



## Wishing all our readers A Very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year



### Inside this issue:

Milton Damerel Parish Council	2
Congratulations	3
Church & Chapel News	4
Youth & Family News	6
Parish Planning	11
Putford W.I.	13
Gardening Society	16
Parish Hall News	18
Neighbourhood Watch	20

## 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: Grace Millman (Chairman) 01409 261251  
 Gareth Piper (Vice Chairman) 07966558385  
 Rose Haynes 01409 261577 Stephen Moyse 01409 261151  
 Edgar Pett 01409 261277 Richard Piper 01409 261114  
 John Webb 01409 261301

Regular Parish Council meetings were held on the third Wednesday of September, October and November.

Planning Applications. Since the last report, the Parish Council have been consulted on the planning application for the demolition and replacement of dwelling at Withypool Farm.

Housing Needs Survey. John Scott the Rural Housing Officer from Community Council of Devon came to the October meeting to present the report and advise the Parish Council on the next steps that need to be taken to work towards the objective of providing more affordable housing in Milton Damerel

Installation of Notice Board at Holsworthy Beacon. To address one of the issues highlighted by the Parish Plan, the Parish Council have been working towards providing a parish notice board near to Beech Park to help to keep all members of the parish informed on community matters and it is hoped that it will be erected very soon.

Highway Issues We have been informed by the DCC Highway Maintenance Technician that there is little funding remaining in the budget for road repairs within the parish except for safety defects until the next financial year. Where road edges and verges are eroded verge markers are being installed to warn drivers of hazards. The Parish Lengthsman is due to attend the Parish in January and his duties include hand cleaning of ditches and small culverts to keep the roads clear of water. If anyone has any particular problems for him to look at please advise the Clerk before the next meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> December.

### Fly Nuisance - Worden Farm

At the meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> November Alison Gidlow Team Leader Environment Management (Upper Tamar Team) Environment Agency came to inform Parish Councillors and community members present at the meeting, of what actions have been taken to prevent a recurrence.

Worden Farm has been regulated by an Environment Agency permit since October 2007. Site inspections and meetings were held at Worden & Beacon Farm in July after over 50 members of the public had registered complaints. The inspections identified areas where W J Watkins & Sons Ltd could improve their operating procedures, particularly with regard to the assessment, removal and spreading of manure. Over the summer fly affected chicken manure was removed from the sheds and encapsulated in black plastic to kill any fly eggs, larvae, pupae or flies present. Some of this has now been spread on arable land without any reports of nuisance. A detailed audit was carried out on 11<sup>th</sup> November where a number of actions were identified that need to be carried out by the operator. A great deal of work has been carried out by W J Watkins & Sons Ltd staff in improving the management operating systems. This was classed as a category one incident. The enforcement response has been considered and officers are currently preparing a prosecution file for permit non-compliance relating to the fly incident. TDC are working with the Environment Agency to investigate the incident response and communication lessons that can be learned and to develop and improve ways of working to ensure this industry sector does not cause further nuisance.

Setting of Precept At the November meeting members considered all grant applications received from Parish organisations before finalising the budget for 2010-2011 and completed the application for the Parish Precept and they are pleased to inform parishioners that there will be no increase in the precept for 2010-2011 which will remain at £2350 This is the sum of money collected by the District Council in Council Tax and paid to the Parish Council in two halves, April and September to cover the grants paid out and running cost of the parish. Annual grants to organisations are paid in September each year.

Freedom of Information. In line with the publication scheme adopted by the Council in January, requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act should be sent to the Parish Clerk. Some information can be made available by email free of charge but paper copies will be charged at 10p per A4 side.

Cont...

Finally as 2009 draws to a close the Chairman and Councillors of Milton Damerel Parish Council and the Parish Clerk would like to wish all parishioners a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.

Roberta Jackson, Parish Clerk

19/11/09

## DRIVING LESSONS

*Clive Humphreys*

*Government approved  
Driving Instructor*

01805 601569

**The Oaks : Stibb Cross : Torrington**




## Quality Seasoned Firewood



£65: Pickup load  
£110: Trailer load  
£160: Pickup and trailer

Free delivery in the local area.

Tel: 01409 281977  
[www.forestfuels.co.uk](http://www.forestfuels.co.uk)



### CONGRATULATIONS!

**To Rachael Poole** of East Wonford who won the Challenge Cup for most points in the produce section by a Young Farmers Club member at the Bradworthy and District Ploughing Association's annual show at Cleave Farm, Newton St Petrock.

**To Heather Poole** of The Willows, Venn Green on her graduation with a BSc Honours in Midwifery.

**To Rose Haynes and David Taylor** of Higher Grawley on their successes in the HDSBA National Flock Competition: 1<sup>st</sup> for Small Flock, Reserve to Best Shearling Ewes over all, and Reserve to Champion Flock over all.



### GOOD-BYE & WELCOME

**A warm welcome to:**

**Tony & Penny Kench** who have moved into **Milton Mill Cottage**

**Simon & Hazel Dynes, Lucy & Adrian** who have moved into **The Knoll**



### OUR SYMPATHIES

**For those who been bereaved recently including:**

**Alan Charles of Buttermoor** on the sudden death of his wife, Barbara.

**Members of the Johns family** of Anzac, Gratton Hill on the sad loss of Graham & Donna's son, **Kia**.

**Chapel News – December 2009****Newsletter Number Fifty One**

*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.*

**Most regretfully, we report that Rev David Wheeler, our minister, was advised at the end of August to apply for early retirement, on the grounds of ill-health, and this will be effective from the end of November 2009.** This is a great sadness for our Methodist circuit based on Shebbear, as we had invited David to continue as our Superintendent Minister until his normal retirement date in 2012. David and Jan will continue living in The Manse at Shebbear for some weeks, whilst and until they have found a suitable property for their retirement and are able to move. In November, appreciation for their 9 years of ministry in the chapels of our circuit, their work with other Christian leaders in the area, and their great compassion and loving kindness towards everyone in our communities, was marked with a collection of cards and gifts from and on behalf of all the congregations in the circuit. We hope David will be restored to good health soon and send David & Jan our best wishes for their retirement. [see over for how to contact a Minister]

**“TEA & CAKE” AFTERNOONS** – The September “Big Cream Tea” afternoon for Children’s Hospice South West raised £145.84, which has been sent to the Hospice. We also sold over £52.75 worth of Christmas cards. If you wish to support the Children’s Hospice by buying Christmas cards, they are to be found at Horrellsford Garage. Thank you to all who attended the Big Cream Tea! [Please note there is no Tea & Cake afternoon in December quarter.]

**HARVEST FESTIVAL** – There was much to be thankful for this year at our Harvest Festival. Everything got off to a good start on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October as the flowers, fruit and other gifts were placed in the chapel to make the usual lovely harvest display.

The following day we had invited all the friends, who over the years have arranged flowers in the chapel Sunday by Sunday. It was a lovely sunny afternoon and everyone had the opportunity to take a close look at all the decorations. A lovely tea was provided and much appreciated, as was the music by David Sayers from Sheepwash. Grace Millman thanked everyone for their faithful dedication in regularly providing flowers for the chapel and said how much the congregation really take a delight in the beautiful arrangements. It was a great time of fellowship and we wondered why we hadn’t done this before.

Sunday morning dawned, a bit drab weatherwise, but the colourful display and wonderful warm smell coming from the kitchen cheered everyone up. Maggie Elliott, from Ashwater, led worship with something for everyone. Following a time of sharing, looking at various pictures of harvest, the young people went to the kitchen to cook biscuits. With split second timing there were ready in time to hand around to the congregation after the service. I was told they were delicious!!!

Monday evening we all met together again, this time laden with food for the Bring and Share meal. As more people (and food) arrived, chairs and tables were fetched and room somehow found for everyone, although we were quickly running out of space. I think the only vacant space (in the schoolroom) was the piano top, but it really was lovely to see such a crowd.

We gathered all the gifts of produce from the chapel and brought them into the schoolroom after the meal and sat back to listen to the short harvest message, brought to us by Chris Andrew, with wit and humour. We were reminded of how gratitude, humility and respect go hand in hand with a thankful spirit – a lovely message!

Auctioneer James Morrish (from Kivells) set about auctioning the gifts and everyone seemed happy to part with their money, having been reminded that it was “all for a good cause”. Yet more cups of tea brought a brilliant harvest thanksgiving to a close.

But that wasn’t the end of it! The following Sunday we held a **Harvest Praise Party**. This was for the younger ones who made bread, played games, including apple bobbing, and also made musical instruments, or shakers, to join in learning a new harvest song. We made a thanksgiving fruit tree and were reminded that God gives us so much. So that really brought our harvest celebrations to an end for this year.

Thank you to everyone who made it possible. A particular thank you to the Sunday Club members who had spent the few weeks up to harvest making a really magnificent banner bearing the words “God is so Good”. It looked truly impressive hung in the chapel.

Sheila Daniel

**Funds raised for the Chapel Property Fund totalled £607 – a magnificent sum!!**

**GOSPEL SPECIALS** – The next Gospel Special will be on **Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> December @ 7.30pm** when the Windy Cross Singers from Torrington will be our guest artistes.

**SUNDAY CLUB & FAMILY SERVICES** - Sunday Club meets each Sunday with the exception of the last Sunday of the month, when Family Services are held, as detailed below: Please also see Junior / Youth News for details of Messy Church and Praise Parties.

**27<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

**Christmas Family Service**

**31<sup>st</sup> January 2010**

**Mrs Rachel Parsons  
from Tresmeer**

**28<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

**Mrs Christine Forster  
from Holsworthy**

**FREEDOM CENTRE, BARNSTAPLE** – During September and October we left a box in the lobby for gifts of food for the Freedom Centre in Barnstaple, and were able to take several carrier bags full of tinned food, teabags, rice, etc., for use in or distribution by the Centre. The Freedom Centre was one of the charities recently visited by The Secret Millionaire in the programme of that name, shown on Channel 4, when a millionaire was based in Barnstaple. The Day Centre is the most well established and well known service of the Freedom Social Projects – it supports homeless and disadvantaged people with free meals and hot drinks, clothing, hygiene facilities, recreation and advice and information on finding accommodation, training and employment, and the small team of project workers are greatly supported by many volunteers. Just one statistic – to date this year (in October) over 9,000 meals have been served. The centre is always very grateful for any support – supplies of food, good clothing, etc. - which can be delivered to the Centre at Howard Avenue in Barnstaple. Thank you to everyone for their donations and a letter of appreciation was received from the Centre.

**BIBLE STUDY** – Normally meets every Monday evening at 7.30pm in the Schoolroom. We continue to study the Gospel of St Mark, chapter by chapter, and are enjoying some interesting and lively discussions. Anyone interested is most welcome to come along and join us in exploring the Christian faith – we would very much appreciate your company.

**CHURCH COUNCIL** – We had a joint meeting, in early November, of 4 church councils within the Circuit to approve annual property and financial reports, which were required to meet our statutory obligations for the year ended on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009.

## CHAPEL FLOWER PLAN FOR THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER TO FEBRUARY 2010

DEC		JAN		FEB	
6 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Valerie Harris	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Circuit Service	7 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Joanne Carter
13 <sup>th</sup>		10 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Sarah Weal	14 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Phoebe Overy
20 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Margaret Fishleigh	17 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Sally Piper	21 <sup>st</sup>	
27 <sup>th</sup>		24 <sup>th</sup>		28 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Mary Carter
		31 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs Joanne Carter		

During the winter months, we often find that flowers left in the cool chapel stay fresh for a second week, so in consultation with the arrangers we have decided to try rostering in 2 weekly intervals, rather than for each week.

**CONTACTS** - If a minister or pastoral visit is required please contact any of the stewards below, who will be able to assist / re-direct as appropriate – ministers from our neighbouring circuits have kindly offered to assist, whilst we look at the options for the way forward for the circuit. Clergy colleagues of other Churches are also available to help.

For further information or help please contact:

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

Circuit Stewards: Alan Andrew, Rural Lay Worker, Tel: 281321; Lorna Dawe, Circuit Steward, Tel: 241279

### Holy Trinity Parish Church, Milton Damerel

Rector: Father Michael Reynolds

Tel: 01409 253435

#### Services:

**Holy Communion taken by Father Reynolds  
on 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday every month at 11.30am**

### St. James Parish Church

*Abbots Bickington*

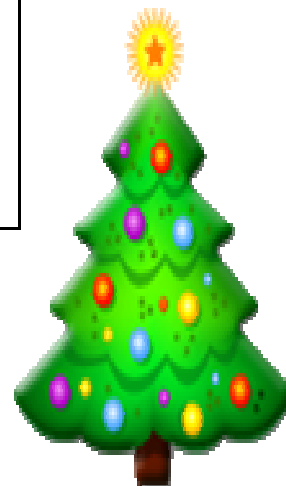
Priest-in-Charge: Rev Richard Dorrington

Tel: 01409 241411

### UNITED PARISH CAROL SERVICE

Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> December @ 7pm

Look out for details



## JUNIOR / YOUTH NEWS

**MILTON MONSTERS** – Time is flying along and we are almost into December. The past term has been busy, but enjoyable one. Last month we planned a dusk walk in the woods, but the weather was against us. We haven't abandoned the idea altogether though and hope to do something in the spring.

Next Monster Club: **Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> December 4.45 – 6.15pm.** Christmas Crafts. Tea provided. £1 each.

There will be a New Year Party in January for Monsters and Sunday Club members. Look out for date and time. The first Monster Club for 2010 will be in February.

For anyone who has helped us at Monsters over the past year, thank you very much and we hope to have your support again in 2010. We hope you have a very Happy Christmas and fantastic New Year.

*Sheila, Tracy & Nicky*

**HARVEST PRAISE PARTY** – please go to Chapel News for a report on the Harvest Praise Party.

**SUNDAY CLUB** – The Sunday Club filled shoe-boxes this year for the Samaritans Purse charity, which takes thousands of shoe-boxes full of presents to underprivileged children in Eastern Europe, Africa, and other poor countries. The shoe-boxes were taken to Black Torrington Parish Church on Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> November. Over 170 boxes had been collected there. A simple service was held before the boxes were taken to be delivered and distributed.

# Have a Messy Christmas

You are invited to a **Messy** afternoon of Crafts, Food and Fun, centred around the true story of Christmas and finishing with a short Christingle.

**On**

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December**

**From**

**4.00pm till 5.30pm ish!**

**This is an all age event  
and everyone is welcome**





## YOUTH WORKER PROJECT UPDATE

The project Management Committee took the difficult decision not to apply for further funding from Methodist funds, for a second term for the youth project. Lizz Prangle sought alternative employment opportunities and since 1<sup>st</sup> June this year has been employed by Devon County Council in the post of Youth Participation Senior Youth Support Worker, covering maternity leave until June 2010. This post commits her for 4 days per week. Lizz offered to continue with the Shebbear Ecumenical Project for the equivalent of 1 day per week, and this was gladly accepted.

To mark the conclusion of the first 3-year term of the project Lizz has compiled an "End of Term" report, highlighting the achievements and successes of the project, and the valuable lessons learnt about delivering youth work in a rural area. In the second part of the report she has developed the lessons learnt to describe a vision for the continuation of youth work in this area, setting out revised aims and objectives for the work, and improved work processes, such as better involvement and ownership with young people, participation within local communities, within schools work, and encouraging volunteers and inter-generational relationships. This part of the report is visionary, challenging, exciting and "awesome".

The Committee has shared the report with those who have been involved in, supported and benefited from the project. There have already been some most encouraging comments from far and wide. If you would like to see the report, or if you could give some time to the project, interested persons are urgently needed to form a new management committee. Please contact Grace Millman (261251) or Maureen Ellis (231309).

## Holy Trinity Church

Holy Trinity Church has been part of the Milton Damerel community and sky line for around 700 years. The tower did fall down in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and it was a few years before it was rebuilt.

Regular services now only take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month with extra services at Easter and Christmas.

I am probably not wrong in saying that most people do not regularly attend services at the church but there are occasions when the church is packed and becomes a focal point for christenings, weddings and sadly funerals. We all expect the church to be there for these occasions and it would be a great loss to everyone if it wasn't. The truth is that without more support the church cannot last forever.

It would be a shame if after all the centuries of use Holy Trinity fell out of use in our time. At the moment the roof is on and keeps most of the rain out, if not the bats and the bees. The stones at the top of the tower are in a desperate state and will need to be made safe soon. The battle to keep the church yard tidy is not being lost thanks to a couple of volunteers. Recently work has been done to trim trees and clear ivy from the wall and lych gate. The building is due its 5 yearly inspection which may result in a list of critical jobs which need to be completed in order to conserve it and make it safe for continued use.

If anyone feels that the church is important enough to keep or would be interested in doing anything to help preserve or maintain Holy Trinity your support would be gratefully received.

Please join us for a joint church and chapel carol service at 7PM on the 18<sup>th</sup> December. Tea, mince pies and mulled wine will be served. The church path will be lit for this occasion.

John Binns  
Church Warden  
Tel 01409 261381

### GARDEN & WOODLAND MAINTENANCE

**T.P. Martin**

**Fire Wood Supplies**

**All forms of vegetation control  
from Lawns to Woodland**

**NPTC Qualified and Fully Insured.**

**Tel: 01409 254921**

**Mobile: 07810 761393**

### NEIL DAVIES ASSOCIATES CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AND BUSINESS ADVISORS

"Taxing times calls for specialist help,  
Need help with your personal tax returns,  
business accounts or tax planning".  
"We are helping businesses PROFIT AND GROW and  
giving people  
peace of mind.. without paying the taxman a fortune"

Free initial consultation  
at your business, home or in our office

Prompt Professional Service from Neil Davies F.C.A.  
and Graham  
Johns F.C.C.A. BSc (Hons)

Tel: 01288 350616, Mobile: 07972765312

Email: [Neil@neildaviesassociates.co.uk](mailto:Neil@neildaviesassociates.co.uk)

Web: [www.neildaviesassociates.co.uk](http://www.neildaviesassociates.co.uk)

Bude Business Centre, Kings Hill Ind Est. Bude,  
Cornwall

**MILTON DAMEREL  
METHODIST CHURCH**

**Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> December @ 7.30pm**  
**CHRISTMAS GOSPEL SPECIAL**  
 with The Windy Cross Singers  
 (Torrington)  
 A Warm Welcome Awaits You



St Peter's Church  
 Thornbury

**CAROL SERVICE**  
**Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> December @**  
**6.30pm**

Followed by Mince Pies & Mulled  
 Wine

**MILTON DAMEREL  
UNITED PARISH CAROL SERVICE**

**Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> December @ 7pm**  
**Holy Trinity Parish Church**

**Mince Pies, Mulled Wine & Tea**

*Collection for NCH Action for Children*  
 Please come along and join in the Carols

**CAROLS ON THE GREEN**  
**Thornbury**

**Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

The monthly Coffee Morning at Holsworthy Beacon  
 will not be held in December – re-start again in January.

**Father Christmas**

expects to be at Horrellsford Garage  
 on **Saturday afternoon, 19<sup>th</sup> December,**  
 at about 2.45pm.

He has requested all children (of all  
 ages!) to come along to sing  
 carols from **2.30pm** ...and especially  
 "Jingle Bells"

to announce his arrival.

Draw & collection for Children's Hospice

(A joint event organised by the  
 Parish Council and W Sanders & Sons Ltd)



**HORSE DENTISTRY**  
 TEETH,vsPOSTURE

**BILL LOMAS**  
 EQUINE DENTIST

KITES COTTAGE  
 MILTON DAMEREL  
 DEVON EX22 7DQ  
 01409 261551  
 07702 665442  
 billlomaseqdt@aol.com  
 WWW.HORSE DENTISTRY.BIZ



**Local Computer Support  
 Sales & Services in Milton Damerel**

**Home or Business**

**Sales ♦ Support ♦ Training ♦ Upgrades ♦ Repairs**  
**ADSL ♦ Internet Problems ♦ Virus / Spyware Removal ♦ Websites**

**Computers, Laptops, Printers, Hardware, Software**

**Call Terry on 01409 261775**

[www.remedy-it.co.uk](http://www.remedy-it.co.uk) [terry@remedy-it.co.uk](mailto:terry@remedy-it.co.uk)





### Christmas in Shebbear

- 2nd December**      **Music for Advent and Christmas with Shebbear Circuit Choir and Newton St. Petrock Male Voice Choir.**  
**Donations to Children's Hospice South West.**  
**Mince Pies and cream will be served!**  
**Lake Schoolroom 7.30 p.m.**
- 19<sup>th</sup> December**      **Christmas Craft in Shebbear Village Hall, for 5-11 Years, 3.00 - 5.00 p.m.**
- 20<sup>th</sup> December**      **Christingle Service at St. Michael's Church 4.00 p.m.**
- 22<sup>nd</sup> December**      **Carol Singing starting off at Shebbear Village Hall at 6.45 p.m. moving down to the square for 7.00 p.m. Music by Northlew Band, Mulled drinks and mince pies afterwards in the Church Room**
- 24<sup>th</sup> December**      **Midnight Service at 11.30 p.m. at St. Michael's      Christmas Eve      Church**
- 25<sup>th</sup> December**      **Family Service at St. Michael's Church at 10.30 a.m.**  
 Christmas Day

### **Transport for Hospital Appointments & Visiting**

**Hospital HOPPA** – The Community Transport Group is extending the trial service to the end of March 2010 to establish if there is a demand for a hospital service at a subsidised cost. If there is insufficient use of the service it will not continue beyond the trial period.

The service will now run in a more flexible manner starting at 6.30am from Holsworthy and picking up at bus stops in Holsworthy Beacon, Milton Damerel, Stibbs Cross and Torrington Hospital, arriving at NDDH at 7.30am. The service will be more flexible during the day depending on appointment times. The last trip from NDDH will leave at 6.00pm.

Please contact the office for further details. Tel: 01409 259001

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Monday – Friday excluding Bank Holidays   | * Journeys must be pre-booked            |
| Holsworthy pickups: Holsworthy Hospital and Bus Shelter   | * Torrington pickup: Torrington Hospital |
| £10 return journey, £5 single   | * Wheelchair accessible                  |
| Available to Patients and Hospital Visitors   |  |
| Contact NTCTA on 01409 259001 10am-1pm Monday-Friday or e-mail: <a href="mailto:transport@ntcta.org.uk">transport@ntcta.org.uk</a>    |  |
| Volunteer Car Service available in the Holsworthy Area for connection to and from pickup points to your door – contact us for details |  |

*North Tamar Community Transport Association Ltd, 4 The Square, Holsworthy, Devon EX22 6DL*

**Cancer Care Car** – for transport to Radiotherapy at Exeter. see September Newsletter for details. More information is available by calling Malcolm or Sharon on 01271 328866

## Christmas gift suggestions

- By Oren Arnold

Christmas gift suggestions:  
To your enemy, forgiveness.  
To an opponent, tolerance.  
To a friend, your heart.  
To a customer, service.  
To all, charity.  
To every child, a good example.  
To yourself, respect.

## A Parents Night Before Christmas

'Twas the night before Christmas when all through the house  
I searched for the tools to hand to my spouse.  
Instructions were studied and we were inspired,  
In hopes we could manage "Some Assembly Required."

The children were quiet (not asleep) in their beds,  
While Dad and I faced the evening with dread:  
A kitchen, two bikes, Barbie's town house to boot!  
And, thanks to Grandpa, a train with a toot!

We opened the boxes, my heart skipped a beat....  
Let no parts be missing or parts incomplete!  
Too late for last-minute returns or replacement;  
If we can't get it right, it goes in the basement!

When what to my worrying eyes should appear,  
But 50 sheets of directions, concise, but not clear,  
With each part numbered and every slot named,  
So if we failed, only we could be blamed.

More rapid than eagles the parts then fell out,  
All over the carpet they were scattered about.  
"Now bolt it! Now twist it! Attach it right there!  
Slide on the seats, and staple the stair!  
Hammer the shelves, and nail to the stand."  
"Honey," said hubby, "you just glued my hand."

And then in a twinkling, I knew for a fact  
That all the toy dealers had indeed made a pact  
To keep parents busy all Christmas Eve night  
With "assembly required" till morning's first light.

We spoke not a word, but kept bent at our work,  
Till our eyes, they went bleary; our fingers all hurt.  
The coffee went cold and the night, it wore thin  
Before we attached the last rod and last pin.

Then laying the tools away in the chest,  
We fell into bed for a well-deserved rest.  
But I said to my husband just before I passed out,  
"This will be the best Christmas, without any doubt.

Tomorrow we'll cheer, let the holiday ring,  
And not have to run to the store for a thing!  
We did it! We did it! The toys are all set  
For the perfect, most perfect, Christmas, I bet!"

Then off to dreamland and sweet repose I gratefully went,  
Though I suppose there's something to say for those self-  
deluded...

I'd forgotten that BATTERIES are never included!

## Christmas thoughts poem by Dean Thorpe

Cold winds start to blow, the windows start to shake  
Snow begins to fall, each perfect little flake  
Windows full of light, the houses seem to glow  
Flashing little lights, reflecting on the snow  
Safe and warm inside, the children try to sleep  
Christmas time is near, will be here in a week

Underneath the tree, some presents in a pile  
Parents always hope, to make the children smile  
Christmas lists so long, but presents are not free  
Did they get it right, will have to wait and see  
Not long left to go, until that special time  
Sharing hot mince pies, and glasses full of wine

This year try your best, to be there for someone  
Do something that's nice, not just because it's fun  
Christmas is a time, to spread a little joy  
Be there for someone, and not just give some toy  
Not some boring gift, that's just so you can boast  
Give the gift of time, that's what they need the most

## HOLDCROFT LIGHTING

Bude's Premier Suppliers Of Quality Lighting

- CONTEMPORARY
- TRADITIONAL
- MODERN
- HAND MADE
- CEILING FANS
- OUTDOOR
- LED LIGHTING
- LOW ENERGY
- LAMP SHADES AND FITTINGS
- LAMPS AND BULBS
- ELECTRICAL ACCESSORIES



**Come & Visit Our Friendly Showroom**  
**UNIT 3A KINGS HILL INDUSTRIAL ESTATE**  
**BUDE**  
**CORNWALL**

**TEL: 01288 350627 E-MAIL: [sales@holdcroftlighting.co.uk](mailto:sales@holdcroftlighting.co.uk)**

## Barn Dance Sept 26th

Despite all best efforts to advertise the event, this years barn dance was not as well attended as the previous year with only 10 paying adults and a few children. However, in good British spirit, we all got up and danced all evening and had a really good time.

The band—Pendragon played brilliantly all evening and commented on how nice the hall looked.

We will consider whether we will have another next year.!!

## PARISH PLAN ACTIONS FOLLOW - UP



For more information on the Parish Plan 2008 – please refer to the Plan delivered to every household. If you have recently moved into the Parish and have not seen a copy, please contact Grace Millman (Tel: 261251) for your household copy. The Plan is also displayed on the web-site [www.miltondamerel.com](http://www.miltondamerel.com)

Please contact any Parish Councillor or the Parish Clerk (contact details are shown on Page 2) about any issues in the Plan, with offers of volunteering to take forward some of the tasks in the action plans, or to let us (or the Chairman or any member of the Parish Hall Committee) know any activities / clubs you are interested in. It is your Plan – the ambitions in it will only materialise with your help!



### Housing Needs

John Scott of the Community Council of Devon presented the report at the October Parish Council meeting - here is a summary:

### MILTON DAMEREL HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY REPORT

In the June the Devon Rural Housing Partnership with Milton Damerel Parish Council carried out housing needs survey in the parish. The purpose of the survey was to discover if there are a significant number of people living or working in Milton Damerel who have not been able to obtain housing suitable to their circumstances.

#### WHAT WE ASKED FOR .....

Households were invited to complete a three part form. This was designed to gather details of the reasons for which the current accommodation failed to meet its needs and the type of accommodation required in the future.

#### WHAT YOU SAID.....

There were a total of 71 Surveys returned, which is a response rate of 35.5%. 7 households were found to be in housing need with a local connection to Milton Damerel.

The biggest reason for wanting to move was setting up an independent home. 77% of those replying said they were in favour of a small affordable housing development for local people.

#### WHAT THE REPORT RECOMMENDS.....

Provision for the need of 7 affordable homes needs to be made.

#### WHAT NOW??

The Rural Housing Enabler will work with Milton Damerel Parish Council and Torridge District Council to work up proposals for affordable housing in the Parish.

The full report is available on the Milton Damerel web-site.

### Notice Boards

We hope to be able soon to site the notice board at Holsworthy Beacon. Permission of the landowner has been obtained, and we have cleared the location with the planning and highways authorities, and checked the locations of water mains, underground cables, etc. with the utilities bodies, and the notice board has been re-furbished ready for setting up. So we are now ready, at last, to install .. and parish councillors have volunteered to do the necessary "digging" and "fixing", etc. Watch this space!!

### Boxing Day

In English-speaking countries, the day following Christmas Day is called 'Boxing Day'. This word comes from the custom which started in the Middle Ages around 800 years ago: churches would open their 'alms boxe' (boxes in which people had placed gifts of money) and distribute the contents to poor people in the neighbourhood on the day after Christmas. The tradition continues today - small gifts are often given to delivery workers such as postal staff and children who deliver newspapers

### Alpha

There was a very successful Introducing Alpha evening at Sheepwash Village Hall on 11<sup>th</sup> November and with over 20 people attending the talk by David Ursell and sharing food. As a result an Alpha course will start in Sheepwash early in the New Year. Alpha is an opportunity to explore the Christian faith with out pressure – in other words, a chance to ask all those questions you have wanted to ask but haven't felt able to! Alpha sessions always start with food and conversation and if you have not been before then why not give it a try? It is open to everyone in the area and follows successful Alpha courses in Milton Damerel and Bradford. If you want to know more then please ring either Jackie Beckles on 01409 231722, or Martin Warren on 01409 281424.

**D & I BRIDGMAN & SON**  
NEWTON St. PETROCK

**TEL: 01409 261321**

**FAX: 01409 261520**

**HOUSEHOLD FUELS**

**FENCING AND GATES**

**BUILDING MATERIALS**

**CLOTHING AND PET FOOD**

**ANIMAL HEALTH AND HUSBANDRY**

**YOUR AGRICULTURAL MERCHANTS**

**\*\*\*SERVICE\*\*\*\*\*QUALITY\*\*\*\*\*PRICE\*\*\***

Whatever your requirements please give us a ring

Free delivery throughout the area

**Blackberry Farm Shop**  
**Milton Damerel**  
**Nr Holsworthy**  
**EX22 7NP**

**Tel 01409 261440**



Proud to be  
part of the



## **Ruby Produce and Crafts**

**Free Range Turkeys from £2.90 per lb**

**Lots of unusual Gifts from £2.50**

**Christmas Hampers from £4.99**

**Locally grown Christmas trees from £2.60 per ft**

Plenty of free parking. Excellent service. Free hamper wrapping service (conditions apply)

**Open - Mon to Fri 9.30am to 5pm Sunday 10am to 1pm**

Just off A388 in Milton Damerel. Satnav EX227NP. [www.lizzyslarder.co.uk](http://www.lizzyslarder.co.uk)

**David & Dendy Baybutt**  
**PROFESSIONAL CREATIVE GARDENERS**  
 (A rarity these days!)

Specialising in Soft and Hard Landscaping  
 with a passion for plants

Over 20 years experience


Visit our website:- [www.baybutts.co.uk](http://www.baybutts.co.uk)

BE INSPIRED

**01409 261848**

[www.baybutts.co.uk](http://www.baybutts.co.uk)

**Window Cleaner**



Chimney Sweeping  
 Reasonable Rates  
 Ring David Seggons  
 01409 241702

## MOBILE DOG GROOMING

Claire's Dog Hairs



Stress free grooming in your dogs own environment

Clipping and styling  
 Hand Stripping  
 Shampooing  
 Scissoring  
 De-Matting  
 Glands  
 Ears and Nails  
 All Breeds

For any appointments or enquiries

Phone Claire: 07801090796  
 E - Mail [ClaireSheridan6@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ClaireSheridan6@hotmail.co.uk)

Now offering a new service  
 Carpet cleaning, £2.50 per m/2

### Putford WI

For August, members of the Women's Institute along with husbands and friends went on a bus trip to Minehead where they had coffee, later taking the train to Bishop Lydeard, where they spent a couple of hours looking around before travelling back to Minehead. It was a glorious day and homeward the party travelled through Exmoor and Lynmouth, stopping for a meal at Blackmoor Gate.

For September, members met in the Chapel Hall and discussed the Christmas meal. The speaker was Mrs. Swanipole who fascinated everyone by showing how to decorate bags and other items by transferring patterns from a serviette onto fabric. Members had a go and were pleased by their efforts. The speaker was thanked by Mary Martin. The winner of the competition for an odd shaped vegetable was Lorna Dawkins who also won the flower of the month. Hostesses were Marion Wooldridge and Kath Lewington. For the October meeting members visited Lizzie's Larder at Milton Damerel.

## Children In Need Breakfast Morning

Thanks to Geoff, Suzanne and all the people that helped this year.

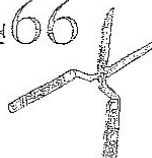
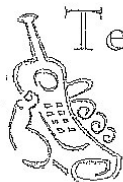
We raised £928  
 and cooked over 70 breakfasts!!





All garden machinery  
serviced and Repaired  
Reasonable rates, Collection  
and delivery available.

Telephone: 01409 261 466  
or 07792079584



## Farmers Market Parish Hall



A big thank you to everyone that came to support us on Nov 28th for our farmers market. We had many local businesses come to sell their food, crafts and goods with a wide range of items on display such as meats, cakes, plants and Christmas craft ideas.

Special thanks for Sara Lawes who very kindly supplied the mince pie for free and to Grace Millman for all the tea, coffee etc also supplied for free.

The recipe book also did well having sold 27 editions. So thank you to all that brought and contributed. There are some still available for £3 per copy. If you would like one for yourself, or as a Christmas filler, please contact any of the newsletter members, details on page 26.

Thanks too for the locals for showing their support in attending the market despite the bad weather and hope that you all bagged a bargain!!

A profit of £122.20 was made and will be split between SSAFA and FCN.  
(Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association & Farmers Crisis Network)

## Computer Drop-In Sessions

Want to learn about computers?

Not sure how to use the Internet?

Want to get the best out of Office?

Informal computer courses are being considered at the Parish Hall. If you are interested, please call Terry 261775 or Edgar 261277 to register your interest.



FANTASTIC NEWLY REFURBISHED  
RESTAURANT



# SUNDAY LUNCH CARVERY

## 2 For £10.00

AVAILABLE 12.00-15.00 EVERY SUNDAY

THE MANAGEMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW THIS OFFER AT ANY TIME

- RELAXING RESTAURANT
- FANTASTIC HOME COOKED FOOD
- THEME NIGHT EVERY WEDNESDAY
- FISH AND GAME NIGHT EVERY TUESDAY
- LIVE FOOTBALL, SKY SPORTS ON BIG SCREEN
  - FUNCTION ROOMS
  - OPEN FIRE
  - MEALS FROM £4.95
- OAP LUNCH TIME SPECIALS

## TO BOOK CALL 01409 261661

The management reserves the right to withdraw special offers at any time

## WET AND WARM IN THE GARDEN

We have certainly had our fair share of rain and the ground is completely saturated which has curtailed several jobs I had hoped to get finished this year, my raised vegetable beds are still half built I can only hope for some crisp winter days to enable me to get them finished, I must get the Asparagus and Strawberries planted before the Spring.

A bonus has been the mild weather in both September and October, my family and I were dining al fresco on the harbour in Torquay at the end of Oct. and the winter now seems a lot shorter at least in the lead up to Christmas.

As ever the grass keeps on growing and my lawns desperately need mowing but they are waterlogged, at the first opportunity after a couple of dry days it is worth getting the mower out otherwise you will be faced with a hay field in the spring which will take numerous cuts to get back into a presentable state.

### STILL TIME TO PLANT.

I planted shallots, garlic and sowed winter broad beans and peas in October but if the weather stays mild it would not be too late even in December to carry out a late planting particularly the sets which will sit dormant in the ground until they feel like emerging.

December is the month to sow onion seeds indoors for those bumper specimens next year, I always sow Kelsae the Scottish variety to plant out in March/April but I see there are Japanese varieties which you can plant in the autumn though in North Devon I suspect they won't like sitting in cold wet soil through the winter months.

Except during very harsh conditions the winter can be a good time to carry out new plantings of both ornamental and culinary plants including soft and top fruit which are available as bare root plants that are a lot cheaper than the containerized versions and will establish quite quickly.

Because there is always some root cut off when plants are dug up you should compensate by trimming the top growth by at least a third which will also encourage bushier growth next year, bare root roses and native hedging plants should be cut down to around 6" (150mm) to encourage new growth from the base.

### PLANNING FOR THE SUMMER.

One of the enjoyable jobs in the winter is going through seed catalogues and planning what to grow next year.

Seed purchases used to be cheap particularly as the resultant crops can be so rewarding but I am always surprised at the price of even the most basic seeds which must be paying for the seed company's glossy catalogues and national advertising.

I was introduced to a small specialist seed company a few years ago whose catalogue is a plain black and white leaflet with sensible prices and clear information on how many seeds you actually get, in the case of Lobelia that is 3000 for £0.75 but you do plant these in clumps not individually.

Conversely F1 hybrid All Female Cucumbers are 5 seeds for £2.40, as one hundred percent germination is nigh on impossible these are very expensive so personally I just buy a couple of plants in May letting someone else take the risks.

If you need pictures and more information then use a national companies colour catalogue but consider contacting Wallis Seeds on 01245 360513 as an economical alternative supplier.

#### How to tell the sex of a fly

**A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking with a fly swat.**

**"What are you doing?" She asked.**

**"Hunting Flies" he replied.**

**"Oh! Kill any?" She asked.**

**"Yep, 3 males, 2 Females," he replied.**

**Intrigued, she asked.**

**"How can you tell them apart?"**

**He responded...**

**"3 were on a beer can...**

**the other 2 were on the phone".**

## **GARDEN SOCIETY NEWS.**

### **GARDEN SHOW**

In September Milton Damerel held it's first Garden Show at least in living memory, entries were received from a wide range of both green and brown fingered gardeners with some 160 items entered in 39 classes including vegetables, fruit, flowers, arrangements, cakes, photographs etc.

With so many entries judging was particularly difficult the most popular categories were Jam 12 jars, Chutney 9 jars and 11 Kelsae Onions were vying to be the heaviest, John Binns entered the winning 1.2 kg. specimen and took home the trophy for this special class.

Tracy Woodhouse's excellent flower arrangement was unanimously considered by the judges to be the best overall entry in the Show and she was awarded the first ever engraved Best in Show Trophy.

Doors were opened after judging and there was a good turnout of interested people who after viewing the entries were able to enjoy light refreshments particularly the cream teas on offer followed by the raffle draw with very good prizes including several meals at local establishments.

### **AUTUMN MEETINGS.**

On the 7<sup>th</sup> October Nick Oliver, one of the owners of St. Johns Garden Centre in Barnstaple, arrived at the Hall with a van load of plants all of which were showing wonderful autumn colour ranging from the blooms of dwarf Cyclamen to a huge Hydrangea Paniculata with flowers a full 6" across.

Nick went on to give all present an insight into planting pots and bowls to cheer up any patio through the drab winter months and also extolled the virtues of various autumn flowering shrubs to brighten any garden.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> November David Gayton the local ambassador for the British Trust for Ornithology gave a talk on the various birds he has seen over the last 20 years in his garden in Fremington.

He accompanied his talk with a slide show of the various species we can expect to see in North Devon.

### **THE FUTURE.**

The societies next meeting is a social get together on 2nd December, 7.30pm in the Hall, where Mulled Wine and Mince Pies will be served with a display of traditional Christmas time pot plants including Poinsettias, Cyclamen and Azaleas which will be offered for sale at the end of the evening.

A few instructions will be given by Bill Wrighton on how to care for these plants and he will be happy to answer any questions from those present, entry is as usual £1 for members and £2 for non members to include the seasonal refreshments.

### **2010**

The Societies second year is looking really interesting to both keen and reluctant gardeners with specialist speakers already arranged to talk about a variety of subjects to include, equipment and tool maintenance, Fuchsias, Garden Design, Herbaceous, the Hartland Abbey Gardens, with several other speakers in the pipeline including a fruit tree expert who will probably visit in the spring of 2011.

After the success of last years events another Garden Party will be held in August, venue and date to be agreed whilst the Garden Show is already scheduled for the 11<sup>th</sup> September so get planting next spring.

#### **DATES FOR THE DIARY PAGE:-**

DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> 7-30PM - GARDEN SOCIETY SOCIAL GET TOGETHER WITH POT PLANTS

FEBRUARY 3<sup>RD</sup> 2010 7-30PM – GARDEN SOCIETY MEETING THE CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT.

MARCH 3<sup>RD</sup> 2010 7-30PM – GARDEN SOCIETY MEETING WITH FUCHSIA SPECIALIST.

#### **Committee members are:-**

Edgar Pett	01409 261277	John Binns	01409 261381
Nicola Wrighton	01409 261742	Bill Wrighton	01409 261738

## **MILTON DAMEREL PARISH HALL NEWS**

**Annual General Meeting** held on 17<sup>th</sup> September – Copy of the Accounts for the year ending August 2009 is shown on page 25. You will see that the Milton Damerel Fete is no longer run by the Parish Hall Committee and therefore all funds relevant to the Fete have now been removed from our Account.

Two Officers have changed: **Chairman** Mrs Mary Carter 261 248, **Secretary** Mrs Sara Lawes 261 105, and **Treasurer** stayed as Mrs Lesley Self 261 294.

Our Charges have been changed to £5 per hour for the Hire of the Hall with Kitchen. The Charges for the Skittle Alley remain the same at £10 per visit.

Please remember that this is your Parish Hall and needs to be used.

The committee are please to have received a County Councillors Grant from Mr Humphrey Temperley and a District Councillors Community Grant from Mr Robert Hicks for improving the kitchen. Once the kitchen was completed we realised that the lino should be replaced and we applied and received a Grant from the Balsdon Trust, which was very much appreciated. We also received a Grant from Milton Damerel Parish Council, which helps towards the running cost of the Hall.

### **EVENTS REPORT**

**Skittles Fun Night. 19<sup>th</sup> September 2009.** A good evening £45.35 profit.

**Whist Drive 25<sup>th</sup> September 2009.** Another enjoyable evening, £44 profit.

**Soup and Sweet Evening 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2009.** This was a lovely social get together. £69 profit.

**Beetle Drive 24<sup>th</sup> October 2009.** Enjoyable fun evening for all the family, £85 profit.

**Wine and Wisdom 14<sup>th</sup> November 2009.** We managed to have 6 tables, which was good as we feel that it is not worth going ahead with 5 or less. Taking into account the cost of the Alcohol Licence, we made a profit of £124.60. It was a lively evening. We are thankful to David and Chris Dyer, who came from Dulverton, Somerset, to be our Question Master and “Adjudicator”. We all seemed to have faired better with answering the questions!! The winning table was Mary Rolinson's, of West Willows, Milton Town with a total of 88.

### **FUTURE EVENTS**

**Whist Drive. Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010.** 8.00pm. £1.50. If you like playing cards, but don't know how to play whist and would like to join us, contact Sara on 261 105. She will be happy to have a practice session.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Skittles Tournament. Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2010.** 7.00pm. Teams of 6. At least 2 ladies. £2 per player. Refreshments will be on sale. BYO Beer/Wine. **PLEASE BOOK IN TEAMS.** Edgar Pett 261 277. Sara Lawes 261 105. Lesley Self 261 294.

**Whist Drive. Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2010.** 8.00pm. £1.50.

**Beetle Drive. Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2010.** 7.30pm. Family Fun. £1.50 adult and £1.00 child.

**Wine & Wisdom. Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2010.** 7.30pm for 8.00pm. £4 per person, teams of 6, but couples and singles are welcome, please come along. We can make up teams on arrival. **PLEASE BOOK.** Lesley 261 294 Mary 261 248

We were asked what is a “Wine and Wisdom”. It's a quiz night, this is the Wisdom. Our Question Master compiles a list of 10 questions in 10 categories. They could vary each time. Teams can play a joker against a category and gain double points. The Wine is, we provide a Bottle of Wine, Orange Juice, Cheese, Bread and Picky Things, for each table. Extra Wine, Beer and Lager can be purchased if wanted. It's then up to all who attend to try and get as many correct answers as possible. You could say that it does get competitive, but it's all in good fun.

#### **LINE DANCING**

**At Milton Damerel Parish Hall**

**Tuesdays 7.0pm to 9.0pm**

**£1.50 per session**

**Tel: Lesley 261294 or Mary 261248**



### An Ode to Milton Damerel Ladies Skittle Team

O dear, what a too do,  
We've gone down, to division two.  
The A team, as always, played really well,  
And we the B team, well, can't you tell.  
We stayed at the bottom, though some score were high,  
And we really thought, we would just get by.

A new season we start, new places to go.  
A change, might do us good, you know.  
So pull together girls and don't dismay,  
Its only a game, and another day,  
We'll all try harder, and do our best,  
Lets hope we're on form, now we've had a rest

### **EGDAW COMPUTERS**

Computer Repairs and Upgrades  
Computers built to your requirements

New and used systems,  
desktops and Laptops.

Tuition, Virus Removal, Software  
Problems

Hardware Problems, Networking  
No Fix No fee

Is your computer behaving badly  
and in need of a boost  
For an honest and friendly Service

Call Mark on

01409 241452 or 07888775755

or email [mark@egdawcomputers.co.uk](mailto:mark@egdawcomputers.co.uk)



**Local tradesman covering your area**

★ Repairs ★

★ Servicing ★

★ Installations ★

★ Remote control operators ★

**Specialists in 'up and over' style garage doors**

**Cables, springs, locks, rollers etc**

**Fast and efficient**

**Friendly, reliable service**

**All work guaranteed**

**No call out fee**

**Repairs undertaken on most makes including**

**Garador, Cardale, Henderson and Wessex**

**10% Discount for Senior Citizens**

**Call Ray Tree on**

**Holsworthy 01409 250168**

**Or mobile 07805 021015**

**Email: [raymond\\_tree@btinternet.com](mailto:raymond_tree@btinternet.com)**

*The Devon Food Company*

*01805 601569*

*The Oaks, Stibb Cross, Torrington,  
Devon*

*High quality handmade authentic Asian, Oriental and  
other savoury dishes readily available in convenient  
microwaveable containers.*

*Registered with Torridge District Council Environmental  
Health & Public Protection*

*Open 7 days a week from 10am to 9pm. Stock up your  
freezer or entertain, and your order is £40 or above, free  
delivery available within a 5 mile radius of Stibb Cross.*

*Please call in for a menu or telephone  
for further details.*

*Police Co-ordinators*

PCSO 30099 - Raquel Rowe } Holsworthy Pol. St.  
 PCSO 30103 - Beverley Harvey } Tel: 01409 259461

*Local Co-ordinators*

**Strawberry Bank:** Roger Copp - Tel. 261681  
**Gratton:** Edgar Pett - Tel. 261277  
**Whitebear/Fore Street** Edgar Pett - Tel. 261277  
**Venn Green:** Mike Jackson - Tel. 261196

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT**

Since our last report there have been a number of changes at Holsworthy Police Station which affect us. Our Beat Manager, John Sheppard, has been transferred to Launceston and his position has been filled, with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> November, by PC Anna Rock. Our PCSO Raquel Rowe will be away for several months on a training course and her position been filled by PCSO Andrew Elston who was previously covering the Holsworthy Town area.

It has been commented recently on the fact that we do not hold regular meetings as do some other NHW schemes and we are aware from meetings with our colleagues in Bideford and Torrington that these are necessary in some areas. Rural North Devon and in particular the areas around Holsworthy continue to be very low crime areas, which is of course to be welcomed. There is therefore very little point in holding meetings on a regular basis. However, that is not to say that we cannot hold meetings and should the need arise, then we will certainly do so. If anybody does feel that a meeting is required at this time could you please speak to one of the co-ordinators.

With Christmas approaching a postal delivery scam has again reared its head in parts of North Devon and Torridge. A company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) leaves a card suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them to make arrangements for the delivery. The number that you are asked to ring starts 0906, which is a premium rate number and you will be charged a hefty premium if you dial it. If anybody is contacted by this company please in the first instance contact the police, as soon as possible, on 08452 777 444.

Whilst on the subject of Christmas, we would like to remind our local residents that extra care and vigilance is required over the festive period. Please ensure that all gifts and presents are secure and out of sight from other people. A car was recently broken into on the car park in Holsworthy, in broad daylight. Your gifts will then be received by the people you intended should get them and they do not end up in the hands of some light-fingered opportunist.

Despite our comments about low crime there have been a number of thefts of red diesel from farms and yards over recent weeks. If you keep stocks of this fuel on your premises please try to secure the tank and keep a look-out for unfamiliar vehicles in the area. Also, with the dark nights now with us once again, the police recommend that if you are away from home it is good practice to leave a light/& radio playing to deter intruders.

**HOLSWORTHY POLICE STATION OPENING HOURS**

MONDAY :- 08:00 Hours - 11:00 Hours.

TUESDAY :- 17:00 Hours - 20:00 Hours.

WEDNESDAY :- 08:00 Hours - 14:00 Hours.

THURSDAY :- 14:00 Hours - 17:00 Hours.

FRIDAY :- 08:00 Hours - 11:30 Hours.

A STATION ENQUIRY OFFICER WILL BE PRESENT AT HOLSWORTHY POLICE STATION DURING THE ABOVE HOURS.

IN AN EMERGENCY PLEASE PHONE

999

FOR ENQUIRYS OR NON EMERGENCY INCIDENTS PLEASE CALL

08452 777 444

PCSO 30099 RAQUEL ROWE

## HOLSWORTHY RURAL CRIME UPDATE FROM THE 1<sup>st</sup> OF NOVEMBER

- Chilsworthy, Criminal damage to a vehicle, caused by a key or similar
- Clawton Southcott Garage, glass stolen from a car wing mirror
- St Giles on the Heath, damage to post box
- Holsworthy Trewyn rd, burglary to dwelling,
- Property stolen:- Passport, 1x50 inch flat screen tv, 1x20 inch flat screen tv, 2x ipods, 2x small short loudspeakers, wii console, Toshiba laptop computer, Lumini x digital camera, digital photo frame, 1x duvet, 4x pillows, Police digital wrist watch, vehicle keys, motor cycle keys and a Green Rover, mixed bank notes, a free standing combination safe.
- Milton Damerel, various lengths of tanalised wooden planks were stolen, approximately £300 in value
- Rydon, on outskirts of Holsworthy, a Pioneer car compact disc player and a pair of Oakley sunglasses were stolen from a vehicle
- Bridgerule, various garden ornaments and a concrete budha were stolen

### BOGUS CALLERS

We have been informed that a bogus caller, that has been happening in the Torridge area, has now moved to other areas of North Devon also.

A lady in North Devon reported that she was telephoned by a man claiming to be from the council. He told her that she was possibly eligible for some council tax to be repaid, going back sixteen years. He even quoted an amount.

The man who already had some of the woman's details, like her address and bank name, then asked for more of her bank details.

However, the woman correctly refused to give him any further information. The man then ended the conversation saying that he would post out some forms for her to fill in to process the claim.

Police can confirm that this man was not anyone from the council.

Please be very careful when a phone call such as this is made to you or cold callers visit your address. If in doubt phone the company they represent. If you do not wish to have anything to do with what they are trying to sell for example then simply say that you are not interested thank you.

Also I have been informed that a company called PDS (parcel delivery service) leave you a message asking you to call 0906661941911. This is a premium rate number and if you phone you get a recorded message, and it will of already charged you £15.

Whilst out on patrol in different locations in the rural area, I have noticed lots of properties that have items left outside visible from the road or within easy reach should any thieves be in that area. I have recently seen several properties with various amounts of coal in bags adjacent to the road or certainly visible from the road. Logs in stacks, bikes, vehicles unlocked. It when things left like this that it invites thieves to see what else there might be around of interest.

### ADVICE LEADING UP TO AND DURING CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR

#### Christmas shopping:-

Keep your wallet or purse close to your body and never in your back or top of your handbag.

Try to pay using a debit card where possible rather than carrying lots of cash

Always keep your PIN number secret and be aware of who is around you when withdrawing cash

Never leave credit or debit card receipts lying around as some of them have your card details on them

Always use a well lit car park and never leave shopping bags on display

Property mark presents and valuables with your postcode, house number or name, then register on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)

#### Home security:-

Do not leave presents under the tree in full view of windows and doors

Leave lights on timer switches

If you are away for Christmas, cancel milk, newspapers etc

Lock all outside doors and windows, use the burglar alarm if you have one

As a neighbour or friend to collect the post open and close the curtains, even put a vehicle on the drive from time to time

#### Vehicle crime:-

Use well lit, secure car parks. Details of these can be found at [www.securedcarparks.com](http://www.securedcarparks.com)

Don't leave anything of value in your vehicle including stereos and sat nav

Register your car devices also with the free online national tracking agency [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)

Keep a record of your car device serial numbers

When at home, keep your keys hidden and away from doors windows and letterboxes

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone in the Holsworthy rural area a very happy Christmas and New year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any concerns or any kind.

PCSO 30103 Beverley Harvey Holsworthy Police Station 01409 259461

## Another Local Air Crash – Halifax Bomber DT781

The Handley-Page Halifax was a heavy bomber which shared the RAF's offensive thrust into Germany during the Second World War. Whilst early models had a design flaw in the rudders, modifications were made, including removal of the front turret, modifying or removing the mid-upper turret and redesigning the rudders. The plane then became a solid and dependable aircraft although it didn't share the same charisma



as its stable mate the Avro Lancaster of "Dam Busters" fame. It was similar in design to the Lancaster, although of all metal construction and a little more 'square' in shape. Early models were equipped with the same liquid cooled Rolls-Royce V12 Merlin engines as the Lancaster and these were also used in the Spitfire and Hurricane fighters.

Handley-Page Halifax DT781 was based at Lindholme in South Yorkshire as part of Heavy Conversion Unit 1656. Lindholme was an operational training base covering Halifax, Lancaster and Avro Manchester bombers. On January 13, 1944 DT781 took off at 21:49 for a night navigation training flight. At 20,000 feet a fire broke out in the port side outer engine which led to a general fire and the

*An later Mark 3 example of the Halifax*

subsequent loss of control with the aircraft then breaking up. The main bulk of the wreckage crashed into a field at about 1:40 on January 14. The crash site was a field to the east of Holsworthy, near to Anvil Corner. Despite the prompt action and efforts of Home Guard Lieutenant Fred Bate and Home Guard Medical Officer Dr. Charles Evans, who were both quickly on the scene, all six crew members perished. Flight recording equipment was not a feature at that time and so it was not known whether the fire was due to an inherent engine fault or some other cause. The inexperience of the relatively young crew may possibly have contributed to the loss of control. Crew members were:-

Flight Sergeant William Routledge Wilson, RCAF, Pilot aged 21  
 Sergeant Robert Herbert Dolden, RAF, Flight Engineer aged 23  
 Flying Officer Frederick Jacob Hjartarson, RCAF, Navigator  
 Flight Sergeant James Joseph Cleary, RAAF, Bomber-aimer aged 24  
 Sergeant Roy Charles Bradbury, RAVR, Wireless Operator/Air Gunner aged 20  
 Sergeant Roy Burgess, RAFVR, Air Gunner aged 19

In 2002, largely due to the efforts of a local amateur historian, Mr Charles Cornish of Holsworthy and paid for by public subscription, a memorial plaque was commissioned and sited close to the crash site. This memorial is still in place and can be seen approx. 350 yards from Anvil Corner along the Staddon Road, on the eastern side.

### ***' A Chivenor based Hunter jet crashes at Milton Damerel'***

Sequel from searching the internet:

Date of crash: 7th August 1959

Aircraft: RAF Hunter F4

Pilot ejected - aircraft hit the ground at Youlton Farm, Sutcombe, SW of Bideford

Flt. Off. A. J. B. Bametson ejected over Milton Damerel







## RAW PIPER & SONS Est. 1975

Kerry Heights, Milton Damerel  
Your Local Aggregate Suppliers



Top Soil, Sand, Stone,  
Dry Concrete Mix  
Cement, Chippings (Including  
Coloured)

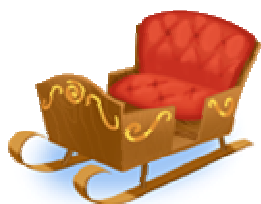


Small bags & Dumpy ton bags available

Collected or Delivered

**Call- 01409 261439**

**~wishing you all a Happy Christmas & New Year~**



### The Barn Cattery

East Wonford, Milton Damerel, Holsworthy

- Resident Proprietors
- Choice of indoor or outdoor pens
- 'Cats only' Establishment
- Special rates for long stay
- Collection/delivery service
- Only inoculated cats accepted
- Heated chalets for individual or families

Inspection invited



**Tel: 01409 261105**

[www.barncattery.com](http://www.barncattery.com)

**MOTOR REPAIRS & SERVICING**  
**MOT TESTING \* FIAT SERVICE AGENT**  
**24 HR BREAKDOWN & ACCIDENT RECOVERY**  
**SLIDEBACKS \* SPECLIFTS**  
**HIAB & DAMAGE-FREE LIFT**  
**PETROL \* DERV \* GAS**  
**OFFLICENCE \* SHOP**

## W. SANDERS & SONS



We wish all our customers a  
Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year!

**HORRELSFORD GARAGE**  
**MILTON DAMEREL . HOLSWORTHY**  
**DEVON . EX22 7NU**  
**Tel: (01409) 261212 . Fax: (01409) 261598**

**TREVOR SANDERS** Proprietor  
**REX SANDERS** Service Manager



# Christmas Word Search



G L E T W C R S T O C K I N G  
 Y I P I D A E R B R E G N I G  
 A C O V T R P Y A E C E F F U  
 R E A S L E Q I X O C T A P Z  
 E M I R Y H A U D P S A J O N  
 S E A P O B E T H L E H E M I  
 N R U L O L D O N T F O S P U  
 A R L S L E I G H A A S U D O  
 M Y N O K L T T O Y S I S H R  
 W C E N E M E S I W F E T A N  
 O B M K A J L O Z Y E G V M A  
 N E R N O L U H M G O T E L M  
 S O G I E O Y D N A C X O N E  
 V E R B I J O T H U W B K A N  
 R E E D N I E R Q C A E E R T



- |                |              |              |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Bells       | 9. Holly     | 17. Sleigh   |
| 2. Bethlehem   | 10. Jesus    | 18. Snowman  |
| 3. Candy       | 11. Manger   | 19. Star     |
| 4. Carol       | 12. Merry    | 20. Stocking |
| 5. Christmas   | 13. Ornament | 21. Toys     |
| 6. Elves       | 14. Peace    | 22. Tree     |
| 7. Gifts       | 15. Reindeer | 23. Wisemen  |
| 8. Gingerbread | 16. Santa    | 24. Yuletide |

Copyright Christmas Online

The newsletters group members are:

Tracy Dunmore	dunmorehom@aol.com	261501	Children & Youth News
Janet Fisher	janetcfisher@btinternet.com	261882	Regular contributors and features
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	petles@talktalk.net	261294	Regular contributors and features

Letters, comments, news and articles, etc., can be emailed to [mdnews@miltondamerel.com](mailto:mdnews@miltondamerel.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 of 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.

To advertise in this newsletter contact Margaret on 01409 261486 for more details.

The deadline for submissions of articles and advertisements for the next newsletter is 19th February 2010

WHAT'S ON .. a selection from local arts...

WHAT?	WHEN?	WHERE?
Holsworthy Band Concert Christmas Carols	Sunday, 6 <sup>th</sup> December	H.A.T.S Theatre, Holsworthy Tel: 01409 253826 <a href="http://www.holsworthytheatre.co.uk">www.holsworthytheatre.co.uk</a>
“Queen of Hearts” (pantomime)	Monday, 25 <sup>th</sup> January to Saturday, 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2010 (Monday – Saturdays) @ 7.30pm. Saturdays also @ 2.30pm	
Cinema - Films	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday each month For info: films @holsworthymemorialhall.co.uk	Holsworthy Memorial Hall Tel: 01409 254185 <a href="http://www.holsworthymemorialhall.co.uk">www.holsworthymemorialhall.co.uk</a>
To Hell & Back Europe’s best tribute to Meatloaf	Saturday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December @ 9pm	
The Wurzels	Saturday, 7 <sup>th</sup> February	
Original Gifts for Christmas Exhibition	Preview Friday, 4 <sup>th</sup> December @ 7pm Friday, 4 <sup>th</sup> December – Wednesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> December.	The Plough, Torrington Box Office: 01805 624624 <a href="http://www.plough-arts.org">www.plough-arts.org</a>
Music: Beverley Craven	Saturday, 5 <sup>th</sup> December @ 8pm	
Johnny Coppin: “All on a Winter’s Night	Tuesday, 8 <sup>th</sup> December @ 8pm	
“Festivity” by Junior Plough Youth Theatre (8-12 year olds)	Thursday, 10 <sup>th</sup> – Saturday, 12 <sup>th</sup> December @7pm. Also Saturday @ 3pm	
Film: Fantastic Mr Fox (PG)	Saturday, 19 <sup>th</sup> , Monday, 21 <sup>st</sup> &	
Miracle Theatre “The Revenge of Rumpelstiltskin”	Sunday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December ‘ 7pm	
Film: Up (U)	Sunday, 27 <sup>th</sup> December – Wednesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> December @ 3pm	
Cinderella (pantomime)	Thursday, 10 <sup>th</sup> December – 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2010 .. most days @ 7pm, Saturday matinees @ 2.30pm – contact box office.	Queen’s Hall Theatre, Barnstaple Box Office: 01271 324242 <a href="http://www.northdevontheatres.org.uk">www.northdevontheatres.org.uk</a>
The Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain	Thursday, 28 <sup>th</sup> January 2010 @ 7.30pm	
ZU2 (tribute show)	Friday, 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2010 @ 7.45pm	
Abba Mania	Saturday, 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2010 @ 7.45pm	
The Pearl Fishers by Georges Bizet	Saturday, 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2010 @ 7.30pm	
One Night of Queen	Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2010 @ 7.45pm	



## What's on Diary

			Page
Music for Advent and Christmas	2nd December	7:30	9
MD Gardening club	2nd December	7:30	17
Monster Club	4th December	4:45 - 6:15	6
Windy Cross Singers - Gospel Special	6th December	7:30	8
Messy Christmas	12th December	4 - 5:30	6
United Carol Service	18th December	7:00	8
Father Christmas - Horrelsford Garage	19th December	2:30	6
Christmas craft 5 - 11 years	19th December	3:00 - 5:00	9
Christingle Service	20th December	4:00	9
St Peters Church Carol Service	20th December	6:30	8
Carol Singing	22nd December	6:45	9
Carols on the Green - Thornbury	23rd December		8
Midnight Service	24th December	11:30	9
Family Service	25th December	10:30	9
Whist Drive	22nd January	8:00	18
MD Gardening club	3rd February	7:30	17
Beetle Drive	19th February	7:30	18
2nd Skittles Tournament	27th February	7:00	18
MD Gardening club	3rd March	7:30	17
Whist Drive	19th March	8:00	18
Wine and Wisdom	17th April	7:30	18

## Regular Events

Line dancing	Tuesdays 7-9pm
MD & District over 60's Club	1st Tuesday of each month
Needlework	Monday afternoons 1.30pm
Coffee, cake and company, Shebbear	1st & 3rd Fridays
Shebbear Circuit Choir	Tuesdays 7.30 -9pm

## Missing local events?

Why not detach this diary from the main newsletter and put it somewhere where you can see it, perhaps on your fridge or on your pin board.

### December 2009

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

### January 2010

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

### February 2010

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						