



Milton Damerel Newsletter

Spring Edition



Picture courtesy Jenny Moon

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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: 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 December, January and February. Planning Matters. Since the last report, the Parish Council have been consulted on the planning application for slurry lagoons at Cross Farm, in addition the application for planning permission and listed building consent for the extension and alterations to Mentmore Cottage.

Highway Issues have been to the fore at all recent meetings. The freezing weather has caused havoc on all roads with many **potholes** developing. The Parish Council regularly reports major road defects.

We are informed by **Devon County Council Highways** that they have deployed twenty-six pothole gangs working full time across the County, initially to repair defects on A, B and C roads and if finances allows this regime will continue onto the minor roads. However this may not happen for a few weeks. To give an indication of the scale of the problem, Devon County Council have filled over 40,000 potholes this financial year which is double the usual amount. Recently in one week alone 1200 potholes were reported to the highways department. Unfortunately this is the harsh reality of the position Devon County Council are currently facing and statistics show that whilst 95% of the County's 'A' and 'B' roads are in good condition, approximately 50% of the minor road network is in need of attention. The current level of funding does not allow them to do all the work necessary to maintain the network as they would wish and in the meantime drivers are urged to **drive with extra care and attention** during these difficult times.

During the icy conditions the location of **salt boxes** also became an issues and it is thanks to a parishioner's persistence with Highways that a new box has been installed at Gratton. A further four locations were identified by the Parish Councillors as in need of salt/grit boxes and following this request Highways have recently placed bags of salt/grit at the roadside at these locations, for use on the public highway.

The large amount of **Mud on Roads** was brought to the attention of the Parish Council following the bad weather. Devon County Council highway maintenance advice leaflet (available as a down load from their website) '**Farming and the public highway**' reminds 'all occupiers of land that they have a duty not to obstruct the public highway or do anything that could inconvenience or endanger the public while they use the highway. It is an offence under the Highways Act to allow soil or refuse from land adjacent to a public highway to fall, be washed, or carried on to the road. This is also an offence under Devon Bylaw 22. Mud and muck from vehicles and animals are a potential hazard to other road users and can be the cause of accidents' and they advise that it should be cleaned up as soon as possible.

Vehicles running onto wet and muddy verges are causing damage to the verges and road edges and also spreading mud on the highway. Drivers are asked to be careful to use appropriate passing places to avoid vehicles running onto verges.

Installation of Notice Board at Holsworthy Beacon has now been completed and all Parish Council notices will be displayed on this and the other two parish notice boards, at the Parish Hall and Horreelsford Garage. If space permits the Parish Clerk (see above) can arrange to put up notices for local organisations in the Parish Council notice boards.

The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on Wednesday 21st April 2010 at 7.30pm when Darren Sussex, Housing Enabling Officer from Torridge District Council and Sue Southwell, Rural Housing Enabler from the Community Council of Devon, will give a presentation on affordable housing and update the parish on recent work in Milton Damerel. Local organisations are invited to give their reports to the community and there will be opportunity for public comments. Light refreshments will be served before a regular Parish Council meeting commences. All residents are invited to attend.

Freedom of Information. In line with the publication scheme adopted by the Council in January 2009, 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.

All residents are invited to attend the

Milton Damerel ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

to be held at Milton Damerel Parish Hall on Wednesday 21st April at 7.30 pm

The speakers will be

Darren Sussex, TDC and Sue Southwell CCD, who will give a presentation on

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

to update the parish on recent work in Milton Damerel & answer questions from members of the community.

Local organisations will present their reports

THIS IS YOUR MEETING - PLEASE COME

Light Refreshments will be served

CONGRATULATIONS!

To:

Vicky Gliddon (of Foxgloves, Strawberry Bank) & **Will Stone** on their marriage at Holy Trinity Church on 11th December 2009

Ken & Pat Parnell, of Kenmar, Venn Green, who celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 18th March 2010.

Gareth Piper, of West Wonford, who celebrated his 40th birthday on 17th February

Roger Daniel, of Woodford Farm, who celebrated his 65th birthday on 19th February

May Gay, of Woodford Farm, who celebrates her 80th birthday on 16th March

Sara Lawes of The Barn, East Wonford who celebrates her 60th birthday on 15th March



GOOD-BYE & WELCOME

Farewell and best wishes to:

Michael & Dorothy Stairs & Rachel who have moved from Five Acres

Paul & Margaret Mason who will shortly be leaving Chapel, Gidcott for Ross-on-Wye

A warm welcome to:

Liz & Dave Carroll, Matthew & Charlotte who have moved into Waldon Farm

John & Joan Farington who have moved into Five Acres, West Wonford

Terri Brearley, Simon, Martin & Daniel who have moved into Old Trafford, and

Stephen Moyse & Kate Richardson have moved across to Rossmay, Venn Green

Jonathon & Kat, Seb & Ashley who have moved into Meadow View at Milton Town

Andrew & Tina Prop who have moved into Higher Walland.



THANK-YOU!

We have been asked to include a big thank you to all those kind neighbours, (*hopefully you will know who you are, as we are afraid to mention names in case we miss out any-one*) that checked on their neighbours, collected and delivered milk, bread, etc., and helped out in so many ways during the two bouts of cold weather, which left several people isolated in their homes and unable to go out. Your thoughtfulness and kind deeds were much appreciated.

We are also asked to make a special mention of Horrellsford Garage for becoming a "delivery and collection point" and for all the extras that Penny and staff took on during the most inclement weather and conditions.

Finally, there was much admiration for the dedication shown by Father Christmas in trudging across the fields, in the deep snow, (*I'm told the reindeer were being rested up, to be ready for the long night on Christmas Eve, so I'm not sure at what time he set out from Lapland.....*), to greet the children, and the young at heart, at the Garage on the Saturday before Christmas ... and the determination of his "admirers" to be there, whether coming on foot or risking the car journeys. Of course, Santa Claus knows all about snow and travelling in such conditions ... and with such a welcome in Milton Damerel will no doubt have already made a note in his diary for next year.....!! Thank you Father Christmas!

Chapel News – March 2010

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 contact shown at the foot of the page.

Giving it up for Lent!

Have you given up something for Lent? Perhaps chocolates, or swearing, or have you just 'given up on giving things up'? Perhaps you would like to consider joining us for this year's Lent Study and be prepared to give up just an hour or so on a Monday night.

We have chosen the popular York Course's study *'When I survey.... Christ's cross and ours.'* This is also being used by many other groups around this area. Each week we will be listening, on a CD, to leading Christian thinkers expressing their thoughts and views, which is then followed by a discussion of questions linked with the topic for that week. The participants on the CD are: Rev John Bell of the Iona Community, who is also an ordained minister of the Church of Scotland, General Sir Richard Dannant GCB CBE MC, Chief of the General Staff and Professional Head of the British Army until his retirement in August 2009, Canon Dr Christian Baxter CBE, Principal of St John's Theological College, Nottingham and Lay Chair of the General Synod of the Church of England, Rev Dr Colin Morris, former President of the Methodist Conference and Head of Religious Broadcasting at the BBC. The course is introduced by Dr David Hope (Archbishop of York from 1995 – 2005). The course is designed to help us learn more about the Christian faith, looks at some of the biggest questions facing humanity, helps us also to examine our own personal beliefs, all in a friendly, non-judgemental, environment.

Session 1 starts on Monday 1st March at 7.30pm in the Methodist Schoolroom and continues on 8th, 15th, 22nd, and finishing on 29th March. The Bible Study group, which meets regularly on a Monday evening, is made up of folk from various denominations and Churches, so feel free to join us, we would be pleased to welcome you for this year's Lent course. You do not have to belong to any church or fellowship to come along – our group is open to anyone who would like to come along and join in! Contact Sheila (Tel: 261466) or Grace (Tel: 261251)

"TEA & CAKE" AFTERNOONS – We are planning for the first "Tea & Cake" event in 2010 to be held on **Saturday, 27th March** from 3pm in the Milton Schoolroom. Stalls / proceeds for charity ... look out for publicity.

GOSPEL SPECIALS – The next Gospel Special will be on **Easter Day, Sunday 4th April @ 7.30pm** when the Bude Circuit Singers and guest artistes will present a programme of Christian songs and poetry. All most welcome.

SUNDAY CLUB & FAMILY SERVICES – The Sunday Club continue to meet each Sunday morning, joining in with the morning service until about 11.20am, when we then go to our class. We do a wide variety of activities, including crafts, drama, cooking, songs, watch DVDs and have a good time together. Sunday Club is free and open to any children / young people who would like to come along. There is no Sunday Club on the last Sunday of the month, when we all join together for Family Service, as detailed below. Contact Sheila (Tel: 261466) for any further details.

Family Services:

28th March 2010

Mr David Lewis

25th April 2010

To be confirmed

30th May 2010

Sunday Club Anniversary

Mr Christopher Andrew

When the young people share in

leading worship with songs, drama, etc.

Please come and share their day!

Please also see Junior / Youth News for details of other activities for children / young people, such as Messy Church, Praise Parties and Milton Monsters.

CHAPEL FLOWER PLAN FOR THE MONTHS OF MARCH TO MAY 2010

MAR		APR		MAY	
7 th	Mrs Anne Poole	4 th	Mrs Sheila Daniel	2 nd	Circuit Rally
14 th	Mrs Lilian Luxton	11 th	Mrs Phyllis Piper	9 th	Mrs Grace Millman
21 st	Mrs Niggy Southey	18 th	Mrs Tracy Dunmore	16 th	Mrs Gladys Palmer
28 th	Mrs Gwyneth Johns	25 th	Mrs Valerie Carter	23 rd	Mrs Eunice Hearn
				30 th	Mrs Lilian Luxton

CONTACTS – Our circuit minister post is vacant, due to the retirement of Rev David Wheeler, so 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

"United Parish Carol Service at Milton"

On a very cold dark Friday evening, just above freezing, we gathered at the Parish Church for the United Parish Carol Service. We alternate between the church and the chapel for this annual event, and in selecting a week-day evening, we were delighted that a good number came along.

With no "street" lighting for the path, we were greeted by a row of blue intermittent fairy lights along the whole length of the path to the front door - a magical welcome. The church had been the venue for Vicky (Gliddon) & Will Stone's wedding the previous week, and the window and pew wedding decorations, including candles, were seasonal and had been left for us all to enjoy. *Thank you!*

It was a traditional service of nine lessons and carols, led by the Rector, Father Michael Reynolds and the Bible readings given by parishioners. An order of service and carols sheets had been prepared, enabling all to follow the readings and join in the carols without intervening introductions. We also had the pleasure of a choral group from Bradworthy, who sang, and bolstered the carol singing! The collection totalled £107 for Action for Children.

A time for chat and meeting old and new friends followed the service with the serving of mince-pies, mulled wine and tea - all very welcome "warming" on a very chilly night!

Grace Millman

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**

St. James Parish Church Abbots Bickington

Priest-in-Charge: Rev Richard Dorrington

Tel: 01409 241411

St. Michaels Church, Shebbear

Starting Friday 19th February Lent Lunches from 12 noon in the Church Room. Enjoy soup and bread and cheese and good company every Friday until Easter.

Saturday 13th March From 3.00 p.m. in the Church Room, making posies for Mothering Sunday Service

Sunday 14th March Mothering Sunday Service – please join us and then take your Mum out to lunch for her day!

Saturday 27th March Easter Craft Activity for all children 5-11 in the Church Room from 3 – 5.00

Music Locally

Friday 12th March at St. Mary's Church, Black Torrington at 7.30 p.m. . The Lyric Singers from Bude

Tickets £5.00 in advance, £6.00 on the night and include a glass of wine and very good refreshments!

Contact 01409 231234

Saturday 13th March at the Parkhouse Centre Bude at 7.30 p.m. Bude Concert Orchestra in a Concert of Russian Music by Borodin, Khachaturian and Mussorgsky. Tickets £6.00 Adults, £1.00 children and students from the Ark Angel Book Shop, Landsdown Mews, Bude

Tuesday 6th April at Lake Schoolroom, Shebbear, an Easter and Spring Concert by Shebbear Circuit Choir at 7.30 p.m. No tickets but a retiring collection will be taken.

23rd April. A Celebration in music and words of St. George's Day at St. Mary's Church, Black Torrington in aid of St. George's Church, Baghdad at 7.30 p.m. Tickets as for 12th March concert, contact 10409 231234.

June 28th at St. Mary's Church Black Torrington, at 7.30 pm. A concert by the Okehampton Singers. Tickets and details as above.

JUNIOR / YOUTH NEWS

"A Messy Christmas "

Over the last couple of years we've held Messy Church a few times, these have always been enjoyable experiences.

We decided to have a Christmas Messy Church which was held on 12th December. Despite clashing with a birthday party and other events, which took many local youngsters, we were delighted to welcome 8 young people along with a few Mums. We enjoyed making kings' crowns, hand-printed angels and a scared sheep collage. Tea was shared together and then we set about making Christingles ready for later.

Then we gathered in the corner by the Christmas tree and listened to the story "Jesus Christmas Party", which was read by Tracy - one of our Mum's. We sang a couple of carols and lit our Christingles. The lights were turned off and by the candlelight we remembered again the dark stillness of the stable at our Lord's birth. We sang "Away in a Manger" and this was a very special moment. Daniel, one of the young people, accompanied us on his keyboard for one of the carols and we finished up as he played "We wish you a Merry Christmas".

It was a lovely event - our grateful thanks to anyone who helped in any way.

Sheila Daniel

Monster Club

In December we enjoyed some Christmas crafts and tea.

At the end of January we finally got around to our Sunday Club / Monster Club New Year Party. Kelvin did a fantastic job with the disco and the usual silly games, and we all enjoyed a bring and share tea. The party was very well attended, approx. 30 children and a few lively Mums. Thanks to all for your help and support and a very enjoyable afternoon.

Our next meeting will be on Friday, 26th February, when we will be planting seeds for the vegetable garden. This year, we are planning to donate some of the vegetables to a food bank or The Freedom Centre in Barnstaple, to help provide food for the homeless. We are also hoping to do some crafts for Mothers Day.

Notes will be sent out for the date of the March meeting.

To finish we just need to thank the Parish Council, who have given a small grant towards Monster Club funds and to the Methodist Church for our continued free use of their schoolroom.
Sheila, Tracy & Nicky.



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Eating out - Something a little different.

Something a little different and for those who like a bit of spice in their life.

The Mirchi Indian Restaurant, Bude, (mirchi means chilli). gives you an extensive menu , with chicken lamb, prawn or vegetarian dishes they cater for most tastes, from the mild and creamy Kashmiri Chicken to the hot and spicy Harri Mirchi Bhuna , there is also a good selection of side dishes to go with your main course as well as several rice dishes and naans. Each order is freshly prepared so you may have a short wait while it is prepared, so enjoy some poppadoms with spicy Mango chutney or the cooling Raitha while you wait for your starter,

If you can't quite finish your meal , (I don't advise you to put all your rice or main course on your plate) although you may think when it arrives it doesn't look a lot it is very filling so you may wish to save some to take home, (it tastes even better the following day)

You will find the staff polite and cheerful so if you have difficulty deciding what to have they will help you choose, I have also found that if you fancy a dish but it is described as too hot or too mild you can ask for it to be made to your taste ie not so spicy or spiced up a little more.

After if you aren't too full try an exotic ice-cream to end your meal and wash it all down with coffee.

At the moment they are doing a special offer, I don't know how much longer it is on for but a starter, main course and coffee for £9.95 on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. This offer does not include seafood dishes or Tandoori mixed grill, so get down there quickly and make the most of this offer whilst it lasts.

I'm sure if you enjoy Indian cuisine you'll enjoy a visit to the **Mirchi**. 7 Lansdown Road, Bude. 01288 350300. Parking nearby

Lent Course
'When I survey
Christ's cross and ours'

Milton Damerel Schoolroom

5 Mondays starting 1st March @ 7.30pm

Everyone invited to join our discussion group - see detail under Chapel News.

Newsletter Group

Coffee Morning

Tuesday 13th April 2010

10am - 12 noon

At Tor View, Venn Green

(Home of Peter & Lesley Self)

Bring & Buy

Please come along and support us!

Milton Methodist Schoolroom

Afternoon Tea & Cakes

Saturday, 27th March 2010

3.30 to 5pm

Stalls for Charity

No charge - donations for charity

Come along for tea & chat!

Holsworthy Beacon Methodist Church

Sunday, 18th April 2010

@ 7.30pm

Concert with

PELYNT MALE VOICE CHOIR

A warm welcome awaits you!

Milton Damerel Methodist Church

EASTER GOSPEL SPECIAL

Sunday, 4th April @ 7.30pm

Bude Circuit Singers

& other artistes

All welcome

Holsworthy Beacon Methodist Church

Community Coffee Mornings

Last Thursday of each month

@ 10am

Every-one welcome for coffee and chat!

St Peters Church, Thornbury

Coffee Morning

Saturday 10th April 2010

10.30 am till 12.

Cakes Raffle Bric A Brac Everyone welcome - bring the children and make use of our wonderful new Children's Corner.

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WWW.HORSEDENTISTRY.BIZ

Warm Stilton and Leek Tarts

Ingredients

- 350 g plain flour
- salt
- 175 g butter, cubed
- 2 tbsp wholegrain mustard

Filling

- 25 g butter
- 2 medium leeks, trimmed, washed and sliced
- pinch of grated nutmeg
- Ground black pepper
- 200 ml single cream
- 2 large eggs
- 100 g Stilton cheese, crumbled
- 3 tbsp freshly grated Parmesan cheese
- Salad to serve

DRIVING LESSONS

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Method

1. Sift the flour and a pinch of salt into a large bowl. Add the butter and use your fingertips to rub it into the flour until the mixture resembles crumbs. Stir in the wholegrain mustard and 3-4 tbsp cold water and mix to form a firm dough.. Alternatively whizz in a food processor to make a firm dough. Wrap and chill for 10 mins.
2. Preheat the oven to 220C/Fan 200C/Gas Mark 7. Cut the pastry into six even pieces. Roll out each piece to a circle measuring about 14cm, then use to line a 12cm x 4cm fluted flan tin. Fill each tart with a piece of crumpled baking parchment then half fill with baking beans. Stand the cases on a baking sheet and bake blind for 15mins removing the paper and beans for the final 5 mins until the base is golden.
3. Meanwhile prepare the filling: melt the butter in a medium pan, add the leeks and sauté for 4 mins. Stir in the nutmeg, season, cover and cook for 6-7 mins or until tender. Leave to cool. Beat the cream milk and eggs together with a little salt and plenty of ground black pepper.
4. Reduce the oven temperature to 200C/Fan 180C/Gas Mark 6. Divide the leeks between the flan cases, scatter over the Stilton, then divide the cream mixture between them. Sprinkle over the Parmesan and bake for 15-20mins or until the filling is set and golden. Cool in the tins for 5 mins before serving warm with a salad garnish.



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Visit to DMRC Headley Court

I have just returned from a visit to the Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre at Headley Court, near Dorking in Surrey. This is where our wounded service personnel go to help them recover from often horrific injuries. I went as I started a project where lap quilts are sent to these personnel. I am given a Christian name and contact a quilter who makes a quilt specifically for this person and then they are delivered to Headley Court by a friendly Army Captain. It was a truly humbling experience to meet some of the young people and the personnel who care for them, and also some of the families who will live with the consequences of these injuries. Many people ask me if there is something they can do and if you should wish to do something then sending money is the best way. There are many organisations which help in so many ways, because so many of the injuries change lives for ever and the care needed will have to last a lifetime. I list below some of those organisations, and any amount however big or small is welcomed and used wisely.

SSAFA – Soldiers, Sailors and Air Force Association – they support service personnel and their families. For example I stayed at Norton House which is the house recently purchased to provide accommodation for families who travel far to visit their loved ones.

SSAFA, Norton House, 36 Grays Lane, Ashstead, Surrey, KT21 1BU.

Norton House currently need to buy toys (don't send used ones please) for the children to who come to see their wounded fathers.

There is also a House at Selly Oak and plans for more.

Or: Military Welfare Officer,
DMRC Headley Court, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 6JW
(This would buy equipment which at present not available)

Help for heroes

Royal British Legion

If I could just say that I have more than enough quilts – quilters are so generous, but the above are ways in which you could help if you would like to.

Janet Fisher.



FETE 2010

14th August



The fund raising committee have got their heads together again and are planning this years event. We are considering moving it to August to catch the good weather!! The exact date will be in the next newsletter.

So start growing plants ready for competitions!

If there's anything you would like to see, or can help us both organise prior to and on the day please get in touch.

Its been mentioned that we are solely fundraising for a recreation field located at the parish hall for the local children of Strawberry bank. This is not strictly true. We *would* like to see somewhere where our kids can go and play safely, and for an area that can be used for more outdoor events at the hall, but we are also donating to local causes. £50 has been donated last year to both the newsletter and the MD gardening club, and the parish hall had a donation the year before.

Terry 261775 Rose 261577 Ray & Bev 261878 Nicky 261742

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Do you like to sing?

The future of the Shebbear Circuit choir is a little uncertain at present and if you used to sing or would like to sing then you would be very welcome, especially if you were male! We are very short of both tenors and basses, and always welcome new sopranos and altos. We meet on Tuesday evenings at 7.30 p.m. in Lake Schoolroom, Shebbear, and sing a mixture of music in a friendly environment. The choir has been singing since 1970 (not continuously!), so it would be a shame not to see it continue. If you think you would like to come along then please give me a ring as a lift can always be arranged.

Janet Fisher 01409 261882

EVERYONE'S TOMORROW

Conference and information fair organised by the Senior Council for Devon

10am, Thursday March 11 2010

Matford Centre, Matford Park Road, Exeter EX2 8FD

HUNDREDS of older people from across Devon are to have the chance to hear in person the latest Government thinking on issues that particularly affect them, from health and social care to transport and social isolation.

The Everyone's Tomorrow conference and information fair in Exeter will host several high-profile speakers, including Angela Eagle MP, Minister for Pensions; John Hart, the leader of Devon County Council; the chief executive of NHS Devon; and, offering his thoughts on rural issues with a typically light touch, Tony Beard, BBC Radio Devon's Wag from Widecombe.

A question-and-answer session will be held at the conference, which has been organised by the Senior Council for Devon, the county-wide forum for people aged 50 and over. The information fair, attended by a range of health and social-care professionals and charity organisations, will run concurrently with the conference.

Everyone's Tomorrow will take place on Thursday 11 March 2010 starting at 10am at the Matford Centre, Matford Park Road, Exeter, EX2 8FD. It is a free event that is open to members of the public aged 50-plus, and it is still not too late to place a booking for a free lunch.

For more information please contact telephone 01837 840562 or email arc.southtawton@virgin.net

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

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!

The Barn Cattery

East Wonford, Milton Damerel, Holsworthy

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- Inspection invited



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www.barncattery.com

Housing Needs

The Parish Council have invited Sue Southwell, Rural Housing Enabler, Community Council of Devon, and Darren Sussex, Housing Enabler, Torridge District Council, to be guest speakers at the

Annual Parish Meeting on 21st April 2010 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.

...and Sue and Darren will give information on how the project to provide affordable housing for Milton Damerel is progressing, including finding appropriate site(s), identifying interested property developer(s) and working with appropriate housing management bodies, and also to answer your questions on such matters as ..

Who will be eligible to rent the houses?

How will the houses be retained for local people and needs?

So please come along and take this opportunity to ask the questions you have on any aspect of affordable housing.

All parishioners are invited to come along to the annual meeting – in addition, there will be reports from parish organisations about their activities and an update on progress with the Parish Plan Actions.

Please put this date in your diary, mark it on your calendar, and come along.

Notice Boards

We are delighted to report the Parish Council notice board has now been installed at Holsworthy Beacon, on the verge adjacent to the first bank of garages for Beech Park. Many thanks to those Parish Councillors, who dug the holes, fixed the posts and fixed the notice board. Local organisations are welcome to use the board – please see Parish Council report for how to contact Roberta Jackson, Parish Clerk .

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Cornwall

The Mobile Library Service

The Devon Libraries Service is conducting a service survey, through existing service users (each will receive a survey form), town and parish councils, and also hopes to have comments from residents who are not using the service currently.

Extracts from the library service information "Over the last ten years the number of people using the mobile library service has declined by more than 40%. We want to revitalise the mobile library service so that it becomes a better used and more vibrant service within rural communities. We know that the people who still use the service value it very highly but the drastic decline in use means that we now need to consider how we increase use of the service to deliver the best value for money for Devon's communities..... We are particularly interested in hearing from people in rural communities who may live at some distance from our static libraries and might interested in using the service in the future. We plan to adapt routes and stops as result of this feedback. Possible changes to the service

offer service into late afternoon, Saturdays, to reach working families and young people;

have only one stop per community, stopping longer;

stop at times to coincide with existing local activity, eg coffee mornings, lunch clubs, after school sessions;

arrange for more vulnerable and elderly people to use Home Library Service."

You can take part in the survey by sending an e-mail to mobiles@devon.gov.uk or by completing e-mail the survey online, www.devon.gov.uk/mobilelibraryreview or by correspondence to County Hall, Exeter, EX2 4AZ

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As featured in the
BBC Good Food Magazine

Triumph Herald 13/60 - 1968 Part 1

Despite my best efforts to get Michele to drive my 1959 Ford 'Pop' 100E, the thought of getting behind the wheel of a side-valve engine car with only 3 forward gears, no synchromesh on first and vacuum powered windscreen wipers was just too much for her to take in. I was quite pleased that she even agreed to be a passenger given the lack of essential luxuries such as seatbelts and a heater.

So in the summer 1998 we decided to set off to a classic car show at Loosely Park in Guildford, with the aim to find something that both of us would be happy to drive. I'd always loved the look of the Triumph Spitfire, so when Michele mentioned that two of her cousins had owned Triumphs, things were looking up; that was until she said that she didn't want a two seater sports car....oh well!

It was a lovely sunny day and we looked around and Triumphs were plentiful. After some deliberation we decided that the car would be a Triumph Herald 13/60 convertible. (The front headlights reminded Michele of 'granny glasses'). Now all we had to do was find one, oh...it has to be that light blue, Michele added; I like a challenge....



After looking at numerous Heralds, we finally found a Wedgwood blue example not too far from where we were then living; not perfect, but on the face of it not too bad. In August 1998 a deal was done and money changed hands. On collecting the car it barely had enough fuel to get us to the nearest petrol station! Apart from that the car drove well and we got home safely and Michele christened her Bluebell.

Looking over the car in more detail lead to the creation of an unhealthy 'to do' list. Poorly repaired front foot-wells; replacement panels welded over rusty originals; seatbelt mounts of dubious strength; a rear floor that was peppered with rust holes underneath the sound deadening and the main chassis rails didn't stand up well to prodding with a big screwdriver! A priority was just to get car safe and off she went to have lots of new metal patched in so it would regain some structural integrity.

Like humans, cars can have interesting pasts, so I applied to the British Motor Industry Heritage Trust for a Trace Certificate. This detailed that it was built on 29/04/1968, despatched to the Berkeley Square Garages Ltd, London W1 (which was the flagship Triumph showroom in its day) on 6/05/1968, and was first registered on 16/05/1968. It also showed that it had been repainted at some point in its life as she left the factory in white and she also had received an engine swap at some point as the serial number was different.

For £5.00 you can also request copies of all the previous V5 documents from the DVLA. Unfortunately many records that pre-date the centralisation to Swansea in the early 70's have been lost, so a few years of the car could not be accounted for. What did come to light was that in the early 70's a certain Germaine Greer was the registered keeper, she then sold it to another lady at exactly the same address. If you're under 35, you probably have no idea who Germaine Greer is.....ask your parents or Google her! The car spent the rest her life in London and the Home Counties before we bought her.

Next Edition - Let the restoration begin!!

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Did you find it difficult to cope during the bad weather?

At the Parish Council meeting in January we discussed how people throughout the parish coped during the 2 episodes of bad weather and particularly not being able to get out to the garage, shops, health centres, etc. because of the awful road conditions. As commented elsewhere we all knew of generous and kindly residents who ensured their neighbours were ok and, if able to travel with their vehicles, had collected shopping, etc.. We also heard about those, who were able, walking several miles, trudging through the snow and icy conditions to the garage and farm shop.

Parish Councils are asked to consider whether contingency plans should be made to cover such eventualities as we experienced; such plans are not meant to intrude on individual's privacy or to label individuals as vulnerable persons, but to ensure that every-one is enabled to cope and be safe, if we have such times as bad weather conditions, breakdown in communications and services, etc., etc.. The plans would be community-led and agreed and voluntary – voluntary by those offering to assist, for example, check on neighbours, particularly vulnerable individuals/households and make arrangements for shopping, etc., and voluntary by those who may need assistance, through asking for their possible needs to be recorded on a list of persons to be contacted when difficult circumstances arise.

Examples of voluntary involvement:

- Owners of 4x4 vehicles offer to be on the list and contacted if assistance with shopping or transport is needed – eg collection of prescriptions, enabling home carers to get to their clients, need to attend doctor's surgery
- Placing your name and contact details, as a person who may experience difficulties, on a list held by the Parish Clerk/ Parish Councillors, that would be followed up, if circumstances arose
- Be a named person (warden-type individual) for your immediate area, willing to check on a few nearby neighbours, particularly those living alone or with disabilities

****** The Parish Councillors are offering to try to set up some helpful and useful arrangements, if you, as our residents, tell us that you think it would be useful AND let us know what help may be needed and/or how you could help with these requests.**

We are also being asked to think about what Emergency Plans we should have as a Parish – your responses on help needed and help offered will help us to put together our local plan ...

please just tell any of the councillors when you meet them or contact any of us – details are on Page 2 under Parish Council news!

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Computer Drop-In Sessions starts April 1st

7:30 - 8:30pm Parish Hall

Want to learn about computers? Not sure how to use the Internet? Want to get the best out of Office?

Sessions are £3 per person per week and will run every Thursday until 24th June. At least 6 computers will be available but if you can bring / borrow a laptop this would be helpful if there's a lot of people.

The first week will be an introduction into the computer and to get to know everyone's skill levels. After that you can drop in and out as needed

If you are interested, please call Terry 261775 or Edgar 261277 and let us know

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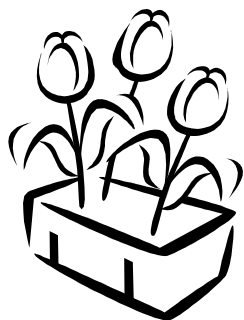
SPRING AT LAST ?

That was a cold winter the worst since I moved here 5 years ago probably as bad as we were used to in the Midlands and with temperatures down to -13 c. I know some severe damage will have been done.

Most plants will survive but many will be scorched by the frost and need cutting back during the next few weeks to remove damaged foliage, cut down until you leave only healthy wood or ideally to where you can see new buds swelling.

There are a few tender evergreens which may look to have survived but could still go brown when temperatures rise and their sap does not rise, I am concerned about various plants in my garden including Phormium, Pittosporum, Pheonix Palm, Cordyline and even some Bamboos.

FIRST SIGNS



As I write the Snowdrops are in full bloom, the Crocus are just showing colour and the buds are forming on the Daffodils, all a couple weeks later than normal but what a display we are going to get in March.

We do not always think about feeding bulbs but they need all the strength they can get to produce a display next year, as the flowers fade scatter a general feed around the clumps or if you prefer apply a liquid feed.

The harsh weather has at least deterred the grass from growing for a few months but expect to take the first cut in the next 2-3 weeks, this should be done with a raised blade as soon as ground conditions allow, any delay and you could suddenly be faced with very long grass and a mammoth mowing task.

PREPARATION

I do not dig my vegetable garden in the autumn, contrary to many advisers I usually consider it too wet at that time so I dig it over when I am ready to plant doing just as much as I need at the time and incorporating liberal quantities of compost or manure which will help to break down the clay.

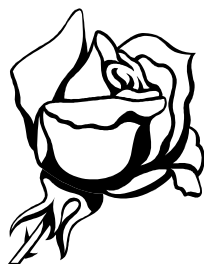
Seed potatoes were late arriving this year due to the frosty weather but early varieties should now be stood in trays or egg boxes in light, cool but frost free conditions to allow them to 'chit' for planting in the later part of March, later varieties can also be 'chitted' but will not be ready for planting until April.

If not already planted then garlic, onions and shallots should be set out now whilst sowings of peas and broad beans may produce an earlier crop, by the end of March there are lots of vegetables that can be sown, consult the seed packets for optimum sowing times but only sow outdoors when the soil is warmer.



For a number of years my peas failed to grow, having blamed bad seed and birds I eventually discovered that the culprits were mice who removed the seed as soon as it was sown, now I set out traps a few weeks before sowing or you can sow in pots and plant out when the peas are 2"- 3" tall.

March is rose pruning month, trim untidy and dead growth from shrub species, cut H.T.'s and Floribunda's down to at least a third of their full grown height and remove any very old woody stems right back to the graft to encourage new healthy shoots to develop.



Climbing roses need little pruning just cut side shoots and weak growth back to the main stems then tie in all growth winding it around on itself if necessary, rambling roses should have old flowered stems cut right back to the base leaving the young growth to flower this year, I have to say this is a job I regarded with dread when dealing with large old specimens that scratched me to ribbons.

March is really the last month to carry out transplanting in the garden or to put in new bare root plants so if you want new top or soft fruit, rhubarb, asparagus etc. plant soon unless you buy them pot grown.

Happy gardening.

Bill Wrighton.

GARDEN SOCIETY NEWS

Decembers meeting was an informal gathering where a range of bright colourful Christmas themed pot plants were on display and the care of these was explained by Bill Wrighton who was quickly replaced by mulled wine and mince pies provided by members.



Fortunately a January meeting was ruled out this year, as it would have coincided with some of the worst of the snow and ice it proved to be a wise decision.

At Februarys meeting the society welcomed Roger Daniels who interested the smaller than normal audience describing the care and maintenance of garden tools and equipment.



Lively interest was shown by those present who asked numerous questions and at one point discussion on blade sharpening was so intense that the chairman had to ask the members to be quiet so the speaker could continue.

THE NEXT THREE MONTHS

The next meeting is on March 3rd and promises to be very interesting with a Matt Verney of MV Gardens at Clawton coming along to speak to us about garden design and construction a subject always inspiring to both the keen and the more reluctant gardeners alike.

April's meeting features a talk on growing and caring for Fuchsia by Ken Bishop an expert from Barnstaple who will bring a range of samples to illustrate the multitude of varieties available and hopefully offer them for sale at the end of the meeting.



In May we will be pleased to welcome back Nick Oliver from St. Johns garden centre who gave a fascinating insight last year into autumn planting and will this time talk about summer bedding plants and shrubs with a range of subjects on display and for sale.



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Committee members are:-

Edgar Pett 01409 261277

John Binns 01409 261381

Nicola Wrighton 01409 261742

Bill Wrighton 01409 261738

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MILTON DAMEREL PARISH HALL NEWS

The Committee are proud to say that now the Toilet and Kitchen refurbishments have been completed, the hall is much improved. We have now received a second grant from Councillor Robert Hicks, via The Councillor Community Grants Scheme, and are using the monies to tidying up the Electrical Circuit and installing new Lighting and Heaters. As you are aware, with all properties money is always need for any improvements. The income from all hirers is greatly appreciated. So please remember, this is **Your Hall** and must be **Supported**, in anyway possible. Hire Rates £5 per Hour for Hall, including use of Kitchen, £10 per session for Skittle Alley.

New Committee Members are always welcomed. Our next meeting is Monday 8th March at 7.30pm.

EVENTS REPORT

Whist Drive. Friday 27th November 2009. Another enjoyable evening, £43.50 profit.

Whist Drive. Friday 22nd January 2010. We were pleased with a larger group. £55 profit. Please remember 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.

FUTURE EVENTS

Whist Drive. Friday 19th March 2010. 7.30 for 8.00. £1.50 per person.

Skittles Fun Night. Saturday 27th March 2010. 6.30. for 7.00pm. (This is in place of Skittles Tournament previously advertised for 27th February 2010). £1.50 Adults, £1.00 per Child, 11 years and under. Refreshments will be on sale. BYO Beer/Wine.

Beetle Drive. Saturday 10th April 2010. 7.30pm. Family Fun, table game to suit all ages. £1.50 Adult and £1.00 per Child.

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

Regular Events at the Parish Hall.

Milton Damerel and District Over 60 Club. 1st Tuesday of each month, 2.30pm. New Members Welcomed. A social afternoon. Enquiries Mrs Phoebe Overy, 261332.

Milton Damerel Linedancing. Every Tuesday, 7pm to 9pm. Small group, more members welcomed. Enquiries Lesley Self, 261 294 or Mary Carter, 261 248.

Milton Damerel Gardening Club. 1st Wednesday of each month (February to June and October to December). 7.30pm to 9.00pm. Enquiries Mr Bill Wrighton 261 738. E.mail: mdgs1@live.co.uk

Milton Damerel Parish Council Meetings. Usually 3rd Wednesday of each month. 7.30pm. Enquiries, Parish Clerk, Mrs Roberta Jackson 261 196

LINE DANCING

At Milton Damerel Parish Hall

Tuesdays 7.0pm to 9.0pm

£1.50 per session

Tel: Lesley 261294 or Mary 261248

These are the words of a song I found amongst some old papers – no tune available – but probably used at concert, possibly variety concert in the parish hall many years ago.... I suspect the soloist for this ditty may have been William Daniel of Woodford Farm. Some of the names will be familiar to long term residents and some names are still present in the parish.

- 1 There's a place I know not so far away
Where I want to go and for ever stay,
Where you all are good and happy
Where none gossip, none are snappy
Take me to that place that I love so well

Milton Milton Damerell, that's the place to live,
For its local Nursing Fund, we this Concert give
And if you are taken ill all you have to do
Is to ask that Nurse Kirkhup may be sent to you.
- 2 There's a place I know, Milton is the name
And its farmers all, are well known to fame
Mister Davey the good miller, grinds your corn and takes your siller
Mister Slee of Down, Elliott Milton Town.

Milton Milton Damerell, where good farms are cast
Ashton, Carter, Sidney Reed, are fortunes making fast,
If you have an hour to spare. Go to Gratton Hill
Cecil Ridge can let you all listen in at will
- 3 There's a place where dwell sportsmen good and true
Cole of Waldon Hill, Oswald Hopper too
If for benefits you're cravings give to Franky Leach your savings
He will store them up in his friendly club.

Milton Milton Damerell where things travel fast
Charlie Cory really has built his house at last
Captain Piper football plays with his heart and soul
And though married may he still often kick a goal.
- 4 Having fortunes made back to Milton come
John and Norman Hancock making it their home
None deliver wires much faster than Will Backway the Postmaster
Daniels with their twins great approval wins

Milton Milton Damerell where if you should sin
P.C. Leach for certain will quickly run you in
And if any goods you lack you can quickly hop
Down to call on Mrs Yeo at the Venn Green shop.

Putford W.I.

We ended the year 2009 with a programme of Christmas Entertainment given by the Lyric Singers from Bude. They sang and recited a very interesting programme of Christmas songs, carols and poems. We invited friends from other Institutes to join us. and afterwards everyone sat down to a wonderful buffet provided by Putford W.I. members, followed by a Draw. This was held in the Chapel and Hall, a lovely ending to a busy year.

Because of the snow and ice on the roads our January meeting was cancelled. For our February meeting our President Mavis Lewis welcomed three members of Holsworthy Rotary Club, Martin Prentice, Graham Smith and Pat Johns to talk to us about Shelter Box, the Cornwall based charity that provide emergency relief to people anywhere in the world who are victims of disasters. The charity was started ten years ago by a man called Tom Henderson who was touched by the plight of these people and wanted to make a difference to their lives. They brought along a box and showed us the many items of equipment it contains. We were all amazed by the contents and how they would be used. They were thanked by Lorna Dawe. The winners of the competition 'Most words made from the word 'ShelterBox' were Mary Martin and Kath Stevens (9 points), Lorna Dawkins (8points), Mavis Lewis (7 points). Flower of the month Lorna Dawe, hostesses were Margaret Wooldridge, Viv Talbot. The speaker for our March meeting on 8th March will be Robin Julian on 'Tropical Fruit'. Please do come along and join us if you are able.

Eyes down - Look in - Bingo evening

at the Parish Hall by the fund raising committee

20th March @ 7:30pm

Great fun night out - free refreshments - raffle



*Police Co-ordinators*

PCSO 30103 - Beverley Harvey } Holsworthy Pol.
 PCSO 30369 - Andrew Elston } 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

For those members who have signed up to the Community Messaging Service (CMS) you will perhaps have noticed recently that you are receiving far fewer messages and that those received are far more pertinent. The reason for this is that the CMS system is currently being updated and can now target more specific and localised areas whereas previously it was a much wider spread. Part of this update will be to allow local authority messages into the system which will be important at times of emergencies, such as caused by the recent periods of bad weather. If anybody who has not already signed up to this free service would now like to do so, please get in touch with your co-ordinator.

One of the speakers at the Torridge NHW District AGM on the 10th February 2010 was Superintendent Kevin Harris, our local Police Area Commander. Without wishing to bore you with reams of statistics, some of them do make for interesting reading. Relating to Northern Devon (i.e. the combined areas of North Devon and Torridge), 80% of the police response times are within 20 minutes which is the required target time. From an independent public response survey, 90% of people who have had reason to use the police are happy and yet public confidence in the police is only 79%. This is attributed, in the main, to media coverage which tends to highlight problems and failings but does not give the same coverage to successes. In Torridge the Crime Detection Rate is 34% and you may feel this is low and disappointing, but this figure is very good in relation to police figures in other areas. The figures also confirm that the South West and Torridge in particular, remains a low crime area and local crime levels continue to fall despite the recession. If we all continue to work together we can keep this trend going.

A recent scam which has come to light in our parish is targeted at businesses. If you are listed in the business section of phone and/or business directories, it doesn't matter what size your business is, you will be "fair game" and a possible target. It will start with you receiving a phone call saying that they are from a plausible organisation, such as a police road safety campaign, local health initiative or something similar. You will then be thanked for placing advertising in a booklet which was supposedly published last year, and you will then be asked to provide support again this year. They are playing on the premise that you are busy people and so will just send off a payment to them without any further question. Their telephone number will be withheld and if you request a copy of last year's publication, nothing will arrive. If you have any doubts whatsoever as to the origin of such requests, and we are sure that you probably receive many requests which will be genuine, please check their validity before handing over any payments.

To enable your NHW team to effectively cover the area of Holsworthy Beacon, we would very much like to hear from any person who would be willing to become a co-ordinator for the area. Most people would find that being involved is both interesting and of course very informative. If you would like to find out more about becoming an NHW co-ordinator, please contact any of the co-ordinators whose details are at the head of this page.

And finally, congratulations are due to our PCSO Beverley Harvey, who has recently achieved the award of "Best PCSO of 2009".

Your local police station:

Holsworthy Police Station
 Well Park, Western Road
 Holsworthy, Devon, EX22 6DH

Opening hours: Mon 8am –1pm
 Weds 8am -2pm, Fri 8am –1pm
 General enquiries: 08452 777 444

PCSO 30103 Beverley Harvey & PCSO 30369 Andrew Elston

HOLSWORTHY RURAL NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING NEWSLETTER

- JANUARY 2010

Latest news..

In December and the beginning of January 2010 there were 13 crimes reported in the rural areas, including assault, harassment drink driving and theft. A number of suspects have been dealt with in relation to some of the alleged offences.

Among the thefts reported the following property was stolen-

Bales of horse hay and straw, from the Highampton area.

A Makita petrol disc cutter, a Honda petrol generator and a bell cement mixer from the Halwill area.

A red Honda 420 4x4 TRX quad bike, from St Giles on the Heath.

Approximately 1000litres of heating oil from Bridgerule.

In January during the ice and snow Holsworthy Police assisted the pharmacies in delivering important prescriptions to patients whom were unable to collect them, also including bread & milk to one lady!

Seasonal crime prevention advice

Please be mindful that even when the snow has gone there is still the potential for black ice – Most of the collisions that happened in this area were not during the heavy snow periods but after the thaw had set in.

Anyone can receive local crime updates by registering for **Community Messaging** – and it's free! Contact us via email or in person at the station to get a simple form to complete and sign to get you going.

Other news – Police website..

The Beat team are looking for a student aged 16-18 to help design and update their web page on the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary site. This would be a volunteer position ideal for someone interested in a future career with the Police or just a whiz on the computer! It will require just a few hours each month working at Holsworthy Police Station.

Anyone interested can contact us by email at holsworthy@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk



As reported in the local press – Holsworthy beat team, with assistance from organisations in the Town and rural areas will shortly be setting up the J9 project.

Janine (J9) Mundy was murdered in 2003, by her husband in the Camborne area.

Since then, with the support of Janine's family, Devon and Cornwall Police have worked alongside organisations and businesses in a campaign to stop domestic violence and help victims gain the help they so desperately need.

Many victims do not have access to outreach support services but do visit various other locations The aim is that once organisations are trained the J9 logo will be displayed to show victims that they can approach that organisation and find out how they can access the support that they need.

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PACT (partners and communities together) priorities in your neighbourhood

You have identified the following as priorities within your community:(TOWN AND RURAL)

1. Youth Issues
2. Property Damage
3. Speeding & nuisance driving

Our actions to tackle your local priorities:

- 1 – Mini Police Station to be held monthly at Holsworthy Community College
- 2 – Following positive action being taken against 5 local youths including letters of apology, compensation and anti-social behaviour letters being issued there have been no further reports of damage.
- 3 – One driver warned under Sec 59 Police Reform Act for nuisance driving (vehicle can be seized on second offence).
One driver reported for summons for driving without insurance. Numerous other drivers given warnings or fines for speeding and other offences. One driver arrested for drink driving.

Resolved Priorities – In 2009, following a proactive partnership between Police, Forestry and the community, there were no illegal raves in the Cookworthy Moor Plantation (near Halwill Junction)

FRIENDS OF PUTFORD SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year and made the most of the white winter weather, I know the children definitely did.

The Friends are holding the Easter Bingo at the School on Thursday 1st April. Doors open at 7pm and eyes down at 7.30pm. Admission is £1, this includes 1 bingo book, further bingo books can be purchased at £1 each. Refreshments will be available at "half time" and there will be a raffle. We would welcome your support and for any of you to join us for this fun evening.

We will be discussing this years fundraising events at our next meeting, so hopefully by the next newsletter I should have some more dates for your diary.

Ali Poole

Treasurer.

MILTON DAMEREL & DISTRICT 'OVER 60' CLUB

The Club ended the year of 2009 with the last meeting of the year in December, followed by Christmas Dinner at Westward Ho! On 8th December.

New Year of 2010 commenced on 5th February with a 'Bring and Share' Tea and entertainment by 'Country Rich'. On 13th February, 14 members were invited, and thoroughly enjoyed, the Lions' Club of Holsworthy New Year Lunch, again with entertainment o keyboard by Liz Jones and Rev John Henry. So a bust time so far this year.

Our usual meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month at 2.30pm in Milton Damerel Parish Hall. New members welcome. Details from Mrs P Overy (tel 261332) or Mrs J Vanstone (tel 261285).

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Maybe a Lister, Petter, Bamford, Start-O-Matic, Ruston, Blackstone?

If its rusting away and of no use to you I would be interested in recovering it and restoring it with my youngest.

Please contact Terry on 261161.



The Saga of the Grit Box

During the recent 'snow events' we were unable to go right or left from our house as the roads were so icy. So on 22nd December I made the first of many calls to the Highways Agency and then the North Area Highways Department inquiring about the possibility of having a grit box situated at Gratton Cross so that we could have access to grit to de-ice the road so that we could get out to the main road. Not an unreasonable request I thought and initially I was quite impressed with the response as my call was logged and given a number and stupidly I thought something might happen! The first 'snow event' came and went as did my phone calls and emails. Before the next snow arrived after Christmas

I was promised a delivery of salt and grit on the Monday. The next day it snowed again and I received an email stating that the weather on the Monday had stopped the delivery!

I received a very nice call from the county councillor on the Sunday following as she had been contacted through the Parish Council whom I had also spoken to! But she could not promise me grit, so I wrote to my M.P. I do not give up easily!

Three weeks ago I looked out of my upstairs window to see a workman between our house and Lower Gratton. On investigation it seemed he had been told to put a grit box as near to Gratton Cottage as possible! On his own initiative he had decided not to put it right outside our house but slightly lower down. He had no instructions to place a grit box at Gratton Cross in spite of all the logging of calls and specific mention of this site being identified on the map of the person at the other end of the phone! So we are still without a grit box where it will be of most use but I do have my own personal grit box, bright yellow for all to see! I did mention to my neighbour that it was 'mine' and he said that in that case I would have to spread the grit so I have decided it is for us all!!



Janet Fisher

"Where to turn when you're worried about a child"

The NSPCC has started a campaign to raise awareness of the NSPCC Helpline, which is a free, 24-hour service that offers support and advice, by phone and e-mail, to any adult worried about a child. People worry so much about getting it wrong (when they have concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing), or about causing offence or being identified as a troublemaker, but the most important thing is that they are thinking about the child. The Helpline can be used by parents, should they feel they can't cope or just want a bit of advice about the best thing to do for their child, and by other people who may have seen something they feel a bit uneasy about and want to talk it through. Callers can remain anonymous if they wish and the Helpline never passes on any details that might identify a caller to the families concerned. More information on the Helpline can be found on

www.nspcc.org.uk/helpline

You can contact the NSPCC Helpline free and anonymously on 0800 800 5000 or help@nspcc.org.uk.

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*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.*

From Ida Birch (née Burrow)

Many of you will no doubt recall the dreadful bombing by the IRA of the Grand Hotel in Brighton and the scenes of the injured survivors being rescued. I recall the rescue of one such survivor called Harvey Thomas which made me think of the Harvey Thomas I knew at Milton Damerel. We were both in Miss (Betty) Harris's class in the 'little' room. On hearing his name on that tragic day in 1984 I thought "*Could this be the Harvey Thomas I used to know at Milton Damerel school so long ago?*" My suspicion was confirmed when I saw a close up view which immediately reminded me of Mrs Thomas the headmistress in the 'big' room and Harvey's mother. Interviewed as he was carried from the wrecked building, Harvey expressed concern for his wife who was due to have a baby very soon and made the light hearted remark that he hoped the water dripping on him whilst trapped was from a clean source!

My friend wrote the following article for our local church magazine of which she has just become the editor. So over to her for the report on an event we attended in North London.

Could you forgive a Killer?

A Deacon of Oakwood Baptist Church gave me a leaflet announcing a forthcoming event being hosted by broadcaster, Jeremy Vine, of BBC TV's Panorama programme. The discussion would be between Harvey Thomas, a PR consultant who had worked for Margaret Thatcher, and Pat Magee, a former IRA bomber responsible for the explosion at The Grand Hotel, Brighton in 1984 when the hotel was badly damaged and several people killed and maimed.

Later, Ida Birch told us that she had started school in Milton Damerel, Devon with Harvey Thomas, and thus, there was no question that we would not attend this controversial meeting.

After Ida had reintroduced herself to her old school friend, the meeting started before a large, expectant audience. Harvey had miraculously survived the bombing after falling through the hotel floors, buried under tons of rubble and being trapped for two and a half hours before being rescued. A large man, weighing 20 stone, amazingly he was uninjured, back on his feet and attending the Tory Conference the following morning with the then Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher. He had suffered no after effects at all, physically or mentally.

It was thirteen years later, after preaching on the subject of forgiveness in America, when he realised that he could, or should, forgive the bomber, Pat Magee. After contacting him whilst he was in the Maze Prison, Northern Ireland, serving a life sentence, later to be released under the Good Friday Agreement, a friendship developed which included Harvey's family.

Harvey shared his thoughts and feelings with the audience and Pat Magee gave his view point. However, and this I found difficult to understand, he did not say 'sorry' about the pain and suffering he had inflicted upon others, reiterating that the IRA was fighting an oppressive British Government. This seemed to be his mantra. Even when the bomb had gone off whilst he was in Cork, his first thought, when he heard it had been successful, was not about the damage he had inflicted on innocent people but relief. He regretted that it had been necessary but he would not say he was sorry. He had now been free for ten years. He also confessed that he had no concept of the meaning of forgiveness and certainly did not have a faith.

I felt extremely sad that this man found it impossible to apologise to the man who had nearly died, who had befriended and forgiven him. I can only assume he is still on a long journey of discovery before he realises that forgiveness, although complex, is not only a healing process for the offended but also the offender. It is the way to find peace within oneself and lift the heavy burden of guilt, but as he said, he didn't believe in the Bible.

The evening was certainly not as perhaps we had expected but it revealed Harvey was not only a man of stature but a man of faith whereas the bomber seemed depressed and sad. It must have taken some form of courage to face an audience and he was honest in expressing his thoughts but when I asked him how he coped with such a burden he had no answer. We found this rather chilling and uncomfortable in the true sense of the word. The silence said it all.

Wendy Keeling Taylor

NEWSLETTER FINANCES

The Newsletter continues to hold a favourable financial position due to the generosity of local advertisers, donations and the annual grant from the Parish Council, supplemented by our fund-raising activities, for which we are very grateful for the support received. We were also very pleased to receive the donation from the Milton Damerel Fund-raising Group, from the proceeds of the Fete, and for a donation from miltondamerel.com, of the fee charged to a business advertiser. It was a delight to share the success of the Farmers' Market with 2 charities, in addition to boosting our own funds with the sale of the Recipe Book.

The Group reports on the finances for the year 1st January to 31st December 2009.

	£.	£.
Receipts during 2009:		
Advertising	373.00	
Personal donations	32.00	
Grant – Parish Council	80.00	
Donation – Milton Damerel Fund-raising Group	50.00	
Donation – Business Advertiser in Milton Damerel.com	25.00	
Fund-raising: Coffee Morning	51.30	
Farmers' Market – Sale of recipe Books	81.00	
- Stallholders' Fees	65.00	
- Coffee & Mince-Pies	57.70	
Subscriptions for Newsletter	<u>20.00</u>	
		835.00
Payments during 2009:		
Printing (including Recipe Book)	804.00 ⁽¹⁾	
Farmers' Market:		
Parish Hall	25.00	
Donations: Farm Crisis Network	61.35	
SSAFA	<u>61.35</u>	
		<u>951.70</u>
Net loss for the year		<u>(116.70)</u>

Funds in hand at 1st January 2009:

HSBC Treasurer's Account.....	906.30	
Cash & Cheques held	110.00	
Total		1,016.03
Less net loss for year		(116.70)

Funds in hand at 31st December 2009 **899.33**

At bank in HSBC Treasurer's Account	610.63
Cash & Cheques held.....	288.70

Notes: (1) Printing costs of £180.00 for December 2008 edition not paid until March 2009.

Above accounts independently examined by Nicola Wrighton. Thank you to Nicola!

"A Recipe for All Seasons" Recipe Books still available priced £3 from members of Newsletter Group - all proceeds to Newsletter.

Dinosaur word search

Words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally in all eight directions.
Words may overlap but do not share letters.

b m t n m p f c x p t f c k l p y d l m x m
 o z l t r i a s s i c r l m l h r g p y l t
 j r m k t j t v f k y p k l r j m n r t n c
 g x n q k m u p h p l l t o n k h s y d q n
 d k h i w o j r t n s x t m t z y u j q n y
 a p s t t j o o a u x p m y h l b c p r z k
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 a h n h h l o t a r s a l s l a t d a s j v
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 p n f d t a n e e n u r c l l l c l u r k b
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 k t j u p h p x l l n b p p m k e q t y q f
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 x q t c w x r z i b e r o m e s o r n i s m

allosaur
 anatotitan
 ankylosaurus
 anurognathus
 brachiosaurus
 cryptoclidus
 diplodocus
 eoraptor
 iberomesornis
 jurassic
 liopleurodon
 ornitholestes
 polacanthus
 rhamphorhynchus
 stegosaurus
 torosaurus
 triassic
 tyrannosaurus

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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 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 21st May 2010

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

WHAT?	WHEN?	WHERE?
Rotary Variety Show	12 th & 13 th March 2010 Doors open @ 7pm. Tickets from Simpkins Edwards (253620) or Ian Parker (253620)	H.A.T.S Theatre, Holsworthy Tel: 01409 253826 www.holsworthytheatre.co.uk
Comedy "Out of Order"	27 th – 29 th May & 3 rd – 5 th June 2010	
Cinema - Films	2 nd & 4 th Thursday each month For info: films	Holsworthy Memorial Hall Tel: 01409 254185 www.holsworthymemorialhall.co.uk
BBC Radio 4 Any Questions	Advertised as details to follow	
<i>Live:</i>		The Plough, Torrington Box Office: 01805 624624 www.plough-arts.org
Anita Wardell A celebration of the art of vocal jazz	Saturday, 6 th March @ 8pm	
Finzi Quartet Celebrity Concert Series	Sunday, 7 th March @ 8pm	
Maddie Southorn	Friday, 19 th March @ 8.30pm	
An audience with Gyles Brandreth (unique tales from his life in the theatre, TV, journalism & politics)	Saturday, 20 th March @ 8pm	
Expression Cubanna 9 piece Cuban band	Saturday, 27 th March @ 8.30pm	
<i>Films:</i>		
Nowhere Boy (15) (John Lennon's childhood)	Sunday, 14 th March @ 3pm & 7pm	
Up in the Air (15)	Sunday, 21 st March @ 3pm & 7pm	
<i>Exhibitions:</i>		
Why Don't We All Live In An Igloo (celebration of young arts)	5 th – 27 th March 2010	
Personal Icons – Peter Newell	2 nd – 24 th April 2010	
Arks and Angels – Rachel & Mary Summers	30 th April – 29 th May 2010	
Swan Lake Moscow Ballet – La Classique	Friday, 5 th March @ 7.45pm Saturday, 6 th March @ 2.30 & 7.45pm	Queen's Hall Theatre, Barnstaple Box Office: 01271 324242 www.northdevontheatres.org.uk
Oklahoma Barnstaple Amateur Operatic Society	Tuesday, 9 th – Saturday, 13 th March @ 7pm. Also Saturday @ 2pm	
An audience with Chuckle Brothers	Sunday, 28 th March @ 2pm & 5pm	
Dad's Army Marches On	Tuesday, 6 th – Saturday, 10 th April @ 7.45pm. Thursday & Saturday also 2.30pm	
The Likes of Us (The Story of Dr Barnardos) Barnstaple Young Generation	Thursday, 20 th – Saturday, 22 nd May @ 7.30pm. Also Saturday @ 2.30pm	
Essence of Ireland (Music & Dance)	Thursday, 27 th May @ 7.45pm	

What's on Diary

			Page
Lent Course, 5 Mondays, MD Schoolroom	1st March	7:30	7
MD Gardening club	3rd March	7:30	
Putford WI meeting	8th March		19
'Everyone's Tomorrow' - Exeter	11th March	10am	10
Posie Making - Church room Shebbear	13th March	3pm	5
Bude Concert Orchestra - Bude	13th March	7:30	5
Mothering Sunday Service - Shebbear	14th March		5
Whist Drive	19th March	8:00	18
Easter Craft Activity children aged 5-11 Shebbear	27th March	3-5pm	5
Tea & Cake Afternoons - Milton Schoolroom	27th March	3pm	4
Skittles Fun night	27th March	6:30 for 7pm	18
Putford Easter Bingo	1st April	7pm	22
Computer session - parish hall	1st April	7:30	14
Bude Circuit Singers	4th April	7:30	4
Easter and Spring Concert - Shebbear	6th April	7:30	5
Beetle Drive	10th April	7:30	18
Coffee morning - St Peters Church, Thornbury	10th April	10:30 - 12	7
Coffee morning - Venn Green	13th April	10-12	7
Wine and Wisdom - parish hall	17th April	7:30	18
Pelynt male voice choir - Holsworthy Beacon	18th April	7:30	7
Annual Parish Meeting	21st April	7:30	3
Celebration of St. Georges day - Black Torrington	23rd April	7:30	5
Okehampton Singers - Black Torrington	28th June	7:30	5

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
Coffee morning - Holsworthy Beacon Methodist Church	Last Thursday of each month

Always check on location by visiting the page number as not all events are in Milton Damerel

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.

March 2010

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
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April 2010

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May 2010

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