

December 2007 26th Edition

Christmas Edition

Wishing all our readers a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

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Milton Damerel Parish Council

Parish Clerk Mrs Roberta Jackson Tel 01409 261196

Westfields, Venn Green E-mail miltondamerelpc@hotmail.co.uk

Milton Damerel, EX22 7NP

Councillors Gareth Piper (Chairman) 07966558385

Grace Millman (Vice Chairman) 01409 261251

Rose Haynes 01409 261577 Michael Kirby 01409 261440 Edgar Pett 01409 261277 Richard Piper 01409 261114

John Webb 01409 261301

Since the last newsletter report was written there have been three regular monthly meetings, August, September and October.

Planning matters considered during this period included the landscaping scheme for the Town Farm development and extension of the previously agreed access at the eastern edge of the site. Revised designs both for West Wonford and sites 3 & 4 on land west of Town Farm have been considered. An application from Springfield was received and Horrells Ford garage applied for a pole mounted display unit. Wonford Park Farm resubmitted their application for a Certificate of Lawful Development.

The Parish Council annual return of accounts has been approved in accordance with Audit Commission requirements. The audited return was displayed for the required two weeks on both the Parish notice boards during September and October.

At the next Parish Council meeting on 21st November the budget for 2008-2009 will be considered and the annual Parish precept will be applied for. This is the money used to administer the Parish Council and also provide grant aid to local organisations. The money is collected in council tax by the District Council and is paid to the Parish Council in two halves during April and September. The precept for 2007-2008 was £1700 which amounted to approximately £9.84 for a band D equivalent property.

From time to time Parish Councillors receive comments from members of the community relating to matters of concern to them. It is the Parish Councils duty and responsibility to act on these comments and make further enquires as appropriate. These matters can include problems with Highways and verges, speed limits, footpaths, fly tipping, misuse of the recycling pavilions and development matters. Recently the Parish Council have made representations to the planning department, supported by our Waldon Ward Councillor Robert Hicks, regarding the possible retention of the pavement on the south and west sides of the Town Farm development.

During the winter months, until March, the regular Parish Council meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of the month except December when it is hoped that no meeting need be held. Members of the public and press are always welcome to attend.

Roberta Jackson

Parish Clerk

The Chairman & Councillors wish all parishioners a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year!

From Torridge District Council

Keeping Warm & Cosy

We are enclosing in your newsletter a leaflet which offers extensive advice and contact points for "saving money on your fuel bill and make your home warm and cosy!", which we hope you will find helpful.



CONGRATULATIONS!

To

Norman Webber of Whitebear Cottage, who celebrates his 80th birthday on 3rd February 2008 **Putford W I** celebrating their 80th Anniversary on 23rd November.

Barbara Charles of Buttermoor who celebrates her 80th birthday in January.



GOOD-BYE & WELCOME

A warm welcome to:

Tim & Anne Hawkes who are moving into Emerald House (previously, Kittabear) *Dennis & Liz Ventham* who have moved into Treetops, at Holsworthy Beacon

Trevor & Jen Hirst who have moved in to The Spinney, at Holsworthy Beacon



CONDOLENCES

Sympathies to all who have been bereaved recently, including:

John & Shirley Webb, on the loss of John's sister, Sheila, who lived at 5, Downs View, Venn Green



THANK-YOU

Peter and Lesley Self of Tor View, Venn Green, would like to say thank you to everyone who sent their best wishes for our 40th Wedding Anniversary, we had a very enjoyable and pleasant week-end.

D & I BRIDGMAN & SON NEWTON St. PETROCK

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Youth & Family News

Monster Club

Our first meeting after the summer holidays was spent harvesting the monster garden. All monster club members took a box of produce home with them and we even had enough veg left over for the Harvest Festival. (These were sold during the auction and £4.70 raised for Monster Club funds.)

We dug the garden over and planted some bulbs, which should brighten things up in the spring.

Thanks to everyone who helped keep the garden looking good over the summer and making it such a success.

We also had a trip to the Big Sheep for Halloween. There was a haunted house, a ghostly train ride and plenty of other scary activities to keep us busy. I WOULD LIKE TO SAY A BIG THANK YOU TO TINA, DONNA, NICKY AND SUZANNE, who drove and supervised the children. We couldn't have done it without you.

DATES FOR MONSTER CLUB AND OTHER EVENTS

Friday, 7th December Christmas Tree Festival @ Putford at 5pm
Friday, 21st December Christingle @ Milton Chapel at 5pm
Saturday, 5th January New Year Party with Kelvin Issacs @ Milton
School room at 3.30pm till 5.30pm

We will send out more details as we get them!



Youth Worker Update

The project is well into its second year and we're starting to know what we're doing! This past year the project has been involved in setting up youth clubs, supporting existing youth clubs, taking part in church services, organising larger events and taking part in local youth camps over the summer. Along with all this the project set up the mobile youth centre which we took out to Shebbear, Sheepwash and Black Torrington over the summer to give young people some thing to do during the long summer days. These have all been exciting ventures all with their individual ups and downs.

More recently, things have quietened down, and we have spent a lot of time reflecting on this past year's successes and failures. This next year, should see much of the same, but better! The project will continue to provide support and resources to local youth clubs as well as helping local groups start up new youth clubs. We will also be continuing with the Mobile youth centre, although this will be later on in the Spring. The project is already involved in planning many summer activities such as youth camps and is looking to run a holiday club during October half term (2008) for younger children.

There is plenty to look forward to, and plenty of ways for everyone to get involved in youth work, either with the project, or on a more local level in Milton Damerel. Thank you to all of you who are already supporting the project and are involved in any form of youth work. If you would like any further information about the work of the project or what opportunities or support is available to young people in the area please do contact me.

Lizz Prangle
Shebbear Ecumenical Youth Project
Shebbearyouth@btinternet.com
Tel. 0560 2521090



DECEMBER 2007



Sunnyside Garden Maintenance

Northtown Farm, Milton Damerel, Holsworthy, EX22 7DN

All aspects of garden maintenance undertaken including

Grass Mowing - Strimming - Hedge Cutting Rotovating - Weed clearance

Whether you need the garden clearing or regular visits at intervals to suit yourself then we can offer you the service you want

Need help to improve the appearance of your garden or ideas to make labour saving alterations then ring us for truly professional advice

Tel/Fax No. 01409 261742 e-mail sunny@maint.wanadoo.co.uk



ALPHA begins!

Nearly thirty people came to the first meeting of the ALPHA course which started at Milton Damerel on Monday November 12th starting with a delicious hot supper which allows people to sit and chat over a good meal. This was followed by a talk and then we broke into discussion groups to talk over our thoughts on the talk and anything else that arose. It was difficult to stop at nine p.m. and we look forward to the next session at Newton St, Petrock on Monday 19th.

It won't be too late to join us in the next week or two so if you feel like exploring a little more about the Christian faith in a relaxed setting then please do come!

The dates and venues are as follows:

Monday 19th November 6.30 p.m. @ Newton St. Petrock Social Hall

Monday 26th November 7.00 p.m @ Putford Methodist Hall

Monday 3rd December 6.30 p.m @ Newton St Petrock Community Hall

Monday 10th December 7.00 p.m @ Milton Damerel Parish Hall

All the evenings start at 7.00 p.m. for the meal, except for Monday 19th November.

ALPHA is for everyone and anyone, whether you attend church or not. It is an opportunity to ask those questions about the meaning of life and how we live it.

The ALPHA team

A CELTIC PRAYER

Deep peace of the running water to you

Deep peace of the flowing air to you

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you

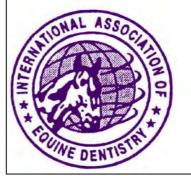
Deep peace of the shining stars to you

Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you

Anon

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BILL LOMAS, Eq. Dt. Member A.E.D.E., IAED

Tel: 01409 261551 Mob: 07702 665442

email: BillLomaseqdt@aol.com

MILTON DAMEREL NEWSLETTER

Chapel News – December 2007 Newsletter Number Forty-Three

We extend a very warm welcome and invitation to any-one wishing to come along to our regular services/meetings/clubs. Just come along to any events/clubs you see advertised, or if you would want to know more or have an introduction, please contact any of the leaders.

HARVEST FESTIVAL WEEK-END – We are very grateful for all the support received for the Harvest Festival week-end, from which £569 was raised for our property fund.

There were several visiting the Chapel on the Friday, bringing the gifts of flowers, fruit and produce, and making some splendid displays with their gifts in the windows and at the front of the chapel. The Sunday Club had compiled a display about God's World and Harvest, which was positioned in the choir area. The Sunday morning celebration was led by Rev John Carne, the Chairman of our Plymouth and Exeter Methodist District. He was assisted by the young people singing and sharing prayers they had written, and by two adult readers, Roger Daniel and Jeremy Sharp. His theme for the sermon was about vineyards, and good and bad fruit.

Following the service we gathered in the graveyard, with members of Stephen Poole's family, for a short dedication by Rev John Carne, of the seat purchased in his memory. It is a splendid carved seat, located at the east end of the site, by the new copper beech tree, and we are grateful to Richard Poole and friend for laying the concrete plinth and setting the seat in place.

On the Monday evening, a "comfortable" number came to share in the "bring and share" buffet tea/supper, and as always a wonderful range of savouries and desserts. Rev David Wheeler led our thoughts for a short thanksgiving and then Peter Palmer, of Kivells, auctioned the gifts, including pumpkins and other vegetables from the garden, which were sold on behalf of the Monster Club. And then, of course, there was plenty of food left for another cuppa and more eats! Thank you to everyone for all your support and to those, unable to be present, who sent donations.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB UPDATE - This now meets on the 3rd Monday afternoon of the month and on the 3rd month a coffee morning held on the last Saturday, instead of the usual meeting.

The recent coffee morning, held in the Schoolroom, raised £65.35 for the local Ecumenical Youth Worker Project, towards the running costs of the Mobile Unit. A big thank-you to those, who made the effort to come along. Thanks also for the donation of glass and china items for the stall, which were very popular and sold well. The next Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday, 29th March 2008, once again proceeds will be for a good cause or charity, so please come along and support us!

Members of the Friendship Club met together in the October for the last club of this year. We made a tree for the annual Christmas Tree festival and enjoyed sharing some childhood memories. Times of past ice and snow seemed to stick in everyone's minds, particularly the winters of 1947 and the freeze up of 1963, when snow lay in gutters on Dartmoor until June. One member could remember a particular day in 1947 when the last bus to get out of Exeter left at 2.30pm, roads on Thornehillhead Moor were completely blocked in March and freezing rain broke down telegraph poles and trees with the weight. Other memories were of being warned during war time that newcomers to the village might be German spies! Another could remember planting a conker as a child and digging it up several days following to see if it had grown! Generally people felt communities were much stronger with more relatives living near and that folk who were ill or frail would be looked after more in their own homes.

No meetings in December or January, but Club will start again on Monday, 11th February 2008

SUNDAY CLUB & FAMILY SERVICES

Sunday Club meets on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays of each month and Family Services are held on the 4th/last Sunday

Sunday, 25th November Mrs Gill Daniel from North Tamerton Sunday, 30th December Mrs Rachel Parsons from Tresmeer Sunday, 27th January Rev David Wheeler, our minister Sunday, 24th February Mr Peter Parsons, from Tresmeer

PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY - Normally meets every Monday evening at 7.30pm in the Schoolroom, however from 12th November until 4th February 2008, our Monday evenings will be devoted to the Alpha Course, (please see separate article for details.)



CHAPEL FLOWER PLAN FOR THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER TO FEBRUARY

| DEC | | JAN | | FEB | |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| 2 nd | Mrs Valerie Carter | 6 th | Circuit Covenant Service | 3 rd | Mrs Margaret Fishleigh |
| 9 th | Mrs Tracey Dunmore | 13 th | Mrs Gladys Palmer | 10 th | Mrs Marjorie Colwill |
| 16 th | Mrs Petula Sanders | 20 th | Mrs Grace Millman | 17 th | Mrs Phoebe Overy |
| 23 rd | Christmas Flowers | 27 th | Mrs Joanne Carter | 24 th | Mrs Valerie Harris |
| 30 th | Mrs Eunice Hearn | | | | |

CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE – At our October meeting we received and approved the financial statements for the year ending 31st August 2007. An interim report back about the schoolroom roof advised that major repair or replacement is required and more quotations are needed. The timber areas of the chapel had been treated for woodworm infestation and the volunteers who made the chapel ready for the workman, taking up carpets, etc., cleaning up and polishing afterwards, and re-laying the carpet, etc. were thanked for their efforts.

We looked at the responses received to the idea of a crèche area in the chapel, to provide an area for the young people should it not be possible to hold Sunday Club, for example, if Sheila was unable to be there. We concluded not to proceed with this at this time, but to seek volunteers to assist with Sunday Club – any-one able to assist is encouraged to talk with Sheila or one of the stewards.

FUTURE EVENTS:

All of these events are open to every-one – please feel free to come along to any of them

Sunday, 2nd December 2007 - GOSPEL SPECIAL

with the Stowford Meadow Singers, and Mr Courtney Drew, at 7.30pm

Friday to Monday, 7th – 10th December 2007 – CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL at Putford Methodist Church
Please see separate advert.

Sunday, 16th December 2007 – UNITED PARISH CAROL SERVICE

with Mr David Ley at 11am

Please note: The Parish Church have requested the Chapel to host

the service this year.

Friday, 21st December 2007 – CHRISTINGLE – for families and young people, from 5 – 6.30pm

Please see Youth News for details

Tuesday, 25th December 2007 – CHRISTMAS MORNING FAMILY SERVICE at Lake Methodist Church, (Shebbear), at 10.30am. All welcome.

 $\textbf{Monday, 31}^{\text{st}} \ \textbf{December 2007 - WATCHNIGHT SERVICE} \ \text{at Sheepwash Baptist Chapel at } 11.30 \text{pm}$

Saturday, 5th January 2008 – CHILDREN'S PARTY in Schoolroom from 3.30 – 5.30pm (see Youth News)

Sunday, 6th January 2008 - ANNUAL (CIRCUIT) COVENANT SERVICE at Bradford Village Hall at 11am

Friday, 7th March 2008 – WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER at Newton St Petrock at 2pm

Sunday, 23rd March 2008 – EASTER DAY GOSPEL SPECIAL at 7.30pm

Saturday, 29th March 2008 – COFFEE MORNING at 10.30am

For further information or help please contact: Rev David Wheeler, our Minister on Tel: 281262 (or via the stewards). Alan Andrew, Rural Lay Worker, Tel: 281321 Lizz Prangle, Ecumenical Youth Worker, Tel: 05602521090 Our Stewards: Marjorie Colwill (Tel: 281214); Sheila Daniel (Tel: 261466); Lillian Luxton (Tel: 261355)

Holy Trinity Parish Church, Milton Damerel

Rector: Father Michael Reynolds

Tel: 01409 253435

Services: Holy Communion taken by Father Reynolds on 4th Sunday every month at 11.30am

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Carol Singing, Mince Pies

&

Mulled Wine

at the Green,
Woodacott, Thornbury.
SATURDAY,
22nd DECEMBER.

For more details call 01409 261312

Children's New Year Party

In the Schoolroom

(Milton Chapel)

SATURDAY, 5TH JANUARY 2008

3.30 to 5.30pm (incl Tea)

MC - Kelvin Issacs

Everyone to bring a contribution to the tea, please!

For members of Milton Monsters and the Sunday Club, along with any other local children.

All are warmly invited to join in.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

at Putford Methodist Church
7th – 10th December

Friday, 7th - Children's Preview of Festival & Tea

Saturday 8th - Open to Public 10am - 7pm

Sunday 9th - Open to Public 10am - 7pm

Songs of Praise @ 7.30pm

Monday 10th - Open to Public 10am - 3pm

This annual event held at local Methodist churches in the Shebbear area is an amazing display of a multitude of ideas for Christmas Trees – well worth a visit.

Don't miss it!!

CAROL SINGING From 2.45pm

&

VISIT OF FATHER CHRISTMAS

@ 3pm

At Horrellsford Garage
SATURDAY, 22ND DECEMBER
All Parish Children invited to com

All Parish Children invited to come along and see Father Christmas

Event organised by the Parish Councillors and courtesy of W Sanders & Sons

CHRISTINGLE

for all the family and young at heart

Friday, 21st December @ 5pm

Milton Chapel

Come along, make a Christingle, this will be followed by a short service, with tea for everyone in the Schoolroom after

Finish @ 6.30pm

Special guests: Courtney Drew & Lizz Prangle

MILTON DAMEREL UNITED PARISH CAROL SERVICE

Sunday, 16th December @ 11am
In the Methodist Church with Mr David Ley
Coffee and Mince Pies

St. James Parish Church Abbots Bickington

Priest-in-Charge: Rev Richard Dorrington

Tel: 01409 241411

Candlelight Carol Service
Tuesday, 18th December @ 7pm

Refreshments to follow

Christmas Day Communion @ 9am



"A "Royal" Day Out"

Recently, HRH The Princess Royal, visited the North Devon District Hospital to officially open the new mental health wards. During my time as Director of Finance for Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust it was part of my remit to oversee the development of business plans for capital projects such as this, and it was very rewarding to be invited to join the party for the opening and to meet the Princess Royal.

The new wards, named Moorland View and Ocean View, have been designed and built to the latest standards prescribed for accommodating those patients who need to stay in hospital. Of particular importance are the rights to privacy and dignity, so the wards all have single en-suite rooms and appropriate male/female segregation when needed. By building in single storey around courtyards, there is plenty of space, homely areas for eating, leisure and therapy, and, essentially, facilities to be able to go outside and enjoy enclosed garden areas. The old wards, Brownlees and Williams, have been taken out of commission for mental health purposes and when re-designed will provide much needed space for expansion of the acute services on site. The "vision" of replacing Brownlees ward, especially, began in the late 1980s and during the 90s and early 2000s, several versions of a development plan were compiled, but changing design standards and (as for all organisations, public or private) competing demands on the limited funds available, conspired to delay final acceptance and agreement of funding. However, about 4 years ago funding was agreed and now North Devon has excellent facilities, which have been now in use for about 3 months.

The Princess Royal, after arrival and introduction to local dignitaries, was escorted on a private visit to the new wards and after a buffet lunch, she was invited to unveil a plaque. There were about 40 persons invited to meet the Princess Royal – such as key staff in the Devon Partnership NHS Trust (which is responsible for managing mental health services throughout Devon, including North Devon); the architects, building contractors, etc; patients and family representatives; and representatives of charitable organisations. Each of us was introduced to the Princess Royal and she talked for a few moments with each one, demonstrating an in-depth knowledge and awareness of mental health issues, building schemes and control, public service finances, etc., etc.. She had at least 3 visits to make in Devon on that day, was very business like and dressed accordingly in a grey suit... and, of course, wore gloves. Such a lot of hand shaking deserves being kind to your hands! The visit and unveiling completed, the Princess Royal took her leave, perhaps to go on to a 4th engagement for the day. But in North Devon she left a strong sense of being valued for those who have and continue to work untiringly for mental health services in the area.

Of course, I had opportunity to also catch up with some of my ex-colleagues....life moves on and many changes since I left and, then, that was the end of my day out. Hopefully, the Princess Royal also enjoyed her day out!!

Grace Millman

The Bradworthy & District Ploughing match took place back in Sept and there was a good turnout despite the usual Bradworthy Ploughing Match weather - rain! Grateful thanks go to Mr & Mrs Roger Vanstone who kindly hosted the event at Soldon, Sutcombe.

Well done to all those who took part and to Roland Ley of Sutcombe who won the Best Piece of Ploughing by a local competitor and the most points in the Produce Classes. Brothers Simon & Ian Yelland did well again on the day, Simon winning the Best Piece of work in Class 5, and Best work done by a Tarka Young Farmers member. Ian won the C L Heard cup for best work in Class 7 and together Simon & Ian won the YFC Team competition on the day. Lucy James of Sutcombe won the Young Farmers cup for entries in the Produce classes. Well done to new entrant Jackie Pett of Bulkworthy who won the Best Exhibit in the Produce classes and the late Bill Braunton Cup for best exhibit in classes 25 to 37.

Thank you to everyone who supported and helped with the day, without your support the day would simply not take place

Líz Priest



£720 was raised for children in need with a full English breakfast morning held at Town Farm on 18th November courtesy of Suzanne and Geoff. A big thanks to local businesses and the people that contributed, helping to make the morning a great success. To Michelle and Darren who ran and contributed to the raffle, a big thank you from Pudsey.

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"Oh, No there wasn't, Oh, Yes there was!!

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This article was written with the help of Ida Birch (nee Burrows) who lived at Whitebear Farm many years ago.

Believe or not, Pantomime was very popular in Milton Damerel during the 1940s, when the annual Panto was held in the (then) Church Hall (before it was updated to the Parish Hall). The cast made up of local inhabitants, men and women and children. Ida can particularly remember playing the part of Little Red Riding Hood, as a child in the pantomime "Dick Whittington". Margaret Beckley (nee Harris) of West Wonford, played the principal role, Will Daniel (late of Woodford Farm) also played a major part and was well known for his tenor voice. Ida remembers jumping out of a book with Billy Eastcott of Waldon Farm, also that June Braunton, of Derworthy Cottage, took part as did Doris Hearn, of Youldon Lane, who sang in the chorus. She later went on to marry Bob Scrivener, who played the part of the

Mrs Hancock produced the panto, which was to be her final one for she died shortly after. Ida remembers doubling up as a dancing fairy along with June Braunton. There was a small orchestra of local talented musicians. Fernley Daniel joined them from Thornbury. He played the violin, which was quite exciting for it was the only time the violin was heard played live in the area!

The standard of the production must have been high, for coach loads would arrive to see it over the days it was on. Ray Brooks went on to produce future panto's, he lived at Milton Mill.

Sheila Daniel

...and talking of Christmas-its competition time.

Count how many times the word <u>Christmas</u> appears in of this edition and you can win book tokens worth £15, £10 & £5. Open to everyone under eleven.

Closing Date 15th December.

write your answer on the reply slip provided and leave in the school bus, committee member or the garage



For more information – see previous editions of the Newsletter for details of the aims for the Parish Plan project, and for the main issues arising from the Community Consultation Event in April. Previous newsletters may be viewed on

www.miltondamerel.com

Please contact Anne Binns (261381) or Grace Millman (261251) with any comments or offers of volunteering eg joining the Steering Group.

WANTED – CHILD'S PLAYPEN

GOOD CONDITION REASONABLY PRICED PLEASE CONTACT MARGARET STANNARD 01409 - 261486

PARISH PLANNING - Update

The Steering Group is absolutely delighted with the numbers of Household and Young People Questionnaires, which were returned to the volunteers in August and September. Excluding, unoccupied or holiday let properties, we estimate the return rate is well in excess of 70%, which is considered to be very good. Thank you for your time and effort and co-operation.

We are now working through the questionnaires, extracting the data and when this is complete we will be holding another community event to report back the results and begin the consultation on what should be included in the Parish Action Plan. We have not set a date as yet, but will give it wide publicity at the due time.

The Draw for the Household's and for the Young People's questionnaires was made at the Wine & Wisdom evening in the Parish Hall on 27th October 2007. Anne Binns invited David Dyer, the question master for the evening, to make the draws, after summarising the Parish Plan aims and thanking all the businesses who had contributed to the prizes. Please see the September newsletter for the list of businesses.

The Prize Draw Winners were:

Household:

1st prize - Rose Cottage, Shop HillDinner for Two donated by Thatchers Restaurant,

2nd prize - Shop Court

3rd prize – 1, Fore Street

Hampers with a range of "goodies" from Horrellsford Garage, Lizzy's Larder & Little Derworthy honey.

Young People's:

 1^{st} prize – Daniel Dunmore, 3, Fore St

2nd prize – Amy Curtis, Cross Farm

3rd prizes: Smith family, Rouse Villa

Cleave family, Glendene, Gidcott

Charlie Curtis, Cross Farm lain Sharp, Lower Grawley

Kian Stannard, Comfort Cottage Vallance family, Gratton Hill



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MILTON DAMEREL VILLAGE FETE 2008.



Once again we are looking for volunteers to form a committee for next year's Fete. The fete this year was a resounding success, thanks too the hard work of the people that helped. It would be nice if we could muster a few more committee members.

If you feel you would like to help or have any ideas telephone Rose Haynes on 01409 261577 or Terry Fairbrother on 01409 261161.

Please please phone us.!!

We really need to start planning next year's event as soon after Christmas as possible, we need people young and older, you young folk, tell us what you would like, the same with the older generation, can anyone remember previous fetes held in Milton Damerel, what happened at them?

Do tell us. !!

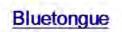
Has anyone out there any experience in running a vegetable competition or a cake competition etc, would you like to run a stall, can you help on the day.

Do come and help us!

It was wonderful to see the village coming out to support us and to see everyone having a good time, lets make 2008's Fete another great day, but we do need your help and input.









The virus is transmitted by a small number of species of biting midges of the genus Culicoides. Bluetongue virus <u>cannot</u> naturally be transmitted directly between animals, virus transmission between animals occurs <u>via</u> these midges. However, the likelihood of mechanical transmission of the virus between flocks and within a flock by unhygienic practices (e.g. use of contaminated surgical equipment or hypodermic needles) cannot be excluded. Generally sheep are affected worse than cattle.

<u>Bluetongue virus is harmless to humans</u>. When a midge bites an infected animal, the virus passes to the midge in the blood as it feeds, the virus multiples in the midge, the midge will then infect the next animal it bites. Peak populations of vector Culicoides occur in the summer and autumn and therefore this is the time when Bluetongue is most commonly seen.

Infected sheep will stand with their ears down, hunched back and uncomfortable on their feet often moving their weight from one foot to another.

Treatment is usually non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs to reduce pain, long acting antibiotics to control secondary bacterial infection, supportive fluid therapy (electrolytes) to manage dehydration, careful nursing to aid recovery, provision of clean drinking water, also to encourage sheep to eat, some soaked sugar beet pulp or similar soft feed, mouths will be sore owing to the ulceration so animals will not cope with hay or hard feed. The disease affects sheep alot worse than cattle usually. Hopefully by next Spring there will be a vaccine available.

Clinical signs in cattle.

It is possible that cattle will show no signs • Eye and no fillness, however clinical signs have included and crusty.

- Nasal discharge.
- · Swelling of the head and neck.
- Conjunctivitis (red and runny eyes).
- · Swelling inside and ulceration of the mouth.
- Swollen teats.
- · Tiredness.
- Saliva drooling out of the mouth.
- · Fever.



Clinical signs in sheep:

- Eye and nasal discharges which becomes thick and crusty.
- Drooling as a result of ulcerations in the mouth.
- High body temperature.
- Swelling of the mouth, head and neck.
- Lameness with wasting of the muscles of the hind limb.
- · Haemorrhages into or under the skin.
- Inflammation at the junction of the skin and the horn of the foot, the coronary band.
- Respiratory problems difficulty with breathing and nasal discharge.
- A blue tongue is rarely a clinical sign of infection.
- · Fever.
- Tiredness.

Ladies

Fancy a girls night out with a difference? Why not...get a few friends together,
Bring a bottle of wine, box of chocolates... and have a girls night in!
Manicure, pedicure, waxing, massage, and other treatments available.

For further info, call Mandy on 01409 240090 / 07887 867960 baker.mandy@yahoo.co.uk C&G, I.T.E.C. & 20 years experience Fully insured



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Coarse Country Game Terrine

Ingredients

- 1 Rabbit
- Venison, cubed
- 200g pork fat
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
 - 2 tbsp thyme leaves
- 1 tsp sea-salt and freshly ground black pepper
 - 2 pheasant breasts

To garnish

- 2 Bay leaves
- Juniper berries

Method

- 1. Preheat the oven to 160C/gas 2. Lightly oil a 450g terrine mould or loaf tin.
 - 2. Remove all the meat from the rabbit and place in a food processor.
- 3. Add the venison, pork fat, garlic and thyme and whiz until the mixture has a coarse consistency. Season with salt and freshly ground black pepper.
 - 4. Spoon half the mixture into the prepared mould.
 - 5. Arrange the pheasant breasts evenly along the centre of the tin.
 - 6. Spoon the remaining mixture into the tin

7. Cover the tin with a sheet of baking parchment and then cover with a layer of foil. Place the terrine into a roasting tin and pour in hot water to a depth of about 3cm. Cook for 1 hour and 30 minutes, until firm to the touch.



PRESS RELEASE 19-11-07

"Rural Development - The Way Ahead?"

Following on from the successful re-launch of the Ruby Project earlier this month, the theme of the Ruby Lecture is about exploring the way ahead for rural development. The lecture, given by Professor Michael Winter OBE, promises to be a dynamic and informative evening discussing the wider issues which relate to unlocking opportunities within the rural heartland of Ruby Country.

The Ruby Country Project team will be there after the lecture to tell everyone about the planned workshops in Marketing, Planning and more, the unique approach to a programme of events designed to involve local business and keep the visitor within our area all supported by a vibrant business network.

Light refreshments will be served together with samples of local produce and services provided by Ruby Country's rural businesses. The event is the brainchild of Ruby Country Partnership Chairman Cllr Des Shadrick who said "This evening will be a real opportunity for us to focus on the future – a future that is bright and positive – a future of our own making".

Cllr Shadrick has also managed to arrange for students from Holsworthy College to play live music for half an hour following the lecture.

Ruby Country Project Manager Jim White added "The event truly promises to showcase just some the wealth of talent and potential which Ruby Country holds; vital components in the future sustainable development of any local rural economy."

Admission is free - Holsworthy Memorial Hall, Wednesday 28th November, doors open at 7:00 pm

End of press release

Professor Michael Winter OBE is Director of the Centre for Rural Policy Research in the Department of Politics at the University of Exeter. He is also a Commissioner for the Commission for Rural Communities, President of Devon Rural Network, and a governor of the Institute of Grassland & Environmental Research. For 2002 to 2007 he was Chair of the SW Rural Affairs Forum. He was founding chair of the Hatherleigh Area Project in 2001 and is now its vice-chair.

For further details about this event and Ruby Country in general please contact Cookworthy Forest Centre Office Tel: 01409-221896 or e-mail: ruby.country@devon.gov.uk

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Kids!!!....

The Snowman competition

is back again. This time there could actually be snow!!.

If there isn't then be creative again. Snowmen to be put out by 12noon Saturday 5th January with judging from 2pm onwards.

To enter, please call Grace on 261251 before the 5th. Jan

Prizes will be chocs and sweets. Free entry.

Prizes will be awarded for:

Best of All Entries

The Most Comical Entry

The Most Creative Entry

The Most Artistic Entry



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winning beef and lamb.

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Lizzy and all the staff wish our customers and friends a very Happy Christmas and Successful New Year

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DECEMBER 2007

Living next to Holy Trinity Church, we meet lots of visitors who stop to enquire about the church. Recently a couple were looking around as they are in the process of researching a book on Devon churches. My son Bob aged 10 began chatting to them. They talked for a while and then he gave them a tour of the church. A few days later a letter arrived addressed simply to

Bobby,

The house next to the church,

Milton Damerel,

North Devon

Inside was a thank you card which read....

Dear Bobby

I don't know whether this card will reach you—I have not, of course, got your full name & address! - but I am writing to thank you again for letting Tom & myself into Holy Trinity, & for being such an informative & efficient guide.

More than once during my recent investigations into Devon towns, villages & churches, have I been surprised, pleased & humbled even by the kindness of stranger, but yours surpassed all others.

With all good wishes for what, I am sure, will be a very bright future.

Yours Gratefully

Jean

Jean Daveney—Exeter. 12.11.07



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MILTON DAMEREL NEWSLETTER

MILTON DAMEREL AND DISTRICT 'OVER 60' CLUB

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month in Milton Damerel Parish Hall commencing at 2.30pm. Please note there is no meeting in January.

September – At the meeting we played cards, had refreshment, chatted (an important time!) and booked our seats for the last of the summer outings. The outing was to Tavistock and Dartmoor, ending up at 'Jack & Jill's' in Tavistock for an evening meal before the journey home after a very pleasant day.

October – One of our members, John Francis, gave us an interesting, informative and illustrated, with photographs, talk, of his time in the Malayan Jungle when in the Army.

November - Our valued friend, Rev Patrick Crow, entertained us with a wonderful show of slides. After this we had a welcome cup of tea and chat. A very pleasant afternoon.

Secretary: Mrs P. Overy 01409-261332

PUTFORD W.I.

We held our A.G.M. in the Sunday School Room on Monday, 12th November. Mrs Mary Martin was elected as new President, new Vice-president, Mrs Marion Wooldridge, new treasurer, Mrs Kath Stevens. Our speaker was Mrs Penny MC Roberts. Who demonstrated Christmas cookery gifts, which we all enjoyed very much. Competition winner was Mrs Kath Stevens and FOM Mrs Pat Chandler. We celebrate our 80th Anniversary with a meal at Crealock Arms, Littleham this Friday. Our Christmas lunch this year is at Thorne Park, Holsworthy. All new members welcomed for next year. Mavis Lewis.

LATE SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

Thanks to those who supported this event at Woodford Farm to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the ALPHA initiative and help get our local Alpha course off to a good start. It was a really lovely day, the weather just perfect and everyone was able to sit around enjoying the sunshine and the great music played to us by Two's Company, Jessica and Ashley Withey from Torrington, who are no strangers to us. We really enjoyed their selection of songs from musicals and popular tunes. Also not so well known in this area, but very much enjoyed, was Paul Roberts, from Honiton, who played light classical pieces on his electric violin. A sound to lift everyone's spirits!

Roger & Sheila particularly wish to thank our neighbours and friends who rallied round to help keep everyone served with cream teas; also those who brought along their various stalls, many for good causes, we gather everyone did well and made lots of sales!! Also a big thank you to the ALPHA team for all your help and support. Sheila Daniel



Police Co-ordinator
PCSO 30099 - Raquel Rowe - Mob: 08456 567842
Local Co-ordinator
PCSO 30099 - Raquel Rowe - Mob: 08456 567842
Local Co-ordinator
PCSO 30099 - Raquel Rowe - Mob: 08456 567842
Local Co-ordinator
Strawberry Bank: Roger Copp - Tel. 261681
Venn Green: Mike Jackson - Tel. 261196
Gratton: Edgar Pett - Tel. 261277
Holsworthy Beacon Position Vacant
Whitebear/Fore Street Position Vacant
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT

The recent spate of burglaries from sheds and garages now seem to have moved out of the area although neighbouring parishes are still being targeted and we should remain vigilant. The police still have very few clues as to who the culprit(s) might be although a plain white van, possibly a 'Sprinter', has been sighted on a number of occasions and we are asked to report any sightlings of vehicles seen in unusual places.

One area of concern which is frequently raised by members is that of the speed of vehicles in the lanes. The national speed limit (60mph) which applies to most of our lanes is a maximum and not an expectation. Drivers should match their speed to the road characteristics and weather conditions. The problem isn't just speeding, but driving inappropriately for the conditions, such as approaching a bend or junction too fast and without caution. Also, overtaking on an approach to a bend or where forward visibility is restricted. Please remember that there may be animals, walkers, horse-riders etc. around the next bend and that they have as much right to use the roads as vehicles. Braking distances are also greatly increased when the road surface is wet or muddy. Finally on a sombre note, car users should be aware that they are three times more likely to die on a country road than an urban one; this is according to new figures released by the Department for Transport.

Security lights have been proven to be a deterrent to potential thieves. Many of the local thefts from sheds, garages, etc have occurred where these are out of sight.

DECEMBER 2007

Memories of Milton Damerel School from Anita Edwards (nee German)

My earliest memory of school was the first day. I clearly remember wanting to go to the toilet. The teacher was out of the room and I started to cry. One of the boys (Colin Hatherley) told me to go and he would tell the teacher and it would be ok. The problem was I was afraid to go all the way by myself. The toilets were out the back, down the alley and it seemed like the end of the earth to me. Fortunately for all concerned the teacher came back and one of the older girls took me.

I loved the Christmas plays. The one I remember most was The Little Christmas Tree. I was the little Christmas Tree and I had to stand on a chair at the end. I was dressed from head to foot in green crepe paper. Dad told me that one night when he came to bed I was talking in my sleep and I was reciting everyone's part including my own. There was a big radio in the cupboard in the juniors' room. We used to all sit round in a circle and listen to the children's programmes. It all seemed very exciting until we had to write about what we had heard afterwards.

In the winter the milk crate would be brought in from outside with all the little bottles of milk frozen. Sometimes the lids would have popped off because of the expansion of ice. This would be put on the black stove and by playtime it would be melted to the point where we all had a nice warm drink. Another time for a reason I can't remember we were stopped from having milk and instead we were given different flavoured milk tablets. They tasted absolutely awful. In the summer we used to go to the canteen at the end of the lane and Mrs Larkworthy would give us orange squash ice cubes to suck. This was always a great treat.

I always loved all the activities we did involving nature. Each spring and summer we all used to bring in different wild flowers for the nature table. There was a chart on the wall where we would get a point for every different one brought in. There were reference books to identify each specimen. We also used to collect frog spawn from the pond opposite Pentreve Bungalow (Mr & Mrs Norman Hill lived there at the time). When they turned into frogs we used to take them back again.

Playtime activities varied according to the weather and season. We used to play in the lane in the winter and top end of the field in summer. Wherever we played we had to try and avoid the cowpats, not always successfully. We used to make daisy chains and play rounders as well as make up our own dance routines. At one time we all played jacks for a while another time we were all into skipping.

In the winter the pond by Elliotts Farm would often be frozen over. We all used to play skating over the ice. If my memory serves me well I seem to remember my older brother David used to make me test it out first to see if it was hard enough. It was deep (well water used to come over the top of my Wellington boots.) He would now say it was character building.

One of the more daunting things about attending Milton Damerel School was needing to go Holsworthy Secondary Modern School to take the 11+. Having to travel on the school bus with all the older children was bad enough but then arriving at the school and seeing about ten to fifteen other buses there was really frightening. We were really scared we wouldn't be able to find the right bus to go home on at the end of the day. To go into this huge hall, which was bigger than the whole of Milton school and sit tests was awesome. How on earth the authorities thought we could do well in the exams under these circumstances I really don't know.

The annual summer school trip to the seaside (Newquay, Exmouth, Woolacombe, etc) was the highlight of our year especially when we were in the last two years of the juniors. We all used to try and get to the back seats so that we could wave to whoever was behind us. On the way home we used to stop somewhere for fish and chips. Not many people in the village had cars in those days so it really was a very special day.

We generally all walked to school and home again on our own and didn't know what it was to be afraid of strangers. There was always someone looking out for us and if we did anything wrong (like scrumping apples) dad always seemed to find out.

Leaving home at sixteen years of age to follow a career in childcare was a real eye opener for me. Moving to Bristol and not being able to afford to come home for ten months made me grow up very quickly. I continued working in different areas of Family/Childcare all my working life. I knew I wanted to look after children who didn't have any parents when I was fourteen years of age. Rev McLeod helped me to contact Dr Barnardos and I will always be grateful to him for this. It was a world away from the life I knew as a child. I had no real idea of the heartache and pain some children and families have to endure and it made me realise what a privileged upbringing I had had. There was never much money to spare and we didn't have any luxuries but I knew I was loved and there was always someone there for me at the end of each day. We didn't know real fear we would go off and play in the fields or in the barns and only go home when we were hungry.

Milton Damerel School offered me good all round education alongside the Methodist Church and this helped me and others to grow up with confidence and to be independent.

MILTON DAMEREL NEWSLETTER

PARISH HALL NEWS

The Parish Hall Committee had it's A.G.M. on Monday, 22nd October, @ 7.30pm. Unfortunately we had a 'hiccup' when electing a chairperson and will have had another meeting on 12th November to elect once again. We are always looking for new committee members. We hold about four meetings a year. We do need your support in keeping the Parish Hall going. We hold events throughout the year to raise income. It is also available for hire at reasonable rates, (charges can be seen on the notice board). Because of an increase in electric and ongoing repair work, we have had to increase our charges as from 1st January 2008. Our next main meeting will be on Monday, 28th January 2008.

With reference to the FETE, it has been decided to have a subcommittee working with the Parish Hall. A meeting will be needed early in 2008. Anyone interested in now helping to keep the event going please forward your name to any committee member. Money raised at future Fetes will be split between the Parish Hall, the Fete and a nominated charity.

The Whist Drive held on 28th September 2007 raised £18.40. Unfortunately we only had 3 tables. The Wine and Wisdom held on 27th October 2007 was very well supported and raised £224.82. It was an enjoyable evening, (although some of us did find the questions a bit hard). Thank you to everyone who came.

LINE DANCING

Tuesdays 7 – 9pm £1.50 per session Tel: Lesley 261294 Mary 261248

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

30th November 2007 **Whist Drive** 7:30 for 8:00/ £1.50 per person

1st March 2008 Skittles Tournament. Saturday evening, teams of 6 (min of two ladies). Pasty supper, tea &

coffee available. BYO wine etc. Raffle. Profit to Children's Hospice S.W. & Parish Hall. Please

book:-ring Lesley 261294, Sara 261105, Edgar 261277.

Wine and Wisdom 7:30 for 8:00. Please book with committee. £4.00 per person. Teams of six. 29th March

Couples and singles welcomed, will make up teams on arrival.

Chairperson: Ms Roberta Jackson (261196) (Now elected)

Secretary:- Mrs Christine Buckpitt (261593) Treasurer:- Mrs Lesley Self (261294)



From the Citizens Advice Bureau More holidays?

Q. I've heard something about us getting more holidays in future. Can you tell me if this is right?

Yes, it is. As from 1 October, anyone working full-time (five days a week or more) will be entitled to 24 days paid holiday a year - an increase of four days a year. This right to paid holiday will increase again to 28 days a year from 1 April 2009. Part-time workers get a pro-rata increase.

This is the minimum paid holiday you must be given, but your contract may entitle you to more. Public and bank holidays will count as part of your holiday entitlement unless your contract specifically says that you are given these in addition to your statutory paid holiday, so check your terms.

Workers will be able to carry the additional amount of statutory holiday over to the following year.

The Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (DBERR) has produced a ready reckoner to help calculate entitlement. It is available from the DEBRR website at www.berr.gov.uk

If you have problems getting the time off work you are entitled to, or if you need help working out your rights to paid holiday, consult an adviser at your nearest Citizens Advice Bureau. Contact details, plus more information on paid holiday entitlement, are available on the Citizens Advice website www.adviceguide.org.uk

... What's in a name? Milton Damerel

From the Peter Christie Yesteryear page of the North Devon Journal

Milton Damerel, just off the A388 going south to Holsworthy, has a name that recalls the economy of Dark Age Devon.

Damerel we can pass quickly by: a surname tagged on in the fourteenth century – it recalls a local landowning family.

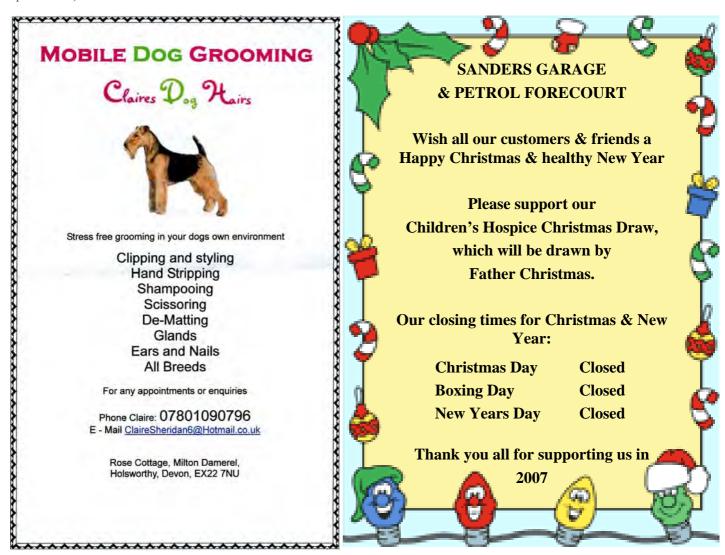
The real interest is instead in the far older first word, formerly known as Middleton.

Ton there is among the most common syllables to feature in English place names. It can be found in literally hundreds from Brighton to Taunton and means 'settlement'; while **mil** is not a mill but 'middle' giving us the Middle Settlement.

Now middle in place names can mean one of two things. It can mean middle in the geographic sense so the Middle Settlement was perhaps between two or more villages; nearby Sutcombe and Shebbear, for example. But it can also mean middle in that Milton stood at the centre of things, that it was important.

In the dark Ages the country was divided up into large estates. An aristocratic family would support itself by exploiting towns around its fortified seat. And there would be, of course, a settlement that administered these different towns and where markets were held. The Middle Settlement might then have been one of Dark Age Devon's trade capitals.

(In September 2006 edition we included an extract from Seymour Marks publication 'Milton Damerel in 1951' which also gave some insight to the derivations of our parish name.)



Question: What's red and white and gives presents to good little fish on Christmas?

Question: Why does Santa have 3 gardens?

Question: What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?

Question: Why was Santa's little helper depressed?

Question: What do you get when you cross an archer with a gift-wrapper?

Question: What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus?

Question: What do snowmen eat for breakfast?

Question: What was so good about the neurotic doll the girl was given for Christmas?

Answer: Sandy Claws.

Answer: So he can ho-ho-ho.

Answer: Frostbite.

Answer: Because he had low elf esteem.

Answer: Ribbon hood.

Answer: Claustrophobic.

Answer: Snowflakes.

Answer: It was wound up already.



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| me a plotifor over out of ordina | Tot Tuobady of babil month | 10 |

The newsletters group members are:

| Sheila Daniel | sheilamdaniel@hotmail.com | 261466 | Regular contributors and features |
|-------------------|------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|
| Tracy Dunmore | dunmorehom@aol.com | 261501 | Children & Youth News |
| Rose Haynes | rose@grawley.co.uk | 261577 | Regular contributors and features |
| Grace Millman | grace.millman@btinternet.com | 261251 | Treasurer & Fund-raising |
| Margaret Stannard | maggiestannard@yahoo.co.uk | 261486 | Advertising |
| Terry Fairbrother | terry@remedy-it.co.uk | 261775 | Newsletter Compiler |
| Lesley Self | | 261294 | Regular contributors and features |

Letters, comments, news and articles, etc., can be emailed to mdnews@freeuk.com or to any of us individually. Our correspondence address is Chapel View, Milton Damerel, EX22 7PB. We want to hear from you with letters for inclusion, topical issues, features you like and also changes to improve the content and style for future editions. We also need every-one to let us know special birthdays, births, anniversaries, and other congratulations. Also tributes to parish residents.

Advertisements

Conditions of acceptance. Orders for insertion of advertisements in this newsletter are subject to the approval of the members who may refuse or alter any copy. The newsletter and the members:- a) accept no liability for any loss or damage caused by an error or inaccuracy in the printing of any advertisement. b) Shall not be liable for any loss caused by the failure of the advertisement to appear on any particular day, in any specified position or page or by its failure to appear at all, and they reserve the right to refuse to continue its publication regardless or terms and conditions of any order or contract. Trades Descriptions Act 1968—All traders are reminded of the needs to ensure that goods offered for sale by advertisements comply with all relevant provisions of the above mentioned act.