No time to stand beneath the boughs  
And stare as long as sheep or cows.

We are in the process of changing the editors. Tim's input has been much appreciated - many thanks indeed Tim. We hope to have a replacement for the rest of the year and we expect we can confirm this next month. If you are willing to assist then do let us know.

Changes are occurring at St Marys as the church enters a period 'interregnum' during which some changes in the timing and style of services here in Bickleigh may be needed. The church website will be kept up-to-date with changes (<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/8834/>)

There are several events in Bickleigh you can support, so please look for more details inside. We hope to see you at one or more of the village get togethers.

The Editors:

**Tim Scott**  
Calendar Cottage

**Steve Batt**  
The Old School

## BICKLEIGH 500

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Bickleigh 500 years of History. Hear about the people and events that have shaped the development of Bickleigh and enjoy a community buffet supper. Saturday April 13th 2019 at 7pm Bickleigh Village Hall.

Many 'volunteer' contributors will be giving short readings tracing Bickleigh's History from the time when the 'young and lusty' Thomas Carew courted and eloped with young heiress, Elizabeth Courtenay, so making the Carew's Lords of the Manor of Bickleigh. Various characters from the following 500 years will appear to tell their story and read extracts from writings and newspapers. There will be happy, sad, amusing and surprising stories

A salad buffet and dessert supper will be served between part 1 (1500-1843) and part 2 (1843-2000.) Places can be booked from David and Heather Meredith (01884 855210) £6 adults £3 children. Many thanks to those who have offered to take part. It is not too late to join in! If you can help provide items and help with the supper please speak to Heather.

### **David and Heather Meredith**

Spurway Cottage

01884 855210 meredithdavid01@gmail.com

## BICKLEIGH GARDENING CLUB

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Our 1st Meeting of 2019 will be held at the Village Hall on Monday March 11th. The subject 'In Praise of Vegetables', an in depth talk given by Mr Tom Sharples (formerly an employee of Sutton Seeds). A warm welcome awaits any new Members.

### **Bickleigh Village Hall**

**Available to hire for private  
functions**

**Village Hall Rates: £8 per hour**

**(inc Light & Heat)**

- **Robin Maynard, 01884 855597**



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# ST MARY'S PEWS NEWS

## MARCH

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**AN INTERREGNUM?** - As many of you will know we said good-bye to Alan on the 6th January at his final service in St Mary's Church, Silverton. It was a wonderful service reflecting his commitment to our Parish and the other three parish communities for over 23 years. Now that he has retired we are in a time of "interregnum". What is this I hear you shout, and I don't blame you it means simply in a period of time between the retirement of Alan and the arrival of the next incumbent. This may take several months to achieve. In the mean time the Reverends Thom Thompson, Catherine Jenkins and Judith Wright will continue to lead worship in the four parishes that make up our United Benefice (Silverton, Butterleigh, Bickleigh and Cadeleigh).

This means that potentially, some changes in the timing and style of services here in Bickleigh may be needed. We have an opportunity to think about how we as a group of people explore our faith together, whether you are coming from a life time of church going to never stepping into a church and having no faith but a lot of questions; we need to hear from you and process is just beginning.

We will be making a concerted effort to keep our website (<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/8834/>) and the wardens blog up to date during these changes so people know what time and type of services are happening without having to walk all the way up the hill to find out.

It is a sad time as we say goodbye to Alan but we are also excited in what the future may hold for us all.

### **Easter 2019**

We approach the Christian season of Lent. The word Lent is associated with the lengthening of the day in spring and the word is probably of German origin. This Christian season lasts some forty days from Ash Wednesday on the 6th March to Easter Day on Sunday 21st April. Shrove Tuesday, which precedes Ash Wednesday, is so called because in former times Christians submitted themselves to their local priest who would absolve them of their sins. Nowadays it is more associated with pancake races; which Bickleigh School are planning to conduct in the afternoon.

### **Easter Tide Services**

**Ash Wednesday 6th March at 10 am** – A service of Holy Communion (Ash Wednesday because in the early Christian church penitents covered their head with ashes. Now a cross of ashes is placed on the forehead, a voluntary act. The ashes being taken from burning the previous year's Palm Crosses.)

**Mothering Sunday 31st March at 11am** – A service for the whole family with gifts of flowers and posies made by children or donated. Now generally referred to as "Mother's Day" a service to celebrate both our mothers and the church as mother. In the case of the latter very often in former times returning to the church where you were baptised.

**Palm Sunday 14th April at 11am** – A service for the whole family. The service celebrates the final journey taken by Jesus of Nazareth into Jerusalem. The form of service is an enactment by the congregation of Jesus' triumphant arrival followed by his arrest, trial and execution.

**Good Friday 19th April at 2.30pm** – At St Mary's Silverton - "The Cross of Christ". A moving service of hymns, music and biblical readings as we follow the journey of Jesus to his execution

**Easter Day 21st April at 11am** – A service of Holy Communion

### **House Group 2019**

We continue to meet at Gable Cottage on a Thursday evening at 7.30 pm finishing at 9 pm. We read into and investigate the "Fruit of the Holy Spirit" which according to St Paul writing to the early Christian church in the province of Galatia displays itself in "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control". In this month we will cover the last three.

**Soup and Pudding Tuesday 18th** - This monthly event is showing increasing support. Both our last three events filled the available spaces. We willingly offer a door to door service. This also raises funds for ShelterBox.

### **Rev Thom Thompson**

Assistant Minister, tel: 01884 855309

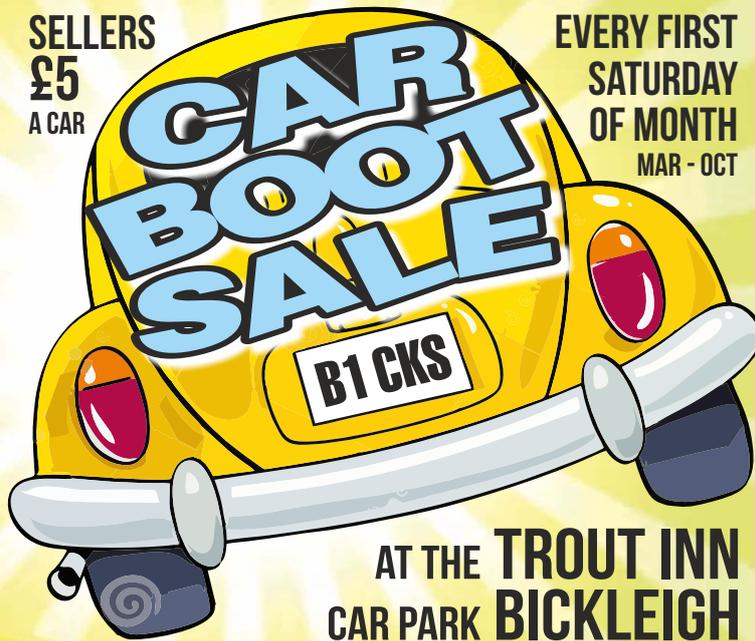
### **Matthew Melksham**

Church Warden, tel: 01884 855355 melksham1978@gmail.com

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SATURDAY JULY 6TH  
SATURDAY AUGUST 3RD  
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7TH  
SATURDAY OCTOBER 5TH

## Dealing with The Black Stuff...



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# CHRISTOPHER HUGH PRENTIS RIP

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Chris Prentis died in the RD&E Hospital Exeter on the 28th December last year. Born into an Army Family, most of Chris' education was in the UK, with holidays spent In Kenya, Egypt or Germany. From school, Chris gained entry to the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, followed by a Commission in the Royal Highland Fusiliers. He joined them in Malta in early 1961. Two years later he moved on to Germany where he passed the tough selection and training procedures for secondment to the Army Air Corps. He then flew helicopters during the Borneo Confrontation and later, in Hong Kong. Chris then resigned after some ten years service.

By this time he was married to Joanna and they decided to explore and prepare for possible farming in Western Australia, finally settling on a property in the Albany area. This with some 4000 acres, 2000 of which had been cleared. On their first arrival at the property they had one neighbour who was very anti Poms, yet when they were leaving he shook Chris warmly by the hand saying 'Chris you're not too bad for a Pom'. Chris saw this as a very big compliment.

After ten years they moved back to the UK, and settled at Burnhayes, creating and developing their Burn Valley Trout Farm. When seeking a garden Trampoline for the girls Chris found it hard, until sourcing one from Australia. He saw some potential for starting a UK business. Steadily it became a reality on what became Supertramp,

with parts sourced from Australia and later China. Chris became known as "Mr Bounce". However, competition became stiffer and profits harder to achieve. Restructuring, Chris stayed in a Consultancy and Marketing role which continued in recent years. The flood of comments and tributes that poured after Chris' untimely death gave great testimony to his character and contribution.

Chris loved his outdoor activities, whether skiing, tennis, biking or canoeing. Chris was above all humble and unselfish. Outgoing in an enthusiastic and fun way, an Adventurer and Pioneer in so many different arenas . He faced up to setbacks bravely and uncomplainingly and had great stamina. He was excellent in a crisis and always ready for the next adventure. He looked at things in a different, or alternative way, loved a challenge and helping other people. He was always ready to buck the system.

Mr "Bounce" was a gentle, caring man in every sense.

*Extracts from the Tribute given by Chris' brother in law, Alistair Chisholm, given in St Mary's Church on Saturday 26th of January 2019.*

**Rev Thom Thompson**

# BICKLEIGH VILLAGE HALL NEWS

## **THE EMBEZZLERS AT BVH....HALF OF THE TICKETS SOLD, DON'T MISS OUT!**

This will be a great night out! The Embezzlers are an Exeter band, playing great covers of ska and reggae classics - Great to listen to or dance to. There will, of course, be much liquid refreshment at highly competitive prices. Contact Michelle, Richard, Lauren or Kerry to reserve tickets (numbers below).

## **PREVIOUS EVENTS**

There were two events planned for January and February - the first was Film Night on 18th Jan - we had an audience of around 20 for 'The Mask'. At present, we are using a projector bought from a local school and a floor standing screen. Our ambition is to buy a ceiling mounted projector and a pull-down screen which we can mount behind the stage arch - we might even apply to Viridor for part-funding. The second event was due to be our chocolate bingo night, but unfortunately this had to be postponed due to the snow and ice - it has been re-arranged for **FRIDAY 8TH MARCH** - see you there?!

## **WORK PARTY**

We held our second work morning on Sat 23rd Feb to improve the outside area around the village hall. We cleared the guttering of leaves, cleaned

windows inside and out, scraped moss off outside surfaces, powerwashed the soft play area and cleared unwanted equipment and rubbish from the store room... along with much sweeping of leaves! We are so grateful to those who helped out - some on Friday and the rest sometime between 9am and 2pm on Saturday - Matt, Camilla, Jill, Miles, Steve B, Katinka, Lauren, Michelle, Mark, Kerry, Mark, Matt, Isaac, Jim, Amanda, Rob and Richard.

## **HEDGE**

We are now in a position to put in a new hedge between the school car park and the village hall - we have removed the old fence and would like to have something there that would really enhance the environment - we seem to have been losing hedgerow at a rate of knots over the last year or two. Steve B has ordered 100 whips - traditional English hedging species such as hazel, hornbeam and beech. It will be planted up in the next couple of weeks as it is the dormant season and also while there is still the chance of plenty of rain. Give it a year or two and it will look beautiful.

## **WANT TO BOOK THE VILLAGE HALL?**

Ring Lauren on 07807087692 for further details.

**Fri 8<sup>th</sup> March....**

**Bingo night !**



6pm for 6.30pm start.

Chocolate prizes !

Tuck shop/ bar.

**Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

**The Embezzlers .....**

**Live Music at BVH !**

**Doors open 7.30pm**

**Band 8.30ish**

**Tickets £8.... please**

**reserve or pay in**

**advance**

**Call or text for tickets**

Michelle 07956314237

Richard 07508071791

Lauren 07807087692

Kerry 07968889673

**MORE DATES AT BVH....**

**Sun 28<sup>th</sup> April.....**

**Hidden Kitchen event-  
community lunch at the  
village hall with 'resident  
chef' Jim Janes (details to  
follow)**

**Sat 18<sup>th</sup> May.....**

**BVH Quiz Night #3**

**Fri 21<sup>st</sup> June.....**

**'The Longest Day'  
event..... band, barbecue,  
bar**

# **the EMBEZZLERS**

**LIVE!**

at

**Bickleigh Village Hall**

on

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

**Superb SKA covers including Madness,  
The Specials and maybe even some Clash.  
Be prepared to dance – a lot!**

**Doors open : 7.30pm**

**Band : 8.30pm ish**

**Tickets: £8 Please pay/reserve in advance.**

**Cash Bar\***

**Call/text for tickets. Please pay in advance if poss or reserve and pay on door.**

**Michelle 07956 314237 Richard 07508 071791**

**Lauren 07807 087692 Kerry 07968 889673**

**\*Alcohol will not be sold to Under 18's. Be prepared to be asked for ID.**

# March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Ash Wednesday St Mary's 11am Holy Communion	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Bingo Night Village Hill 6pm	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Gardening Club Village Hill	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Soup 'n' Pud Village Hill Midday-1pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Embezzlers Village Hill 7.30pm
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> Mothering Sunday St Mary's 11am Family service	IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT YOU WANT EVERYONE TO KNOW ABOUT JUST SEND US AN EMAIL AND WE WILL SHOUT ABOUT IT FOR YOU! <b>bickleighbugle@outlook.com</b>					