

September 2019



We hope you all had a good summer. Writing this on the hottest bank holiday ever (since records began anyway) we wonder if cooler weather may herald the return to the autumn and the start of the new school term. Let's see what we have on this month. For a start you will receive this a few days late as we have to wait for the school to get into their stride prior to kindly printing for us.

Thanks to David and Heather for the 500 year history booklet. See the article inside if you have not had a copy or would like another. Please support Rose who has done so much over the years to provide us with some excellent entertainment. Again full details have been provided by Rose within the Bugle. Silverton are offering us the chance to participate in their Carer Club and Film Nights - details inside.

On 20th September there is chocolate bingo in the Village Hall with a film night on 19th October. More details have been provided by Richard, again inside.

St Mary's Church welcomes all to the services and the family service held on the 3rd Sunday of each month is a great way to meet other villagers with tea and coffee to follow.

On the 6th September the local branch of bell ringers hold (or probably held by the time you read this) their annual competition.

We hope to see you at all, or any, village events and as always do let us know of any news, article or events you would like to bring to residents' attention.

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**

Christmas Pantomime

Would anyone be interested in presenting a Pantomime in December 2019?

It has been three years since we last performed our Annual Panto, and there has been a good deal of interest to arrange another this year.

I have provisionally booked the hall for the weekend of Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th December, with a performance on Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon.

I would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to take part, and if there is enough interest we will get started with a script of one of our favourites, as soon as possible.

Do spread the word among family and friends and let me know as quickly as possible whether you, or anyone you know, is interested in taking part, helping backstage, sourcing costumes, or simply coming to watch and enjoy the performance.

Rose Chanin 01884 855251 / 07856 057 006 / rosemarychanin@hotmail.co.uk

Gardening Club annual show

On Saturday 17 August, BGC held its Annual Show.

The Show was well attended with a large number of entries in almost all Classes; Fruit, Vegetables, Flowers, Baking, Jam making, Crafts including Photography, Flower arranging, Quilting, Cross Stitch, Painting in oils, Watercolour etc.

It was good to have Children joining in their section with wonderful entries for Potato Prints, Garden Themed Bookmarks, Baking and Edible Necklaces! A lot of work goes into making the show a success, so with plenty of entries and visitors it makes it all worthwhile! (So thank you to all)

For many years Mrs Judy Buttifant was Secretary of the BGC, she worked tirelessly she has been greatly missed this year both at Monthly meetings and of course "The Show", Judy we thank you again for all your Hard work!

New members or Guests 'WELCOME at any meeting'

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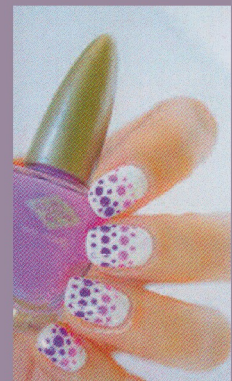
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Village Hall News

Thanks Jim !

Jim Janes has kindly donated a gas BBQ to the village hall, which we used at our July event in the orchard. Many thanks to Jim for such a kind gesture.

Your Committee

Following the AGM in July, the committee has been re-elected- we welcome two new members- Katinka and Charlotte Prentis. Other members are Steve Batt, Lauren Hockley, Matt Melksham (treasurer), Michelle Dennis (secretary) and Richard Somerwill (chair)

Work Update

Over the summer, we had help from local young people via the NCS (National Citizen Service)- a voluntary personal and social development programme for 15-17 year olds. The following was published in the Tiverton Gazette:

In an age where negative comment about teenagers and young adults is often seized upon, I am delighted to report the efforts of twelve exceptional 16-18 year olds from Tiverton High School, Uffculme School and Petroc. As part of the NCS Volunteer scheme, these young people gave up their day to support our local community at Bickleigh, working for 5+ hours on a wet Friday at our Village Hall. They weeded, cut back vegetation and dug out gravel from around a damp course, leaving the place clean, tidy and ready for locals to enjoy. I know that this was only a small part of their effort in their holiday- other local causes benefited greatly too.

We have now put down weed proof membrane and new gravel around two sides of the building- many thanks to Katinka Prentis, Clive Williams and Steve Batt for their hard work.

Declaring myself as spokesperson for the Bickleigh community, I would like to give our heartfelt thanks to these superb volunteers.

Richard Somerwill, Chair, Bickleigh Village Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

We have three firm dates booked...

Chocolate bingo

Friday 20th September
6pm for a 6.30pm start

Film Night: The Greatest Showman

Friday 11th October

New Years Eve Party

Tuesday 31st December

We are also hoping to run a Christmas Fair in mid-November, and trying to arrange with Jim to have another Hidden Kitchen event. Details to be confirmed

Village Hall maintenance mornings.... Sat 19th Oct Sat 21st Dec from 10am, your help is greatly appreciated ! Please contact Richard (855053) or Steve (855226)

Gardening Club Outing

Thank you to the garden club committee, especially Wendy, for organising a most enjoyable day to Forde Abbey. A beautiful garden and such interesting historic buildings. Both the garden and house have a delightful informality due in part or perhaps wholly because it is in private ownership. The National Trust does give us access to so many historic houses but they probably of necessity do have a sameness about them.

Climbing onto the coach brought back memories of bell ringers and Sunday school outings in the past all full of anticipation and excited children! The day often concluding with fish and chip tea on the way home.

The next evening meeting in the village hall will be on Monday 9th September at 7.30pm the guest speaker is Peter Cantrill on "Unusual Herbaceous Borders".

More dates for your Diary

October 14th - Planting Winter Containers by Nick Oliver from St Johns nursery, Barnstaple

November 11th - Annual General Meeting followed by entertainment.

"No Occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth, and no culture comparable to that of the Garden" - Thomas Jefferson

Dealing with The Black Stuff...

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University of the Third Age Exe Valley Railway talk

Thanks to David for organising a most interesting talk and slides of our railway line. It brought back memories and subsequent discussion for many. A great pity that we don't have access to it as along the North Devon Tarka line.

All outings and lectures require a lot of work and often frustration! So thank you for all that it entails and which gives the supporters so much pleasure

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Pews news

A new correspondent?

I began writing "Pews News" for the Bugle and "Bickleigh News" for the Silverleigh more than a decade ago. The Silverleigh will be looking for some one in the village to take on the role of Bickleigh Village reporter from 1st December this year, as I am standing down from this role. Whilst I have always been grateful to successive editors for their support over this decade, I have always felt that the Silverleigh carries far more articles of local interest than can ever be managed in the Bugle. It may be therefore that when our new Parish Council (however this works out) meets, it might take on a role in advertising for someone to take on the responsibility of being our village correspondent. The Silverleigh has a wide distribution, carries articles of value and interest to Bickleigh, the local area and is value for money spent. Some free copies are available in St Mary's Church by the font, please have a read and you will see what I mean.

Bickleigh School - On a Friday, towards the end of the summer term, I attended morning worship in Bickleigh School. The service was led by the Head Teacher, Mr Steve Bosley with the whole school present and Chairman of Governors, Mr Chris Rice. During the course of the service a touching presentation was made to Mrs Alison Nelson to mark her retirement as a Foundation Governor after eleven years standing. Alison has also been a past Churchwarden of St Mary's Church Bickleigh and is much involved with supporting the Hospice South West for children in the village of Fremington, North Devon. Alison remains a leading member of the Church Council. During the service children presented Alison with farewell gifts,

sang a lovely worship song (her favourite) and Steve gave a heartfelt speech of thanks.

At the Bickleigh School end of term service in St Mary's Church Bibles were presented to eleven pupils leaving for secondary schools. Class 6 pupils came from Bickleigh, Cadeleigh, Tiverton, Bradninch and Cruwys Morchard parishes. This shows how a school like Bickleigh is heavily dependent on other parishes to maintain a viable pupil population. How different it is now from when schooling started in the 1840s. Then, a parish like Bickleigh, might have as many as ninety children registered for schooling in the three "R"s.

Gift Day? - The Churchwardens are very grateful for the support received by villagers and parishioners to the "Tea at Three" event in the garden of Gable Cottage on the 13th of last month. We raised just over £600.00 as a contribution to St Mary's annual Gift Day. A question was raised what is a "Gift Day"? The cost and organisation of maintaining a medieval church is met by the local church community. We receive no support from government nor from the Diocese. For the church, the annual "Gift Day" is an opportunity for all in the parish to contribute to maintaining a working Christian presence in our village and parish. Perhaps you would like to join the small team maintaining the churchyard, learn to ring the bells, assist in the rota of producing flower arrangements. I believe the more we encourage practical involvement in thus way, the happier we will all be. Our churchwardens Matt Melksham and Polly Thompson would welcome such approaches.

Rev TM Thompson - Assistant Minister

500 Years of History

The free booklet following on from the History Evening in April is now available and a copy is in the process of being distributed to all local households. Further copies can be supplied on request. The cost is being met from the proceeds of the evening. Many thanks for the favourable comments received to date.

David Meredith, 01884 855210



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What's on September 2019

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
August 26	27	28	29	30	31	September 1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Bickleigh Gardening Club	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Soup and Pud	18	19	20 Chocolate Bingo at the village hall	21 Harvest Home	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	October 1	2	3	4	5	6

Silverton Film Club and Carer Support Group

Silverton Film Club is held on the third Wednesday afternoon each month at 2.30 pm at Silverton Millennium Hall. Admission is free due to the generosity of Friends of Wyndham House Surgery, who have paid for the license. Tea and cake ice creams available. All are welcome. The seats can be a little hard and so bringing your own cushion, might add to your comfort.

There is a Carer Support Group which meets in The Lamb Inn, Silverton on the first Tuesday of every month for lunch. It is an

informal group and gives Carers an opportunity to have a break from their caring role and talk and laugh with people who are in a similar situation, over a tasty meal and perhaps a drink or two. We meet at 12.30 and the cost of a two course meal followed by coffee is £10.00. If you would like to join us, you would be most welcome. Please let me know by mid day on the first Monday of the month.

Trish Jones, silverwellbeing@gmail.com, 07484377298



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