

MILTON DAMEREL
NEWSLETTER
May 2002

Jubilee Art & Crafts

For Kids! (School Age), Come & join in with the 'PEACE PROJECT'
Make kites, mobiles, posters, Sculpture, Banners, Papier Mache etc. To be
displayed at the Queens Jubilee celebrations in the Parish Hall.

**The Art & Craft Project will be held each Saturday Morning
during May, starting May 4th.**

10am-12.30pm in the CHAPEL SCHOOL ROOM.

Just come along there is no charge and refreshments will be organised by local
Mums.

Holsworthy Lions Swimathon

Well done to Children who attend our local Youth Club in the Lions Swimathon.
Danielle Millman from Brendon, Clare Walter from Bradworthy, Catherine
Brimacombe from Milton Damerel and Andy Harper from Milton Damerel (who
swam for his daughter Jasmin as she was ill). They swam for the St Johns
ambulance team and totalled 92 lengths in 50 minutes, the most in this
sponsored event. They, jointly, raised £192 to be split between The Macmillan
Nurses, the teams own cause, and Holsworthy St Johns.

The North Devon Hospice

Ladies of Milton Damerel joined in
With The Great North Devon Knit-In
2002.

The sum of £ 27.50 collected was
added to the amount raised in the
rest of North Devon to make the
grand total of
£ 13,884.02

The Hospice is very grateful for the
support they receive from the
community.

*Thanks to Lesley who provided the
venue and refreshments.*

Line Dancing

Every Wednesday evening in the
Parish Hall

7.30 – 9.30 £1.00

Come along and be sure of a warm
welcome

Sew'n sews

Come and join in
with Lesley one
afternoon per month,
bring your sewing or
knitting and meet
friends for a natter.
Tea and biscuits is
served - 50p is all
that is asked (to aid
funding our
newsletter).

Tel: 261294

For further details

Milton Damerel Parish Council

Forthcoming meetings - **Thursday 23rd May** - Annual Parish meeting in Parish Hall
Thursday 27th June - In the Chapel Hall
Thursday 25th July - In the Chapel Hall

Clerk- Elizabeth Ilett
Milton Mill Farm
Milton Damerel
EX22 7DN
Tel 01409 261440
Fax 01409 261186
E-mail miltondamerel@frcuk.com

Chairperson - Janet Elliott 01409 261422 Pauline Palmer 01409 261451

Councillors Charles Bellew 01409 261214 David Poole 01409 261282
David Kirby 01409 261314 Philip Reed 01409 281213

A vacancy for a Councillor has arisen due to the resignation of Rachel Watkins. She was a valued member of the Parish Council and we are very sorry to lose her. Applications for the vacancy are invited from any member of the Parish. If you are interested in the post, or you would like any more information please do not hesitate to contact me. The closing date for applications is Friday 17th May 2002.

After months of preparation, we adopted the Parish Council Code of Conduct on 23rd April 2002. We have also been making plans for the **Annual Parish meeting**, which will be held on **Thursday 23rd May 2002 at 7.30pm** in the **Parish Hall**. This is your opportunity, as a local government elector, to speak and vote on any matter of relevance to the Parish. We are pleased to have a speaker from the **Westcountry Ambulance service** at this meeting. It is acknowledged that at the event of an emergency the residents of Milton Damerel are vulnerable. The Westcountry Ambulance service are keen to rectify this by setting up a team of First Responders. Trials in Devon and Cornwall have proved very successful in saving lives in remote towns and villages. The team will be fully equipped with life support equipment and a linked ambulance control. These local teams would be called out when life-threatening calls are received. It will be their role to take charge and stabilise the situation until the ambulance arrives. **It is important for the community to give their view on this scheme and we would ask that you do this by attending this meeting**, where you will have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have or get advice on related issues. Remember if the community does not show their support for this scheme, it will never come to fruition, and that could have avoidable and serious consequences for any one of us.

The provision of a bus shelter at Crossways is well underway. We expect to receive the final go ahead from Torridge District Council shortly so that building works can commence. We have also been asked to look at the situation with a shelter for the children at Venn Green. Unfortunately we are unable to erect a shelter any nearer to the junction than the current one, however we are in discussion with the schools, bus company and council departments involved to see if the problem can be resolved in any other way and will let you know any developments.

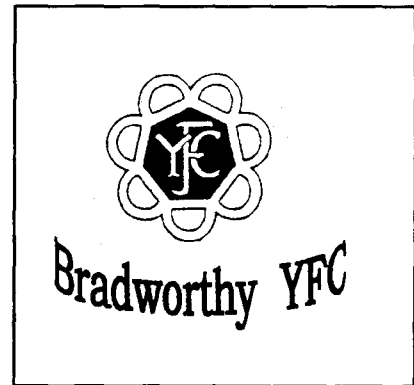
A social committee, chaired by David Poole, and made up from members of the Parish Hall, Parish Council, Village Church and Chapel as well as members of the community, has been set up to organise an event to celebrate the **Queen's Golden Jubilee**. We received a number of ideas and are very grateful to all those that took the time to respond and attend the meeting. After much consideration the committee voted for a **Family luncheon and Fun day on Monday 3rd June**. It will be held in the **Parish hall** and will start at **12:30pm**. There will be a **four-course lunch** followed by **fun games and entertainment** for the whole family. The tickets cost just £5.00 for adults, £2.50 for children 12 and under and is free to all children 5 and under. They are available from any of the committee members (see separate ad in the newsletter) or from Horrelsford Garage. In order to arrange the numbers for catering, the closing date for ticket sales will be Sunday 12th May 2002. To keep the ticket cost to a minimum this will be a non-profit making event, however any money left over will be put towards a **free social family evening Tuesday 4th June**. Christine Buckpitt has booked the excellent entertainer **Kelvin Isaac** and it should be a **fun night for all**. If you are new to the Parish this is your opportunity to meet new friends, and for those that have been here a while, a chance to welcome newcomers, either way you are guaranteed a lot of fun at a very small cost. Anyone is welcome and we hope that as many of you as possible will be able to attend. Sheila Daniels has kindly offered, with the help of the Youth Group to decorate the Parish Hall and we eagerly await to see their creations. If anyone can spare a few hours to help with the organisation of any of these events would be much appreciated.

We look forward to seeing you at these events, their success and the future of this community depends on you.

Liz Ilett

Bradworthy YFC

Bradworthy YFC has been busy and active since Christmas. We took part in the Entertainments Competition held at the HATS theatre Holsworthy and came second with our production of "Channel Hopping", losing to Lewdown Pathfinders YFC. It was a shame not to win after all the hard work, especially as Roland Ley dressed up as the beautiful Daniella!, but I guess that's the same with any competition! Emily Bond & Keda Hall-Farrise jointly took the Best Actress cup, well done them!



Since then Bradworthy has done rather well at Devon County AGM, winning the Kellogs Shield for the most points in Tarka Group (Tarka Group consists of Bradworthy, buckland Brewer, Clawton, Lewdown, Lewdown Pathfinders, Shebbear & Winkleith YFC'S), and the Lutterell Cup & Hunt Cup for the highest membership increase in Devon. Club member Jon Cleave won the Veronica Ley Cup for the best under-21 member. As you can imagine, we left Jethro's with big heads and wide smiles!

We have just come back from a club exchange with Eccleshall YFC in Staffordshire. 13 members went and had a wonderful time. Eccleshall were most hospitable and put us up in Staffordshire county offices, as well as taking us around the area and seeing the sights! On the Saturday we went to the Alton Towers Theme park which was fun - although I hope you don't get the see the photo of me!

We are off the county show in May, we have been selected to compete in the "Club of the year" finals held in the YFC tent on Friday afternoon. If you are going to the show, please take the time to pop into the YFC tent and see what we all get up to! Bradworthy have entered a club exhibit and Devon have a lot on this year as it is their 70th anniversary.

If nothing else, we have the after-show dance to look forward to!

James F Poole
(Chairman, Bradworthy YFC)

THE POWER OF POSITIVE THINKING

**The way to happiness; Keep
your heart free from hate, your
mind free from worry.**

**Live simply, expect little, give
much. Fill your life with love.
Scatter sunshine.**

**Forget self, think of others.
Do as you would be done by.
Try this for one week and you
will be surprised.**

MILTON DAMEREL CHURCH ANNUAL COFFEE MORNING

In the Memorial Hall, Holsworthy

Wednesday 3rd July 9.30-12 noon

**Please give your support by helping
on the day or providing home-made
cakes, jumble, bric-a-brac, produce
etc.**

**For further details
Tel: Janet Elliott on 261422**

An Arctic Holiday

by Sarah Harper

Choosing a Holiday is always difficult, especially when you have children to consider. For that very reason the past 8 years has seen us venturing as far as Cornwall and Centre Parcs at Longleat, and lovely holidays we have had there too. But this year was to be quite different, Andy wanted to Ski. He persuaded the children that it was a good idea so I went along with the flow and put my worries of travelling with children to the back of my mind!

Six weeks to half term and I was scanning brochures. My friend Sallie decided that she and her family could do with a ski-ing holiday and asked if they could join us, I was so pleased! After much debate we settled for Levi in Lapland.

There appeared to be lots for the children to do off-piste, qualified children's nurses at the Kindergarten and a Kidsland where children have their own slopes, slalom and snow games. We had booked our Ski School in advance including all the equipment and passes. There are beginner and intermediate slopes, 45 in all, even 4 children's slopes but if you wanted a challenge there is a world cup black slope which has a 52% final stretch which, apparently, makes you fly! Well I wasn't going to find out!

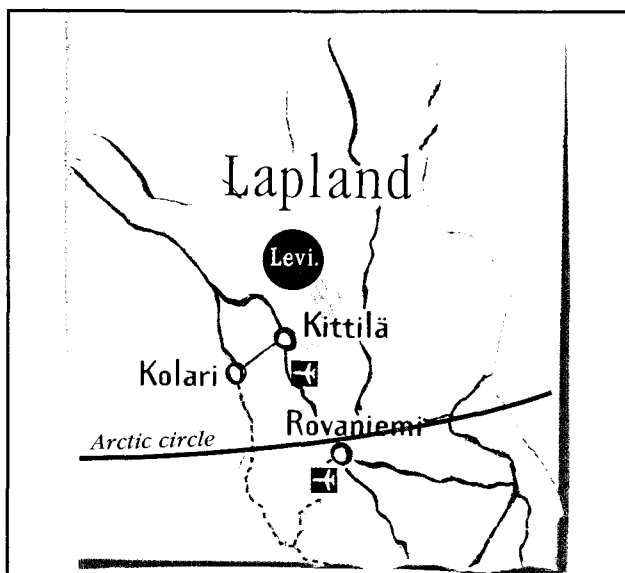
Five weeks to go and Sallie and I are begging and borrowing as much equipment and clothing as we can. We scanned the weather conditions on the Internet, it was - 40 in Levi so it was important to take lots of layers and thermal clothing. Jasmin, at 11 years, was not keen on the thermal longjohns and vest even though I dyed them purple to make them a little bit 'Cool', once we were there and it was - 20 she appreciated them very much!

One week before lift off we were ready, E111 stamped, euros in my wallet, passports and tickets at the ready. Then the cat swallowed a staple, now do I tell Mum, who is looking after the cat, or hope it just passes through? I voted for the latter and sent him off with the vets telephone number!

We flew from Birmingham, we had already booked a hotel for the night prior to flight and parking for the duration of the holiday so with no ado we were smoothly deposited at the airport and sailed through departure, quickly boarded and settled in for an excellent flight of around 2 3/4 hours, with British Airways. The landing was so smooth that I didn't realise we had touched down, still braced for the usual jolt of rubber hitting tarmac, we had stopped and were nearly ready to disembark.

Kittala is a small and friendly airport 15 km from Levi, 180km north of the Arctic Circle and approx 870km from the North Cape. We quickly picked up our luggage and were ushered to an awaiting bus, within 10 minutes we were at our hotel, The Hotel Crazy Reindeer.

The first snowflakes usually fall in October and the ski-ing season continues until the middle of May. Therefore we were met with a blast of icy cold air in our faces and lungs and feet of snow all crunchy under our feet, no slush or ice, just plain white crunchy snow. Lovely. The Chaps wanted to get skiing so we went straight to the ski school to get kitted out, this was quite hectic with 5 children and 4 adults to sort out amongst what seemed like 50 other people in a small hot



space. The Fins have a wonderful queuing system, no pushing or rudeness but you just go for it! It seems to work but takes a lot of give and take and you can't wait or you'll wait for ever! By now we were all hot and bothered.

Steve and I were elected to carry surplus footwear and our own equipment back to the Apartments whilst the others had their first taste of ski-ing. The Apartments were only 300 metres from the slopes but it was uphill. I was shattered and as I gasped over the balcony, glued to my ventolin, I took in my first Lap` Sunset. It took my breath away, literally! Fantastic, the depth of colour, as the sun set between the hills was so intense, salmon/red/pink, the trees set almost black against this colour was beautiful and the sunset seemed so large it encompassed everything around me.

We met up for dinner, a help your self affair, with a vast range of starters all of which had to be tasted! Soup, generally two main meals and pudding. The food was wonderful all week, of high quality fresh, healthy and varied. Reindeer tastes rather like venison but we had a hard time persuading the children that they should taste anything related to Rudolph!

Monday-

Ski school. Luckily the three girls aged 11, 10 and 8 (Jasmin, Alice & Katie) were taken off in a group by their instructors so they didn't have to watch us nor us them! The boys aged 4 & 6 (Matthew & Lawrence) were put into Kidsland where they could be looked after by trained children's nurses but still have fun in the snow. Lawrence more than made up for not having lessons even managing an intermediate slope by the end of the week. He soon learnt the Fin` queuing system and abused it to the full, skiing right up to the front of the lifts and always being let on immediately by a friendly adult! By Tuesday all the children were well on their way, ski-ing all over the place at great speed.

I gave everyone a laugh on my first attempt at skiing.

I used the button lift to ascent ½ way up an intermediate slope. The button lift is basically a pole with a disc at the end, you slide the disc between your legs, up to your bum and you let the pole, attached to a cable, pull you up the slope. At the top I thought I would just cruise nice and slowly down the slope. Starting off well.....picking up speed.....out of control.....disaster....I was upside down, right way up, cartwheeling, legs in the air, skis & poles flying in every direction, finally sliding to a halt with a mouth full of snow! No broken bones, I wonder if anyone noticed! How couldn't they have noticed, I had just turned myself into a cartoon like giant snowball! Very quickly I gathered up my skis, poles, nerves and gingerly made my way to the bottom.

My First Impressions of Levi looking out over our balcony was, lots of trees! Certainly not a mountainous terrain as in Europe, not a boulder in sight but softer landscape of large hills or fells. Levi has such a warm & friendly atmosphere, it is so unspoilt & the Fins are brilliant with children. I would say 99% of Fins speak at least a little English and most are almost fluent due to their Education system where by they have to attain a certain degree of proficiency in our language before they can continue with their education. They are so interested in the English Tourists and call us 'Sunshine', apparently because we laugh a lot & know how to que! Levi has two Supermarkets & a few bars & one night club. Our apartment was part of The Crazy Reindeer Centre (Hullu Poro, in Finnish). The accommodation was very comfortable, extremely warm & quite spacious having a mezzanine floor above with 2 singles and a sofa bed, below 2 singles, a kitchenette with table & chairs satellite TV etc. Spacious bathroom with shower and luxurious underfloor heating. We also had a sizeable sauna with a little window facing the floodlit slopes and a balcony which faced through the forests on the other side. We had a special drying cupboard a bit like a tumble dryer without the tumble. Not good if you leave packets of jelly sweets in your pockets as Lawrence did! We had plenty of snow throughout the week, perfect powdery snow which crunched satisfyingly under your feet, a bit like walking on a field of rice krispies I imagine!

On the milder days (-8) I needed at least three layers before my jacket went on and several layers on my head. Proper ski wear is a must in the arctic circle where on top of the slopes the wind freezes your breath as it comes through your face mask leaving ice particles around your chin and eyelashes. We were unrecognisable in all our gear, I felt like the intrepid Scott. We were warned to keep an eye on the children, if we noticed any white patches forming on their skin we were to get them indoors quickly as that was a sign of frost bite. Fortunately they were more resilient than us adults. You can get dehydrated easily which leads to headaches so we had plenty of drink & donut stops to keep our blood sugar up.

Ski school was great, our instructor was called Gregory, his favourite words over the week were GORILLA! Big, wide, knee in, GORILLA! Face down the slope always. This information put together meant 'snowplough'. We could now slow down & even stop.

On Tuesday Sallie and I took the children to a husky farm. As we arrived the noise was deafening, 110 hounds, pure huskies and crosses, adults and puppies, Maria the owner knows them all by name. She uses a bitch to lead each team of dogs as they are deemed to be sharper and of course the males chase them! After saying hello to the excited pack of dogs we were soon speeding through the forest on a husky sledge. The wind was biting, we were going so fast the sledge would take flight at any little bump in the ground, it was very exciting and very cold. Homeward bound we came back across a frozen lake the view was amazing as the low, bright sun sparkled and reflected in the ice on the lake and surrounding trees, a pure winter wonderland. We retired to a little round, wooden cabin to cook sausages over an open fire, the children took great delight in this task. Once warmed the children went snowshoeing across the lake, this entailed strapping tennis racquet like shoes to their boots, I was assured the ice on the lake was at least 3 ft thick. As we made our way back to the bus the dogs started howling again, hoping for a tasty glove or scarf from an unsuspecting child.

Andy & Steve, in our absence, had decided to take the bus to the other side of the fell and ski back over the top to Levi, this entailed some 6km of ski-ing, they made it just in time for tea. If you don't fancy ski-ing up over the top you can take the gondola to a restaurant at the top, if done at night you have a good chance of seeing the beautiful Northern Lights.

On Thursday we met up with friends from Rovaniemi, Hannu & Pete. We intended to ski together but it soon became very apparent that Sallie & I would not see any of the men again until the donut and coffee break! After that Sallie and I took the children to a Reindeer farm on the edge of a frozen lake.

The Reindeer are bred to pull sleighs, the farm has a special licence to do this. The farms that breed reindeer for meat have a different licence. All the reindeer were castrated males, so that they can concentrate on the job, specially if they are paired when pulling sleighs. Lawrence and Katie shared a sleigh. We had our reservations about the wildest children being sent off, alone, on to the frozen wastes but the translator assured us that the reindeer knew where they were going. They hadn't calculated for the children slapping the animal on the bottom with the rein until it was galloping full pelt, snow flying everywhere and two children laughing like pixies. The other children soon caught on until we were all galloping across the lake in a flurry of snow and laughter. The sleighs were of a wooden construction, made from locally felled fir trees & upholstered in Reindeer skins, they must have been extremely heavy but this did not deter the animals from racing each other in finest 'bumper car' tradition! Once we had settled down to a gay trot we could look around, the scenery was absolutely beautiful, glistening snow as far as the eye could see, then dense black/green tall trees reaching up into a deep blue sky with a low bright sun. The still, quietness was profound. On our return we warmed up in a traditional round cabin with a huge fire and ate home made biscuits. We then boarded a different kind of sledge, more of a home made wooden trailer, covered in reindeer skins and pulled by a skidoo, we were towed across the lake to the fishing grounds. Several 8" diameter holes were drilled through the 3ft

thick ice with a huge hand drill, we used 12" long rods to fish. The Children caught about 5 fish in all, I think they were pike, Lawrence was so enthusiastic that the man duly gutted them for him to take back to the apartment for me to cook - how nice! The temperature of the water is approx' +4 so the fish die almost immediately of the cold/shock when taken out of the water into conditions well below freezing.

Our Representative gave me some interesting information on the way home:- There are 2 people for every 1 km in Finland. There are 9 men to every 1 girl (lucky girls). Every person takes out approx' 30 library books per year. A large percentage of Fins are short sighted and wear glasses . Could this be due to all the books they read and amount of studying they do? As I said before they have to attain a certain level of English in their education but they also learn German, Russian and other languages at school.

On Saturday we all did the snow safari. There are more than 700km of tracks for beginners & experienced riders. You have to have a driving licence to operate the vehicle & abide by the 80km/h speed limit in open areas & 60km/h in forests. We were kitted out in all the safety gear and special warm wear. We got so warm whilst waiting for our snow mobiles that we went outside and rolled in the snow to cool down. The mobiles were Kawasaki 550 snow cats, extremely cool sprayed up in green camouflage, basically a motorbike with 2 skis on the front and a caterpillar track on the back. The Adults drove and the children rode pillion. Off we sped across the frozen river, over a bridge which crossed the road and into the forests. By this time we were riding through a blizzard with a huge amount of snow falling. We were surrounded by breath taking scenery but had to concentrate as the mobiles would slip & slide in the well used tracks, quite an adrenalin rush. At one point I managed to bury my snowmobile, Jasmin and Myself in a snowdrift! We were rescued by a large friendly Fin who let us take his mobile to catch up with the rest of the party, whilst he dug ours out. We sailed through the forest on our own, through a snowstorm, following the tracks of the others it was a wonderful, unforgettable experience. Eventually we caught up with the others at the cake & coffee stop and what gorgeous cakes they were, cinnamon or vanilla affairs, yummy. We returned to Levi with no more mishaps.

On Sunday we managed some ski-ing & tobogganing before we left for the airport & home.

Lapland has a distinctly different culture and offers an unforgettable stay in an unspoilt wilderness. The air is so clean, apart from that first evening, that I did not need any medication for asthma all week. Levi is the most popular holiday centre in Lapland, all the faculties are within walking distance and you can board any of the ski busses free of charge.

There were several excursions that we didn't partake of due to lack of time such as Islandic pony riding and hot air ballooning also there were Finnish folklore & Feast evenings, Kammi Feasts, Tiikun Tiipii Evenings and of course the visit to see Father Christmas at the Santa Parc. I found out that the distinct culture of Lapland does not only have to be enjoyed in Winter. People holiday in Summer for the 24 hour day light. Enjoying the fell landscape on foot, Canoeing on the river Ounasjoki & fishing in the crystal clear fell brooks & lakes, also hiking, cycling & sailing rafts & a multitude of other activities to enjoy.

What else can I say - Steve & Andy are already planning their next ski-ing trip & if I had the opportunity in the future I would definitely return to Lapland.

From Val Goodwin

First man: "Sometimes I'd like to ask God why he allows poverty, famine and injustice to continue when he could do something about it".

Second man: "what's stopping you?"

First man: "I'm afraid he might ask me the same question!"

FROM THE METHODIST MINISTER

Hello Milton Damerel!

Over the years working in the Church, I've found there are a number of wrong ideas around about the Christian faith, and I suspect that Milton is no exception.

One is that Christians are, or at least ought to be, miserable - (I was once told by a patient in a psychiatric hospital, "You're not a proper minister, you laugh too much"!). Another is that Christianity is 'Old fashioned', that it has no relevance to modern life. Sadly, some Churches do rather give these impressions, although I don't think Milton Damerel Methodist is too bad!, but whilst it might be true of some individual Churches, it is not true of what Christianity is really about - which is having a relationship of love with God through Jesus Christ.

During the period 15th. July to 2nd. August, there will be an opportunity in Milton Damerel to see both the 'fun' face of Christianity and the way in which it is very relevant to modern life - to life in general and to individual lives, to yours and mine. You will receive a full programme nearer the time but, briefly, we shall have four people from an organization called the 'Faith Mission' working in the area, based at the Methodist Church. Amongst other things, they will be visiting around the village; running a children's club the first week of the summer break; leading services and a number of special events; and - above all - giving you the chance to chat, ask questions and see by practical experience whether there really is anything in all this 'Jesus' business..... which might just be for you!

I enjoy my food, but I was thirty two years old before I discovered that garlic bread is delicious - I'd never tried it because I 'knew' I wouldn't like garlic. How ridiculous! Come along in July - (or before!) - and 'try' the Christian faith, try Jesus..... Like me, you might find yourself being surprised!

I'll look forward to meeting you.

The Lord bless you, David Wheeler.

WOODFORD BRIDGE GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

**Monday 3rd June 2002 from 3pm
A wide range of attractions for all ages
Bar-B-Q & a Salad Bar will be available
Priced at £5.00 for adults and £2.50 for children**

**The evening entertainment will include live cabaret with ' 2 X S'
Followed by music and dancing for all tastes**

All proceeds will be going to Variety Club Children's Charity

**For further information on tickets for the Bar-B-Q contact
Woodford Bridge on 01409 261481**

**MILTON DAMEREL METHODIST CHURCH
NEWSLETTER NUMBER TWENTY-TWO**



SPRING 2002

We extend a very warm welcome and invitation to any-one wishing to come along to our regular meetings/clubs. Just come along to any events/clubs you see advertised, or if you would to know more or have an introduction, please contact any of the leaders. If you find the times of our activities and services inconvenient then you will be given a warm welcome by other congregations within the Shebbear Circuit. For further information contact:

Marjorie Colwill (tel: 281214); Sheila Daniel (Tel: 261466); Lillian Luxton (Tel: 261355)

SUNDAY CLUB ANNIVERSARY – this is an important day for our Sunday Club when the members lead a family-style service with special songs and drama. The theme this year is “Peace in Our Time”. Why not come along and listen to what our youth are saying on peace? The guest leader for the service will be Mrs Sue Griffin from North Tamerton.

Date & Time: Sunday, 9th June 2002 at 11 am in the Chapel.

SUMMER-TIME GOSPEL SPECIAL – another return visit by the **Culm Valley Crusade Choir**, and this year the Faith Mission group will be joining the choir for the evening. (See article by Rev David Wheeler).

Date & Time: Sunday, 28th July 2002 at 7.30 pm in the Chapel
(or possibly 8pm – please check posters)

CHURCH COUNCIL – At the recent Church Council we noted that we still have a vacancy for a secretary, and discussed forthcoming events (see above) and property matters. We are looking at how we will meet the requirements for all public buildings to have facilities suitable for disabled persons, including access and toilets, and we also reviewed progress with work on guttering, paths, and for the cottage.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: Wednesday, 26th June at 7.30pm in the Schoolroom.

Chapel Flower Plan for the months of May, June and July 2002

5 th May	Mrs B Sanders	2 nd June	Mrs G Palmer	7 th July	Mrs C Fishleigh
12 th May	Circuit Rally	9 th June	Sunday Club	14 th July	Mrs G Overy
19 th May	Mrs W Carter	16 th June	Mrs F Hearn	21 st July	Mrs D Colwill
26 th May	Mrs W Millman	23 rd June	Mrs O Turner	28 th July	Mrs R Sharp
		30 th June	Mrs D Harris		

We pray regularly for the concerns within our locality – for those who are unwell, sad or anxious – and thank God for good times and happy occasions.

“Give your burdens to the Lord; He will carry them” and “Praise God in all things”

Our Minister is Rev David Wheeler and he can be contacted on Tel. No: 281262.

Alan Andrew, Rural Lay Worker, supporting rural communities and individuals within this area, can be contacted on Tel. No: 281321.

Roger Daniel, our local visitor, will call on any-one who is lonely or ill, or would just appreciate a visit. (Tel: 261466)

Holsworthy Ring and Ride

Are you one of the older population or are you disabled and don't drive or have regular access to transport?

If so, then I can highly recommend Holsworthy Ring and Ride. The mini bus comes right to your door to collect you and drop you off. If you need a wheelchair or mobility scooter then that is no problem as there is a tail lift to put it and you on the bus if you cannot manage the steps. If you wish to take a friend/ carer, just ensure that you book for them too.

The bus covers the Devon area surrounding Holsworthy, and typically travels into Holsworthy, Bude, Launceston, Okehampton and Tavistock, with longer day trips in the school holidays. The fare varies from £2 per trip (return) to £3.50, depending on the distance.

Ray, the driver is very helpful and will help carry shopping to your door (thanks Ray!)

This is a very valuable service to those of us who are out in the sticks and can't access public transport, but we need to support it to ensure that it can keep running.

For more information and/or a timetable call Janice on 01409 259001. The office is manned from 10-12noon, but there is a 24 hour answerphone.

Debbie Merritt

RING AND RIDE TIME TABLE

MAY

TUESDAY	14TH	OKEHAMPTON	£2.00
MONDAY	20TH	HOLSWORTHY a.m.	£2.00
THURSDAY	23RD	OKEHAMPTON	£2.00
TUESDAY	28TH	RHS GARDENS ROSEMOOR	£2.50

JUNE

MONDAY	3RD	HOLSWORTHY p.m.	£2.00
TUESDAY	4TH	BOSCASTLE &	£2.50
TUESDAY	11TH	OKEHAMPTON	£2.00
MONDAY	17TH	HOLSWORTHY a.m.	£2.00
FRIDAY	21ST	TAVISTOCK	£2.50
WEDNESDAY	26TH	LAUNCESTON & SUPERMARKET	£2.00

PLEASE BOOK BEFORE 12 NOON THE DAY BEFORE

YOU WISH TO TRAVEL TELEPHONE JANICE ON 01409 259001



INTERIOR DECORATOR

Friendly efficient service
for all your Decorating needs
including special paint effects

JANEY KIRBY
01409 261314

THE FIRST FIFTY YEARS OF MILTON DAMEREL PARISH COUNCIL – 1894 to 1941

A fairly widely held view that Parish Councils in the 21st century have little more power than to keep up public footpaths, maintain bus shelters, and to organise the collection of recyclable materials such as glass, and some kinds of paper, is not reaffirmed by the study of the Minutes of the meetings of the Parish Council of Milton Damerel from 1894 to 1941. Of course more than another 50 years have passed so it is too early yet to judge.

The Local Government Act of 1888 brought into being County Councils, which were to be the overriding authority, and which took over the administrative functions of Quarter sessions whose approval was formally needed for many aspects of local affairs.

Another Local Government Act, six years later, in 1894, set the pattern for County and Parish management by bringing into being District Councils and Parish Councils thereby establishing a tier of authority, which is still the system in use today.

In this area the District Council was the Holsworthy Rural District Council. (RDC). Where the real power existed in Milton, and other parishes, a century ago is debatable and strong case can be made for saying that little has changed except that those exercising authority are now elected where formerly they were not. This was because the aristocracy and Squires previously held all the levers of power. Together they owned most of the land; occupied most of the seats on the Benches of the Justices. (Local JP's). Often they held the 'livings' by which they could choose the incumbent of the church. This had been the situation for many generations. This small group of people expected to rule – born to it they would probably have said – and those they ruled expected it of them too.

Two factors brought change; the first was in the voting procedures – only in 1872 was election by secret ballot introduced, and in 1884 many more people in rural districts were given the vote. The other factor was the growth of Methodism in its various forms, and in parishes like Milton Damerel there were many converts and what this change set out to do was to more accurately reflect the will of the Community. The old saying (adage) that "it's a long road which has no turning" applies here and 1894 was such a turning. It could be said that elected Parish Councils were a giant stride forward in Democratic Local Government, which is not to claim that the previous system was corrupt or totally ineffective. It was really a carry over from the feudal days when the King called on his tenants in chief for actual support in manpower to help fight his battles as times and circumstances demanded, and to be able to do that, an autonomous system where everyone was responsible to someone above them, was essential. So it was that two bodies decided the parish management from early times; they were the Lord of the Manor's, Manor Court, and the churches vestry meetings. The Vestry, so called because it met in the church vestry, and whose membership would have included the churchwardens, a few elected ratepayers and probably the 'overseers of the poor'. Their responsibilities would have included upkeep of the church for which they could levy a rate; persuasion of parishioners to attend church regularly, and the annual appointment of two persons to act as overseers of the poor, a function which was taken on by the Parish Council after 1894.

The Overseers set and collected 'poor rates' and had the task of distributing assistance to those suffering hardship and deprivation. The appointment of Overseers of the poor dates back a long way. The Poor Law Act of 1563 stated that "two able persons, or more, shall be appointed gatherers and collectors of the charitable alms of all the residue of the people inhabiting in the parish". These appointments became compulsory in 1601 and a fine of 20 shillings was imposed on any parishioners who refused to act in this post. Those appointed to this duty by the Parish Council after 1894 are shown in chart form and it is readily noted that most of them are farmers and that most of only served once. It is also a sort of parish map showing where many families lived. It is doubtful whether any record of the vestry meetings has survived to the present time (and) which would have given a valuable look back at past customs and problems.

Much more is known about the other governing body in Milton Damerel, the Manor Court, because of the minutes of many courts held in the parish during the hundred years from the 1750's. The feudal aspect is obvious from its constitution of a jury of twelve freemen and tenants and chaired by the Lords' steward. The Manor Court recorded all changes of occupancy in the parish, because the Lord might be entitled to a small sum of money arising from long lease agreements. It is also recorded lesser misdemeanours and the fines imposed. A rather special example occurs in 1757 when the 'court' presented all persons for allowing the roadway leading from Milton Town to Venn Green to be out of repair by digging up and carting away the soil! And again in 1760 "we present all people for blocking the church path and a highway at Milton Town". The new Council system was not burdened, or constrained, by such events and however long it had taken to effect such a big change, eventually a parish meeting was called to elect a parish council of seven members. This took place on 4 December 1894 when James Vivian, then farming Derworthy, took the chair and asked for nominations to be handed in. There were ten, and the chairman announced that there would

be time allowed for ratepayers to question the candidates. We are not told whether or not the questions had anything to do with it but four withdrew their candidature. One more nomination came forward with more time to question him after which the seven were declared elected. They were: Thomas Braund, Shoemaker at Shop; John Beckley, Farmer at Whitebear; John Richard Jollow, Butcher – Farmer at West Wonford; William Kerslake, Farmer at Gratton; John Lang, Painter – Glazier and Shopkeeper at Venn Green; Joshua Paige, Carpenter and Builder at West Cottage, West Wonford; and William George Penhale, Farmer at Northtown.

The accompanying data sheet shows who were Parish Councillors at any time, with the reservation that at times when a councillor dropped out for whatever reason another rate payer was co-opted to serve out his time; 'his time' because during this 47 year period it was an all-male scenario. It shows that only 33 people served as Parish Councillors, about 2/3 were farmers and 1/3 craftsman. It is worth noting that in the first council three were farmers and four were tradesmen but a truer average for the whole period would be more likely to be four farmers and three tradesmen which shows a good mix. For those who enjoy statistics, nine served one term, eight two terms, four four terms, one five terms approximately. Six councillors earned special mention for giving many years of service, Alfred Wonnacott of Oxenpark, the five terms (3 years) councillor; Norman Hancock of Crossways managed eighteen years; Alfred Davey, senior, twenty-four years; Richard Hancock of Horns Cottage, twenty-seven years – a remarkable record because he was voted chairman after one term and held that office virtually until he died; Charles Watkins of Worden – got in thirty-two years without holding a top office, but did nearly twenty years as one of the two school managers. The record of years served goes to Jim Slee who joined those elected in 1898, served one term as vice-chairman to John Beckley, and did eight terms as vice-chairman to Richard Hancock and then one (or more) as chairman – a total to the end of the book of 38 years.

Four Clerks covered the period, William George Penhale, himself a Councillor was elected clerk for the first three years, and was succeeded by fellow Councillor Thomas Braund who held the post until 1986 although he was not a Councillor for the whole of those years. William George Penhale wrote with a good hand. Thomas's was sometimes a big scrawl and his spelling was occasionally off a point or two, but no less interesting for that. For most of his tenure he recorded proposers and seconders of resolutions put forward but in his last year he preferred 'proposed and carried' or 'moved and carried'.

In April 1906 (he records) moved and carried that Thomas Ashton, Ley be appointed assistant overseer and Clerk to the Parish Council at a salary of £10 per annum, also he must not apply for a rise of salary for three years from the date of his election. The above salary to include all travelling expenses. His salary as clerk only, had been £1-10-00 initially and rose £1 during his tenure of office. Thomas Ashton asked for and received many increases in salary during his long stint in office and was being paid £21 per annum by 1921. Because of the new Rating Act in 1926 overseers and assistant overseers of the poor were no longer needed but Thomas Ashton could have applied for the post of clerk and judging by a recorded minute would have been likely to have been appointed. Almost his last task was to put up notices in the parish inviting applications for the post of clerk to the Parish Council at a salary of £5 per annum. On 29 March 1927, after appointing Alfred James Davey clerk to the Parish Council from a list of four applicants the chairman, Richard Hancock, noted that this being the last meeting at which their Clerk would officiate propose the following resolution to be entered in the minutes: - "that during the period for which Mr Ashton has held the appointment of assistant overseer and clerk to the Milton Damerel Parish Council which he is now relinquishing under the provisions of the new rating and valuation act, he has carried out his duties in the most exemplary manner and to the satisfaction of all concerned and the Council regrets that he does not see his way to make application for appointment as clerk to the council only" seconded by Mr Davey and carried unanimously.

It may be that the appointment of assistant overseer when discussed in the 1896 Council was a contributory factor leading to the election of six new councillors, with only Jim Slee, vice-chairman to John Beckley, surviving from the old council. The minutes do not tell us the whole story but with a bit of reading between the lines it would appear to go something like this— Richard Baker, farming Milton Town and one of the top tenants of Earl Stanhope's' Holsworthy estate, was a person of some influence and importance. Nonetheless he would have been subject to the normal commitment of Parish overseers of the poor rate to personally collect taxes with whoever was appointed at the same time. Some parishes quite lawfully appointed salaried assistant overseers whose job it was to collect the taxes for the overseers. As a parish meeting early in 1896, attended by all the Councillors and some ratepayers with John Jollow in the chair Thomas Braund proposed and Richard Baker seconded a resolution that "the clerk to the Parish Council fix notices to the Church and Chapel doors inviting tenders for the office of Assistant overseer". The clerk records that the proposition was moved and seconded but does not record what happens after that. At a parish meeting two weeks later 'the appointment of an assistant overseer was considered and the meeting was adjourned for four days – that is until the AGM of the Parish Council. All seven Councillors attended and unanimously re-elected John Jollow to the chair whereupon John Jollow proposed and John Beckle

seconded a motion that the resolution proposed by Thomas Braund and seconded by Richard Baker be rescinded. An amendment that an assistant overseer be appointed was only supported by the proposer and seconder. WG Penhale seems to have abstained so the proposition to rescind was won by four to two. No further mention of such an appointment appears for several years but towards the end of the same year November 1896 – at a Parish Council meeting attended by all seven Councillors William Penhale proposed and Thomas Braund seconded a motion 'that a notice be sent to Mr Baker asking him to stop the encroachment of the village green, the public well, the pound etc' which was carried unanimously. At the next as council meeting on 11 January 1897 when all seven councillors attended, the notice to Mr Baker was read, and he (Mr Baker) ask the chairman if he might be allowed to put a resolution to the meeting. The chairman consented and the resolution was 'that the feeling of the meeting be tested'. William Penhale failed to record what happened then or to the parishes' interest in its village green, well and pound. The truth would seem to be that the chairman allowed his council to be ambushed by Richard Baker who had probably brought along support.

Around this time there was some interest in allotments and two ratepayers applied to the Parish Council for Plots. Richard Baker offered a field for the purpose but one applicant protested that it was too far. The Parish Council had formed a lot committee. John Jollow (chairman) was asked to see Mr Baker with a view to considering other fields but little more was forthcoming on the subject and there can be no doubt that differences existed between them.

In February 1897 when considering how to commemorate Queen Victoria's long reign, Mr Ridge proposed and Mr Baker seconded a motion "that the members of the Parish Council collect subscriptions for the purpose of putting a bell to the Board school in commemoration of the Queen's long reign". At a meeting on 1 May 1897 attended by six Councillors the chairman John Jollow proposed and Charles Watkins seconded a motion that "the Councillors collect subscriptions for hospitals for the Jubilee celebrations.

John Jollow signed as chairman until autumn of 1898; then came John Lang with vice-chairman William Penhale; followed by John Beckley with James Slee as vice in 1901. At the 1904 election James Vivian became chairman with Thomas Harris as vice-chairman, with Charles Watkins, James Slee, Richard Baker, William Backway, and Richard Quance.

In April 1905 the clerk was asked to write to, or see, some of the assistant overseers in other parishes to get all the information possible regarding the appointment of an assistant overseer for the poor. There were only three Councillors present at the next Parish Council meeting so it moved and carried that the appointment of an assistant overseer be considered at the next meeting. Actually the subject was discussed at the next but one meeting when Richard Baker moved and Alfred Davey seconded a resolution "that tenders be invited for the office of assistant overseer and clerk to the Parish Council".

At the next Parish Council meeting, the AGM on 7 April 1906, six Councillors were present and after electing officers and overseers for the year, the first business was to co-opt a rate payer, to serve in place of Richard Baker who had left the parish. The next business was the appointment of Thomas Ashton as assistant overseer and clerk to Parish Council. It had taken many years to get the appointment of assistant overseer and now Richard Baker had just left – just too late to say that he had the last laugh after all.

At the Annual General Meetings it was usual practise after the formalities to elect, or re-elect the chairman and vice-chairman, to appoint two new overseers of the poor, to declare the precept, which I interpret as an order to the overseers to collect that stated amount from the ratepayers of the parish and to pay it to the treasurer to cover the business expenses of the Parish Council by a given date. A list of all appointments of overseers of the poor is included which may also be a guide to where farming families lived in the parish in the first quarter of the 20th century. A look at the early meetings shows the general pattern established and maintained throughout the period except in special occasions mostly described elsewhere in the text.

At the first meeting nine days after the inaugural meeting the only business was to elect a chairman and a clerk. A month later the Parish Council resolved, "That a stout iron box be had to keep all books and documents in" and to appoint Mr John Mill (brother in law to Hancock Brothers) to honorary treasurer to the Parish Council. At the third meeting late in March 1895 the Parish Council resolved

- 1) that Mssrs Penhale and Kerslake be asked to get all the Parish books etc from the rectory
- 2) 2) that four general meetings, open to the public, be held on 15 April, 24 June, 14 October and 9 January 1896.

The only business done at the first annual parish meeting on 1 April was to appoint two new overseers for the year. The first annual Parish Council meeting was held fortnight later when officers were elected on precept declared - £6 to be paid to the treasurer by 5 June. At the 11 May Parish Council meeting – a complaint was received from Mr Sleeman of the inconveniency of crossing the stream on the path leading from Whitebear to Milton Town. The Council decided, unanimously, to have a new footbridge fixed across the stream, the job to be done by tender. The clerk was ordered to circulate notices to the carpenters of the parish and asking that tenders be in by 18 May. On that day a Parish Council meeting accepted Mr Smales

tender of £1.10.00. There was no business transacted on 24 June for want of a quorum (probably right into hay harvesting).

A little reflection on those early meetings shows us a little of the ongoing situation in the parish in the nineteenth century. The Parish Council require a stout iron box to keep all books and documents in, which tells us that there were Parish books apart from voluminous Parish Council minute book. What could these have been? There must have been overseers of the poor rate books showing the valuation of properties on which to base a rate call. There must have been vestry minute books which included a list of overseers appointed year by year. There was the parish map, invaluable when the issues were raised, and on which some public footpaths would be shown. The subject of these was raised in Council a number of times: - In March 1895 the Parish Council asked W Penhale and W Kerlake to collect them from the rectory (there is no minute as to what happened).

On 21 November 1896 the council resolved "that the parish map be had from Rev Anderson.

On 24 January 1898 the Council of the clerk to ask the churchwarden to deliver up to the parish, the parish map.

On 10 June 1900 the clerk is directed to write to the Devon County Council respecting the parish map.

Although we are not told it is likely that this last action was effective because three weeks later the Parish Council paid Joshua Paige 7-0 for a new box for the custody of the map.

As about the same time Parish Council paid Bryant Sanders 10-0 for a new table to be put in the Council room.

In the absence of evidence to the contrary it appears that there was reluctance on the part of the church to give up the parish books and map, and doubtless a case could be made for the church being part owners of these articles but under a newly devised democratic system of local government it is likely that there was as much to gain by co-operating as there was to lose by being obstructive. Was the strength of the Bible Christian Faith in the parish in the nineteenth century a factor I wonder?

Overseers of the poor appointed yearly by the Parish Council also giving their home base.

1895	John Penhale	Venn Farm	and	George Sanders	Higher Grawley
1896	Mrs Mary Millman	West Bridge	and	Lewis Gilbert	Woodford
1897	Benjamin Hopper	East Wonford	and	Richard Hancock	Horns Cottage
1898	John R Jollow	West Wonford	and	John Taylor	Cross Farm
1899	W George Penhale	North Town	and	John Earl	Buttermoor
1900	Richard Baker	Milton Town	and	William Smale	Holsworthy Beacon
1901	Richard Cole	Waldon	and	John Ayres	Woodford Bridge
1902	John Slee	Down	and	Bryant Sanders	Horrels Ford
1903	George Harris	West Wonford	and	Henry Kelly	Grawley
1904	William Ashton	Ley	and	John Larkworthy	Wheadbear
1905	Thomas Watkins	Worden	and	Alfred Davey	Milton Mill
1906	Alfred Wonnacott	Oxenpark	and	Lewis Palmer	Walland
1907	Lewis Gilbert	Woodford	and	William Vodden	Woodford Bridge Inn
1908	John Johns	Venn	and	Peter Paige Luxton	Higher Gidcott
1909	Richard Hancock	Horns Cottage	and	John Skinner	Pipers Gidcott
1910	Charles Watkins	No Place	and	Richard Quance	North Town
1911	Benjamin Hopper	East Wonford	and	Richard Baker	Milton town
1912	James Slee	Shop	and	Thomas Braund	Fore Street
1913	Bryant Sanders	Horrels Ford	and	William Watkins	Shop
1914	Peter Carter	Derworthy	and	Walter Johns	Little Derworthy
1915	Jabeg Slade	Lower Walland	and	Francis Davey	Higher Walland
1916	Sidney reed	Gidcott	and	Alfred Wonnacott	Oxenpark
1917	William Daniel	Woodford	and	George Leach	Woodford Bridge
1918	Thomas Friendship	North Town	and	Thomas Harris	West Wonford
1919	Charles Wreford Cory	Shop	and	William Sanders	Horrelford
1920	William Kerlake	Gratton	and	Richard Gifford	Gratton
1921	Richard Beckley	Whitebear	and	Lewis Palmer	Park House
1922	Peter Carter	Derworthy	and	James Slee	Shop
1923	Alfred Davey	Milton Mill	and	James Slee	Shop
1924	Fred Daniel	North Town	and	Alfred Davey	Milton Mill
1925	Fred Daniel	North Town	and	Charles Watkins	Worden
1926	Frank Leach	Fore Street	and	Charles Watkins	Worden

One of the problems, which now came within the Parish Councils orbit, was that of dealing with encroachments. The actions taken regarding the village green, village well and pound have already been described in some detail. There are four other instances. The first comes in a minute of January 1900 when the clerk is directed to write to the RDC concerning an encroachment on the highway at Shop by William Oliver.

Then in 1902 Mr Beckley from Pancrasweek had made a hedge across a footpath he was farming. The Parish Council directed the clerk to write to Mr Beckley respecting a footpath at Wheadbear Down leading to Buttermoor, Grawley and Shebbear, and that the hedge which has been made across the footpath be removed not later than 15 April 1902.

At the next Parish Council meeting held on 19 April a resolution was passed that John Beckley and Alfred Wonnacott see Mr Beckley regarding the situation. No further mention of it suggests to the author that deviation of the footpath may have been the solution.

In April 1915 a complaint resulted in the clerk being directed to write to John Beckley of Whitebear concerning the quarry across the road from Whitebear to Whitebear Down and asking him to fill it in!

The last was an instance of obstruction across a footpath, sometimes referred to as a wheel path across Giffords fields near to Milton Town end of the Worden cross to Milton path. Complaints came to Parish Council from various sources at different times. William Backway put up a fence to divide them and it seems did not put a proper gate, or erect a stile. Requests to remove the obstruction, to make provision for the convenience of users; and interviews by Parish Councillors come to nothing; best summarised by William Backway declaring, "he was not going to spend a penny on it". The Parish Council chairman made enquiries as to their liability. Judging by a Parish Council minute of March 1933 which resolved "that some cleaning work be done in the area of the stile between Giffords fields and that the stile be altered to make it more convenient for all users" shows some work must have been done. This section was the subject of problems from 1923 to 1933 largely due to the awkwardness of William Backway.

A disappointing aspect of this story of what our Parish Council did, judged from the evidence of the minutes, is that on a few occasions a potentially interesting development in rural services is discussed and followed by some action being taken but we never learn what happened after that because the next meeting may be three months away. Such was the case with district nursing.

On 11 January 1908, the clerk read a letter from the RDC concerning the employment of a district nurse. A discussion followed and the clerk was directed to write to the Parish Councils of Bradford, Cookbury and Thornbury to learn what steps they were taking; and if any of them think it is advisable to engage a district nurse the Milton Council will further consider the matter, and the possibility of a joint scheme. The clerk is also to write to the Secretary of the Bradworthy nursing association to find out the yearly cost of a nurse. It may be that there was no enthusiasm in our neighbouring parishes and so we read nothing more about it. Bradworthy had already established an association so it is probable that this organisation in time covered the needs of several parishes.

No such reservation applies to educational matters dealt with by the Parish Councils. It is a subject which must have been in the forefront of the County Council's thinking and planning even back to the early days of the Parish Council. In 1895 the County asked for a list of persons who would be suitable to serve on local committees for higher and technical classes and assist in the general management of evening classes in subjects such as agriculture, domestic science, gardening, first aid etc. On this occasion the Parish Council put forward a list of five women and five men, but slipped a bit in 1898 and in 1903 when fifteen men and no women were listed. In 1910 the County Ed Comm suggested that it was desirable to include a proportion of ladies; the Parish Council obliged by naming six ladies and five men and thereafter always included from three to six of the fairer sex. The longest serving ladies were Miss Emily Hancock; Miss Hilda Doige, for many years the head teacher at Milton; Mrs Norman Hancock and after she retired Mrs Arthur Hancock, formerly Miss Annie Bartle who I remember as head teacher in my early schooldays. I also remember Arthur Hancock coming up to the school quite often. I was never sure whether it was as a school manager or to see Annie. Most of us kids thought the latter. I see now that Arthur was not officially a school manager but probably was just anxious to deputise for his uncle Richard, a manager for about 27 years. Arthur was a very gifted person, especially in art, drama and music and was conveniently suited to school managership. The Parish Council appointed two school managers for the usual term of three years; the first pair being John Jollow and Thomas Braund. Then followed Richard Hancock and Charles Watkins – who both held the office (almost) until they died.

There are many subjects brought to the Parish Council meetings for information or for discussion even if no action was called for. Among the most important of these would have been the new rating valuations. In the minutes of March 1896 meeting are two paragraphs which read: - the clerk was asked to read a reply he

had received from the clerk to the County Council, with reference to the proposed basis for the new county rate – and: - after a long discussion the council decided to accept the proposed basis for the new county rate.

In August 1906 there appears this paragraph in the minutes: - the proposed new basis of the County rate was received and considered and the clerk was directed to write to the clerk of the County Rate Committee for information respecting the proposed increase in the assessable value of this parish from £1655 to £1828. The legislation in 1926 which made local overseers of the poor rate redundant also involved the making of a new valuation list. The Holsworthy Rating Authority requested the Parish Council to appoint 2 persons, local government electors, to serve on a rating authority preparing the new valuation list.

On one occasion the Parish Council received a protest letter from an angry Ashwater Parish Council. The letter reads: -

I am directed by my Parish Council to inquire whether your Council will support them in a strong protest against a continuously increasing county expenditure. The additional "call" this half means an extra rate of 8p in the £ to our ratepayers, and my Council are strongly of the opinion that combined objection should be made to the County authority as to the almost periodical appointment of additional officials and increasing salaries. If your Council are willing to support our protest, kindly give my Council the benefit of your Council's opinion stating in what form you suggest the protest should be made, whether by a joint petition or separate representation from the various Parish Councils in the district. Yours etc Fred Beare (Nov 1913).

Our council resolved that the Ashwater letter be allowed to lie on the table. The frustration level was rather higher in Ashwater than it was in Milton at that particular time. Rather earlier than this it is likely that the Milton Parish Council did become frustrated with the Postmaster General over the installation of letterboxes in the parish. It is scarcely credible in this electronic age of computers and mobile phones that in the early years of Parish Councils there weren't any letterboxes, signposts to say nothing of telegraphic or telephonic facilities. The Parish Council repeatedly asked for letterboxes; first in 1904 for a letterbox to be provided at the Lodge by the east entrance to the Rectory. From 1907 to 1922 requests were made for boxes at Venn Green, Gidcott Cross and at Crossways. The replies were always the same though expressed in different terms. The revenue from the letterbox being requested would be insufficient for it to be considered a viable proposition, and the Postmaster General regrets that he cannot comply with the request. It is probable that such facilities were being installed in communities of more houses and in less isolated parishes than Milton Damerel. The first letterbox at crossways was erected in 1922 or soon after and in 1932 the council asked for a box with the larger opening – big enough to accept documents without folding. The Okehampton office replied that if the opening required was bigger than 6 ¼ in x 1 1/8 in then a brick structure would have to be built and they would need consent to build on the land. Richard Hancock the Parish Council chairman owned the land so no problem arose and the work was done though not recorded. Somewhat earlier than this; nearer the time of the first requests for letterboxes the clerk was writing to the District Council asking for signposts at Whitebear Cross, Gratton Cross and at Crossways, and from time to time drawing the attention of the local authority to dangerous spots along the roads of the parish. Usually other urgent work precluded any early remedial work, but no doubt it went on a list and was dealt with eventually.

From early in 1908 negotiations for telegraph sub office for Milton Damerel filled many pages of the minute book that need not occupy much space in this record. In 1908 there had been correspondence between the Member of Parliament H J Luttrell Esq. and the Postmaster General and Milton Parish Council regarding the establishment of a telegraphic Sub office in the parish. This had reached the position of the Postmaster General stating the terms on which such a facility could be achieved. The Postmaster General estimated the annual expense of running costs and overheads at £30 per annum. Also that the revenue would not be more than say £10. In such circumstances it would be essential for there to be a contracted guarantee of not less than seven years by which the Parish Council would guarantee to fund 1/3 of the expenses after deducting the revenue. Thus if there was no revenue, the parish would agree to pay £10 and if the revenue were to be £8 then the liability would be $£30 - £8 = £22$ $£22 / 3 = £7-6-8$.

A Parish meeting was convened to consider what action to take. After discussion it was unanimously resolved that it was most desirable that such facilities be obtained and that the Parish Council make application to the Postmaster General to secure the scheme. In practise the average annual cost to the Parish Council was between £7 and £8. Many years later, in 1928, a request was made for a telephone call box and better money order facilities at the Post Office, but both were turned down.

In 1932 the Parish Council asked for a silencer cabinet in the sub Post Office to allow more privacy when using the telephone. This was granted and the work was put in hand immediately.

These minutes covered a period of two wars and the earlier part of third; the Boer War, the Great War and part of the Second World War. They yield very little really considering those events and some of the detail is surprising and interesting at this distance in time.

The first reference, excepting that to General Buller mentioned elsewhere, is in August 1914 recording that a letter had been received from the Lord lieutenant enclosing a copy of resolutions passed at a representative meeting with the object of providing means for the assistance to the wives and families of the regulars of both services, reservists and territorials belonging to the county, and requesting the chairman of public bodies to form local committees to canvas and collect for the fund to be called the Devonshire Patriotic fund. The Parish Council for the committee had deputed three to collect the parish. £13-10-3 was forwarded to Exeter.

The next reference was more than a year later in November 1915. A Parish meeting had been convened to consider what provision, if any, could be made for assisting the refugees who have come to this country from Belgium having been rendered destitute and homeless by the terrible war now raging in Europe. This meeting was arranged after receiving a letter from Miss English, of Priestacott, Bradford, the District organising secretary and following a meeting held in Holsworthy at which it was agreed that each parish be asked to hold a meeting to decide

- 1) Whether it will offer any help
- 2) If it did offer help, whether it would rather have a separate scheme or join in with any other parish
- 3) To make enquiries whether the parish could offer accommodation or gifts in kind, or in money.

The accommodation asked for by the central Committee in Exeter is for families of from three to twelve persons, not for single children as it earnestly desired not to part families. The meeting resolved that some assistance be rendered by parishioners. A committee comprising the Parish Council was appointed to ascertain what neighbouring parishes were doing; to find out if any accommodation could be found in the parish and to arrange to collect gifts or money and that the meeting to be adjourned for one week. Subscriptions collected or promised from those present amounted to 16/7 per week for six months.

At the adjourned meeting the committee reported that Mr John Cobbledick had offered accommodation in his cottage at East Wonford with the use of some furniture for the rental of 1/- per week. Resolved that this offer be accepted. Subscriptions amounting to 19/11 per week for months were promised and donations of £1-12-6.

No further reference came until early in 1917 when the Parish Council were informed that a new organisation had been set up to establish and control 'war saving groups' and that Milton Damerel Parish would be affiliated to Holsworthy and District local committee. It went on; the County committee trust that, if a war savings association is not already at work in your parish an effort will at once be made to set one up, thus encouraging your parishioners to help this Country in this time of difficulty while at the same time helping themselves by providing for the future. Mr Peter Carter was nominated to join the local committee with Mr Thomas Ashton as his deputy. In June 1917 the Parish Council discussed a letter sent to Mr Carter by the Devon County agricultural committee recommending the parish Council to buy a potato sprayer for use by parishioners in the control of potato blight. Because Messrs Carter, Ashton and Yeo (Abbots Bickington) had already arranged to get one for their own use, and were prepared to lend it if requested, no further action was considered necessary.

Towards the end of 1918 a letter from the Holsworthy Mercantile Association was read and discussed. It saying that this local association was inaugurating a scheme to help the British Red Cross and hoped to maximise the effort with help from the NFU, UDC, RDC and Parish Councils in the area. The Parish Council resolved that a house to house collection be made and deputed Mr J Friendship to collect the western side of the river Waldon, Mr Cecil Cole the central part from the river Waldon to the Fishpool Lake, and Mr Alfred Wonnacott to collect the eastern side of the Fishpool Lake.

The last reference to the Great War years is concerned with making arrangements to celebrate peace in mid 1919 and more fully reported with celebrations.

This minute record jumps to the middle of 1941, a time well within the memory of many parishioners. But as with the 1914-1918 war there is relatively little information about wartime Milton up to 1941.

It was surprising to find that air raid precautions were being discussed towards the end of 1937. In the spring of 1938 a parish meeting was convened to give the local air raid organiser an opportunity to tell parishioners what was expected of them. Between 40 and 50 interested people attended and at the end of the meeting Mr West, the area ARP appealed for air raid wardens and others who might need some training, to volunteer.

In April 1940 Holsworthy RDC wrote asking the Parish Council to promote the collection of waste paper and a month later organise the collection of scrap iron and other metals for the war effort, collection points arranged were in the old stable at the chapel for waste paper, at Venn Green and Whitebear Cross for the scrap metals.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Friday 1 November 1940 speak for themselves: -
Present: - Messrs J Slee, C Slee and the Clerk.

The meeting was called with a view to obtaining a list of places where water may be used for the purpose of fire fighting. On account of a quorum not attending no official business was transacted, butts because of the urgency of the inquiry from the Clerk of the Holsworthy RDC a survey of the parish was made and a list of all houses, and water within a distance of not more than a quarter of a mile, and places where dams should be made to ensure an adequate supply, was compiled.

At a meeting held towards the end of the month the chairman was asked to arrange for a Dr Evans, the RDC medical officer to hold first aid classes in the parish.

Housing

Present day (2002) minutes of Parish Council meetings will contain many records of housing developments, planning consents being sought ahead of decisions and of course local opinion regarding any kind of building, or change of use.

During this period of 47 years housing was a subject for discussion on only a few occasions, the first being about eighteen years after Parish Councils were inaugurated. In April 1913 a copy of the bill entitled "cottage homes for aged persons" was read and considered. The Parish Council resolved that although the Parish Council was not aware of any residents of this parish in need of cottage homes who would come within the class to which the bill is intended to provide, the Council approved the provisions of the bill and desire to possess the powers which the same would confer on them.

We move on to January 1919 when all seven councillors were present at a meeting when a letter from Holsworthy RDC on "housing for the working classes" was read: -

The question of the provision of houses for the working classes is now before my council; and at a meeting to be held on 5 February next the number of dwellings required for the immediate needs of the rural district has to be determined, the information being urgently pressed for by the local government board. However before coming to a definite decision on this matter the Council are anxious of learning the views of the various Parish Councils and Parish meetings as to the requirement of the respective parishes in the district. I should therefore feel obliged if you would place the matter before your parish council, and send me the answers to the following questions on or before Tuesday 4 February.

Are new dwellings (to be provided by the local authority) required in your parish? If so

- a) What number?
- b) Where situate?

I am to state, for the information of your meeting, that the cost of building schemes will be a charge on the general fund the whole Rural District. I am Dear Sir, your obediently, Claude Kinsman Clerk.

The Parish Council proposed and unanimously agreed that six new homes are required in this parish. Two at or near Gidcott Cross. Two on Parsonage Road, Two at or near Venn Green. The follow up of this took place in October 1919 when the following from Holsworthy RDC was read: -

I am directed to inform you that two of the three sites selected for cottages in your parish were rejected by the housing commissioner at a meeting of the Holsworthy Committee held on 15 October when he was resolved to refer the matter back to the local council. The two rejected site are, the one near Venn Green and the one at Gidcott Cross. It is for the local Council to decide whether it is their desire to proceed with the original number (six houses) or not. The above mentioned sites were rejected as being too isolated and too far from schools etc. I will be pleased to receive your early reply, being our full scheme will have to be submitted to the Ministry of Health before 31 October 1919.

The Clerk, Thomas Ashton, was directed to reply as follows: --

At a meeting of the Milton Damerel Parish Council held on 28 October 1919 the council decided that the six houses already suggested as necessary should be provided upon the sites already selected and the Council adhere to their opinion that no more suitable sites can be found in the parish. Yours respectfully etc etc.

Nearly 20 years passed before the subject of housing again appeared in minutes. This time the RDC wanted the Parish Council to give particulars of all cases of overcrowding in the parish and stating the numbers of new houses required under the ministry's financial scheme. The clerk was instructed to state the Parish Council considers the two proposed the new cottages to be built at Venn Green will meet the direct need of the population.

Again in 1938 the Parish Council was asked by the Holsworthy RDC to select a site for two more cottages to replace two railway carriages now used as dwellings. Three sites were regarded by the Parish Council as being suitable: -

- 1) Holsworthy Beacon
- 2) Mr Parsons field near Worden Cross
- 3) Mr Fulfords plot at Shop.

In March 1939 the Parish Council resolved that the site adjacent to that on which to cottages are being built is the most suitable site for further building.

To a person with no experience of Parish Council work, and very little knowledge of the variety of subjects considered it was surprising to see how often the Parish Council was involved in celebrations of one kind or another; a sort of short history lesson it may be said.

In December 1901 a Parish meeting resolved to collect subscriptions for a memorial to General Buller; that committee be appointed and collectors chosen and to hold a committee meeting in one week's time. No other meeting was held until March 1902 so we do not know the amount collected which formed a small part of that money which it cost for the statue in Exeter. Being unsure of my history it was necessary to consult the 'books'. I guessed that he was a Boer War General but the supplementary evidence is not without interest. Sir Redvers Buller, soldier in India, China, Canada, Africa and Middle East; won the VC in the Zulu War 1879, General 1896, Commanded South African field force 1899-1902 Boer War but was much criticised for his policy. The besieged garrisons of the British at Kimberley, LadySmith and Mafeking were all relieved in 1900. It has been said that the century ended with an increase of patriotic feeling and of relaxed dignity.

The next event to celebrate was for the Queen's long reign (60 years) and already mentioned regarding 'issues' between John Jollow and Richard Baker. We must assume that the celebrations took place and that events went to plan. Queen Victoria died in 1901 so it follows that there would soon be a Coronation event to organise. A public Parish Council meeting in April 1902 resolved to celebrate the Coronation of his Majesty King Edward VII. To provide a meat tea for the parish. To raise the money by collecting subscriptions and any deficiency to be made good out of the poor rates.

Another parish meeting a fortnight later decided to ask Mr Baker and Mr Vivian to purchase the beef, and to get it cooked; a tea committee, and a sports and Bonfire Committee be elected and finally that another meeting be held in two weeks' time, on 31 May. Of the 27 names put forward to serve on the various committees all were male.

The 31 May meeting was not minuted.

The coronation of his Majesty King George V on 22 June 1911 was an occasion for celebration in the parish and as usual the Parish Council resolved to be guided by the wishes of the ratepayers. A Parish meeting on 5 May unanimously resolved that steps be taken to celebrate the Coronation. That necessary funds be raised by subscription / voluntary contributions and not by a charge of the poor rates. When put to the meeting the latter motion was carried by 16 to 6 votes. As usual there were no further minutes on the event.

An event which calls for national celebration, though slightly different in that its purpose was enjoyment at, and recognition of 'the signing of the peace' after the Great War had ended.

A parish meeting in July 1919 decided on the arrangements for the event. They were, that a united service be held in the church at 2.30p.m; that funds be raised by voluntary contributions – Mr Wonacott to collect the eastern side of the parish; Mr Cole their middle part and Mr Elliott the western part; that the £5-15-8 Balance left in the Belgium relief fund be used; that a plain tea be provided at 4.30p.m. and Mr Elliott to order 400 teas from Mr Kinver. A tea committee of 17 was elected, twelve ladies and five men. Sports were to be held in a field kindly lent by Mr Elliott and arranged by his sports committee numbering fifteen. Collectors were requested to hand in their collections on Saturday night 12 July at 8.30 p.m.

King George V was crowned King in May 1911 so his Silver Jubilee became due on 5 May 1935. At the Parish meeting convened to follow a Parish Council meeting in March 1935 to consider what form the parish celebrations minutes were not taken for inclusion in the Parish Council record. So we do not know what decisions were taken except that a minute of the Parish Council meeting of July 1936 states that "the clerk read a letter of appeal for King George's Memorial Fund" received from the Lord lieutenant. It was agreed that four books be obtained and the same collectors be asked to solicit gifts who collected for the King George's Jubilee Fund and that the books with the money be returned on Saturday 1 August 1936.

At the next Parish Council meeting the Clerk was instructed to publish the total amount of money which had been collected for the King George V Memorial Fund.

Mr A Hancocks book brought in	£1-14- 6
Mr W Jollows book brought in	£ - 9- 0
Mr J Slee book brought in	<u>£2- 4-10</u>
	<u>£4 – 8- 4</u>

History books tell us that King George V won great loyalty and affection – well demonstrated at his Silver Jubilee in 1935. From a minute of a Parish Council meeting held in March 1937 we learn that a public meeting was held to consider arrangements for parish celebrations to be held on 12 May 1937, the Coronation day of his Majesty King George VI.

Public footpaths

Public footpaths are a constantly recurring item on the agenda of the Parish Council meetings throughout the whole period covered by this minute book. In olden times these were widely used by people attending the church, the chapel or the school; travelling (walking) to different parts of the parish, and even on longer journeys across country when by using a footpath the distance could be shortened. Although not relevant to the Parish Council minutes it may be worthwhile recording in the memos of the Rev. Walter Elford written in the parish register.

1758 Abraham Sloman was buried Mart 14 and carried over Lakes ground and then through the short lane to Crosspark and over it to the back of Merrybetween – the lawful way to carry a corpse from Worden and that part of the parish.

The rector has a footpath leading to the church through No-place over Lakes ground which is to be proved by many now living, William Littlejohns the elder, John Fursey, Sam Collacot, Honor wife of Thomas Allin, Margaret Bishop widow, John Jewell, William Rattenbury the elder, and I myself, generally walked that way from the year 1727 till of late.

The Rectors way to carry his tythe from Bridge wood is to cross the upper part of Kidbour Down from thence over part of Walland. The way to bring the tythe of Knots wood from Grawley is the same. To all the wards in the east side of the parish the way is over Kidbour and Whiddon Down to the parsonage. Signed Walt Efford 1768.

The list of all the foot and wheel paths in the parish is not easy to extract from the minutes though most are mentioned. A Mr Fox of Barnstaple, the Diocesan surveyor borrowed the map from the school-room and when it was eventually returned the Parish Council were disappointed to find that the old parish map did not to show all the public paths and they decided to purchase a new map. This still did not shown all the known ways so it was updated with three paths known to have been used for the past 60 years. The following appears to be the footpaths: -

Worden Cross to Milton Town

Whitbear cottage to Milton Town via Brayleys.

Whitebear to Whitbear Down, Buttermoor to Grawley.

Lower Grawley to Old House (Gratton?)

Grawley to Whitebear Cross

Old House to Headweir

Riverside to Gratton Hill near Hemming/Heron St

Waldon farm to Headdon Farm, Sutcombe

Down Farm to East Wonford.

That there are probably more and these are references to field names which are not easy to correctly place, for example Glebbes (however spelt) Giffords fields (close to Glovers cottage) and Church Parks. It is also assumed that the Merrybetween footpath joins the Worden to Milton Town path. Another query arises from a May 1897 minute in which the Clerk his asked to see Mr Hancock and to ask him to put the stiles in Glebbes in repair.

The foot path from Grawley to Gidcott Cross arose through unusual circumstances. The land in that part of a parish was owned by Squire Graham forming part of his Thornbury estate. Following complaints the parish clerk was directed to write Squire Graham to ask him to repair the roadway through to Gidcott Cross. He must have chosen a new footpath because the users of a path there many years later asked Milton Parish Council to renew a stile or stiles. The Parish Council consulted the society for the preservation of rural England for advice and was then able to tell the people at Grawley that they, the Milton Parish Council, had no liability for the upkeep of that footpath. Without any doubt the foot path which required working on most frequently and which cost most was that one between Whitebear and Brayleys mainly because of the need to bridge the Fishpool Lake (lake being the old term for stream). The first complaint was by Mr Sleeman of the inconveniency of crossing the stream on the path leading from Whitebear to Milton Town. No wonder he complained – he got his feet wet. The Parish Council unanimously decided to have a new bridge fixed across the stream and that it should be let by tender. The cost was £1-10-0 and two years later Thomas Braund writes – resolved that the chairman see Mr Paige and ascertain the cost of a Oke Plank for the repair of a public footpath leading from Wheadbear to Milton Town. One replacement involved building brick pillars of Whitstone bricks and on this occasion Thomas Brocks contract was for £4-4-0. On average it needed bridging at least every nine or ten years and the cost increased to around £6 per renewal. The total sum of money paid out apart from supervision time must have been equal to several years' precepts.

Mr Lloyd Piper confirmed, not very long ago, that he and others from the Whitebear side used it when coming to, and going home from school and he recalled one incident when the Millman brothers, William and Stanley, were going home from school when one of the boy stopped and dangled a foot over the side of the bridge. Not surprising perhaps his boot fell off and headed downstream. It could not be retrieved then so he went home dot and carry one. Later Mr And Mrs Millman collected Lloyd to go down and look for the lost boot but without success, it could not be found. This footpath was in regular use well within living memory as this incident proves. The footpath from Worden Cross to Milton Town would probably come top of the list for most often needing a new stile, gateways cleaned and general maintenance perhaps because cattle had access to a lane at Venn and which formed part of the public wheelpath which it was claimed to be.

The footpath between Milton and Sutcombe at Waldon and leading to Headdon Farm was always a shared cost between the two parishes. It's still cost quite a lot because it breached a stream of comparable size to Fishpool lake so it had to be accepted and that a renewal would be required more often than where the footpaths crossed small waters.

From the earliest days the Parish Council adopted the very sensible principle that wherever and whenever work needed doing to footpaths one or two Councillors were deputed to see that the job was done. Many new stiles were put in as replacements costing perhaps 15-0 shillings in the early years rising to about £3 each 30 or more years later and the later replacements may well have contained an element of labour costs which like everything else had gone up.

After long study of this minute book recording 47 years of Milton Damerel Parish Council business from the first meeting in 1894 until April 1941, there must be some conclusions possibly worth setting down for others in future who may not have access to the original, and you may wish to learn a little of what happened in a very rural parish in the first half of the 20th century.

In one sense every Parish Council meeting is an entity on its own, and quite properly the minutes reflect this, but on a fair proportion of them what has happened already is the reason the subject is on the agenda. At other times the Parish Council is initiating new action, all seeking to influence what happens in the future, and so ideally the output of any Parish Council is very much an ongoing process rather than a great number of individual bits of it.

The more generous use of words to describe some of the events in the early years by the first two clerks would have been a great bonus to a reader now rather than any criticism of their work then. We have to remember that there were no letterboxes, no signposts, no phones or Telegraph Office and for many if they couldn't ride a horse they walked the whole journey using footpaths as well as the roads.

It is obvious from the beginning that the attitude of the church, locally was not with the new Democratic management of the countryside. It may be that a very strong case could be made for saying that to the parish, the tithe maps was as much the property of the church as of the newly elected Parish Council. To say the same of the overseers rate books and appointment records would be much less certain and much harder to prove. Looking back beyond 100 years the opinion that the church was the managing authority is confirmed, depending to a greater or lesser extent, on who owned the land and the patronage of the church.

During the whole of this period there was only one Minister who is recorded as having taken part in a parish activity – Rev. Lincey during the Coronation festivities at the Coronation of King Edward VII in 1902.

Another factor must have been the extent to which the people comprising the Parish Council were Protestant or Church of England. From the author's knowledge of the families of early Councillors it looks like the offices of chairman and vice-chairman were mostly Church of England but doubts whether they would have ever had a majority over all. The minutes do not ever reveal a prejudice one way or the other which is to the question – was there ever a real question why the Parish Council should not have the Parish books- and of the map? And why did the Parish Council not get (buy) another map and copy any important Parish books? Many parishioners have forebears buried in both graveyards which shows that times change and with them the aspirations of individuals, families and whole communities. Television, radio and mobile phones have made parish boundaries obsolete in the old sense in which we use the term, but we still have individuals, or families and communities, which are important to those who live in the parish.

On the basis that looking at the past shows us the way we are likely to go in the future, would it make us better parishioners if we studied the history of the Parish a bit more?

Hopefully the answer is yes.

George Harris

Parish Councillor's length of position held, occupation and residence																			
Name	1894	1897	1898	1899	1901	1904	1907	1910	1913	1919	1922	1925	1928	1931	1934	1937	Occupation	Residence	
Thomas Braund	v.ch	v.ch	cllr	cllr	cllr	y											Shoemaker	Shop	
John Beckly	y	y	v.ch	v	ch.												Farmer	Whitebear	
John Jollow	ch.	ch.	ch.	y	y												Farmer/Butcher	West Wonford	
William Kerlake	y																Farmer	Gratton	
John Lang	y			ch.													Painter/Glazier/shopkeeper	Venn Green	
Joshua Paige	y																Carpenter/Builder	West Wonford	
William Penhale	cllr	cllr		vch													Farmer	North Town	
Richard Gifford		y	y		y		y										Farmer	Gratton	
Alfred Wonnacott		y	y		y			y	y	y							Farmer	Oxenpark	
Charles Watkins		y				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y			Farmer	Worden	
James Slee			y	y	v.ch	y	y	v.ch	v.ch	v.ch	v.ch	v.ch	v.ch	v.ch	vch	ch	ch	Mason	Shop
William Shepperd			y																
FGP Sanders				y	y												Tailor/Registrar	Venn Green	
James Skinner					y												Farmer	Pipers Gidcott	
James Vivian						ch	y										Farmer	Derworthy	
Thomas Harris						vch	y										Cattle Dealer	Mount Pleasant	
Richard Baker						y											Farmer	Milton Town	
William Backway						y											Blacksmith/Shopkeeper	Milton Town	
Richard Quance						y											Farmer	North Town	
Richard Hancock						y	ch	ch	ch	ch	ch	ch	ch	ch	ch		Farmer	Horns Cottage	
Thomas Brook																	Farmer	Glovers Cottage	
John Larkworthy																	Farmer	Wheadbour	
John Johns								y									Farmer	Venn	
Alfred Davey								y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y		Farmer/ Miller	Milton Mill	
Sidney Reed								y	y	y							Farmer	Gidcott	
Peter Carter								y	y								Farmer	Derworthy	
Norman Hancock									y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y		Crossways	
Lewis Palmer									y	y	y	y					Farmer	Park House	
Frank Leach										y	y	y	y				Mason	Fore Street	
Arnold Yelland														y	y	y	Shopkeeper/Haulier	Holsworthy Beacon	
George Taylor															v.ch	v.ch	v.ch	Farmer	Cross
Cecil Slee																y	y	Mason	Shop
Gordon Watkins																y	y	Farmer	Worden
Thomas Ashton	Clerk and	Assistant overseer						y	y	y	y	y							
Alfred James Davey	Clerk												y	y	y	y	y		



MILTON DAMEREL SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Are pleased to invite you to a

Social Evening

To be held in the
Milton Damerel Parish hall
on Tuesday 4th June 7pm to 11pm

starring the one and only

Kelvin Isaac

*Disco and entertainment for all the family
refreshments will be available*

Milton Damerel Social Committee

Also invite you to

Special Golden Jubilee Family Luncheon

to be held in Milton Damerel Parish Hall
on Monday 3rd June at 12.30pm

A spectacular four-course lunch

Followed by fun, games and entertainment for all the family
Come along and celebrate with family and friends

Tickets are available until 12th May from:-

Horrellsford garage or from any of the committee members

Priced £5.00 Adults

£2.50 Children 12 years or under

Free Children 5 years or under

Milton Damerel Social Committee

Chairman -	David Poole 01409 261282	Clerk - Elizabeth Ilett 01409 261440	
Charles Bellew	01409 261214	Christine Buckpitt 01409 261593	Mary Carter 01409 261248
Barbara Charles	01409 261306	Chris Cook 01409 261310	Sheila Daniels 01409 261466
Janet Elliott	01409 261422	Rose Haynes 01409 261577	Janey Kirby 01409 261314
Ann Poole	01409 261282	Lesley Self 01409 261294	Mr N Webber 01409 261365

**PARISH COUNCIL of
MILTON DAMEREL**

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

At

PARISH HALL

On

Thursday

27th June 2002

At

7.30 pm

**This is your chance, as a local government elector to speak
and vote on any matter of relevance to the Parish.**

We are pleased to have a speaker from the
Westcountry ambulance service first responders.

Refreshments will be provided.

THE PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO BE PRESENT.

Clerk – Elizabeth Ilett, Milton Mill Farm, Milton Damerel. Tel – 01409 261440.
E-mail Miltondamerel@freeuk.com

PARISH COUNCIL OF MILTON DAMEREL

Vacancy

for

Councillor

A vacancy has arisen for the position of Councillor in the Parish of Milton Damerel.

**Applications to fill this position are invited from any member of the Parish.
(If 10 electors do not come forward the vacancy will be filled through co-option)**

Please send your application to:-

Elizabeth Ilett

Clerk to Milton Damerel Parish Council

Milton Mill Farm

Milton Damerel

Holsworthy

EX22 7DN

For more information please contact Elizabeth Ilett on 01409 261440

Closing date for applications Friday 17th May 2002