

MILTON DAMEREL PARISH COUNCIL

Forthcoming meetings - Thursday 21st February
Thursday 21st March
Tuesday 23rd April

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EX22 7DN

Chairperson - Janet Elliott 01409 261422
Councillors Charles Bellew 01409 261214 David Poole 01409 261282
David Kirby 01409 261314 Philip Reed 01409 261213
Pauline Palmer 01409 261451 Rachel Watkins 01409 261242

I have recently taken over as clerk from Edna Mortimer and have been asked to provide a regular update for the newsletter on matters arising through the Parish Council that may be of interest to you. I thought I would start by giving you an insight into what we do and an update on some of our current projects.

The Parish Council meets once a month, currently at the Chapel Schoolrooms. Meeting notices and agenda items are displayed on the Parish hall, garage and chapel notice boards. Members of the public are always welcome to attend these meetings. The Parish hall and garage notice boards are also used to display Council and Government information, legal notices, forthcoming events, matters of interest and invites to events that allow you to have your say. Please take time to stop and look at these notices when you are passing, you never know there may be something of interest to you.

The meetings are used to discuss the matters arising throughout the month and to make comments and decisions where required. These meetings cover a wide range of topics including new government proposals, planning applications, financial matters, environmental issues and importantly items that you bring to our attention that may need addressing.

We also hold an Annual Parish meeting which we are currently planning for early May. This is your opportunity, as a local government elector, to speak and vote on any matter of relevance to the Parish. We will be inviting a speaker to this meeting, maybe you would like to hear from our local community policeman or is there another topic that interests you? Please ring me with your suggestions.

We are currently making provisions to build a bus shelter at Crossways. This is as a direct result of requests made by a number of you to provide shelter and protection for the children and other residents that wait there for the school and market bus service. Planning permission has now been granted and we hope that as soon as the weather allows building works will commence. It was also brought to our attention that the cherry tree at Venn Green had died and we would like to thank Mr and Mrs Wickett who kindly removed the tree and donated and planted a lilac in its place.

It has been suggested that Milton Damerel should have an event to commemorate the Queens Golden Jubilee. We have had suggestions for a tea party, a social or a bonfire and barbecue. This would be held between 1st/4th June. We would very much welcome your views, comments, suggestions and support. We would like to try and organise an event that everybody will enjoy so please give me a ring and let me know what you would like. Would you also like to have an annual village event, maybe a fete or a flower show, again we would welcome your comments on this?

Remember, we are here for you, what you say matters to us but we can't make a difference if we don't know what you want. Please feel free to contact us, attend our meetings and let us know what matters to you.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Liz Ilett

HOLSWORTHY MARKET AND COASTAL TOWNS INITIATIVE

Your views are needed on the future of Holsworthy and its surrounding area.

Come to the open meeting for your parish at

MILTON DAMEREL PARISH HALL

Tuesday 12th February

at 7.30pm

Also free fun day Saturday 16th March at

HOLSWORTHY MEMORIAL HALL

Patient Participation Group, Holsworthy

WORKING TOGETHER

The Patient Participation Group has now met on three occasions with representatives of the Holsworthy practice.

The N.H.S. Plan (July 2000) acknowledges that 'Patients are the most important people in the Health Service' - that means you. With this in mind, The Holsworthy Patient Participation Group represents a cross section of individuals who are patients at the Holsworthy practice. Their objective is to maintain a running dialogue with the G.P.'s, Manager and staff at the practice, but of course not dealing with matters of confidentiality.

A recent meeting raised the vexed question of waiting times for an appointment and the length of time kept waiting at the appointment. This continues to be addressed and moves are under way with the Practice Manager, Peter McLean, to improve this. We will keep you posted.

The planning for winter was another problem discussed, ensuring that sufficient attention was given to the possible increase in numbers during this time.

As the practice approaches an interesting time moving towards its new premises adjacent to Holsworthy Hospital, problems may arise which can be sorted out at an early stage. It was agreed that members of the Group should visit the site in the near future and the plans for the new centre in Dobles lane will be displayed in the present Health Centre reception for perusal by patients.

If you have a problem or anything constructive to put to the practice, the Group is here to give weight to your voice. Please let us know, then we can address it promptly.

The current group consists of:-

David Dyer (Chair)

Peter McLean (secretary) Practice Manager

Phil Hammans

Margaret Taylor

Arleen Gould

Sharon Baker

Stephanie Kempton

Veronica Chouffot

Ida Megson

Clive Cheesman

Kerry Baily

Dr. Alan Edwards

Letters can be addressed to any of the Group at the Health Centre.

We look Forward to your interest and observations.

David Dyer
Chair

HOLSMART PROJECT

Devon Young Farmers, together with Holsworthy Community College have started an exciting new project designed to benefit all people living in rural areas. Everywhere you look there is talk about computer training, but it isn't always at a time and place that is easy to get to, or the kind of training that people would like to have. We can address those problems by coming to you.

- Find out more information about your game or team
- Try digital photography
- Gain qualifications to help you improve your skills in your existing job or to help you get a new job
- Set up a cashbook, keep cattle records or check commodity prices around the country.
- It doesn't have to be all work – what about learning how to play games with the kids or a games club?
- Search the internet for good pubs, long walks, days out and holiday breaks
- Experiment with garden design
- Use a route planner to find the quickest ways around the country
- E-mail friends and family wherever they live
- There are good web sites for homework, weather, sport, origami...
- Free taster sessions – Becoming WebWise and Computers Don't Bite

Anyone can benefit from training in work or leisure pursuits in their local community using schools, village halls, barns or front rooms. Businesses can apply for most, or all, of the cost of training for themselves and their employees to be met by a grant (not Individual Learning Accounts!) – anyone who is in work can also apply. If you would like me to come and talk to you about the Holsmart Project and show people the computers they could use, then ring me (Zoe Winfield) on 01566 777516 or 07811 458469

QUIZ TIME

Complete the following monetary list

	£	s	d	
Boys name	1	0		Bob
Poorly sea creature				
Singer				
Girls name				
Royal Headdress				
Weight				
Pig				
Tradesman				
Means of Transport				
Pluto Mars Saturn				





YOUTH CLUB PROGRAMME

Friday 1st Feb 7pm
Swimming/Sports evening to be arranged
Parents needed with transport

Friday 22nd Feb 7pm in the school room
Cooking/Tortilla's
Main ingredients provided, bring a filling of your choice (savoury or sweet)

Friday 1st March
Karioke in the Schoolroom

Friday 22nd March 7pm till midnight at the Parish Hall
GREAT FAMILY SOCIAL, CELEBRATING OUR 10th ANNIVERSARY

Friday April 5th
Cinema trip of something suitable or Talent Show in Schoolroom

Friday April 19th 7pm
Glass Painting in Schoolroom

Friday 3rd May
Treasure Hunt & BBQ

Friday 17th May
Special Guests in the Schoolroom

Friday May 31st
Chip Shop Crawl and Beach Games
Parents needed with Driving

Milton Damerel Youth Club.

The youth club is a very nice place to go and chill with your mates and do cool things like beach parties and making your own cushions! You have to be over 9 to come along, you can even bring a friend, subs are 50p and you can buy drinks, crisps, sweets etc there !**(So says Jasmin Harper)**

Milton Sunday Club Programme

Sun Feb 3rd

Growing up, creative work (cartoons)
Bring along a baby photo of yourself

Sun Feb 10th

Love, remember what day it is on Feb 14th !
Make a box of sweets for someone special!
Thank god for love

Sun Feb 17th

Family service (short) hosted by Sunday Club
All families welcome, coffee/biscuits in schoolroom

Sun Feb 24th

The Bible, Design your Bible cover
will it be jazzy, snazzy or plain and simple?
Can you use your bible for sums?

Sun March 3rd

Water, with activities water and painting pictures
Jesus was baptised with water

Sun March 10th

Mothering Sunday
Crafts and flowers especially for Mum!

Sun March 17th

How did Jesus beat the devil?
Make a good and evil mask

Sun March 24th

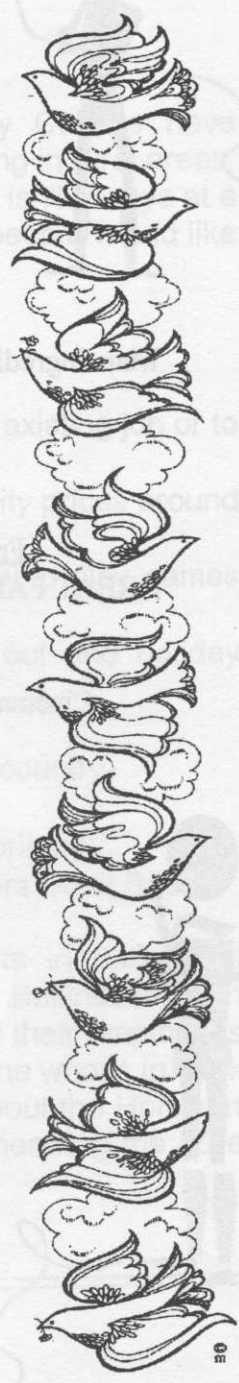
Palm Sunday
Crafts, drama, dance and songs
Celebrating this special day

Sun March 31st EASTER

With special cooking
Design front page of Easter Sunday Paper
Plus yummy eggs are sure to be found!

Sunday club meets on Sundays joining together with the Church Family in the Methodist Church at 11am or if you prefer come to the schoolroom at 11.20am. Finish time approx 12 o'clock. All ages 2-mid teens. Materials provided. Everyone welcome to just come along to any session!!

This year our special project is to make an on going scrap book of memories etc.



**MILTON DAMEREL METHODIST CHURCH
NEWSLETTER NUMBER TWENTY-ONE
NEW YEAR 2002**

A Happy New Year to You All

- May it be Peaceful and Full of God's Blessings



The Christmas Festivities seem a memory now but here are a few reminders.

On Sunday, 2nd December we celebrated the **CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY** – Reverend Pat Crow led the morning service and it was a delight to welcome him and Gillie back to Milton Damerel. In the evening we celebrated the **Advent/Christmas GOSPEL SPECIAL** – the guests for the evening were Gospel Ship from South Molton, and Cathy and David Ley from Langtree., and Brian Down chaired the programme. Gospel Ship brought a variety of Christian music and sings for Christmas, accompanied by accordion and electric guitar. Cathy Ley has a lovely soprano voice and David accompanied her.

Over the week-end of 7th – 9th December there was a **CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL** at Black Torrington Methodist Church. Themes, traditional, modern, challenging, simple and sophisticated. were on display, showing a tremendous amount of talent and innovation. If you did not go – you missed a treat!

On Sunday, 16th December the village young people (and their parents and helpers) presented a **NATIVITY PLAY**. The “stars” were too many to mention individually, but be assured their enthusiasm and performances were greatly appreciated as were the contributions of every-one who assisted .

Vacancy for a Church Secretary



Are you sympathetic to, and interested in the work of our Church? Do you enjoy attending meetings and recording the discussions? There are about four meetings each year and the minutes are typed up for circulation to the congregation. If you could be persuaded to assist with this important task, please contact Rev David Wheeler.

Thank you to the many contributors who ensure there are **floral arrangements** each week for our services. Such a variety of displays, colours and imagination greets us each week and are often inspirational, enhancing the chapel and meditation. Many thanks to Lilian Luxton for arranging the plan and ensuring we remember "our turn".

Chapel Flower Plan for the months of February and March 2002				
3 rd February	Mrs R Sharp	3 rd March	Mrs	D
10 th February	Mrs D Colwill	10 th March	Mrs	L
17 th February	Mrs P Overy	17 th March	Mrs	R
24 th February	Mrs J Carter	24 th March	Mrs	A

The next **Church Council Meeting** has been planned for Wednesday, 13th March 2002 at 7.30pm in the Schoolroom. Every-one interested in our activities and business of the church are most welcome to come along.

The **Youth Club** was initially started some 25 years ago; however, it stopped for a time before being re-started again 10 years ago. A family social evening is being planned for Friday, 22nd March 2002 in the Parish Hall to celebrate the last 10 years. All members of the Youth Club and their families, past and present, are invited. Please look out for details to be published nearer the time.

Insert Youth Club and Sunday Club programmes – if wished.

OUR REGULAR EVENTS – to which we extend a very warm welcome and invitation to every-one, who seeks friendship and fellowship, irrespective of denomination. Just come along to any of the meetings or if you would to know more or have an introduction, please contact any of the names below

	WORSHIP	SUNDAY CLUB	YOUTH CLUB	PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY
Held on	Sundays @ 11am	Sundays @ 11am	Alternate Fridays @ 7pm	Alternate Fridays @ 7.30pm
Where	In the Chapel	In the Schoolroom	Schoolroom (winter) Outdoor Activities & Visits (summer)	In the Schoolroom
Contact s	Marjorie Colwill (Tel No:	Sheila Daniel (Tel NO;	Sheila Daniel (Tel NO:	Marjorie Colwill (Tel No: 281214)

	281214) David Poole (Tel NO: 261282) Lillian Luxton (Tel No: 261355)	261466) Lillian Luxton (261355)	261466) Diane Daniel (Tel no: 01805- 601435)	Sheila Daniel (Tel NO; 261466)
More Info	Services are led by a variety of preachers and services. About once a month we have a service for all the family. The next one is on 18 th November – why not make it a diary date for all the family?	Lots of activities – singing, drama painting, cooking, banner-making. Summer outing and picnic lunch; party at Christmas	Games, activities, cooking, glass painting, outings, speakers, and for trips out – sports, barbecue, ten pin bowling, etc.	A short intro / reflection led by Rev David Wheeler; prayer time covering local, national and worldwide concerns and for our own community and individuals in our thoughts for whatever reason
Target age group	Every-one from birth to 100+	From 2 years upwards and any children visiting the area please come along as guests	Young people aged 9 years and over; subs charge of 30p. Refreshments on sale.	Any age ! Any denomination!

If you find the times of our activities and services inconvenient then you will be given a warm welcome at other gatherings within the Circuit

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.....”

“Praise God in all things”

Our Minister is Rev David Wheeler and he can be contacted on Tel. No: 281262. Roger Daniel (Tel: 261466) is our visitor – and would be pleased to call on any-one who is lonely or ill, or would just appreciate a visit. We are very fortunate to have our Rural Worker, Alan Andrew, who has been available to offer understanding, support and empathy to any-one in our communities within the area.. Alan can be contacted on telephone no: 281321 and will be pleased to hear from any-one still affected by the consequences of the Foot & Mouth crisis.

WHATEVER YOUR REQUIREMENTS PLEASE GIVE US A RING
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Sanders Families & Milton Damerel population data.

By Mr. G. Harris

PART TWO

Family No. 1

William and Martha are chosen because theirs was the family, which was outstanding in this study for its contribution to the peak numbers of the 1850's and 1860's. The couple first appear in Milton parish register in January 1813 when their daughter Harriet was baptised. Since neither of them appear in the PR before that date it is reasonable to assume that after getting married the couple moved to Milton where William, a farm labourer, was able to get cottage accommodation. The most likely scenario is that William & Martha were both 'in service – living in' and doing farm work but not necessarily on the same farm or even in the same parish, and marriage was the fast track to a home of one's own which probably goes a long way towards explaining the early age at which many youngsters married.

Other children followed Harriet, Maria 12/3/1815 – she lived only three years and did not feature in any census return; Francis 15/11/1818; Maria the second 28/10/1821; (it was quite usual to baptise a following son or daughter with the name of the child who died) John 24/3/1824; William 11/3/1827; Arscott 30/5/1830; George 26/5/1833; and Isaac 9/10/1836. Harriet appears to have married a sojourner, which means "a temporary resident in a parish". The reason for the use of the word is because following Hardwicke's Marriage Act 1754 the following heading appears in Milton Parish Register.

The Register of Banns and Marriages Published or Solemnized in the Parish of Milton Damerel in the County of Devon pursuant to the Form Prescribed by an Act of Parliament passed in the Twenty-sixth Year of King George 2nd titled an Act for the better Preventing of Clandestine* Marriages, (Royal Arms) London printed in the year MDCCLIV.

The first entry of 'sojourner' was of the marriage of Richard Pedlar, of Frithelstock, sojourner & Mary Sanders of this parish. Witnesses Samuel Sanders and William Littlejohns.

The next 's' entry was of April 21, 1777 Martin, William, sojourner, & Ann Trick both of the Chapelry of Cookbury ww William Norton Curate of Milton Damerel, Thomas Early.

A Marriage Act of 1823 declared clandestine marriages valid (that is those without banns or licence) but the officiating minister a felon.

So it would appear to be an instance of the minister being satisfied where the parties to the marriage were coming from, and becoming a temporary resident of the parish was an accepted address.

Francis Harris in March 1834 and we lose any trace of Francis but the remaining five boys married and stayed for some years in Milton working as farm labourers. John married Rebecca who was born in Sheepwash and they lived first at Lane End in the Gratton area and later at Venn Green Their family up to the 1860's was two daughters Mary-Ann and Elizabeth and a son William. Because they do not appear in the 1871 census it is assumed that the family moved to another parish. William married Betsy from Shebbear and together raised four children – John G. born in Shebbear and Mary J, William J and Susanna while William was farm labouring at No Place and at Walland. In 1871 a John Sanders was 'living in' at Ley Farm and the stated age makes it probable that he was William & Betsy's boy.

* dictionary says:- Concealed, usually for some secret or illicit purpose.

Family No 3
Arscott married Anne from Cookbury before 1861 and did farm work at Graddon, West Wonford and East Wonford. Their seven children, all born in Milton were, Maria, John, William, Betsy, Elizabeth, Margaret and Ann. John and Maria had left home before census day 1871 – it was not unusual in big families for the older children to have left home before the family was complete; in fact it is not exceptional to find children as young as twelve out in service. This family were not listed in 1881 census, but Arscott and Anne were back in the parish living at Merry Between in 1891 with only a four years old granddaughter. George was born in 1833 and was living-in at Walland in 1851 and before 1861 he had married Elizabeth, and was living at Mount Pleasant with three children Catherine, William J and John. By 1871 he was living and working at Gratton by which time the three children already named had left home and were replaced by five more- Frederick, Norman, Lucilia, Herby and Emily Lily Edwards.

At census day 1881 the family were living at Prospect and had six children at home – the two oldest boys William J. 25 and John 23, both listed farm labourers; Herby and Emily plus two born since 1871 Charlie 7 and Barney aged 3. The 1891 census shows George & Elizabeth, both now 57, at Prospect without any children. This couple reared ten children in twenty-four years and moved house at least three times.

Isaac, the last of William & Martha's sons was born in 1836 and was also a farm labourer. In 1851 Isaac was a farm servant living in at Milton Mill, by 1861, he had married Mary a Milton born girl who described her occupation as 'glover' (kid) and they had a son William 2 years old and a young lodger Lewis Sanders aged 7. their home was at Bridge Lane. In 1871 they are living at Whitebear with their four children, Johanes 9, Johan H 7, Ann 2 and Mary J aged 2 months without any mention of William who would be 12 years old. Isaac shows again in 1891, he is now a widower aged 52 living at High Bullied with his daughter Ann as his housekeeper and a one year grand-daughter Mary A.

Because no members of the family are listed in 1881 we can safely assume that the family is beyond the parish boundary.

D & I BRIDGMAN & SON

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Family No. 2

Emmanuel Sanders and his wife Elizabeth were both born in Cookbury parish. Emanuel, like several carrying the Sanders surname, was a carpenter who first practised his trade in this parish at Whitebear and appears to have made a few short moves because until 1821 he is a carpenter at Whitebear, in 1823 at Whitebear Cross, 1824 & 1826 as being at High Cross and subsequently at Shop where he employed two men.

Their family was made up of seven girls and four boys:- John 1811, Grace 1813, Maria 1815, Ann 1817, Bill Gilbert 1819, James 1821, Harriett 1823, Emanuel 1824, Elizabeth 1826, Louise 1827 and Lavinia 1830. Since we are concerned only with those carrying the Sanders surname it follows that our interest must follow the families of the sons however unfair that may seem by present day standards.

The first-born son John became a carpenter and married Maria Batten in 1833. Between 1833 and the end of 1837 when the available PR runs out they baptised three children: William whilst living at Horrels Ford: Joshua in June 1836 and Eliza in December 1837 when they were living at Merry Between – possibly in Maria's old home. From this date we lose them.

The next son was Bill Gilbert Sanders who figured often in all the parish records, particularly the census returns and the manor court records, and yet there is one unanswered query, as yet. Bill was born in Milton, married Mary a Milton born dressmaker, and who together raised ten children all born in Milton and yet he, his wife and the first few children are not listed in the 1851 Milton census. Was he temporarily working and living away from Milton or had he taken them to the Black Torrington Annual Village Feast on census day? Judging by the description he must have given himself to people printing parish Directories, census enumerators and others, he was carpenter, carpenter and wheelwright, blacksmith, machine maker, machinist, sieve maker and finally retired carpenter. It seems he was more extrovert than was the average craftsman. We can assume from all this that he was making early models of corn winnowing machines.

Bill and Mary's family were Elizabeth G 1845, Lucy 1848, William J 1849, Richard 1851, Selina 1853, Silas 1856, Seta G 1858, Samuel 1860, John 1862 and Blanche 1868. Of these children we can only find reference to one outside the family circle – Sebe (Seba) at 14 was "living in" at High Bullied in 1871 with James Fishleigh. In 1881 William J 30, a farm labourer, and Blanche, 13 were at home. By 1891 Bill 70 and Mary 69 had retired and were living at Rose Cottage with their daughter Blanche 21 and her husband Charles W. Cory, butcher and farmer.

Following Bill Gilbert was James 1821 and of his life in Milton there is an element of doubt because the enumerator appears to have had reasons to alter the census listing by altering the marriage status of two people. As Newbuildings, which in this 1851 census is listed after Parsonage Hill and before Lodge, lives William Blight, aged 50 head of the family, an agricultural labourer and married to Grace aged 60. The following entries read Elizabeth Sanders daughter aged 24 and married: John Sanders, nephew, 2 months of age followed by James Sanders lodger, married, aged 29, to a blacksmith. The heavy pen mark seems to couple Elizabeth and James and by altering the relationship of the couple to the head of the house to raise doubts as to their status. Suffice it to say that the age given is about right for James, son of Emanuel and Elizabeth, and he does not appear in any later census.

The last of their sons was Emanuel 1824 whose name does not appear again in records examined to date.

In 1851 Emanuel 66 and Elizabeth 68 are still living at Shop, where Emanuel is still employing two men. Their family have all gone and living with them is a twelve years old grand daughter, Eliza Piper.

Family No.3

This Sanders family have been parishioners of Milton Damerel since about 1846 when William, a carpenter born in Buckland Brewer, married Maria from Newton St. Petrock and came to Milton to live at Prospect. In 1851 his age given on the census is recorded as 50 and Maria's as 30. They have two daughters – Harriett aged 4 and Betsy just three weeks old.

The ten years to 1861 have brought some changes; the family now live at Parsonage Lodge with three more children William 7, Brient 5 and Robert 1 year old. William now gives his age as 50 and Maria is 40.

By 1871 the family have moved to Horrels' Ford; William is still 50 years old and Maria's is given as 46. Harriet, Betsy and Bryant are no longer at home – Bryant is a miller's servant at Milton Mill with Francis Beare, the miller there. William, junior, is a carpenter; Robert at 11 years old is a scholar and the single addition to the family in the past decade. Mary M is 7. 1881 shows the family still at Horrel's Ford and fewer in number-first Maria 58 now a widow with her two wheelwright sons, Bryant 24, and Robert 20. The 1891 census discloses that Maria at 69 is still with the family at Horrels'Ford but that the family now is composed of Bryant 34, his wife Eliza 35, who was born in 'Coford' (could that be Coleford near Crediton?) and three children Emily 5, Harriet 2 and William just eight months and all three, as may be expected, born in Milton.

It was almost thirty years before I came onto the scene and still more years before my memory recorded the contemporary state of affairs. By that time Emily had married William Luxton and their family have farmed Venn these many years since. Harriet, I believe, married Albert Slade who farmed at Walland, and William had married Carrie Davey. The Great War was over and there had been big changes. William Sanders was now a farmer and a merchant or, more precisely, a merchant's agent. All the parish directories, surprisingly to me, always listed WS as a farmer. When my father needed timber or other building materials it usually meant a visit to Horrel's Ford and if he wanted lime to put on the land Wm.Sanders arranged the delivery, which prompts me to recall two vivid childhood memories. A lime delivery had been arranged and soon after a 'steam lorry', a new Sentinel I believe, owned by the Devon Trading Company arrived with several tons of bagged lime to be off-loaded. That was some lorry then. The other occasion was a visit to Horrels Ford and after the business was done W.S. suggested a visit to a field not far off where he showed us a very early tractor – I believe it was a Titan made by The International Harvester Company in the U.S.A., a number of which were sent to the UK to help with food production during the war. Another feature of Horrels Ford in those days and for a long time earlier, was a waterwheel driven sawmill, a valued piece of equipment compared to two men and sawpit. Unfortunately the water storage – the mill pond – was not adequate for long runs of sawing as the supply was only that amount of water which came from springs up at Worden Farm which before coming to the sawmill watered the Rectory fish pond. Readers will recall the changes at Horrels Ford since whose days and culminating in the important business it is today centred around the motor car.

CONGRATULATIONS !!!

ROY PALMER, celebrates his 60th BIRTHDAY

On 12 February 2002.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ROY

Family No.4

Our fourth and last is of the family of Frederick George Perkins Sanders who was one of our Parish Councillors in 1900. This study shows him to be a second generation tailor whose antecedents were farming Higher Grawley in the 1700's. The story which evolves demonstrates some movement away from farming in some families, even that long ago. Records mostly reveal who was with whom, and where, and what family followed; it is but a glimpse at their lives and there were many who went through life with very little recorded information for us to ponder over.

Samuel Sanders and Grace farmed at Higher Grawley when their son William, their only child in the P.R., was baptised on 30 July 1775. We find him again nineteen years later when he married Rebecca Mouncey 'spinster of this parish'. William was described as a 'husbandman' and I guess that the farmer's son was working at home because in the early 1800's he was accorded the style of 'yeoman' and 'farmer', on different occasions. He may have been the only, or last, child of Samuel & Grace but he and Rebecca raised a larger family, nine were baptised but three did not survive many years. Their first born, Samuel was buried at a little more than six months. The second, John 30/6/1796, among a number of Johns is difficult to identify with certainty. The third was baptised Samuel – a common practice to give a new baby the name of one previously lost- but his life was quite short – he was buried when he was seven years old. Grace 26/2/1804 probably married Richard Squire on 17/2/1827. Two years later George, the widower, married Jane Bale, both being of this parish. There followed four children, John 1830, Mary 1832, who died when she was 2 years old, George 1834 and William 1836.

During this period father George was farm labouring at Gitcott Down, Old House, and West Bridge.

Samuel 3rd was baptised on 24/2/1811, became a carpenter and married Susan from another parish some time before May 1827 when they had a baby girl baptised Susan at which time they were living at Shop. Because there are no further entries in the P.R. they may have moved away from Milton.

Thomas was the next but it is best to leave him until last because of his relationship with Frederick George and there were two sons born after him; James 1816, listed another carpenter, who married Mary Blight. They had two daughters baptised while living at Venn Green; Mary in 1832 and Rosamund in 1834. The last of the children of William & Rebecca was baptised Josiah on 14/2/1821 but it would seem did not survive childbirth because he was buried three days later.

So now to Thomas, the father of our Parish Councillor, who was baptised in 1814 when his family were still farming Higher Grawley. The next entry in the P.R. relating to him came on 23/3/1837 when he married Mary-Ann Perkins; two years older than he was and herself the eldest child of a family of ten, eight girls and two boys, the children of George and Grace Perkins farming at Gratton. It is most unlikely that Thomas was away from Milton all those years but probably long enough to learn the trade and craft of tailoring. In the tithe schedule of 1840 Thomas Sanders is listed a tenant of Earl Stanhope in a property at Gratton occupying less than a quarter of an acre and so free of any tithe rent charge. The source to which we can look for progress has to be the census returns taken every ten years and that of 1851 lists Thomas and Mary-Ann still at Gratton with four children: Lucilla, a scholar of 12, Selina 5, William 3 and Frederick George Perkins just two months.

Ten years on, 1861, Thomas & Mary-Ann were still at Gratton and listed as 'Tailor and Draper'. Lucilla's surname was now Cory and on census day she was at home with her 1 year old son, Frederick William C. Selina has left home and William was listed a tailor obviously working with father, F.G.P. now 10, was a scholar.

In 1871 Thomas & Mary-Ann were still at Gratton and the only one with them was F.G.P. 20, a tailor.

The 1881 census shows us that at 65 & 66 years of age Thomas and Mary-Ann were still working. Thomas listing himself as 'tailor and draper' and Mary-Ann as a 'draper'. Frederick George has married a Milton born girl; they were living at Grawley with three children, William 4 years, Frederick T. 2 years and Ethelred J.F. 10 months. F.G.P.S. is by trade a tailor and was appointed the census enumerator for Milton Damerel.

Before the census was taken in 1891 F.G.P.S and Mary had added four more children to the family; they were Edgar 9, Selina M.F. 7, Elsie F 4, and George V. 1 years old. F.G.P. was the census enumerator for 1891 and listed himself 'Outfitter and Registrar of Births & Deaths' and that he was an employer. The family were living at Tor View, Venn Green. I remember the late Cyril Heard telling me that 'Tailor Johns' lived at Tor View and learnt his trade from F.G.P.S.

Thomas & Mary-Ann still lived at Gratton – still tailor and draper.

An interesting query arises from 1891 census in that it records a George F. Sanders farming Higher Grawley. He was 41, (was) married to Mary A 36, both born in Milton with five children from 13 down to 2 years. The first child was born in Bulkworthy, the next two in Buckland Brewer and the last two in Milton Damerel, so realistically the records should help to place them viz a viz the family at Tor View, but more time is needed.

There must be many living in this parish who remember Ethelred J.F., better known to most people as Effie, and Mary his wife, and their daughter Gwen.

At the end of this kind of study there may be a few conclusions worth recording or there may be unanswered questions. One obvious question is in a parish in which the population almost doubles in forty years, who or what was providing work for a greatly increased number of people of working age? The only 'outside' work was 'gloving' but in most instances this was wives working to supplement very low wages.

It is likely that because of the Napoleonic Wars 1792-1813 food production was temporarily very important over a period of three or more decades and prosperity nearly always leads to increased production. Because this was well before any farm mechanisation became a factor there would have been many extra people working on farms in Milton Damerel. Perhaps this explains to some extent the intake from nearby parishes of more craftsmen e.g. the two unrelated families of carpenters called Sanders. In those days farmers, as well as farm labourers, were fairly mobile because farmers were nearly all tenants but of course for every farmer who moved out of Milton another came in, or a farmers' son took the tenancy. The exception to this last statement occurs late in the century and arises because the tithe schedule of 1840 lists around 86 agricultural holdings, 56 of which are below 40 acres. No comparable listing has been examined for fifty years later but it would be surprising if the 56 had not diminished – perhaps by as much as a half.

The 1830's and 1840's saw farming in a depressed state so it is most unlikely that the available farm work would have increased, but because oxen were being replaced by draught horses during this time the services of carpenters, wheelwrights & blacksmiths would have been in demand making the different equipment needed. The population graph of the parish might have shown a straight line increase to peak a few years earlier had there been a census taken earlier than 1841 which would have coincided more nearly with the agricultural depression.

Farming enjoyed better times in the third quarter of the century, sometimes described as the loss of work available in the countryside. It also supports the view that young craftsmen probably migrated to manufacturing industries in towns while farmers and farm workers with their families formed the majority who sought a better life by emigrating to distant fields, often thousands of miles away.

The size of families – all the Sanders families together did not decline – it even marginally increased but there were many fewer young people of the age group to create families. The question is 'where did they all go'? the golden years of farming, but serious difficulties again beset the industry in the late 1870's and lasted beyond the end of the century. The evidence from the Sanders group seems to support this view because the fall off of their numbers did not occur until the 1870's when it became steeper than the population decline and would explain or point to.

PRESS RELEASE

FROM: HOLSWORTHY MARKET AND COASTAL TOWN INITIATIVE STEERING GROUP

Up, up and away !

'Reach for the stars' is the theme of the Holsworthy Market and Coastal Towns Initiative Community Consultation launched on 21 January with a questionnaire to all households in 27 parishes in and around Holsworthy.

David Smith, chair of the Initiative's Steering Group said:

'The object of the exercise is to find out what residents really feel would improve their quality of life, concerning transport, sports facilities, shopping, the future of the market, employment, education or anything else. Nothing is ruled out and nothing ruled in.'

There is also a Fun Day in Holsworthy Memorial Hall on Saturday 16 March where people can meet some of the groups working on projects in the area and have yet another opportunity to put forward their views.

Keith Brown, working for the CCD and supporting the group said:

'This is a real opportunity for Holsworthy and the surrounding parishes to have their say. We would like everyone to take ownership of this project, whether young or old.

The Market and Coastal Towns Initiative is not just about one or two large projects but a unique opportunity to use the information from the questionnaire, Fun Day, and parish meetings to explore other funding for existing or new community projects. Enthusiasm is growing and I, like all the committee, am looking forward to meeting as many people as possible on the Fun Day, answering any questions or giving advice.'

TAG 21, a Bideford based community development group are conducting the consultation on behalf of the MCTI. Caroline Walker, their project worker said:

'We want this to be as thorough and wide-ranging a consultation as possible, so that future planning is the result of real community participation, and leads to a sustainable future for the unique market town of Holsworthy and its villages.'

The business sector and farming community are drafting their own surveys for their members and TAG 21 are engaging with the schools.

Keith Brown (Community Action for Rural Devon) can be contacted on 01237 429092 if you require any information on Market and Coastal towns or support for community projects.

Other contacts: Holsworthy Town council 01409 233336

TAG 21 : 01237 477833

Grateful thanks to all sponsors who have made this publication possible, for all donations and help with distribution. This newsletter will reach 180 homes from Woodford Bridge to Holsworthy Beacon including Abbots Bickington

It pays to advertise, to place your ad. please contact either Sarah Harper, The Crossways, Milton Damerel on 261473 or Edna Mortimer, Mount Pleasant, Milton Damerel on 261433

Mr Clarence Walter Johns

January 2002 saw the peaceful passing of Clarence Walter Johns who would have been 90 in May. He was born at Tor View, Venn Green. His father built East View, Venn Green which became the family home and from which they ran the Post Office. Mr Johns attended to Milton School and left at the tender age of 14 to work on his fathers small holding with his brother. He then got a job at Parson's Garage, Holsworthy as a coach driver, there he worked for 37 years until being made redundant. Within a very short time Mr Johns had a job with Guscotts of Halwill. In his time he had been known to drive most things including the Hearse, meat lorry and local Taxi.

Whilst buying fish & chips, one day, from Carthews Corner Café (now Cousins of Holsworthy) Mr Johns met Miss Thelma Edwards. They married and had one Daughter Celia, who gave them two Granddaughters, Hayley & Laura. It would have been Mr & Mrs Johns 56th Wedding Anniversary on February 18th 2002.

Mr Johns loved the countryside and his garden. In his old age we would often see him 'Checking the River' at Strawberry Bank on one of his walks. Sometimes he would take a rest, leaning against a convenient wall or hedge, and talk to us always having something pleasant to say, if you asked him how he was he would say 'Mustn't complain, I have had a good life'.

Since the last newsletter we have witnessed the passing of other members of our community.

Mrs. S. Eastcott, formerly of Waldon Farm, Mr. L. Phillips and Mrs. Hancock who both lived in houses at Fore Street for many years before moving out of the parish and more recently Mr. C. Gilbert of Gidcott.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE BIRTH OF YOUR NEW BABY



**ANDREW & KAREN
PALMER**

PROUDLY ANNOUNCE
THE BIRTH OF THEIR
SON TOMMY ROY
BORN 26TH JANUARY
2002

A NEW BROTHER FOR
HARRISON AND
WELCOME ADDITION TO
THE PALMER FAMILY

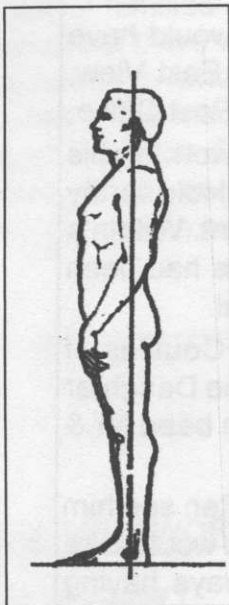
BABY TIA

**BORN TO THE
HARRIS FAMILY**

of

ROSEMEAD

Have you got aches and pains you would rather not have?



Are you sitting comfortably? How about standing or walking?

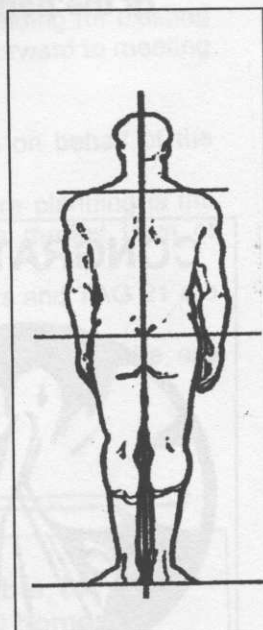
Our bodies are subjected to stresses and strains on a daily basis – slumped in chairs, hunched over computers, awkward and demanding work, gardening, lifting etc. The cumulative effect of this can often result in problems such as back pain, sciatica, shoulder problems, knee and hip pain, stiffness, headaches, fatigue and so on.

I use a combination of gentle and non-manipulative techniques to help posture and related problems.

The cornerstone of my work is Spinal Touch. This little known, but extremely effective, therapy was developed by an English engineer called John Hurly in the early 1900s. Having observed the effects of badly distributed gravity on his building, he turned his attention to the human body. He noticed that pain and sickness often accompanied a distorted posture – hunched shoulders, neck and head forwards, hollow chest, twisted pelvis, sway back etc. Spinal Touch aims to realign the 'centre of gravity'. After assessing and measuring the posture using a footboard and plumb line, specific massage is used to correct muscle tension and distortion. The aim is to realign the spine by improving muscle symmetry, bringing the bones into their optimum position and thereby relieving pressure on joints, nerves and organs. Joints are not manipulated during treatment. Once the muscles have corrected the bones will automatically follow.

Now that the body is more 'centred', I can use one of the other therapies I have learned. Maybe remedial massage or some of the advanced techniques for specific trouble spots, or perhaps aromatherapy – the use of pure essential plant oils with their wonderful fragrance properties will help. I did my training with the renowned Tisserand Institute in 1989 and it is satisfying to see how the profile of this treatment has risen over the years. Of all the complimentary therapies, it is the one that is most widely used in hospitals and nursing homes. Remember, the quality of oils is crucial to good results. It must be one of the most relaxing and enjoyable of all therapies!

As for me, I came to North Devon nearly thirty years ago, then in my late teens. I married and with my husband have brought up four children. After the youngest, was settled in the village school, I began training in complimentary therapies and have over twelve years qualified experience. We have a treatment room at home in our old farmhouse and find this quite an advantage if flexible appointment times are necessary.



For more information and appointments,
Please call LYNNE KIDSTONE on 01237 451475

**SOME FAVOURITE THOUGHTS from Valerie Goodwin of
Heddon Moor**



What is this life?
If full of care
We have no time to stand and stare
No time to stand beneath the boughs
And stare as long as sheep or cows
No time to see in broad day light
Streams full of stars
Like skies at night
No time to see in broad day light
Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass
What is this life if full of care
We have no time to stand and stare
- John Clare

Take time to stand and stare
And enrich your souls
- VG

In my garden
Grow many flowers
Yet I often pass them by
But these small miracles of perfection
Should receive thunderous applause
And praise to Gods glory
- VG

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Valerie Goodwin 01409 261624

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QUIZ TIME ANSWERS

Complete the following monetary list

	£	s	d	
Boys name	1	0		Bob
Poorly sea creature	6	0	0	Sick Squid
Singer	10	0	0	Tenor
Girls name		1		Penny
Royal Headdress		5	0	Crown
Weight	1	0	0	Pound
Pig	1	1	0	Guinea Pig
Tradesman		6		Tanner
Means of Transport		1	1/4	Penny Farthing
Pluto Mars Saturn		0	3/4	Three Far things

CLASSIFIEDS

Fold up Guest Bed with
wood effect top
Good clean condition
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Homeworthy half glazed
doors
47"h x 32"w x 13.5" deep
£15.00

To view either of these
items please telephone
01409 261605

SPONSORED KNIT



Join us on Monday 25th February 2002 at Tor View, Venn Green – by kind invitation of Lesley Self to the annual sponsored knit-in on behalf of North Devon Hospice. Needles poised for action at 2 p.m., cast on 20 stitches in double knit and size 8 (4mm) needles then knit as much as you can in 2 hours or less - if time is short.

Refreshments and friendly company provided.

Sponsor forms available from Edna on 261433

Fun group

Calling all over 50's !! Come and have a go

Archery, Bowls, Skittles, etc.

All at Lyne Akres, Dunsland X

This is a friendly sport club for anyone over 50 where you can
meet new people, have a great time

Everyone welcome 2.30 pm Every Friday for £1.00

For more information telephone Phyllis on 01409 253248